Reviewing the Person and Character of God

-- Threads and Themes of Scripture Tied Together --

Devotional Study Guide

Contents

Introduction 1

1. Why Care What God Thinks? 3
2. From Trials to Triumph 7
3. The Trouble with Temptation 11
4. Tragedy or Triumph? 15

About God

5. God Is Self-Existent 19
6. The Extent of God's Presence 23
7. The Extent of God's Power 27
8. The Extent of God's Knowledge and Wisdom 31
9. God's Righteousness and Justice 35
10. God's Goodness 41
11. God's Mercy and Longsuffering 47
12. God's Grace 51
13. God's Love 55
14. God's Holiness 59
15. God's Jealousy and Wrath 63
16. God's Sovereignty 69
17. God's Immutability and Faithfulness 73
18. God's Word 77

God's Special Promises to Man: His Covenants

19. God's Covenant with Adam and His Creation 81
20. God's Covenant with Noah, and What About Evil? 85
21. God's Covenant with Abraham 89
22. God's Covenant with Moses 93
23. God's Covenant with David 97
24. God's New Covenant 101

God's Son and the Holy Spirit

25. Jesus Christ, His Deity and Humanity 105
26. Jesus Christ Transforms the Ten Commandments 109
27. Jesus Christ, the Prophet 115
28. Jesus Christ, Great High Priest and Lamb of God 119
29. Jesus Christ, Crucifixion and Resurrection 125
30. Jesus Christ, Cornerstone and Head of the Church 129
31. Jesus Christ, King of Kings 133
32. God, the Holy Spirit 137
33. God-Styled Repentance and Forgiveness 141

contents continued

34. Jesus Christ Humbled Himself 145
35. God-Styled Sanctification 149
36. Jesus Christ, the Bread of Life 155
37. Jesus Christ, the Wonderful Counselor 159
38. Jesus Christ, Types of, and More 165

Looking to the Future
39. Looking Forward to Heaven 169
40. Pleasing God or Pleasing Self 173

Additional Helps
Answer Key 177
Basic Truths 178
Hymn Chart 179
Kings and Prophets of Old Testament Israel (Lesson 23) 180
Names of God 181
Verse Cards 182
Glossary 186

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Rights reserved: This material may not be reproduced from this book without the prior written permission of the publisher. However, you may use the downloadable version from our website (lampquill.com) to reproduce individual lessons for counseling usage. Scripture quotations are from the Kings James Bible; hymns are from public domain.

Introduction

Overview

A study

This study on the attributes of God is just that, a study according to the Proverbs 2 "searching for silver" model. Prepare for a treat. According to Luke 24:13-32 two disciples said their hearts burned within them as they listened to Jesus opening up the Scriptures. That is what this study has been for us as we have moved from one aspect of God's Person and Character to another. The term "wow" has come to mind often. May you be as thoroughly encouraged and challenged in learning and growing as we have been. Some lessons focus on longer passages with scattered cross-references, while others move throughout the Bible.

Purpose

This study is designed to help you develop a personal understanding of some of the attributes of God with a look at their application to daily life. While being fairly comprehensive, it is not exhaustive. See some of the resources below for further insights and study. Our prayer is that your heart will be directed toward the God of the universe on a daily basis more consistently.

Counselors may select particular studies that most closely relate to the needs of counselees. You may want to begin the first questions with the counselee and send them home to complete the remainder. Make assignments according to the counselee's capacity. It may take a couple of weeks to do some of the lessons. Review the questions and cover them with the counselee as thoroughly as you consider appropriate. God's character is inexhaustible. However, it is a valuable spiritual stretch to consider who God is through reviewing His Person and Character and an opportunity to allow your discoveries to affect your daily life.

In this book

Each study focuses on one attribute or some closely related attributes of God. (Studies are also available in CD format.) While you may be tempted to bypass the introductory lessons, they set the stage for the need to understand more of the person and character of God. Many abbreviated and lengthy volumes provide abundant answers to questions being asked here. However, this study is for you to discover scriptural answers directly from Scripture which will help you go beyond recognizing and understanding the discoveries and convictions of others to establishing your personal convictions. Included are:

- questions for personal application
- verse cards for reviewing a verse from each lesson
- lesson-coordinated public domain hymns
- a glossary for looking up terms and other charts for additional help (see contents)

Usage help

1. Start at the Beginning: allow a year or more for these thought provoking studies.
2. Select Topically: select attributes helpful for overcoming specific stumbling blocks.

Outline of Lessons:

1-4, 40	Introductory and Our Response
5-17	About God
18	God's Word
19-24	God's Covenants and Dealings with Man
25-31, 33-38	Attributes of Jesus Christ and His Relationship with Man
32	Attributes of the Holy Spirit
39	Heaven

Length of Lessons: Lessons 9, 10, 15, 26, 28, 35, 37 are 6 pages, all others are 4 pages.

Making Copies: You may copy individual lessons to share with someone you are helping. Making complete copies of the book or CD for someone else is inappropriate.

Highly recommended and short (challenging encouragement and refreshment):

- *The Attributes of God*, Arthur W. Pink, Baker Book House, Grand Rapids, Michigan, 1975.
- *The Attributes of God, Vol. 1 and 2,* A. W. Tozer, Christian Publications, Inc., Camp Hill, Pennsylvania, 2003.
- *The Knowledge of the Holy*, A. W. Tozer, Harper, San Francisco, 1961.
- *The Pursuit of God*, A. W. Tozer, Wing Spread Publishers, Camp Hill, Pennsylvania, 1993.

For building your library and further study:

- *From Pride to Humility,* Stuart Scott, Focus Publishing, Inc., Bemidji, Minnesota, 2002.
- *Heaven,* Randy Alcorn, Tyndale House Publishers, USA, 2004.
- *Heaven,* Your Real Home, Joni Eareckson Tada, Zondervan, 1996.
- *How Jesus Transforms the Ten Commandments,* Edmund P. Clowney, P&R Publishing, Phillipsburg, Pennsylvania, 2007.
- *No One Like Him*, John S. Feinberg, Crossway Books, Wheaton, Illinois, 2001.
- *Strong's Exhaustive Concordance,* James H. Strong, Baker Book House, Grand Rapids, Michigan, 1991.
- *Tell Me About Heaven, Ra*ndy Alcorn and Ron DiCianni, Crossway Books, Wheaton, Illinois, 2007.
- *The Character of God*, R.C. Sproul, Regal Books, Ventura California, 1995.
- *The Doctrine of God*, John M. Frame, P&R Publishing Company, Phillipsburg, New Jersey, 2002,
- *The Existence and Attributes of God*, v 1&2, Stephen Charnock, Baker Books, Grand Rapids, Michigan, 1853, 1996.
- *The Genesis Record,* Henry M Morris, Baker Book House, Grand Rapids, Michigan, 1982.
- *The Glory of Heaven,* John F. MacArthur, Crossway Books, Wheaton, Illinois, 1996.
- *The MacArthur New Testament Commentary Series,* Moody Press. Chicago, 1985–2008.
- *The MacArthur Topical Bible,* Word Publishing, Nashville, Tennessee, 1999.
- *War of Words*, Paul David Tripp, P&R Publishing, Phillipsburg, Pennsylvania, 2000.

Recommended Bibles:

- *The New Defenders Study Bible,* King James Version
- *English Standard Version*
- *The MacArthur Study Bible*, English Standard Version, New American Standard Bible, New King James Version

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DEVOTIONAL STUDY GUIDE

10: God's Goodness

PASSAGES: VARIOUS | VERSE: PERSONAL SELECTION

SECTION 1 : God's Goodness in Genesis 1-3

1. What help does the glossary give for God's goodness in Scripture?

2. How does Genesis 1 express God's evaluation of goodness? Give references.

3. What does God's perspective of goodness in Genesis 1 tell you?

4. Give an example of when are you tempted to question the goodness of God most vigorously.

5. What happened to change the good world God created according to Genesis 3?

6. How would God's attribute of being righteous and just require Him to carry out the curses of Genesis 3?

7. How are we affected by the actions of Adam and Eve today? What references can you give from previous lessons?

8. How did God demonstrate goodness to Adam and Eve according to Genesis 3:21?

9. What does Psalm 33:5 add to the goodness of God in relation to creation? Where do you see God's goodness?

10. What did Joseph say about God's goodness? (Gn. 50:20)

> The LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in goodness and truth.

SECTION 2 : God's Goodness Seen Through David's Eyes

11. What happened in 2 Chronicles 5:13 when the Israelite people praised God for His goodness?

12. Give one or more important points from each verse of Psalm 23?

13. What does David say about God's goodness in Psalm 23?

14. What is important to you about God's goodness from Psalm 23?

15. What does God's goodness do for us according to Psalm 25:8? (Ps 25:7–10) What does this tell you?

16. What does Psalm 34:8 say to you?

17. Read Psalm 34 several times. Give several points that are important to you about God's goodness from Psalm 34, and tell why.

18. How long will God's goodness last? (Ps 52:1)

19. What prayer is made because of God's goodness according to Psalm 69:16?

20. Read Psalm 69 several times. Which petitions in Psalm 69 are important to you today? Take some time to pray these prayers to God this week.

> O taste and see that the LORD *is* good: blessed *is* the man *that* trusteth in him.

21. How does David express his view of God's goodness according to Psalm 139?

22. What does Psalm 145:1–9 say about God and His goodness? What does this tell you?

23. How did God describe David? (1 Sm 13:14; 16:7, 13; 1 Ki 15:3)

24. Does this mean that David always did what was right? Explain. (2 Sm 12)

25. What was David's response to God in 2 Samuel 12:13?

26. How have you expressed a heart of repentance to God for your sin as David did?

27. How would God describe your heart toward Him?

SECTION 3 : Other Psalms' Writers View God's Goodness

28. What points in Psalm 100 are important to you?

29. What is good about the Lord according to Psalm 106:1?

30. What is good about the Lord according to Psalm 107:8–9?

31. How have you allowed God to show you His mighty works? . . . His satisfaction of the longing soul? . . . His capacity to fill the hungry soul?

32. What does Psalm 118:29 tell you?

33. How does Psalm 119:65–72 contrast with James 1:2–4, and what does this say to you?

SECTION 4 : God's Goodness Seen in the Contrast Between Saul and David

34. What was Saul's perspective of his response to God's specific instructions? (1 Sm 15:13)

35. What did God explain to Samuel about why Saul was being replaced? (1 Sm 15:11) See also 1 Samuel 15:1–10.

36. What was Saul's response to God through Samuel? (1 Sm 15:13–16, 17–21)

37. How was Saul's response to God's correction different from David's response to God's correction? What does that tell you?

38. What did Samuel tell Saul according to 1 Samuel 15:22–23?

39. What was Saul's response to Samuel? (1 Sm 15:24–26)

40. What effect did the responses of David and Saul have on how God responded to each of them? (1 Sm 13 13–14; 2 Sm 7:15) Explain.

41. Are you more like David or more like Saul in recognizing sin and desiring to have an unhindered relationship with God? Explain.

42. Is it more important to you to do what you think is right for you, or for your relationship with Almighty God to be right? Explain.

43. What did God say one of the results of David's sin would be? (2 Sm 12:14)

44. Extra: What can you find out about how many of David's other sons died in an untimely manner?

45. How does David's life and position with God offer you hope?

46. What observations can you make about God's goodness toward you at this point in your life?

SECTION 5 : Isaiah Perceives God's Goodness

47. What does Isaiah 40:9 say about why the people of Israel should bring good tidings? (Is 40:9–11)

48. What should they be comforted about? (Is 40:1–8)

49. What are some of the descriptions or attributes of God given in Isaiah 40:12–30? Give a short description with its reference.

50. What does Isaiah's understanding of God in Isaiah 40 tell you?

SECTION 6: God's Goodness in Salvation, in Sanctification, for the Wicked, in Fulfilled and Future Promises

51. What does Matthew 7:11 say about God's goodness?

52. What does James 1:17 say about God's goodness?

53. What does Luke 11:11–13 say about God's goodness and the Holy Spirit?

54. What does Matthew 19:16–17 say about the goodness of Jesus, and what does that tell you? (Mk 10:17–18; Lk 18:18–19)

55. What does Romans 2:4 say about the goodness of God? What do you think this verse means?

56. How is God's goodness evidenced in Romans 5:6–8?

57. How is God's goodness seen in relation to repentance and salvation?
    Ps 86:5
    Rm 11:22
    Ep 1:5–9

    Tit 3:4–8
    2 Th 2:16

58. What does Philippians 1:6 tell you about God's part in sanctification? How is this reassuring?

59. What goodness is there for those who fear God? And what does that mean?
    Ps 31:19
    Ps 34:10
    Ps 65:4
    Lam 3:25
    Na 1:7
    Rm 8:28
    1 Pt 5:7

> For he satisfieth the longing soul, and filleth the hungry soul with goodness.

60. What does John 10 say about the good shepherd, and what does this tell you? (10:11–18)

61. What does Acts 14:17 say about God's goodness, and what does this tell you in its context? (Ac 14:8–16)

62. In Matthew 6:28–30 what does Jesus tell the multitudes that God does?

63. What does God do even for the wicked? (Mt 5:45; Lk 6:35)

64. What does Joshua 23:14 say about how God has fulfilled His promises of goodness? (Jos 21:45; 1 Ki 8:56; Ne 9:20, 25)

65. What goodness was promised for the future for Israel, and what promises have been fulfilled?
    Je 24:6
    Je 29:10
    Je 32:39–42

    Je 33:9, 11, 14

    Ho 3:5

66. What is important about God's future goodness in 2 Peter 3:4–7, 9, 13?

67. What does Revelation 21–22 have to say about God's Goodness?

Pray about answering half or more of the following questions that are most important to your relationship with God.

SECTION 7 : Applications and Conclusions

68. Do you think that a good God should overlook sin?
69. What has God done that is good in relation to sin?
70. How do you find it difficult to accept the idea of a good God?
71. What does repentance mean to you?
72. In what situations are you most likely to find yourself being angry or bitter?
73. When are most likely to think that God is too restrictive?
74. What problem or longing do you think God should fix?
75. You do not have to write this down, but what have you done that you think God cannot forgive? Is this consistent with what you have learned about God's goodness?
76. What causes you to think you do not have time to develop a relationship with God?
77. When do you tend to think or say, "It's not fair"?
78. In what are you trusting rather than trusting in God?
79. How are you assuming that God should abide by your standards?
80. What do you really deserve, and why?
81. What does God owe you, and why?
82. What do you know about heaven, and how is heaven enticing?
83. What verse or passage would you like to memorize for help in time of need? Write it on the appropriate card.
84. What does the hymn on the next page offer in relation to God's goodness? (Ps 73:28; Ja 4:8)

"Near to the Heart of God"

There is a place of quiet rest,
Near to the heart of God;
A place where sin cannot molest,
Near to the heart of God.

O Jesus, blest Redeemer,
Sent from the heart of God,
Hold us, who wait before thee,
Near to the heart of God.

There is a place of comfort sweet,
Near to the heart of God;
A place where we our Savior meet,
Near to the heart of God.

There is a place of full release,
Near to the heart of God;
A place where all is joy and peace,
Near to the heart of God.

Cleland B. McAfee

Devotional Study Guide

11: God's Mercy and Longsuffering

Passages: Psalm 136 and Others — Verse: Personal Selection

SECTION 1 : God's Mercy and Longsuffering in General

1. What help does the glossary give for the terms mercy and longsuffering?

2. How did God show mercy to Lot and his family according to Genesis 19:16, 19?

3. Briefly read Genesis 18:20–19:29. What was the response of Lot's sons in law to his warning, and why do you think they responded that way?

> The Lord *is* gracious, and full of compassion; slow to anger, and of great mercy.

4. How do you see something of the sin of these cities today? (Gn 18:20)

5. How is God showing you mercy currently?

6. What does Exodus 25:17–22 point to regarding mercy? (26:34; 30:6; 35:12; 37:6–9)

7. What else can we learn about the mercy seat? (Le 16:1–16; Nm 7:89)

8. What does Exodus 33:19 say about who gets God's mercy (or compassion–NASB, NKJV)?

9. What does Exodus 34:6–7a say about God's mercy and longsuffering?

10. What did God say would not depart from David as it had from Saul (2 Sm 7:12–16), and why do you think this was so? (1 Sm 13:13–14; 16:7, 13; 2 Sm 12:7–15; 1 Ki 15:1–5)

11. From David's requests for mercy what do you understand about his circumstances? (Ps 4:1; 6:2; 9:13; 18:50)

12. Use a **concordance** to find a few additional uses of the word "mercy" in Psalms 21–130. (Read the portions that peak your interest rather than trying to read all these Psalms.) What have you learned?

SECTION 2 : God's Mercy in Psalm 136

13. Psalm 136 has the phrase, depending on the version "For His mercy *endureth* for ever." How long is that?

14. Give a brief description of the specific point being made in each verse?
    1)
    2)
    3)
    4)
    5)
    6)
    7)
    8)
    9)
    10)
    11)
    12)
    13)
    14)
    15)
    16)
    17)
    18)
    19)
    20)
    21)
    22)
    23)
    24)
    25)
    26)

... I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.

15. What group of people are specifically mentioned in Psalm 136?

16. List the specific categories that are emphasized in Psalm 136?

17. List as many attributes of God from Psalm 136 as you can?

18. For which of the things above can you give thanks to God? Take a little time to express thankfulness to God today.

SECTION 3 : Other Truths about God's Mercy

19. What does Psalm 145:8-9 say about who can have God's mercy?

20. What does Jeremiah request in Jeremiah 15:15?

21. What does Lamentations 3:22-23 say about God's mercy? How is this comforting?

22. How does Joel 2:13 describe God?

23. What can you learn about God's mercy from Jonah 4?

24. What do you think Matthew 9:13 is saying? (Mt 12:7)

25. What does Luke 6:35 say we should do, and why? (Lk 10:37)

26. What warning does Romans 2:4 give in relation to God's longsuffering as it follows Romans 1?

SECTION 4 : God's Mercy and Longsuffering in Salvation

27. What does Romans 9:15–24 teach us? You may want to get help with this.

28. What does Ephesians 2:4–7 say about God's mercy to unbelievers? And what else do these verses communicate?

29. What does 1 Timothy 1:16 say about God's mercy and longsuffering as shown through Jesus Christ? (1 Pt 3:18–20)

30. What does 1 Peter 1:3–5 say about God's mercy to us? And what else do these verses communicate?

31. What does 2 Peter 3:7–9 say about God's longsuffering?

32. What does Titus 3:5–7 tell you about God's mercy?

33. How have some of your recent actions or words shown that you have taken God's mercy and longsuffering for granted?

Pray about answering half or more of the following questions that are most important to your relationship with God.

SECTION 5 : Applications and Conclusions

34. How has God shown you mercy in the past . . . recently?
35. How do these truths about mercy give you hope as well as conviction?
36. What do you think about the idea of a merciful God allowing suffering?
37. When do you tightly hold onto the idea that your circumstances cannot change, or that you cannot take your circumstances any longer?
38. What are you desperately holding onto in place of clinging to God with your whole heart?
39. What does repentance mean to you?
40. How are you like Saul? . . . like David?
41. How do you consider your sin to be "not really that bad"?
42. How do you consider yourself to be not fully responsible for your actions and reactions?
43. How have you been deceived about God's standards regarding sin?
44. How are you sick of your sin against a righteous, just and merciful God?
45. What causes you to think you do not have time to develop a relationship with God?
46. When do you tend to hold onto not developing a lifestyle that is more consistently having victory over sin?

47. To whom do you need to show forgiveness as an act of mercy?
48. What verse or passage would you like to memorize for help in time of need? Write it on the appropriate card.
49. How does the hymn below offer a picture of God's mercy? (Mt 11:28–30)

"I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say"

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
"Come unto me and rest;
Lay down, thou weary one, lay down
Thy head upon my breast."
I came to Jesus as I was,
Weary, and worn, and sad;
I found in Him a resting place,
And He has made me glad.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
"Behold, I freely give
The living water thirsty one,
Stoop down, and drink, and live."
I came to Jesus, and I drank
Of that life giving stream;
My thirst was quenched, my soul revived,
And now I live in Him.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
"I am this dark world's light;
Look unto me–thy morn shall rise,
And all thy day be bright."
I looked to Jesus, and I found
In Him my star, my sun;
And in that light of life I'll walk,
'Til traveling days are done.

Horatius Bonar

Devotional Study Guide

12: God's Grace

Passages: Romans 6, 8 and Others | Verse: Personal Selection

SECTION 1 : Early Saving Grace

1. What are some of the areas you have come to expect grace regularly?

2. What help does the glossary give for the term grace as it applies to God?

3. How is the term grace used in Genesis 6:8, and what does that tell you in its context? (Some versions say "favor.")

4. What do you remember from Genesis about the lives of Adam, Abraham, or Joseph involving God's grace?

5. How is the Lord described in Exodus 34:6-7a, and what does that tell you?

6. What help does Deuteronomy 24:16 give for Exodus 34:7b?

7. What do some of the Psalms say about God's graciousness, and what does the context add?
   86:15
   103:8
   111:3-4

8. What does Psalm 145:8-9 say about God's grace, and what else does it communicate?

9. How did Jonah describe God according to Jonah 4:1-2?

SECTION 2 : Grace Through the Spirit and Jesus Christ

10. How does Zechariah 12:10 describe the Spirit? How was this fulfilled? (Mt 27:54; Jn 19:34, 37)

11. What does Luke 2:40 say about grace in relation to the Child, Jesus?

12. How is Jesus described in John 1:14?

13. What does John 1:16-17 tell us about the relationship between the law and grace?

SECTION 3 : Grace in Election, Salvation, Sanctification, and Justification

14. What does Romans 11:5–6 say about grace in relation to election?

15. How is grace related to salvation according to the following verses?
    Ac 15:11
    Ac 18:27
    2 Co 8:9
    Ep 1:5–9
    Ep 2:7–9
    2 Tm 1:9–10
    Tit 2:11
    He 2:9

> But the God of all grace ... make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle *you*. To him be glory and dominion for ever and ever.

16. How is grace related to sanctification according to the following verses?
    Ac 20:32
    Ph'p 2:12–13
    2 Th 2:16
    He 10:14–18
    He 12:15
    2 Pt 3:18

17. What are the important points of Romans 6:1–18 in relation to grace and sanctification?

18. How is grace related to justification according to Romans 3:24–26 and Titus 3:7?

SECTION 4 : Grace in Relation to Daily Life, Goals, and Authorities

19. How is grace related to calling and ministry?
    Ac 4:33
    Ac 14:26
    Ac 15:40
    Rm 12:6
    1 Co 3:10–11
    1 Co 15:10
    2 Co 9:8
    Ga 1:15
    Ep 4:7–8
    2 Tm 1:9

20. How is grace related to governing authorities?
    Pr 3:34
    Rm 13:1
    He 13:7–9, 17
    1 Pt 5:5–7

21. What is God's relationship to leaders? (Pr 21:1; Jn 19:10–11)

22. How is grace related to suffering and weakness?
    Ac 20:22–24
    2 Co 8:1–5
    2 Co 12:8–10
    He 4:16

23. How was "grace" used in greetings and salutations, and what does this tell you? (Rm 1:7; 16:20)

SECTION 5 : **Grace in the Future**

> The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

24. How is grace related to future glorification? (Rm 5:21)

25. What does 1 Peter 5:10 say about the grace of God?

26. What does 1 Peter 5:10 say about Jesus Christ and about what will be done for believers?

27. What context does 1 Peter 5:6–9 give for the statement in 1 Peter 5:10?

28. What warning is given in Hebrews 10:26–29 for insulting the Spirit of grace?

29. What do we deserve? (Rm 3:23; 6:23)

30. What kind of trouble can you get into by considering grace as something to be deserved?

Pray about answering half or more of the following questions that are most important to your relationship with God.

SECTION 6 : **Applications and Conclusions**

31. Select one or more of the following people to give examples of God's grace, and provide a representative reference? (Moses from Exodus, Joshua from Joshua, a judge from Judges, David from 1–2 Samuel, Paul from Acts 8–9)
32. How have you tasted that the Lord is gracious? (1 Pt 2:1–3)
33. Why should we show grace to those around us? (1 Jn 4:19)
34. What does James 4:5–8 say about the availability of grace in everyday life? (ja 4:5–10)
35. How do you need to take heed to Hebrews 12:14–29?
36. What bitterness do you need to set aside by the grace of God?
37. Who do you need to forgive by the grace of God?
38. How do you need rest in God's sufficiency through grace to glory in your illness or weakness so the power of Christ can rest on you? (2 Co 12:9–10) How did Paul view his rights in this situation?
39. How are you inclined to think there is no escape from the temptation you are currently experiencing? (1 Co 10:13) How does this indicate a lack of trust in God; a lack of acknowledging one or more of God's attributes; or total abandon on your part for any care about what God desires for you?
40. How do you view your rights before God? What does this mean practically day by day?
41. What hope does Romans 8 offer for escaping a life of sin and self-centeredness? (Rm 6:1)
42. How does fear, worry, and "It's not fair" reign in your heart?
43. How are you denying the power of Christ on a day by day basis?
44. What verse or passage would you like to memorize for help in time of need? Write it on the appropriate card.
45. How does the hymn on the next page express your desire for God's grace? (1 Tim 4:10)

"Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus"

'Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus,
Just to take Him at His word,
Just to rest upon His promise,
Just to know. "Thus saith the Lord."

Jesus, Jesus, how I trust Him!
How I've proved Him o'er and o'er!
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus!
O for grace to trust Him more!

How I love to trust in Jesus,
Just to trust His cleansing blood,
Just in simple faith to plunge me
"Neath the healing, cleansing flood!

Yes, I've learned to trust in Jesus,
And from sin and self to cease,
Now from Jesus simply taking
Life and rest and joy and peace.

I'm so glad I learned to trust Him,
Precious Jesus, Savior, Friend;
And I know that He is with me,
He'll be with me to the end.

Louisa M. R. Stead

Devotional Study Guide

13: God's Love

Passages: Lk 15:11-23:41, Rm 8, 10, 1 Jn 4, and More Verse: Personal Selection

SECTION 1 : Luke 15:11-12 and Cross References

1. How did God demonstrate His love to man in Genesis 1-2?

2. What did God do when Adam and Eve hid from Him? (Gn 3:8-9)

3. What promise of hope did God make, and what did God do for Adam and Eve? (Gn 3:21)

4. How does the glossary describe God's love and lovingkindness?

5. How does the glossary description differ from the world's view of love?

6. What did Moses tell the people about God in Deuteronomy 4:32-39, and what does this tell you?

7. What place is there for those who are not Jews? (Rm 9:22-26, 30-33)

8. Read Luke 15:4-10 several times. What do you think is most important here?

9. Read Luke 15:11-32 a few times.

10. Who told the story, and who was the audience? (Lk 14:3, 25; 15:1-2)

11. After you have read Luke 15:11-32 several times, list the three main characters. Give 2-3 points about each.

12. What was the attitude of the Pharisees toward Jesus, and why? (Lk 15:1-3)
13. What part of the society did the scribes and Pharisees shun? (Lk 15:1-2)

14. Who is excluded from God's love according to John 3:16?

15. Who was truly a friend of tax collectors and sinners? (Lk 7:34)
16. What did Jesus tell the Pharisees according to Luke 16:14-15; 18:9-14?

17. Why do you think the Pharisees resisted Jesus' message of salvation? Explain. (Mt 23:1-7)

18. What was the basic goal of the younger son? (Lk 15:12-13)

19. Why do you think God allows people to rebel against Him? (Gn 3; Lk 15:11-32; Rm 2:4)

20. What would you have done if you had been the father? (Lk 15:12)

> ... while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

SECTION 2 : Luke 15:13-21 and Cross References

21. How did the father's actions demonstrate his love, lovingkindness, mercy, and good will?

22. How would you connect the three characters in the story to God the Father, a sinner who repents, and a Pharisee?

23. What message do you think Jesus wanted the Pharisees to get from the story about the two sons?

24. What was the younger son's initial response to adversity, and what did he learn about self-gratification? (Lk 15:13-15)

25. What transition in attitude did the younger son make "when he came to himself" in relation to sin's pleasures and pride? (Lk 15:17)

26. How bad did it have to get for the younger son to accept the reality of his position?

27. What is significant about the "pods" the pigs ate? See the glossary.

28. How does the world respond to difficult circumstances?

29. How does Ephesians 2:12 compare with the younger son's position?

30. What was the younger son's recognition of his condition, what did he know about where to find help, and why? (Lk 15:17)

31. What did the son recognize and confess in Luke 15: 17, 18, 19? How does this describe what happens when we become believers?

32. At what point did the younger son turn his back on his wants to focus on his need, and what was the need? (Lk 15:17)

33. How does Ezekiel 11:19-21 describe regeneration, and what is the evidence of genuine repentance? (Lk 15:18-20; Tit 3:5)

34. What is the condition of an unrepentant sinner? (Rm 6:16)

35. What did the younger son acknowledge about himself, and what did he do? (Lk 15:18, 20-21)

36. What expectation did the younger son have for his reception at home (Lk 15:19), and how does Luke 15:20 portray repentance in action?

37. When have you ever been as desperate as this younger son? Explain.

38. What was the father's overwhelming response to the returning son? (Lk 15:20)

39. What did the father immediately do, and what does this tell you? (Lk 15:20)

40. What does Luke 15:21 tell you?

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?

SECTION 3 : Luke 15:22-23:41 and Cross References

41. What three gifts did the father bestow on his younger son, and how do they demonstrate honor and authority? See the glossary for help with ring, robe and sandals.

42. What does the covering of a fine robe on a filthy son say about God's covering of your sin? (Lk 15:22; Ps 53:3)

43. What did the younger son receive that he did not deserve, and what did he not receive that he did deserve?

44. How was this a picture of love and grace in action?

45. What is significant about the extent and the importance of the father's celebration? (Lk 15:23-24)

46. What does the father's response say about God and His love for sinners? (Jn 3:16; Rm 5:6-11)

47. When the older son heard the celebration, what does his questioning of a servant and his subsequent anger say about his relationship with his father? (Lk 15:26-28)

48. What did the father do when he heard about the older son's refusal to join the celebration?

49. How did the older son describe himself to his father in Luke 15:29a, what did the older son really want, and what does this tell you about the older son? (Lk 29b-30)

50. What was the father's response to the older son? (Lk 15:31-32)

51. How would the Pharisees respond to the younger son, the father's celebration, and the older son's response? Explain.

52. What did the crowd do according to Luke 19:28-40, and what caused Jesus to weep? (Lk 19:41-44; Mal 2:11)

53. What happened in the temple, and why? (Lk 19:45-48)

54. Who challenged Jesus' authority, and what does that tell you about the danger of their position? (Lk 20:1-8)

55. What goal did the chief priests and scribes have according to Luke 22:1-21, what was their dilemma, and who assisted them? (Lk 22:3-6)

56. What did Jesus do even though He knew what was in the heart of man? (Jn 2:23-26, 18:38; 19:28-30)

57. How did Jesus show His love for Peter? (Lk 22:31-34; 54-62; Jn 21:15-19)

58. How did the crowd initially respond to Jesus, and then what happened? (Lk 19:28-40; 23:18-23)

59. What did Pilate say about Jesus? (Lk 23:13-17)

60. What did Jesus say before He died on the cross? (Lk 23:34-41)

SECTION 4 : Luke 23:41-43 and Cross References

61. What does Luke 23:41-43 say about repentance and forgiveness?

62. What love did Jesus show us according to Luke 23:44-46?

63. What did Jesus say to the Pharisees according to Matthew 21:28-32, and who can enter the kingdom of heaven?

64. Who deserves forgiveness and eternal life? (Rm 3:23)

65. What can you do to earn forgiveness and grace? (Rm 6:23)

66. Which son did the father love? (Lk 15:28)

67. What place do Gentiles have to be loved by God? (Rm 9:22-26, 30)

68. What did Paul say when the Jews in Corinth opposed him while he was teaching that Jesus is the Christ? (Ac 18:6)

69. What will God do for Israel and Judah some day because of His love? (Rm 9:27, He 8:8-13)

70. How has God demonstrated His love for you? (Jn 15:13; 17:20-26; 8:31-39; Ga 2:20; Ep 2:4-7; Tit 3:3-7; Re 1:5)

71. What does God do because of His love according to Hebrews 12:6 and Revelation 3:19?

72. What evidence indicates that you love God, or what responsibility do you have because of God's love?
    Mt 5:43-44
    Mt 19:19
    Mk 12:29-31
    Jn 13:34-35

Ga 5:22
1 Jn 2:5–6

73. What does God's love look like within and from the Godhead?
    Jn 10:17
    Jn 14:31
    Rm 5:5–8
    Rm 15:30

Pray about answering half or more of the following questions that are most important to your relationship with God.

SECTION 5 : Applications and Conclusions

74. How have you handled the appeal of God the Father for your life?
75. How does the reality that Jesus rose again and sits at the Father's right hand affect your daily life?
76. What offer of love has God the Father and His Son Jesus Christ made to you, and what is your response?
77. Are you more like the open sinner or the secret sinner? How is God drawing you to regeneration and repentance?
78. How are you responding to God's love shown through His grace and mercy?
79. How do you try to presume upon God's love to the exclusion of His justice?
80. Review one or more of these chapters concerning God's love: Rm 8; 10; 1 Jn 4. How is it (are they) important to you?
81. What idol could you be entertaining rather than holding God foremost? (Mt 6:33)
82. When are you most likely to think God does not really love you, or love you enough? . . . to think you just need to learn to love yourself? . . . to think God cannot forgive you for what you have done? . . . to think you cannot walk in consistent victory over sin? How does your life need to change, and what help is available?
83. What do your emotions, suffering or circumstances have to do with whether or not God's loves you? Explain.
84. When are you inclined to blame others for the circumstances God has given you?
85. What does Jeremiah 9:23–24 say about God's love? What does Hebrews 4:15 say to you?
86. What does submitting to God have to do with whether or not you feel loved by God?
87. What are the most helpful references from this lesson for you, and why?
88. What verse or passage would you like to memorize for help in time of need? Write it on the appropriate card.
89. How does the hymn below express your desire to know God's love more fully? (2 Pt 3:18)

"More About Jesus Would I Know"

More about Jesus would I know,
More of His grace to others show;
More of His saving fullness see,
More of His love who died for me.

More about Jesus; in His word,
Holding communion with my Lord;
Hearing His voice in every line,
Making each faithful saying mine.

More about Jesus on His Throne,
Riches in glory all His own;
More of His kingdom's sure increase;
More of His coming, Prince of Peace.

More about Jesus let me learn,
More of His holy will discern;
Spirit of God, my teacher be,
Showing the things of Christ to me.

More, more about Jesus,
More more, about Jesus;
More of His saving fullness see,
More of His love who died for me.

Eliza E. Hewitt

Devotional Study Guide

14: God's Holiness

Passages: Various | Verse: Personal Selection

SECTION 1 : God's Holiness in Genesis and Exodus

1. What does the glossary say about holiness?

2. How long has God been holy, how long will God be holy, and what does this tell you? What references can you give?

3. What does Genesis 1:31 and 2:1-3 say about God's creation? (Ec 7:29)

4. With whom did God meet according to Genesis 1:26-30; 2:8-9, 15-25, 3:8?

5. What ended the meetings with God, and why? (Gn 2:17; 3:1-7, 8-13)

6. What curse did God make that is still in effect today? (Gn 3:14-19)

7. What hope did God give in the midst of the curses, and what do you know about this hope? (Gn 3:15)

8. What was God's response to man in Genesis 6:1-7 and 7:11-24, and why? What does this tell you about God?

9. How was Noah described according to Genesis 6:8-9, and what was this important about this?

10. What promise did God make to Noah in Genesis 9:11-17, and how are we reminded of it today?

11. To whom did God present Himself as Holy in Exodus 3:2-6, and what does this tell you?

12. What did God tell Moses in Exodus 19:5-6?

13. What did God have Moses tell the people to do so they could approach Him at Mount Sinai? (Ex 19:9-15)

14. What did the people see, and how did they respond? (Ex 19:16-19)

15. What warning did God give Moses for the people, and why? (Ex 19:21-22)

16. Give ten specific things about which God instructed the people in Exodus 20, and what do we call them?

17. What does Exodus 20 tell you about God and His holiness?

18. What do the Ten Commandments look like in the New Testament, and what does this tell you about God's holiness? (Mt 22:34-40)

19. Which of these commands have you fulfilled perfectly? Explain.

20. What is significant about holiness and God's desire to meet with man according to Exodus 25-31 or 35-40 regarding the Tabernacle where the people would worship God.

21. How did the priest prepare for the offerings on the annual Section of Atonement, and why? (Le 16)

SECTION 2 : God's Holiness in 1 Samuel, 1 Kings and Nehemiah

22. How does Hannah describe God in 1 Samuel 2:2?

23. Who called God holy in 1 Samuel 6:20, what is the context, and what does this tell you?

24. How is the term holy used in relation to the temple Solomon built? (1 Ki 8:4, 6, 8, 10–11)

25. Describe the three main sections of Solomon's prayer of dedication for the temple. (1 Ki 8:22–24, 25–26, 27–53)

26. What is Solomon's expectation of what the people will do according to 1 Kings 8:28–53, what is Solomon's request, and what does this day tell you today? Give the specific verses.

> There *is* none holy as the LORD.

27. How does Solomon describe the people in 1 Kings 8:53?

28. After the people returned to the land following the dispersion, what did Ezra do? (Ne 8:1–8)

29. What was the response of the people on that holy day? (Ne 8:9–12)

30. What did the people do according to Nehemiah 9:1–3?

31. Give a brief summary of the points that were reviewed after Ezra read the Law? (Ne 9:4–35)

32. What descriptions of God are given in Nehemiah 9?

33. What did the people decide to do after the reading of the law, and why was this important? (Ne 10:28–39)

34. What do the following references say about God's view of sin? (Pr 3:32; 15:26; Na 1:2; He 9:22)

35. What happened because of one sin according to the following references?
    Gn 3
    Gn 9:21
    Le 10:1–2
    Nm 20:2–13
    2 Ki 5:15–27
    Ac 5:1–11

SECTION 3 : God's Holiness Viewed by David and Old Testament Prophets

36. What does Psalm 5:4–6 say about God's view of sin, and who wrote Psalm 5?

37. What does Psalm 7:11–12 say about God's view of sin, and who wrote Psalm 5?

38. What was David's response to God's righteousness? (7:17)

39. So how can you approach God? (Ja 4:4–10)

40. What is your response when someone rebukes you? (He 3:12–15)

41. How is God described in Psalm 89:7 and 99:5?

42. How should we approach God, and what does this mean? (Le 10:3; Ps 2:11)

43. What does 1 Peter 1:13–16 tell you about holiness?

44. What does 1 Peter 1:17–19 tell you about your stay on earth?

45. Give several important points from 1 Peter 1:17–19, and what does this tell you?

46. What does Isaiah 6:3 say about God's holiness? (Re 4)

47. What does Isaiah's response tell you? (6:3–5)

48. What does God say about His holiness in Psalm 89:35, and what does this tell you?

49. What does Psalm 145:17 say about God's holiness?

50. How were the angels originally created? (Eze 28:15; Jude 6)

51. How does Psalm 19:8–9 describe God's precepts and judgments?

52. What provision would be made for sinners according to Genesis 3:15?

53. What temporary provision was made for sin in the Old Testament (Gn 3:21; 4:1–4; Ex 27:1–8; 29:10–28; Le 22:19–21; 1 Ki 8:62–64)

SECTION 4 : God's Holiness in the New Testament

54. What contrast is explained in Hebrews 12:18–24?

55. What did Jesus Christ do for us according to Hebrews 10?

56. What contrast does Hebrews 9 make, and what does this tell you?

> ... for I am God, and not man; the Holy One in the midst of thee.

57. What does Revelation 4:8 say about God?

58. What does Revelation 4:9–10 say is happening and what does Revelation 4:11 tell you?

59. What do you understand about heaven that entices you? (Re 21–22)

60. What does Revelation 5:9–14 tell you?

61. What do Romans 12:1–2 and Ephesians 1:4 tell you?

62. What do Colossians 1:22 and 3:12 tell you?

63. What does 1 Timothy 1:8–10 tell you?

64. How are the Scriptures described in 2 Timothy 3:15, and what is the context of that passage?

65. How does 2 Timothy 1:9 use the term holy, and what does that tell you?

66. What does Hebrews 7:20–28 tell us about Jesus Christ?

67. What does Hebrews 9:6–10 say the Holy Spirit tells us?

68. Who entered the Most Holy Place (He 9:11–15), what does this mean, and why is it important (He 9:16–22)?

69. What has Christ accomplished according to Hebrews 9:23–28, and why is this important?
70. What is called holy according to the following references? (Ps 97:12; 103:1; Eze 36:22; 39:7)

71. What is called holy according to John 17:11, Psalm 19:8; 46:4; and Acts 4:27, 30?

72. What do the demons call Jesus according to Mark 1:24?

73. What are some of the roles of the Holy Spirit in the life of a believer? (Rm 5:1–5; 9:1; 14:17; 15:13, 16; 1 Co 2:12–16; 6:16–20; 2 Tm 1:13–14)

Pray about answering half or more of the following questions that are most important to your relationship with God.

SECTION 5 : Applications and Conclusions

74. What question did Habakkuk have according to Habakkuk 1:12–13, and how have you had this kind of question?
75. Why is it important that God is holy, and how do you tend to discount His holiness? Is this challenging or comforting?
76. When have you given thanks for God's holy name? (1 Ch 16:10, 35)
77. How do you try to presume upon God's love to the exclusion of His holiness and justice?
78. When are you most likely to think God cannot forgive you for what you have done?
79. What evidences seem to indicate that you fear man more than you fear God?
80. What happened when Adam and Eve were tempted by Satan in the garden? (Gn 3)
81. What happened when Jesus was tempted by Satan? (Mt 4:1–11)
82. How does Jesus' victory make victory for you possible?
83. How are you deceived by temporary pleasures?
84. What verse or passage would you like to memorize for help in time of need? Write it on the appropriate card.
85. What does the hymn below communicate about God's holiness? (Is 57:15)

"Holy God, We Praise Thy Name"

Holy God, we praise Thy name;
Lord of all, we bow before Thee;
All on earth Thy scepter claim,
All in heaven above adore Thee:
Infinite Thy vast domain,
Everlasting is Thy reign.

Hark, the glad celestial hymn
Angel choirs above are raising;
Cherubim and seraphim,
In unceasing chorus praising;
Fill the heavens with sweet accord:
Holy, holy, holy Lord.

Holy Father, holy Son,
Holy Spirit: three we name Thee,
Though in essence only one;
Undivided God we claim Thee,
And adoring, bend the knee,
While we own the mystery. Amen.

Ignaz Franz,
Tr. Clarence A. Walworth

15: God's Jealousy and Wrath

PASSAGES: VARIOUS | VERSE: PERSONAL SELECTION

SECTION 1 : God's Jealousy and Wrath in Genesis 1-3 and Cross References

1. What does the glossary say about God's jealousy?

2. What does the dictionary say about jealousy and envy?

3. What help does the glossary give for hatred and wrath?

4. How does God describe His creation in Genesis 1:31?

5. How does Revelation 4:8-11 describe God?

6. What did God provide for Adam? (Gn 1:1-2:14)

> ... I the LORD thy God *am* a jealous God.

7. What did God forbid Adam to do, and what would be the consequence? (Gn 2:17)

8. What did Eve think was being withheld after all God had provided, and what did she want more than obedience to and trust in God? (Gn 3:14-15; 1 Jn 2:15-16)

9. What was the first response of Adam and Eve after they sinned? (Gn 3:7)

10. What did Adam and Eve do when they heard God, and why do you think that happened? (Gn 3:8)

11. Instead of killing Adam and Eve on the spot, what did God do when they were hiding, and what attribute(s) of God would that demonstrate? (Gn 3:9)

12. Why did Adam say they hid, and what was God's response to their sin according to Genesis 3:10-11?

13. What were the responses of Adam and Eve, and what does that tell you? (Gn 3:12-13)

14. What curses did God impose according to Genesis 3:14-19?

15. Under whose dominion was the earth originally placed (Gn 1:28), who tried to usurp that dominion (Jn 8:44), and under whose dominion is the earth functioning today? (Ep 2:1-3) Who is holding all things together? (Co 1:15-17)

16. What hope did God provide (Gn 3:15), and who was the seed of the woman? (Is 7:14; Mi 5:3; Mt 1:23, 25; Lk 1:34, 35)

17. Whose heel is bruised and how was Genesis 3:15b carried out? (Is 53:5; Lk 23:46; 24:1-6)

18. What did God the Father say about His Son at His baptism? (Mt 3:17)

19. What was Jesus' response when Satan tempted Him? (Mt. 4:1-11)

20. What did God the Father say about Jesus when He was transfigured? (Mt 17:1-5)

21. What did Jesus voluntarily give up at His crucifixion for us? (Lk 23:44-47)

22. What does this say about God's view of sin and His jealousy? (Rm 16:20; He 2:14; Re 12:9; 20:10)

23. What does Hebrews 9:27 say is appointed to man, and what hope is there? (He 10:11–18)

24. How is Jesus described in Hebrews 1:8–9, 5:5, and what has He done for us? (Ac 13:38; He 2:14)

25. What does Genesis 3 and God's curses tell you about God's jealousy and His hatred of sin?

26. What does the contrast in 1 Corinthians 15:22 tell you?

27. Look at the four parts of the curse on Adam and fill in the following blanks (Gn 3:17–19). _____ is a result of continual disappointment and futility; _____ indicates hindrances in man's efforts to provide for his family; _____ indicates intense struggle against a hostile environment; _____ indicates a return to the dust of the earth.
28. What will happen to this curse some day according to Revelation 21:4 and 22:3?

29. How did Christ set aside the power of this curse and some day even the presence of this curse? Christ became the man of _____ (Ga 3:13; Is 53:3, 5). Christ wore a crown of _____ at His crucifixion (Mk 15:17). In the agony of His labor His _____ became drops of blood (Lk 22:44). He offered prayers and supplications with strong _____ and _____ (He 5:7). He was brought to the _____ of _____ (Ps 22:15).
30. How was God's wrath against sin changed?

31. What does 1 Peter 1:18–23 say about the blood of Christ?

32. What will happen according to 2 Peter 3:10? (Re 20:11; 21:1)

33. In sorrow we can _____ (2 Co 6:10). His sufficient grace and perfecting strength enable us to endure the _____ in the flesh (2 Co 12:7–9). There is _____ in Christ (Mt. 11:28) in the midst of our labor. Although being like Him in His _____ we know the _____ of His resurrection. (Ph'p 3:10)

34. What is being prepared for Jesus Christ? (Re 21:9); 22:17) And what is being prepared according to Revelation 21–22?

SECTION 2 : The Wrath of God Described

35. Even though the earth continually groans under the curse, what rises and sets daily, and what hope does this provide? (Mt 4:1)

36. What is the ultimate reality of God's wrath on the earth? (Re 21:1)

37. What is the ultimate reality of God's wrath on Satan, the false prophet and the beast? (Mt 25:41; Re 19:20; 20:7–10)

38. Who are in chains today according to 2 Peter 2:4, and why?

39. What is the ultimate reality of God's wrath on the dead? (Re 20:11–15) Give the categories and outcomes.

40. How is hell described? (Ps 9:17; Is 33:14; Mt 8:12; 13:42; 25:46; Lk 16:23; 2 Th 1:9; Re 14:10)

41. Who should we fear according to Matthew 10:28, and why?

42. Between what two people was a conflict observed according to Genesis 4:1–5, what was the basis of the conflict according to God, and what was the potential solution? (Gn 4:6–7)

43. What does God's conversation with Cain in Genesis 4:1–7 tell you about God and sin? . . . 4:8–16?

44. What does God's conversation with Cain in Genesis 4:8–16 tell you about Cain? . . . about yourself?

45. Why do you think God did not immediately kill Cain, and what does this tell you about God?

46. What does Genesis 1–4 tell you about God's jealousy and His hatred of sin?

47. What is your response to temptation and God's correction?

48. What does James 1:13–15 say about temptation and its outcome?

49. What is the contrast between James 1:12 and 16 and James 1:13–15?

SECTION 3 : God's Jealousy and Wrath in Genesis and Exodus

50. What does Genesis 6–8 say about God's view of man's sin and God's wrath?

51. What do each of the ten commandments tell you about God's standards and what God hates, and what does this tell you? (Ex 20)

52. How was God described by the people in Exodus 24:17, and what does that tell you?

53. How does Exodus 34:6 describe God?

54. What did Moses request of God (Ex 34:8–9), and what was God's response? (Ex 34:10–13, 15–17)

55. How did God describe Himself in Exodus 34:14?

56. What did God say about the nations that Israel would be casting out of the promised land? (Le 20:23)

SECTION 4 : God's Jealousy and Wrath in Deuterogamy, Joshua and Judges

57. What does God not want us to do according to Deuteronomy 4:15–20, and why?

58. What does Deuteronomy 4:21–24 say about Moses and God, and what does that tell you?

59. What special things did God do for Israel, and what does that tell you about God? (Dt. 4:32–36)

60. How does Deuteronomy 4:37–40 describe God's relationship with the children of Israel?

61. How does God describe Himself, and what warning does He give the people in Deuteronomy 6:15?

62. What did Moses tell the people about God's love for them and His hatred of others? (Dt 7:8–10) What does this tell you?

63. What does Deuteronomy 25:16 say about those who behave unrighteously?

64. How did the people provoke God to jealousy, and what was God's response according to Deuteronomy 32:16–21?

65. What does Joshua 7 say about God's standard and man's response? See Joshua 8 for the rest of the story.

66. How would you describe the vows the people were making in Joshua 24:16–18 and 21–28?

67. What similarities do you see between these vows in Joshua 24 and the vows of a marriage ceremony?

68. How did Joshua describe God to the people in Joshua 24:19–20?

69. What does Judges 1:27–33 say about the way Israel responded to God's instructions?

70. What was God's response according to Judges 2:1–5, and what does that tell you about God's jealousy?

SECTION 5 : God's Jealousy and Wrath According to David and Other Old Testament Characters

71. What does 1 Samuel 15 say about Saul's response to God's instructions and God's response to Saul?

72. How did God describe David according to 1 Samuel 13:14 and 16:7, 12–13?

73. What does 1 Kings 14:21–24 say about God being provoked to jealousy?

74. What does 2 Chronicles 36:15–21 say about the condition of Jerusalem, and why?

75. How does Psalm 51 describe David's response to his sin?

76. What did David request according to Psalm 51:10?

77. What is your response to your sin, and what should your response be?

78. What did David say in Psalms 139:23–24 about aligning himself with God?

> Everyone proud in heart *is* an abomination to the LORD; *Though they join* forces, none will go unpunished.

79. What contrast is given in Proverbs 11:20?

80. Who is an abomination to the Lord according to Proverbs 16:5, and what does that say to you? . . . 17:15?

81. How is God described in Jeremiah 10:10 and what warning is given?

82. What had happened, what did God do (Eze. 39:21–24), what does Ezekiel 39:25–29 say God will do, and what does this tell you?

83. What does Hosea 9:15 say about God's position?

84. What does God hate according to Zechariah 8:17?

85. What does Isaiah 42:8 say about God's glory? (Is 48:11)

86. What does Nahum 1:2 say a jealous God does? And what is the context of Nahum 1:2? (Na 1:1–9)

87. What do these Old Testament verses say about the wrath of God? (Ex 4:24; Le 10:2; 19:24; Nm 11:33; Dt 9:3; 2 Ki 22:13; 2 Ch 19:10; 24:18; Ps 78:30–31; 97:3; Is 1:23–24; 33:14; Je 6:10–15)

SECTION 6 : God's Jealousy and Wrath in the New Testament and for the Future

88. What warning does Matthew 3:4–7 give, and what does that tell you? . . . Mt 5:21–22?

89. What does Matthew 10:37 tell you about God's concern for your love, and what does this tell you?

90. What does Matthew 15:3–9 say about God's view of man's traditions and the hearts of the people? What does this tell you?

91. What does Luke 14:16–33 say to you about God's concern for your whole heart? What are you holding back, and why?

92. What does John 12:25 say will be the consequences of holding back from God?

93. What happened according to Romans 10:19, and why? (Rm 11:11) How does this give you hope?

94. What does 1 Corinthians 10:21–22 say about God's jealousy? (Mt 6:24)

95. What did Paul say to the Corinthians about jealousy? (2 Co 11:2–3)

96. What does Romans 12:17–21 say about man's place for wrath and God's vengeance, and what does that tell you?

97. What does James 1:19–20 say about man's place for wrath, and what does that tell you?

98. What does Romans 13:4–5 say about the place rulers have in dealing with evil?

99. What does Ephesians 4:26–27 say to you?

100. What warning does Ephesians 5:3–7 give, and what does that say to you?

101. What do these New Testament verses say about the wrath of God? (Rm 1:18–22; 1 Th 2:14–16; 2 Th 1:6; He 3:7–11, 10:26–31, 12:29; Re 14:9–11, 17–20; 15)

102. What about the wrath of Jesus? (Mt 3:7; Lk 21:25–33; Jn 2:13–17; Re 19:13–16)

103. What hope is there if God hates wickedness and is a God of wrath, and what is the role of Jesus?
Jn 3:36
Rm 5:9–11
Ep 2:3–7
1 Th 1:10
1 Th 5:9–11

Pray about answering half or more of the following questions that are most important to your relationship with God.

SECTION 7 : Applications and Conclusions

104. Why do we have Old Testament examples? (1 Co 10:1–13)
105. What hope does Revelation 2:6–7 give? . . . Ep 2:3–7?
106. What does 2 Corinthians 1:9 say about Paul and you?
107. What does 2 Corinthians 5:9–11 say our goal should be?
108. How are you like Cain and King Saul who held onto their sin and pride?
109. How are your desires more important than the desire to develop a relationship with God?
110. What makes you think you are not fully responsible for your actions and reactions?
111. How are you like King David and Paul who acknowledged their sin, repented before a holy and righteous God, claimed God's grace, and became a slave to God rather than to sin and self?
112. What are some of the things God hates according to Proverbs 6:16–17, and what does this tell you?
113. What does Jeremiah 17:3–11 say about God's heart and your heart?
114. What heart characteristics (Je 17:9; He 4:12) should we avoid? (Ja 1:8; 4:8; Ps 73:21–22; Ac 8:22–23; He 1214–:15; Pr 16:18–19; Ps 10:3–4; Pr 13:10;. . . . develop? (Ps 51:10; Ps 16:9; Ps 57:7; 108:1; Ja 3:17)
115. To what or whom have you attached yourself rather than solely to God?
116. When do you tend to think your sin and idolatry is not really that bad? What wants have become idols?
117. When do you tend to think you will not be fully responsible for your actions and reactions?
118. What hope does Psalm 34:4–9 offer? . . . Rm 3:26; 9:22? . . . 2 Pt 3:9? . . . Joel 2:13?
119. What is most important to you about God's jealousy, and what do you need to do?

120. What verse or passage would you like to memorize for help in time of need? Write it on the appropriate card.
121. What do the hymns below communicate about God's care for those for whom He is jealous and His hatred of sin? (Ps 87:3; Is 33:20–21; Rm 5:8)

"Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken"

Glorious things of thee are spoken,
Zion city of our God;
He whose word cannot be broken
Formed thee for His own abode.
On the Rock of Ages founded,
What can shake they sure repose?
With salvation's walls surrounded,
Thou mayest smile at all thy foes.

See, the streams of living waters,
Springing from eternal Love,
Well supply thy sons and daughters,
And all fear of want remove.

Who can faint while such a river
Ever flows their thirst to assuage?
Grace which, like the Lord, the Giver,
Never fails from age to age!

Round each habitation hovering,
See the cloud and fire appear
For a glory and a covering,
Showing that the Lord is near!
Thus deriving from their banner
Light by night and shade by day,
Safe they feed upon the manna
Which He gives them when they pray. Amen.

John Newton

"What a Wonderful Savior"

Christ has for sin atonement made –
What a wonderful Savior!
We are redeemed, the price is paid –
What a wonderful Savior!

I praise Him for the cleansing blood –
What a wonderful Savior!
That reconciled my soul to God –
What a wonderful Savior!

He cleansed my heart from all its sin –
What a wonderful Savior!
And now He reigns and rules therein –
What a wonderful Savior!

He gives me overcoming power –
What a wonderful Savior!
And triumph in each trying hour –
What a wonderful Savior!

What a wonderful Savior is Jesus my Jesus!
What a wonderful Savior is Jesus, my Lord!

Elisha A. Hoffman

25: Jesus Christ, His Deity and Humanity

PASSAGES: VARIOUS | VERSE: PERSONAL SELECTION

SECTION 1 : Who Is Jesus Christ?

1. How did Jesus describe Himself according to John 8:58, and what was the response of the people?

2. What do the following Old Testament prophecies and New Testament fulfillments say about Jesus Christ?
   Gn 3:15, Re 17:14 (see glossary for seed of the woman)
   Mt 1:18-21

   Gn 17:7; Gn 22:18
   Ga 3:16

   Ps 2:6-7
   Luke 1:32, 35

   Is 7:14
   Mt 1:22-23

   Is 9:6-7; Da 7:13-14
   Lk 1:32-33

   Is 44:6
   Is 48:12-16

   Je 23:5-6
   Ac 13:23; Rm 1:3

   2 Sm 7:12-16, 2 Ki 8:19, Is 9:7
   Mt 1:1-2, 6, 15-17

   Is 11:1-2; Is 61:1
   Mt 3:16; Jn 3:34-35; Ac 10:38

   Mi 5:2
   Mt 2:1; Lk 2:4-6

> And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father) full of grace and truth.

SECTION 2 : Christ's Deity

3. What do the following verses say about Jesus Christ being one with the Father?
   Mt 11:27
   Jn 5:17, 23
   Jn 10:30, 38
   Jn 14:7-11
   Co 2:9

4. What was Jesus' response when the high priest questioned who He was? (Mt 26:63-67)

5. What does John 1:1, 14, 18 say about who Jesus Christ is?

6. What does John 3:16–18 explain?

7. What does 1 Corinthians 1:30 say about Jesus Christ?

8. What does 1 Corinthians 15:47 say about Jesus Christ?

9. What do the following verses say about Jesus Christ in relation to creation?
   Jn 1:3
   Co 1:16–17
   Co 2:9
   He 1:2–3

10. What does Hebrews 1:8, 10–12 say about Jesus Christ?

11. What do 1 John 4:9 and 5:20 say about Jesus Christ?

12. What does Revelation say about Jesus Christ?
    1:5
    1:17–18
    17:14
    22:13

> ... what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life?

13. What did the devils say about Jesus according to James 2:19?

14. Who has denied the humanity of Jesus Christ? (1 Jn 4:3; 2 Jn 7)

SECTION 3 : Attributes of Christ

15. What do the following verses say about the attributes or character of Jesus Christ? Remember Proverbs 2:4 as you approach this section. Consult the answer key if needed if references seem to have more than one description.. The goal is to spend some time reflecting on Jesus Christ in context.

Is 53:11	just, righteous
Mt 3:17; He 1:5	eternal
Mt 4:23–24	sinless
Mt 4:1–10; He 4:15	faithful
Mk 4:35–40	our Lord
Mk 5:1–13	the Word
Jn 1:14	Son of God
Jn 2:24–25; Jn 16:30	Son of Man
Jn 3:13; 5:27	unchanging
Jn 5:30	eternal king
Jn 11:25 (17–44)	the true vine
Jn 13:1; 15:13	all knowledge
Jn 15:1	loved His own
Rm 1:3	perfect patience
Rm 6:23; Re 22:12	bearer of iniquity
1 Co 1:24	has power to heal
Co 1:15–17	power over nature
1 Th 5:24	power over demons
1 Tm 1:16	creator, sustainer of life
He 1:8	power and wisdom of God
He 2:17	merciful and faithful high priest
He 13:8	the resurrection and the life, power over death

16. What does Luke 22:42 say about Jesus Christ in relation to the Father? (Jn 4:34; Jn 15:10)

17. What does Luke 23:34 say about the prayer of Jesus Christ on the cross?

18. Why did Jesus Christ come in human form according to the following verses?
    1 Co 15:21
    Ga 4:4–5

    1 Tm 2:5
    He 2:14
    He 2:17

SECTION 4 : The Humanity of Christ

> For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead.

19. What evidences are there of the humanity of Jesus?
    Mt 1:16, 18, 25

    Mt 2:2
    Lk 2:7, 11
    Lk 24:39–40; Jn 20:27

    Jn 1:14
    1 Jn 1:1–2

20. What do the following verses say about Jesus Christ having a human soul?
    Mt 26:38
    Lk 23:46
    Ac 2:31

21. What were some of the characteristics of Jesus Christ as a man?
    Mt 4:2; 21:18
    Mt 8:24
    Lk 2:52
    Lk 19:41
    Lk 22:44; Jn 11:33
    Jn 4:6
    Jn 4:7; 19:28
    Jn 12:27
    Ph'p 2:7–8
    He 2:17

22. How was Jesus Christ different from other men?
    Rm 1:3–4; 8:3
    He 4:15
    He 7:26, 28
    1 Pt 2:22; 1 Jn 3:5

23. What does Philippians 2:1–11 say about Jesus Christ?

24. What does the genealogy of Jesus Christ tell you?
    Gn 3:15
    Mt 1:1–17

    Lk 3:23–38

25. What did Jesus Christ do for you according to 2 Corinthians 8:9?

SECTION 5 : Applications and Conclusions

26. Who do you say Jesus Christ is, and why?
27. What does it mean to you to think that Jesus Christ is the Son of God? . . . Son of Man?
28. How does your life practically deny the existence of Jesus Christ?
29. What do you need to change, and what will you do?
30. What verse or passage would you like to memorize for help in time of need? Write it on the appropriate card.
31. What speaks to you from the hymn below? (Ph'p 1:9)

"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee,
God of Glory, Lord of Love;
Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee,
Opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,
Drive the dark of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness,
Fill us with the light of day.

All Thy works with joy surround thee,
Earth and heaven reflect Thy rays,
Stars and angels sing around Thee,
Center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
Flowery meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird and flowing fountain,
Call us to rejoice in thee.

Thou are giving and forgiving,
Ever blessing, ever blest,
Well-spring of the joy of living,
Ocean depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our Brother
All who live in love are Thine;
Teach us how to love each other,
Lift us to the joy divine.

Mortals, join the happy chorus
With the morning stars began;
Father love is reigning o'er us,
Brother love binds man to man.
Ever singing, march we onward,
Victors in the midst of strife,
Joyful music leads us sunward
In the triumph song of life. Amen.

Henry van Dyke

33: God-Styled Repentance and Forgiveness

PASSAGES: VARIOUS VERSE: PERSONAL SELECTION

SECTION 1 : Repentance

1. What does 1 Thessalonians 1:9 say about those who had worshiped idols?

2. Who can grant repentance? (Ac 5:30–31)
3. Who was Jesus calling to repentance, and who was opposing Him? (Mt 9:11–13)

4. What leads us to repentance according to Romans 2:4?

5. How is repentance described according to 1 Kings 8:47–51?

6. What does 2 Corinthians 7:10 say about godly sorrow and repentance?

7. What does Acts 3:19 say about repentance?

8. What does Proverbs 28:13 say about sin and mercy?

9. What did the disciples preach according to Mark 6:12?

10. What does Luke 15:7, 10 say about joy in repentance?

11. What does 2 Corinthians 7:9 say about being sorry and repentance?

12. What does Matthew 3:8 say should happen, and what do you think that means?

SECTION 2 : The Need for Repentance

13. What does 2 Chronicles 7:14 say about humility?

14. What was Job's response to God? (Job 42:6)

15. What does Matthew 21:32 say about those who believed?

16. What instruction is given in Acts 8:22?

17. What will bring refreshing according to Acts 3:19?

18. What does Acts 26:20 explain?

19. What does Ezekiel 14:6 say the people should do? (Eze 18:30; Ac 3:19)

20. Will everyone repent? Explain. (Re 9:20–21; 16:9; Mt 11:20)

21. What will happen to those who do not repent? (Lk 13:3; Rm 2:5)

22. What picture of repentance is given in the following references?
    Lk 15:18–21
    Lk 18:13
    Ga 1:23

23. What picture of repentance is given in these references?
    J'dg 10:15–16
    2 Ch 33:12–13
    Jon 3:5–9
    Mt 12:41
    Mt 26:75
    Lk 19:8
    Lk 23:40–41
    2 Co 7:9–10

> Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also *do* ye.

SECTION 3 : True Repentance and Versus Remorse

24. How did King Saul demonstrate false repentance? (1 Sm 15:24–30)

25. How did King David demonstrate true repentance, and what were some consequences? (2 Sm 12:5–6, 13)

26. What is important to you about repentance? Give References.

27. How would you describe the difference between sorrow for getting caught and punished, and true repentance?

28. How are the following references foundational truths in relation to repentance, and what do they say to you? Relate these words to the references: deliverance, forgiveness, mercy, reconciliation, restoration, strength, wisdom.
    Joel 2:25–26
    Rm 6:1–14
    2 Co 12:9; Ep 1:19–20
    Ep 2:14–18
    Ja 1:5; Co 2:3
    1 Jn 1:9
29. How do we tend to be spiritually blind ourselves, and how do we need to consider this when we are talking with others? (Ja 1:22–25)

30. How do issues of doubt, fear, anger, vengeance, self–righteousness, selfishness, hopelessness, and true righteousness need to be considered in the heart of the counselor as well as in the heart of the counselee? Give References.

31. What instructions do James 1:19–21, Proverbs 15:28, and Colossians 3:12–17 have for a counselor?

32. What characteristics should a counselor have? Relate these words to the references: compassion, forbearance, forgiveness, gentleness, humility, kindness, love, patience (endurance), peace, thankfulness.
    Ep 2:7
    Mt 18:21–35
    Pr 15:1
    Rm 15:33
    1 Co 13:4–8
    2 Co 1:3–4
    Co 3:15
    He 2:10–18
    He 10:36
    1 Pt 2:23

33. What hope does 1 Corinthians 6:9–11 have for those who have pursued an idolatrous lifestyle in the past?

34. What did Jesus say to the scribes and Pharisees who brought a woman to Him who had been caught in sin? (Jn 8:3-7)

35. What did Jesus say to the woman after her accusers left? (Jn 8:10-11)

36. What prayer did Paul make for the believers according to 1 Thessalonians 5:23?

37. What is most important to you about repentance from these passages, and why?

38. What does Luke 18:9-14 say to you?

39. What does 2 Peter 1:3-9 say to you?

> Be ye therefore merciful, as your Father also is merciful.

SECTION 4 : Forgiveness

40. What does Psalm 103:8-17 tell us about God's mercy and His understanding of sinners? What does this tell you?

41. What example did Jesus give concerning forgiveness according to Luke 23:43?

42. What do the following verses say about forgiveness?
    Pr 19:11
    Lk 6:36
    Ep 4:32
    Co 3:13

43. What does Romans 12:19 say about vengeance?

44. What happens when you re-injure a wound that is beginning to heal? How do you re-injure wounds by rehearsing perceived wrongs from others? What place should forgiveness have in avoiding bitterness? Give a reference.

45. How do these references help you understand that forgiveness does not mean totally forgetting something someone has done to us, it means choosing not to hold it against them in any way, permanently? (Mt 6:12; Rm 12:19-21; He 10:30-31)

46. What is the first responsibility when someone has offended you according to the first part of Luke 17:3, and what do you think it means to "take heed to yourselves"? (Mt 18:15)

47. What is the next responsibility according to Luke 17:3, and what do you think it means to rebuke someone?

48. What are the next two goals according to Luke 17:3?

49. What does it require to be able to forgive the one who has committed the offense? (Jn 3:16)

50. What characteristics of the Holy Spirit will help you? Give a reference.

51. What does all this presume about your attitudes and care for the offending individual? Give a reference.

52. How will you need to rely on humility, courage, and the fruit of the Spirit?

53. What does Luke 17:4 require?

54. What does all this say about your perspective of those around you?

55. When you approach a situation like this, be ready to make a list of all the things for which you are thankful concerning how your relationship with God has been strengthened. What will you do?

56. What does Matthew 18:16–17 say should be done when a brother does not respond regarding a trespass against you? Who can you talk with if you need further help with this kind of situation?

SECTION 5 : Applications and Conclusions

57. What has the most impact on you regarding the truths related to repentance?
58. How have you repented of your sin?
59. How do you need to respond to the truths about repentance?
60. What has the most impact on you regarding truths related to forgiveness?
61. How do you need to respond to the truths regarding forgiveness?
62. What verse or passage would you like to memorize for help in time of need? Write it on the appropriate card.
63. What speaks to you from the hymn below? (1 Co 1:18)

"At the Cross"

Alas, and did my Savior bleed?
And did my Sovereign die?
Would He devote that sacred head
For someone such as I?

At the cross, at the cross where I first saw the light,
And the burden of my heart rolled away,
It was there by faith I received my sight,
And now I am happy all the day!

Was it for crimes that I have done,
He suffered on the tree?
Amazing pity! grace unknown!
And love beyond degree!

Well might the sun in darkness hide
And shut his glories in,
When Christ, the mighty Maker, died
For man the creature's sin.

But drops of grief can ne're repay
The debt of love I owe:
Here, Lord, I give myself away,
'Tis all that I can do!

Isaac Watts
refrain by Ralph E. Hudson

DEVOTIONAL STUDY GUIDE

40: Pleasing God or Pleasing Self

PASSAGES: PSALM 1; JE 17:9; GA 5:22-23; MT 3:17 VERSE: PERSONAL SELECTION

SECTION 1 : What Kind of Habits Are You Developing?

1. What does 2 Corinthians 5:9 say our goal should be, and why? (2 Co 5:10)

2. How can we please God? (Mt 3:17; Rm 8:28-30)

3. What does Romans 8:31-39 tell you?

4. What does God call us to do, and what does this tell you? (Ep 4:17-24)

5. What does 2 Peter 3:18 tell you?

6. What does it mean to follow God? (Mt 11:30)

7. What did Jesus come to do? (Jn 10:10)

8. What does following God look like? (Ga 5:22-23)

SECTION 2 : Following Self or Following God's Principles?

9. What does Proverbs 16:25 tell you?

10. What is hard, and what does this tell you? (Pr 13:15) How does this contrast with Matthew 11:30?

11. What happens when we sow to our sinful nature? (Ga 6:8)

12. What does James 3:16 say, and how have you seen this?

13. What does Jeremiah 17:9 say about the feelings of the heart?

14. To what does Satan appeal? (Gn 3:1-6)

15. What principles are found in the following references, and what do they tell you?
    Ps 119:18

    Ps 119:92

    Ps 119:97-98

    Ps 119:105

    Ps 119:109

    Jn 17:17
16. What do you need to do according to the previous principles?

17. How is Hebrews 4:12 comforting or convicting?

18. What does James 3:17 say about wisdom?

19. What does Proverbs 2 say about seeking wisdom and its benefits?

SECTION 3 : A Heart to Develop and a Heart to Avoid

20. What term does David use in Psalm 51:10 to express the need for direct divine intervention to change a heart, and what does that tell you?

21. What heart does David describe in Psalm 16:9?

22. How do the following Psalms show our proper focus on who God is, what He has done, and what He will do?
    104

    107

    110

23. How is the heart described in Psalm 57:7 and 108:1, and what is its response?

24. What is the focus of a steadfast heart?
    Ps 107:43

    Ps 108:4

    Ps 108:13

25. What do we need to avoid according to James 1:8, and 4:8, and what does that mean?

26. What kind of heart does Psalm 73:21–22, and Acts 8:23 describe?

27. What warning does Hebrews 12:15 express, and what consequences follow?

28. What kind of heart do Proverbs 16:18, Psalm 10:4 and 13:10 describe, and what is its counterpart?

29. What does Proverbs 23:7 say, and what does that tell you?

SECTION 4 : Examining Fruit and Roots

30. When you look at a garden, how does the fruit reflect the roots?

31. When you look at your life, how does your fruit reflect the roots of your life? (Lk 6:45; Ja 4:1)

32. What does Galatians 5:22–23 say about the fruit of the Spirit, and what does your life say about your roots?

33. On the next page use the horizontal line as ground level, and draw a tree with fruit on the left and with thorns on the right. Draw roots below grouind. Place the following words and phrases in the proper quadrant: draws near to God, has wisdom, self–control, gentleness, goodness, faith, merciful, love, joy, self–sacrificing, kindness, willing to forgive, patience, humility, gracious speech, thankfulness, trusts God, peaceful, selfishness, fear, sarcasm, demanding, arrogance,

disobedience, lying, cruelty, divisiveness, bitterness, manipulation, anger, jealouse, immoraility, hatred, trust God, exalt Christ, deny self, center life in God, please God, love and serve God, repentance, love and serve others, to be loved, safety, respect, control, comfort, happiness, pelasure, never be hurt, approval, never be riticized, things.

Fruit of God	Fruit of Self

Root	Issues

34. Which of these focus on the inner man, and which focus on actions: the roots, or the fruit? Explain.

35. What does the fruit of your life reveal about your roots? (Lk 6:45; Ja 4:1)

36. What does Deuteronomy 6:1–6 say, and what does that tell you?

37. What does Deuteronomy 5:1–11 say, and what does that tell you?

38. What do Psalm 37:4–5, 7 say, and what does that tell you?

39. What does Psalm 36:1 tell you?

40. How can the desire to have your own way, to have influence, to never hurt again, or to have control become an idol?

41. How have you seen a good desire progress from a request to a demand, to an expectation, an unfulfilled expectation, a disappointment, and a punishment of others? Explain what is really ruling?

42. What are you doing when you give the love that belongs to God to someone or something else, and what does this mean? (Rm 1:20–23)

43. How have you exchanged the truth of God for a lie in these cases? (Rm 1:25)

44. What does James 4:8–10 say you need to do?

45. How are you battling for sovereignty? See the lesson on God's sovereignty. (Mt 6:13)

46. Which of the following can become an idol of the heart when you want to be: appreciated, great, loved, accepted, served, in charge, happy, approved, understood, satisfied, significant, comfortable, safe, respected, held in high regard, viewed as competent? Which of these do you tend to hold onto too tightly, and what do you need to do?

SECTION 5 : Applications and Conclusions

47. What does Psalm 1 describe, and what do your roots indicate?

48. Take a current or recent situation through the following process:
    1.) Describe the situation: What happened?, When? Where? With whom? What do you want that you are not getting? What are you getting that you do not want?
    2.) What was your experience: What were your feelings and emotions? What did you do? What words express your actions? What did you think? What was your overall attitude?
    3.) What are the main desires that are fueling your behavior? What do you crave or expect?
    4.) I want _____ I must have _____.
    5.) What is preventing the desired results of #4?
    6.) How is this pleasing self?
    7.) What outer actions and symptomatic feelings do you and others see?
    8.) What problematic heart issues does God see on the inside?
    9.) How will you replace the thorn bush with the fruit tree through the cross of Christ in this situation?
    Recognize your heart problem. (Lk 9:23–25)
    Repent of the ruling idol. (1 Jn 1:9)
    Replace attitudes with a desire to please God. (Ep 4:17–24; Ph'p 2:5)
    10.) How will you put on cravings and expectations pleasing to God to walk in the Spirit? (Co 3:5–7; Ga 5:16, 22–23)
    11.) How will you be pleasing to God?
    12.) How will you employ peacemaking actions and attitudes in obedience to God?
    13.) How will you give your agenda to God? (Mt 26:39; Ph'p 4:11–14)
    14.) What does Jeremiah 17:5 say about fruit in the midst of drought, and what does this tell you?
    15.) What do you think those around you will see in the days to come, and how can God be glorified?
49. What does examining your fruit indicate? (Ga 6:7)
50. How have you seen God work through a strom in your life?
51. What verse or passage would you like to memorize for help in time of need? Write it on the appropriate card.
52. What speaks to you from the hymn below? (1 Co 13:12)

"O God, Our Help in Ages Past"

O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast,
And our eternal home!

Under the shadow of Thy throne
Still may we dwell secure;
Sufficient is Thine arm alone,
And our defense is sure.

Before the hills in order stood,
Or earth received her frame,
BFrom everlasting Thou art God,
To endless years the same.

A thousand ages in Thy sight
Are like an evening gone,
Short as the watch that ends the night,
And the dark things shall be plain.

O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Be Thou our guide while life shall last,
And our eternal home! Amen.

Carrie E. Breck

Answer Key

Page 106

Is 53:11	just, righteous
Mt 3:17; He 1:5	eternal
Mt 4:23–24	sinless
Mt 4:1–10; He 4:15	faithful
Mk 4:35–40	our Lord
Mk 5:1–13	the Word
Jn 1:14	Son of God
Jn 2:24–25; Jn 16:30	Son of Man
Jn 3:13; 5:27	unchanging
Jn 5:30	eternal king
Jn 11:25 (17–44)	the true vine
Jn 13:1; 15:13	all knowledge
Jn 15:1	loved His own
Rm 1:3	perfect patience
Rm 6:23; Re 22:12	bearer of iniquity
1 Co 1:24	has power to heal
Co 1:15–17	power over nature
1 Th 5:24	power over demons
1 Tm 1:16	creator, sustainer of life
He 1:8	power and wisdom of God
He 2:17	merciful and faithful high priest
He 13:8	the resurrection and the life, power …

Page 117

Mt 24:27	we shall be like Him
Mt 24:36; Mk 13:32	at an unexpected time
Mt 25:31–46	will come like a thief
Lk 12:40	every eye will see Him
Jn 14:3	known only to the Father
Ac 1:10–11	coming with all His saints
Rm 8:21–25	will come as you saw Him go
Ph'p 1:6	heaven dissolves, earth is exposed
1 Th 3:13	final separation of the sheep and goats
1 Th 4:16–17	bestowing the unfading crown of glory
2 Tm 4:8	preparing a place before He comes again
He 9:28	tested genuiness of faith will be revealed
1 Pt 1:5–7, 13	the second time to save those eagerly …
1 Pt 5:4	He comes with ten thousands of His holy ones.
2 Pt 3:10–12	creation is waiting to be set free from bondage
1 Jn 3:2	good works completed at the day of Jesus Christ
Jude 14	as lightening comes from the east and shines to …
Re 1:7	the righteous judge will award the crown of …
Re 16:15	voice . . . sound . . . those alive will be caught up …

Page 167

Ps 37:11	trust in God
Ps 119:165	love truth and peace
Ps 122:6–8	have joy and singing
Ps 133:1	be spiritually minded
Pr 17:1	dwell together in unity
Is 26:3	pray for the peace of Jerusalem
Is 55:12	if possible live peaceably with all
Zec 8:19	delight in the abundance of peace
Mt 5:9	pursue quietness rather than strife
Mk 9:50	turn from evil and do good, seek peace
Jn 16:33	peacemakers shall be called sons of God
Rm 8:6	pursue peace and things to edify another
Rm 12:18	be salty and have peace with one another
Rm 14:19	be of good cheer in the midst of tribulation
Ep 4:3	make peace and sow the fruit of righteousness
1 Th 5:13	love God's law, nothing causes them to stumble
2 Tm 2:22	endeavor to keep the unity of the Spirit in the …
Ja 3:18	esteem them highly in love, for their work's sake …
1 Pt 3:11	pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with those ….

Page 171

Ps 16:11	rest
Lk 12:32	comfort
Lk 16:25	eternal life
Lk 19:38; Rm 5:1	the kingdom
Jn 3:16; Rm 2:7	crown of life
Jn 14:2	fine pure linen
Jn 14:3	full knowledge
Rm 8:17–18; 1 Pt 5:4	reign with Him
1 Co 2:9	peace with God
1 Co 3:11–14	a prepared place
1 Co 9:25	being with Christ
1 Co 13:12	imperishable crown
Ph'p 3:21; 1 Jn 3:2	crown of righteousness
Co 3:24	reward of the inheritance
2 Tm 2:12	glorification, crown of glory
2 Tm 4:8	unexpected preparations by God
He 4:9	reward for seeking Him by faith
He 11:6	transform our body to be like His
Ja 1:12; Re 2:10	fullness of joy, pleasures evermore
Re 19:7–8	reward for work that endures the …

Page 169

Mk 16:12	eating
Lk 24:13–35	another form
Lk 24:36	visible wounds
Lk 24:42–43	passed through a wall
Lk 24:51; Ac 1:9	ascended directly into heaven
Jn 20:19	recognizable and unrecognizable
Jn 20:27	appeared suddenly out of nowhere

Page 170

Re 20:7–10	Satan
Re 21:1	a temple
Re 21:4	security systems, night
Re 21:8; 22:3, 15	the first heaven and earth, the sea
Re 21:22	anything unclean, anything accursed
Re 22:3	anyone not written in the Lamb's book of life
Re 21:25; 22:5	the cowardly, faithless, detestable, murderers …
Re 21:27	tears, death, mourning, crying, pain, former and …

Basic Truths

Introduction

Individuals have a conscience which can respond to God. We must be faithful to communicate spiritual truths to the next generation because God has commanded us to do so (Dt.). Below are some of the spiritual truths which individuals should understand.

Threads and themes

HOLY BIBLE: The Bible is God's Word to us about Himself; His Son, Jesus; the Holy Spirit and His plan for man. It should be handled respectfully. (John 1:1–14; Matthew 1; 2 Peter 1:2–11)

GOD: God is one God in three Persons: the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. God is holy, immutable, just, loving, merciful, omnipotent, omnipresent, omniscient and sovereign; a partial list of characteristics. God and His Word will stand forever. (Genesis 1; John 1; Isaiah 40:8; Revelation 22)

GOD CREATED: God created all things including each person. (Genesis 1; Romans 1:18–25)

GOD IS RIGHTEOUS: God is perfect and cannot allow sin in His presence. (Mt. 5:48)

GOD LOVES EVERYONE: God loves each person and wants each person to be in His presence and care. (Genesis 1:26; John 3:16; John 15)

SIN SEPARATES: The first people, Adam and Eve, sinned, which separated them and everyone else from the presence and fellowship of God eternally. (Genesis 3; Romans 3:23)

SIN DEMANDS PAYMENT: Sin's penalty must be paid before a person can enter God's presence. (Romans 6:23)

JESUS PAID SIN'S PRICE: God sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to pay the price for sin for each individual by dying once as the only perfect sacrifice. (Hebrews 9:11–14; 1 Peter 1:18–19, 3:18)

INDIVIDUALS ACCEPT JESUS' PAYMENT: God, through His Word and the work and power of the Holy Spirit, draws individuals to Himself who must, by faith and repentance, accept Jesus' free gift of salvation. (John 1:12, 3:3–7; 5:24; Ephesians 1:7; 2; Acts 3:19; 17:30; 26:20; Romans 10:9–10)

JESUS IS IN HEAVEN: Jesus is in heaven today preparing a place for each person who repents and accepts the free gift of salvation by faith. (John: 14:2–3; Romans 10:9–10; Titus 3:5–7)

Basic attitudes and behavior

SHOW RESPECT: Develop respect for position (Hebrews 13:17; 1 Peter 2:17); age (Leviticus 19:32); parents (Exodus 20:1–17); peers (Genesis 1:26); property and nature (Genesis 1:28–31).

TRUST and OBEY: Develop trust and obedience to God and a hunger and thirst for righteousness. (Matthew 5:6, 10, 20; 2 Timothy 3:16)

SING SONGS and PRAISE GOD: Sing about God and to God. (Colossians 3:16)

PRAY: Talk with God in prayer. (Matthew 6:9–13; 19:14)