

FAITH BASICS **GUIDE**

LOVE GOD
SERVE PEOPLE
REACH THE WORLD

HIGH STREET

C H U R C H

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Why do Faith Basics matter? These core principles in following Christ will help you to establish a firm spiritual foundation. Use this guide to strengthen your faith and to help others take their next step.

FAITH BASICS **GUIDE**

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How To Have Eternal Life

01

If you were to die today, how sure are you that you would go to heaven?
What percent chance do you have?

0%

25%

50%

75%

100%

Why did you choose the number you just did?

ROMANS 3:23 (esv)

²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

ROMANS 6:23 (esv)

²³ For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

According to Romans 3:23 and Romans 6:23, is it possible for you be at any percentage besides 0% or 100%? (Circle One)

YES

NO

KEY #1

_____ **IS THE KEY TO ETERNAL LIFE.**

The Bible makes it very clear. In this world, there are only two types of people: those who will spend eternity in heaven and those who will not. So what is the key to having eternal life? Accepting the free gift of salvation from God through his son Jesus Christ. Jesus is the savior who came to set us free from the bondage of sin. So, how can you accept this gift and begin a relationship with Jesus?

ROMANS 10:9-10 (esv)

⁹ *because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.*

A - Admit you are a sinner.

B - Believe in Jesus.

C - Confess Jesus as Lord.

KEY #2

ASSURANCE COMES FROM THE _____ OF GOD.

God wants us to be sure of our salvation. While spiritual growth, good works, and obedience to God's word are evidence of salvation, you should not base your assurance of salvation on only these things.

Your confidence in salvation must come directly from the promises of God's Word. So, what does God's Word promise?

1 John 5:11-13 (esv)

⁹ *And this is the testimony, that God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.*

¹² *Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.*

¹³ *I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life.*

God is the giver of eternal life through his son Jesus Christ. Whoever has the Son has eternal life. Who has the Son? Those who believe in him! This is the Gospel. The Good News of Jesus is simple and straightforward. You don't have to fret and worry about your salvation because God wants you to **know** that you have eternal life. We can be sure of this because of the promises of God.

KEY #3

ANYONE WHO IS IN CHRIST IS A NEW _____.

2 Corinthians 5:17 (esv)

¹⁷ *Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.*

When you receive Christ, you become a new creation. It is not a maybe—you will change! This change comes from the power of God working within in us to make us more like Christ. You used to be spiritually dead in your sin, but now you have been made spiritually alive.

Ephesians 2:8-9 (esv)

⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, ⁹not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

Knowing what you know now. If you were to die today, how sure are you that you would go to heaven? What percent chance do you have?

0%

25%

50%

75%

100%

APPLICATION:

- Memorize Ephesians 2:8-9
- Memorize Romans 6:23

The Standard

02

How much of the Bible is still true today? (Circle One)

None Some Most All

We live in a world desperately searching for truth—a standard by which to live. However, this search for truth often begins in all the wrong places. For some, what they hold to be true comes solely from the opinions of other people. Others look inward for truth and encourage people to simply “live their truth.” In these scenarios, “truth” is entirely subjective, leaving people confused and uncertain. However, Christians should not be confused or uncertain regarding what is true.

WHAT IS TRUTH?

John 17:17 (esv)

¹⁷Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth

WHERE DOES TRUTH COME FROM?

2 Timothy 3:16 (esv)

¹⁶All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness

KEY #1

THE _____ IS TRUTH.

The Bible is a written, unchangeable truth that teaches us how to live. It teaches us, corrects us, and trains us for right living. It is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. Without the Bible, we would have to guess as to how God wants us to live.

If all of the Bible is from God, is there anything in it that can't be true?



THE BIBLE IS _____ AND _____.

Hebrews 4:12 (esv)

*¹²For the word of God is **living** and **active**, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.*



THE BIBLE IS _____.

The reliability and accuracy of the Bible has been scrutinized like no other book in history. However, the Bible has withstood centuries of critical and skeptical attacks. In the field of textual criticism, the Bible is the gold standard due to its manuscript evidence.

How does the manuscript evidence of the New Testament stack up against other ancient works?

ILIAD	NEW TESTAMENT	HISTORY OF ROME
<p>Author: Homer Date: 800 BC Earliest Ms: 400 BC Time Gap: 400 YRS</p>	<p>Author: Multiple Date: AD 50-95 Earliest Ms: AD 130 Time Gap: 40 YRS</p>	<p>Author: Livy Date: 27 BC - AD 17 Earliest Ms: Early 5th Century Time Gap: 400 YRS</p>
<p>Number of Manuscripts and Fragments:</p> <p>1,757</p>	<p>Number of Manuscripts and Fragments:</p> <p>5,795</p>	<p>Number of Manuscripts and Fragments:</p> <p>150</p>

APPLICATION:

- Unsure of where to begin reading the Bible? Use the 90-day Gospel reading plan on the next page.
- Download the YouVersion Bible App on your phone! There are a variety of Bible reading plans and resources available there.

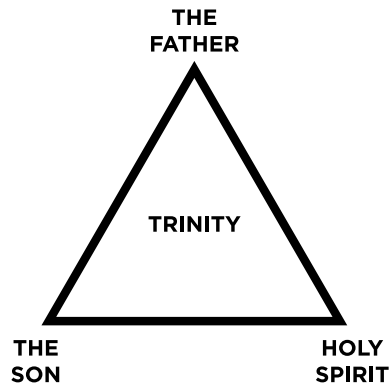
90-DAY GOSPEL READING PLAN

Day 1	Matthew 1	Day 31	Mark 3	Day 61	Luke 17
Day 2	Matthew 2	Day 32	Mark 4	Day 62	Luke 18
Day 3	Matthew 3	Day 33	Mark 5	Day 63	Luke 19
Day 4	Matthew 4	Day 34	Mark 6	Day 64	Luke 20
Day 5	Matthew 5	Day 35	Mark 7	Day 65	Luke 21
Day 6	Matthew 6	Day 36	Mark 8	Day 66	Luke 22
Day 7	Matthew 7	Day 37	Mark 9	Day 67	Luke 23
Day 8	Matthew 8	Day 38	Mark 10	Day 68	Luke 24
Day 9	Matthew 9	Day 39	Mark 11	Day 69	John 1
Day 10	Matthew 10	Day 40	Mark 12	Day 70	John 2
Day 11	Matthew 11	Day 41	Mark 13	Day 71	John 3
Day 12	Matthew 12	Day 42	Mark 14	Day 72	John 4
Day 13	Matthew 13	Day 43	Mark 15	Day 73	John 5
Day 14	Matthew 14	Day 44	Mark 16	Day 74	John 6
Day 15	Matthew 15	Day 45	Luke 1	Day 75	John 7
Day 16	Matthew 16	Day 46	Luke 2	Day 76	John 8
Day 17	Matthew 17	Day 47	Luke 3	Day 77	John 9
Day 18	Matthew 18	Day 48	Luke 4	Day 78	John 10
Day 19	Matthew 19	Day 49	Luke 5	Day 79	John 11
Day 20	Matthew 20	Day 50	Luke 6	Day 80	John 12
Day 21	Matthew 21	Day 51	Luke 7	Day 81	John 13
Day 22	Matthew 22	Day 52	Luke 8	Day 82	John 14
Day 23	Matthew 23	Day 53	Luke 9	Day 83	John 15
Day 24	Matthew 24	Day 54	Luke 10	Day 84	John 16
Day 25	Matthew 25	Day 55	Luke 11	Day 85	John 17
Day 26	Matthew 26	Day 56	Luke 12	Day 86	John 18
Day 27	Matthew 27	Day 57	Luke 13	Day 87	John 19
Day 28	Matthew 28	Day 58	Luke 14	Day 88	John 20
Day 29	Mark 1	Day 59	Luke 15	Day 89	John 21:1-14
Day 30	Mark 2	Day 60	Luke 16	Day 90	John 21:15-25

**Power Of The
Holy Spirit**

03

What is the Trinity? The Bible teaches that there is one God. It also teaches that the Father is God, the Son (Jesus) is God, and the Holy Spirit is God. The Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit make up the Trinity. The concept of the Trinity is difficult to understand because human beings do not have the ability to completely comprehend it. However, just because it is difficult to understand does not mean that it is untrue.



KEY #1

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS A _____.

John 14:26 (esv)

²⁶ But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.

The Holy Spirit was sent from the Father to believers after the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit helps believers to become more like Christ. The fruit of the Spirit looks much different than the sinful desires of one's flesh.

Galatians 5:16-24 (esv)

¹⁶ But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷ For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do.

¹⁸ But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

¹⁹ Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, ²⁰ idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, ²¹ envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. ²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. ²⁴ And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

KEY #3

YOU MUST BE _____ TO RECEIVE THE HOLY SPIRIT.

Acts 2:38-39 (esv)

³⁸ And Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ For the promise is for you and for your children

Scripture is clear that you receive the Holy Spirit after you asked for forgiveness of your sins and chosen to make Jesus the Lord of your life. Therefore, if someone has not been saved then they do not have the Holy Spirit dwelling inside of them.

KEY #2

_____ COMES FROM THE HOLY SPIRIT.

Acts 1:8 (esv)

⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

You may feel helpless and hopeless when it comes to changing the world around you. However, the Holy Spirit equips you with power to impact the people around you. Likewise, the power of the Holy Spirit has the ability to destroy fleshly desires and help you overcome sin in your life.

APPLICATION:

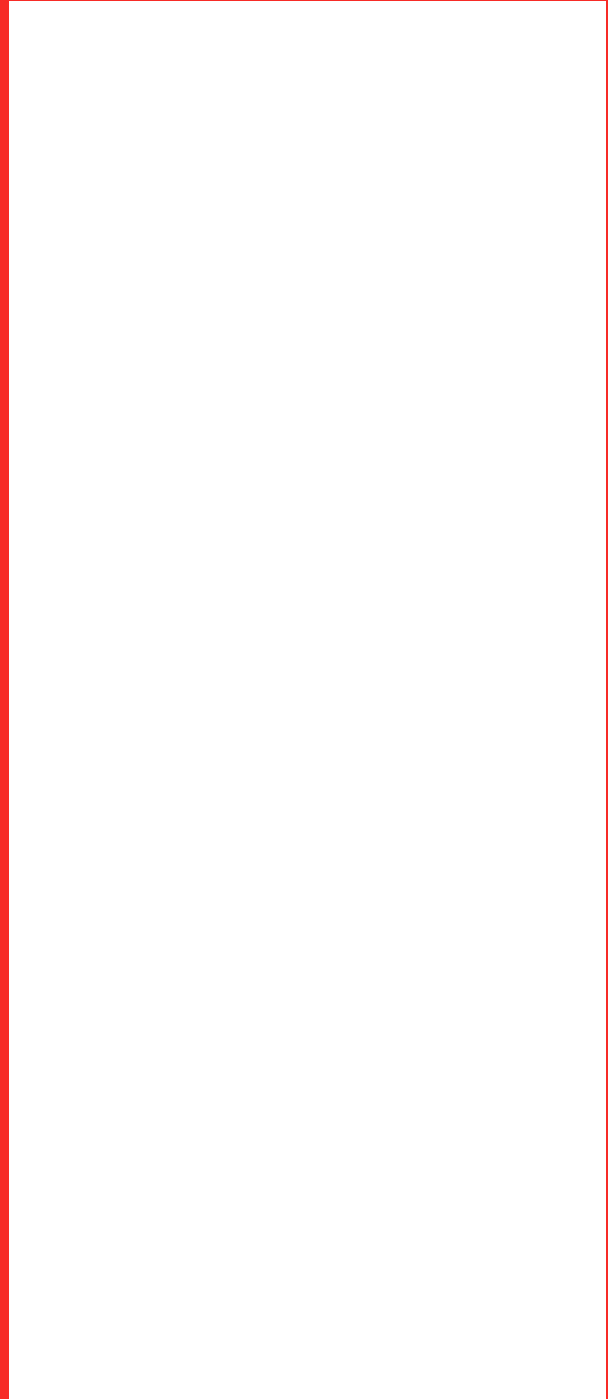
- Use the sheet on the next page to compare the works of the flesh to the fruit of the Spirit (from Galatians 5:16-24).

COMPARE & CONTRAST

WORKS OF THE FLESH



FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT



(Use Galatians 5:16-24 for reference)

Obedience

04

How would you define a lord?

- a) Someone you don't obey. b) Someone you could obey.
 c) Someone you sometimes obey. d) Someone you should obey.

Someone can only be a lord if they have authority. Therefore, if Jesus is the **Lord** of your life you must hand over all authority to him. This may feel scary because it could seem as if you are giving up your freedom. However, you are never freer than when you are in obedience to your creator.

Jesus is referred to as **Lord** over 700 times in the New Testament! All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Jesus. He has the name above all names. Every person that has ever lived one day will bow their knee before Jesus. However, God gives us a choice on earth as to whether we will acknowledge him as Lord.

KEY #1**JESUS IS _____.****John 20:27-28 (esv)**

²⁷ Then he (Jesus) said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe."²⁸ Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!"

Up until this point in time Thomas had known Jesus, but he had not recognized him as Lord! Knowing about Jesus and making him the Lord of your life are two different things. Throughout the New Testament, the authors refer to "our Lord Jesus Christ" because when you receive Christ, you receive all of him: Savior and Lord!

KEY #2**OBEDIENCE IS _____ FROM THE LORD.**

God requires your obedience. Why does he require it? Because he knows your life will be better when you follow his commandments. This may seem limiting, but obedience to his word is what leads us to abundant life. Being obedient to God is also a tangible way in which you show your love for him.

John 14:15 (esv)

¹⁵ "If you love me, you will keep my commandments.

John 14:21 (esv)

21 *Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him."*

John 15:14 (esv)

14 *You are my friends if you do what I command you.*

APPLICATION:

- To obey God's word, you must know it. Continue reading the bible daily.
- Are there any areas of your life in which you are struggling to give authority over to God? Use the next page to journal and reflect over this question.

REFLECTION JOURNAL

Are there any areas in your life you need to give authority over to God?

A large, empty white rectangular area intended for the user to write their reflections in response to the question above. The area is completely blank and occupies the majority of the page's vertical space.

**Abiding
Produces Fruit**

05

John 15:1-8 (esv)

⁹ "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. ² Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. ³ Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴ Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. ⁵ I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶ If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷ If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸ By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.

KEY #1

FRUIT COMES FROM _____ IN CHRIST.

Abiding in Christ will produce fruit in your life. Just as fruit cannot grow on a tree without the vine, you cannot grow spiritually without abiding in Christ. What does it mean to abide?

Abide: to remain, to continue to be present, to not depart.

You can abide in with Christ by engaging in **Spiritual Disciplines** such as praying and reading the Bible (*spiritual disciplines will be discussed more fully in the following section*). However, what does fruit look like in your life?

Galatians 5:22-23 (esv)

²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

Matthew 22:37-39 (esv)

²² And he (Jesus) said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. ³⁸ This is the great and first commandment. ³⁹ And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.

Abiding in Christ begins to produce fruit in you **inwardly** through the transformation of your heart and mind. This inward transformation should then begin to change your **outward** actions. Jesus has chosen to put you on mission to the people around you. One of the greatest ways you can love your neighbor is by sharing the hope of Jesus with them.

KEY #2

FRUIT IS _____ OF BEING A DISCIPLE.

Fruit serves as evidence that you are a disciple (follower) of Jesus. Likewise, a lack of fruit is evidence one is not a disciple. This doesn't mean a believer never makes mistakes, but that even when they do fail, they continue to choose to abide in Christ.

John 15:8 (esv)

⁸*By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.*

John 13:34-35 (esv)

³⁴*A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another.* ³⁵*By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."*

Matthew 7:15-17 (esv)

¹⁵*"Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves.* ¹⁶*You will recognize them by their fruits. Are grapes gathered from thornbushes, or figs from thistles?* ¹⁷*So, every healthy tree bears good fruit, but the diseased tree bears bad fruit.*

APPLICATION:

- Focus outward. How can you show the love of Jesus to those around you? What do you dream about doing for the Kingdom of God? Journal your thoughts on the next page.

REFLECTION JOURNAL

How can you show the love of Jesus to those around you?

A large, empty white rectangular area intended for writing reflections, centered on the page below the question.

**Spiritual
Disciplines**

06

What are some thing that prevent you from being disciplined?

It is human nature to drift towards being undisciplined, meaning you will not naturally fall into healthy patterns of discipline in your life. The same is true concerning your walk with God; spiritual growth requires effort and intentionality on your part to engage in spiritual disciplines. So, what is a spiritual discipline?

Spiritual Discipline: something that you can do which helps you to do something you cannot do on your own.

SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINE



Example: You need wisdom to decide what to do in an uncertain situation. You choose to engage in the spiritual discipline of prayer because scripture says if you lack wisdom, you should ask for it because God gives it generously (James 1:5).

KEY #1

SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES LEAD TO SPIRITUAL _____.

If you were wanting to be in better shape you wouldn't expect that to happen without exercise. Similarly, you cannot expect to grow spiritually unless you are consistently engaging in spiritual disciplines. You might go through seasons in which you don't feel like you are growing spiritually. However, even in these seasons it is important to continue to engage. Satan wants to feed you the lie that you aren't growing, but the truth of God's word is you will grow when you abide in him.

SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES BREAKDOWN

SCRIPTURE READING – Know, believe, and act on God’s word. Knowing God’s word will radically change your life. It will give you identity, guidance, encouragement, and conviction. God’s word leads the actions you take in life.

PRAYER – Communication with God. Prayer is your connection with God. God hears when you pray. You should pray about all things, big and small: in prayer, you thank God, submit to his plan, seek his help. This changes our heart.

SCRIPTURE MEMORY – God’s word is truth. When you memorize scripture you have instant access to truth at all times. This helps you in your personal growth, but will also allow you to provide better counsel to those in your sphere of influence.

FASTING – Giving food up for a period of time; intentional denial of the flesh to focus on God more fully. Fasting is reminding your mind, body, and soul that you need God more than you need anything else. Outside of being a regular discipline, scripture encourages fasting when seeking guidance, petitioning God to move, and dealing with personal disobedience.

TITHING/GIVING – Tithing is the act of financially giving to God. The Bible demonstrates a pattern of giving back to God what he has given to you. In the Old Testament, tithing was the practice of giving to God at least ten percent, but often closer to a third of all income. While this was voluntary, it was an act of obedience to God. Jesus affirms the tithe in the New Testament, and every instance of giving found in the New Testament was beyond ten percent. Therefore, giving of tithes and offerings is a matter of the heart.

REST – Setting aside time to clear distractions and reflect on God. In your rest, you are declaring that God is the one who holds up the world, not you.

ENGAGING IN THE CHURCH – Actively playing your role within the body of Christ. Spiritual growth occurs when believers gather to worship and hear God’s word being taught. Within the church you have the opportunity to exercise your spiritual gifts and talents.

APPLICATION:

- What spiritual discipline do you want to become grow in? Use the reflection journal to create a schedule and plan for how you will do it. Determine barriers which may prevent your success.

REFLECTION JOURNAL

What spiritual discipline do you want to grow in? Write out a plan.

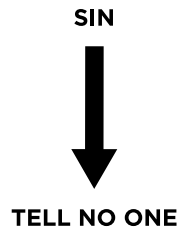
**Responding
To Sin**

07

When you receive Christ, you are a new creation freed from your debt of sin.

Obedience to God's word and a dependence upon the Holy Spirit will produce fruit in your life. However, that does not mean you will never sin again. On this side of eternity, you will continue to be at war with your fleshly desires. So how should you respond when you sin?

INCORRECT



CORRECT



Have you ever sinned and felt like you couldn't tell anyone? What was the result of trying to handle the situation on your own? How did it make you feel?

KEY #1

_____ **BRINGS FORGIVENESS.**

Satan's mission is to destroy your life. One of the ways he seeks to do that is by keeping you isolated in response to your failure. Sin brings feelings of shame and discouragement. These feelings can make you feel unworthy of talking to God and could prompt you to withdraw from people. How should you respond?

Confess To God:**1 John 1:9 (esv)**

⁹*If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*

Confess To Others:**James 5:16 (esv)**

¹⁶*Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.*

When you confess your sins there is healing and forgiveness that takes place. God cleanses you and restores your soul.


KEY #2

_____ **CAN BE OVERCOME.**

The temptation to engage in sinful behavior can feel overwhelming. Satan wants you to give in to temptation, but the truth of God's word promises us we can overcome it. God will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you can endure.

James 4:7 (esv)

⁷*Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.*

Hebrews 4:15 (esv)

¹⁵*For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin.*

1 Corinthians 10:13 (esv)

¹³*No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.*

APPLICATION:

- Do you have sin in your life you need to confess to God? Do you have a trusted believer you can confess sin to?

REFLECTION JOURNAL

What do you need to confess to God? Plan to confess to another believer you trust as well.

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The Church

08

KEY #2

_____ COMES FROM GATHERING.

Hebrews 10:24-25 (esv)

²⁴And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, ²⁵not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

Matthew 18:20 (esv)

²⁰For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.”

When you gather with other believers in the name of Jesus, he is present. Gathering will not only encourage you, but it will lead to you encouraging others as well.

KEY #3

USE YOUR _____ IN THE CHURCH.

Romans 12:3-8 (esv)

³For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, ⁵so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. ⁶Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; ⁷if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; ⁸the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.

APPLICATION:

- Review “The Five Things” every church member should do on the next page. Each of these things is based upon the truth of God’s word. Are you engaging in these things within a church body?

THE FIVE THINGS

Every Church Member Should Do

1. ATTEND A SERVICE

Gather with other believers regularly for worship and fellowship.

2. GET IN A GROUP

Christ-centered relationships build you and others up.

3. ENGAGE IN SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES

Consistently engage in personal spiritual disciplines throughout the week.

4. FIND THE ONE

Share the gospel and disciple those within your sphere of influence.

5. JOIN THE TEAM

Use your gifts to serve within the church body.

The Mission

09

What would you say is your purpose as a Christian?

Matthew 28:19-20 (esv)

¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

According to Matthew 28:19-20, what four things does Jesus command us to do before going to heaven?

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____ 4. _____

How can you be a disciple-maker?

When looking at the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19-20) in the original Greek, making disciples is the only **direct command** within the passage. The instructions to go, baptize, and teach are **indirect commands** - they are the means of making disciples. Going happens through the act of **evangelism** or sharing the gospel. That may seem intimidating, but it is simple as sharing your story of how Jesus changed your life. Baptism and teaching require obedience to God. Therefore, **discipleship** is teaching or training others to obey Christ. It is the strengthening of other believers through consistent and intentional investment.

MAKING DISCIPLES



EVANGELISM
SHARING YOUR STORY



DISCIPLESHIP
STRENGTHENING BELIEVERS

During his ministry on earth Jesus had many followers. Of these followers he selected **twelve men** to invest in at a high level. These men are usually referred to as the twelve disciples or the twelve apostles. Further, it appears Jesus selected three of the twelve, Peter, James, and John, to spend even more time with. They were in his **inner circle** if you will. Why did Jesus do this? It is likely he was preparing them for their future leadership roles within the church. Jesus made a significant investment in Peter, James, and John. This investment would go on to impact generations of believers even after he ascended into heaven. Jesus' investment **multiplied**, and the same thing still happens today. As you disciple and strengthen fellow believers your efforts will multiply and impact generations to come.



KEY #1 → **SHARE THE _____.**

Mark 16:15 (esv)

¹⁵ *And he said to them, "Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation.*

KEY #2 → _____ **OTHER BELIEVERS.**

2 Timothy 2:2 (esv)

² *and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also.*

APPLICATION:

- You cannot expect to engage in evangelism and discipleship if you do not know who is around you. Determine who is in your sphere of influence by using the next page!

SPHERE OF INFLUENCE

Write down people you could potentially invest in.

Friends, family, neighbors, coworkers, people you do activities/hobbies with, etc.

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SHARING YOUR TESTIMONY

OVERALL STRUCTURE

A three-point approach is very effective in communicating your personal testimony. This outline focuses on your life before you trusted Christ, how you surrendered to Him, and the difference since (after) you've been walking with Him.

STEP #1 - BEFORE

Tell what your life was like before you surrendered to Christ. What were you searching for before coming to know Christ? What was the key problem, emotion, situation or attitude you were dealing with? What motivated you? What were your actions? How did you try to satisfy your inner needs? (Examples of inner needs are loneliness, fear of death, insecurity. Possible ways to fill those needs include work, money, drugs, relationships, sports, sex, etc.). Be honest about any struggles you had, but don't glorify sin.

STEP #2 - DURING

How did you come to trust Christ? Tell the events and circumstances that caused you to consider Christ as the solution to your searching. Take time to identify the steps that brought you to the point of trusting Christ. Where were you? What was happening at the time? What people or problems influenced your decision? What Scriptures were shared with you?

STEP #3 - AFTER

How has your life in Christ made a difference? How has His forgiveness impacted you? How have your thoughts, attitudes and emotions changed? Share how Christ is meeting your needs and what a relationship with Him means to you now.

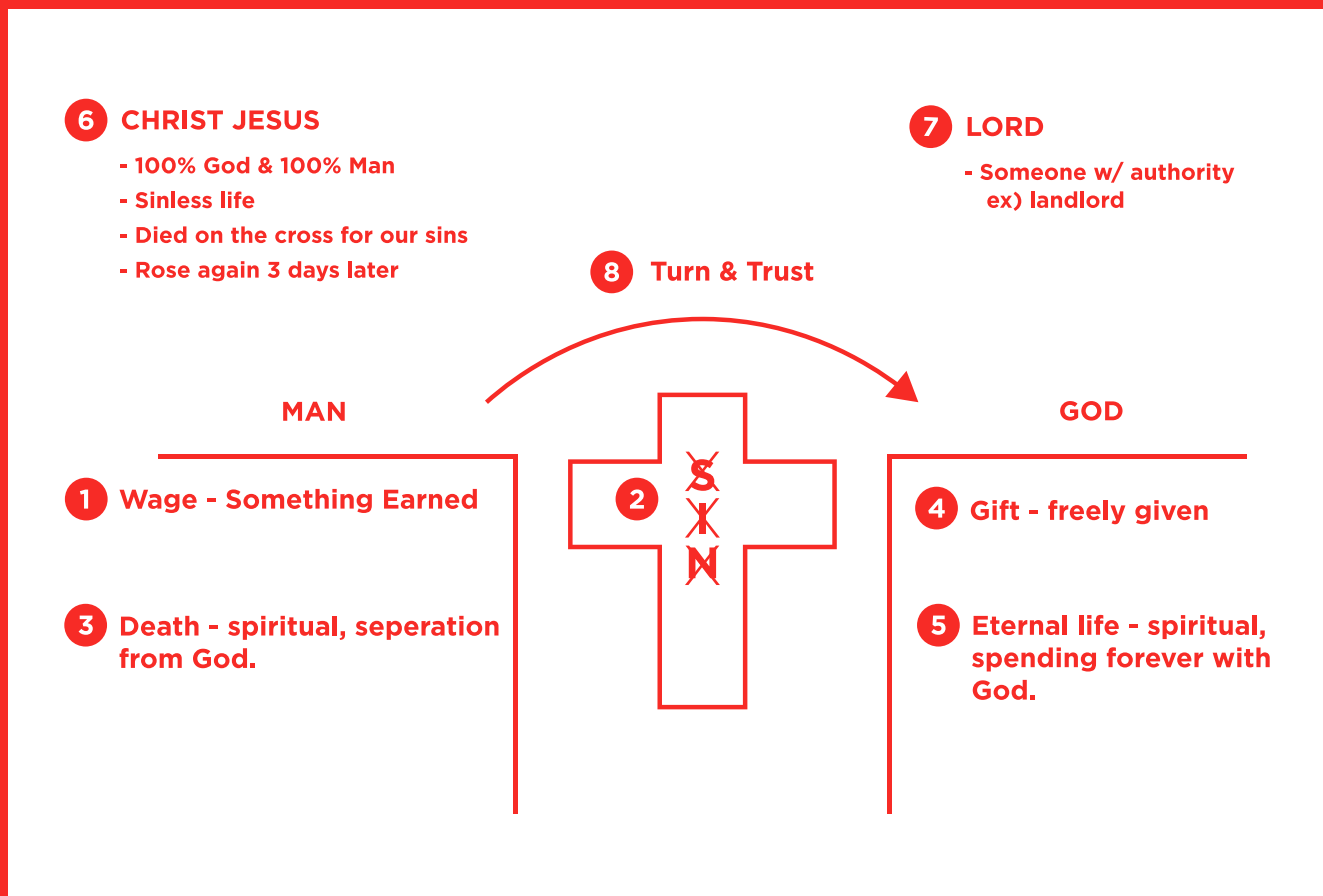
REMEMBER TO:

- Keep Christ at the center of your testimony.
- Don't make church the focus of your story.
- Practice sharing your testimony.

THE “BRIDGE” ILLUSTRATION

Romans 6:23

²³ For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.



SHARING THE BRIDGE
VIDEO TUTORIAL AVAILABLE

[Highstreet.org/conversations](https://highstreet.org/conversations)



ANSWER KEY

#1 - HOW TO HAVE ETERNAL LIFE

Key 1: Jesus

Key 2: Promises

Key 3: Creation

#2 - THE STANDARD

Key 1: Bible

Key 2: Living & Active

Key 3: Reliable

#3 - POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Key 1: Helper

Key 2: Saved

Key 3: Power

#4 - OBEDIENCE

Key 1: Lord

Key 2: Required

#5 - ABIDING PRODUCES FRUIT

Key 1: Abiding

Key 2: Evidence

ANSWER KEY

#6 - SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES

Key 1: Growth

#7 - RESPONDING TO SIN

Key 1: Confession

Key 2: Temptation

#8 - THE CHURCH

Key 1: Belong

Key 2: Encouragement

Key 3: Gifts

#9 - THE MISSION

Key 1: Gospel

Key 2: Disciple

**LOVE GOD.
SERVE PEOPLE.
REACH THE WORLD.**

**HIGH STREET
CHURCH**