Building Blocks of Faith

Teacher's Edition
# Building Blocks of Faith

## Table of Contents

- The Bible .............................................................................................................. 1
- Prayer ................................................................................................................... 4
- Worship ................................................................................................................ 13
- Fasting ................................................................................................................. 15
- Water Baptism ...................................................................................................... 17
- Communion .......................................................................................................... 19
- Stewardship .......................................................................................................... 21
- Spiritual Gifts ........................................................................................................ 23
- Baptism in the Holy Spirit ...................................................................................... 25
- Prophetic .............................................................................................................. 27
- Deliverance ........................................................................................................... 29
- Finding God’s Will ................................................................................................. 31
- Spiritual Covering ................................................................................................ 33
- Your Place in the Local Church ............................................................................. 35
What is the Bible?

The Bible is the Word of God. It is fully and completely the Word of God, even to the choice of words.

Basically, the Bible is the story of God reaching out to His creation (people). It opens with the creation of the earth and closes with the end of life as we know it.

There are two main sections of the Bible —


It is made up of 66 books — 39 in the Old Testament and 27 in the New Testament.

How did the Word come about?

Amazing fact: The Bible has 1 author, 39 different writers, was written in 3 different languages over a span of 1600 years yet there is no discrepancy or error!

The Bible is not just a good story or a great source to learn about history, it is the ACTUAL word of God.

2 Timothy 3:16 says: “All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness…”

What does God-Breathed mean?

God-breathed means inspired of God. Just like our breath carries our voice and what we want to say, the breath of God (Holy Spirit) carried the Word of God to us. The Holy Spirit caused God’s word to be written through men.

God did not manipulate or force people to write His Word. He partnered with the writers and miraculously wrote through them.

Who decided what would be in the Bible?

Every book that is included in the Bible had to go through a strict review called canonization —

   The word canon simply means a measuring rod. Basically, every book that was included in the Bible was measured, tested and proved to be the inspired Word of God. God gave His leaders clear direction as to what was and was not to be included in the Bible.
What’s the Bible all about?

In the Old Testament we see people turning away from the ways of God and turning to their own way. That just led to 
**disaster**. So, throughout the Old Testament we see God’s promise of One who would fix everything that people had messed 
up. Jesus’ life was all about fixing what we (people) broke. The Old Testament asked a question: How can we be right with 
God since we had chosen our own way? The New Testament **answered it**: Through the grace of God given through the life, 
death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Why is the Bible important to us today?

The Word of God is important because it is the **filter** by which everything in our life must go through. The Bible contains 
within it the answer to every question we may have. God is still alive, so is His Word and this living Word of God speaks to us 
on a daily basis about every situation in our lives.

It’s like the **manual** for our lives as Christians. We can turn to it when we need help with decisions and practical advice for 
everyday life.

Unlike a car manual, though, the Bible should not just be used when we’re in a jam. It something that we need to learn how 
to discipline ourselves to read and study daily.

More than just containing advice and answers, the Bible provides **food** for our spirit. Just like our bodies need food to 
survive and grow, our spirit needs a constant source of the Word of God.

How do we use the Word?

A. **Read it** — Deuteronomy 17:19; Isaiah 34:16; Revelation 1:3

B. **Study it** — 2 Timothy 3:15

C. **Meditate on it** — Psalm 1:2

D. **Memorize it** — Psalm 119:11, 97; 1 Corinthians 15:2; Deuteronomy 6:6

E. **Pray it** — Joshua 1:8; Ephesians 5:19, Psalm 119:169-174

*All of these elements should become a regular practice in the lives of all believers. Hungry? Grab your Bible!*
The Whole Bible in One-Liners:
(Excerpt taken from “The Everyday Guide to the Bible” by Carol Smith)

Old Testament:

Genesis – God created the world, gave us the choice to love Him, and began His plan to restore us through a good man named Abraham.

Exodus – In Egypt, Abraham’s descendants grew into the Hebrew nation, then they headed back home.

Leviticus – God gives the Hebrews guidelines for worship and sanitation to survive their journey.

Numbers – Because of their lack of faith, the Hebrews take a forty-year detour through the desert.

Deuteronomy – Moses says good-bye, gives a history lesson, and gives some guidelines for loving and worshipping God.

Joshua – The Hebrews resettled their land, after over four hundred years away, by chasing out squatters in every city.

Judges – The Hebrews organize into a nation back in their homeland and are led by wise judges.

Ruth – One family’s story about God’s provision.

1 & 2 Samuel – Samuel leads Israel, then he anoints King Saul. After Saul, King David rules and his family suffers.

1 & 2 Kings – Solomon ruled Israel, then the kingdom divided in two. Finally the Hebrews are exiled to foreign lands.

1 & 2 Chronicles – Israel’s story from David’s reign until the exile into Babylon, but from a spiritual (not political) perspective.

Ezra – The Hebrews returned from Babylon (where they were in exile) and rebuilt the temple.

Nehemiah – More Hebrews returned from Babylon and rebuilt Jerusalem’s wall.

Esther – The Hebrews survived exile in Persia because of a Jewish royal beauty contest winner.

Job – Bad times don’t change the nature of God.

Psalms – Lyric sheets from Old Testament temple worship. Songs about facing life and worshipping God.

Proverbs – Nuggets of wisdom for dealing with everyday life.

Ecclesiastes – I had it all, and it didn’t mean anything with God. Sincerely, King Solomon.

Song of Songs – I’m passionately in love, and I can’t stop thinking about her! By Solomon.

Isaiah – Pay attention. God has a master plan in the works and we need to be a part of it.

Jeremiah – Prepare to face the consequences of living apart from God. Know that God’s plan is still in place.
Lamentations – What we dreaded has happened. Our sin has destroyed us. My heart is broken.

Ezekiel – Here are some visions I saw from God’s perspective on how we’ve lived our lives and of heaven.

Daniel – Here are the stories of Daniel, a Jewish exile in Persia, and his visions of the future.

Hosea – Ephraim, you are unfaithful to God as prostitute to her husband. Turn around!

Joel – Because of our sin, it’s going to get worse before it gets better. But it will get better one day.

Amos – By human standards, you’re looking okay, but by God’s standards, you’re failing.

Obadiah – Attention, people of Edom: You’ve bullied Israel and now you’ll answer to God Himself.

Jonah – Jonah unwillingly prophesied to a wicked place and was disappointed at the good turnout.

Micah – We are immoral and headed for destruction. Only God can deliver us from ourselves.

Nahum – No matter how strong evil seems, God will do away with it when He is ready.

Habakkuk – God, why don’t you stop bad things from happening?

Zephaniah – God will hold us accountable for our actions. All of them.

Haggai – Don’t ignore what matters most – your relationship with your God and creator.

Zechariah – Finish the temple and get your relationship with God in working order. The Messiah is coming.

Malachi – Worshipping God is not about doing the least to get by. Be wholehearted instead.

New Testament:

Matthew: Dear Hebrews, Jesus is the Messiah that God promised through the prophets and here’s how I know.

Mark – Hey Romans, Jesus was a servant-king. Look what He did!


John – It’s really true. Jesus Christ is God Himself.

Acts – A new church organizes: Jesus’ sacrifice makes us right with God. Spread the news.

Romans – Dear church, the only way we can be right with God is through faith.

1 Corinthians – Dear church, don’t be like the world around you. Be who God made you to be, pure and effective.

2 Corinthians – Dear church, here’s who I am. Now let me tell you who you should be.
Galatians - Dear church, you can't earn God's approval by obeying rules. It takes faith.

Ephesians - Dear church, receive God's amazing love for you. Then, love each other well.

Philippians - Dear church, knowing you brings joy to me. Knowing God brings joy to all of us.

Colossians - Dear church, faith in Christ is enough. Don't add anything else to it.

1 Thessalonians - Dear church, look forward to Christ's return!

2 Thessalonians - Dear church, look forward to Christ's return, but keep living full lives and working hard!

1 Timothy — Dear Tim, you’re doing well. Here are some things to remember about leading a church.

2 Timothy — Dear Tim, come soon. I don’t know how much longer I’ll be here. Keep the faith.

Titus — Dear Titus, here are some helpful hints about leading your church.

Philemon — Dear Philemon, forgive Onesimus not as a runaway, but as a brother in the faith.

Hebrews – To all Jewish Christians: Now that Christ has come, focus on Him rather than the rituals that pointed you to Him.

James – Yes, salvation is by faith, but faith without actions is useless.

1 & 2 Peter – These are difficult times! Let your faith help you endure. Don't let go just because troubles come.

1 John – Ignore false teaching, live righteously. Love each other. Know that Jesus was God in the flesh.

2 John – Keep your chin up and your hearts open, but keep a close watch on your faith.

3 John – Keep up the good work! I’ll be there soon to deal with the power struggle.

Jude – Watch out for people who use God's grace as an excuse for irresponsibility!

Revelation – Here's the last page of world history – the end of the world as we know it.
In any relationship, communication is the key for success. Prayer is a “two-way” Highway in which we communicate with God and vice-versa. Therefore, in order to have a successful relationship with God, our prayer life must be strong & consistent. Building a strong prayer life requires three things: 1) understanding WHY you are praying, 2) knowing the CONDITIONS for praying effectively, and 3) being WILLING to develop a disciplined prayer time.

I. What is Prayer?

People communicating, interacting and fellowshipping with God.

“Prayer develops the sensitivity of our spirit to His and produces the interaction and communion which He desires to have with us.”
— F. Damazio

II. Three Reasons People Pray

1. Prayer creates fellowship — Relationships are built by quality time together.

   Prayer alone with God creates special fellowship together. Matthew 14:23 shows us that Jesus frequently got alone with God to pray. Do you desire to be close to God? Then take a close look at how much time you spend praying!

2. Prayer renews us spiritually — Prayer refreshes us in the presence and glory of God (Psalm 16:11). We come under the influence of His Spirit in a more concentrated way. Our spirit and soul are renewed as God ministers to us in our areas of personal need.

3. Prayer makes us co-laborers with God — Before the fall, mankind was given the rule over this present world (Genesis 1:28). Jesus Christ, as the Second Adam, has reclaimed this authority (Mt. 28:18). Through prayer, we share in the burdens and concerns of Christ and become fellow workers with God during this present age to see His redemptive will accomplished in the earth (I Corinthians 3:9).

III. Types of Prayer

1. Praise and Thanksgiving — Psalm 100:4; 22:3
2. Worship and Adoration — Psalm 96:9; 100:1; Matthew 6:9
3. Personal Examination — Psalm 51:10; 1 Corinthians 6:19
4. Petitions and Supplications — Philippians 4:6; Psalm 6:9; Daniel 6:11; 1 Kings 8:33
5. Intercession — 1 Timothy 2:1; Hebrews 7:25; Romans 8:26-34
6. Praying in Tongues — 1 Corinthians 14:14,15; Jude 20; Ephesians 6:18
7. Praying in Song — Psalm 144:9; 149:1; 2 Chronicles 20:20-22
IV. When Do You Pray?

“Pray without ceasing” — 1 Thessalonians 5:17 (NKJV)

Although the Bible exhorts us to pray continually throughout the day, it is important to establish, as part of your daily routine, a time when you get away and pray!

Making every effort to have daily time in your “prayer closet” is one of the most effective ways to grow in your walk with the Lord.

Your “prayer closet” can be anywhere from your room to your car. It’s the place that you are able to be open and honest with God and let Him speak to you.

“But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.” — Matthew 6:6

V. Hindrances to one’s prayer life

A. Prayer is an incense — Psalm 141:1-2; Luke 1:9-11; Revelations 8:3-4; 11:1

B. Prayers can be hindered — 1 Peter 3:7

1. When there is sin and iniquity in our life — Isaiah 59:1-2
2. When there are moral problems — 1 Peter 3:7
3. When there is willful and presumptuous disobedience to God’s Word — Proverbs 28:9
4. When there is unforgiveness in our life — Matthew 5:23-24
5. When we pray with selfish motivation — James 4:3
6. When there are idols in our hearts — Ezekiel 14:3
7. When there is stinginess — Proverbs 21:13; Luke 6:38; 1 John 3:22
8. When there is disbelief — James 1:5-7
“One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he finished, one of his disciples said to him, ‘Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples.’ He said to them, “When you pray, say: “Father, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who sins against us. And lead us not into temptation.”” - Luke 11:1-4

**The following scriptures have been personalized for you to read and pray out during your daily prayer time.**

“I know the thoughts the Lord thinks toward me, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give me a future and a hope. Then I will call upon Him and go and pray to Him, and He will listen to me. And I will seek Him and find Him, when I search for Him with all my heart” - Jeremiah 29:11-13

1 - Praise & Thanksgiving - Hallowed Be Your Name

I will enter Your gates with thanksgiving and into Your courts with praise. I will be thankful unto You and bless Your name. For the Lord is good; Your mercy is everlasting, and Your truth endures to all generations. - Psalm 100:4-5

I will come boldly to the throne of grace to obtain mercy and find grace to help in the time of need. - Hebrews 4:16

I have boldness to enter by the blood of Jesus. - Hebrews 10:19
Building Blocks of Faith

Names of God:

**LORD**
**THE FATHER**
The name of the Lord is a Strong Tower - I will run into it and be safe! - Proverbs 18:10

El Elohe Israel
God the God of Israel - Genesis 33:18-20
El Elyon
Most High God - Genesis 14:17-20
El Olam
Everlasting God - Isaiah 40:28-31
El Roi
The One who sees - Genesis 16:12
El Shaddai
God Almighty - Genesis 17:1
Elohim
(God) - Genesis 1:1

Jehovah Gmolah
God of Recompense - Jeremiah 51:56
Jehovah Jireh
Lord will provide - Genesis 22:13-14
Jehovah Maccaddeshem
Lord my sanctifier - Exodus 31:13
Jehovah Makkeh
Lord who strikes - Ezekiel 7:9
Jehovah Nissi
Lord our Banner - Exodus 17:15
Jehovah Rapha
Lord our Healer - Exodus 15:26
Jehovah Rohi
Lord my Shepherd - Psalm 23:1
Jehovah Sabbaoth
Lord of Hosts - Isaiah 6:1-3
Jehovah Shalom
Lord our Peace - Judges 6:24
Jehovah Shammah
Lord who is present - Ezekiel 48:35
Jehovah Tsidkenu
Lord our righteousness - Jeremiah 23:6

**JESUS**
**THE SON**
Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved. - Acts 4:12

From the Gospel of John:
I am the Way, the Truth and the Life
I am the Resurrection and the Life
I am the Bread of Life
I am the Door
I am the Good Shepherd
I am the Light of the World
I am the Son of God
I am the Vine

Advocate, Attorney
Alpha, Omega
Author, Finisher of our faith
Captain of our salvation
Forerunner
Friend of sinners
Lion of Judah
Man of sorrows
Master, Mediator
Physician, Refiner
Savior, True Vine

Exceeding joy - Psalm 43:4
Hiding place - Psalm 119:114
Mighty in battle - Psalm 24:7-10
Makes a way in the sea - Isaiah 43:16
Lifter of my head - Psalm 3:3
Safe refuge - Psalm 46:1
Rock - Psalm 18:46
Shade at my right hand - Psalm 121:4-5
Shield for me - Psalm 3:3
Strength of my heart - Psalm 46:1
Very present help in trouble - Psalm 46:1

**CHRIST**
**THE HOLY SPIRIT**
God has not given me a spirit of fear, but of power, love and a sound mind. - 2 Timothy 1:7

I will not get drunk on other things, but I will be filled with the Spirit. - Ephesians 5:18

I will pray with the spirit, and I will also pray with the understanding. - 1 Corinthians 14:15
2 - Destiny & Authority - Your Kingdom Come, Your Will Be Done On Earth As It Is In Heaven

In my leaders -
I will make supplication, prayer, intercession and giving of thanks for Kings and all who are in authority that I might lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. - 1 Timothy 2:1-2
I will honor all men, fear God and honor the King. - 1 Peter 2:17

In my pastors -
I will remember those who have rule over me. - Hebrews 13:17
I will pray for them, that the word of the Lord may have free course, and be glorified. - 2 Thessalonians 3:1

In my personal life -
I will deny myself and take up my cross and follow Him - Luke 9:23

In my family -
If I do not provide for my own I am worse than an unbeliever. - 1 Timothy 5:8
(Spouse, children, parents, relatives)

In my vocation and ministry -
I will seek first the kingdom of God and His Righteousness. - Matthew 6:33

In my church -
That the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church, according to the eternal purpose. - Ephesians 3:10-11

In people -
God desires all men to be saved. - 1 Timothy 2:4
God is not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. - 2 Peter 3:9

In my city -
I will seek the peace of my city...and pray to the Lord for it, for in it’s peace, I will have peace. - Jeremiah 29:7

3 - Provision - Give Us This Day Our Daily Bread

I ask for His blessings, provision and prosperity

I do not have because I do not ask - James 4:2
So, I ask, in prayer believing, and I know I will receive - Matthew 21:22
You cause those who love you to inherit wealth and You will fill their treasuries - Proverbs 8:21
I will bring all my tithes into the storehouse, and the Lord will open the windows of heaven and pour out a blessing for me. - Malachi 3:10
If I diligently obey the voice of the Lord, all these blessings shall come upon me and overtake me. I will be blessed when I come in, and blessed when I go out. The Lord will command the blessing on my storehouses and in all to which I set my hand, and He will bless me in the Land which the Lord my God is giving me. - Deuteronomy 28:1-8
And God is able to make all grace abound toward me, that always having all sufficiency in all things, I may have an abundance of every good work. -2 Corinthians 9:8
I will give and it will be given unto me, good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over will be put into my bosom. With the same measure that I give, it will be measured back to me. - Luke 6:38
It is God who gives me power to get wealth that He might establish His Covenant with me. - Deuteronomy 8:18

- Prosper my personal live
- Prosper my family
- Prosper my business
- Prosper my church
- Prosper others

4 - Relationships - Forgive Us Our Sins As We Forgive Those Who Sin Against Us

I set my will to forgive those who may offend me:
- Spouse    - Co-workers
- Parents    - Classmates
- Children    - Neighbors
- Family    - Friends
- Church Members    - Others

I exercise myself to always have a conscience without offense towards God or men. - Acts 24:16
I will love my enemies, I will bless those who curse me, do good to those who hate me and pray for those who despitefully use me and persecute me. - Matthew 5:44
I will forgive my brothers their trespasses from my heart. - Matthew 18:35
I will let all bitterness, wrath, anger clamor and evil speaking be put away from me, with all malice and I will be kind to others, tenderhearted, forgiving others, just as God in Christ forgave me. - Ephesians 4:32
I will pursue peace with all people and I will look carefully lest any root of bitterness spring up in my life and cause trouble and defile others. - Hebrews 12:14-15

5 - Spiritual Warfare - And Lead Us Not Into Temptation, But Deliver Us From The Evil One

I will give no place to the devil. - Ephesians 4:27
I will resist the devil and he will flee. - James 4:7
I will overcome the dragon by the blood of the Lamb, by the word of my testimony and by not loving my life even unto death. - Revelation 12:11
I will put on the Lord Jesus Christ. - Romans 13:14
I will put on the new man. - Colossians 3:10
I will put on the whole armor of God. - Ephesians 6:11
And the God of peace will soon crush Satan under my feet. - Romans 16:20
As a part of the church Jesus is building, I have been given the keys to the kingdom of heaven, and whatever I bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever I loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. - Matthew 16:19

The Belt of Truth - I will walk in truth
The Breastplate of Righteousness - I will guard my heart with all diligence
The Shoes or the Gospel - I am ready to run with the good news
The Shield of Faith - I will quench every fiery dart of the wicked one
The Helmet of Salvation - I will bring every thought into captivity
The Sword of the Spirit - I will speak the Rhema Word of God
The Cloak of Zeal (Isaiah 59:17) - The Lord will transform my personality.

But I will be sober and vigilant; because my adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking to devour me. I will resist him, steadfast in my faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by my brothers in the world. 1 Peter 5:8-9
6 - Priorities - For Yours Is The Kingdom And The Power And the Glory Forever

It’s Your Kingdom
I will seek first the Kingdom of God!

His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and His dominion endures throughout all generations. - Psalm 145:13

It’s Your Power
Without You I can do nothing, but through Christ, I can do all things!

He is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that I could ask or think, according to the power that works in me. - Ephesians 3:20

It’s Your Glory
May men see my good works and glorify my Father who is in heaven!

To Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen. - Ephesians 3:21

7 - Faith - Amen - Let It Be So

All the promises of God in You are yes and in You amen. - 2 Corinthians 1:20

He who has begun a good work in me will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ. - Philippians 1:6

Jesus is the author and finisher of my faith. - Hebrew 12:2

He is the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End, who is and who was and who is to come. - Revelation 1:8

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever. - Hebrews 13:8

I will let these words be my weapons as I fight. - 1 Timothy 1:8 (TEV)
Simply said, worship is the heartfelt expression of your love to God. It’s telling Him how you feel about Him and what He means to you. Praise is the outward demonstration of this love. Praise without sincerity of worship, is nothing more than a physical exercise.

Worship as found in the original Hebrew:

A. PRAISE — “yadah” - means to use the hands, to hold up or out, to worship with extended hands. “halal” - to be clear, have a clear sound, to celebrate

B. WORSHIP — “schachah” - to depress, to prostrate in homage to the royalty of God, to bow down, fall down. “barak” - to kneel, bless God as an act of adoration

C. REJOICE — “samah” - to brighten up, be blithe, gleesome, cheerful, happy. “qual” - to spin around under the influence of violent emotions. “alats” - to jump for joy, to exalt. “ranan” - to shout for joy or cry out.

True of false, “There is more than one way to praise God”?  True

II. Why Worship

A. It glorifies God and brings honor to His name.

B. It takes the focus off you and onto God.

C. It gives to God the only thing He can’t give to Himself.

III. Ways we can praise God:

A. With Singing — Psalm 95:1; 81:1

B. With our Lips — Psalm 51:15; 145:21

C. With Shouting — Psalm 5:11, Isaiah 12:6

D. By Clapping — Psalm 47:1; 98:8

E. By Lifting Hands — Psalm 134:2; 141:2

F. With Instruments — Psalm 150:3-6

G. By Standing — Psalm 134:1

H. By Bowing Down — Psalm 95:6

I. With Dancing — Psalm 149:3
Building Blocks of Faith

Worship

IV. The affects of Worship on your life

It will bring the:

A. **Rain** of the Lord – Zechariah 10:1; Psalm 65:9


C. **Presence** of the Lord – Psalm 22:3; 2 Chronicles 5:13-14; Zephaniah 3:17

D. **Prophetic** spirit – 2 Kings 3:11-27

E. **Song** of the Lord – 2 Chronicles 29:27; Colossians 3:16; Ephesians 5:19

F. **Power** of God – 2 Chronicles 20:21-22; Acts 16:19-34

G. **Victory** to the defeated – Isaiah 61:3; 42:3; Psalm 25:1; 86:4

In Conclusion . . .

When we worship God, we are doing so to the audience of One.

“*I will praise you as long as I live, and in your name I will lift up my hands.*” Psalm 63:4

“*. . . a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks.*” John 4:23
One of the most effective ways to increase your spiritual alertness is to combine prayer and fasting. Fasting brings you closer to the mind and heart of God, and allows your spirit man to receive from the Lord with less distractions. When you fast, it’s like your “spiritual rifle site” gets clearer, focused and honed-in on a specific target. Simply said, fasting and prayer is the most powerful weapon the Lord has given to Christians!!!

I. Background and Definition of Fasting

A. Dictionary - “to abstain from food for a chosen duration of time”
B. Hebrew - “to afflict the soul, to bring self into discipline, to humble the soul”
C. Greek - “to be emptied, one who willingly abstains from food”

II. Biblical Examples of Fasting

O.T. Examples

1. Moses fasted twice for 40 days without food or water.
2. Israel fasted at least one day a year together, the Day of Atonement (Leviticus 16)
3. Esther fasted to save a nation from destruction (Esther 4:1-3, 15-17)
4. David fasted continually to find direction and help (Psalm 35:13)
5. Jehoshaphat fasted in a national crisis (2 Chronicles 20:1-30)
6. Ezra fasted for divine protection and guidance (Ezra 8:21, 23)
7. Nehemiah fasted for divine wisdom for restoration of the walls and gates (Nehemiah 1-2)

N.T. Examples

1. Anna, the prophetess (Luke 2:35-39)
2. Jesus (Matthew 4:1-2)
4. The Apostle Paul (2 Corinthians 6:5, 11:27)
Fasting

III. The Purpose of Fasting – Zechariah 7:5, Acts 13:2

A. To prepare oneself to receive from God a special word of knowledge/direction.

B. To humble the soul (the soul being the rebellious part of man). You are saying to yourself: “soul, you can’t have your own way any longer, you’re not the master, you’re the servant.”

C. To empty yourself and make room for the Holy Spirit to have His way.

D. To purify your spirit and life before God.

E. To loose the bonds of wickedness, undo the heavy bands of the yoke of sin and to let the oppressed go free.

IV. Three Levels of Fasting

A. The Regular Fast — to drink water only

B. The Partial Fast — to eat certain meals only

C. The Complete Fast — to eat and drink nothing

Fasting does not always have to mean abstaining from all food. Other examples or things to fast may include: media, sweets, certain types of foods, etc.

When someone is only eating fruits and vegetables, for instance, that is called a Daniel fast.

Another form of fasting is abstaining from all foods during the day and eating only once the sun goes down. This is called a Joshua fast.

There is not a specific protocol for fasting, it is truly a condition of the heart.

V. The Principle learned from the Sermon on the Mount – Matthew 6:1-18

A. The giving of alms — Matthew 6:1-4 ...when you do your acts of righteousness... not as hypocrites —> REWARD

B. The giving of prayers — Matthew 6:5:15 ...when you pray... not as hypocrites —> REWARD

C. The life of fasting — Matthew 6:16-18 ...when you fast...not as hypocrites —> REWARD
Building Blocks of Faith

Water Baptism

What is water baptism anyway? Like Christ’s death and resurrection, water baptism represents the death and burial of the sin in your life and resurrection to your new life as a Christian. It is a physical sign or demonstration of what has already taken place in your heart. It represents the elimination of your sinful nature, as well as the new, godly nature you received freely at the moment of your conversion. The act of being dunked in water in itself does nothing for you other than getting you wet, but it’s what it represents that means a lot, and that’s why we do it!

Water Baptism is both a personal recognition and a public confession that Jesus died on the cross to eliminate your sinful nature. This new nature allows you to be released from sin’s grasp on your life.

“Since we have died to sin, how can we continue to live in it?” Romans 6:2 (NLT)

A. Water baptism shows your willingness to identify with Christ’s death, burial and resurrection.

B. Water baptism signifies a change of heart.

C. Water baptism shows your desire to obey.

I. Who Should be Water Baptized?

In order for baptism to have significant spiritual meaning in one’s life, he or she must have already experienced salvation by repentance, have faith (belief) in Jesus Christ as the Son of God, and have a desire to be obedient.

— Acts 8:36-38... example of faith

“Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ.” When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?” Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.” — Acts 8:36-38

— Luke 24:47, Acts 2:38... Jesus sends the message of repentance

“and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.”

— Luke 24:47

“Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.” — Acts 2:38

Faith and repentance must go hand in hand. This order, established by Jesus, is salvation through faith and repentance, followed by water baptism out of obedience.
II. What Happens in Water Baptism?

We are baptized simply because it is commanded by God to do so. However, as we respond to the Word of the Lord in faith, some very important things will take place. Every person who goes into the waters of baptism should expect to experience five things by faith:

1. To be identified with Christ’s death burial and resurrection — In baptism, the “old man” is crucified. In immersion the “old man” is buried. But in rising out of the water, the new man rises to walk in newness of life. – Romans 6:3-5,11

2. A new victory over life-dominating sins — The “waters of separation” help us facilitate our separation from sin. – Romans 6:6-7, 12-14

3. A spiritual cleansing and renewal — The water itself affects no cleansing, but as we respond in faith to the commands of Christ, the Holy Spirit works in connection with the God-ordained means. – Acts 22:16

4. An identification with the name of the Lord – Acts 2:38

5. A circumcision of the heart – Colossians 2:12; 3:1

III. Why Should I be Water Baptized?

1. Baptism was instituted (“set up”) by Jesus as a must for believers. Matthew 28:19

2. Every believer should be baptized because Jesus instructed his followers to do so, and He provided an example by being baptized Himself.

3. The Apostles practiced this important act of obedience in the New Testament, and it has continued in the church until present times. Acts 2:38; Romans 6:2

IV. When Should I be Water Baptized?

Once you have begun your new relationship with Jesus, you should make efforts to be water baptized ASAP.

Remember, this is meant to be done in “public” – symbolizing a “lifestyle confession” of allegiance and servanthood to God! ...and it’s a direct command from Jesus Himself - so do it quickly!

Acts 22:16; Acts 8:12
One of the privileges we have in the Christian walk is the fact that God loves spending time “communing” with His children. As a matter of fact, He wants to do this not only once a week but everyday! This personal time with God is possible because of His Spirit which lives within each of us (1 Corinthians 3:16). In Revelations 3:20, Jesus even says: “...if you hear my voice, and open the door (to your heart), he will come in and eat with you...” In other words, he will come into your life, and have fellowship or communion with you. That’s incredible! The creator of the universe wants to spend time with us, in a personal way! There is also a “sacred” act that we get to be a part of as a group (the body of Christ) and the Bible refers to it as “the taking of the Lord’s table.” In church services this is referred to as “Communion.” Jesus took time to teach his disciples the importance of this, so let’s take a closer look at what the scriptures have to say about it.

Definition:

A. Dictionary — fellowship, interchange of thoughts or interests, a state of giving and receiving, agreement, concord...

B. Greek (koinonia) — “fellowship, association, community, joint participation.”

I. What the Bible says about it

A. Old Testament:

1. The Passover  
   — Exodus 12:1-12

2. The Feasts of Passover  
   — Leviticus 23

3. The Meal Offering  
   — Leviticus 2:1-16; Ex. 29:41

4. The Table of Shewbread  
   — Numbers 28:7; Ex. 25:23-30

B. New Testament:

1. Practiced by Jesus and the disciples — Matthew 26:26-29


II. The Communion Service

A. The significance of the symbols

1. The Table — Psalm 23:5; Revelations 3:20 ... love & fellowship

2. The Bread — 1 Corinthians 10:16,17; Matthew 26:26 ... his broken body

3. The Juice — Matthew 26:27; 1 Corinthians 11:25 ... his shed blood

B. Your Preparation

1. You must be a true born-again believer — 2 Corinthians 5:17

2. You must examine yourself — 1 Corinthians 11:28

3. You must judge yourself — Romans 2:16

4. You must cleanse yourself from all unrighteousness 2 Corinthians 7:1-2

5. You must come with faith and expectancy — Hebrews 11:6; Romans 14:23

C. Consequences of being unprepared

1. Warning to not come unworthy — 1 Corinthians 11:27-29

2. Unprepared will be found guilty — 1 Corinthians 11:27

3. Unprepared will eat and drink damnation — 1 Corinthians 11:29

4. Unprepared will receive weakness and sickness — 1 Corinthians 11:30

So when it’s all said and done, communion is:

1. A divine command
2. A blessed privilege
3. A necessary memorial
4. A willing testimony
5. A humbling confession
6. An act of faith
7. An important warning
8. A promise of divine health and healing
“Steward” is probably the best word used to describe what Christians are when it comes to our responsibility to administrate and manage all the things God has given us. We are not owners of all that God has given us; we are stewards, managers and therefore accountable as to how we handle God’s wealth and His Blessings. It all belongs to God and we have the awesome privilege of ‘running the family business.’ ...but He’s still the owner!

I. Examples of Stewardship

A. In the Old Testament

1. Eliezer the steward of Abraham — Genesis 15:2, 24:1-67

2. Jacob the steward for Laban — Genesis 29, 30:25-43

3. Joseph the steward for Potiphar — Genesis 39:4-5, 44:1-4

B. In the New Testament


Each parable teaches the same principle of individual responsibility for what one has received. What we do with our time, money, talents, ministry and possessions is of great importance to the Lord of the house. (Hebrews 3:1-6)

II. Stewardship of the Christian

A. Stewardship of time


2. Making the most of your time by taking advantage of the opportunities God provides — Colossians 4:5; Ephesians 5:15-17
Building Blocks of Faith

Stewardship

B. Stewardship of talents


2. The Bible teaches us that whatever we are doing, we’re to do it with all our heart — Ephesians 6:7; Ecclesiastes 9:10

C. Stewardship of treasure — Colossians 3:1-2; 1 Timothy 6:7-10

1. The Bible gives us more warnings against money than any other subject.
   — The first Apostle to fall was connected with the problem of money.
   — The first sin in the early church was connected to this problem.

2. Tithing — Malachi 3:8; Proverbs 3:9-10; Luke. 6:38
   — The word “tithe” comes from Hebrew and Greek words that mean “a tenth” or “to give a tenth of something.”
   — In the O.T. Abraham paid tithes to Melchizedek (Genesis 14:18-20)
   — In the N.T. Jesus and Paul taught the believers to tithe (Matthew 23:23; 1 Corinthians 16:1-2)

3. Offering — Malachi 3:8
   — Offerings are different than tithing - they are the freewill acts of the individual to give whatever amount the Lord lays on your heart. The Bible tells us to give offerings... we can rob God if we don’t obey this command, according to Philippians 4:15-18.
   — Examples: Missions, Benevolence, “love offerings”, etc.

D. Excuses and reasons why people don’t tithe or give:

1. Tithing is an O.T. teaching, therefore I should live under grace and not the law.
   *Teacher’s Note: The problem with this is that Jesus said “give everything”... tithing is the minimum!*

2. I need all the money I make to survive.
   *Teacher’s Note: Basically, what you’re saying is that “I am selfish”*

3. I would like to pay tithes, and someday I know I will pay tithes when all my bills are paid and I’m totally out of debt. *Teacher’s Note: In other words, “I’m gonna keep robbing God...”*

4. I would love to tithe, but I just don’t know if I have enough faith to live on 90% of my income.
The Body of Christ (the Church) is to mirror Christ to the world, and is also to serve the Head of the Body - the Lord Jesus Christ. All life and power of the Body comes from the Holy Spirit.

No member should boast or compete against another, and think of himself as superior to the other.

No member, however insignificant, should consider himself unessential or unimportant to the Body! Christ died for all, and has need of all!

Consider the comparison between the physical body and the spiritual body — 1 Corinthians 15:45-47

A. The natural body:
   1. The natural body has a head.
   2. The natural body has many parts, each with unique functions.
   3. The natural body has balance because of each member’s willingness to work together.
   4. The natural body fulfills the need for other functioning parts of the body.

B. The spiritual Body of Christ:
   1. The spiritual body has one head, the Lord Jesus Christ — 1 Corinthians 11:1-3
   2. The spiritual body has many members, each with a different responsibilities to the whole body — 1 Corinthians 12:12, 14, 20
   3. The spiritual body is governed by the Holy Spirit, and it is He who places each member into the body — 1 Corinthians 12:18, 15-17, 21-24
   4. The spiritual body functions because of the care each member has one for another — 1 Corinthians 12:24-26

The Spiritual Gifts given to the Body (1 Corinthians 12:1-12)

Definition of Gift — (Gr.) charis, charisma — “a gift given out of good will, a gift involving grace on the part of God as the donor”; the root word “char” indicates things which produce wellbeing, beneficial, highly valuable. The word “charis” is used 155 times in the N.T., mostly a Pauline expression.

1 Corinthians 12:1 - “Now about spiritual gifts... I don’t want you to be ignorant...”
Ignorance (Gr.) = to have a lack of information, to have a lack of desire
The Nine Gifts of the Spirit:

1. **The Word of Wisdom** — 1 Corinthians 12:8; Proverbs 8:22-30; 2 Peter 3:15
   “An unearned supernatural impartation of a fragment of God’s total wisdom to meet a particular need, or answer a particular challenge.”

2. **The Word of Knowledge** — 1 Corinthians 12:8; Hosea 12:10; Acts 13:9-11
   “God given ability to receive from God by revelation the knowledge of acts and information which is humanly impossible to know.”

3. **Faith** — 1 Corinthians 12:9; Acts 3:4-16; Romans 15:18-19
   “This is not just believing faith as received at salvation, but this faith is a special faith, imparted by God for the impossible situation.”

4. **Healings** — 1 Corinthians 12:9; Acts 14:8-11; 5:15; 28:8-1
   The word “gifts” here is plural — healing for the body, soul and spirit, healing for the total man. This is a God-given ability to minister healing to any part of man.

5. **Miracles** — 1 Corinthians 12:10; Acts 20:4-12
   “The imparted power of the Holy Spirit to do that which could not be produced by natural agents and means, defies reason and transcends natural laws.”

6. **Prophecy** — 1 Corinthians 12:10, 14:6; Revelation 19:10
   The Bible shows us that there are three levels of prophecy: spirit, gift and office of the prophet. This one refers to the gift, which is for edification, exhortation and comfort.

7. **Discernment of Spirits** — 1 Corinthians 12:10; Acts 16:16-18
   This gift is used to discern the activities and manifestations of spirits, good or evil, and the ability to deal with them.

8. **Different Kinds of Tongues** — 1 Corinthians 12:10, 14:18; Acts 2:1-17
   > The initial evidence of having received Baptism of the Holy Spirit
   > Devotional tongues which is praying and praising God in tongues in your prayer life
   > This one refers to the gift used for the edifying of the corporate Body of Christ in the Local Church — 1 Corinthians 12:10; 28-30; 14:5,13, 22, 26-27

9. **Interpretation of Tongues** — 1 Corinthians 12:10; 14:13
   This is the God given ability to bring forth in a known tongue a message that was given in an unknown tongue.
Building Blocks of Faith

Baptism in the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is God the Spirit, the third person of the Trinity. He is co-equal and co-eternal with God the Father and God the Son (the Lord Jesus Christ), Acts 5:3-4. The Holy Spirit is the “helper” whom the Father sent to be with the Church after Christ ascended into heaven, John 14:16-17. Jesus said that it would be better for Him to leave this earth and for the Holy Spirit to come in His place, John 16:7. The Bible encourages us to “be filled” with the Spirit, Ephesians 5:18, because with the “helper” we’ll be able to accomplish all that God has for us. In this study, we’ll take a closer look at what baptism in the Holy Spirit means and why we Christians need it so badly!

I. What does Baptism in the Holy Spirit mean?

The word baptism means “immersion or to be completely covered by,” (like by water, etc). So, for a person to be baptized with the Holy Ghost it means they must be immersed, covered by or filled with the Holy Spirit.

Check out the following terms that the Bible uses to describe this experience:

A. **Baptism** — The truth here is that the believer must be totally immersed, submerged and saturated with the Holy Spirit. — Matthew 3:11, Acts 1:5; 1 Corinthians 12:13; Hebrews 6:2

B. **Filling** — The truth of “filling”, views the believer as the vessel or container for the Spirit of God. There may be one baptism but many fillings. — Acts 2:4, 4:8, 31, 6:3-5

C. **Poured out upon** — The truth emphasized here is the Holy Spirit as a liquid that is freely given. — Acts 2:17, 10:45; Joel 2:28-29

D. **Falling** Upon — The idea here seems to be of rain that comes from above to bring refreshing and fruitfulness. — Acts 8:16, 10:44, 11:15; Luke 24:49; John 15:26

E. **Endued** with Power — The idea here is of one being clothed with the power of God. — Luke 24:49; Acts 1:8, 4:33, 10:38; 1 Thessalonians 1:5

F. **Sealed** — This term talks of the Spirit coming to the believer as a stamp or private mark for security, preservation, genuineness or authenticity. — John 6:27; 2 Corinthians 1:21-22

II. Why do I need it?

Jesus said that He would send a “helper” because He knew that we would need His strength and power to overcome the works of the enemy and further the Kingdom of God. He also said that He would go to God the Father and make intercession in our behalf through His Spirit.
Building Blocks of Faith

**Baptism in the Holy Spirit**

Therefore, the Spirit:

A. Gives us **power** to live righteously and defeat the works of the enemy. — Romans 8:26; Luke 24:49; Acts 1:8

B. Makes **intercession** for us to God.

When you don't know what to pray for or you're too weak to pray, the Spirit Himself prays in our behalf, Romans 8:26; 1 Corinthians 14:2, 14. In other words, when we're baptized in the Holy Spirit and pray in tongues, we have a direct line to God that only He understands!

III. How do I get it?

A. You must be **born-again** — Acts 2:38-39

B. You must understand it's a **gift** — Luke 11:13; Acts 2:38, 10:45; John. 7:38,39

C. You must desire and **ask for it** — Acts 19:2, 6; Luke 11:9-13


In Conclusion...

When a person gets saved they receive the “full package” (God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit) and their destiny changes from hell to heaven. Spiritual death is buried and eternal life becomes a reality in their lives. To say that a believer who is not baptized in the Holy Spirit is really not saved is absolutely incorrect. They are saved, and they are going to heaven! The whole reason for the baptism in the Holy Spirit is the fact that we need the help now - while we are on earth! God wants to empower us to not only “make it to heaven” but to be a force on the earth that takes ground for the Kingdom of God and destroys the works of the devil. You see, making it to heaven isn’t really the point... it’s what we do before we get there that God is wanting to help us with!!!

Baptism in the Holy Spirit is more than just speaking in tongues. Its primary purpose is to empower the believers to be witnesses of God to our world.
Building Blocks of Faith

Prophetic

In Joel 2:28-32 and Acts 2:17-21 it tells us that in the last days the Holy Spirit will be poured out on the sons and daughters, and they will prophecy. We are seeing this in our day. God wants to move on many spiritual sons and daughters in these days and make them a mouthpiece for him to this generation! Moving in the prophetic ministry does not just happen, you must have a desire for this ministry.

Definition:

“Prophetes: (Greek) — “One who speaks for another, one who speaks for God.”

I. Can only Prophets Prophecy?

In the Bible (both Old & New Testaments) we see many examples of men and women who were appointed by God and recognized by the people as “spokesman” for God. They were known as “The Prophet” and they carried the “office of a prophet” (such as Samuel, Elijah, Isaiah, Agabus, Simeon, Silas, etc). The Bible also mentions other people who were not recognized as prophets yet at some point were used to give prophetic words or prophecies (such as king Saul, etc).

Three Areas of the Prophetic:

The “office of a prophet” — seasoned, tested, recognized and ordained as God’s spokesman.

The “gift of prophecy” — a spiritual gift which is discovered & developed in an individual’s life.

The “spirit of prophecy” — the spontaneous use of an individual by the Holy Spirit to speak forth a specific message.

God is no “respector of persons” (He doesn’t show favoritism) Acts 10:34 and Romans 2:11 He can use whatever kind of vessel He chooses to send out His Word! He even used a mule!!!

II. Developing Spiritual Gifts

1. Desire spiritual gifts.
   The Bible makes it clear we need to run after these spiritual endowments. Paul said, “Pursue love, and desire spiritual gifts, and especially that you may “prophecy.” (1 Corinthians 14:1) “Earnestly desire the best gifts” (1 Corinthians 12:31). To “desire” is to wish for, to long for, crave, covet, ask for and request. Many people never function in the prophetic simply because they have no desire to be used in this way!

2. Know the Scriptures and be consistent in prayer.
   The Scripture is the check and balance to all prophecy and prayer is the pipeline of the Spirit into our lives. There is no short cut to these areas. Prophetic people must be people of the Word and people of prayer. This takes time and commitment. Without this firmly established we will be dangerous prophets.
3. Move through **stages** of prophetic ministry.

Don’t think that to become prophetic you must begin by speaking forth incredible words that will revolutionize humanity - you develop through stages! It often begins with lifting people with a prophetic exhortation or praying a prophetic prayer. It moves to an occasional prophetic utterance in a service or small gathering. As time goes on it can expand to deeper levels (Romans 12:6). Don’t try to move in levels for which you are not prepared or ready. Function at the level of faith that you have!

4. **Submit** your gift to pastoral leadership.

Prophetic ministry is to edify, comfort and bring encouragement to the people of God. All ministries must function in submission to the authorities in their life and allow their gifts to be adjusted, fine tuned and developed by those responsible for the overall care of the House of God (Hebrews 13:17). Have a submissive spirit in every spiritual ministry you’re involved in!

5. Learn to hear the **voice** of the Lord.

It is an awesome responsibility to tell people something as if God Himself was speaking to them. This is why it is so important to learn to hear God’s voice in our own personal life and in our life in the Church. It is good to test what you receive from the Lord as you watch others prophesy, learning in silence. Ultimately, it is not what we think or reason with our own mind, but what the Holy Spirit anoints, that brings results.

6. Learn how to **flow** with other prophets.

Paul indicates that because of the subjective nature of prophetic ministry, there is safety in numbers (I Corinthians 14:29-32). Don’t be afraid to open up to and work with others who flow in this same gift. It will help you to become more effective and more accurate in ministry.

7. **Take your ministry seriously.**

Remember that you are the mouthpiece for the Lord, and you are speaking the will of the Lord into heart and lives of people (1 Peter 4:10-11). People will take your words very seriously and may make important life decisions on the basis of what you share with them.

8. Recognize the **gifts** of the Holy Spirit in the lives of others.

All of the gifts and ministries are important to the growth of the whole church. When we have a particular ministry, we tend to magnify it in relation to others. Paul makes it clear that “we are not to think of ourselves more highly than we ought to think (Romans 12:3-8). All members may not have the same function. But all members are absolutely necessary. Spiritual pride will destroy your ministry - guard yourself against it!

**Final thought - 1 Timothy 4:14-16** — “Do not neglect your gift, which was given you through a prophetic message when the body of elders laid their hands on you. Be diligent in these matters; give yourself wholly to them, so that everyone may see your progress. Watch your life and doctrine closely. Persevere in them, because if you do, you will save both yourself and your hearers.”
Building Blocks of Faith

Deliverance

The Bible tells us that Christ came to set the captives free, and He commissioned us to go and do “greater things in His name.” Mark 16:15-18 says that we are to “go and preach the good news to all creation... and these signs will accompany those who believe: In my name they will drive out demons; speak in new tongues, ... and heal the sick.” God wants to touch people in all three areas of their lives (spirit, soul and body), and we are the instruments that He wants to use to accomplish this plan!

I. Man is a three part being

Genesis 1:26, 27 says: “Then God said, ‘Let us make man in our image, in our likeness’... so God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.”

Genesis 2:7 says: “the Lord God formed the man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.”

I Thessalonians 5:23 says: “May the God of peace sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

The Bible teaches us that God is a three part being: God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. When God created mankind, He didn’t just create another creature or animal but a moral being with a body, soul and spirit. In the image of God man was created — one being, and three distinctive parts.

II. Jesus came to minister to the whole man

“The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news 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 release the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.” Luke 4:18,19

Jesus touched people in all three areas:

1. Physical — recovery of sight to the blind.

2. Soul — heal the broken hearted, release the oppressed

3. Spiritual — proclaim liberty to the captives

“That evening after sunset the people brought to Jesus all the sick and demon possessed.” Mark 1:32

“A Canaanite woman came to him and cried ‘Lord... my daughter is suffering terribly from demon possession.’” Matthew 15:22
III. Levels of demonization

Demonization - “daimonizomai” (Gk) = to be exercised by a demon, to have a (or be vexed with, be possessed with) devil(s).

A. Oppression  
B. Obsession  
C. Domination  
D. Possession

*Check out the examples in Mark 1:21-27 and Mark 5:1-20*

IV. Doorways of demonization

A. Inheritance — Exodus 20:5; Deuteronomy 5:9

B. Sexual Sins — 1 Corinthians 6:18; Numbers 25

C. Occult — Deuteronomy 18:9-14

D. Unforgiveness — Matthew 18:21-35; 2 Corinthians 2:10,11

Teacher’s Notes:

*Promise Land Deliverance Principle:*

* Moses — led people OUT of captivity... Leaving Egypt, crossing Red Sea (picture of Salvation)*  
* Joshua — led people INTO promised land... Crossing Jordan River & defeating many enemies (picture of baptism)*  
* David — battled & defeated enemy strongholds IN & AROUND the promised land (picture of deliverance)*

Final Thoughts...

James 4:7 — “Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.”

God wants to be the “King of the Hill” in our lives. Many times people accept the salvation that Christ offers at the cross as a form of “passport” or “ticket” to heaven, but they never make Jesus the “designated driver” of their lives. They receive Jesus as savior, but not lord. Christianity is much more than just that! In actuality, in the true sense of the word, you cannot have one without the other!

When we accept Christ as our personal savior, our spirit man (which was once dead to the things of God) is saved. It now becomes alive to the things of God because of the salvation provided by Christ at the cross. From that point on, we must “carry our cross daily” and “work out our salvation with fear and trembling...” In other words, there needs to be a daily act of surrendering our lives (body, mind, will and emotions) to God and allow His Spirit to continually cleanse us from our sinful nature. Every area of our lives must be under the complete Lordship of Christ!
Do you know what God's will is for your life?

This is a huge question believers are constantly asking God — because much frustration and discouragement can come when you don’t know how to discover what the will of God is for your life. In this study, we’ll define the will of God and present Biblical basis for discovering and walking in it.

I. Defining the Will of God

A. The two aspects of the will of God

1. **Determined** will of God
   - unconditional, immutable, irresistible
   - ...works all things after the counsel of His own will — Ephesians 1:11

2. **Desired** will of God
   - the conscious choice for which man is held responsible.
   - sometimes man is successful in living out God's will, and other times, he isn’t...

B. Other Biblical words for God’s will

1. **Purpose** — II Timothy 1:9
   (Gk) to set before oneself, to purpose. God has set before us His goal & purpose...

2. **Good Pleasure** — Ephesians 1:9
   (Gk) that which seems good or pleasing to God, to be pleased with something...

3. **Will** — Ephesians 1:9
   (Gk) desires that stem from the heart, to desire something from the heart...

II. Knowing the Will of God

A. The will of God is never contrary to the **Word** or **character** of God. (Psalm 119:1-11)

B. The will of God is **not** hidden from us — Ephesians 1:9, 5:17, Col. 1:9

C. The will of God is something we **live**, not just something we **find**. (I Thessalonians 5:16-21)

D. The will of God is **joyful** and **pleasant** — Ephesians 6:6
E. The will of God is **general** and **specific** — the specific will of God can only be found as one is doing the general will of God.

F. The will of God is discovered when you let Jesus into every area of your life, which is total **dedication**.

G. The will of God can only be found when you are willing to **accept** what the Lord has for your life.

### III. Confirmations to the Will of God

A. The **Holy Spirit** in your life.

B. **Circumstances** in your life.

C. **Leadership** over us in the Lord.

D. The **Word** of God.

E. **Inner** peace.

F. **Opened** and closed doors.

G. **Prophecy** over you.

H. The **consecration** of your life.

I. **Talents** and abilities given you to do certain things.
Building Blocks of Faith

Spiritual Covering

The Bible speaks of the last days as being a time of a great outpouring of the Holy Spirit and a time of great spiritual deception of the devil. It doesn’t take a brain-surgeon to figure out that we’re already living in such days. In the midst of all the trouble and pressure, the Lord has promised a city of refuge for those who would run into it. The truth of covering for God’s people is of great importance to those who will stand in these last days.

I. Definition of the Word “Covering”

A. There are eleven different Hebrew words used which are translated “covering.” These eleven words are similar in meaning and are summarized into two aspects:
   1. A blotting out; man needs a covering of blood to blot out sin in his life.
   2. A protective covering; man needs a protective covering over his life from the enemy.

B. The Hebrew also brings out the thought of “making a hedge or a fence in order to protect and guard that which is valued and loved.”

II. The Need for Covering

A. We are living in a time of trouble

   1. Daniel 12:1; Zechariah 1:15
   2. Psalm 9:9; 46:1; 59:16; 27:4-6; 32:7
   3. II Corinthians 4:8

B. We are living in a time of spiritual storms

   1. Psalm 55:8; 107:28-29
   2. Matthew 7:24-27; 14:22-24
   3. Three types of storms
      > We bring them on ourselves — by breaking biblical principles
      > God brings them — testings that result in maturity
      > Satan brings them — to destroy us

C. We are living in a time of deception

   1. Matthew 24:4-6; Mark 13:22
   2. Titus 1:10; II Timothy 3:13; I Timothy 4:1
   3. II Thessalonians 2:10-12
   4. Ephesians 5:6-7; Gal. 6:7
Building Blocks of Faith

Spiritual Covering

III. Covering seen in the Bible

A. Old Testament

1. The Tabernacle of Moses — Exodus 35:11-12; Numbers 9:15-16

2. The Ark of the Covenant — Exodus 37:9; 25:20

3. Tabernacle (Holy Things) — Numbers 4:20; 19:15

4. The Priests — Exodus 28:42

5. The Garments of Righteousness — Isaiah 61:10; 51:16; Ex. 33:12

B. New Testament

1. The Home — I Corinthians 11:3; Ephesians 5:21-25

2. The Local Church — Ephesians 4:11-13; Hebrews 13:7, 17

C. Examples in the Bible

1. The woman in the Garden of Eden — 1 Corinthians 11:10; Genesis 3:1-15; Psalm 34:7

2. The Passover celebration — Exodus 12:3-30

3. The cities of refuge — Numbers 35:11-26; Hebrews 6:18; Joshua 20:2,9; Deuteronomy 19:3
   Refuge = “a place of protection, shelter, stronghold from the enemy”

IV. Watch out for these Attitudes

A. The attitude of pride — Proverbs 6:17; Mt. 7:22

B. The attitude of simpleness — Proverbs 14:15

C. The attitude of independence — Proverbs 28:26; 3:5

D. The attitude of a hardened heart — Deuteronomy 15:7; John 12:40

E. The attitude of rebellion — I Samuel 15:23; Psalm 66:7
Building Blocks of Faith
Your Place in the Local Church

God has a unique and special place for each one of us in the body of Christ. Discovering your placement according to God’s will and God’s timing is absolutely critical in fulfilling all that God has in store for your life and the life of the church! Isaiah 2:3 says, “He will teach us His ways” and God also says that “His ways are not our ways” (Isaiah 55:6-10).

So here are a few pointers when it comes to your placement in the Local Church:

• The way the Lord builds a Church is higher and different than our ways.
• The way the Lord disciplines and deals with people is different than our ways.
• The way the Lord makes a servant or man of God is different than our ways.
• The way the Lord places and promotes people is different than our ways.

This is one reason many people are so confused, angry and bitter — they misunderstand the ways of the Lord. After they graduate, “whichever level they were in,” what they expect is usually not what they get! God’s way of placing and promoting ministries is obviously not man’s way. We must learn to embrace God’s ways.

I. The Principle of Placement

Ephesians 4:16 — “Fitted Together”

1. We must be set into the local church by God.

   Set — (Gk) “to put or to place, to set or to establish, fit in a certain place”

   1 Corinthians 12:18 — God sets members in the body as He pleases
   1 Corinthians 12:28 — “… And God hath set some in the Church…” (KJV)
   Psalm 68:6 — “God sets the solitary in families…” (NKJV)

2. We must accept God’s placement — Romans 12:1-8

   Romans 12:3-4 “… not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according to as God has dealt to every one…” (NKJV)

   Soberly — (Gk) “to be in a right mind, to exercise self-control, to put a moderate estimate upon one’s self, to curb one’s passion.”
II. The Principle of Promotion

**Mark 10:35-45 — the misunderstanding concerning placement and promotion**

A. Definition of “promotion”

1. To forward, advance, enlarge
2. To exalt, elevate, raise, to be preferred in rank or honor, advancement
3. To become lifted up, prospered

1 Timothy 3:6 — “not a novice” (Gk) = newly planted (NIV - “recent convert”) “... or he may become conceited (full of pride) and fall...”

B. Wrong concepts of promotion

I am promoted:

1. Because of my background, talents and abilities.
2. Because of my age, seniority (as in world business)
3. Because of what I do ... I have many responsibilities — I use them as stepping-stones to get to the place I want. (REMEMBER: GOD LOOKS AT THE HEART!)

C. Six Biblical causes of promotion

Promotion comes when:

1. You abide in the place God has set you — Judges 9:8-15
2. You handle the dealings of God correctly — Genesis 37-42
3. You can rejoice in another’s promotion (and serve them even when they are less qualified than you!) — Matthew 23:11-12
4. Humility has killed self-projection — 1 Peter 5:5-6
5. Character is developed and proven stable — Psalm 75:10
6. Faithfulness is shown toward all tasks (big or small) — Matthew 25:21, 23