

THE FIRST



40 + DAYS

**A STUDY SERIES
FOR NEW
CHRISTIANS**



WWW.SACMETROCOC.ORG



DAY 1: SAVED COMPLETELY

What God has done for you through your baptism into Christ is truly AMAZING!

Colossians 1:21-23

- What was your relationship with God before today? What had you done to make God your enemy?
- What does it mean to be holy, without blemish and free from accusation?
- What condition is there to staying saved (v. 23)?

1 John 3:1-4

- As a “child of God,” what should your attitude be?
- How can you begin to purify yourself?

Hebrews 9:24-28, Hebrews 10:19-23

- What has Jesus’ sacrifice done for you?
- How can you draw near to God with a sincere heart?

Psalms 103:1-5

What has God done with your sins? Write other “benefits” God has done for you (v. 2).

APPLICATION

Praise God and thank him for saving you! Write a thank you prayer to God.

DAY 2: TESTED & TEMPTED

Matthew 3:16 - Matthew 4:11

- What happened to Jesus after his baptism? What should you expect after your baptism?
- How was Jesus tempted to question his relationship with God? God's plan for him?
- How has Satan tempted you with doubts/insecurity/fears since your baptism?
- How did Jesus use the Bible to fight temptation? How does the Bible expose Satan's lies?

Ephesians 6:10-18

- How might the devil scheme against you?
- What armor has God provided to keep you strong?
- What is our only "weapon" against Satan (v. 17)?

APPLICATION

Expect to be tempted and decide to be open about your struggles. Talk with another Christian today about your temptations and pray together.

DAY 3: GROWING ROOTS

Luke 8:13

What happens to young disciples who don't grow "roots"?

Acts 2:41-47, Acts 4:32-37

- What helped keep these young disciples faithful?
- Are you devoting yourself to the same things they did (Acts 2:42)?
- How can you deepen your relationships in the church?

1 Thessalonians 1:2-10

- What does it mean to have "deep conviction"? How can you develop conviction?
- Who should you imitate? In what ways?
- Are you becoming a "model" to others? How?

APPLICATION

Spend time this week with disciples you can imitate/encourage/learn from.

DAY 4: LEARNING TO PRAY

Luke 11:1-13

- Why does prayer need to be learned? Who are you learning from?
- (v. 2-4) How can you praise God's name? Do you pray for God's Kingdom (church) to increase? Do you pray for daily needs and for forgiveness for yourself and to also forgive others? Do you pray for help and protection from temptations?
- What else does Jesus want us to understand about prayer from verses 5 – 13?

A simple outline for prayer is: A.C.T.S.:

Adoration (praise)

Confession

Thanksgiving

Supplication (requests)

If you pray 10 minutes of each section, you will pray a powerful 40 minutes! Read Psalms to learn how to really praise God.

Philippians 4:6-7

- What does God want you to pray about?
- What are some worries you can pray about today?
- Do you feel at peace when you pray to God?
- Trust he will answer!

APPLICATION

Pray following the Lord's Prayer outline or using A.C.T.S. Write down some of your prayer requests and see how God answers them.

DAY 5: THE GRACE OF GOD

Romans 5:6-11

- How were you powerless when Christ died for you?
- What proves God's incredible love for you?

Titus 3:3-8, Titus 2:11-14

- Why do we need to be reminded about our old way of life?
- What did you do to earn God's forgiveness?
- How should you respond to the grace of God?
- Describe how you can be self-controlled and eager to do good works.

1 Corinthians 15:9-10, 1 Timothy 1:7-12

- How did Paul show his gratitude to God?

APPLICATION

Write down (and do) 3 things today that will show God how grateful you are to be saved.

DAY 6: TOO GOOD TO KEEP

2 Kings 7:3-11

- How were you starving and without hope like the 4 lepers before being baptized?
- How is the Kingdom of God like an unlimited feast?
- How does verse 9 apply to being a disciple? Do you have the same attitude?

Romans 10:1-4, Romans 10:14-21

- Do you feel like Paul does about the lost?
- Who does God send to preach?
- Will everyone accept the good news? Why?
- Why is it important to preach, no matter what response you receive?

Psalms 116:1-14

- How can you repay the Lord for all his goodness to you?

APPLICATION

Set a “goal of faith” for yourself in evangelism today. *Refuse to be discouraged!*

DAY 7: THE FAMILY OF GOD

Mark 3:31-33

- Why did Jesus have to make a choice between his physical and his spiritual one?
- Who are the people who are closest to you? What choices do you have to make? Are God's people really your family?

1 Peter 1:22

- What is "sincere love?" How can you love deeply, from the heart?
- Who have you loved this much in your life before? How does your love for the disciples need to grow?

2 Corinthians 5:16-17

- What are some worldly ways you have looked at people before?
- How do you need to change your way of seeing people? (Be specific).

1 Timothy 5:1-12

- Who are some people in your ministry that can become like spiritual "fathers, mothers, brothers and sisters" in your life?

APPLICATION

This week, schedule time to spend with two Christians that you have not spent time with before.

DAY 8: THE HOPE OF GLORY

1 Corinthians 15:19

- Why does our hope in Christ go beyond this earthly life?
- Why are we, as Christians, to be pitied if there is no eternal life?

1 Corinthians 15:42-58

- What is the mystery Paul tells us (v. 51)?
- Why do we normally fear death – and why should we no longer be afraid of dying?
- How should we work for the Lord? What will happen when we give ourselves completely?

Colossians 3:1-4

- When were you raised with Christ?
- What should your thinking be about from now on?
- What things should you stop thinking about so much?

APPLICATION

Think for a while about what heaven will be like. Don't forget to thank God everyday for the opportunity to go to heaven!

DAY 9: TRIALS OF MANY KINDS

James 1:2-8

- Why does God allow us to go through trials?
- What should your attitude be about going through trials?
- What are the trials in your life right now?

James 1:12-15

- How can you persevere through trials and stand the test?
- Where do temptations come from? What things tempt you? Have you talked about your temptations with God and with another disciple?

1 Peter 1:3-9

- Why should we rejoice in trials?
- How can you know if your faith is genuine or not?
- Write a list of some of the tests that could come your way (financially, relationships, persecution, etc.). How can you prepare today for trials you may face later?

APPLICATION

Talk with another disciple today about the trials and temptations you face. Discuss your attitude about trials. *Be happy!*

DAY 10: PRAYING LIKE JESUS

Mark 1:32-39

- What sacrifices did Jesus make to go and pray? Think of his previous day. What excuses could he have made not to pray?
- When do you feel the need to pray? Do you ever make excuses not to pray?
- How has your prayer time been the past 10 days?

Hebrews 5:7-10

- What kind of prayer life did Jesus have?
- What things, besides going to the cross, would have been difficult for Jesus to obey?
- What things are difficult for you to do as a disciple?
- Have you been praying with loud cries and tears for God to help you be obedient?
- What situations in your life do you need to pray more about? Make a list and be specific.

APPLICATION

Spend time today praying about the things you wrote on your list. Be specific in your prayers. Try praying out loud and talking to God as if you could see him. Tell him how you feel about these things, what is difficult, why it is difficult and what you can change. Review the past ten days' applications. Have you put them into practice?

DAY 11: HOLDING TO THE TRUTH

2 Timothy 2:4-19

- Why do some people like to quarrel about words and spread their own ideas around? Do you ever quarrel about words? Have you talked about it with another disciple?
- How can you train yourself to be an approved workman?
- Have you been involved in any discussions lately about God's word or the church that were pointless or even harmful? How can you avoid godless chatter?

1 Timothy 1:18-20

- How can you fight the good fight?
- How does a disciple "shipwreck" their faith?
- Remember Hymenaeus (2 Timothy 2:17-18) and Alexander (2 Timothy 4:14-15)? What is the outcome of people who turn away from the faith? How do they try to harm others?

1 Timothy 4:15-16

- Are you watching, daily, your life (as a disciple) and your doctrine (understanding the Bible)
- Has anyone noticed changes in you?

2 Timothy 2:22-26

- What should your attitude be toward those who oppose you?

APPLICATION

Discuss with your discipling partner any questions about doctrine or the church that you do not understand

DAY 12: DOING GOOD THINGS

Ephesians 2:10

- What has God created for us to do?
- Make a list of some good works that you could do.

1 Peter 4:8-11

- How does love cover over many sins?
- Have you been offering hospitality to other disciples?
- How can you improve in this?
- What do you think God wants you to be giving to others?

Galatians 6:9-10

- Who does God want us to help?
- Who in your Bible talk has special needs right now that you can help with?

APPLICATION

If you see needs you can meet, do it this week! If you don't know how you can help, ASK. **REMEMBER:** We need each other. *We are family.*

DAY 13: SAVED TO SERVE

Matthew 25:31-46

- What will we be judged for on the last day?
- Why is it not enough to simply give money to beggars?
- Which of the 6 things listed in verses 35-36 have you done recently?
- Who are we really ignoring when we neglect the needy?

Deuteronomy 15:7-10

- What does it mean to be “hard-hearted” or “tight-fisted?”
- What kind of giving does God expect from you?
- Who are some of the poor and needy around you – and how are you going to help them?

Matthew 10:47

- What are some small acts of kindness that will not be forgotten by God?
- How can you help the needy even if you have little money?

James 1:27

- What is true religion in God’s sight?
- Who does God have a special concern for?

APPLICATION

Who can you help today? Do it. Also, make plans with another disciple to help other needy people this week.

DAY 14: A NEW CREATION

2 Corinthians 5:17

- What are some of the “old” parts of you that are gone?
- What are some of the “new “ things you are becoming?

Mark 2:21-22

- How new must you be?
- What is the difference between adding on new habits and being changed from the inside?
- Are you like an old wineskin or a new one? Why?

Romans 12:2

- What are some examples of worldly thinking in your life?
- How can you change your thinking?

Ephesians 4:17, Ephesians 5:2

- How does God describe your old way of thinking and living?
- Who were you created to be like? Why is it so important to keep on forgiving each other?
- What does it mean to live a life of love?

APPLICATION

Ask your discipler or a Christian who knows you well how they see worldly attitudes or habits in your life.

DAY 15: THE HOPE OF HEAVEN

Revelation 20:11-15

- Imagine what the Day of Judgment will be like. Who will be there?
- How will everyone be feeling?

Revelations 21:1-8

- Who is the bride of Christ?
- Describe heaven.
- Check yourself against verse 8. Are any of these sins in your life?

Revelation 22:1-6

- What other eternal joys will be in heaven?
- Why does God want us to know these words are trustworthy and true?

Revelation 22:14-15

- Are any of these sins in your life?

APPLICATION

Pray about what God promises in heaven! If there are any sins you need to confess and change, do it TODAY!

DAY 16: SAVED TO SAVE

1 Peter 2:9-10

- What does it mean to be a royal priesthood?
- What message should you be sharing?
- Are you really declaring God's praises or just giving out an invitation?

2 Corinthians 5:14-21

- How can you tell if you're living for yourself or living for Jesus?
- What does it mean to be Christ's ambassador?
- Would Jesus be pleased with the way you represent him?
- What does it mean to APPEAL to and IMPLORE people?
- What attitude should you have toward to this?

Acts 17:16-34

- Why was Paul distressed?
- What are some sights around your city that should distress you?
- Where did Paul share his faith?
- Why did Paul begin his message by commending the Athenians for being very religious?
- What does this teach you about reaching out to religious people – even of different faiths?
- How did the people respond to Paul's message?

APPLICATION

Write at least 4 things you have learned about evangelism from today's study. Share your faith with these things in mind.

DAY 17: DISTRACTED OR DEVOTED

Luke 10:38-42

- Why was Martha distracted?
- How was she feeling?
- What are some things you have let distract you this week?
- Are you more like Martha or Mary?
- What did Mary choose?
- How was it better?

Luke 8:14

- What does it mean to be “choked?”
- What is the result?
- What are the worries/money and business concerns/pleasures that are keeping you from growing more?

Luke 12:35-40

- Why do we need to stay alert and ready for Jesus?
- How does Jesus feel when we get distracted from our purpose and start doing other things?

APPLICATION

If you have been distracted or wasting time, try writing a personal schedule every day. Let another disciple help you.

DAY 18: LEARNING FROM OTHERS

Matthew 18:1-4

- What kind of heart does God want us to have?
- What qualities of children do we need to imitate?

1 Thessalonians 5:12-14

- Who is “over you” in the Lord?
- Does it have anything to do with age or education?
- Write the names of some Christians who work hard, set a good example and admonish you.
- Are you showing them respect?
- What kind of disciples needs special help (v. 14)?
- Have you been admonished for any of these problems?

Psalm 119:99-100

- What gives us real maturity and understanding?
- How is verse 100 opposite of how our society thinks?
- What should your attitude be when you are being taught/disciplined/corrected by someone younger than yourself?

1 Timothy 4:11-12

- What does the Lord expect from young leaders?

Psalm 32:8-10

- How can you not be like a horse or mule?

APPLICATION

If you have resisted learning from younger disciples, repent today and seek them out to ask questions. If you are young yourself, set the believers a great example!

DAY 19: POWERFUL PRAYERS

1 Chronicles 17:15-22

- What was David feeling as he prayed to God? Why?
- How has the Lord treated you with undeserved honor and blessings?
- How did God bless Israel?
- How has he done even greater things for his people today?
- What attitude toward God does this prayer express?

Genesis 24:10-27

- Why do you think the Lord answered this prayer so quickly?
- The servant's prayer was simple, but he had great faith. How can you tell?
- What was the servant's first response to the answered prayer?
- Are you remembering to thank God for every answered prayer?

James 5:15-18

- What makes prayer powerful and effective?
- Do you pray eagerly and earnestly?
- Do you pray with great faith? Have you been righteous this week?
-

APPLICATION

Make your prayer very specific today. Pray with faith and gratitude.

DAY 20: TEMPTED BY THE WORLD

Psalm 73:1-14

- What was the writer feeling as he looked at the wealthy, unsaved people around him?
- Why did life seem unfair to him?
- How have you envied people in the world?
- Have you struggled with this since becoming a Christian? Have you talked about it?

Psalm 73:15-22

- What did he realize about their final destiny?
- How is the “good life” like a dream that will end on judgment day?
- How was the writer thinking when he was envying them?

Psalm 73:23-28

- What did the writer realize about his relationship with God?
- Memorize verses 25-26.

1 John 2:15-17

- What things in the world are you supposed to hate?
- What worldly are still attracting you?

APPLICATION

Talk with your discipler about your feelings about the world. What temptations you have been having. Pray about them today.

DAY 21: REJOICE IN PERSECUTIONS

Matthew 5:10-11

- What should make us rejoice in persecutions?
- Have people insulted or spoken evil of you because of Jesus?
- How did you feel?
- Who else has been treated this way?

John 15:18-23

- How should we expect to be treated?
- Why does the world hate us?
- What makes people guilty when they see us become disciples?

Acts 4:13-22

- What made Peter and John so bold?
- Has anyone tried to stop you from teaching, speaking, worshipping Jesus?
- How have you responded?

Acts 5:17-29

- Jesus was persecuted out of envy (Mark 15:10); the apostles were arrested out of jealousy
- Why will we be persecuted or slandered?
- By whom?
- What was the apostles' reply when they were told to stop?

Acts 5:40-42

- What made the apostles happy?

APPLICATION

Let verse 42 be your theme today and every day.

DAY 22: GIVING LIVING

John 13:1-17

- How did Jesus show the full extent of his love?
- What was he carrying trying to teach his disciples?
- How can we obey verse 17?
- Give specific examples.

Acts 9:36-42

- Why was Dorcas so loved by everyone?
- Who were her “special friends?”
- Why do you think she did so much for them?
- If you died today, what would you be remembered for?
- What can we learn from Dorcas’ life?

Philippians 2:19-24

- What made Timothy different from the others?
- What shows a genuine interest in the welfare of others?
- How can you be more like Timothy?

APPLICATION

Think of a practical way to show another disciple that you truly care. Do it today.

DAY 23: CONFESSING SIN

Psalm 32:1-7

- How do we feel when we are hiding and not confessing our sin?
- Have you felt this way since your baptism? Are there any sins you have been afraid to confess?

Proverbs 28:13

- Can we conceal our sins from God?
- Who do we need to confess our sins to besides God?
- What effect will unconfessed sin have in our life?

Luke 8:17

- Why is it foolish to try to keep our sins hidden?

Psalm 66:18-19

- What else happens if we conceal or cherish sin?

APPLICATION

Take some time to think about any sins – attitudes, action, and thoughts – that are troubling you because you haven't shared them. Write them down and make sure you talk about them even today!

DAY 24: FAMILY PRESSURES

Mark 3:20-21

- Why do you think Jesus' family was upset with him?
- Has anyone in your family tried to stop you from serving God because they think you are hurting yourself?
- What would have happened if Jesus had agreed with them?

John 7:1-9

- What did Jesus' own brothers think of him?
- Why didn't Jesus do what his family wanted?

Matthew 10:37-39

- List some examples of ways we can "love" our families more than we listen to Jesus.
- If someone looked at your life, who would they say you love the most?

APPLICATION

Discuss any pressures you're feeling about family expectations with a strong disciple. Are there any changes you need to make?

DAY 25: BEING OPEN

John 15:15

- What did Jesus share with his disciples?
- Are you this kind of a friend to other Christians?
- Do they really know all about your life?

2 Corinthians 6:11-13

- What does it mean to speak freely?
- Are you opening your heart to others?
- What are some feelings you aren't expressing to anyone?

Proverbs 20:5

- Are you helping others to disciple you by being open or does someone have to "draw you out" by asking many questions?

APPLICATION

Spend some time today writing down some feelings/plans/secret sins that you haven't been sharing. Discuss these things with another Christian this week. *Be open!*

DAY 26: DEALING WITH DOUBTS

Matthew 11:1-6

- After all that, John the Baptist knew about Jesus, why do you think he began having doubts?
- What did John do to deal with his doubts?
- What should you do when doubts enter your mind?

Matthew 18:16-17

- Does this surprise you? Read on and see what Jesus told his doubting disciples to do.

1 Corinthians 15:11-14

- What were the Christians in Corinth doubting? They had believed at first, but later some began to doubt.
- What are some teachings you have doubted after believing?

Luke 24:36-45

- Where do you think doubts come from?
- How did Jesus help them to find faith?

APPLICATION

Write briefly how you can overcome doubts through openness, the word of God, prayer and obedience.

DAY 27: LEARNING TO BE LOYAL

First, what does loyalty mean to you?

1 Corinthians 13:4-7

- Write out this passage substituting your name in place of the word love. Now read through it again, thinking about some specific relationships you have.
- What do you see about yourself that needs to change?

Ephesians 4:29

- What kind of talk is harmful to others?
- Have you been involved in talk that is unkind, slanderous or mocking?

1 Thessalonians 5:12-15

- Who is “over you is the Lord?”
- Is this based on how they live?
- Write some names of Christians who work hard among you. Do you respect them from your heart?
- What is your attitude toward Christians who are weak or slow to learn?

APPLICATION

Write a note of appreciation to someone you respect, who is over you in the Lord and also to someone who needs patient encouragement.

DAY 28: DISPUTABLE MATTERS

Romans 14:1-8

- What are some disputable matters among Christians today (dress, taste in music, food and drink)?
- What should your attitude be toward those who see these things differently?

Romans 14:16-23

- What does God care about the most?
- Are you doing anything that could cause others to stumble
- What does verse 23 mean?
- Do you feel good about the way you are living now?

1 Timothy 2:9-10, 1 Peter 3:3-5

- What makes a woman beautiful to God?
- In your own words, write what you think these passages are teaching about clothing and about godliness.

Matthew 11:18-19

- Why did the people criticize Jesus and John the Baptist both?
- Why do you think they were so different yet both were pleasing to God?

APPLICATION

Do you have questions about what is right and wrong for a Christian? Find out from a mature disciple whether these things are disputable matter and come to your own decisions.

DAY 29: JESUS IS COMING SOON!

2 Peter 3:3-14

- Why do some people scoff (mock) at the promise of Christ's return?
- What will the "day of the Lord" be like?
- Are you living as though Jesus could come TODAY?

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

- Compare this passage to 2 Peter 3:7-10. Will there be any "second chance" for those who are not ready to meet the Lord?
- Why will this day be like "a thief in the nights?"
- What does it mean to be alert and self-controlled?

2 Timothy 4:6-8

- How does Paul feel about facing the Lord on Judgment Day?
- Why is living for Jesus like fighting the good fight, finishing the race and keeping the faith?
- What kind of effort does it take to be this way to the end?

APPLICATION

Live each day like it is you last!

DAY 30: JOINED TOGETHER IN LOVE

Psalm 133:1-3

- What is unity and why is it so important to have it in the church?

Ephesians 4:1-3

- Explain verse 2 in your own words. What happens when we act the opposite of this?
- Why does it take every effort to keep unity?

Philippians 2:1-5

- What does it mean to be one in spirit and purpose?
- How can you consider others better than yourself?
- Whose interests have you been looking out for besides your own? What is the attitude of Jesus? Is yours the same?

Matthew 18:15-17, Matthew 5:23-24

- How does Jesus tell us to resolve conflicts and disagreements with one another?
- Who should go to whom first?
- Is there anyone in the church with whom you need to go and settle a problem?

APPLICATION

Think about your relationships today. Pray to be unified with all your brothers and sisters and reach out to and spend time with those you do not love as Jesus would.

DAY 31: DEALING WITH DISCOURAGEMENT

The prophet Elijah had just experienced some tremendous victories from God: The destruction of 450 false prophets, and the first rainfall in three and a half years because of the earnest prayer (James 5:17-18). But then he got afraid and discouraged.

1 Kings 19:1-8

- Why did Elijah feel so overwhelmed?
- What are some things that have made you feel like giving up?
- How did the Lord encourage him physically, spiritually and emotionally?
- What do you normally do when you start feeling “down?”
- How can you apply the 3 lessons from above the next time you are tempted to give into discouragement?

1 Kings 19:19-21

- How do you think Elijah felt to be given a friend and disciple like Elisha?
- Why did God wait until Elijah was “in action” again before sending him to Elisha?

APPLICATION

How are you dealing with discouragement today? Share what you have learned with someone else.

DAY 32: WALKING AS JESUS DID

1 John 2:5-6

- Think back over the past several days. Are you walking like Jesus?

Mark 1:21-28

- What was different about the way Jesus taught?
- Are you teaching others with authority?

Mark 1:29-34

- How late do you think Jesus worked that night?
- Do you think he felt tired?
- Why did he work so hard?
- Are you willing to push yourself for others to know Jesus – even when it is very challenging?

Mark 1:35-39

- Note how early Jesus got up the next day? Why did he?
- How much do you feel the need to pray like Jesus?

Mark 2:13-17

- What kinds of people did Jesus make friends with? Why?
- How do you treat sinners and pagans?
- Are you making new friends to share the gospel with?

APPLICATION

Write down two things from today's study that you can do to imitate Jesus. Do them!

DAY 33: SHINING LIKE STARS

Philippians 2:14-16

- How do we “hold out the word of life” to others?
- What kind of example do we need to show those around us?
- What have you complained or argued about lately? How can you change?

1 Corinthians 9:19-23

- How can you be a slave to everyone? Give examples.
- What are some ways you need to adapt to people in your life to help them be saved?

Psalms 126:6

- Why should we be “weeping” as we go out to make disciples?
- What is the promise for those who do?
- Daniel 12:3 Are you being wise?

APPLICATION

Pray for a heart that truly loves people deeply as you share your faith today.

DAY 34: TAKING CORRECTION

Galatians 2:11-16

- What was Peter's sin?
- Why did Paul correct him publicly? See 1 Timothy 5:20 and Matthew 18:15.

2 Corinthians 7:8-13

- Why did Paul correct and challenge the Corinthians?
- How does God want you to respond to correction?
- Has anyone corrected you lately?
- How did you respond?
- Were they encouraged by your response?

Galatians 6:1-5

- What obligation do we have to help one another?
- How can pride keep you from taking correction?
- Why is it dangerous to compare us to others?

Proverbs 15:31-32, Proverbs 16:18

- Which one describes you?

APPLICATION

Ask your discipler how you take correction? Do you need to repent?

DAY 35: WORTHY OF THE NAME

1 Peter 4:12-19

- What kind of insults and sufferings have you endured for Jesus?
- What should your attitude be?
- What does Satan want you to think and do when you are being persecuted?

Hebrews 10:32-34

- Have you gone through suffering like this?
- What are you doing to encourage other Christians who are going through insults and persecutions?

Hebrews 11:32-40

- Have you faced lions, flames, swords, armies, tortures, flogging, imprisonment, flogging, chains or even banishment for Jesus' sake?
- How did God regard these people?

2 Corinthians 11:23-29, Romans 8:18

- What kind of life did Paul live for Christ?
- How did he feel about his sufferings?
- Have you been rejoicing or complaining as a Christian?

APPLICATION

Would Jesus say you are worthy of the name “Christian?”

DAY 36: A HOPE AND A FUTURE

Do you worry about your future?

What are your hopes and what are your fears?

Jeremiah 29:11-13

- What does God promise to those who seek him with all their hearts?
- Are you seeking him or something else?

Psalms 37:3-4

- What are the desires of your heart?
- Do you believe God will give them to you?

Psalms 16:5-8

- Do you feel this way about your life? Why?

1 Timothy 6:6-10

- What should make you content?
- What will a desire for money and things do to your life?
- How does someone “wander” from the faith?
- What other desires could make us wander?

Romans 8:31-32

- How has God proven his love for you?

APPLICATION

If you see anxiety or discontentment in our life, confess it as a lack of faith, and memorize one of these scriptures to remind yourself of God’s faithfulness.

DAY 37: THE GRACE OF GIVING

Luke 21:1-4

- What do you learn from this widow's example?
- Think of at least 3 reasons she could have given to be "stingy."

1 Timothy 6:17-19

- How should you live if you have money?

2 Corinthians 9:6-15

- Have you decided to give generously to God?
- Are you giving that amount regularly?
- What does God promise to those who give freely?
- How does your giving benefit others, God, and yourself?

APPLICATION

If you think your financial giving has not been generous or faithful, decide what you will give and honor that promise to God.

DAY 38: GO AND MAKE DISCIPLES

2 Timothy 2:1-7 Compare verse 2 with Matthew 28:19-20

- What is Christ's "strategy" for evangelizing the world?
- Describe a reliable disciple. Are you reliable in terms of keeping appointments, keeping time and following instructions?
- How are you to follow the example of a soldier, and athlete and a farmer? Be specific.
- Would Timothy or Paul have chosen you to teach others? Why?

1 Corinthians 9:24-27

- How is the Christian life like running a race?
- What happens if an athlete does not train or "beat his body?"
- What happens if you do not train and discipline yourself as a disciple?

APPLICATION

List ways you can be more disciplined in our Bible study and prayer, your evangelism and your use of time. Share it with your discipler.

DAY 39: FAITH IS THE VICTORY

Mark 2:1-12

- Why was this man so determined to see Jesus?
- List at least 3 reasons the man could have given to not try to see Jesus.
- What impressed Jesus about this man?
- How can you be more like him?

Mark 5:21-43

- What did Jairus and the bleeding woman have in common?
- Why did Jesus help both of them?
- Why is it important for us to depend completely on Jesus when we need help?
- What are some ways you have not been depending on God enough?
- Have you turned to other sources for help?

Mark 6:1-6

- What was different in this place? Why?
- Is Jesus amazed at your faith or your lack of faith? Why?

Hebrews 11:5-6

- Why do you think faith is so important for pleasing God?

APPLICATION

What are some things in our life (or someone else's) for which you really need God's help? Keep a prayer list and keep on praying.

DAY 40: GOOD HEARTS, GOOD DEEDS, GOOD THINGS

Luke 8:15

- Do you have a heart like this?
- What is your life producing?

Philemon 1:4-7

- What are 3 things Philemon did that showed a good heart?

2 Peter 1:5-11

- What do you need to do to keep growing as a Christian?
- Define goodness, perseverance, and brotherly kindness.
- What happens if you stop growing?
- What does verse 10 mean?

3 John 1:2-6

- If a brother or sister came to visit you, what kind of report would they give about your life?
- How do you feel about your life in Christ up until today?
- Are you growing?
- In what areas do you need help?

APPLICATION

Now that you have finished your forty-day study, decide what you are going to study for the next forty days and have a plan. Share these notes with the people you are leading to the Lord. Keep growing, and may God bless you!