



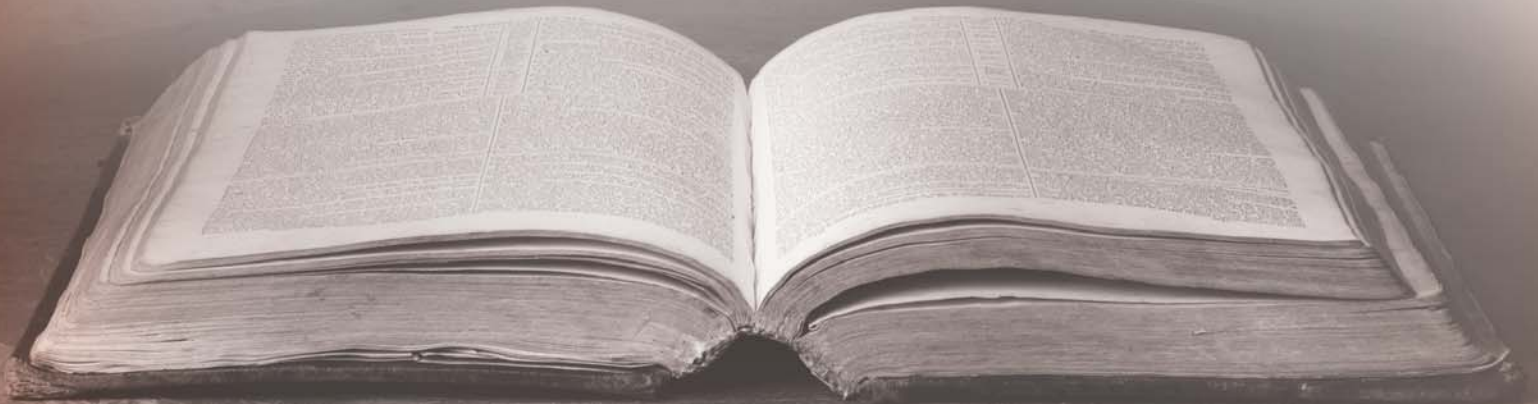
# BFAM

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BE FRUITFUL AND MULTIPLY

***DISCOVER HIDDEN MYSTERIES IN THE BIBLE***

START LIVING THE ABUNDANT LIFE THAT GOD INTENDED FOR YOU



**A PRACTICAL BIBLE STUDY TOOL AND CURRICULUM**  
*THAT WILL UNLOCK THE MYSTERIES IN THE BIBLE*

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*"Jesus spoke all these things to the crowd in parables; he did not say anything to them without using a parable. So was fulfilled what was spoken through the prophet: 'I will open my mouth in parables, I will utter things hidden since the creation of the world.'" (Matthew 13:34-35)*

# BE FRUITFUL AND MULTIPLY

A PRACTICAL BIBLE STUDY TOOL AND CURRICULUM

BFAM MANUAL + THE ESSENTIALS SERIES

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*for Christ* 

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# *Introduction to*

## **BE FRUITFUL AND MULTIPLY**

The “Be Fruitful and Multiply” (BFAM) course is a discipleship method and curriculum designed to help Christ followers and those who desire to become a follower of Christ understand the special relationship they can have with the one true living God. BFAM is a course designed to show Christ followers the abundant life they can have in relationship with Jesus.

People were created for relationship with each other. More importantly, people were made to live in relationship with God. The consequence of sin is broken relationships with each other and with God. Our broken relationships cause people to live in disharmony with each other, with the rest of creation, and with God. It is for this reason that in this world we experience war, famine, violence, disease, illness, unjust rulers, and unjust societies. Without an understanding of how to deal with sin and how to restore relationships, we are destined to live a life of despair.

The Good News is that God has provided a way to account for sin and to restore relationships. BFAM seeks to teach people how to read and discover the Good News found in God’s Holy Word, the Bible. As people discover the Good News found in Bible stories, essential biblical truths are revealed. These essential biblical truths enable the Christ follower to live in a deeper relationship with God. The BFAM method for discovering biblical truths helps guide people to know how to study and understand the Bible.

In the Bible, God makes a promise to those who sincerely seek to know the truth: “Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; those who seek find; and to those who knock, the door will be opened” (Matthew 7:7-8). The BFAM course teaches people how to ask, seek, and knock. It teaches people how to read the Bible and look for God’s truth. The truth is that God has accounted for our sin and wants to restore our relationships. For those who are sincere in searching for God’s truth and who live out the truths found in the Bible, they are promised to be reconciled back to God. When people’s relationship with God is reconciled, they can live an abundant life.

The reason that this course is titled “Be Fruitful and Multiply” is that the first step in living a life in relationship with God is to recognize that God created us to live a life of fruitfulness. We are called to live a life of fruitfulness both physically and spiritually (See Genesis 1:27-28 and Matthew 28:18-20). Similar to caring for our physical children unto maturity, we are also responsible as Christ followers to care for the growth of our spiritual children. For example, individuals and discipleship groups who grow in spiritual maturity will disciple, lead, and correct others according to the truth and authority of God’s Word. BFAM’s focus and final goal is to develop mature and fruitful lives because a life of fruitfulness will lead to spiritual multiplication.

# Introduction to Stories

Every lesson of BFAM focuses on a different story from the Bible. Jesus spoke of His stories and parables saying that found in them are “things hidden since the creation of the world” (Matthew 13:34-35). God has hidden mysteries in Bible stories and He intends for us to find and unlock these mysteries.

The BFAM lessons along with the BFAM study method will help you unlock these mysteries and will provide you with practical ways to apply their truths to your day-to-day life. As you apply the truths found in the Bible it will lead you into a deeper relationship with God and it will produce a life filled with love, joy and peace.

We have provided the following parable, from the Bible, to illustrate how to use the BFAM study method and to demonstrate the significance of a Bible story. After you read the *Introduction to the Bible Story* and the Bible story you will be led through a series of nine questions that will help you to unveil the powerful truths hidden in the story. Before you begin take a moment and *ask* God to help you find the hidden truths.

**Introduction to the Bible Story:** Jesus’ friends recognized that Jesus had a very close relationship with God. They often noticed that Jesus would spend private time praying to God. They also realized that because of Jesus’ close relationship with God that He was wiser than any other man and that He had power to perform miracles. One day Jesus’ friends asked Him to teach them how to pray. In response to their request Jesus provided the words to a very simple prayer to show them how to pray. At the conclusion of the prayer Jesus told his friends the following parable.

*Then Jesus said to them, “Suppose you have a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; a friend of mine on a journey has come to me, and I have nothing to set before him.’ And suppose the one inside answers, ‘Don’t bother me. The door is already locked, and my children and I are in bed. I can’t get up and give you anything.’ I tell you, even though he will not get up and give you the bread because of friendship, yet because of your shameless audacity he will surely get up and give you as much as you need. “So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; those who seek find; and to those who knock, the door will be opened. “Which of you fathers, if your son asks for a fish, will give him a snake instead? Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!” Luke 11:5-13*

Now that you have read the story we will take you through three progressive steps that will lead you to clear biblical discoveries. There are 3 Questions included in each of the 3 Steps for a total of 9 Questions. The first step will help you to **KNOW** the story. The second step will help you to **UNDERSTAND** the story. The third step will help you to **DISCOVER** the hidden truths in the story. You may take as much time as you need to prayerfully work through each step.

## STEP 1- KNOW THE STORY - ASK

Before you are able to discover the mysteries found in a Bible story or parable you must first “KNOW” the story. Every story has three common qualities/features. Without these three qualities/features a story is incomplete. The following are the three necessary qualities/features:

1. Who are the **Characters** in the story?
2. What are the **Actions** of the characters in the story?
3. What are the **Details** in the story?

If you are able to identify the characters, their actions and the special details of a story then you will **KNOW** the story. We are going to identify the characters, action and details in the story we just read. Using a pen or pencil take a few moments to do the following:

- Double-underline each character. A character is a person. Once you have identified a character it is not necessary to underline the same character every time they appear in the story.
- Underline each action or verb. A verb is an action or event.
- Squiggly line the special details that are significant.

Below is an example of how the above story could look after you have applied underlines, double-underlines and squiggly lines:

*Then Jesus said to them, “Suppose you have a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; a friend of mine on a journey has come to me, and I have nothing to set before him.’ And suppose the one inside answers, ‘Don’t bother me. The door is already locked, and my children and I are in bed. I can’t get up and give you anything.’ I tell you, even though he will not get up and give you the bread because of friendship, yet because of your shameless audacity he will surely get up and give you as much as you need. “So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; those who seek find; and to those who knock, the door will be opened. “Which of you fathers, if your son asks for a fish, will give him a snake instead? Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!” Luke 11:5-13*

Verify that you have correctly identified all 9 characters in the story. The following is a list of characters identified in the story:

- Jesus
- You
- Your first friend that you ask for bread
- Your second friend on a journey
- The children that are in bed
- Anyone who asks, seeks and knocks
- Your son
- Heavenly Father
- Holy Spirit

You now **KNOW** the story because you have identified the characters, their actions and the special details in the story. Take a few minutes and see if you are able to retell the story out loud or quietly in your mind, without looking at the story. You will quickly notice that you have become familiar with the story.

## STEP 2- UNDERSTAND THE STORY - *SEEK*

Now that you **KNOW** the story, you are going to seek to **UNDERSTAND** the importance and meaning of the story. The best way to understand the meaning of a story is to focus on the different perspective of each character in the story. In this step it is important to “step into the shoes” of each character to try to identify with them. To do this we ask another set of three questions. The following are three questions to ask regarding each character:

4. What ***Emotion*** might each character be experiencing?
5. What ***Choices*** does each character have?
6. What are the ***Motives*** behind each character’s choice?

For example, when you step into the shoes of the second character in the story above, which is You, what ***emotions*** are you potentially feeling as you go to your friend’s house at midnight to ask him for bread? Are you nervous? Are you fearful? What might be the emotions that you are sensing?

After you have examined the potential/possible emotions of a character then consider what ***choices*** that character could have made. Considering the same character of You, what other ***choices*** could you have made besides going to your friend at midnight and asking for bread? Could you have waited until morning to ask for bread? Could you have told your friend who is on a journey that you have no food to offer him? We all have various choices in life’s circumstances. It is helpful to examine what choices are available compared to the choice that was made in the story.

As you examine the different choices of a character you should seek to understand the  ***motive*** behind the choice that each character made. Again considering the same character, if You were fearful (emotion) about approaching your friend at midnight yet you overcame your fear and knocked on your friend’s door, what was your  ***motive*** behind making the choice to knock on the door that was so powerful that you were able to overcome the fear? Was it love and compassion for your friend? Was it an obligation because of expectation? What was the  ***motive*** for the choice that was made?

Asking the questions of emotions, choices and motives take you beyond **KNOWING** the story. They give you the ability to **UNDERSTAND** the importance of the story. These three questions should be asked for each character in the story. For example, what is the  ***emotional*** state of your friend when you knocked on the door at midnight seeking bread? Does your friend have a  ***choice*** to give you bread or not? Then examine the possible  ***motives*** of your friend to provide you with the bread you requested.

As you step into the shoes of each character by asking the three questions of emotions, choices and motives you will notice that the story becomes alive. Oftentimes when we hear a story we naturally examine the emotions, choices and motives of the characters without realizing it. The true meaning of a story is revealed through these three questions. It is through these three questions that we are able to seek and **UNDERSTAND** the truths in the story.

## STEP 3- DISCOVER THE TRUTHS - KNOCK

Now that you have gone through Steps 1 and 2 to **KNOW** and **UNDERSTAND** the story, we come to the third step of **DISCOVERING** the hidden truths in the story. Remember, according to this parable Jesus said that, “if you ASK you will receive, if you SEEK you will find and if you KNOCK the door will be opened.” In Step 1 we ASKED three questions that helped us to know the story. In Step 2 we were SEEKING to identify with each character. Now in Step 3 we want to KNOCK on the door of God and expect Him to open the door and reveal the mysteries found in the story.

Jesus taught us that all teachings in Scripture can be summed up in two commands. The first command is to love God with all of our heart, soul, mind and strength. The second command is to love others as ourselves. That means every story in the Bible has the potential to teach us right biblical thoughts and actions that will lead us to better understand how we can love God with all of our heart, soul, mind and strength, and how to love others as we love ourselves.

The third step involves another 3 questions that will help reveal the mysteries found in the Bible Story. They are simple, yet profound questions:

7. What are the right biblical thoughts and actions found in the story?
8. What does this story teach me about God that will help me love Him with all of my heart, soul, mind and strength?
9. What does this story teach me about loving others?

### Discovery Question 1:

As you examine the story, what are the right biblical thoughts and actions? Is it true to say that God desires us to ask, seek and knock? Are these right biblical actions? What else do you find in the story that teaches us about right thoughts and actions? Take a few minutes to make a list:

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### Discovery Question 2:

Once you have identified the right biblical thoughts and actions, the second question asks, “What does this story teach me about God that will help me to love God with all of my heart, soul, mind and strength?” As you examine the story, would it be accurate to say that this story teaches us that we can view God like a good father? What else does this story teach us about God that will help us to love Him better?

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**Discovery Question 3:**

The final question asks, “How should we treat others?” As you examine the story, what do you learn about yourself? And what do you learn about how you should treat others? Jesus said to love others to the same degree that we love ourselves.

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**Summary:** If you apply these 9 Questions to any story in the Bible they will help you to **KNOW** the story, **UNDERSTAND** the story and finally to **DISCOVER** the mysteries hidden within the story. The following is a summary list of the 9 Questions:

***KNOW THE STORY***

1. *Characters*
2. *Actions*
3. *Details*

***UNDERSTAND THE STORY***

4. *Emotions*
5. *Choices*
6. *Motives*

***DISCOVER THE TRUTHS***

7. *Right thoughts and actions*
8. *Loving God*
9. *Loving Others*

# Unique Characteristics of **BE FRUITFUL AND MULTIPLY**

As you walk through the BFAM lessons and study method you will notice some unique characteristics in the curriculum that are not found in typical Bible studies. The following four characteristics will provide you with insight into what separates BFAM from other Bible studies and what makes it effective.

## **1 - BFAM IS A BIBLE STORY BASED CURRICULUM.**

Every BFAM lesson is based on a Bible story. The lessons are not mere teachings based off Scripture, but they are actual stories and parables found in the Bible. When Jesus came to earth and lived among men He taught His followers by using stories and parables. In fact, the book of Matthew records Jesus' explanation as to why He used parables:

*"Jesus spoke all these things to the crowd in parables; he did not say anything to them without using a parable. So was fulfilled what was spoken through the prophet: 'I will open my mouth in parables, I will utter things hidden since the creation of the world.'" (Matthew 13:34-35)*

In this passage Jesus is giving us insight into why God has chosen to speak to us using stories and parables. Jesus is saying that God has hidden His thoughts and His mysteries in stories and parables.

As you examine the Bible you see that approximately 70% of the entire Bible is made up of stories, parables and narratives. This clearly demonstrates that God has put much significance and power in stories and parables. By intentional design the creators of BFAM desired that the lessons would focus on stories and parables so that the curriculum would possess a high primacy of Scripture. In each BFAM lesson you will notice there are very few words that do not come directly from the Bible.

The curriculum is also focused on Bible stories because they are much easier to remember and to retell. As you discover hidden mysteries in the Bible you will remember these special discoveries because you actively searched for them and found them. Additionally, as you begin to make Bible discoveries they will become more personal to you and they will be more readily and accurately shared with others.

## **2 - THE BFAM METHOD IS PERMISSION BASED.**

As you learn the BFAM method you will notice that it teaches you how to ask the right questions in order to discover God's hidden mysteries for yourself. Through this systematic method you are taught by the Holy Spirit how to identify and receive truth and revelation from God. We encourage you to share your discoveries—the Good News of God's Word—with others. The BFAM method permits you to have:

- Permission to think for yourself
- Permission to ask questions
- Permission to understand
- Permission to hear from the Holy Spirit
- Permission to share with others

### 3 - THE BFAM METHOD IS DISCOVERY BASED.

We see throughout the Bible that God desires for people to seek and find truth. God hides mysteries in His word so that we might find and discover them. Oftentimes it is through the process of discovery that truths have the greatest meaning and personal impact. The following is a simple proverb that expresses the value of discovery:

- If you **TELL** me, I will **FORGET**
- If you **SHOW** me, I will **REMEMBER**
- If you **INVOLVE** me, I will **UNDERSTAND**

Discovering mysteries is a process that requires intentional involvement. We must actively involve ourselves in the process of discovery to find truth. One of the best ways to discover God's mysteries is through group involvement. Even though you can study stories and discover truth in personal devotion, you can also study stories with a small group and learn far more discoveries from each other.

### 4 - THE BFAM METHOD IS OBEDIENCE BASED.

There is very little personal impact in unveiling the mysteries of God in Scripture if we do not intend to apply the truths to our lives. The following passage tells us that we will receive a blessing from God if we apply His law and truth to our lives:

*“Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. Those who listen to the word but do not do what it says are like people who look at their faces in a mirror and, after looking at themselves, go away and immediately forget what they look like. But those who look intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continue in it—not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it—they will be blessed in what they do.” (James 1:22-25)*

The BFAM process not only focuses on a Discovery process but it also provides a clear personal Application process. Once we discover God's truths we must seek to understand how to live them out. Consider what 2 Timothy says about Scripture:

*“All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that all God's people may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.” (2 Timothy 3:16-17)*

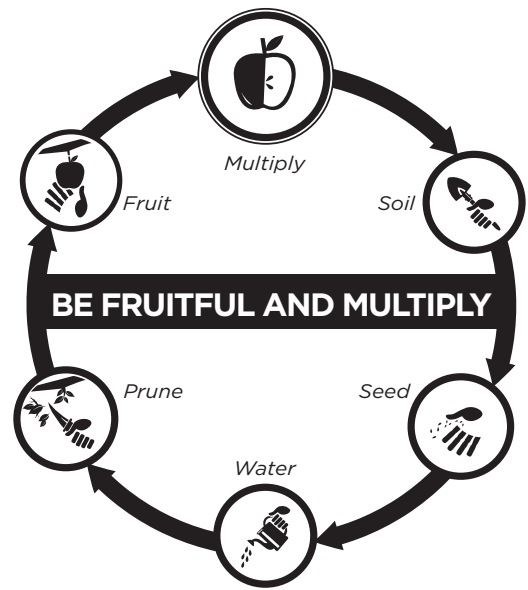
Notice this passage says that all Scripture “is useful for.” This implies that if the truths of Scripture are applied then they are useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training. The passage, however, does not guarantee that Scripture will automatically teach, rebuke, correct and train. We must be intentional about allowing Scripture to teach, rebuke, correct and train us. In the BFAM Discovery process we first identify the truths that Scripture has taught us. After we have identified these truths we then allow the Scripture to rebuke, correct and train us. The following are a list of questions we ask to allow the Scripture to rebuke, correct and train us.

- **REBUKE** (Dealing with the **PAST**) How do my thoughts and actions compare to the right biblical thoughts and actions learned from the story?
- **CORRECT** (Dealing with the **PRESENT**) What do I need to do to fix my wrong thoughts and actions?
- **TRAIN** (Dealing with the **FUTURE**) How will I respond the next time I encounter a situation that challenges the right biblical thoughts and actions?

# The BFAM Process Defined

## FIVE STEPS OF EACH LESSON

Each lesson is comprised of five steps and each step coincides with a particular aspect of harvesting fruit.



### LESSON THEME - *Prepare the Soil*

The Lesson Theme is designed to prepare the soil of your mind and heart as you begin the process of finding the truths given by God in the Bible.



### BIBLE STORY - *Sow the Seed*

The Bible Story is a seed being planted into the soul that will germinate, sprout, and grow in knowledge and truth. Prior to reading the story be sure to spend time in prayer, asking God to open your mind and heart to the truths of the Bible.



### DISCOVERY PROCESS - *Water and Fertilize*

Use these 9 questions to water and fertilize the seed, God's Word, in order to help draw out the truths found in the story. Put yourself into "the shoes" of the characters.

1. Who are the **Characters**?
2. What are the **Actions** of each character in the story?
3. What are the special **Details** in the story?
4. What **Emotion** might each character be experiencing?
5. What **Choices** does each character have?
6. What is the **Motive** for the choices each character makes?
7. According to this story what are right Biblical thoughts and actions?
8. What does this story teach me about God that will help me to love God with all of my heart, soul, mind and strength?
9. What does this story teach me about myself or others that will help me to love others to the same degree that I love myself?



### ADDITIONAL STUDY SCRIPTURES - *Prune*

The Additional Study Scriptures are included to help prevent false doctrines that might be formed out of the story alone. Read through these scriptures to help answer any questions you may have about the Bible story.



### APPLICATION QUESTIONS AND CONCLUSION - *Harvest Fruit*

The Application Questions and Conclusion help in the process of harvesting the truths found in every story and then applying the truths to our lives. Based on the right biblical thoughts and actions you found during the discovery process respond to the following questions. (Training)

1. **Rebuke** (Past): Have I loved God with all my heart, soul and mind? Have I loved my neighbor as myself?
2. **Correct** (Present): How can I correct my thoughts and actions?
3. **Train** (Future): How can I prepare myself to continue to love God with all my heart, soul and mind?

All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for **teaching, rebuking, correcting** and **training** in righteousness so that all God's people may be thoroughly equipped for every good work. (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

# WE ARE GIVEN GIFTS

*People Will Give an Account to God for How They Use Their Gifts*

LESSON  
P-1



## LESSON THEME - *Prepare the Soil*

The Bible says that people are going to be held responsible to God for what they do with the gifts that God gives them.

**Key Scripture:** *So then, we will all give an account of ourselves to God. (Romans 14:12)*



## BIBLE STORY - *Sow the Seed*

**The Introduction provides information to help you understand the story.**

Jesus was speaking to His disciples through a parable. A parable is a story that can be used to demonstrate a principle.

### **The Bible Story begins here.**

*“Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his property to them. To one he gave five talents of money, to another two talents, and to another one talent, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey. The man who had received the five talents went at once and put his money to work and gained five more. So also, the one with the two talents gained two more. But the man who had received the one talent went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. “After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. The man who had received the five talents brought the other five. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘you entrusted me with five talents. See, I have gained five more.’ “His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!’ “The man with the two talents also came. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘you entrusted me with two talents; see, I have gained two more.’ “His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!’ “Then the man who had received the one talent came. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed. So I was afraid and went out and hid your talent in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.’ “His master replied, ‘You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed? Well then, you should have put my money on deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned I would have received it back with interest. Take the talent from him and give it to the one who has the ten talents. For everyone who has will be given more, and he will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken from him. And throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’” (Matthew 25:14-30)*



## DISCOVERY PROCESS - *Water and Fertilize (See Page 11)*



## ADDITIONAL STUDY SCRIPTURES - *Prune*

*(Romans 12:3-8; 1 Corinthians 10:31; 2 Corinthians 5:10; Ephesians 4; Philippians 4:14-19; Revelation 20:11-15)*



## APPLICATION QUESTIONS - *Harvest Fruit (2 Timothy 3:16-17; See Page 11)*

**CONCLUSION** - The Bible says that all people will give an account to God for how they live their lives. Life is a gift from God. God wants our lives to be productive.

# LOVING GOD

## *The Most Important Commandment*

LESSON  
P-2



### **LESSON THEME** - *Prepare the Soil*

Jesus commanded His followers to do many things. Jesus wants all people to follow Him and to do what He says. The most important thing that followers of Christ do is love God and listen to His words.

**Key Scripture:** *One of the teachers of the law came and heard them debating. Noticing that Jesus had given them a good answer, he asked him, "Of all the commandments, which is the most important?" "The most important one," answered Jesus, "is this: 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. 'The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these.'" (Mark 12:28-31)*



### **BIBLE STORY** - *Sow the Seed*

**The Introduction provides information to help you understand the story.**

Jesus was with His disciples.

**The Bible Story begins here.**

*As Jesus and his disciples were on their way, he came to a village where a woman named Martha opened her home to him. She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet listening to what he said. But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made. She came to him and asked, "Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!" "Martha, Martha," the Lord answered, "you are worried and upset about many things, but few things are needed—or indeed only one. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her." (Luke 10:38-42)*



### **DISCOVERY PROCESS** - *Water and Fertilize (See Page 11)*



### **ADDITIONAL STUDY SCRIPTURES** - *Prune*

*(Matthew 22:36-37; Luke 11:42; James 1:12; 1 John 2:4-5; 1 John 4)*



### **APPLICATION QUESTIONS** - *Harvest Fruit (2 Timothy 3:16-17; See Page 11)*

**CONCLUSION** - The most important commandment given by Jesus was that people love Him and listen to what He says.

# FAITHFULLY SOWING GOD'S WORD

*A Life That Produces Much Fruit*

LESSON  
P-3



## LESSON THEME - *Prepare the Soil*

The Bible is the Word of God. All followers of Christ are called to hear and to know the words of God. Many people hear God's words, but they do not live by them. The Bible instructs all people to hear the words of God and to live by them. The devil does not want people to know or understand God's words. The devil wants to take away God's words from our hearts. When we hear God's words and live by them our lives will be fruitful.

**Key Scripture:** *Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path. (Psalm 119:105)*



## BIBLE STORY - *Sow the Seed*

**The Introduction provides information to help you understand the story.**

Jesus is speaking to a large group of people. This group of people are from many different places.

**The Bible Story begins here.**

*"A farmer went out to sow his seed. As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path; it was trampled on, and the birds ate it up. Some fell on rock, and when it came up, the plants withered because they had no moisture. Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up with it and choked the plants. Still other seed fell on good soil. It came up and yielded a crop, a hundred times more than was sown." "This is the meaning of the parable: The seed is the word of God. Those along the path are the ones who hear, and then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved. Those on the rock are the ones who receive the word with joy when they hear it, but they have no root. They believe for a while, but in the time of testing they fall away. The seed that fell among thorns stands for those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by life's worries, riches and pleasures, and they do not mature. But the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop. (Luke 8:5-8, 11-15)*



## DISCOVERY PROCESS - *Water and Fertilize (See Page 11)*



## ADDITIONAL STUDY SCRIPTURES - *Prune*

*(Psalm 119; John 10:27; John 15:16; Philippians 1:9-11; Colossians 1:9-12; 1 Peter 5:8)*



## APPLICATION QUESTIONS - *Harvest Fruit (2 Timothy 3:16-17; See Page 11)*

**CONCLUSION** - When people listen to God's words, and live by these words, their lives bear good fruit. It is important that followers of Christ do not let the devil or the cares of the world take away God's words from their hearts.

# Conducting Discipleship Groups

## WORSHIP AND PRAYER

- Invite God to be at the center of the meeting through prayer and group worship.
- Provide for a time of thanksgiving and public testimony.

## DISCOVERY LESSON AND APPLICATION

### STEP 1 - LESSON THEME

- Share the Lesson Theme and Key Scripture with the group.

### STEP 2 - BIBLE STORY

- Share the Introduction and Story with the group.

### STEP 3 - DISCOVERY PROCESS

- Know the Story.
- Understand the Story.
- Discover Biblical Truths.

### STEP 4 - ADDITIONAL STUDY SCRIPTURES

- Examine the right biblical thoughts and actions discovered by the group to determine if they are true biblical discoveries.

### STEP 5 - APPLICATION AND CONCLUSION

Based on the discoveries found in the story, respond to the following questions. (*Teaching*)

- ***Rebuke*** (Past): Have I loved God with all my heart, soul and mind?  
Have I loved my neighbor as myself?
- ***Correct*** (Present): How will I can correct my actions?
- ***Train*** (Future): How can I prepare myself to continue to love God with all my heart, soul and mind?

## LIVING IN COMMUNITY

### GROWING IN CHRIST

- *Ask the group*, how did it go with applying what was learned from the last discipleship meeting?

### SHARING TRUTH WITH OTHERS

- *Ask the group*, how did it go with sharing what was learned from the last Bible story?
- *Ask the group*, who will you share this story with between now and the next discipleship meeting?

### CARING FOR NEEDS

- *Ask the group*, how did it go with responding to our group and community needs from the last discipleship meeting?
- *Ask the group*, are there any new concerns or problems to be aware of within our group or community?
- *Ask the group*, how can the group respond to the concerns or problems?



# The Essentials Series

## BUILDING A HOME THAT GOD WILL LIVE IN

The first 52 lessons of the BFAM curriculum is called The Essentials Series. This series is a one-year study that is made up of four lesson sets which have 13 lessons each. The Essentials Series is designed after the pattern of building a house. Each of the four lesson sets is named after a different part of a building. The four different parts are: Cornerstone, Foundation, Walls, and Roof. The following is a description of each of the four lesson sets.



### THE CORNERSTONE LESSON SET – *Reconciled Relationship*

The Cornerstone Lesson Set is focused on the story of reconciliation. It begins with a lesson about how God created all things. This truth establishes a correct biblical worldview. The second lesson establishes that people were created different than the rest of creation. We are created for a special relationship with God. The third and fourth lessons are about how mankind was deceived by Satan. The first people disobeyed God and the result was that our relationship with God was broken. The remainder of the lessons show God’s great plan to redeem and reconcile people back into relationship with Him.



### THE FOUNDATION LESSON SET – *Abiding in Christ*

This lesson set is based on the importance of obeying the commands of Jesus Christ. Jesus said, “Everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock” (Matthew 7:24). The Foundation Lesson Set shows how to establish a firm biblical foundation based on an obedient lifestyle.



### THE WALLS LESSON SET – *Abundant Life*

The walls of a building are what are observed by people on the outside of the building. The same is true of followers of Christ. Followers of Christ represent God on the earth. As God’s representation, followers of Christ must be looking and acting in a way that shows God to those around them. This lesson set is focused on the important purposes of the family of God on earth.



### THE ROOF LESSON SET – *Essential Truths*

This final lesson set includes the primary truths of the Christian faith. A roof is designed to keep out foreign or unwanted things. The Roof Lesson Set is designed to keep out false teachings by showing the primary biblical truths of the Christian faith.



Cornerstone



Foundation



Walls



Roof

*Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God’s people and also members of his household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit. (Ephesians 2:19-22)*

# The Development of BFAM

## WHY WAS BFAM CREATED?

Be Fruitful and Multiply (BFAM) is both a curriculum and study method designed to help followers of Jesus understand the Bible and to live according to His teachings. Using the BFAM curriculum and method will lead followers of Jesus into an abundant life and will help produce a deep personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

BFAM is available in many languages and new translations are being added regularly. There is a list of available languages at [www.iBFAM.org](http://www.iBFAM.org). If you do not see the language you need please contact EHCI to request a new language.

## WHO DEVELOPED BFAM?

Every Home for Christ International (EHCI) is the developer and owns the copyright of BFAM curriculum. The following is the global mission focus of EHCI:

*Every Home for Christ exists to serve the Body of Christ in equipping and mobilizing believers everywhere to actively participate in taking the Gospel of Jesus Christ to every home in the whole world, adding new believers as reproducing members of the Church to see the literal fulfillment of the Great Commission.*

Since 1946, EHCI has reached over 1.5 billion homes in 215 nations with the Good News of Jesus Christ. As a result, over one hundred million people have responded to the Gospel.

## THREE UNALTERABLE CONVICTIONS

EHCI operates under three unalterable convictions. They are:

- 1. *The Great Commission must be taken literally.*** At present, systematic literature distribution, house-to-house, village-to-village, is still the best means to ensure the task is completed. (Matthew 28:19 & Mark 16:15.)
- 2. *Without unity, finishing the task of world evangelization is impossible.*** Thus, the cooperation of all evangelical groups is essential to fulfilling the Great Commission. Already more than 500 evangelical missions groups and denominations have participated in Every Home for Christ outreaches worldwide. (Read John 17:21-23.)
- 3. *Prayer, alone, will remove every obstacle that stands in the way of fulfilling the Great Commission.*** Therefore, prayer is the most important element in the entire campaign. The degree to which prayer is mobilized will be the degree to which the world is evangelized. (Mark 11:22-23)

# *How Can You Partner With Every Home for Christ International?*

## **PRAY**

### **PRAY FOR COURAGEOUS WORKERS TO TAKE THE GOSPEL TO THE LOST**

It is crucial that we have diligent praying partners who are asking the Lord for courageous workers. Jesus said “The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.” (Luke 10:2)

Every Home for Christ’s third unalterable conviction is: “Prayer alone, will remove every obstacle that stands in the way of fulfilling the Great Commission.” Therefore, prayer is the most important aspect in the entire campaign. The degree to which prayer is mobilized will be the degree to which the world is evangelized. (Mark 11:22-23)

## **GIVE**

### **HELP PROVIDE THE GOSPEL FOR THE LOST**

In order for us to send out workers into the “harvest fields” resources are needed. Resources help us to provide literature, training and coordination. Whether you choose to partner with us to reach 100 homes a month or you simply want to provide a one-time gift, every amount you give is an eternal investment into the lives of individuals in your nation and around the world who need to receive the Good News.

## **GO**

### **CONSIDER JOINING THE GROWING WORK FORCE OF HARVEST WORKERS**

Every Home for Christ’s first unalterable conviction is “The Great Commission must be taken literally.” EHC mobilizes thousands of indigenous workers all over the world to take the Gospel home to home in more than one hundred nations every day! We believe that all followers of Christ need to be involved in missions, and we have many opportunities to get involved. Contact the nearest national EHC office to find out how you can participate in taking the Good News of Jesus Christ to those who are living in darkness.



# THE CORNERSTONE

## RECONCILED RELATIONSHIP

*For God was pleased to have all His fullness dwell in him, and through Him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross. (Colossians 1:19-20)*

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# GOD, THE CREATOR OF HEAVEN AND EARTH

*He Made Everything*

LESSON  
1-1



## LESSON THEME - *Prepare the Soil*

There is only one God. He knows all things, has all power, is everywhere, and created all things from nothing. God's command formed the entire universe. God made everything perfect because God is absolutely perfect.

**Key Scripture:** *He made the earth by his power, he founded the world by his wisdom and stretched out the heavens by his understanding. (Jeremiah 51:15)*



## BIBLE STORY - *Sow the Seed*

**The Introduction provides information to help you understand the story.**

God was before anything. The Bible says that God created the earth and all that exists on the earth in six days. During the first five days God created light, the sun, moon, stars and the sky, water, and land. He also created vegetation and every kind of living creature in the sea and every bird of the air with the ability to reproduce after its own kind. God saw His creation and declared "it is good." Our story begins on the sixth day.

**The Bible Story begins here.**

*And God said, "Let the land produce living creatures according to their kinds: livestock, creatures that move along the ground, and wild animals, each according to its kind." And it was so. God made the wild animals according to their kinds, the livestock according to their kinds, and all the creatures that move along the ground according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, "Let us make human beings in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground." So God created human beings in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground." (Genesis 1:24-28)*



## DISCOVERY PROCESS - *Water and Fertilize (See Page 11)*



## ADDITIONAL STUDY SCRIPTURES - *Prune*

*(Psalm 33:6-9; Isaiah 40:21-28; Colossians 1:16; Hebrews 11:3; Revelation 4:11)*



## APPLICATION QUESTIONS - *Harvest Fruit (2 Timothy 3:16-17; See Page 11)*

**CONCLUSION** - The universe and all that is within it was not an accident. There is one Creator and He is God. All that God made is perfect.

# THE SPECIAL CREATION OF PEOPLE

LESSON  
1-2

*Created for Special Relationship with God and Each Other*



## LESSON THEME - *Prepare the Soil*

God created mankind to be very different from animals. People were made to reflect God's nature. God made man to have a special relationship with Him. God also created man a helper.

**Key Scripture:** *I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made... (Psalm 139:14)*



## BIBLE STORY - *Sow the Seed*

**The Introduction provides information to help you understand the story.**

The Bible tells us that God created the heavens and the earth and all that exists in it and God declared that all His creation was "good."

**The Bible Story begins here.**

*Then the LORD God formed a man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being. The LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him." Now the LORD God had formed out of the ground all the wild animals and all the birds in the sky. He brought them to the man to see what he would name them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name. So the man gave names to all the livestock, the birds in the sky and all the wild animals. But for Adam no suitable helper was found. So the LORD God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and while he was sleeping, he took one of the man's ribs and then closed up the place with flesh. Then the LORD God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man. (Genesis 2:7, 18-22)*



## DISCOVERY PROCESS - *Water and Fertilize (See Page 11)*



## ADDITIONAL STUDY SCRIPTURES - *Prune*

*(Psalm 24:1; Psalm 100:3; Psalm 139:13-16; Romans 8:38-39; Ephesians 5:28, 31)*



## APPLICATION QUESTIONS - *Harvest Fruit (2 Timothy 3:16-17; See Page 11)*

**CONCLUSION** - God made man and woman special. They are equal. They are created to live in relationship with each other. They are also made to live in relationship with God.

# SATAN THE DECEIVER

*He Came to Steal, Kill, and Destroy*

LESSON  
1-3



## LESSON THEME - *Prepare the Soil*

Evil exists. Satan is evil. Satan hates God. Satan hates God's perfect creation. Because Satan hates God's perfect creation, he came to earth disguised as a serpent to destroy the special relationship between God and mankind.

**Key Scripture:** *The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full. (John 10:10)*



## BIBLE STORY - *Sow the Seed*

**The Introduction provides information to help you understand the story.**

God placed man and woman in a beautiful garden to live. God told man that he could eat from any tree in the garden except one. God said, "You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die." One day Satan came disguised as a serpent and deceived Eve.

**The Bible Story begins here.**

*Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?" The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.' "You will not certainly die," the serpent said to the woman. "For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate." So the LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, "Cursed are you above all livestock and all wild animals! You will crawl on your belly and you will eat dust all the days of your life. And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel." (Genesis 3:1-6, 13-15)*



## DISCOVERY PROCESS - *Water and Fertilize (See Page 11)*



## ADDITIONAL STUDY SCRIPTURES - *Prune* (Mark 1:9-13; 2 Thessalonians 2:8-10; 1 Peter 5:8; Revelation 12:9)



## APPLICATION QUESTIONS - *Harvest Fruit (2 Timothy 3:16-17; See Page 11)*

**CONCLUSION** - Satan's evil desires led him to oppose God and God's plans. Satan's activity on earth began by tempting Eve. Satan deceived Eve into disobeying God. Satan hates mankind and mankind's special relationship with God.

# ADAM AND EVE DISOBEYED GOD

*We Now Live Under a Curse*

LESSON  
1-4



## LESSON THEME - *Prepare the Soil*

Satan came and deceived Eve into disobeying God. Disobeying God is sin. God punishes sin. The consequence of Adam's and Eve's sin was that their relationship with God was broken. The consequences of sin is pain, suffering, and death.

**Key Scripture:** *Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all people, because all sinned. (Romans 5:12)*



## BIBLE STORY - *Sow the Seed*

**The Introduction provides information to help you understand the story.**

The first man and woman whom God created were named Adam and Eve. The tree in this story is the tree that gave the knowledge of good and evil. God said that they could eat from any tree except this tree.

**The Bible Story begins here.**

*When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves. Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden. But the LORD God called to the man, "Where are you?" He answered, "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid." And he said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?" The man said, "The woman you put here with me—she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it." Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate." To the woman he said, "I will make your pains in childbearing very severe; with pain you will give birth to children. Your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you." To Adam he said, "Because you listened to your wife and ate from the tree about which I commanded you, 'You must not eat of it,' 'Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat of it all the days of your life. It will produce thorns and thistles for you, and you will eat the plants of the field. By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return.'" (Genesis 3:6-13, 16-19)*



## DISCOVERY PROCESS - *Water and Fertilize (See Page 11)*



## ADDITIONAL STUDY SCRIPTURES - *Prune*

*(Isaiah 59:2; Romans 3:23; Romans 6:23; James 1:13-15; 1 John 3:5)*



## APPLICATION QUESTIONS - *Harvest Fruit (2 Timothy 3:16-17; See Page 11)*

**CONCLUSION** - Doubting and disobeying God broke man's relationship with God. A perfect God cannot tolerate sin. All mankind has sinned. The consequences of sin is pain, suffering, and death.



# THE CHOSEN FAMILY

God's Special Relationship with Abraham

LESSON  
1-5



## LESSON THEME - *Prepare the Soil*

The consequences of Adam's and Eve's sin were passed onto all people. God made a plan to restore mankind to fellowship with Him. God made a promise to a man named Abraham. God promised Abraham that through his family people would be reconciled to God.

**Key Scripture:** *The LORD had said to Abram, "Go from your country, your people and your father's household to the land I will show you. I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."*  
(Genesis 12:1-3)



## BIBLE STORY - *Sow the Seed*

**The Introduction provides information to help you understand the story.**

Abraham was a man who obeyed when God spoke to him. God chose Abraham's family to be the family that would defeat Satan and bless all of mankind. Abraham did not trust that God would give him a child from his wife. Abraham and his wife had no children so Abraham had a child with his wife's servant. This child was named Ishmael.

**The Bible Story begins here.**

*When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to him and said, "I am God Almighty; walk before me faithfully and be blameless. Then I will make my covenant between me and you and will greatly increase your numbers." Abram fell facedown, and God said to him, "As for me, this is my covenant with you: You will be the father of many nations. No longer will you be called Abram; your name will be Abraham, for I have made you a father of many nations. I will make you very fruitful; I will make nations of you, and kings will come from you. I will establish my covenant as an everlasting covenant between me and you and your descendants after you for the generations to come, to be your God and the God of your descendants after you. God also said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you are no longer to call her Sarai; her name will be Sarah. I will bless her and will surely give you a son by her. I will bless her so that she will be the mother of nations; kings of peoples will come from her." Abraham fell facedown; he laughed and said to himself, "Will a son be born to a man a hundred years old? Will Sarah bear a child at the age of ninety?" And Abraham said to God, "If only Ishmael might live under your blessing!" Then God said, "Yes, but your wife Sarah will bear you a son, and you will call him Isaac. I will establish my covenant with him as an everlasting covenant for his descendants after him."  
(Genesis 17:1-7, 15-19)*



## DISCOVERY PROCESS - *Water and Fertilize (See Page 11)*



## ADDITIONAL STUDY SCRIPTURES - *Prune*

(Genesis 15:1-6; Isaiah 51:1-2; Galatians 3:16-18; Hebrews 11:8-12; James 2:23)



## APPLICATION QUESTIONS - *Harvest Fruit (2 Timothy 3:16-17; See Page 11)*

**CONCLUSION** - God's plan to reconcile man to Himself started with Abraham. God promised that through Abraham's family all the earth would be blessed. God promised that through Abraham's family sinners one day could be redeemed.

# GOD TESTS ABRAHAM

*Abraham Obeys God*

LESSON  
1-6



## LESSON THEME - *Prepare the Soil*

All of the promises God made to Abraham depended on the survival of Isaac. Abraham was tested by God. Abraham obeyed the commands of God. Abraham trusted that God would not lie.

**Key Scripture:** *By faith Abraham, when God tested him, offered Isaac as a sacrifice. He who had embraced the promises was about to sacrifice his one and only son, even though God had said to him, "It is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned." Abraham reasoned that God could even raise the dead, and so in a manner of speaking he did receive Isaac back from death. (Hebrews 11:17-19)*



## BIBLE STORY - *Sow the Seed*

**The Introduction provides information to help you understand the story.**

In times past, God established the sacrifice of blood to account for sin. Offering a sacrifice was a religious act of cleansing. It was also an act of worship.

**The Bible Story begins here.**

*Then God said, "Take your son, your only son, whom you love—Isaac—and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on a mountain I will show you." Early the next morning Abraham got up and loaded his donkey. He took with him two of his servants and his son Isaac. When he had cut enough wood for the burnt offering, he set out for the place God had told him about. On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance. He said to his servants, "Stay here with the donkey while I and the boy go over there. We will worship and then we will come back to you." Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering and placed it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. As the two of them went on together, Isaac spoke up and said to his father Abraham, "Father?" "Yes, my son?" Abraham replied. "The fire and wood are here," Isaac said, "but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?" Abraham answered, "God himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering, my son." And the two of them went on together. When they reached the place God had told him about, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it. He bound his son Isaac and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. Then he reached out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. But the angel of the LORD called out to him from heaven, "Abraham! Abraham!" "Here I am," he replied. "Do not lay a hand on the boy," he said. "Do not do anything to him. Now I know that you fear God, because you have not withheld from me your son, your only son." Abraham looked up and there in a thicket he saw a ram caught by its horns. He went over and took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering instead of his son. (Genesis 22:2-13)*



## DISCOVERY PROCESS - *Water and Fertilize (See Page 11)*



## ADDITIONAL STUDY SCRIPTURES - *Prune*

*(Genesis 22:15-18; Romans 4:1-24; James 2:21-22)*



## APPLICATION QUESTIONS - *Harvest Fruit (2 Timothy 3:16-17; See Page 11)*

**CONCLUSION** - Abraham's offering of Isaac demonstrated Abraham's faith in God. Abraham obeyed God. When Abraham was tested by God, he trusted and obeyed God. Many years after the story of Abraham, God provided a perfect one-time offering who would account for all of mankind's sin.

# THERE WILL BE LIFE AFTER DEATH

*Life After Death Will Be Heaven or Hell*

LESSON  
1-7



## LESSON THEME - *Prepare the Soil*

Scripture teaches us about life after death. After death, all people will either go to heaven or to hell. Heaven is where God is. Heaven will be full of joy because we will be with God. Hell is a place of severe punishment. People in hell are eternally separated from God. God will judge all people.

**Key Scripture:** *For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 6:23)*



## BIBLE STORY - *Sow the Seed*

**The Introduction provides information to help you understand the story.**

The Bible uses parables to teach truths. Parables are stories that have a deeper meaning. In this parable “Son of Man” is a name of God.

### **The Bible Story begins here.**

*The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. But while everyone was sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away. When the wheat sprouted and formed heads, then the weeds also appeared. “The owner’s servants came to him and said, ‘Sir, didn’t you sow good seed in your field? Where then did the weeds come from?’ “An enemy did this,’ he replied.”The servants asked him, ‘Do you want us to go and pull them up?’ “No,’ he answered, ‘because while you are pulling the weeds, you may uproot the wheat with them. Let both grow together until the harvest. At that time I will tell the harvesters: First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles to be burned; then gather the wheat and bring it into my barn.’ “The one who sowed the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world, and the good seed stands for the people of the kingdom. The weeds are the people of the evil one, and the enemy who sows them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the harvesters are angels. “As the weeds are pulled up and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send out his angels, and they will weed out of his kingdom everything that causes sin and all who do evil. They will throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Whoever has ears, let them hear.” (Matthew 13:24-30, 37-43)*



## DISCOVERY PROCESS - *Water and Fertilize (See Page 11)*



## ADDITIONAL STUDY SCRIPTURES - *Prune*

*(Matthew 13:47-50; Matthew 25:31-46; Mark 9:47-48; John 14:1-3; Philippians 3:20; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Revelation 20:12-15; Revelation 21-22)*



## APPLICATION QUESTIONS - *Harvest Fruit (2 Timothy 3:16-17; See Page 11)*

**CONCLUSION** - God will judge all people after they die. Heaven is a place that is full of life and joy. Hell is a place that is full of sorrow and pain.

# JESUS CHRIST

LESSON  
1-8

## Completely God and Completely Man



### LESSON THEME - *Prepare the Soil*

Throughout the Bible, God was working out a plan of redemption in order to make a way to restore the broken relationship between God and people. When the time was right, God sent His Son Jesus Christ to reconcile people to God.

**Key Scripture:** *Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a Son, and will call him Immanuel. (Isaiah 7:14)*



### BIBLE STORY - *Sow the Seed*

**The Introduction provides information to help you understand the story.**

The Bible tells us that Jesus came through the family of David which came through Abraham.

#### **The Bible Story begins here.**

*This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. Because Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly. But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a Son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a Son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us"). When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. But he had no union with her until she gave birth to a Son. And he gave him the name Jesus. (Matthew 1:18-25)*



### DISCOVERY PROCESS - *Water and Fertilize (See Page 11)*



### ADDITIONAL STUDY SCRIPTURES - *Prune*

*(Matthew 16:13-20; Matthew 26:63-64; Luke 1:28-35; John 1:1-14; John 3:16; Philippians 2:5-11; Colossians 1:15-20; Colossians 2:9)*



### APPLICATION QUESTIONS - *Harvest Fruit (2 Timothy 3:16-17; See Page 11)*

**CONCLUSION** - Jesus Christ was completely God and completely man. Jesus Christ was sent to reconcile the broken relationship between God and people.

# GOD'S RECONCILIATION PLAN FOR MANKIND

LESSON  
1-9

*Taking the Punishment for Sin and Restoring Relationship*



## LESSON THEME - *Prepare the Soil*

God loves all people. People were made to love God and to be in relationship with God. Satan convinced Adam and Eve to disobey God. Disobeying God is a sin. Sin destroyed the perfect relationship between God and mankind. God promised man that the perfect relationship between God and people would be restored. God promised Adam that one day someone from his family would crush Satan's head. God promised that He would bless the nations of the earth through Abraham's family. God fulfilled His promises by sending His Son, Jesus Christ.

**Key Scripture:** *You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. (Romans 5:6)*



## BIBLE STORY - *Sow the Seed*

**The Introduction provides information to help you understand the story.**

God sent His only Son. His name was Jesus Christ. His birth was a miracle. He was all God and all man. He lived and grew older and never sinned once. He did many miracles and taught many wise truths. Many religious leaders did not like Jesus and they determined to kill Him. The head governor questioned Jesus and determined He was innocent. To please the crowd, the governor allowed the people to beat Jesus and nail Him to a cross. A cross was an instrument of torture. God said that it was for our sins that Jesus would be beaten and put to death.

**The Bible Story begins here.**

*Then the governor's soldiers took Jesus into the Praetorium and gathered the whole company of soldiers around him. They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, and then twisted together a crown of thorns and set it on his head. They put a staff in his right hand as a scepter. Then they knelt in front of him and mocked him. "Hail, king of the Jews!" they said. They spit on him, and took the staff and struck him on the head again and again. After they had mocked him, they took off the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him. As they were going out, they met a man from Cyrene, named Simon, and they forced him to carry the cross. They came to a place called Golgotha (which means "the place of the skull"). There they offered Jesus wine to drink, mixed with gall; but after tasting it, he refused to drink it. When they had crucified him, they divided up his clothes by casting lots. And sitting down, they kept watch over him there. Above his head they placed the written charge against him: THIS IS JESUS, THE KING OF THE JEWS. Two rebels were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left. From noon until three in the afternoon darkness came over all the land. And when Jesus had cried out again in a loud voice, he gave up his spirit. (Matthew 27:27-38, 45, 50)*



## DISCOVERY PROCESS - *Water and Fertilize (See Page 11)*



## ADDITIONAL STUDY SCRIPTURES - *Prune*

*(Isaiah 53:5-6; Mark 10:45; John 1:29; Ephesians 1:7; 1 Timothy 1:15; 1 Peter 2:24)*



## APPLICATION QUESTIONS - *Harvest Fruit (2 Timothy 3:16-17; See Page 11)*

**CONCLUSION** - Jesus Christ's death on the cross made a way for all people to have a special relationship with God. Jesus paid the full price for our sins. Jesus Christ was the one-time perfect offering for sin. Jesus Christ took our place. We did not earn this special gift. We did not deserve this special gift. God did it because He loves all people. Those who believe in Jesus Christ and receive the gift that Jesus Christ gave are reconciled to God.

# JESUS CONQUERED DEATH

LESSON  
1-10

*His Resurrection Proved Who He Is*



## LESSON THEME - *Prepare the Soil*

While on the earth, Jesus said that He would die for our sins and rise from the dead. Jesus Christ died on a cross and then came back to life. When Jesus Christ rose from the dead, it proved that He is actually God. All that He said and commanded is true.

**Key Scripture:** *For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures. (1 Corinthians 15:3-4)*



## BIBLE STORY - *Sow the Seed*

**The Introduction provides information to help you understand the story.**

After Jesus' death on the cross some friends took His body. They buried Jesus in a tomb. The governor ordered that a huge rock be placed over the entrance to the tomb. Soldiers guarded the tomb to prevent people from stealing Jesus' body. On the third day after His death two women came to the tomb. They found the stone rolled away and an angel sitting on it.

**The Bible Story begins here.**

*The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples: 'He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.' Now I have told you." So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples. (Matthew 28:5-8)*



## DISCOVERY PROCESS - *Water and Fertilize (See Page 11)*



## ADDITIONAL STUDY SCRIPTURES - *Prune*

*(Acts 2:22-24; Romans 1:3-4; Romans 8:33-34; 1 Corinthians 15:12-22; 1 Peter 1:3)*



## APPLICATION QUESTIONS - *Harvest Fruit (2 Timothy 3:16-17; See Page 11)*

**CONCLUSION** - Jesus rose from the dead. Death could not limit Jesus Christ because He is God. He is the perfect offering for sin. Jesus Christ is the God of life. Jesus Christ proved He was not just a good teacher or a prophet. Jesus Christ proved He had all power and authority. Jesus Christ proved He is the King of the earth.

# WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED?

LESSON  
1-11

*Believe*



## LESSON THEME - *Prepare the Soil*

Jesus died and rose from the dead so that all people could have life. All people are called to have faith in Jesus Christ and to believe He is the Son of God. All people can be saved from the punishment of sin if they believe in Jesus and confess with their mouths that He is God. All people have a choice to believe in God and be saved or reject Him. God desires that all people be saved.

**Key Scripture:** *For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. (John 3:16-17)*



## BIBLE STORY - *Sow the Seed*

**The Introduction provides information to help you understand the story.**

After Jesus rose from the dead He appeared to His disciples. One of Jesus' disciples named Thomas was not in attendance. He had not seen Jesus since He had been crucified. To believe that something is real without seeing it or feeling it is called faith.

**The Bible Story begins here.**

*Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe." A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe." Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!" Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name. (John 20:24-31)*



## DISCOVERY PROCESS - *Water and Fertilize (See Page 11)*



## ADDITIONAL STUDY SCRIPTURES - *Prune*

*(John 3:16-21; Acts 10:43; Acts 16:25-31; Romans 6:23; Romans 10:9-10; Galatians 2:20; Galatians 3; Ephesians 2:8-9; Hebrews 11)*



## APPLICATION QUESTIONS - *Harvest Fruit (2 Timothy 3:16-17; See Page 11)*

**CONCLUSION** - Jesus Christ took the punishment for our sins. Scripture says that people will have eternal life if they believe that God raised Him from the dead. It is impossible to be a Christian without faith. Faith is believing and trusting in Jesus Christ even though we do not see Him. Faith is believing that Jesus Christ rose from the dead to account for our sins.

# HOW DO WE RESPOND TO GOD'S LOVE?

LESSON  
1-12

*Repent*



## **LESSON THEME** - *Prepare the Soil*

Repentance is a change of heart and mind. Repentance includes thinking and acting differently about sin and God. Repentance means that we hate sin as much as God hates sin. Repentance results in a change of sinful behavior.

**Key Scripture:** *In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent. (Acts 17:30)*



## **BIBLE STORY** - *Sow the Seed*

**The Introduction provides information to help you understand the story.**

Jesus was a great teacher and went about doing many miracles and healing those in need. Wherever Jesus went there was a large crowd.

### **The Bible Story begins here.**

*Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy. He wanted to see who Jesus was, but because he was short he could not see over the crowd. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see him, since Jesus was coming that way. When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today." So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly. All the people saw this and began to mutter, "He has gone to be the guest of a sinner." But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount." Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost." (Luke 19:1-10)*



## **DISCOVERY PROCESS** - *Water and Fertilize (See Page 11)*



## **ADDITIONAL STUDY SCRIPTURES** - *Prune*

*(Matthew 3:2; Matthew 4:17; Mark 1:15; Luke 5:32; Luke 13:15; Acts 2:31-41, Acts 3:19-20)*



## **APPLICATION QUESTIONS** - *Harvest Fruit (2 Timothy 3:16-17; See Page 11)*

**CONCLUSION** - Our belief in Jesus Christ leads us to repent. When we repent, our hearts and minds are changed. When our hearts and our minds are changed, our sinful actions change. Those who believe and trust in Jesus live differently from those around them who do not believe and trust in Jesus.



# I AM A FRIEND OF JESUS

*I Remain in His Love by Obeying His Commands*

LESSON  
1-13



## LESSON THEME - *Prepare the Soil*

As followers of Christ we are friends of God. Friends of God know God in a special way. Friends of God love God, and they love others. Friends of God trust and obey God's commands.

**Key Scripture:** *My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. (John 10:27)*



## BIBLE STORY - *Sow the Seed*

**The Introduction provides information to help you understand the story.**

Jesus is speaking to His apostles giving them instruction. The Father whom He speaks about is God the Father.

**The Bible Story begins here.**

*Philip said, "Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us." Jesus answered: "Don't you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command. I no longer call you servants, because servants do not know their master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you." (John 14:8-9; 15:9-15)*



## DISCOVERY PROCESS - *Water and Fertilize (See Page 11)*



## ADDITIONAL STUDY SCRIPTURES - *Prune*

*(Matthew 7:16-20; John 14:15-23; Colossians 1:10; 2 Peter 1:3-8; 1 John 4:7-8; 1 John 5:1-5)*



## APPLICATION QUESTIONS - *Harvest Fruit (2 Timothy 3:16-17; See Page 11)*

**CONCLUSION** - As followers of Christ, we are friends of God. As friends of God, we are called to listen to God's voice and obey. As friends of God, we are called to love others in the same way Jesus Christ loves us.



# THE FOUNDATION

## ABIDE IN CHRIST

*Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. (John 15:4)*

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# BE BAPTIZED

*Believe in the Lord*

**ACTS 8:5-13**

LESSON  
2-1

## LESSON THEME

Water baptism is a command from God. The Bible says that after we receive Christ, we should be baptized. Baptism is when new believers in Christ are put under water and brought back out. Baptism is a picture of the spiritual rebirth that occurs when we become Christians. Baptism is a picture to others that we are followers of Christ.

**Key Scripture:** *Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit... (Matthew 28:19)*

## BIBLE STORY — ACTS 8:5-13

### ADDITIONAL STUDY SCRIPTURES

*(Acts 2:38; Acts 18:8; Romans 6:4-5; Galatians 3:27; Colossians 2:12)*

# WE ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

*Tell the World Who Jesus Is*

**JOHN 4:28-42**

LESSON  
2-2

## LESSON THEME

A Christian is a person who follows Jesus Christ. Scripture says that Christians are to be a light to the world by showing the world who Jesus is.

**Key Scripture:** *You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven. (Matthew 5:14-16)*

## BIBLE STORY — JOHN 4:28-42

### ADDITIONAL STUDY SCRIPTURES

*(Mark 16:15-16; Luke 11:33-36; Acts 1:8)*

# BE RECONCILED TO OTHERS

LESSON  
2-3

*Forgive Those Who Sin Against You* **MATTHEW 18:23-35**

## LESSON THEME

Jesus instructed His disciples to live peacefully with each other. Christians are instructed to be kind to other people and to offer mercy to those who sin against them. To live peacefully with each other is to extend forgiveness to those who have offended or hurt us.

**Key Scripture:** Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to that person; then come and offer your gift. (Matthew 5:23-24)

## BIBLE STORY — MATTHEW 18:23-35

### ADDITIONAL STUDY SCRIPTURES

(Matthew 6:14; Mark 11:25-26; Luke 11:4; Luke 17:3-4; 2 Corinthians 2:5-11; Ephesians 4:32; Colossians 3:12-14)

# DO NOT COMMIT ADULTERY

LESSON  
2-4

*Do Not Look at Others Lustfully*

**2 SAMUEL 12:1-9**

## LESSON THEME

Jesus instructed His disciples to not commit adultery. Jesus taught that to look upon another person lustfully is a sin.

**Key Scripture:** You have heard that it was said, "You shall not commit adultery." But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart. (Matthew 5:27-28)

## BIBLE STORY — 2 SAMUEL 12:1-9

### ADDITIONAL STUDY SCRIPTURES

(Exodus 20:14; Proverbs 6:32; 1 Corinthians 6:13-20; Ephesians 5:3-5; Colossians 3:1-11; Thessalonians 4:3-8; Hebrews 13:4)

# MARRIAGE IS SACRED TO GOD

*God Does Not Like Divorce*

LESSON  
2-5

**MATTHEW 19:3-9**

## LESSON THEME

Jesus taught that the marriage relationship is sacred and very important to God.

**Key Scripture:** *But I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, causes her to become an adulteress, and anyone who marries the divorced woman commits adultery. (Matthew 5:32)*

## BIBLE STORY — MATTHEW 19:3-9

## ADDITIONAL STUDY SCRIPTURES

*(Genesis 2:20-24; 1 Corinthians 7; Ephesians 5:21-28)*

# RESPONDING TO INJUSTICE

*Live as an Example of God's Love*

LESSON  
2-6

**LUKE 22:47-53**

## LESSON THEME

Jesus taught His disciples how to respond to injustice. Jesus told His disciples not to take revenge against people who do wrong things to them. Jesus said Christians are to live as good examples of love and kindness to all people.

**Key Scripture:** *But I tell you, do not resist an evil person. If anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to them the other cheek also. And if anyone wants to sue you and take your shirt, hand over your coat as well. If anyone forces you to go one mile, go with them two miles. (Matthew 5:39-41)*

## BIBLE STORY — LUKE 22:47-53

## ADDITIONAL STUDY SCRIPTURES

*(Mark 12:28-31; Luke 6:32; John 4:7-8; John 13:34; Romans 12:17-21; 1 Corinthians 4:12; 2 Corinthians 12:10; Ephesians 5:1-2; 1 Peter 1:22; 1 Peter 3:9; 1 John 3:11)*

# LOVE YOUR ENEMIES

*God Loves All People*

LUKE 23:26-43

LESSON  
2-7

## LESSON THEME

Jesus taught His disciples to love and to pray for their enemies. Jesus said that it is difficult to love those who do not treat you well. Jesus told His disciples that they were different from other people because they were supposed to love those who are difficult to love.

**Key Scripture:** *But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. (Matthew 5:44-45)*

## BIBLE STORY — LUKE 23:26-43

## ADDITIONAL STUDY SCRIPTURES

(Mark 12:28-31; Luke 6:27-38; John 13:34; Romans 12:17-21)

# GIVE TO OTHERS

*God Cares About Those in Need*

MATTHEW 25:32-46

LESSON  
2-8

## LESSON THEME

Jesus taught His disciples about caring for the needy. Followers of Christ do not give to the needy to be seen by those around them. When Christians give to the needy, they are seen by God and God will reward them in heaven.

**Key Scripture:** *But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. (Matthew 6:3-4)*

## BIBLE STORY — MATTHEW 25:32-46

## ADDITIONAL STUDY SCRIPTURES

(Psalm 82:3; Proverbs 19:17; Proverbs 28:27; Jeremiah 22:3; Matthew 5:42; Matthew 19:21)

# PRAYER

*Talking with and Listening to God*

**ACTS 12:5-17**

LESSON  
2-9

## LESSON THEME

Jesus taught His disciples that they should always pray. Prayer is talking with God and listening to God. When we pray, we are heard by God.

**Key Scripture:** *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)*

## BIBLE STORY — ACTS 12:5-17

## ADDITIONAL STUDY SCRIPTURES

(2 Chronicles 7:14; Psalm 32:5-11; Jeremiah 29:12; Jeremiah 42:3; Matthew 5:44; Matthew 7:11; 1 Thessalonians 5:17)

# STORE UP TREASURES IN HEAVEN

*Honoring God With Our Lives and Possessions* **JOHN 12:1-8**

LESSON  
2-10

## LESSON THEME

The rewards that people will receive in heaven will be determined by how they honor God with their lives and possessions on earth. Christ followers should live for the reward that they will receive in heaven.

**Key Scripture:** *Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. (Matthew 6:19-21)*

## BIBLE STORY — JOHN 12:1-8

## ADDITIONAL STUDY SCRIPTURES

(Mark 8:34-38; Luke 12:32-34; 1 Corinthians 3:10-17; 1 Timothy 6:17-19)

# DO NOT WORRY

*God Knows and Cares About Your Needs*

**MARK 4:35-41**

## LESSON THEME

Jesus says that He cares about our lives and will help us with our problems. When we worry about our lives we are not having faith in Jesus.

**Key Scripture:** *Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own. (Matthew 6:34)*

## BIBLE STORY — MARK 4:35-41

## ADDITIONAL STUDY SCRIPTURES

*(Proverbs 3:5-6; Luke 12:22-25; Galatians 2:20; Hebrews 11:8-12; 1 Peter 1:21)*

# DO NOT JUDGE OTHERS

*God Is the Judge*

**JOHN 8:2-11**

## LESSON THEME

It is wrong to judge other people. All people are sinners and only God can judge righteously.

**Key Scripture:** *Do not judge, or you too will be judged. For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you. Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in someone else's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? (Matthew 7:1-3)*

## BIBLE STORY — JOHN 8:2-11

## ADDITIONAL STUDY SCRIPTURES

*(Luke 6:37; John 8:14-18; 1 Corinthians 4:3-5; James 4:12)*



# ASK, SEEK, KNOCK

*God Responds to Persistent Prayer*

LUKE 18:2-8

## LESSON THEME

Jesus taught that when we persistently ask, seek, and knock, He responds. Because of our relationship with God, we can continually ask of God. At times, our prayers might not be answered immediately.

**Key Scripture:** *Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; those who seek find; and to those who knock, the door will be opened. (Matthew 7:7-8)*

## BIBLE STORY — LUKE 18:2-8

## ADDITIONAL STUDY SCRIPTURES

(Ephesians 6:18; Colossians 4:12; Hebrews 4:16; James 4:2-3; James 5:16; 1 John 3:21-22; 1 John 5:14-15;)

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# THE WALLS

## ABUNDANT LIFE

*The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full. (John 10:10)*

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# WORSHIP IN EVERY PLACE

*God Desires Pure Worship*

LESSON  
3-1

**MALACHI 1:8-14**

## LESSON THEME

God is not pleased with half-hearted worship. God is not pleased with simply going through actions and calling it worship. God is very concerned with the attitude of our heart. God promises that one day people in every place will have a worship attitude in their heart.

**Key Scripture:** *From the ends of the earth we hear songs of praise, of glory to the Righteous One. (Isaiah 24:16)*

## BIBLE STORY — MALACHI 1:8-14

## ADDITIONAL STUDY SCRIPTURES

*(Isaiah 24:16; Isaiah 25:3; John 4:23-24)*

# FOLLOW CHRIST

*Following Christ Requires Us to Hope and Trust in Him*

LESSON  
3-2

**MATTHEW 19:16-22**

## LESSON THEME

Following Christ means putting all of our trust and hope in Him. Anything that we have in our lives that we trust and hope in can be barriers to fully following Christ.

**Key Scripture:** *Then Jesus said to his disciples, "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it." (Matthew 16:24-25)*

## BIBLE STORY — MATTHEW 19:16-22

## ADDITIONAL STUDY SCRIPTURES

*(Proverbs 3:5-6; Matthew 6:19-21; Romans 15:13; 1 Thessalonians 1:3)*

# FOLLOW CHRIST

*Those Who Follow Christ  
Reach Out to Others*

LESSON  
3-3

**MARK 2:13-17**

## LESSON THEME

Jesus came to seek and save the lost. Being a follower of Christ means that we will reach out to the lost as Jesus did.

**Key Scripture:** *Then Jesus said to his disciples, "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it." (Matthew 16:24-25)*

## BIBLE STORY — MARK 2:13-17

## ADDITIONAL STUDY SCRIPTURES

*(Proverbs 19:17; Luke 15:1-31; Luke 19:10; Galatians 6:9-10, James 3:18)*

# TELL OTHERS ABOUT JESUS

*Leading Other People to Follow Jesus*

LESSON  
3-4

**LUKE 5:1-11**

## LESSON THEME

God wants to be in relationship with all people. As followers of Christ, we are called to lead other people into a relationship with Him.

**Key Scripture:** *How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!" (Romans 10:14-15)*

## BIBLE STORY — LUKE 5:1-11

## ADDITIONAL STUDY SCRIPTURES

*(Matthew 28:18-19; John 4:39-42; 2 Peter 3:9)*

# TELL OTHERS ABOUT JESUS

*Tell the Good News to Other People*

**ACTS 16:9-15**

LESSON  
3-5

## LESSON THEME

The Bible tells people to share the Good News of Jesus to other people. All people deserve to have the opportunity to hear the Good News that Jesus came to bring.

**Key Scripture:** *How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!" (Romans 10:14-15)*

## BIBLE STORY — ACTS 16:9-15

## ADDITIONAL STUDY SCRIPTURES

*(Matthew 10:7-8; Matthew 28:19-20; Mark 16:15; Romans 1:16-17; 1 Corinthians 2:1-5)*

# TELL OTHERS ABOUT JESUS

*Many People Are Ready to Hear the Good News* **LUKE 10:1-9**

LESSON  
3-6

## LESSON THEME

Jesus said that the harvest is plenty but the laborers are few. There are many people who are waiting to hear about Jesus Christ. Followers of Christ should share the Good News with all people.

**Key Scripture:** *How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!" (Romans 10:14-15)*

## BIBLE STORY — LUKE 10:1-9

## ADDITIONAL STUDY SCRIPTURES

*(Isaiah 6:8; Matthew 9:35-38; John 4:35-38; Galatians 6:9-10)*

# LOVING GOD

*Relationship With God Is  
the Most Important Thing*

LESSON  
3-7

LUKE 10:38-42

## LESSON THEME

Jesus asked His followers to do many things. The most important thing is our relationship with God.

**Key Scripture:** *Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. (Mark 12:30)*

## BIBLE STORY — LUKE 10:38-42

## ADDITIONAL STUDY SCRIPTURES

*(Matthew 11:28-30; John 14:15; Luke 6:47-49; Philippians 2:12-13)*

# LOVING GOD

*Knowing the Good Shepherd*

LESSON  
3-8

JOHN 10:7-14

## LESSON THEME

Followers of Christ are to love God with every part of who they are. To love God with all that we are, we must know God.

**Key Scripture:** *Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. (Mark 12:30)*

## BIBLE STORY — JOHN 10:7-14

## ADDITIONAL STUDY SCRIPTURES

*(Psalm 23; Psalm 100; Matthew 9:35-36)*

# LOVING OTHERS

*Living in Unity With Other Followers of Christ*

LESSON  
3-9

**ACTS 4:29-35**

## LESSON THEME

Followers of Christ are called the Church. God expects the Church to live in unity.

**Key Scripture:** *Love your neighbor as yourself. (Mark 12:31)*

## BIBLE STORY — ACTS 4:29-35

## ADDITIONAL STUDY SCRIPTURES

*(Romans 12:3-21; 1 Corinthians 12:12-31; 1 Corinthians 14:26; Ephesians 4:1-16)*

# LOVING OTHERS

*Being a Light to the World*

LESSON  
3-10

**LUKE 10:30-37**

## LESSON THEME

Jesus instructed His disciples to love people. Christians are called to bring a message of hope and peace to the world. Christians are instructed to show those in need the love of God.

**Key Scripture:** *Love your neighbor as yourself. (Mark 12:31)*

## BIBLE STORY — LUKE 10:30-37

## ADDITIONAL STUDY SCRIPTURES

*(Matthew 5:14-16; John 13:34-35; 1 Corinthians 13; Ephesians 4:1-3; 1 John 3:16-18; 1 John 4:7-12)*

# MAKING DISCIPLES

*Feed My Sheep*

JOHN 21:12-17

LESSON  
3-11

## LESSON THEME

The love of God motivates us to train and care for other believers.

**Key Scripture:** *Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, watching over them—not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve. (1 Peter 5:2)*

## BIBLE STORY — JOHN 21:12-17

## ADDITIONAL STUDY SCRIPTURES

*(Matthew 28:19-20; Acts 20:28; 1 Corinthians 9:16-18; 1 Thessalonians 5:11; 2 Timothy 2:2; 2 Timothy 4:2-5)*

# MAKING DISCIPLES

*Jesus Is With Us As We Make Disciples* MATTHEW 28:16-20

LESSON  
3-12

## LESSON THEME

Jesus loves all people so much that He asked His followers to disciple them. Jesus promised believers that He would be with them as they go and make disciples.

**Key Scripture:** *Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, watching over them—not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve. (1 Peter 5:2)*

## BIBLE STORY — MATTHEW 28:16-20

## ADDITIONAL STUDY SCRIPTURES

*(John 14:15-17; Acts 2:42-47; 2 Timothy 2:2; Hebrews 13:5-6)*



# MAKING DISCIPLES

*Strengthening and Encouraging Believers*     **ACTS 14:20-23**

## LESSON THEME

As believers we all need to be encouraged and strengthened in our faith. As part of God's family, we need to be trained and encouraged by each other.

**Key Scripture:** *Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, watching over them—not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve. (1 Peter 5:2)*

## BIBLE STORY — ACTS 14:20-23

## ADDITIONAL STUDY SCRIPTURES

*(Acts 2:42-47; Acts 11:25-30; Acts 15:30-41; Acts 18:23; 1 Thessalonians 5:13-15)*

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# THE ROOF

## ESSENTIAL TRUTHS

*“Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”  
(John 8:32)*

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# GOD

*There Is Only One God*

**ACTS 17:22-31**

LESSON  
4-1

## LESSON THEME

There is only one God. The Bible is how we understand who God is and what He is like. The Bible explains that Christians worship only one God and to worship other gods is disobedience to the one true God.

**Key Scripture:** *The Lord our God, the Lord is one. (Mark 12:29)*

## BIBLE STORY — ACTS 17:22-31

## ADDITIONAL STUDY SCRIPTURES

*(Genesis 1:1; Deuteronomy 6:4-5; Mark 12:32; 1 Timothy 2:5-6; Revelation 1:8)*

# JESUS

*Jesus Is the Son of God*

**MATTHEW 17:1-8**

LESSON  
4-2

## LESSON THEME

Jesus was in heaven with God before He came to earth. Jesus is the only Son of God. After His death and resurrection from the dead, Jesus returned to His Father in heaven. To understand and worship Jesus the way that we should, we must know that God the Father and Jesus are one.

**Key Scripture:** *All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us"). (Matthew 1:22-23)*

## BIBLE STORY — MATTHEW 17:1-8

## ADDITIONAL STUDY SCRIPTURES

*(John 1:1-5; John 3:16; Philippians 2:5-11; Colossians 1:15-20; Colossians 2:9; Hebrews 1:1-3)*

# HOLY SPIRIT

*Followers of Christ Need the Holy Spirit*

**ACTS 2:1-17**

LESSON  
4-3

## LESSON THEME

Jesus taught His disciples that a relationship with the Holy Spirit is essential. Jesus had a relationship with the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is called the Helper and will lead followers of Christ into truth. The Holy Spirit also gives followers of Christ power. For believers today this divine relationship is still necessary.

**Key Scripture:** *And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever— the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. (John 14:16-17)*

## BIBLE STORY — ACTS 2:1-17

## ADDITIONAL STUDY SCRIPTURES

*(Luke 11:13; John 16:13; Acts 1:8; 1 Corinthians 12:7-11; Galatians 5:16)*

# LOVE AND FORGIVENESS

*Jesus Came to Demonstrate Love and Forgiveness*

**JOHN 8:2-11**

LESSON  
4-4

## LESSON THEME

Jesus demonstrated the love and forgiveness of God to all people. As followers of Christ, we should also demonstrate the love and forgiveness of God to all people.

**Key Scripture:** *My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. (John 15:12)*

## BIBLE STORY — JOHN 8:2-11

## ADDITIONAL STUDY SCRIPTURES

*(John 15:12-17; 1 John 2:8-11; 1 John 3:16; 1 John 4)*

# JUSTIFIED BEFORE GOD

*Recognizing We Fall Short  
of God's Perfect Standard*

LUKE 18:10-14

LESSON  
4-5

## LESSON THEME

All people fall short of God's perfect standard. We cannot make ourselves better simply by doing good things. We must recognize our sinful condition and ask God for mercy. When we ask for mercy from God, we will be justified before God.

**Key Scripture:** *For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God... (Romans 3:23)*

## BIBLE STORY — LUKE 18:10-14

## ADDITIONAL STUDY SCRIPTURES

*(Romans 3:24; Romans 4:4-5; Romans 4:25; Romans 5:1-2; Romans 5:8-10; Romans 10:10; James 2:20-26)*

# THE KINGDOM OF GOD

*Being Spiritually Born Again*

JOHN 3:1-8

LESSON  
4-6

## LESSON THEME

Jesus often spoke of the kingdom of God. The kingdom of God is God's government. Followers of Christ are citizens of the kingdom of God. No one can see the kingdom of God without being born again.

**Key Scripture:** *Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! (2 Corinthians 5:17)*

## BIBLE STORY — JOHN 3:1-8

## ADDITIONAL STUDY SCRIPTURES

*(John 18:36; Acts 1:3; Romans 6:4; 2 Timothy 4:18; 1 Peter 1:23; 2 Peter 1:11)*

# THE BIBLE

*Written Truth from God*

**MATTHEW 4:1-11**

## LESSON THEME

The Bible is Holy Scripture and is powerful. The truths in the Bible are able to change our hearts and minds. The Bible is essential and is the one book that tells us who God is. The Bible is the only book that came from God.

**Key Scripture:** *All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that all God's people may be thoroughly equipped for every good work. (2 Timothy 3:16-17)*

## BIBLE STORY — MATTHEW 4:1-11

## ADDITIONAL STUDY SCRIPTURES

*(Psalm 119; Romans 10:17; Ephesians 6:13-17; 2 Peter 1:20-21; James 1:21)*

# THE CHURCH

*Followers of Christ Living in Unity*

**ACTS 6:1-7**

## LESSON THEME

When Jesus left the earth to return to His Father in heaven, He left the Church as His representative in the world. As followers of Christ, we are to live in harmony with other followers of Christ and encourage each other in the faith. The Church is Christ's Body, and Christ is the head of the Church.

**Key Scripture:** *And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of death will not overcome it. (Matthew 16:18)*

## BIBLE STORY — ACTS 6:1-7

## ADDITIONAL STUDY SCRIPTURES

*(Acts 2:42-47; 1 Corinthians 12:12-28; Ephesians 2:19-21; Ephesians 4:14-16; Hebrews 10:25)*

# LIGHT OF THE WORLD

*Reflecting the Light of Christ*

**MATTHEW 5:11-16**

## LESSON THEME

As a follower of Christ our lives should be a reflection of the character of Christ. We should demonstrate to the world who Christ is by the way we live.

**Key Scripture:** *In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven. (Matthew 5:16)*

## BIBLE STORY — MATTHEW 5:11-16

## ADDITIONAL STUDY SCRIPTURES

*(Matthew 5-7; 2 Corinthians 4:6; 1 John 1:7; 1 John 2:10)*

# ETERNITY

*Forever With God or Forever in Agony*

**LUKE 16:19-31**

## LESSON THEME

Life does not end when we die. We continue to live forever. All people will give an account for the life they lived on earth. Followers of Christ will spend eternity with Him. Those who do not follow Christ will spend eternity in agony away from the presence of God.

**Key Scripture:** *Do not be amazed at this, for a time is coming when all who are in their graves will hear his voice and come out—those who have done what is good will rise to live, and those who have done what is evil will rise to be condemned. (John 5:28-29)*

## BIBLE STORY — LUKE 16:19-31

## ADDITIONAL STUDY SCRIPTURES

*(Matthew 19:16-26; Matthew 25:45-46; Romans 6:20-23; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18)*

# THE JUDGE

*Jesus Christ Will Judge All People*

**JOHN 5:21-30**

## LESSON THEME

Jesus came to the earth to restore people's relationship with God. He will return to earth again to put an end to all the work of the devil and to judge evil people, condemning those who have not accepted Him as Lord. Jesus will reward righteous people for their faith.

**Key Scripture:** *For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words. (1 Thessalonians 4:16-18)*

## BIBLE STORY — JOHN 5:21-30

## ADDITIONAL STUDY SCRIPTURES

*(Mark 9:41-48; 1 Corinthians 3:11-15; 2 Corinthians 5:10; Revelation 20:11-15)*

# THE LORD'S SUPPER

*The Importance of Remembering  
the Death of Christ for Our Sins*

**1 CORINTHIANS 11:17-26**

## LESSON THEME

Jesus instructed His followers to regularly participate in the Lord's supper. This is a symbolic act done to remember Jesus' sacrificial death, which paid the price for people's sins.

**Key Scripture:** *And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me." In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you. (Luke 22:19-20)*

## BIBLE STORY — 1 CORINTHIANS 11:17-26

## ADDITIONAL STUDY SCRIPTURES

*(Luke 22:7-38; John 6:47-58; 1 Corinthians 11:17-34; Revelation 19:9)*



# BAPTISM

*Making a Public Declaration  
of Faith in Christ*

LESSON  
4-13

**MATTHEW 3:13-17**

## LESSON THEME

Water baptism is very important in the life of a new believer. Baptism is the time when a new believer makes a public declaration of their faith in Christ by being dipped into water symbolizing death to the old way of life. When they are raised up out of the water it symbolizes our new life in Christ.

**Key Scripture:** *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)*

## BIBLE STORY — MATTHEW 3:13-17

## ADDITIONAL STUDY SCRIPTURES

*(Matthew 28:16-20; Acts 8:26-40; Romans 6:3-13; Colossians 2:9-12)*

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# *The Call to* **BE FRUITFUL AND MULTIPLY**

In creation we see that God created every living thing with the ability to be “fruitful” and to “multiply.” The biblical account of creation declares that all living things were created to reproduce “after their own kind.” When God created man, the principle of fruitfulness and multiplication did not change. God blessed them and said to them, “Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it.” (Genesis 1:27-28)

We were first created by God and then “blessed” by God to be fruitful and to fill the earth. For over 6,000 years the human race has fulfilled this command and has filled the earth.

When Jesus Christ walked the earth He spoke of the need for people to experience a second birth or a spiritual rebirth. In fact, Jesus said you are not able to enter the kingdom of God without this rebirth. Jesus answered, “Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and the Spirit. Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit.” (John 3:5-6)

Christ called us to a new life. This new life is birthed by the Holy Spirit. We publicly acknowledge our new birth by baptism in water. The command of God to be fruitful and multiply applies to our rebirth in the Spirit. In our new life in Christ we are given the privilege and the command to reproduce our new spiritual lives. “Then Jesus came to them and said, ‘All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.’” (Matthew 28:18-20)

We have been called by Christ to make disciples and to baptize them into the kingdom of God. We are called to live a life that produces spiritual fruit, which will lead to the reproduction of spiritual rebirth.

The Be Fruitful and Multiply Discipleship Model and Curriculum has been designed to disciple followers of Christ, leading them to a life of spiritual fruitfulness that results in multiplication. “For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God.” (1 Peter 1:23)

May the Lord truly bless you with incredible fruit and a multiplication of spiritual rebirth in your own life and ministry. May we see this earth filled with those who have been born into the kingdom of God!

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