



THE CHAPEL OF FAITH, UNIJOs
Holding Forth the Word of Life



BIBLE STUDY OUTLINES

New Creation



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New Creation - 2 Cor. 5: 17

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FOREWORD

New Creation: The word “new” connotes “of a kind now existing or appearing for the first time; novel: a new concept”. It symbolizes that something has not been put to use by anyone before and is therefore virgin.

New Creation therefore refers to the man or woman who has been regenerated by confessing his or her sins, forsaking them and putting the trust of his or her life in the Lord Jesus Christ, and now willing to lead a lifestyle that is henceforth ordered and directed by the word of God and the Holy Spirit.

This is the life God Almighty has called us to live as newly created men and women in a degenerate world. We are therefore to prove by our day to day living that indeed old things are passed away and behold, the new has come!

Corollary to the overarching theme of new creation are other sub-themes for the four quarters of the year, which explore related dimensions of the central concept. They feature in chronological order for the four quarters as follows: “Walking in God's Abundance”- John 10:10, “Saved to Serve”- Luke 1:74-75, “Courtship, Marriage and Family Life”- Eccl. 9:8 and “Standing Firm”- 1 Cor. 16:13.

May we live the fullness of life expected of us as “New Creation” men and women that we are, in Jesus' name. Amen!

Experience the blessedness of our God on the pages of the scriptures as we study together in Jesus' name.

Chaplain

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FIRST QUARTER

**WALKING IN GOD'S
ABUNDANCE**

John 10:10

STUDY

01

THE NEW BIRTH

TEXTS: Jn. 3:1-7; Acts 9:1-16.



MEMORY VERSE: Jesus answered and said unto him verily, verily I say unto thee; except a man be born again he cannot see the kingdom of God. Jn. 3:3.

INTRODUCTION

The new birth is a definite spiritual experience in which man acknowledges, accepts and receives the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ as payment for sins for the redemption of his soul. It is the beginning of a life-long journey for anyone who hopes or desires to spend eternity with God. In this study, we shall be looking at what the new birth entails, and some contemporary misconceptions.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Discuss what the new birth entails from these scriptures: Jn. 1:12, 13; 3:1-7; Acts 2:37-39; 13:38, 39; 16:29-31; Rom. 10:8-10; Eph. 2:8.
2. Discuss some contemporary misconceptions about the new birth: Matt. 7:22, 23; 23:23-28; Lk. 3:7, 8; Acts 16:16-18.

CONCLUSION

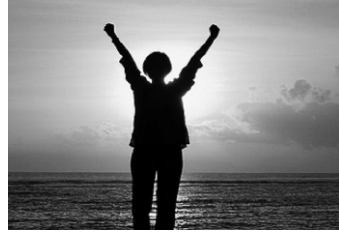
The first birth gives everyman the natural life, while the new birth accords us the privilege of eternal life through Christ. Let us not allow religion to becloud a clear-cut salvation experience. As many that are yet to experience this, make today your day of salvation.

STUDY

02

**THE
NEW MAN**

TEXTS: Rom. 6:1-15; 2 Cor. 5:15-21



MEMORY VERSE: *Therefore, if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. 2 Cor. 5:17.*

INTRODUCTION

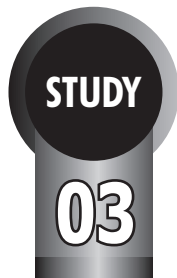
As soon as the spiritual transformation discussed in the previous study happens to any man by faith, such a person becomes a new man, a member of the family of God. His life changes because he no longer enjoys the previous sinful life style. He also begins to learn the ways of the Lord by praying and studying the word of God in order to discover and live by the principles of the kingdom of God. This way, he can grow daily to conform to the image of Christ.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Discuss the new man in the light of the following scriptures:
Lk. 10:20; Rom. 3:24-26; 6:1-15; 8:29; 1 Cor. 6:19, 20; Gal. 2:20; Col. 1:12, 13; 2 Cor. 5:15-21; 1 Pet. 2:9, 10.
2. Discuss some of the challenges to living the new life:
Matt. 5:11,12; Rom. 7:19-25; 8:1, 2; Gal. 3:1-4.

CONCLUSION

Once the old life is terminated and the new one begins, the lifestyle and pursuit in the life of the new man becomes different from that of the world. Although living the new life may be challenging, with Christ on our side, we are more than conquerors.



RENEWING YOUR MIND

TEXTS: Rom. 12:1-3; 2
Cor. 3:12-18; Phil. 4:8, 9.



MEMORY VERSE: *And be not conformed to this world:
but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind,
that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable,
and perfect, will of God. Rom 12:2*

INTRODUCTION

Renewal means to restore the freshness, life, or quality of something. Man lost the perfect mind he was created with at the fall. Since then his mind has been perverse, corrupt and estranged from God. At salvation, God made available unto man everything that pertains to life and godliness. However, he needs to continually renew his mind. This study focuses on God's provisions for renewal of the mind of every believer.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Discuss from the following scriptures God's provisions for the renewal of the believer's mind: Jn. 17:17; 1 Cor. 2:11-16; 2 Cor. 3:12-18.
2. Discuss from these scriptures how the mind of a believer can be renewed: Josh. 1:8; Ps. 1:1, 2; 119:9; Rom. 12:1-3; 13:13, 14; 2 Cor. 4:16-18; 10:3-6; Phil. 4:8, 9; Col. 3:1, 2; Jas. 1:22-25.

CONCLUSION

Renewal of the believer's mind is vital to his walking in God's abundance. It is a process that demands constant and deliberate application of God's word. May we be willing to release ourselves to this process.

STUDY

04

**AUTHORITY
OF THE
BELIEVER**

TEXTS: Gen. 1:26-28;
Matt. 18:18-20; Ps. 8:1-9.



MEMORY VERSE: *I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you. Lk. 10:19(NIV).*

INTRODUCTION

When God created man, he gave him authority to rule over his creation and subdue it. But man lost this position after the fall. Jesus came and paid the penalty for sin and defeated Satan through His death and resurrection, thereby reclaiming man's lost authority. As believers, we therefore have delegated authority to do what Jesus did and even more. This study will look at the authority that a believer has in Christ.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What authority do believers have? Gen. 1:26-28; Ps. 8:1-9; Mk. 16:15-20; Lk. 10:17-20; Jn. 1:12; 2 Cor. 10:4-6.
2. How should believers exercise their authority in Christ? Matt. 4:1-10; 18:18-20; Eph. 6:10-18; Jas. 4:7.
3. What are the hindrances to exercising this authority? Hos. 4:6; 2 Tim. 3:1-5; 1:7; Heb. 5:12-14.

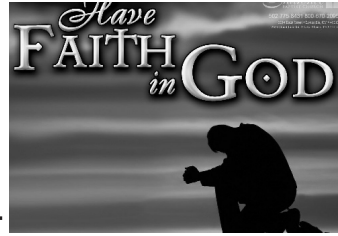
CONCLUSION

Jesus did not leave behind a powerless Church when He ascended into heaven. As believers with delegated authority from Jesus, we should therefore go forth in power to expand the Kingdom of God here on earth.



LIVING BY FAITH

TEXTS: Matt. 8:5-13; Heb. 11:1-6.



MEMORY VERSE: For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, the just shall live by faith. Rom 1:17.

INTRODUCTION

Faith is complete trust in God and His word. It is the certainty that what we hope for is waiting for us. If we must enjoy God's abundance, we must live by faith. In this study, we shall be looking at how to live by faith.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. From the following scriptures: how can we live by faith? Mk. 11:23, 24; Lk. 17:5, 6; Jn. 14:12-14; Rom. 10:17; Jas. 1:5-8.
2. Discuss how these Bible characters demonstrated their faith in God:
Matt. 8:5-13; Heb. 11:1-7; 8-12; 20-22; 23-28.

CONCLUSION

Living by faith requires listening to and obeying the word of God, irrespective of our circumstances. May God help us to continue to grow in faith. Amen.

STUDY

06

WALKING WITH GOD

TEXTS: Ps. 1:1-6; Rom. 8:1.



MEMORY VERSE: *And Enoch walked with God: and he was not; for God took him. Gen. 5:24.*

INTRODUCTION

Walking with God is walking by faith. It is a deliberate act of denying oneself of the things that please the flesh, and following after the things that please God. It was a daunting task for people who walked with God in the past, as they were subjected to ridicule, persecution and sometimes even death; but the benefits of walking with God far outweigh the challenges. Let us therefore arm ourselves to walk with God since the experiences still remain the same in our contemporary times.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Discuss what walking with God entails from the following Scriptures:
Gen. 6:9; Deut. 5:32, 33; Ps. 1:1-6; Isa. 30:21; Jer. 6:16; Rom. 8:1; 13:13, 14; 2 Cor. 5:7; Gal. 5:16-18; Col. 1:10-12; 1 Jn. 1:6-10.
2. Discuss some of the challenges to walking with God:
Gen. 4:3-8; Exo. 14:10-12; Acts 7:54-60; Gal. 5:16-18; 2 Tim. 4:10.

CONCLUSION

There is no doubt that walking with God is quite exciting and challenging, but God has promised to be with us to the end of time. Let us therefore endeavour to consistently walk with him and never give up.

STUDY

07

THE MORE WE KNOW HIM...

TEXTS: Dan. 11:32; Phil. 3:10-14.



MEMORY VERSE: *That I may know Him, and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being made conformable unto His death. Phil. 3:10.*

INTRODUCTION

Our life in Christ requires a consistent progress that will ultimately mature us into the stature of God's first-born Son, Jesus Christ. This is the Father's earnest desire. Our growth is measured by how much we know Him, and not how much we know about Him. This study focuses on the necessity for our increased knowledge of Him and its enhancement of walking in God's abundance.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Discuss why it is necessary for believers to know Him more: Dan. 11:32; Jn. 8:30-32; 1 Cor. 2:5-16; 15:34, 35, 50-58; 2 Cor. 3:11-18; Eph. 3:14-19; 4:13-18; Phil. 3:10-14; Heb. 5:12-14.
2. How can we know God more? Josh. 1:8; Ps. 1:1-3; 42:1, 2; Jer. 33:3; Jn. 8:31, 32; Acts 2:41-43; Eph. 4:19-24; Phil. 3:13, 14; 2 Pet. 1:2-11.

CONCLUSION

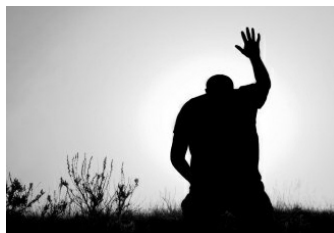
When we know God more, we do not suffer ignorance and the deception that is in the world, but we can exercise authority and strength. We also enjoy the full assurance of better things in this life and eternal life with Him. May we continue to grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

STUDY

08

WALKING IN GOD'S ABUNDANCE. I: OUR SPIRIT

TEXTS: Isa. 55:1-13; 2 Cor. 5:12-21.



MEMORY VERSE: *The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy; I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly. Jn. 10:10.*

INTRODUCTION

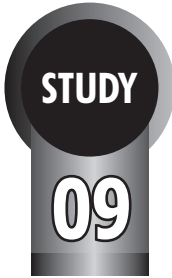
Jesus died on the cross to give us a life that is over and beyond what the human mind can ever comprehend. He made a way for us to enjoy the fullness of God's original intention for humanity. Man is a spirit, he has a soul and lives in a body. God expects us to live abundantly in all dimensions of life. In this study series, we shall be exploring what it means to live the abundant life that Christ gives to those who believe on Him.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Discuss from the following scriptures what it means to live abundantly in our spirit-man: Gen. 1:26-31; Exo. 33:11-19; Josh. 1:8, 9; Isa. 55:1-13; Rom. 8:1-11; Gal. 5:22-26; 2 Cor. 4:16-18; 5:12-21; Eph. 1:17-23; 1Thess. 5: 23.
2. Describe spiritual leanness from the following scriptures: Ps. 106:13-15; Jer. 17:1-6; Amos 8:11-13; Mk. 4:14-19; Jn. 15:6; Rev. 3:14-18.

CONCLUSION

Jesus paid the price for us to live in righteousness, peace and joy in the Spirit. Let us enjoy that which we have been given.



WALKING IN GOD'S ABUNDANCE. II: OUR SOUL

TEXTS: Ps. 23:1-6; 3 Jn. 1-8.



MEMORY VERSE: *Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth. 3 Jn. 2.*

INTRODUCTION

The soul is made up of the emotion, will and intellect. It serves as the link between the spirit and the body, and therefore plays a vital role in how the spiritual man relates with the outside world. In continuation of our study on walking in God's abundance, we shall now focus on how we can live abundantly in all three dimensions of our soul.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How can we live abundantly in our soul from the following Scriptures?
1 Kgs. 3:9-12; Ps. 23:1-6; Prov. 3:5-10; 15:13-18; Isa. 30:15-18; Matt. 10:28; 11:28; 26:39; Jn. 8:32; Rom. 12:1, 2; 2 Cor. 5:17; Phil. 4:6-8; 3 Jn. 1-8.
2. Discuss from the following scriptures, the consequences of not living abundantly in our soul:
Gen. 6:5; Prov. 24:2; Jer. 6:16-19; Eze. 18:20; Acts 28:27; Rom. 1:18-32; 10:1-3.

CONCLUSION

For us to fully enjoy the abundant life that we have in Christ Jesus, our soul must seek and submit to God in all things.

STUDY
10

**WALKING
IN GOD'S
ABUNDANCE:
III: OUR BODY**

TEXTS: Gen. 2:8-17; Matt. 6:25-34.



MEMORY VERSE: *But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. Matt 6:33.*

INTRODUCTION

In this final study on the series: walking in God's abundance, we shall be considering the abundant life as it relates to our physical body and the material world we live in. God has provided for us in the new covenant to live in health and have all that we need to fulfil His purpose for our lives. This study is meant to help us explore these provisions.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Discuss how a Christian should walk in physical abundance from the following scriptures:
Gen. 2:8-17; Exo. 15:24-26; Deut. 8:11-18; Ps. 1:1-3; 127:1-5; Prov. 8:14-21; Isa. 58:6-12; Matt. 6:25-34; Lk. 6:27-38; 1 Cor. 2:9; Phil. 4:6,7, 10-19; 1 Tim. 6:17-19.
2. Discuss the aberrations you have seen or experienced of Christians living the abundant life, and how it can be corrected.

CONCLUSION

God created man for His purpose and has provided everything we will ever need to fulfil that purpose. Let us therefore be assured of the abundant life that Christ has given us.

STUDY

11

**CONSEQUENCES
OF NOT LIVING
THE NEW LIFE.**

TEXTS: Matt. 7: 21-27; Rom. 1:21-32.



MEMORY VERSE: *Not everyone that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Matt 7:21.*

INTRODUCTION

The new life is a call to be the light and salt in the perverse world where we live. When we fulfil this mandate, the world is changed for good and God is glorified. However, when we fail to live up to this call, there are dire consequences. This study will focus on some of these consequences.

DISCUSSION QUESTION

1. Discuss some of the consequences of not living the new life from the following Scriptures: Lev. 10:1, 2; Judg. 6:1-4; 2 Sam. 12:7-12; Matt. 7:21-27; Acts 5:1-10; Rom. 1:21-32; 1 Cor. 10:1-11; Phil. 3:17-19; Heb. 12:16, 17.

CONCLUSION

In this quarter, we have been studying the abundant life we have in Christ Jesus. Not living this new life results in grave consequences. May we receive grace to enjoy walking in His abundance.

SECOND QUARTER

SAVED TO SERVE

Luke 1:74-75

STUDY

01

SAVED TO SERVE

TEXTS: Ps. 2:11; Lk. 1:74-79;
1 Thess. 1:9, 10.



MEMORY VERSE: *That He would grant unto us, that we being delivered out of the hand of our enemies might serve Him without fear. Lk. 1:74.*

INTRODUCTION

God saved us so that we can serve Him acceptably. Having been saved, everything that we do should be a service unto God. It requires taking advantage of every opportunity that comes our way. This study focuses on how we are to live daily in service to the Lord. May the Lord grant us insight as we study.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Discuss how we are to serve the Lord from the following scriptures: Ps. 2:11; Lk. 1:74-79; Rom. 12:1, 2; 1 Cor. 15:58; Gal. 5:13, 14; Phil. 2:12-16; Col. 3:23, 24; 1 Thess. 1:9, 10.
2. Discuss some areas of service from the following scriptures.
Exo. 36:1-5; Mk. 16:15-18; Acts 6:1-8; 8:35-40; 9:36; Rom. 13:1-7; Eph. 4:11-13.

CONCLUSION

God does not want us to be idle, but to be occupied serving Him. This will enable us to make a difference every day of our lives. As we have learned, so may we not neglect the opportunity to serve. Amen.

STUDY

02

**EQUIPPED
FOR SERVICE**

TEXTS: Jer. 1:4-10;
2 Tim. 3:14-17.



MEMORY VERSE: *...so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work. 2Tim. 3:17 (NIV).*

INTRODUCTION

The call of God on the life of a Christian is a call to serve and not to be served. He has equipped and continues to equip His children for a life of service. In this study, we shall be focusing on how we have been equipped to serve the Lord acceptably.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Discuss from the following scriptures the equipment we have been given for service: Gen. 1:27, 29; 2:18-24; Josh. 1:1-5; Mk. 16:15-20; Eph. 6:10-18; 2 Tim. 3:14-16.
2. Discuss from the following scriptures what it means to be equipped for service: Gen. 1:26-29; Exo. 4:10-12; Ps. 18:32-40; Jer. 1:4-10; Jn. 15:1, 2; Acts. 1:4-8; 20:22-24; 2 Cor. 12:7-10; Eph. 2:10; Col. 1:9-14; Heb. 10:5-7; 13:20, 21; 2 Pet. 1:2-4.

CONCLUSION

God has provided everything we need to serve His purpose in life. Let us endeavour to make use of these provisions so that we can serve Him acceptably.

STUDY

03

IDENTIFYING YOUR AREAS OF SERVICE

TEXTS: Jer. 1:4, 5; Acts 8:26-40.



MEMORY VERSE: *And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues. 1 Cor. 12:28.*

INTRODUCTION

To identify our area of service is to know exactly where God wants us to serve Him. As Christians, we can only give correct and acceptable service to God when we know His will. This study shall help us identify areas that God wants us to serve Him effectively.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How can we identify our areas of service from the following Scriptures? Gen. 50:19-21; 1 Sam. 3:1-10; Prov. 3:5, 6; Eccl. 9:10; Jer. 1:4, 5; Jn. 5:30; Acts 8:26-40; 13:1-3; Rom. 12:1, 2.
2. Share your experience on how you identified your present area of service.

CONCLUSION

To please God and be fulfilled in life is to serve Him everywhere you find yourself. Whatsoever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might. May the Lord help us to do so.

STUDY

04

**ACCEPTABLE
SERVICE
TO GOD**

TEXTS: Isa.1:10-17;
Rom. 12:1, 2; Phil.2:3-8.



MEMORY VERSE: *Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us have grace, by which we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear. Heb.12:28.*

INTRODUCTION

God has saved every believer to serve Him. However, there are prescribed ways that these services should be rendered in order to be acceptable to God. Many are serving God, but only few are rendering acceptable service. This may be due to lack of knowledge of what acceptable service entails or lack of willingness on the part of the believer to follow the “due order” in rendering his service unto God. This study focuses on how to serve God acceptably.

DISCUSSION QUESTION

Discuss from these scriptures how a believer can render acceptable service unto God: Gen. 4:3, 4; Deut. 10:12; 2 Sam. 24:18-24; 1 Chron. 15:12-14; 29:2-9; Matt. 6:1-8; Rom. 12:1, 2; 1 Cor.13:1-3; 2 Cor. 8:4, 5; Phil. 2:3-8; Heb. 12:28.

CONCLUSION

It is noteworthy from this study that serving God acceptably is not an arbitrary practice. It is the willingness to follow God's principles as expressed in His word. May we be willing to follow God's principles so that our service may be acceptable.

STUDY

05

A WISE SERVANT

TEXTS: Matt 24:42-51;
Lk. 12:35-38; 1 Thess. 5:1-11.



MEMORY VERSES: *Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his lord hath made ruler over his household, to give them meat in due season? Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing. Matt 24:45, 46.*

INTRODUCTION

A servant is an attendant in the service of someone. A lot is committed to his care by his master such that when the master needs his service, he is readily available. A wise servant, therefore, is the one who understands his responsibilities well so as to know what to do in performing his duties correctly. We are God's servants and He has committed a lot to our care. Jesus, our Master is coming back at a time we do not know. As we await His return, we need to be wise and be about our duties.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What does a 'wise servant' entail? Prov. 14:16; Matt. 25:1-4; Mk. 13:33-37; Lk. 12:35-40, 42, 43; 1 Thess. 5:1-11.
2. What are some of the rewards for a wise servant? Prov. 14:35; 17:2; Matt. 24:45-47; 25:1-10.

CONCLUSION

Having understood what it means to be wise servants, we should be at our duty posts so that when Jesus returns, He will find us serving correctly and tell us: "Well done, good and faithful servant!"

STUDY

06

STEWARDSHIP OF GOD'S GRACE

TEXTS: Dan. 6:1-5; Matt. 25:14-30.



MEMORY VERSE: *As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. 1Pet. 4:10.*

INTRODUCTION

A steward is someone who manages resources and other affairs for someone else. In the same vein, a steward of God's grace is the one who has been assigned the responsibility of administering God's varied grace. In doing so, he is expected to take charge so that the business of God does not suffer loss. This study focuses on what stewardship of God's grace entails, and how we can be good stewards.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Discuss what stewardship of God's grace entails from the following scriptures: Gen. 24:30-33; 39:4-6; Deut. 8:11-18; Dan. 6:1-5; Matt. 25:14-23; Lk. 16:10-12; Rom. 14:12, 13; 1 Cor. 4:1, 2; 2 Cor. 5:19-21; 1 Thess. 2:4; 1 Pet. 4:9-11.
2. Discuss some benefits and abuses of stewardship: 1 Sam. 2:12-17; 1 Kgs. 20:39, 40; Prov. 27:18; Matt. 25:23-30; Lk. 16:1-8; 1 Tim. 3:13.

CONCLUSION

Effective stewardship demands accountability, faithfulness, trustworthiness and unalloyed loyalty. May we avail ourselves the privilege to serve effectively.

STUDY

07

AVAILABLE OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE.

TEXTS: Jonah 3:1-8; Jn. 4:5-15.



MEMORY VERSES: *For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me. Matt 25:35, 36.*

INTRODUCTION

There are available opportunities for believers to serve God wherever they find themselves. This may be in our places of work, businesses, communities, and so on. To achieve this, we must be willing and sensitive to God's leading. In this study we shall be looking at some of these available opportunities.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Identify and discuss some available opportunities for us to serve from the following scriptures: 2 Kgs. 4:8-17; 5:1-5; Jonah 3:1-8; Matt. 25:35, 36; Mk. 1:37-39; 5:19, 20; Jn. 4:5-15; Acts 9:36-39; Rom. 12:6-8.
2. Discuss some contemporary opportunities for service.

CONCLUSION

Life abounds with opportunities for every child of God to serve. Let us be sensitive and avail ourselves of them.

STUDY

08

YOUR PROFESSION: A PLATFORM FOR SERVICE TO GOD.

TEXTS: Exo. 31:1-11; Dan. 6:1-5.



MEMORY VERSE: *Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither thou goest. Eccl.9:10*

INTRODUCTION

Your profession is something that you spend time doing, either for pleasure or to earn a living. This may be skilled or unskilled labour. God's expectation is that you use that platform for service to manifest Christ. Your attitudes or dispositions to this will determine the kind of impact you will make. Hence, it is imperative to look at how we can use our professions to serve the purpose of God. May God grant us fresh insight as we study. Amen.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Discuss from these scriptures some professional platforms for service and what we can learn from them: Exo. 31:1-11; Dan. 6:1-5; Lk. 5:1-10; Acts 5:34-42; 9:36-41; 18:1-4.
2. Share practical experiences of how you have used your profession as a platform for service to God.

CONCLUSION

God desires us to use our professions to serve Him. Every profession can be used as a platform for service to God. May we be willing to use these platforms for His glory.

STUDY

09

**SERVANT
LEADERSHIP**

TEXT: Jn. 13:1-17.



MEMORY VERSE: '... just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many.' *Matt. 20:28(NIV).*

INTRODUCTION

Leadership is a calling into service by God. It comes with great responsibility which cuts across the different spheres of life. God expects His children to serve with humility and seriousness, using the life of Jesus as a pattern. In this study, we shall be looking at the characteristics and the principles of a servant leader. May God grant us insight as we study.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Discuss some characteristics of a servant leader from the given scriptures: Prov. 27:23, 24; Isa. 42:1-4; Jn. 3:25-30; 6:38; 13:1-17; Gal. 5:13; Phil. 2:1-8; Col. 3:12, 13; Tit. 1:7-14; 1 Pet. 4:10, 11.
2. What are some principles of servant leadership from the following Scriptures? Rom. 6:13; Col. 3:16, 17; 2 Tim. 2:20-26; 2 Pet. 1:5-8; 1 Jn. 2:15-17.

CONCLUSION

Leadership is a privilege that gives us opportunity for service. Let us ensure that we handle it God's way. May God grant us wisdom as we lead.

STUDY

10

PASSING ON THE LEGACY

TEXTS: Ps. 78:2-7;
Jer. 35: 1-10; 2 Tim. 1:5.



MEMORY VERSES: *And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.* Deut. 6:6, 7.

INTRODUCTION

A legacy is something inherited from a predecessor; a heritage. It is also a way of doing things, a tradition or a set of values passed down from one generation to another. As believers, the best legacy we can pass on to the next generation is our faith in God. God desires that the faith we enjoy in Him should be passed on in perpetuity. This study focuses on passing on godly legacies from generation to generation.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Discuss “legacy” from these scriptures: 2 Kgs 18:3-6; Ps. 78:2-7; Jer. 35:1-10; Acts 21:8, 9; 2 Tim 1:5; 3 Jn. 3-6.
2. How are legacies passed on? Deut. 6:6-12; 2 Tim. 2:1, 2; 3:10-12.
3. Share practical experiences of how others' legacies have shaped your life.

CONCLUSION

We pass on godly legacies by the lives we live and by the relationship we have with God. May our lives and testimonies be such that will continue to point men to God.

STUDY

11

HINDRANCES TO SERVICE

TEXTS: 2 Kgs 5:6-27; 2 Tim. 4:10.



MEMORY VERSE: *And the officers shall speak further unto the people, and they shall say, what man is there that is fearful and fainthearted? let him go and return unto his house, lest his brethren's heart faint as well as his heart. Deut. 20:8.*

INTRODUCTION

Hindrances are things that provide resistance, delay or obstruction to something or someone. As we serve God, there are things that may constitute hindrances to our service. This study focuses on some hindrances that may come our way as we serve God.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Discuss some hindrances to service from the following scriptures: Num. 12:1-10; 13:27-33; Josh. 7:1-5; 2 Kgs. 5:6-25; Neh. 4:1-3, 7-9; 7:63-65; Prov. 18: 9; Acts 5:1-4; 1 Cor. 3:1-3; 2 Tim. 4:10.
2. Identify the hindrances these churches in Asia minor faced:
Rev. 2:4, 5, 10, 14, 15, 20; 3:15-17.

CONCLUSION

There are several hindrances on our part to serving God acceptably. Let us strive to overcome them so that we can receive the crown of glory.

STUDY

12

REWARD FOR SERVICE

TEXTS: 1 Kgs. 17:8-16;
Matt. 20:1-15.



MEMORY VERSE: *And whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water only in the name of a disciple, verily I say unto you, he shall in no wise lose his reward. Matt. 10:42.*

INTRODUCTION

Reward is something given or received for a service rendered or a job done. This may either be favourable or not. The Lord, who sees beyond our activities, assesses and determines our reward. This study focuses on reward for service.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Discuss some of the ways God rewards his children from these scriptures:
Gen. 18:1-10; Exo. 1:15-21; Num. 25:6-13; 1 Kgs. 17:8-16; Matt. 25:31-40; Mk. 10:28-30.
2. What lessons can we learn about God's reward for service: Gen. 4:3-7; 2 Sam. 6:1-12; Matt. 20:1-15; Mk. 12:41-44; Acts. 5:1-10.

CONCLUSION

Service rendered God's way brings reward both on earth and in heaven. May the Lord help us not to be distracted from our assigned duties.

THIRD QUARTER

Courtship, Marriage and Family Life

Eccl 9: 8

STUDY

01

**GOD'S
DESIGN FOR
MARRIAGE**

TEXTS: Gen 1:26-28; 2:21-25; Eph. 5:21-33.



MEMORY VERSE: *And the Lord God said, it is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him. Gen 2:18.*

INTRODUCTION

God ordained marriage and designed it to achieve His purpose and glory. It is between a man and a woman. Marriage is holy and truly desirable. Understanding God's purpose for marriage will help His people enjoy their family life and equip them to face challenges.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1 Discuss from the following scriptures God's purpose for marriage: Gen. 1:26-28 ;23-25 ,2:18 ;Eccl . ;4:9-12Mal ;2:15 .Eph. 5:21-33.
- 2 Discuss some of the challenges to fulfilling God's purpose for marriage and how to overcome them: Prov. 5:20 ;Matt. 19:4-9 ;Rom 1 ;1:21-32 .Cor. 7:1-11 ;Eph.6:11-13 .

CONCLUSION

God's purpose for marriage includes reflecting God's image, mutually complementing one another and multiplying a godly heritage. When married couples live according to God's blueprint, they glorify God and enjoy their marriages. May our marriages fulfil God's design.

STUDY

02

**CHRISTIAN
MARRIAGE.
I: CHOOSING
A LIFE PARTNER**

TEXTS: Gen. 2:18-23; 2 Cor. 6:14-16.



MEMORY VERSE: *Whoso findeth a wife finds
what is good and obtain favour from
the Lord. Prov. 18:22.*

INTRODUCTION

The choice of a life partner is a responsibility many believers struggle with. God delights in leading His children in the right path of life and His will is revealed in His word. As a believer grows in the knowledge of the Lord, he finds it easier to take decisions that please the Lord. Making the right choice of a life partner is the focus of this study.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Discuss some principles for choosing a life partner from the following scriptures: Gen. 2:18-23 ;Prov ;3:5-7 . ;15:22Eccl ;3:1 .Jn ;16:13 .Rom 2 ;2 ,12:1 ;8:14 .Cor . ;6:14-16Phil ;7 ,4:6Jas.1:5-8 .
2. What are some myths related to the will of God in the choice of a life partner?
3. What other factors could be considered in the choice of a life partner?

CONCLUSION

God's will on marriage will agree, and not contradict His word. Trust God and do not be afraid to follow his leading.

STUDY

03

CHRISTIAN MARRIAGE. II: COURTSHIP

TEXTS: Matt. 1:18-20;
1 Thess. 4:1-7.



MEMORY VERSE: *For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication: 1 Thess. 4:3.*

INTRODUCTION

Courtship for believers, is a period of confirmation of God's will and preparation for marriage. It is a sober time of identifying areas of similarities and differences. It is important for each believer stepping into the holy estate of marriage to do so with full persuasion of heart and godly fear. This is the focus of this study.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Discuss some principles of Christian courtship from the following scriptures: Songs. 3:5 ;Amos ;3:3 Matt-1:18 . ;20Act ;24:16 .Rom 1 ;12:1-3 .Cor(7:36 .NIV 2 ;)Cor . ;11:21 Thess. 4:1-7.
2. Discuss some key areas of compatibility required for marriage.

CONCLUSION

God sometimes brings two people together who are different in many ways. However, it is the responsibility of the couple in courtship to work on the relationship. Each person must learn to control their body in a way that is holy and honourable.

STUDY

04

**CHRISTIAN
MARRIAGE.
III: WEDDING
CELEBRATION**

TEXTS: Gen. 29:21, 22; Jn. 2:1-10.



MEMORY VERSE: *And Laban gathered together all the men of the place, and made a feast. Gen. 29:22.*

INTRODUCTION

Wedding is the celebration of the coming together of a man and a woman as husband and wife. It is an important event normally witnessed by the Church, families and friends. It is important to handle it with all modesty. In this study, we shall be looking at wedding celebration.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Discuss some principles from the following scriptures for a modest wedding celebration. Gen. 29:21, 22; Matt. 01-1:22; Jn. 01-1:2; 92:3; Rom. 91-71:41; 1 Cor. 10:31; 2 Cor. 81-21:01; Phil 3:2, .4
2. What are some challenges encountered in a wedding celebration and how do we overcome them?

CONCLUSION

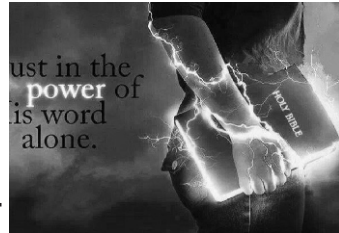
Let our wedding celebrations honour God and bless men.

STUDY

05

**CHRISTIAN
MARRIAGE.
IV: THE
HUSBAND'S ROLE**

TEXTS: 1 Cor. 7:3-5; Eph. 5:21-33.



MEMORY VERSE: *Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave Himself for it. Eph. 5:25(NIV).*

INTRODUCTION

A husband has responsibility towards his wife and family. The Bible clearly teaches that the husband is the head of the wife and further says that husbands should love their wives as Christ loves the Church. Husbands are therefore called to emulate Christ in His love for His bride, the Church. In this study, we will be looking at some of the roles of the husband in marriage.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What are some of the roles of the husband in marriage? 1 Cor. 7:3-5; Eph. 5:21-33; Col. 3:19; 1 Tim. 3:2-5; 5:8; 1 Pet. 3:7.
2. Discuss how a husband can be a servant leader in the home: Jn. 13:1-5; 1 Cor. 13:47; Phil. 2:5-7.

CONCLUSION

God has placed the husband in the position of leadership in the family. He must give himself to his wife and the family in a self-sacrificing way and strive to love them as Christ loves the Church.

STUDY

06

**CHRISTIAN
MARRIAGE.
V: THE
WIFE'S ROLE**

TEXTS: Prov. 31:10-31; 1 Pet. 3:1-6.



MEMORY VERSE: *Every wise woman buildeth her house:
but the foolish plucketh it down with
her hands. Prov. 14:1.*

INTRODUCTION

God has plans and purposes for bringing a man and a woman together in marriage as seen from the study being considered. He therefore has some clear-cut roles for both of them in order to achieve those purposes. In this study, we shall be considering some of the roles of the wife in Christian marriage. May God grant us insight.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Discuss the role of the wife from the following scriptures: Gen. 2:18; Exo. 4:24-26; 2 Kgs. 4:8-11; Prov. 14:1; 31:10-31; Lk.1:56-64; Eph. 5:22-24; 1 Pet. 3:1-6.
2. What should be the attitude of a Christian wife in the light of these scriptures? Roms.12:1, 2; 1 Cor. 7:3, 4; Col. 3:17, 18.

CONCLUSION

For the Christian marriage to fulfil God's purposes, wives must be submissive and supportive of their husbands, knowing that their marriage is a service to God. May God find us faithful in our marriages.

STUDY

07

**THE ROLE OF
CHILDREN IN
THE FAMILY**

TEXTS: 1 Sam. 17:12-20; Eph. 6:1-3.



MEMORY VERSE: *Honour thy father and thy mother:
that thy days may be long upon the land which the
Lord thy God giveth thee. Exo. 20:12.*

INTRODUCTION

Children play a vital and functional role in the family, for their wellbeing and that of the family. It is critical for them to understand this God-given role and fulfil it. This study focuses on the role children play in the family.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Discuss the role children play in the family from the following scriptures: Gen. 37:12-17; Ruth 4:14, 15; 1 Sam. 17:12-20; Ps. 127:3-5; Prov. 31:28; Jer. 35:1-10; Eph. 6:1-3; 1 Tim. 5:4-8.
2. What are some other roles that children play in the family?

CONCLUSION

Our children have the potentials to immensely contribute their quota in making the family life a blissful, happy place to live. We should encourage and support them to develop their potentials and play their role effectively in the family.

STUDY

08

RAISING A GODLY GENERATION

TEXTS: Ps. 78:1-8; Acts 21:7-9.



MEMORY VERSES: *Which we have heard and known and our fathers have told us. We will not hide them from their children, showing to the generation the praises of the Lord, His strength, and the wonders He has done. Ps. 78:3, 4.*

INTRODUCTION

A godly generation is that which knows God and acknowledges Him as their Creator, Saviour and Lord.

Raising a godly generation is a deliberate effort by a child of God with the help of the Holy Spirit to hand down the faith of the fathers to a succeeding generation. We are not just to raise our children to be good citizens, but in such a way also that God's purpose continues unabated. This is the focus of this study.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Discuss some ways a godly generation can be raised from these scriptures: Gen. 28:1-5; Deut. 6:1-9; Ps. 78:1-8; Prov. 3:5, 6; 22:6; 23:13, 14; Eph. 6:4; 1 Tim. 4:16; 2 Tim. 2:1, 2.
2. Share from your experience contemporary challenges to raising a godly generation and how these can be overcome.

CONCLUSION

To raise up a godly generation we must love God fervently, teach our children diligently, and live exemplary lives. May God grant us grace to fulfil these great tasks in Jesus' name.

STUDY

09

**BUILDING
BLOCKS
FOR A STRONG
CHRISTIAN FAMILY**

TEXTS: Matt. 7:24-29; Eph. 6:1-9.



MEMORY VERSE: *Therefore, whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: Matt 7:24.*

INTRODUCTION

The Christian family is a microcosm of the Church, whose foundation is Jesus Christ. It is therefore expedient for us to build on this foundation, using choice materials and in accordance with the pattern of God. This study focuses on the building blocks that are fitted together to form a strong Christian family.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Discuss some building blocks for a strong Christian family: Gen. 24:12-14; 2 Kgs. 4:8-10; Matt. 7:24-29; Lk. 17:3, 4; 1 Cor. 13:1-13; Gal. 5:16-18, 22-26; Eph. 6:1-9; 1 Tim. 6:6-10; Heb. 11:6.
2. Discuss some benefits of building a strong Christian family: 2 Kgs. 4:11-16, 35; Ps. 128:1-6; Matt. 7:24-29; Acts 21:8, 9.

CONCLUSION

We have learned from this study that a strong Christian family is built on these virtues: love, the word of God, forgiveness, hospitality, agreement and unity, among others. May God help us to build correctly.

STUDY

10

ENEMIES OF THE CHRISTIAN FAMILY

TEXTS: Gen. 3:1-7; 19:15-26, 30-36; Acts 5:1-10.



MEMORY VERSE: *Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: 1 Pet. 5:8.*

INTRODUCTION

The Devil is the arch-enemy of the Christian family. He has a threefold mission; to steal, to kill and to destroy. He uses different media and situations to achieve his aim. In this study, we shall identify these enemies and ways of countering them.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Discuss some avenues through which the enemy attacks the Christian family: Gen. 3:1-7; 19:15-26, 30-36; 15:1, 2; 16:1-3; Job 1:1-22; 2:1-7; 2 Kgs. 4:1, 2; Acts 5:1-10; Gal. 5:19-21.
2. How can we overcome the attacks of the enemy on the Christian family? 1 Sam. 1:10-18; Eph. 6:10-17; Phil. 4:4-8; 1 Tim. 6:6-8; 1 Jn. 2:15-17.

CONCLUSION

From this study we have discussed some of the avenues through which the enemy attacks the Christian family and how to overcome them. Let us stand firm in the victory we have in Christ Jesus.

STUDY

11

DIVORCE

TEXT: Matt. 19:3-9.



MEMORY VERSE: *“I hate divorce,” says the Lord God of Israel, “and I hate a man’s covering himself with violence as well as with his garment,” says the Lord Almighty. So guard yourself in your spirit, and do not break faith. Mal. 2:16 (NIV).*

INTRODUCTION

Divorce is the act of putting away one's spouse. God, the initiator and designer of marriage, has laid out His plan for marriage as a lifelong union between a man and a woman. When married couples divorce, they distort God's plan and the results are damaging on the immediate family, the Church and the society at large. Unfortunately, divorce has become widespread even in Christian circles. In this study, we shall consider God's stand, causes and how to forestall divorce in the Christian family.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What is God's disposition towards divorce? Mal. 2:14-16; Matt. 5: 31, 32; 19:4-9; Lk. 16:18; Rom. 7:2, 3; 1 Cor. 7:10-14.
2. What are some common causes of divorce today, and how can we overcome them?

CONCLUSION

God hates divorce. Every marriage has its own challenges. However, there is no conflict that is irresolvable. As children of God, we should not divorce and encourage others to do the same.

STUDY

12

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

TEXTS: Dan. 1:1-21; 1 Tim. 4:12-16.



MEMORY VERSE: *But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people, that ye should show forth the praises of Him who hath called you out of darkness into His marvellous light. 1 Pet.2:9.*

INTRODUCTION

As believers in Jesus Christ, we are to be different in words, actions, general conduct, and particularly in our marriage and family relationships. From what is obtainable in the world. When we exhibit this distinctiveness in marriage and life, we truly manifest our uniqueness as children of God and show forth His glory. This is the focus of this study.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Discuss how we can make a difference from the following scriptures: Gen.12:1-5; 24: 1-9; 35:1-7; 39:1-12; Josh. 24:14, 15; Judg. 13:1-14; 1 Sam. 16:14-20; Esth. 2:15-17; Prov. 31: 10-31; Dan. 1:1-21; 1 Tim. 4:12-16.
2. What are some hindrances to making a difference in our contemporary times?

CONCLUSION

It is pertinent that we make a difference in the ways we live and relate one with another, especially in the family. May we be encouraged to stand out.

FORTH QUARTER

STANDING FIRM

1 Cor. 16:13

STUDY

01

HAVING DONE ALL

TEXTS: Neh. 4:1-4, 13-15;
Dan. 1:8-16; Eph. 6:10-18.



MEMORY VERSE: *Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Eph. 6:13.*

INTRODUCTION

A believer in the Lord Jesus Christ is expected to equip himself appropriately as a soldier of Christ. This is a requisite preparation for the challenges of life. He is therefore enjoined to be strong and put on the whole armour God has provided in order to be able to stand and fight the good fight of the faith. This study focuses on our capacity to study after, having done all that is required of us as believers.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What does the phrase "having done all" presuppose?
2. Discuss "having done all" in the light of the following scriptures. **Neh. 4:1-4, 13-15; Dan. 1:8-16; 2 Cor. 4:8-11; Eph. 6:10-18; Heb. 11: 24-28; Jas. 1:2-4; 2 Pet. 1: 3-10.**
3. What are some of the challenges to our capacity to stand, after having done all? **Ps. 78:9-11; Matt. 24:6-13; 1 Tim. 6:6-10; 2 Tim. 4:3-5, 10.**

CONCLUSION

God is counting on us to stand as we face challenges in our daily endeavours. Let us avail ourselves of the provisions God has made available to us.

STUDY

02

TAKE A STAND

TEXTS: Dan. 3:15-18;
Esth. 4:1-17; Acts 21:10-14.



MEMORY VERSE: *But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up. Dan. 3:18.*

INTRODUCTION

To take a stand is to adopt a firm position about an issue or something. As believers, we are called to take a stand for what is right and just, even in the midst of opposition and diversities of opinions. As we study, may the Lord strengthen us to take a stand in a fluid world where anything goes and where Christian values are relegated to the background.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Discuss what it entails to take a stand from these Scriptures: Gen. 39:6-13; 2 Kgs. 5:15, 16; Neh. 4:1-4, 13-15; Esth. 4:1-17; Dan. 1:8; 3:15-18; Acts 21:10-14.
2. What are the hindrances to a Christian taking a stand? Num. 13:25-33; Josh. 7:13; 2 Tim. 4:10.

CONCLUSION

Having received instructions from the Lord on diverse aspects of living, may we take our stand and never concede any ground to the devil.

STUDY

03

**STANDING
ON GOD'S
WORD**

TEXTS: Ps. 119:9-16; Matt. 7:24-27.



MEMORY VERSE: *Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: Matt. 7:24.*

INTRODUCTION

God's word is the premise upon which believers in the Lord Jesus Christ are expected to stand. Standing on God's word is to believe, trust, and act on it, irrespective of the circumstances and situations of life. It is, however, disheartening to note that rather than stand on God's word, some Christians put their trust and confidence in people, church traditions, pastors, doctors, advice of friends and acquaintances. Jesus enjoins us to build our lives on a reliable foundation by listening, reading and studying God's word as well as putting it into practice.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Discuss the importance of God's word and why we should stand on it: Ps.107:20; 119:9-16, 160; Isa. 55:11; Jer. 23:29; Matt. 7:24-27; Jn. 17:17; Heb. 4:12, 13.
2. Why do some Christians stand on some other things than on God's word?

CONCLUSION

Having discussed the importance of God's word in this study, may we learn to always depend and stand on it in all that we do.

STUDY

04

INGREDIENTS FOR
STANDING FIRM.
I: FAITH

TEXT: Heb. 11:1-40.



MEMORY VERSES: *Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. For by it the elders obtained a good report. Heb. 11:1, 2.*

INTRODUCTION

The Bible defines faith as being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see. It could also be looked at, as continuing in what we believe without wavering. Faith is one of the ingredients the believer needs to stand firm, to walk with God and to please Him. Several examples abound in the Bible of men who stood firm despite the challenges they faced. In this study, we shall be considering faith as an ingredient the believer needs to stand firm.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Discuss how faith served as an ingredient for standing firm in the lives of the following characters: Heb.11:5, 6; 7; 8-19; 23-29; 30, 31; 35-40.
2. Discuss the implications of lack of faith from the following scriptures: Gen. 16:1-6; Num. 13:1-3, 25; 14:1-4; Matt. 14:24-31.

CONCLUSION

If we must successfully complete the race God has set before us, we need faith to stand firm against the temptations and trials of the enemy. May God help us to exercise our faith in Him.

STUDY

05

**INGREDIENTS FOR
STANDING FIRM.
II: PATIENCE**

TEXTS: Heb. 6:10-15; Jas. 5:7-11.



MEMORY VERSE: *That ye be not slothful,
but followers of them who through faith and patience
inherit the promises. Heb. 6:12.*

INTRODUCTION

Patience is the capacity to accept or tolerate delay, problem, or suffering without becoming annoyed or anxious. Through patience, we should be able to obtain promises that God has made to us in His word. Lack of it however, may lead to frustration and regrets. This study focuses on patience as an ingredient for standing firm.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Discuss patience as an ingredient for standing firm from these scriptures: 1 Sam. 1:1-20; Lk. 21:8-19; 2 Cor. 6:1-10; Heb. 6;10-15; Jas. 1:1-4; 5:7-11.
2. What are some of the challenges to patience as an ingredient for standing firm?

CONCLUSION

Through patience the patriarchs obtained promises God made to them. Let us endeavour to follow their examples.

STUDY

06

**INGREDIENTS FOR
STANDING FIRM.
III: ENDURANCE**

TEXTS: Matt. 24:1-13; Heb. 12:1-13.



MEMORY VERSE: *For you have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of God you may receive what is promised. Heb. 10:36 (ESV).*

INTRODUCTION

Endurance is the ability to withstand prolonged hardships and keep doing something difficult, unpleasant, or painful for a long time. The Christian life is likened to a marathon race rather than a short dash. This requires a sustained walk in the way of the Lord in spite of difficulties, oppositions, pains and disappointments. Endurance birthed out of a genuine love and commitment to Jesus Christ produces the right motivation to press on in Him, regardless of the circumstances and oppositions. In this study we shall be looking at how endurance helps us to stand firm.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Discuss how endurance helps us to stand firm from these scriptures: Matt. 24:1-13; 2Cor. 4:7-12; Gal. 6:7-10; 1 Tim. 4:14-16; Heb. 10:35-39; 12:1-13; Jas. 1;2-4, 12.

Share experiences on how endurance has helped you to stand firm.

CONCLUSION

Endurance is a virtue we must cultivate in order to stand firm. God has made adequate provision of grace to help us endure. Let us avail ourselves to endure in order that we may stand firm.

STUDY

07

**INGREDIENTS FOR
STANDING FIRM.
IV: PERSEVERANCE**

TEXTS: Neh. 4:1-23; Lk. 18:1-8.



MEMORY VERSE: *Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love Him. Jas. 1:12 (NIV).*

INTRODUCTION

Perseverance is the ability to be persistent, tenacious, determined, and steadfast at doing something without giving up, despite how hard it is or how long it takes to reach the goal. It is an important character trait to succeed in life. Christians are expected to persevere, showing genuineness of faith and spiritual maturity. In this study, we shall be focusing on perseverance as an ingredient for standing firm.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Discuss perseverance from the following scriptures:
Gen. 26:15-22; Neh. 4:1-23; Mk. 10:46-52; Lk. 18:1-8; Rom. 8:35-39; 2 Cor. 4:8-13.
2. How has the Lord helped you to persevere in your Christian walk?

CONCLUSION

We are not only called to believe in the Lord Jesus Christ but also to persevere in our walk with Him. He left an example for us to walk in His steps.

STUDY

08

**INGREDIENTS FOR
STANDING FIRM.
V: LONGSUFFERING**

TEXTS: Matt. 5:38-45; 1 Pet 2:18-24.



MEMORY VERSES: *Then came Peter to Him, and said, Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? till seven times? Jesus saith unto him, I say not unto thee, Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven. Matt. 18:21, 22.*

INTRODUCTION

The word “longsuffering” is made up of two Greek words *makro* meaning “long” or “large” and *thumos* meaning “temper”. Therefore, longsuffering literary means *long-tempered*. This is the quality of self-restraint in the face of provocation, which does not hastily retaliate or promptly punish; it is the opposite of anger, and is associated with mercy. As believers in Christ Jesus, we are expected to develop and exhibit this character in order that we might truly reflect His image.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Discuss longsuffering from the following scriptures:
Matt. 5:38-45; 18:21, 22; 2 Cor. 6:4-10; Col. 1:9-14; 3:8-15; 2 Tim. 3:10-12; 4:2-5; 1 Pet. 2:18-24.
2. Discuss your experiences of longsuffering.

CONCLUSION

For a Christian to be fruitful and function effectively in the body of Christ, he must exercise the virtue of longsuffering. May we endeavour to follow these instructions.

STUDY

09

CHALLENGES TO STANDING FIRM.

TEXTS: Gen. 39:7-20; Eph. 6:10-12.



MEMORY VERSE: *For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Eph. 6:12.*

INTRODUCTION

A challenge is fight for superiority. In taking a stand, we will be faced with several challenges. So many children of God have lost out of His promises for them due to their bowing down to defeat when they needed to take a firm stand. This study focuses on the challenges to standing firm and how they can be overcome.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. From the following scriptures, discuss the challenges to standing firm: Gen. 39:7-12; 1 Sam. 17:10, 11; Neh. 2:19; Dan. 3:14-16; 6:4-9; Lk. 22:54-60; Acts. 5:1-4; Eph. 6:12; 1 Jn. 2:15, 16.

2. How can we overcome the challenges to standing firm? Exo. 14:15; Josh. 1:7, 8; 1 Sam. 17:32-37; Neh. 2:20; Dan. 1:8; 3:16-18; Jn. 15:6, 7; Eph. 6:10-18; Col. 3:16; 1 Jn. 5:4.

CONCLUSION

Several challenges confront us as believers, yet as we take a stand with the Lord, victory is assured. May we receive courage to stand firmly no matter the circumstance. Amen.

STUDY

10

REWARD FOR STANDING FIRM.

TEXTS: Dan. 1:8-20; 3:19-30.



MEMORY VERSES: *I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love His appearing.* 2 Tim. 4: 7, 8.

INTRODUCTION

Reward is something of value given in return for an act, a price promised for a certain deed. As believers, we can expect to be rewarded if we stand firm on His promises and for His kingdom. This is the focus of this study.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1.** What are some of the rewards for standing firm from the following scriptures? Gen. 14:21-15:1; Num. 25:10-13; 14:24; Dan. 1:8-20; 3:25-30; 2 Tim. 4:7, 8; Rev. 2:7-10, 17, 26.
- 2.** Discuss some other avenues or areas a believer can be rewarded in his walk with God.

CONCLUSION

Every man that stands for the Lord will always receive a reward for his actions. May we be spurred on in our heart to stand firm always.