

QUESTIONS OFTEN ASKED

By Growing Christians

Study #17

This series of Bible studies in *Christian Mentoring from A to Z* is specifically designed to teach you the basics of the Christian life.

As with most things in life, we never stop learning, and you will most certainly find yourself asking

questions like, “*What does the Bible say about . . . ?*” or “*How may I . . . ?*”



Lesson Overview

- I. Things To Keep In Mind When Asking Questions About The Bible
- II. Questions Often Asked
 - A. What Happens To Infants and Little Children That Die Young?
 - B. What is The “Age of Accountability”?
 - C. Is Abortion Right or Wrong?
 - D. Is Homosexuality A Trait of Birth or A Sinful Perversion?
 - E. Is hell A Real Place?
 - F. What Did Jesus Look Like?
 - G. Is It Possible for Me to Reach A Stage of “Sinless Perfection”?
 - H. Should Christians Observe Christmas?
 - I. Should Christians Observe Easter?
 - J. What Should I Do About My Worries?
 - K. How Should I Prioritize My Life?

Answers to many questions will be found in the studies you have already done – or will be doing. We strongly recommend that you review your previous lessons from time to

Checklist

- This Lesson
 - Spiritual Journal
 - Gospel Tracts
- For Next Session**
- Lesson R

Informal Conversation –

Ask about his week.
Ask about answers to the prayer requests you have shared.

Discuss Last Week’s Assignments –

1. Ask him to share his Scriptural insights, prayers, and applications from his Spiritual Journal.
2. Share one of your Quiet Times.
3. Exchange highlights of your sermon notes.
4. Ask him about his effort of handing out a gospel tract.

Read page one together.

time and especially anytime you have a question.

In this current study, you will find Bible answers to a number of commonly asked questions. This is one study that will no doubt expand as new questions arise. Your questions are important, so don't hesitate to ask your discipler, pastors, or other mature Christians.

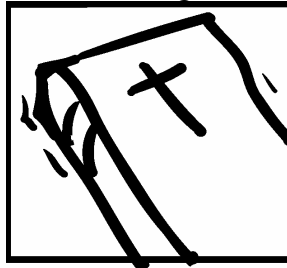
I. THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND WHEN ASKING QUESTIONS ABOUT THE BIBLE

A. The Bible is God's COMPLETE revelation of Himself to man.

1. According to 2 Peter 1:3, how many things has God given us "that pertain unto life and godliness?" _____ (We don't lack needed answers.)
2. According to 2 Timothy 3:15-16, the Scriptures are able to "make [us] W_____ unto salvation," and they are "profitable for D_____, for reproof, for correction, and for I_____ in righteousness."

B. The Bible has the answer!

1. God's answers are right and truthful – always. Pontius Pilate, the Roman governor of Judea who crucified Christ, rhetorically asked the question, "What is truth?" Jesus gave an answer to this question in John



Comment:

All that God wants us to know is contained in the Bible. God could have written much more, but He didn't. Read John 21:25 to see how much more could have been recorded.

Ask:

According to 2 Peter 1:3, how much more do we need for life and godliness? Answer – nothing, we have it all.

- 17:17, “*Thy Word is truth.*”
2. Occasionally Biblical answers require diligent searching to find them, not because God wants to make things difficult, but because we are limited in understanding and abilities.

Read: Hebrews 5:11-14
 God says some people are: “*D _____ of hearing*” (v.11), others are “*U _____ in the word of righteousness*” (v.13), but we are to learn the Scriptures so our “*senses [are] exercised to D _____ both good and evil*” (v.14).

Comment:
 God’s answers are given in two ways:
 1. By direct statement. E.g., Is it wrong to lie if some good will come as a result of it? God’s answer – “Thou shalt not bear false witness...” (Exodus 20:16).
 2. By principle. E.g., Is it wrong to smoke? God’s answer – Our body is His temple and we are to glorify Him with it (1 Corinthians 6:19-20).

- C. *There are some things we may never really understand...***
 especially when it comes to His workings in our life and those around us. Many believers have a “list” of things they want to ask God when they get to Heaven, but they know He already has the answer, and it’s the right one. See Deuteronomy 29:29.

- D. *It is detrimental to get “sidetracked” by insignificant questions.***
 We are to avoid “*F _____ and U _____ questions,*” (2 Timothy 2:23) along with “*P _____ and old wives’ F _____*” (1 Timothy 4:7).
 This means our questions should pertain to faith, personal growth, godliness, and helpful Bible study.

Ask:
 Why should each of us learn spiritual truth?
 Answer –
 So our life can be changed, transformed. God’s goal is to make us like Christ, holy and pure.
Read: Romans 8:29, God predetermined that we will become like His Son.

 Practice what you hear preached also.

- E. *Lastly, put into practice the answers you discover in the Bible.***
 Some answers you won’t like, but practice them anyway. Read: James 1:22, “*But be ye*

D_____ of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.”

Now To Some Questions...

This lesson answers eleven questions. All the questions are rooted in doctrine and all doctrine has practical implications. Learn the Scriptures for the purpose of having them transform you into the likeness of Christ.

II. QUESTIONS OFTEN ASKED

A. *What happens to infants and little children that die young?*

1. Read: Acts 13:22 and 2 Samuel 23:1,2
Was King David saved? _____
2. Read: Psalm 23:6
Where did David go when he died?

3. Read: 2 Samuel 12:23
When the infant child of David and Bathsheba died at just one week old, David said, “*I shall G__ T__ him.*”

David could not bring his deceased son back from the dead to the land of the living, but he joined his son in heaven when he departed this earth. Little ones are safe in the protection of God’s care and will go to Heaven should they die in childhood.

B. *What is the “age of accountability?”*

This is a non-Biblical term used to express the Bible teaching that a child is *safe* in Jesus until he reaches an age of understanding and moral responsibility. It is the time of life when a child comes to understand

Infant Baptism –

This is a Catholic doctrine foreign to Scriptures. It teaches that the original sin of a child is “washed away” by baptism thus guaranteeing that child will be saved if it dies in infancy.

The Question and Answer Catholic Catechism, by Father John Hardon, contains the Catholic Imprimatur (signifying it is free of doctrinal error). Here are 3 of the catechism questions:

#192 (page 59) *How is original sin removed from our souls?* Answer: “Original sin, as the absence of sanctifying grace, is ordinarily removed by the sacrament of baptism.”

#1144 (page 231) *When should baptism be received?* Answer: “Baptism should be received as soon after birth as is conveniently possible, certainly within a month.”

#1152 (page 232) *What sins does baptism take away?* Answer: “Baptism remits the guilt of all sins, that is, it takes away all sins, whether original sin as inherited from Adam at conception, or actual sin as incurred by each person on reaching the age of reason....”

right and wrong and is able to make deliberate choices in actions. At this point, a child can and needs to be saved – and a child can understand how to be saved. See Nehemiah 8:2.

There is no set age for this “age of accountability,” but the Bible indicates there is such an age for each child.

1. Read: Deuteronomy 1:39
Children are “innocent” who have no K_____ between G_____ and E_____.
2. Read: Ezekiel 12:2
People are accountable for their actions when they have E_____ to S_____ and see N_____. See also: Nehemiah 8:2
3. Read: Genesis 8:21
The imagination of a man’s heart is evil from his Y_____ . See Psalm 51:5.
4. Read: 2 Chronicles 36:9
The eight-year-old king Jehoiachin did E_____ in the sight of the Lord.
5. Read: Matthew 19:16-20
The rich young man was able to understand and keep the Ten Commandments from his Y_____ .

Note: Don’t pressure your children into making a profession of faith in Christ. Rather, pray for their salvation, guide them to spiritual truth, and consistently model the Christian life. Be ready to lead them to the Savior.

- According to 2 Timothy 3:15, children can learn the Scriptures which will lead them to salvation.

Comment:

All children are born sinners (Psalm 51:5; Ephesians 2:1-3) and are guilty before God. Being born into a Christian family is a great blessing and increases the odds that one will receive Christ as Savior, but it does not place one in a special relationship with God. Regardless of heritage, every child must receive eternal life upon reaching the age of accountability.

Comment:

Do not *fear* that your children will grow into adulthood without being saved. Rather:

1. Live Christianity
2. Train your children in spiritual truth at home
3. Faithfully attend all the church services
4. Discipline your children biblically
5. Explain salvation to them
6. Be prepared when they want to be saved
7. Spent quantity and quality time with your children.

- According to 1 Samuel 3:1-7, children can faithfully serve the Lord. This is great training for when they are saved.
- According to Mark 10:13-15, Jesus welcomes little children and taught the necessity of “child-like faith.”

C. *Is abortion right or wrong?*

The act of terminating unwanted pregnancies is in an epidemic stage throughout the world. The basic issue in this debate regards the inception of life; does it begin before birth (if so then *when?*) or at birth?



Pro-abortionists argue that a pre-born baby is just a mass of cells and tissue – simply a part of the mother’s body. To them, abortion is tantamount to removing a tumor.

1. When does life begin?
 - a. Read: Psalm 139:13-16
When did God take a vital interest in David? _____
 - b. Read: Psalm 51:5
When did David receive his sin nature? _____
 - c. Read: Jeremiah 1:5
When did the Lord first know Jeremiah? _____
 - d. Read: Luke 1:44
When Elizabeth was six months pregnant, her baby expressed the emotion of ___ ___ ___ within her womb.
 - e. Read: Genesis 25:22,23

Here we read of twins squabbling before birth, and the Lord God giving promises concerning unborn children.

- f. Moses reasoned that life taken should be paid for by life given if an infant in the womb died from an injury inflicted by someone harming the infant's mother (Exodus 21:22-23). The penalty of "life for life" could be imposed only if the unborn child was a person.

Abortion is a major business in the United States. It generates in excess of ½ billion dollars from the operation itself and from the sale of tissue.

- 2. The conclusion of Scripture is that life begins at conception. Medical science supports this fact – an embryo has a separate heartbeat, brainwaves, and makes its own red and white cells. Therefore:

Abortion is murder! Abortion is wrong!

If you have had an abortion...

1. Fully acknowledge the wrong that was done (1 John 1:9).
2. Genuinely repent of the sin (Proverbs 28:13). This is more than remorse.
3. Claim the cleansing that God offers (Psalm 51; 1 John 1:9; Hebrews 10:17; Psalm 103:12; Micah 7:19).
4. Deliberately refuse to allow the devil or anyone else to hold you in bondage to former sins.

D. *Is homosexuality a trait of birth or a sinful perversion?*

“Alternate lifestyles” are being openly promoted in today’s society. As nations increasingly forget God and turn their ears from the Truth, we observe their flaunted behavior – behavior that was at one time not tolerated. Homosexuals and lesbians are

demanding total acceptance by, and integration into, the community, claiming they were born that way and as such are normal, though different! What does God say?

1. Read: 1 Kings 14:24; 15:12; 22:46; and 2 Kings 23:7
What does the Bible call these so-called “Gays?” S _____
2. Read: Genesis 18:20
This Bible designation of the homosexual comes from the name of the city of S _____
3. Read: Genesis 19:24
What was God’s judgment upon Sodom and Gomorrah _____
4. Read: Genesis 19:4,5
The crowd which gathered outside Lot’s home consisted of both O___ and Y___ and people from every Q_____.
5. Read: Leviticus 18:22
What does God call homosexuality? An A_____.
6. Read: Leviticus 20:13
What punishment does God decree for homosexuality? _____
7. Read: Leviticus 18:22-24
What is the effect upon a nation when sodomites are tolerated? _____
8. Read: 1 Timothy 1:9,10
This passage is the basis for using the Mosaic code as the foundation for righteous government of any society.
9. Read: Romans 1:26,27,32
 - a. God calls this *behavior* “*against*

Comment:

Homosexuals are not “victims” of a genetic abnormality. They are SINNERS. Words like sin, repentance, atonement, restitution, and redemption are obsolete in the public’s mind. People are now victims and victims are not responsible for what they do.

Use Bible terms –

- Drunkard not (Alcoholic)
- Sorcerer not (Chemically dependent)
- Rebellious Child not (Hyperactive/ADD, ADHD, ODD)
- Glutton not (Eating disorder)
- Fornicator not (Addicted to sex)
- Greed not (Addicted to gambling)
- Sodomite not (Alternative lifestyle)

Why use Bible terms?

1. It is honest.
2. It helps the sinner feel the sting of his sin.
3. It allows HOPE because all sin can be repented of, forsaken, and forgiven by God.
4. It helps a sinner gain spiritual victory in his life.

- N*_____” (verse 26) – that is, *unnatural* and therefore *not* a trait of birth or heredity.
- b. God calls this *practice* “*V*_____ *affections*” (verse 26) and burning “*L*_____” (verse 27).
- c. God says those who practice this “unseemly” behavior will receive “*in T*_____ *that recompence of their error which was meet* [fitting]” (verse 27).
What are some examples of sodomites receiving God’s compensation for their behavior?
- d. God says those who commit such acts are worthy of *D*_____ (verse 32).
10. Read: 1 Corinthians 6:9-11
- a. Verse 9 refers to sodomites as “*E*_____” and “*A*_____ *of themselves with mankind.*”
- b. Verse 11 says: “*And such W*_____ *some of you . . .*” (i.e. members of the church at Corinth.) This clearly teaches that sodomites can be saved. Notice the *past* tense, however.
- c. How is a homosexual saved? The same way you were saved – through repentance and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ!
- d. Verse 11 goes on to say: “. . . *but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the*

What are some examples of sodomites receiving God’s reward for their behavior?

- AIDS
- Sexually transmitted diseases
- Premature death

Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.”

Clearly, homosexuality is a perverted sexual practice and one that God strongly condemns. It is destructive to any nation which tolerates it (let alone promotes it) – Proverbs 14:34 – and eternally damning to anyone who practices it.

E. Is hell a real place?

The doctrine of hell and everlasting punishment is an unpopular subject today; most “cultured churches” (and cults) reject it.



1. Read: Luke 16:19-31.
Was the rich man conscious in hell? _____.
Could the rich man ever leave hell? _____
2. Read: Matthew 25:41
 - a. Who was hell prepared for? _____
 - b. Some say hell means *annihilation*.
Matthew 25:46 calls it “E_____ - _____ (unending) *punishment*.”
3. Read: Revelation 20:11-15
 - a. The eternal region of the lost is called the “L_____ of F_____.”
 - b. Who are to be cast into this awful place? _____
4. Read: Matthew 5:22; 10:28; 13:40-42,49,50; 23:33; Mark 9:43-49
Who spoke these words? _____

Comment:

Jesus spoke more about hell than He did about heaven. Jesus spoke more about hell than any other Bible character.

If you don't believe in hell then you must believe Jesus was wrong.

Hence...

1. He cannot be God, and
2. His atonement for sins is ineffectual, and
3. You are still guilty of sin, and
4. You cannot go to heaven.

The existence of hell is congruous with the nature of God; He is merciful AND He is just. His justice demands that all sin be rewarded. A light view of sin reveals a weak view of the holiness of God.

Do you REALLY believe in hell?

QUESTION #1: Most Christians will emphatically answer “Yes!” But do they really? Do you? Do you believe in an eternal separation from God in a place of torment, burning, pain, anguish, and utter hopelessness and despair? Jesus did!

QUESTION #2: Do you warn lost people about it? If you happened upon a burning house late at night, would you wake and warn the sleeping occupants? Or, would you sit outside to “watch the show?” The reality of the devastation would move you to action. Likewise, your belief in the reality of the devastation of hell will move you to action. “Sitting outside” and watching people die without Christ must make you doubt whether you really believe in hell.

Should a Christian display pictures and statues of Christ?

This was the *Iconoclastic Controversy* that assisted in dividing the Catholic Church into the Roman Catholic and Greek Orthodox churches.

The Catholics that accepted the “icons” remained and the others formed the Greek Orthodox Church.

Leave these vestments of idolatrous worship behind. Now that you are saved realize that your statue or picture of Jesus is undoubtedly inaccurate, and it does not provide any special “presence” of Christ in your home. It is easy to look to the icon in a worshipful way. Christ is NOT there; He is in your heart through the indwelling Holy Spirit. Start a new life with Christ without these unnecessary images.

F. *What did Jesus look like?*

Nobody knows! Centuries after the New Testament era artists portrayed Him as a pale-faced, longhaired, effeminate, hippie-looking Caucasian. This is erroneous – wrong race, wrong skin color, wrong subculture and definitely not effeminate!

1. Read: Isaiah 53:2. This prophecy of Christ says He had “*no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, there is no B_____ that we should desire him.*” There was nothing physically attractive about Him.



2. Read: Matthew 26:48. He did not stand out from the crowd. In Matthew 26:48 Judas had to identify Jesus from the disciples.
3. Read: 1 Corinthians 11:14. Did Jesus have long hair? _____
4. It is certain that Jesus looked like an average Jew. Olive complexion, dark short hair, and a beard (Isaiah 50:6) are more probable descriptions.

The fact that no Biblical description is given of our Savior is no doubt meant to prevent idolatrous worship of images and pictures. See: Romans 1:23 and 1 John 5:21.

G. *Is it possible for me to reach a stage of “sinless perfection?”*

1. According to Galatians 5:17, each believer experiences an inward battle between the S _____ and the F _____.



2. According to 1 John 1:8–2:1, anyone who says they no longer sin has _____.
3. _____
One of the most victorious Christians of all time, the Apostle Paul, said that within his

How do you win the battle between the flesh and the spirit?

The key is feed the spirit and starve the flesh. Feeding your spirit is reading and meditating on God’s Word, praying, memorizing Scripture, applying and practicing what you hear preached at church, fellowshipping with godly Christians, and so on. Starving the flesh would involve guarding what you see, hear, and do. Avoid bad TV programming and reading material, evaluate the wholesomeness of your entertainment, avoid close associations with people who desire to conform you to their deviant lifestyle.

FLESH vs. SPIRIT
The one you feed the most will win.

flesh “dwelleth N__ G_____ T_____”
(Romans 7:15-21).

4. A Christian will not be perfect until he is delivered from the B_____ (Romans 7:24).
 5. Nevertheless, according to Titus 2:12 and 1 John 3:3, what kind of life should a Christian strive to lead by God’s grace?
-

H. Should Christians observe Christmas?



The Christmas season has become a time of revelry and fleshly indulgence, and no Christian ought to join in such things. See Galatians 5:19-21 and 1 Corinthians 5:11.

Christmas is also a time given over to many religious customs and ideas that have absolutely *nothing* to do with the Word of God. With these two cautions in mind consider the following:

1. Use this season for evangelism. According to John 3:16 the central message of the birth of Jesus Christ is *God seeking the salvation of mankind*. There are two things we strongly suggest:
 - a. When visiting family and friends, share with them the greatest of all Gifts – the Christ-child became the Savior. At least place a Gospel tract with every gift or card given.

Comment:
 Christmas is a lonely time for many people. There are more suicides during this season than at any other time of the year.
 People are more receptive to spiritual things, and even lost people attend church who normally never go, so here are some suggestions...

1. Witness of Christ
2. Invite lost friends, family, and co-workers to church
3. Stay in the church foyer to greet the guests that come
4. Sit with a guest during church
5. Give to others that can't give back in return
6. Get involved in your church's after-Christmas visitation program for they will need your help

- b. Give sacrificially to God at this time. A *financial* gift or *time* gift will be an added blessing to others. Our church usually takes a special Christmas offering.
2. Keep the meaning and facts of Christmas undiluted with fiction.
- Jesus was not necessarily born on December 25th.

“It wasn’t until the sixth century A.D. that an attempt was made to develop a standard calendar for the western church. January 1, 1 A.D. was regarded as the new year of the new era and the December 25th immediately preceding it was designated as the date of Christ’s birth. To discuss the date of Christ’s birth historically rather than traditionally, we need to integrate many pieces of data. That includes both the infallible historical facts of Scripture and historical information found only in reliable secular sources (e.g., the death of Herod the Great, the census under Quirinus). Upon comparing and contrasting major milestones in the life of Christ with credible historical sources, the range for the year of Christ’s birth falls within 6 to 4 BC. By the same process, the time of year that is most credible is midwinter. Consequently, ‘although the exact date of Christ’s birth cannot be known, either December, 5 BC or January, 4 BC, is most reasonable.’”

Chronological Aspects of the Life of Christ, Zondervan

- There were not necessarily *three* wise men. There was a company of Magi who brought three kinds of gifts – gold, frankincense, and myrrh.



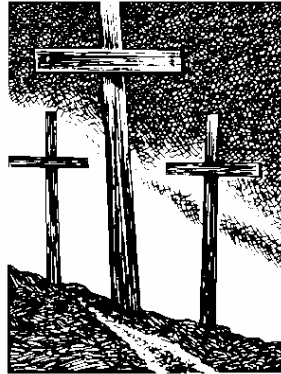
- The wise men did not meet with the shepherds in the stable. Matthew 2:11 says they came to a H____ and saw Jesus as a Y____. C____. Matthew 2:16 indicates the young child was almost ____ years old at this time.

3. Teaching our children the myth of Santa Claus is not wise. We are in fact telling them a lie.

Comment:
Don't let commercialism rob you of the joy of the season!

I. *Should Christians observe Easter?*

Easter is the most solemn religious observance in Christendom. “Easter” as found in the Authorized Version (KJV) is translated from the Greek term *pascha* which means Passover. However, the term *Easter* was actually derived from the Anglo-Saxon “Eostre,” the name of the goddess of Spring. By the 8th century the term came to be applied to the anniversary of Christ’s resurrection and was the word used for Passover in Acts 12:4.



1. The question is, does the Lord want us to set aside *one* time each year to remember His death and resurrection?
 - a. According to John 20:1, Jesus rose from the dead on the F____ day of the week.
 - b. According to Acts 20:7 and 1 Corinthians 16:2, churches began meeting on the _____ day of the week.

Thus we remember our Lord's resurrection every Sunday! We remember the events of the Lord's death and resurrection when we meet to observe the _____'s _____ (1 Corinthians 11:24-26).

We remember these events when we witness Scriptural B_____ (Romans 6:4).

2. Do we celebrate the season with Easter eggs, chocolate bunnies, bonnets, and so on?

Review Distinctive #5 in the

Kinship lesson. Baptists

have distinctively held to Individual Soul Liberty, that is, each individual has the right to worship God according to the

dictates of his own conscience. Eating chocolate, wearing hats, or coloring eggs is not a doctrinal issue; it is not false doctrine; it does not violate a command or principle of Scripture; it is not condemned in Scripture. So...



- a. Does your conscience allow you to do this? Don't violate your conscience.
- b. Don't allow these customs to overshadow and detract from the meaning of Easter. Use Easter to celebrate the greatest Person (Christ), the greatest event

Comment:

Keep the meaning of Easter and the customs of our culture distinct; make it clear to your children.

Don't criticize or look down on Christians who enjoy some of the customs of our culture.

(resurrection), and the greatest gift (eternal life) ever given to mankind!

J. What should I do about my worries?

Worry can give you ulcers, sap your strength, and put you in the grave, but it doesn't eliminate problems. What is worry? What does God say about it? What can you do about it?

Review this entire question if your Timothy has a problem with worry.

1. What is worry?
The words in the Bible for worry are *care* and *taking thought*. According to Philippians 4:6, we are to be “C_____ for nothing,” that is, we are not to be “filled with care.” Matthew 6:25 says, “Take no thought for your L_____;” we are not to be filled with anxious thoughts.



Specifically, worry is concern over the future; it is being filled with care or troubled with thoughts over things we can do nothing about and over things that we can't even be sure about. It is concern over the unknown and uncontrollable future.

2. What does God say about worry?
 - a. According to Psalm 127:2, worry is V_____.
 - b. Jesus made it clear that worry is a wrong focus on life. Read Matthew 6:25-34. Each day has enough trouble of its own.
 - c. Worry doesn't accomplish anything (Matthew 6:27). It doesn't settle the

Comment:
Christ's comments about not worrying over the future does not preclude planning for it. James 4:13-15 says our plans are made in light of God's will ("if the Lord wills..."). Planning and worry are two entirely different matters.

problems of the future for the future
is not here.

3. What can you do about worry?
According to Romans 8:28, God works
A_____ T_____ together for our
good; and in 1 Peter 5:7 we are instructed to
cast all our C_____ upon Him.

Here is what you can do –

- Trust God working in your life.
- Redirect your concern. Pour your concern, efforts, and energy into others.
- Take one day at a time.

Comment:

A Christian should submit his life to God for “revision.” If God makes changes, you should joyously accept the “scratched-over” page that He may hand back to you. This is the only way to look forward to tomorrow.

With pen and paper in hand follow this simple procedure.

Write out and answer these questions:

1. What is my problem?
2. What does God want me to do about it?
3. When, where, and how should I begin?

Defining the problem often leads to a solution. Create an action list and begin working on those items. Don't be satisfied with just defining the problem or with just creating the list. Be a Christian of **ACTION!** Those actions must conform to the Scriptures. Seek godly counsel if necessary.

Even if you can't change a thing outside of yourself, by the power of God your attitudes toward problems can be changed. *You* can change if nothing else will. When you submit to and accept God's movement in your life, you receive the P_____ of God that passes all U_____
(Philippians 4:7).

K. How should I prioritize my life?

Review the M lesson. It discusses biblical stewardship (of time, talents, and treasures).

No one can teach you how to have more *time*, you have all there is. The Bible instructs us to “redeem the time” we do this through managing ourselves. Be a good steward of (1) your **walk** with God, and your **relationship** with (2) your mate, (3) your children, (4) your church family, (5) your world.

Benjamin Franklin said, “Dost thou love life? Then do not squander time, for that’s the stuff life is made of.”

A poet wrote “Time goes,” you say; “Ah, no. Time stays; we go.”

Comment:

The average person who lives to be 70 years old will spend his time in the following manner:
20 years sleeping
20 years working
7 years playing
6 years eating
5 years dressing
1 year on the phone
11 years miscellaneous
1 ½ years in church

1. Prepare a list of what you value most (your highest priorities of life).

God	Faith
Family	Work
Church	Character
Bible	_____
Friends	_____
Health	_____

2. Write each valued priority as an action statement. For example...
Daily walk with God
Love my wife as Christ loved the Church
Give my best at church

3. Prioritize this action list. These are principles to live by.

Emphasize these priorities –

God – your personal walk with Him
Family – your relationship with your spouse, then with your children
Ministry – your relationship to and service through your local church
Work – Your efforts to support your family and fund the work of God through secular employment

4. Bring your performance in line with your principles. (Lesson M will help you with this.)
5. Set goals. Four areas for goal setting are:
 - a. Personal/Spiritual
 - b. Family
 - c. Church
 - d. Work

To Set Goals...

1. Write down *specific* goals.
2. Determine how you will benefit as a result of achieving your goal.
3. Make a deadline.
4. Identify the obstacles that have to be overcome in order to achieve your goal.
5. Make a detailed plan.
6. Ask, “Am I willing to pay the price?”
7. Resolve NEVER to give up (Proverbs 24:16)!

SPIRITUAL GROWTH ASSIGNMENT

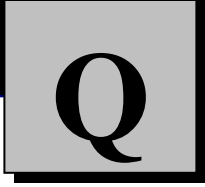
- Read your R Lesson (**R**eaching the World) and answer all the questions. Look up the lesson’s Bible references in God’s Word.
- Continue reading through the New Testament *at your own pace*.
- Take sermon notes using your *Spiritual Journal* and be prepared to share highlights next week.
- Give out copies of *The Amazing Story Behind Amazing Grace*.
- Where would you like to meet for next week’s session?
- Be sure to bring your Bible, pen, **R** Lesson, and *Spiritual Journal*.

Encourage your Timothy and cast a vision for him regarding spiritual growth.

Pray for him and have him pray aloud.

REMEMBER!!!
Turn in the “Discipler Report Back” page by dropping it off at the Hospitality Booth in the church foyer.

Discipler Report Back



I met with _____ on
____ / ____ / ____ and reviewed the contents of this
lesson. My comments regarding the discipleship time
together are:

*(make comments only if they are needed to help the Pastoral
staff assist you in ministering to this person)*

Discipler's Name _____

*Please drop this off at the Hospitality Booth in the
church foyer on the first service after conducting
this session. This will help the Pastoral staff stay
current with the status of our new converts and
new members being disciplined.*

Thank You

**This is a
sample of
the
“Discipler
Report
Back” page
that you
removed
from the
back of your
Timothy’s
lesson.**

**Return that
sheet to the
Hospitality
Booth in the
church foyer.**