



REMINDING THE CHURCH OF GOD'S LOVE

**SIX WEEK BIBLE STUDY
AUTHORED BY
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Lesson 1 A Dedicated Life	(Ephesians 4:17-32 NLT)	February 29, 2024
Lesson 2 Understanding who we are in Christ	(Colossians 3:1-15 NLT)	March 7, 2024
Lesson 3 A Living Witness	(1 John 1:1-10)	March 14, 2024
Lesson 4 We are workers together with Christ	(1 Corinthians 3:1-17)	March 21, 2024
Lesson 5 Caught up to meet the Lord (harpazō; <u>har-pad'-zo</u>) (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; 1 Corinthians 5:51-58)		March 28, 2024
Lesson 6 Thank God for Jesus	(Hebrews 12:1-13)	April 4, 2024

***"See how very much our Father loves us, for he calls us his children, and that is what we are!
But the people who belong to this world don't recognize that we are God's children because
they don't know him."
1 John 3:1 NLT***

Well Saints,

Here we are embarking on another Bible Study series. This one is entitled; "Reminding the Church of God's Love". Amid a seemingly hate-filled world that we live in, it's important to remember that we know and serve the loving God of the universe. The scriptures are replete with illustrations of His great love for us. Therefore, we will look at six different passages that will reiterate in our hearts the magnitude of His love and our calling and purpose as Saints of God.

So may the Lord bless you and keep you in the center of His will, invite a friend and enjoy.

Prepared by

Pastor Kermit R. Perry

Reminding the Church of God's Love

Lesson 1

February 29, 2024

A Dedicated Life (Ephesians 4:17-32 NLT)

Discussion Starter: In your opinion what does it mean to be dedicated to the Lord, and can it be challenging?

What a Contrast (Ephesians 4:17-24)

17 With the Lord's authority I say this: Live no longer as the Gentiles do, for they are hopelessly confused. **18** Their minds are full of darkness; they wander far from the life God gives because they have closed their minds and hardened their hearts against him.

19 They have no sense of shame. They live for lustful pleasure and eagerly practice every kind of impurity. **20** But that isn't what you learned about Christ. **21** Since you have heard about Jesus and have learned the truth that comes from him, **22** throw off your old sinful nature and your former way of life, which is corrupted by lust and deception. **23** Instead, let the Spirit renew your thoughts and attitudes. **24** Put on your new nature, created to be like God—truly righteous and holy.

Discussion Question 1-2

- In today's terms; how would you define the word, 'Gentiles'?
- What have you learned about Christ since you first believed?

Exhortation to Live Godly (Ephesians 4:25-29)

25 So stop telling lies. Let us tell our neighbors the truth, for we are all parts of the same body. **26** And "don't sin by letting anger control you." Don't let the sun go down while you are still angry, **27** for anger gives a foothold to the devil. **28** If you are a thief, quit stealing. Instead, use your hands for good hard work, and then give generously to others in need.

29 Don't use foul or abusive language. Let everything you say be good and helpful, so that your words will be an encouragement to those who hear them.

Discussion Question 3

- Why would the Church need to be reminded of these things?

TGIF: Thank God I'm Forgiven (Ephesians 4:30-32)

30 And do not bring sorrow to God's Holy Spirit by the way you live. Remember, he has identified you as his own, guaranteeing that you will be saved on the day of redemption.

31 Get rid of all bitterness, rage, anger, harsh words, and slander, as well as all types of evil behavior. **32** Instead, be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God through Christ has forgiven you.

Discussion Question 4

- How important is it to know that you are forgiven?

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Apply the Text

Since we understand that we have a new life in Jesus Christ let us strive to bring glory to God as we carry His Word to a dark and dying world.

Memory Verse

Instead, be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God through Christ has forgiven you. (Ephesians 4:32)

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Lesson 2

March 7, 2024

Understanding who we are in Christ (Colossians 3:1-15 NLT)

Discussion Starter: What is it in your life that you want others, (especially the unsaved) to see?

A Heavenly Perspective (Colossians 3:1-4)

1 Since you have been raised to new life with Christ, set your sights on the realities of heaven, where Christ sits in the place of honor at God's right hand. **2** Think about the things of heaven, not the things of earth. **3** For you died to this life, and your real life is hidden with Christ in God. **4** And when Christ, who is your life, is revealed to the whole world, you will share in all his glory.

Discussion Question 1

- What do these verses speak to you as you walk with Christ?

The To-Do List (Colossians 3:5-9)

5 So put to death the sinful, earthly things lurking within you. Have nothing to do with sexual immorality, impurity, lust, and evil desires. Don't be greedy, for a greedy person is an idolater, worshiping the things of this world. **6** Because of these sins, the anger of God is coming. **7** You used to do these things when your life was still part of this world. **8** But now is the time to get rid of anger, rage, malicious behavior, slander, and dirty language. **9** Don't lie to each other, for you have stripped off your old sinful nature and all its wicked deeds.

Discussion Question 2

- Since the people of God are saved and sealed with the Holy Spirit; why would Paul have to share this message with the church?

What's Love Got to Do With it? (Colossians 3:10-15)

10 Put on your new nature, and be renewed as you learn to know your Creator and become like him. **11** In this new life, it doesn't matter if you are a Jew or a Gentile, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbaric, uncivilized, slave, or free. Christ is all that matters, and he lives in all of us. **12** Since God chose you to be the holy people he loves, you must clothe yourselves with tenderhearted mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. **13** Make allowance for each other's faults, and forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others. **14** Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds us all together in perfect harmony. **15** And let the peace that comes from Christ rule in your hearts. For as members of one body you are called to live in peace. And always be thankful.

Let's Read:

2 Corinthians 5:17

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Discussion Questions 3-4

- Since 2 Corinthians 5:17 states that we are new creations, how then do we put on our new nature according to verse 10?
- What admonitions in these verses may help us to walk in love toward others?

Apply the Text

We should use every tool in our heavenly toolbox to win souls for Christ, as we continually strive to glorify the Lord in word and deed.

Memory Verse

"And let the peace that comes from Christ rule in your hearts. For as members of one body you are called to live in peace. And always be thankful." Colossians 3:15 NLT

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Lesson 3

March 14, 2024

A Living Witness (1 John 1:1-10)

Discussion Starter: Have you experienced anything in your life that proved to you beyond per adventure of a doubt that God is real?

An Eye Witness (1 John 1:1-4)

1 We proclaim to you the one who existed from the beginning, whom we have heard and seen. We saw him with our own eyes and touched Him with our own hands. He is the Word of life. **2** This One who is Life itself was revealed to us, and we have seen Him. And now we testify and proclaim to you that He is the One who is eternal life. He was with the Father, and then He was revealed to us. **3** We proclaim to you what we ourselves have actually seen and heard so that you may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son, Jesus Christ. **4** We are writing these things so that you may fully share our joy.

Discussion Question 1

- How much weight does an eyewitness carry in a court of law?

The Light of the World (1 John 1:5-7)

5 This is the message we heard from Jesus and now declare to you: God is light, and there is no darkness in Him at all. **6** So we are lying if we say we have fellowship with God but go on living in spiritual darkness; we are not practicing the truth. **7** But if we are living in the light, as God is in the light, then we have fellowship with each other, and the blood of Jesus, His Son, cleanses us from all sin.

Discussion Question 2

- How important do you think it is for believers to have true fellowship with one another?

Keeping it Real (1 John 1:8-10)

8 If we claim we have no sin, we are only fooling ourselves and not living in the truth. **9** But if we confess our sins to Him, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness. **10** If we claim we have not sinned, we are calling God a liar and showing that His word has no place in our hearts.

Discussion Question 3

- What could cause a believer to claim they have no sin or that he/she has not sinned?

Apply the Text

Remember Christ in all of His glory, love, forgiveness, justice, mercy, and grace. That will allow us to be the ambassadors that He has called us to be.

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Memory Verse

"But if we confess our sins to Him, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness."

1 John 1:9 NLT

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Lesson 4

March 21, 2024

We are workers together with Christ (1 Corinthians 3:1-17)

Discussion Starter: Can you think of any chores that are easier to complete by two people instead of one?

Time to Grow Up (1 Corinthians 3:1-4)

1 Dear brothers and sisters, when I was with you I couldn't talk to you as I would to spiritual people. I had to talk as though you belonged to this world or as though you were infants in Christ. **2** I had to feed you with milk, not with solid food, because you weren't ready for anything stronger. And you still aren't ready, **3** for you are still controlled by your sinful nature. You are jealous of one another and quarrel with each other. Doesn't that prove you are controlled by your sinful nature? Aren't you living like people of the world?
4 When one of you says, "I am a follower of Paul," and another says, "I follow Apollos," aren't you acting just like people of the world?

Discussion Question 1

- What are some of the things that will keep a church from growing to its full potential?

Harvest Time (1 Corinthians 3:5-9)

5 After all, who is Apollos? Who is Paul? We are only God's servants through whom you believed the Good News. Each of us did the work the Lord gave us.
6 I planted the seed in your hearts, and Apollos watered it, but it was God who made it grow. **7** It's not important who does the planting, or who does the watering. What's important is that God makes the seed grow.
8 The one who plants and the one who waters work together with the same purpose. And both will be rewarded for their own hard work.
9 For we are both God's workers. And you are God's field. You are God's building.

Discussion Question 2

- How should we respond when someone rejects the gospel message after we have shared Jesus with them from our hearts?

Working on the Building (1 Corinthians 3:10-15)

10 Because of God's grace to me, I have laid the foundation like an expert builder. Now others are building on it. But whoever is building on this foundation must be very careful.
11 For no one can lay any foundation other than the one we already have—Jesus Christ.
12 Anyone who builds on that foundation may use a variety of materials—gold, silver, jewels, wood, hay, or straw. **13** But on the judgment day, fire will reveal what kind of work each builder has done. The fire will show if a person's work has any value.
14 If the work survives, that builder will receive a reward. **15** But if the work is burned up, the builder will suffer great loss. The builder will be saved, but like someone barely escaping through a wall of flames.

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Discussion Question 3

- In verse 10, why is Paul admonishing the church to be careful how they build on the foundation that he has laid?

Apply the Text

As our motto for 3Ps this year is "Committed to Serve the Lord" let's purpose in our hearts to do that, with all of our hearts. God will be glorified and the church will be edified.

Memory Verse

*"For no one can lay any foundation other than the one we already have—Jesus Christ."
1 Corinthians 3:11 NLT*

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Lesson 5

March 28, 2024

Caught up to me the Lord (*harpazō; har-pad'-zo*)

(1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; 1 Corinthians 5:51-58)

Discussion Starter: As a follower of Jesus Christ; what is your ultimate hope in Him? Why is that important?

Hope in Christ, the Resurrection (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18)

13 And now, dear brothers and sisters, we want you to know what will happen to the believers who have died. So you will not grieve like people who have no hope.

14 For since we believe that Jesus died and was raised to life again, we also believe that when Jesus returns, God will bring back with Him the believers who have died.

15 We tell you this directly from the Lord: We who are still living when the Lord returns will not meet Him ahead of those who have died.

16 For the Lord himself will come down from heaven with a commanding shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet call of God. First, the believers who have died will rise from their graves.

17 Then, together with them, we who are still alive and remain on the earth will be **caught up** in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. Then we will be with the Lord forever.

18 So encourage each other with these words.

Discussion Questions 1-2

- How can we have hope in a time of sorrow and bereavement?
- What would you say is the prerequisite for having this hope?

A Change is Coming (1 Corinthians 15:51-58)

51 But let me reveal to you a wonderful secret. We will not all die, but we will all be transformed! **52** It will happen in a moment, in the blink of an eye, when the last trumpet is blown. For when the trumpet sounds, those who have died will be raised to live forever. And we who are living will also be transformed. **53** For our dying bodies must be transformed into bodies that will never die; our mortal bodies must be transformed into immortal bodies. **54** Then, when our dying bodies have been transformed into bodies that will never die, this Scripture will be fulfilled: "Death is swallowed up in victory. **55** O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?" **56** For sin is the sting that results in death, and the law gives sin its power. **57** But thank God! He gives us victory over sin and death through our Lord Jesus Christ. **58** So, my dear brothers and sisters, be strong and immovable. Always work enthusiastically for the Lord, for you know that nothing you do for the Lord is ever useless.

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Discussion Questions 3

- What do these verses have in common with John 11:25-26?
"Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Anyone who believes in me will live, even after dying. Everyone who lives in me and believes in me will never ever die. Do you believe this, Martha?""

Apply the Text

When God gives us a glimpse into the future and eternity we should take that just as seriously as anything else we have learned from Him. This will bring comfort to others who have no hope.

Memory Verse

"And now, dear brothers and sisters, we want you to know what will happen to the believers who have died so you will not grieve like people who have no hope."

1 Thessalonians 4:13 NLT

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Lesson 6

April 4, 2024

Thank God for Jesus (Hebrews 12:1-13)

Discussion Starter: Is there anyone who has been an inspiration to you in your coming to the Lord or your walk with the Lord? What is it that stood out to you in their life?

Surrounded by Witnesses (Hebrews 12:1-4)

1 Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of witnesses to the life of faith, let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily trips us up. And let us run with endurance the race God has set before us. **2** We do this by keeping our eyes on Jesus, the champion who initiates and perfects our faith. Because of the joy awaiting Him, He endured the cross, disregarding its shame. Now He is seated in the place of honor beside God's throne. **3** Think of all the hostility He endured from sinful people; then you won't become weary and give up. **4** After all, you have not yet given your lives in your struggle against sin.

Discussion Question 1

- Does remembering the suffering of Jesus help when we go through the trials that we face in life?

Love and Discipline (Hebrews 12:5-8)

5 And have you forgotten the encouraging words God spoke to you as His children? He said, "My child, don't make light of the Lord's discipline, and don't give up when He corrects you. **6** For the Lord disciplines those He loves, and He punishes each one He accepts as His child." **7** As you endure this divine discipline, remember that God is treating you as His children. Who ever heard of a child who is never disciplined by its father? **8** If God doesn't discipline you as He does all of His children, it means that you are illegitimate and are not really His children at all.

Discussion Question 2-3

- What does God's discipline look like and feel like?
- Have you ever experienced His discipline?

Dig Deep and Hold On (Hebrews 12:9-13)

9 Since we respected our earthly fathers who disciplined us, shouldn't we submit even more to the discipline of the Father of our spirits, and live forever? **10** For our earthly fathers disciplined us for a few years, doing the best they knew how. But God's discipline is always good for us, so that we might share in His holiness. **11** No discipline is enjoyable while it is happening—it's painful! But afterward there will be a peaceful harvest of right living for those who are trained in this way. **12** So take a new grip with your tired hands and strengthen your weak knees. **13** Mark out a straight path for your feet so that those who are weak and lame will not fall but become strong.

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Discussion Question 4

- Has your perspective on discipline and understanding His Word changed since coming to Christ?

Apply The Text

There are two aspects to this lesson, one is we have so many role models to look at and learn from, and second we have a loving Father who disciplines us for our benefit. Let us live in a way pleasing to the Lord.

Memory Verse

"Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God."

Hebrews 12:1-2 KJV



CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES

**MAY GOD BLESS &
KEEP YOU IS OUR
PRAYER.**
