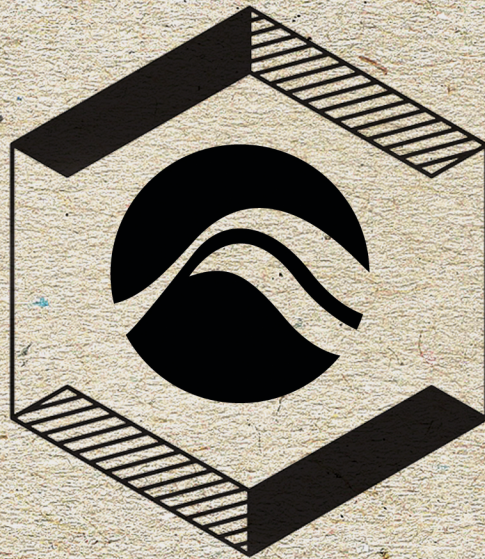


# NEED TO KNOW

MATTERS OF THE FAITH



BY

PASTOR DAVE ROLPH



# **NEEDTOKNOW**

**MATTERS OF THE FAITH**

**A Series of Lessons On Important Topics  
Christians Should Know About**

**Or That Anyone Interested in Knowing More About Jesus  
Should Consider**

**Taught By Dave Rolph**  
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# INTRODUCTION TO **NEED TO KNOW** SERIES

You can study the Bible for your entire life and never begin to master all that it teaches. It is a profound book that comes from God and as God is beyond our complete comprehension (Isaiah 55:8-9), so the study of the Bible is endless. At the same time, God gave us His Word for a reason and He wants to reveal Himself in His Word. When we begin to follow Jesus, we are embarking on an amazing journey of growing in our pursuit of knowing God, and seeing our lives mature as we become more like Him.

Given this pursuit, and our desire to be more like Jesus, there are certain rudimentary truths and practices that every Christian should grasp as we begin our walk with God. There are certain basic, fundamental understandings that everyone who is on the path of Jesus should know, as we begin the journey of a lifetime.

I prepared this study series as a way of communicating the basics of Christianity. I believe it will be helpful for any new Christian who has just begun their adventure with Jesus, but it has also been a helpful review for those who have been following Jesus for years. I called it "Need To Know", not because you need to know everything in this study in order to be a Christian. I believe every Christian should have a basic understanding of these topics if they want to enjoy the journey of growth on which God has invited us. I hope you find it helpful.

Dave Rolph

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# LESSON ONE: **THE WORD OF GOD**

## *INTRODUCTION*

---

If we are going to center our lives on the teachings of the Bible, it only makes sense to talk about what the Bible is, what makes it unique, why we believe it, and how it came about. In this section we will discuss what it means that the Bible is inspired and without error, and what it doesn't mean. We will also talk about some of the difficulties with the Bible and why it is so important that we can trust it.

## *MESSAGE NOTES*

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### EPISTEMOLOGY- WHAT IS TRUTH?

Key Scriptures (2 Timothy 3:16-17, 2 Peter 1:20-21)

Jesus- Mt 5:18- not one jot or tittle (also speaks of creation, Adam, Noah, Jonah as historical)

Jews, Jesus, Apostles, church fathers, reformers all believed in inerrancy.



## SEVERAL OBJECTIONS TO INERRANCY- (EXAMPLES)

Numerical discrepancies- (Note: Reproduced accurately, didn't fix!)

Genealogies of Jesus-

Resurrection accounts-

Paul Feinberg's inerrancy definition-

*"Inerrancy means that when all facts are known, the Scriptures in their original autographs and properly interpreted will be shown to be wholly true in everything that they affirm, whether that has to do with doctrine or morality or with the social, physical or life sciences."*

\*Inerrancy is related to the intention of Scripture.



## MISUNDERSTANDINGS OF INERRANCY-

1. Doesn't demand strict adherence to rules of grammar.
2. Doesn't preclude use of figures of speech or literary genre.
3. Doesn't demand historical or semantic precision.
4. Doesn't demand technical language of modern science.
5. Doesn't require verbal exactness when quoting OT in NT.
6. Doesn't demand that sayings of Jesus be precise quotes, but just accurate content.
7. Doesn't guarantee comprehensiveness of any one account.
8. Doesn't demand infallibility of ever source used by writers.

## CANONICITY-

If any errors, the Bible becomes subject to human judgement.  
(Practical inerrancy.)

Humble hermeneutics (The Bible is inerrant. We are not!)



# LESSON TWO: **CREATION AND THE FALL**

## *INTRODUCTION*

---

In this chapter we will look at what the Bible teaches about how our world got here and what were the origins of mankind. We will also look at what it tells us about what went wrong. If we were created by God with a purpose, or if we are the product of random evolutionary luck, the ramifications to us are huge if we are trying to understand the meaning of our lives. Our life's meaning and significance then has a significant impact on how we live our lives, and on what we value. The very first line of the Bible says, "In the beginning God created..." How we understand that sets the stage for everything that follows.

## *MESSAGE NOTES*

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GENESIS 1:1- ARE WE HERE BY DESIGN OR RANDOM CHANCE?

Implications of creation-

Evidence of design-

GENESIS 1:2- "WITHOUT FORM AND VOID"- (SEE ALSO JEREMIAH 4:23-26)

Several possible interpretations of verse 2-

Job 38:4-7- Angels watched creation (When were they created? When did Satan fall?)

Gap theory?

CREATION, A DAY, AND THEORIES-

Exodus 20:11- created in 6 days

Gen 2:4- created in a day

Gen 45:18- did not create it "tohoo"

Theistic evolution?

Young or old universe?

Humans were the pinnacle and point of creation.

**\*Most important point- God created it (Believe that, no problem with you)**



CREATED IN GOD'S IMAGE-

Creativity of humans-

Created to live in a garden-

GENESIS 3- THE FALL

(HOW EVERYTHING WENT WRONG, AND THE CONSEQUENCES OF SIN.)

Genesis 3:15- prophecy of Jesus

The Fall resulted in making people hide, living in shame.

"Dichotomizing pathologizes and pathology dichotomizes."  
(Abraham Maslow)

Live a creative life, despite the Fall.

*"Shame on us when this world and creation become something we argue about. Just look at it in awe, with your mouth hanging open."*

# LESSON THREE: **GOD AND THE TRINITY**

## *INTRODUCTION*

---

The Bible presents God as a triune Being. This is one of the most difficult concepts to grasp about God. But the Bible teaches that there is one God, eternally existent in three distinct persons. This is one of those things about God that reminds us that He is bigger, greater and more complex than we are. As soon as we think we understand the Trinity, we are probably falling into false teaching, as we attempt to simplify a complex God. But even though we don't completely grasp this baffling concept, we can still appreciate the glory of our great God!

## *MESSAGE NOTES*

---

THE TRIUNITY OF GOD- ONE GOD, THREE PERSONALITIES.

HINTS FROM OLD TESTAMENT-

Genesis 1:1- word for God is "Elohim"- plural noun.

Genesis 1:26- "let us make man in our image"

Deuteronomy 6:4- the Shema "One" is "echad"- compound unity

Isaiah 9:6-



JESUS IS GOD-

John 1-

Colossians 2:9-10-

Titus 2:13-

*"The 3 persons of the Godhead are equally God, but distinct. "*

COMPOUND UNITY.

HOLY SPIRIT IS GOD.

1 Corinthians 3:16-

REFERENCES TO GOD WITH 3 FOLD FORMULA-

Matthew 28:19-

1 Corinthians 6:11-

1 Corinthians 12:4-6

1 Peter 1:2-

JOHN 17:20-23- WE CAN HAVE FELLOWSHIP WITH THE GODHEAD.

SOME DENY THE TRINITY-  
(DON'T BE TOO HARD ON THEM- DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND)

EARLY HERESIES IN CHURCH HISTORY-

Arianism-

Modalism-

*Can someone be a Christian and not believe in the Trinity?*



# LESSON FOUR: **A SUMMARY OF THE BIBLE**

## *INTRODUCTION*

---

The Bible is one book, inspired and assembled by God. But it is also a collection of 66 individual books, written by approximately 40 human authors, during various periods of human history, in various literary genre, for various purposes. Amazingly this assortment of books work together to communicate a united and timeless message from God to His people. But we can only interpret each individual book as we see them as they fit in the totality of God's written revelation. Studying the Bible as a whole helps us understand each of its constituent components, so in this lesson we will take a flyover look at the Bible as a whole.

## *MESSAGE NOTES*

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### **OLD TESTAMENT**

#### *PENTATEUCH*

Genesis	Four events (creation, Fall, Flood, Tower) Four men (Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph)
Exodus	Egypt to Sinai
Leviticus	At Sinai
Numbers	Sinai throughout the desert
Deuteronomy	Five lectures

## HISTORICAL BOOKS

Joshua	Crossing Jordan, conquering land
Judges	From death of Joshua to Samuel (13 judges)- cycles (no king, did what was right in own eyes)
1 Samuel	Saul
2 Samuel	David
1 Kings	Solomon
2 Kings	Divided kingdom to captivities (740/586 BC)
1 Chronicles	Saul, David
2 Chronicles	Solomon forward
Ezra	

\*Dates- Abraham-2000, Exodus 1445, David 1000

## POETIC BOOKS

Job	
Psalms	
Proverbs	
Ecclesiastes	
Song of Solomon	



## MAJOR PROPHETS

Isaiah	pre-exilic
Jeremiah	pre-exilic
Lamentations	pre-exilic / exilic
Ezekiel	exilic
Daniel	exilic

## MINOR PROPHETS

Hosea	pre-exilic
Joel	pre-exilic
Amos	pre-exilic
Obadiah	pre-exilic
Jonah	pre-exilic
Micah	pre-exilic
Nahum	pre-exilic
Habakkuk	pre-exilic
Zephaniah	pre-exilic
Haggai	post-exilic
Zechariah	post-exilic
Malachi	post-exilic

# NEW TESTAMENT

## GOSPELS

Matthew	Messiah, fulfilled prophecy
Mark	Servant
Luke	Human
John	God
Acts	Part 2 of Luke

## PAULINE EPISTLES

Romans	
1 Corinthians	
2 Corinthians	
Galatians	
Ephesians	
Philippians	
Colossians	
1 Thessalonians	
2 Thessalonians	

*PAULINE PASTORAL EPISTLES*

1 Timothy	
2 Timothy	
Titus	
Philemon	

*GENERAL EPISTLES (OR CATHOLIC EPISTLES)*

Hebrews	
James	
1 Peter	
2 Peter	
1 John	
2 John	
3 John	
Jude	

*ESCHATOLOGICAL*

Revelation	
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# LESSON FIVE: **SALVATION**

## *INTRODUCTION*

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The most important question for anyone to ask is, "How can I come into a personal relationship with my Creator?" If there is a God, and if He wants to be known, then nothing can compare to knowing Him. (Of course if God doesn't exist, nothing matters.) The Bible presents a message, from beginning to end, that there is a God Who loves us and wants to have a relationship with us. But according to the Bible, we are lost and separated from God, and the story of the Bible is a story of what God has done to rescue the lost. When we talk about salvation we are talking about how we, as flawed humans, can be rescued and saved by our loving God, so that we can know Him and be in fellowship with Him forever.

## *MESSAGE NOTES*

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### REFERENCES TO SALVATION IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

Genesis 3:16  
Exodus 15:1-2, ff Song of Moses  
1 Samuel 2:1-2- Hannah's prayer  
2 Samuel 22:1-4- David's song (Psalm 18)  
Psalm 27:1-3  
Psalm 51:12- restore the joy of salvation  
Psalm 85- really good  
Isaiah 53- atonement



## SALVATION FULLY REVEALED IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

Matt 1:21- angel to Joseph

Luke 1:77-78- Zacharias prophecy

Luke 2:25-32- Simeon

John 3:16-17- why Jesus came

John 10:9- I am the door

Acts 2:21- whoever calls on the name of the Lord will be saved (quote Joel 2:32)

Acts 4:12- Peter to Sanhedrin

Acts 16:30-31- what must I do to be saved?

Romans 1:16- gospel is power of God to salvation

Romans 10:9-10,13- how to get saved

Ephesians 2:8-9- saved by grace not works

Philippians 2:12- work out your own salvation

1 Peter 1:3-9- salvation = inheritance and heaven

1 Timothy 2:4- desires all men to be saved

## CHRIST DIED FOR US (SUBSTITUTION)

Isa 53:6- All we like sheep...

1 Jn 4:10- propitiation for our sins (not ours only)

1 Peter 2:24- he himself bore our sins

1 Cor 15:3- Gospel

2 Cor 5:21- The great exchange

QUESTIONS-

*HOW MUCH DO YOU NEED TO BELIEVE TO BE SAVED?*

*HOW WERE OT SAINTS SAVED?*

*HOW ABOUT ETERNAL SECURITY?*

## SECURITY

1 John 5:13- know that you have eternal life

Romans 8:39- nothing can separate

Ephesians 1:4- chosen before foundation

Philippians 1:6- begun good work, faithful to complete

John 10:27-30- no one plucks from father's hand

## INSECURITY

John 15:4-6- abide (also Jn 8:31-36)

1 Corinthians 15:1-8- gospel that saves IF we hold fast

Rev. 3:5- blot out name

## CONCERNS

Trap of eternal security-

Trap of no security-

Trap of Lordship salvation-

Perseverance of the saints (semantics) 1 John 2:19

Doubting your salvation?

# LESSON SIX: **THE LAW & THE TEN COMMANDMENTS**

## *INTRODUCTION*

---

The Old Testament records how God reached out to people to help them understand their need for Him. He did this by communicating life on a high moral plane through a lengthy list of ceremonial and moral regulations called The Law, or Torah. The first five books of the Bible constitute collectively the Law. Most of the actual regulations of the Law are found in the Books of Exodus, Leviticus and Deuteronomy. The primary purpose of the Law was to let us know how far we are from meeting the righteous standards of God. Jesus said the Law would be fulfilled if we just loved God and loved people more.

## *MESSAGE NOTES*

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### THE GIVING OF THE LAW

10 Commandments- the centerpiece of the law  
Huge list of detailed rules-

- dietary
- childbirth
- infectious diseases
- family
- business



## PURPOSE OF THE LAW

-practical guidance for wilderness survival (Exodus 15:26)

-moral guidance- how to treat each other, protection from exploitation

-bring sense of guilt, develop conscience, need for help

Romans 3:19-20

Galatians 2:16-20

Galatians 3:24

## SUMMARY OF THE LAW

Matthew 22:36-40

### TEN COMMANDMENTS (THE DECALOGUE)

(Listed in Exodus 20:1-17, Deuteronomy 5:6-21)

1 (run)-

2 (shoe)

3 (tree)

4 (door)

5 (dive)

6 (sticks)

7 (heaven)

8 (gate)

9 (vine)

10 (hen)

# LESSON SEVEN: **THE HOLY SPIRIT**

## *INTRODUCTION*

---

When Jesus was getting ready to leave His disciples to return to heaven, He told them that they would actually be better off without Him being there because the Holy Spirit would be given to them. It is almost unfathomable that Jesus could be replaced by Someone and have it be a step up, but as we study the Holy Spirit we learn how valuable He is to us in our lives on earth.

## *MESSAGE NOTES*

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HOLY SPIRIT IS GOD (member of the Trinity)

Trinity verses- Matt. 28:19

Specifically addressed as God- 1 Cor. 3:16-

WHAT JESUS SAYS ABOUT THE HOLY SPIRIT (John 14-16)

14:15-18-

14:25-26-

15:26-27-

16:5-14-

## OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

### Prepositions-

para (John 14:17)

en (John 20:22)

epi (Acts 1:8)

## BAPTISM OF HOLY SPIRIT (Acts 1:5, 2:38)

Ask- Luke 11:13

## GIFTS OF SPIRIT (1 Corinthians 12-14)

### Lists

1 Corinthians 12:8-10, 28

Romans 12:6-8

Ephesians 4:8,11-12



NOTE ON CESSATIONISM:

What is cessationism?

*Fruit of the Spirit-* (Galatians 5:22-23)-

*Centrality of love-* (1 Corinthians 13, 1 John 4:7-8)

# LESSON EIGHT: **SATAN, DEMONS & TEMPTATION**

## *INTRODUCTION*

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Satan is a character who you can't help but be curious about. Whether he is called Satan, the Devil, Lucifer, the Deceiver, the Father of Lies, or any number of other descriptive titles, he is seen as the first rebel against God, and the enemy of our souls. We cannot afford to be ignorant of his tactics because, although his ultimate doom is certain, he intends to do as much damage as he can while he is on the road to hell. Ignore him at your own peril.

## *MESSAGE NOTES*

---

### THE HISTORY OF THE DEVIL:

Genesis 3-

Isaiah 14-

Ezekiel 28-

Revelation 12-

### THE DEVIL'S AGENDA:

1 Peter 5:8-

## THE DEVIL'S TACTICS:

Lying- John 8:44-

Lack of forgiveness- 2 Corinthians 2:10-11-

Anger- Ephesians 4:26-27-

Appears beautifully- 2 Corinthians 11:14-

## THE DEVIL'S HELPERS (DEMONS):

Fallen Angels- Revelation 12

Their Battle- Ephesians 6:10 (against us)

Possession- throughout the Gospels

## THE END OF SATAN AND THE DEMONS:

### *SHORT TERM-*

James 4:7-

Romans 16:20-

### *LONG TERM-*

Revelation 20:3, 7-10-

Matthew 25:41-

## **SPIRITUAL WARFARE AND TEMPTATION-**

### SOURCES OF TEMPTATION:

(Ephesians 2:1-3)

1 John 2:15-17-

World-

Flesh-

Devil-

Devil to Jesus- Mt. 4:1-11

Devil to Eve- Genesis 3:6



## STRATEGIES AGAINST TEMPTATION-

World-

Flesh-

Devil-

(Wrong strategy for wrong temptation won't work)

# LESSON NINE: **THE CHURCH**

## *INTRODUCTION*

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Most people think of church as the place where they gather together with others to worship God and study the Bible with others. But church is much more than a building. The church is the visible expression of the body of Christ in our world. Church is how Jesus works today, through His Holy Spirit. And if you have accepted Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior, you are an important part of His Church.

## *MESSAGE NOTES*

---

WHAT IS THE CHURCH?

***Ekklesia:***

USED IN TWO SENSES:

Universal (Matthew 16:18)-

Local (mostly)-

## CHURCH METAPHORS

Bride of Christ (Ephesians 5:22-33)

Building (*temple*) (1 Corinthians 3:9-17)

Body of Christ (Ephesians 1:22-23)

## WHAT IS THE CHURCH SUPPOSED TO DO?

Acts 2:42-

Ephesians 4:11-16-

## WHY IS THE CHURCH NEEDED?

Context for everything God does (no independence)

## WHAT IS A CHRISTIAN'S RESPONSIBILITY TO THE CHURCH?

Attendance (Hebrews 10:25)

Appreciate the gifts of others (1 Corinthians 12)

Use your gifts well (Romans 12:3-8)

Work for unity (Ephesians 4:1-6)

Prayer for the church (Ephesians 6:18-20)

Rejoice (Philippians 4:4)

Give generously (Philippians 4:10-20)

Make your family life a picture of Christ and the church  
(Ephesians 5:22-33)

## FINAL WORDS OF JESUS TO THE CHURCH (REVELATION 2-3)

# LESSON TEN: **BIBLE READING & PRAYER**

## *INTRODUCTION*

---

Two of the most important activities for any Christian who truly wants to follow Jesus are regular Bible reading and prayer. Prayer is how we talk to God and Bible reading is how He primarily talks to us. You can still be a Christian if you neglect Bible reading and prayer, but you won't be a healthy, happy, influential, successful Christian if you are neglecting these vital practices.

## *MESSAGE NOTES*

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### YOUR PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY OF MATURITY:

Philippians 2:12-13 (Sanctification)

### THE ROLE OF SCRIPTURE IN YOUR GROWTH:

Psalms 119 - benefits of Bible reading, study and meditation

Psalms 1 - meditation

Memorization -

Deuteronomy 6:1-9

Psalm 119:11

Suggested verses for memorization

John 3:16-17,

Romans 3:23

Romans 6:23

Romans 5:8,

Romans 10:9-10

John 14:6

1 John 1:9

Proverbs 3:5-6

Philippians 4:13

1 John 4:7-8

Acts 1:8

Romans 12:1-2

2 Timothy 3:16

Philippians 4:6-7

Jeremiah 29:11

Isaiah 53

Psalm 23



## THE PLACE OF PRAYER IN THE LIFE OF A BELIEVER:

Old Testament prophets (Elijah- rain, David, Daniel)

Throughout New Testament-

Matthew 6:5-15 (Lord's Prayer)

Mark 6:46-

Luke 6:12-

Luke 9:28-

Luke 11:1-

Matthew 26:36-

Acts 10:9-

Romans 8:26-

1 Thessalonians 5:17-

James 5:16-

Philippians 4:6-

## GROUP PRAYER VS. INDIVIDUAL PRAYER

Worship in OT was corporate prayer

Early church (Acts 2:42) "the prayers"-

Early prayer meetings- Acts 1, Acts 12- Peter in prison  
(Acts 21:5- upon leaving)

Vast majority of praying, Old and New Testament, is private.

## OTHER SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES

Giving | Fasting | solitude | Silence | Ministering to the poor | Marriage.

# LESSON ELEVEN: **KNOWING GOD'S WILL**

## *INTRODUCTION*

---

It is God's desire for us to live the best lives possible. Jesus came to give us lives of abundance. Blessings will be the inevitable result of us doing what God wants us to do. The problem is, we have a built-in flaw called sin, that includes a self-destructive tendency and a blindness to God's best plans for us. Sometimes we do what we know we shouldn't do, while other times we have no clue as to what to do. If we could just know what God's perfect will is we would be so much closer to the abundant life He desires for us. And God's will is knowable. We just have to follow the path He has laid out for us.

## *MESSAGE NOTES*

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### PRELIMINARY CONSIDERATIONS

Proverbs 21:5-

Proverbs 13:20-

Proverbs 18:1-

Psalms 119:105-

## PRIMARY STEPS

James 1:5-8-

Proverbs 2:1-7-

Proverbs 18:15-

Proverbs 20:18-

## ROADBLOCKS TO AVOID

Proverbs 14:12-

Proverbs 14:17-

Proverbs 29:25-

Ephesians 5:18-21-

## THE PROCESS

Proverbs 3:5-6

John 16:13-14-

## CHECKING YOUR WORK

Galatians 5:16-26-

James 3:17-

# LESSON TWELVE: **SHARING YOUR FAITH**

## *INTRODUCTION*

---

Once we discover what a blessing it is to be in a personal relationship with God, through Jesus Christ, we have a natural desire for others to find that same relationship. Not only do we want the people we care about to be in heaven with us, we also desire for them to discover the abundant life that God is giving us. But God is so big, and we are so limited in our understanding of His complexities, we are sometimes intimidated by the task of introducing people to Jesus. We are afraid to say the wrong thing. Sometimes we are afraid of rejection and humiliation if we can't answer all their questions. But it is vitally important for us to share our faith, and it is much easier than we sometimes think. The Holy Spirit will help us in this crucial mission.

## *MESSAGE NOTES*

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### IMPORTANCE OF SHARING YOUR FAITH

Proverbs 11:30-

John 3:16-

2 Peter 3:9-

1 Corinthians 9:22-

Romans 10:14-

## SOME HELPFUL BIBLICAL EXAMPLES

John 3-

John 4-

Acts 2-

Acts 16-

## THE MESSAGE OF THE GOSPEL

1 Corinthians 15: 1-8-

## THE ROMANS ROAD-

Romans 3:23-

Romans 6:23-

Romans 5:8-

Romans 10:9-10-

## CONCLUDING THOUGHTS

Importance of infiltration-

Importance of conversation-

Importance of invitation-

# LESSON THIRTEEN: **MARRIAGE, DIVORCE, & SINGLENES**

## *INTRODUCTION*

---

We are all defined, to a degree, by our marital status. We are either married or we are single. Every particular marital status involves challenges and pain. Being single in our culture sometimes involves painful stigma, while marriage provides its own challenges. Sometimes marriage ends, either by the death of a spouse, or by a broken marriage. These conditions too involve great pain. God's Word provides much wisdom for us, whatever our marital status. He is with us and will lead us in our dark times.

## *MESSAGE NOTES*

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### PRELIMINARY REMARKS:

Marriage is over glamorized and over mystified in our culture, partly because it sells.

Sad side effects-

Note- divorce rate statistics are grossly misleading (especially for Christians)



GENESIS 2:18-25

not good for man to be alone (why?)

Benefits of marriage-

OT MARRIAGE WAS A COVENANT OR CONTRACT

(money exchanged, promises made, consequences of breach)

Most of the marriage advice we have in the Bible is from two single guys (Jesus and Paul)

1 CORINTHIANS 7-

v. 1-9-

v. 10-11-

v. 12-16-

v. 17-24-

v. 25-40-

EPHESIANS 5:21-33-

v. 21-

v. 22-24

v. 25-33-

## DIVORCE-

Deuteronomy 24-

Matthew 5:31-32-

Matthew 19:3-12-

(also Exodus 21:10-11, Hosea 2:5, Ezekiel 16-1-19)

## REMARRIAGE AFTER DIVORCE-

## SUMMARY-

# LESSON FOURTEEN: **THE BATTLE FOR THE MIND**

## *INTRODUCTION*

---

The hardest battles we will ever fight are the battles that occur in our own minds. Our enemy the devil is constantly lying to us. He lies about God and he lies about us. If he can get us to believe his lies he can steal our joy and neutralize our spiritual strength. We become discouraged, depressed, anxious and frustrated, which steals our lives one day at a time. But God's Word teaches us how to combat these lies. He gives us truths to stand on even when we find ourselves in the depths of despair. His answers aren't easy, quick fixes, but they help us walk through the valley of the shadow of death, emerging eventually on the other side.

## *MESSAGE NOTES*

---

BASIC UNDERSTANDING OF WHAT "NORMAL" IS-

PREVALENCE OF DEPRESSION AND ANXIETY TODAY-

## PREVALENCE OF DEPRESSION AND ANXIETY IN THE BIBLE-

David (classic bi-polar)- Psalm 22

Elijah- 1 Kings 19-

Jonah (especially chapter 4)

Job, Moses, Jeremiah (all wanted to die)

Paul (2 Timothy 4, 2 Corinthians)

Jesus- Isaiah 53:3, Mark 14:34-36

## BIBLE GIVES US HOPE-

2 Timothy 1:7-

2 Corinthians 10:5-

## BIBLE GIVES US TOOLS (NOT TO ELIMINATE, BUT TO MANAGE)

Philippians 4:6-9-

John 18:11 (also Mark 14:34-36)-

1 Kings 19-

Philippians 2:3-5-

Psalm 139:23-24-

Psalms-

## SUMMARY OF TOOLS

Are you praying?

What are you meditating on?

Have you accepted your cup?

Are you exercising, eating right, talking, getting help?

Are you working on humility?

Are you examining yourself, with God's help?

Are you writing?

## HOW ABOUT MEDICATION?

### **I'M NOT A DOCTOR!**

Cautions-

Openness-

# LESSON FIFTEEN: **FUTURE THINGS**

## *INTRODUCTION*

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Everyone is curious about the future. Countless books have been written, and countless movies have been produced, that speculate and predict concerning the future of our planet and human civilization. While the Bible does not solve all future mysteries, and it certainly doesn't tell us when time and civilization will end, it does give us some fascinating highlights and insights concerning our ultimate future, and the future of planet earth and the human race. And since the Bible contains numerous prophecies that have been fulfilled, it only makes sense to pay special attention to its predictions about our future.

## *MESSAGE NOTES*

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### PRELIMINARY COMMENTS

### DEFINITION OF TERMS-

Millennium-

Second Coming-

Tribulation-

Rapture-



## REV 20:1-10 HOW TO INTERPRET

### COMMON MILLENNIAL VIEWS-

Amillennialism-

Post Millennialism-

Dispensational Premillennialism

Historical Premillennialism