

SESSION 1 BIBLE STUDY

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Read the Scriptures below.

- 1) **Circle** the words or phrases indicating **PROPER SOURCES of truth and knowing**
- 2) **Underline** words or phrases that indicate any **WRONG SOURCES of “truth”**
- 3) **Answer any questions.**

NOTE: For the purposes of these Bible studies, it's less important about “getting the answers” than getting the truth. The exercises of CIRCLING and UNDERLINING and QUESTIONs are to help you interact with God's Word and the Holy Spirit, your ultimate teacher. You may NOT Circle and underline something in every verse. Just read carefully and answer according to what you see.

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. (John 14:6)

Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. (John 17:17)

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth... For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.

(John 1:14-18)

But that is not the way you learned Christ!—assuming that you have heard about him and were taught in him, as the truth is in Jesus (Eph 4:20-21)

According to the four passages above, how would you describe the relationship between truth and Jesus Christ Himself?

So, how does this help us evaluate what we believe?

See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental principles of the world, and not according to Christ.

(Col 2:8)

According to this verse, the best way to evaluate whether something is true, is:

- a) Whether something is according to Logic and reason
- b) Whether something is according to established beliefs and practices of a significant number of people
- c) Whether something is according to Scientifically established principles of how the world works
- d) Whether it is according to Christ

*There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death.
(Prov. 14:12)*

According to this verse, one of the greatest obstacles to walking with God is:

- a) We do what we know is wrong
- b) We follow what *seems right to us* but isn't actually God's truth

By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible. (Heb. 11:3)

We look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal. (2Cor. 4:18)

Which of the following will NOT ever change:

- a) Your circumstances
- b) Your health
- c) Your mindset
- d) God and His truth

For who knows a person's thoughts except the spirit of that person, which is in him? So also no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God. And we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who are spiritual. The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. "For who has understood the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?" But we have the mind of Christ. (1Cor. 2:11-16)

What does the natural person say about birth defects?

What does the mind of Christ say about birth defects?

How are you replacing “natural mindsets” with the “mind of Christ” in your life?

Bible Lesson Part 2- Our New Relationship

Read the Scriptures below.

- 1) Circle words or phrases that describe our relationship with God IN CHRIST**
- 2) Underline words or phrases that indicate any FALSE BASIS for our relationship with God**
- 3) Answer any questions.**

though I myself have reason for confidence in the flesh also. If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith—that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, (Php 3:4-10)

Select the best answer.

In this passage, the apostle Paul was repenting of:

- a) Loose, lustful living**
- b) Trusting in his own righteous practices**

In order to truly know Jesus Christ in the power of His resurrection, we must:

- a) Count all our own “righteousness” as rubbish
- b) Not base our right standing with God on our own good works, zeal for God, or religious attainments
- c) Take Jesus Christ as the sole basis of our right standing with God
- d) All of the above
- e) Do the best we can, and trust Jesus to make up for our shortcomings

When Paul understood God’s grace in Jesus Christ, he

- a) Lost all his zeal, took it easy, and began to live a self-indulgent life
- b) Had a great zeal to know Christ in the fullness of His power by living in vital spiritual union with Him

Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh?... Does he who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you do so by works of the law, or by hearing with faith—(Gal 3:3,5)

Often the enemy attempts to interrupt our faith by accusing us of not measuring up to God’s commands. God works miracles through us when

- a) we add our good works to the finished work of Christ
- b) we exercise faith in the finished work of Jesus Christ and allow our life to become an expression of that finished work.

How do we begin our life in the Spirit?

**How does this help us understand how we should continue to walk in the Spirit?
How is our continued walk similar to how we began?**

What is the difference between trying to perfect ourselves “by the flesh” and true Christian growth and obedience?

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

And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God. (Gal 4:4-7)

Both the slave and the son have a place in the house. What are some of the difference you see between returning to the Father's house "as a slave" than as a son?

Part 3. Encountering Christ in the Spirit (Transforming Prayer)

Components of Transforming Prayer- A.C. T. S.

Adoration, Confession, Tongues/Thanksgiving, and Supplication

ADORATION- Spend time in prayer JUST loving, adoring, thanking, and worshipping God.

You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. (Deu 6:5)

*Jesus answered him, "If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him."
(Joh 14:23)*

*I made known to them your name, and I will continue to make it known, that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them."
(Joh 17:26)*

CONFESSION- Spend time in prayer CONFESSING your faith. Declare the Word of God in faith.

Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. (Heb 4:14)

Since we have the same spirit of faith according to what has been written, "I believed, and so I spoke," we also believe, and so we also speak, knowing that he who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and bring us with you into his presence. (2Co 4:13-14)

TONGUES/THANKSGIVING - Spend time [SPEAKING in TONGUES](#) and THANKING GOD.

For one who speaks in a tongue speaks not to men but to God; for no one understands him, but he utters mysteries in the Spirit... The one who speaks in a tongue builds up himself... Now I want you all to speak in tongues... (1Co 14:2-5)

And these signs will accompany those who believe: in my name they will cast out demons; they will speak in new tongues; (Mar 16:17)

Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving. (Col 2:6-7)

SUPPLICATION- Address your needs from the vantage point of union with God, victory and fullness, rather than need, weakness and defeat.

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. (Php 4:6-7)

