

FOREWORD

Our God is amazing and amazingly the Omnipotent and Omniscient God, who allowed the world to come to a standstill by a mere Coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19). In a twinkle of an eye and like a snooze, economies were all shut down and paralysed - an indication that it will take God Almighty nothing to wind up the world if He wanted to. Scientists, governments, researchers, medical personnel, economists etc. in developing and developed countries (with their cutting-edge technologies and pomposity) were all beaten to it as the Coronavirus pandemic ravaged the world. Whilst the world was caught off guard by the virus, God Almighty was not, as He rules over the affairs of men. We thank and praise the Lord for sparing us, and bringing us into this new year - the year 2021. To Him alone be all the glory and honour, both now and forever. As we therefore settle down to studying –“Understanding the” (1 Chronicles 12:32) this year, may we take the word of the Lord more earnestly to heart, and apply them to our lives as we prepare for the soon return of the Lord Jesus which, as a matter of fact, can be at any moment. Given the urgency of the gospel message and **the unpredictable times in which we live, it is imperative for us to take this study seriously. This implies showing ourselves approved unto God as workers who need not be ashamed, but rightly dividing the word of truth. It is then that we will not be ashamed at the appearing of the Lord Jesus.**
God bless
Chaplain

FIRST QUARTER

FIRST QUARTER SUB-THEME: IN TIMES LIKE THIS 2 TIM. 3:1

Biblical Concept of Time

Understanding the Times

Characteristics of the End-time I: Perilous Times

Characteristics of the End-time II: Events

Knowing What to Do in Times Like These I: Contending for the Faith

Knowing What to Do in Times Like These II: Engaging Culture

Walking Circumspectly Eph. 5:15,16

Consequences of not Understanding the Times

The Church in Times Like These

The Glory of the Latter House Hag. 2:6-9

Unchanging God

STUDY 1

BIBLICAL CONCEPT OF TIME

TEXTS: Gen. 1:14-19; 2 Pet. 3:8, 9.

MEMORY VERSE

*Then Jesus said unto them, My time is not yet come:
but your time is always ready. John 7:6.*

INTRODUCTION

The Bible uses two words for time: “chronos” and “kairos”. The chronos is chronological or sequential time, what one would call the 'clock time' which is measured in seconds, minutes, hours e.t.c. The kairos is a proper or opportune time for action or due season. A proper understanding will help us live quality lives before God rather than mere quantity in terms of length of time.

DISCUSSION QUESTION

Discuss some implications of biblical concept of time.
Gen. 1:14-19; Exo. 12:1, 2; Josh. 10:12-14; 1 Chron. 12:32;
Ps. 90:12; Eccl. 3:1-8; Isa. 38:1-8; Amos 9:13; Lk. 19:41-44;
Jn. 4:35; 7:6-8; 9:4; Heb. 5:12-14; 2 Pet. 3:8, 9; Rev. 10:5-7.

CONCLUSION

God does not live in time even though He created and works with time to accomplish His purpose. Both chronological and opportune time are important to the believer. We are enjoined in the Word of God to number our days that we may take advantage of the opportune times and seasons.

STUDY 2**UNDERSTANDING THE TIMES**

TEXTS: 1 Chron. 12:23-32; Matt. 16:1-3.

MEMORY VERSE

And of the children of Issachar, which were men that had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do; the heads of them were two hundred; and all their brethren were at their commandment. 1 Chron. 12:32.

INTRODUCTION

Understanding the times is to have continuous insight into the purpose of God and to act on it at every point in time. It is a significant tool to walking with God and sustaining the victory we have in Christ. For us to understand the times, we must be purposeful and deliberate. In this study, we shall be looking at what understanding the times entails and God's expectations of us in times like these.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What does understanding the times entail from the following scriptures?
2 Kgs. 5:20-26; 1 Chron. 12:23-32; Dan. 9:1, 2; Matt. 16:1-3, 13-20; Lk. 19:41-44; Jn. 7:3-9; 9:4, 5.
2. What are God's expectations of us in times like these?
Dan. 9:3, 4; Matt. 16:21-23; 2 Pet. 3:10-14.

CONCLUSION

In order for us to fulfil the purpose of God, we need divine insight to gain understanding of the times we live in.

STUDY 3**CHARACTERISTICS OF THE END TIME I:
PERILOUS TIMES**

TEXTS: Matt. 24:1-14; 2 Tim. 3:1-17.

MEMORY VERSE

*This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.
2 Tim. 3:1.*

INTRODUCTION

Perilous times mean difficult times or periods full of troubles. These are the days that lead to the end of the world. The word of God speaks clearly about the characteristics of these times. As believers, we should understand them and live circumspectly in every way.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Discuss perilous times from these scriptures:
Matt. 24:1-14; 1 Tim. 4:1-3; 2 Tim. 3:1-13.
2. What should be the attitude of believers in perilous times?
Dan. 3:10-18; Eph. 5:15-21; 1 Tim. 4:13-16; 6:6-12;
2 Tim. 2:1-4, 15-26; 3:14-17; 2 Pet. 3:10-14.

CONCLUSION

It is evident that the perilous times are upon us as foretold by the scriptures. We however must keep focus on the truth and look steadfastly unto Jesus the author and the finisher of our faith. May the Lord grant us enabling grace to stand in these times.

STUDY 4**CHARACTERISTICS OF THE END-TIME II: EVENTS**

TEXT: Matt. 24:3-41.

MEMORY VERSES

For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened. Matt. 24:21, 22.

INTRODUCTION

The end-time is described by various events of history, which will ultimately lead to the end of the world. Jesus taught expressly about the events of the end-time and how believers should be wary not to be caught off guard. This study focuses on events that characterise the end-time.

DISCUSSION QUESTION

Discuss some events that characterise the end-time from the following scriptures: Joel 2:28-32; Zeph. 3:8; Matt. 24:3-41; 1 Thess. 4:13-18; 2 Thess. 2:1-12; 2 Pet. 3:3-14; Rev. 6:14-17; 13:8-18; 17:5-14; 19:11-21; 20:1-6, 11-15.

CONCLUSION

The events of the end-time written in no particular order include the second coming of the Lord, the rapture of the saints, the great tribulation, the last judgement, and so on. We must keep our focus on the Lord Jesus, working out our salvation with fear and trembling in order to ensure that we go with the Lord at His appearing.

STUDY 5**KNOWING WHAT TO DO IN TIMES LIKE THESE I:
CONTENDING FOR THE FAITH**

TEXTS: Neh. 2:17-20; Jude 1-5.

MEMORY VERSE

Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and to exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints. Jude 3.

INTRODUCTION

The Christian faith has always been under the attack of the devil and the world. These attacks have worsened particularly in the times we live in. The purpose is to undermine and erode our faith. Nevertheless, God's expectation for us is to stand, fight and finish strong.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Discuss what contending for the faith entails from these scriptures:
1 Sam. 30:1-10; 1 Kgs. 18:17-40; Neh. 2:17-20; 4:14;
Acts 4:13-21; 1 Cor. 9:25-27; Jas. 4:7; 1 Pet. 5:7-10;
Jude 1-5.
2. Discuss some contemporary challenges a Christian has to contend with and how he/she can overcome them.

CONCLUSION

In these challenging times, it is becoming increasingly difficult for the believer to stand. Hence, it is imperative for us to keep contending for the faith.

STUDY 16**KNOWING WHAT TO DO IN TIMES LIKE THESE II:
ENGAGING CULTURE**

TEXT: 2 Chron. 34:1-33.

MEMORY VERSES

*For the Jews require a sign, and the Greeks seek after wisdom: But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumbling block, and unto the Greeks foolishness.
1 Cor. 1:22, 23.*

INTRODUCTION

A culture is a way of life of a group of people: the behaviours, beliefs, values, and symbols that they accept and are passed along from one generation to another. Several cultural norms held and practised by societies and individuals are ungodly, hence making total submission to Christ difficult. As Christians, we must take our stand and bring the influence of Christ to bear on these aspects of culture. Engaging culture is the focus of this study.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Discuss engaging culture from the following scriptures:
Num. 27:1-8; 2 Chron. 34:1-33; Matt. 15:1-10; Lk. 12:13-15; Jn. 2:13-17; 4:7-10, 20-24; Acts 17:16-34; 1 Cor. 1:21-23.
2. Discuss how we can engage aspects of our culture that are in conflict with the Christian faith.

CONCLUSION

As believers we should avail ourselves of every opportunity to engage culture by projecting Christian perspectives. This will enable people to come out of their “cultural moulds” and to be transformed into the likeness of Christ.

**STUDY 17****WALKING CIRCUMSPECTLY**

TEXTS: 1 Chron. 12:32; Matt. 25:1-12.

MEMORY VERSES

See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, Redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Eph. 5:15, 16.

INTRODUCTION

Walking circumspectly is to live wisely. It means taking and making use of opportunities that present themselves to us within a given time to glorify God. When we walk circumspectly, we fulfil God's purpose for our lives. Walking circumspectly is the focus of this study.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Discuss what it means to walk circumspectly from these scriptures:
Gen. 5:21-24; 19:1-16; 41:25-41; 1 Sam. 17:32-51; Matt. 25:1-12; Jn. 4:7-30; Acts 18:24-26; Eph. 5:15-21; 1 Thess. 5:1-8.
2. Discuss the consequences of not walking circumspectly.

CONCLUSION

We achieve a lot when we walk circumspectly and suffer losses when we do not. Let us use our time wisely and maximize the opportunities that come to us especially in the times we are in.



STUDY | 8**CONSEQUENCES OF NOT UNDERSTANDING THE TIMES**

TEXTS: 2 Kgs. 5:20-27; Lk. 19:41-44.

MEMORY VERSES

*If thou hadst known, even thou, at least in this thy day, the things which belong unto thy peace! but now they are hid from thine eyes.
Luke 19:44.*

INTRODUCTION

It is important that we know and understand the times we live in so that we can know what God expects of us. When we do not understand the times, there are consequences that we face as a result. This study therefore focuses on the consequences of not understanding the times.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What are some consequences of not understanding the times?
2 Kgs. 5:20-27; Jer. 8:7-13; Matt. 24:36-51; Lk. 19:41-44; 24:36-51; Heb. 5:11-14.
2. Discuss some other consequences of not understanding the times.

CONCLUSION

The consequences of not understanding the times are grievous. We live in challenging times, so it is imperative for us to understand the times and avoid these consequences.

STUDY | 9**THE CHURCH IN TIMES LIKE THESE**

TEXTS: Exo. 1:7-14; Acts 12:1-12.

MEMORY VERSES

Therefore, they that were scattered abroad went everywhere preaching the word. Acts 8:4.

INTRODUCTION

The church is the body of Christ. God shows forth His power, glory and authority through the Church. The Church continues to wax stronger in the face of challenges and like gold, it shines brighter in the fire of trial and persecution.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Discuss the experience of the Church in the light of the following scriptures:
Exo. 1:7-14; Judg. 6:2-16; Acts 6:1; 8:1-3; 12:1-4; 1 Cor. 3:1-5; 2 Pet. 2:1-3; Rev. 3:14-18.
2. What should be the attitude of the church in times like these?
Acts 2:41-47; 6:2-7; 8:4-8; 12:5-12; 16:16-18; 18:24-26; 2 Cor. 8:1-5; Tit. 1:10-13; Jas. 5:13-16.

CONCLUSION

Though the church may be experiencing challenging times, it must also be seen as an opportunity for growth. May the Lord help us to rise up to the challenge.

STUDY 10**THE GLORY OF THE LATTER HOUSE**

TEXTS: Hag. 2:6-9; 2 Cor. 3:7-18.

MEMORY VERSES*For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory. 2 Cor. 4:17.***INTRODUCTION**

When things are calm and smooth, there is a tendency to relax and believe that we have seen the best of life. When times are difficult, tumultuous and uncertain, there is a tendency to despair and believe that things can never improve. The Bible assures us that for those who put their trust in the Lord, life is not only expected to get better but to become more glorious as we endure through the challenges of this life and keep our eyes on the life to come.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What does the glory of the latter house entail from the following scriptures?
Eze. 37:1-10; Micah; Hag. 2:6-9; 4:1-4; 2 Cor. 3:7-18; 1 Pet. 5:8-11.
2. How can we partake of the glory of the latter house?
Gen. 15:5-7; Num. 14:22-24; Rom. 8:12-18, 28-30; 2 Cor. 4:13-18; Rev. 3:11,12.

CONCLUSION

No matter where you are in life, there is a glory that is coming and it is far greater than anything you have ever known. Do not lose sight of it.

STUDY 11**THE UNCHANGING GOD**

TEXTS: Ps. 90:1-4; Rev. 4: 8-11.

MEMORY VERSES*Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and for ever.
Heb. 13:8.***INTRODUCTION**

God is timeless and ageless; He remains constant eternally. However, He situates His purposes and relationships with man in time: beginning, ending, ages, seasons, dispensations. As believers, we are privileged to know what was, and what is yet to come through His Word. The times we are in now are believed to be pointing towards the end, confirming God's eternal purpose of bringing everything to an end someday, while He remains unchanging.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Discuss the unchanging God from these scriptures:
Exo. 3:13-15; Ps. 90:1-4; 102:25-28; Isa. 46:9-11;
Mal. 3:6; Matt. 5: 18; Eph. 3:8-13; Heb. 1:1-4; 13:8;
2 Pet. 3:8, 10; Rev. 4:8-11.
2. What are some misconceptions of the unchanging God?

CONCLUSION

In spite of the difficulties and challenges of the times, the heart of the believer should be rest assured that God remains unchanging.

STUDY | 1**WHAT REVIVAL ENTAILS**

TEXTS: Joel. 2:12-32; Rev. 3:14-22.

SECOND QUARTER

SECOND QUARTER SUB-THEME: REVIVE THY WORKS HAB. 3:2

What Revival Entails
 Why We Need Revival
 The Promise of Revival
 Break Up Your Fallow Ground
 Keys to Securing Personal Revival I: The Word
 Keys to Securing Personal Revival II: Prayer
 Keys to Securing Personal Revival II: Holy Spirit
 Keys to Securing Personal Revival IV: Fellowship
 Hindrances to Revival
 Benefits of Revival
 Sustaining Revival
 The Spirit-filled Life

MEMORY VERSES

And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out My spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions: Joel 2:28.

INTRODUCTION

The word “revive” means to bring back, restore, resuscitate or revitalize; suggesting that there was a previous state that is more desirable than the current one. The Church was birthed on the day of Pentecost with the fire of the Holy Ghost and grew by love, unity, righteousness, witnessing and the demonstration of power. These attributes seem to have diminished significantly in the Church today. Revival therefore will entail the restoration of these attributes.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What does revival entail? Ps. 51:10-17; 80:8-19; Hos. 6:1-3; Joel 2:18-32; Acts. 1:8; 2:1-4, 37-41; 3:19-21; Eph. 5:8-14.
2. How can we experience revival?
1 Kgs. 18:21, 36-39; 2 Chron. 7:13, 14; Ps. 85:4-7;
Isa. 55:6, 7; 57:15-18; Joel 2:12-17; 2 Cor. 6:14-18; Rev. 3:14-22.

CONCLUSION

Revival comes from God; however, it is the Church that must rise up from slumber and take hold of that which the Lord is holding out to her. May we therefore arise and be revived.

STUDY | 2**WHY WE NEED REVIVAL**

TEXTS: Isa.6:1-8; Lk. 24:25-35.

MEMORY VERSES

Wilt Thou be angry with us for ever? Wilt Thou draw out thine anger to all generations? Wilt Thou not revive us again: that thy people may rejoice in Thee? Ps. 85:5, 6.

INTRODUCTION

The consciousness of God and His power can be lost to any individual, nation or generation while darkness and every form of satanic activities reign; hence, the need for revival. However, when God revives His people, change is inevitable. In this study, we shall be considering why we need revival.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Discuss the need for revival. 1 Sam. 3:1-4; 4:18-22; 2 Chron. 7:13,14; Ps. 85:5, 6; Isa. 6:1-8; Hab. 1:1-4; Hag. 1:5, 6; Lk. 24:25-35; Jn. 2:13-16; 2 Tim. 3:1-5; Rev. 2:14-16; 3:1, 2, 14-18.
2. Share from contemporary events the need for both personal and corporate revival.

CONCLUSION

Some indices such as departure of God's glory, spiritual lukewarmness, mere religious engagements, having a form of godliness but denying its power, idolatry, impurity and many more all suggest a sincere need for revival.

STUDY | 3**THE PROMISE OF REVIVAL**

TEXTS: Hos. 6:1-3; Acts 1:8.

MEMORY VERSES

Come, and let us return unto the Lord: for He hath torn, and He will heal us; He hath smitten, and He will bind us up. After two days will He revive us: in the third day He will raise us up, and we shall live in His sight. Hos. 6:1, 2.

INTRODUCTION

A promise is a declaration or undertaking to do something. The Word of God is full of promises, including the promise of revival. God is committed to fulfilling His promises if we do our part.

DISCUSSION QUESTION

Discuss the promise of revival from these scriptures: 2 Chron. 7:14; Isa. 1:18-20; 40:29-31; 57:15; Hos. 6:1-3; Joel 2:12-32; Matt. 11:28; Acts 1:8.

CONCLUSION

God's promise of revival is available to all generations. Let us therefore humble ourselves before God and receive by faith, the promises that are ours.

STUDY 14**BREAK UP YOUR FALLOW GROUND**

TEXTS: Jer. 4:1-6; Matt. 13:13-23.

MEMORY VERSES

*Sow to yourselves in righteousness, reap in mercy; break up your fallow ground:
for it is time to seek the LORD, till He come and rain righteousness upon you.
Hos. 10:12.*

INTRODUCTION

A fallow ground is a land that could be productive, but for whatever reason has not been broken up or ploughed, and prepared for planting. An unploughed ground will not let a crop grow. One needs therefore to prepare the soil in order to create the right environment for seeds to grow and produce fruits. Our hearts and minds are compared to the ground where the word of God can be sown. We must prepare our hearts to enable God's word to germinate, grow to maturity and bear much fruit. "Break up your fallow ground" is the focus of this study.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Why is it necessary to break up the fallow ground of our hearts?
1 Kgs. 8:46-50; Matt. 13:13-23; 1 Cor. 3:1-4; Jas. 1:5-8; Rev. 3:14-17.
2. How do we break up our fallow ground?
Jer. 4:1-6; 6:16; Hos. 10:12; Heb. 10:19-25; Jas. 1:21-25;
Rev. 3:18-22.

CONCLUSION

We need to prepare our hearts for the word of God to be fruitful and make us grow to maturity. May the Lord help us to break up the fallow ground of our hearts.

STUDY 15**KEYS TO SECURING PERSONAL REVIVAL I: THE WORD**

TEXTS: Jer. 15:10-18; Heb. 4:11-13.

MEMORY VERSES

*It is the Spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing:
the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.
Jn. 6: 63.*

INTRODUCTION

Revival is not only at the Church or national levels, but also for the individual who feels he or she is not measuring up to God's set standards to look up to God for personal revival. There are several keys that are available for securing personal revival, one of which is the Word.

DISCUSSION QUESTION

What is the place of the Word in securing personal revival?
Ps. 19:7-14; 43:2-4; 107:17-20; 119:130; Jer. 15:10-18;
Jn. 6:63; 17:17; 2 Tim. 3:16; Heb. 4:11-13.

CONCLUSION

The Word is a powerful key to restoring a backslidden soul and refreshing a struggling saint.

STUDY 16**KEYS TO SECURING PERSONAL REVIVAL II: PRAYER****TEXT:** Ps. 51:1-17**MEMORY VERSES**

*Create in me a clean heart, O God;
and renew a right spirit within me. Ps. 51:10.*

INTRODUCTION

Prayer as a key to securing personal revival begins with an honest evaluation of our relationship with God. It requires confession and renouncing all shortcomings in order to obtain mercy and forgiveness, so as to experience refreshing.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Discuss prayer as a key to securing personal revival.
Judg. 16:28; Ps. 19:12-14; 51:1-17; Isa. 6:1-8; Dan. 9:1-4; Hab. 3:1, 2.
2. Discuss the result of praying for revival in our individual lives.

CONCLUSION

Personal revival can be experienced when we pray. God is able to restore all that has been lost. May we be refreshed as we dwell daily in His presence.

STUDY 17**KEYS TO SECURING PERSONAL REVIVAL III:
THE HOLY SPIRIT****TEXTS:** Eze. 36:25-29; Rom. 8:11-27.**MEMORY VERSES**

*For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do
of His good pleasure. Phil 2:13.*

INTRODUCTION

In the two preceding studies in the series on securing personal revival, we considered the place of the word and prayer. However, an individual who wants to secure personal revival cannot effectively engage the Word and prayer without the help of the Holy Spirit. In this study, we shall be considering the Holy Spirit as key to securing our personal revival.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Discuss the place of the Holy Spirit in securing personal revival.
Eze. 36:25-29; Jn. 14:25, 26; Rom. 8:11-16, 26, 27; 1 Cor. 2:11-15; Phil. 2:13.
2. Share from personal experience how the Holy Spirit has helped to revive you.

CONCLUSION

The Holy Spirit is key to securing our revival by reminding us of our place in God and working within us to desire and seek personal revival.

STUDY 18**KEYS TO SECURING PERSONAL REVIVAL IV:
FELLOWSHIP**

TEXTS:Ps. 133:1-3; Lk. 24:13-32.

MEMORY VERSE*Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together,
as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another;
and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching. Heb. 10:25.***INTRODUCTION**

Fellowship is the intimate relationship between two or more persons. Through fellowship, secrets, problems, testimonies and emotions are shared and the individuals involved are often encouraged and refreshed. When we constantly fellowship with God and each other, we secure personal revival.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Discuss fellowship as a key for securing personal revival.
Ps. 133:1-3; Lk. 24:13-32; Jn. 20:24-29; 21:1-14; Acts 4:23-31;
Heb. 10:24, 25.
2. Discuss from personal experience how fellowship has helped in reviving you.

CONCLUSION

We receive encouragement and refreshing when we fellowship with God and each other. May we be spurred to consistent fellowship.

STUDY 19**HINDRANCES TO REVIVAL**

TEXTS: Isa. 58:1-12; Lk. 18:10-12; Rev. 3:14-17.

MEMORY VERSES*But your iniquities have separated between you and your God,
and your sins have Hid his face from you, that He will not hear.
Isa. 59:2.***INTRODUCTION**

Hindrances are obstacles or things that impede progress. In our walk with God, we are often faced with diverse hindrances that make us lose our focus. In this study, we will explore some of the hindrances to revival.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What are some hindrances to revival?
Isa. 30:15; 58:1-5; 59:1-3; Lk. 18:10-12; 2 Tim. 3:5-8;
Rev. 3:14-17.
2. How can we overcome these hindrances? 2 Chron. 7:13-15;
Prov. 28:13; Isa. 1:18, 19; 30:15; 58:6-12; Hos. 6:1-3;
2 Tim. 3:10-12.

CONCLUSION

Our God is faithful Who will not allow us to be overtaken by hindrances. He has made provision for us to triumph over them. May we avail ourselves of these provisions.

STUDY 10**IBENEFITS OF REVIVAL**

TEXTS: 1 Kgs. 18:17-39; Rev. 3:14-22.

MEMORY VERSE

*After two days will He revive us:
in the third day He will raise us up, and we shall live in His sight. Hos. 6:2.*

INTRODUCTION

There are many benefits that accompany revival. These benefits can extend from an individual to the nation at large. This study focuses on the benefits of revival.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What are the benefits of revival? 1 Kgs. 18:17-39; Ps. 51:10-13; 85:2-13; Isa. 2:1-5; Hos. 6:1-3; Lk. 24:13-35; Acts 3:19; Rev. 3:14-22.
2. Share some personal experiences of these benefits.

CONCLUSION

God is interested in our progress as we walk with Him. Let us therefore maximise the benefits of revival in our daily walk with God.

STUDY 11**SUSTAINING REVIVAL**

TEXTS: Hos. 6:1-3; 2 Tim. 3:14-17.

MEMORY VERSE

*Then shall we know, if we follow on to know the Lord:
His going forth is prepared as the morning; and He shall
come unto us as the rain, as the latter and former rain
unto the earth. Hos. 6:3.*

INTRODUCTION

In the previous study, we considered the benefits of revival. These benefits need to be sustained for a consistent walk with God. To sustain is to strengthen, keep up and to continue on a particular course. In this study, we shall be considering how to sustain revival.

DISCUSSION QUESTION

How can we sustain revival?
Deut. 8:7-20; Hos. 6:1-3; 1 Cor. 9:24-27; Phil. 2:12-16; Col. 2:6-8;
2 Tim. 2:2-4; 3:14-17; Heb. 10:23-25; 12:1-3; Jas. 1:25; 2 Pet. 1:5-10;
1 Jn. 2:28, 29.

CONCLUSION

Total dependence on God and personal effort are required in sustaining revival. These can be achieved by studying and meditating on God's Word, prayer and consistent fellowship with the brethren. May we receive grace to do so.

STUDY 12

THE SPIRIT-FILLED LIFE

TEXTS: Isa. 11:1-5; Rom. 8:1-19.

MEMORY VERSE

*For as many as are led by the Spirit of God,
they are the sons of God. Rom. 8:14.*

INTRODUCTION

The Holy Spirit is central to revival in the life of a believer. However, we must continually be filled and walk in the Spirit. Doing this enhances our productivity in life and ministry. This study is aimed at encouraging every believer to seek to live the Spirit-filled life.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Discuss the Spirit-filled life from these scriptures:
Gen. 41: 38-40; Isa. 11:1-5; Lk. 4:17-19;
Acts 2:1-4; 8:26-40; 11:1-18; 16:6-10; Rom. 8:26, 27.
2. What are the challenges to living a Spirit-filled life?
Matt. 16:24; Acts 5:1-10; Gal. 5:16-21.

CONCLUSION

The Spirit-filled life is a victorious life, and this is God's expectation for His children. Let us endeavour to live in the Spirit.

THIRD QUARTER

THIRD QUARTER SUB-THEME: FAITHFUL FAMILY GEN. 18:19

God's Purpose for the Family II: Dominion and Fruitfulness
 Family Values
 The Family Altar
 Raising Godly Seed
 Serving God Together as a Family
 Keeping the Marriage Vow
 Handling Family Pressures
 Handling Distractions in the Family
 Handling Family Finances
 Preparing for and Handling Death in the Family
 The Faithful Family, the Church

STUDY 1

GOD'S PURPOSE FOR THE FAMILY I: COMPANIONSHIP, INTIMACY AND UNITY.

TEXTS: Gen. 2:18–25; Lk. 1:57–65.

MEMORY VERSE

*Two are better than one; because they have
a good reward for their labour. Eccl. 4:9.*

INTRODUCTION

The family is the basic and foundational unit of the society. God created the family as a place to enjoy companionship, intimacy and unity. For us to maximise these intentions of God, we need to embrace the principles laid down for us in His word.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Discuss companionship, intimacy and unity in the family from the following Scriptures: Gen. 2:18-25; 24:67; Ps. 133:1-3; Prov. 5:15-19; Eccl. 4:9-12; 9:9; Amos 3:3; Lk. 1:57-65; 1 Cor. 7:2-5; 1 Pet. 3:7.
2. What are the consequences of walking contrary to the above?

CONCLUSION

God desires that we enjoy the warmth that comes with companionship and intimacy in the family. Unity binds the family and makes it impossible for the devil to sneak in. May we pursue God's purpose in our families to enjoy all the benefits available to us in Christ Jesus.

STUDY 12**GOD'S PURPOSE FOR THE FAMILY II:
DOMINION AND FRUITFULNESS**

TEXTS: Gen. 1:27-31; Rom. 16:3-5.

MEMORY VERSE

And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth. Gen. 1:28.

INTRODUCTION

To have dominion is to be in charge, and to rule over; while fruitfulness indicates reproducibility. God's purpose for the family is to have dominion and be fruitful on earth. The society is a collective reflection of the individual family, hence the Christian family living-out God's purpose herein expressed, influences the society.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How can a Christian family exercise dominion in the society?
Gen. 1:27-31; 2:15-25; 14:14-16; Num. 27:1-11;
Josh. 24:15, 16; 1 Chron. 12:23-39; Ps. 128:1, 2;
1 Tim. 5:3-8.
2. What does it mean for a family to be fruitful?
Gen. 18:17-19; Ps. 78:1-7; 128:1-6; Acts 18:24-28;
Rom. 16:3-5; 1 Cor. 16:15, 16; 3 Jn. 3, 4.

CONCLUSION

A fruitful family will extend its dominion by reproducing the life of God over the earth and across generations. This will ensure that the whole earth is indeed filled with the knowledge of the glory of God, as the waters cover the sea.

STUDY 13**FAMILY VALUES**

TEXTS: Jer. 35:1-10; 2 Tim. 1:1-6.

MEMORY VERSE

When I call to remembrance the unfeigned faith that is in thee, which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lois, and thy mother Eunice; and I am persuaded that in thee also. 2 Tim. 1:5.

INTRODUCTION

Family values are moral and ethical principles upheld and transmitted within a family. These values give families their outlook on life. A Christian family has her values derived from the Word of God without which it cannot honour God.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Discuss family values in the following Scriptures:
Gen. 14:13-16; 18:1-8, 17-19; Ps. 133:1-3; Prov. 31:10-28;
Jer. 35:1-10; Acts 21:8, 9; Col. 3:12-17; 2 Tim. 1:1-6;
Heb. 13:3-5.
2. How are these values transmitted within the family?
Deut. 6:6-9; Ps. 78:2-7; Gal. 4:19.

CONCLUSION

Family values such as honesty, hardwork, purity, unity, contentment and protection of every member should be imbibed and deliberately transmitted within the family. May we not be found wanting.

STUDY 4**THE FAMILY ALTAR**

TEXTS: Deut. 11:18-21; 1 Tim. 2:1, 2.

MEMORY VERSES

And let us arise, and go up to Bethel; and I will make there an altar unto God, who answered me in the day of my distress, and was with me in the way which I went. Gen. 35:3

INTRODUCTION

The family altar is the place where the family meets with God. It is imperative that everyone be wholeheartedly involved. This is one of the instruments that God uses to build faithful families. In this study, we shall be considering the purpose and components of the family altar.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Discuss family altar from the following Scriptures:
Gen. 35:1-7; Deut. 11:18-21; Ps. 95:1-3; Acts 10:1, 2, 19-48;
1 Tim. 2:1, 2; Jas. 5:16.
2. Discuss some challenges to maintaining the family altar.

CONCLUSION

The place of the family altar in the home cannot be overemphasized. Families must take this seriously so that they can enjoy the presence of God in their homes.

STUDY 5**RAISING GODLY SEED**

TEXTS: Deut. 6:1-9; Acts 21:7-9.

MEMORY VERSES

Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it. Prov. 22:6

INTRODUCTION

God commits children to parents as a trust that they might command them in the way of the Lord. Child upbringing is a great privilege, but it can also be challenging. Raising godly children does not happen by chance. It is a result of applying godly parenting principles backed up by the exemplary lives of the parents. This study focuses on some of the biblical principles that must be applied for effective raising of godly seed.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Discuss what it entails to raise godly seed.
Deut. 6:1-9; Ps. 78:1-7; Prov. 22:6; 29:15, 17; Jer. 35:1-10;
Matt. 19:14; Acts 21:7-9; Eph. 6:4; Gal. 4:19.
2. Discuss some hindrances to raising godly seed.
1 Sam. 2:22-25; 1 Kgs. 1:5, 6; Prov. 13:24; Mal. 2:15, 16.

CONCLUSION

God has given us every resource to raise godly children. It therefore behoves us to take up the challenge and raise our children in the way of the Lord.

STUDY 16**SERVING GOD TOGETHER AS A FAMILY**

TEXTS: Neh. 4:13-18; Acts 18:24-28.

MEMORY VERSE

And if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord. Josh. 24:15.

INTRODUCTION

The Christian family is a miniature Church with Christ as the head. It is the functional unit of the larger Church. God expects every member of the family to work together in serving Him. This study focuses on serving God together as a family.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What does it entail to serve God together as a family?
Gen. 18:1-8; 35:1-5; 1 Chron. 25:5, 6; Neh. 4:13-18; Acts 18:24-28; 21:7-9; Rom. 16:3-5.
2. Discuss some consequences of not serving God together as a family. Gen. 19:17-26; 1 Sam. 2:22-34; 8:1-5.

CONCLUSION

When families serve God together, they grow together and attract God's presence and blessings. May we take advantage of our family unity and serve God together.

STUDY 17**KEEPING THE MARRIAGE VOW**

TEXTS: Mal. 2:13-16; 1 Cor. 7:1-5.

MEMORY VERSE

And did not he make one? Yet had he the residue of the spirit. And wherefore one? That he might seek a godly seed. Therefore take heed to your spirit, and let none deal treacherously against the wife of his youth. Mal. 2:15.

INTRODUCTION

A marriage vow is a solemn promise, pledge and personal commitment made by a man and his bride before God and the congregation of His people during a marriage solemnization. At the centre of any marriage ceremony is the wedding vow which expresses how the couple intend to relate to each other, navigate the path of life together and make meaning of their marriage. It is expected that this vow so taken would be kept by the couple till death do them part. Keeping this vow is the focus of this study.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What is your personal understanding of the marriage vow?
2. What does it mean for a Christian couple to keep their marriage vow? Gen. 2:24, 25; Prov. 5:1-21; Eccl. 9:9; Mal. 2:13-16; Matt. 19:3-9; 1 Cor. 7:1-5; Eph. 5:21-33; Col. 3:17-19.

CONCLUSION

God is a witness to our marriage vow, it should not be taken lightly. Let us therefore endeavour to keep and jealously guard the marriage vow.

STUDY | 8**HANDLING FAMILY PRESSURES**

TEXTS: 1 Sam. 1:4-20; Matt. 6:25-34.

MEMORY VERSES

*Casting all your care upon Him; for He careth for you.
1 Pet. 5:7.*

INTRODUCTION

Pressure is a contrasting force or impulse of any kind which can lead to physical, mental, social, economic and even spiritual distress. Family pressures may arise from several factors. We must, however, learn to manage them. In this study, we shall consider some areas of family pressures and how to handle them.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Discuss some practical areas of family pressures.
2. Discuss how to handle family pressures from the following Scriptures:
Gen. 15:1-6; 50:15-21; Exo. 20:8-10; 1 Sam. 1:4-20; Job 2:9, 10; Hab. 3:17-19; Matt. 6:25-34; 15:21-28; Lk. 12:13-15; 14:25-27; Heb. 12:2, 3; 1 Pet. 5:7.

CONCLUSION

Family pressures can affect anyone negatively but when handled appropriately, difficult situations can be changed into delightful ones. May we be encouraged to keep pressing on.

STUDY | 9**HANDLING DISTRACTIONS IN THE FAMILY**

TEXTS: Gen. 3:1-13; Lk. 10:38-42.

MEMORY VERSES

And Jesus answered and said unto her, Martha, Martha, thou art careful and troubled about many things: But one thing is needful: and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her.

Lk. 10:41, 42.

INTRODUCTION

Distraction is anything that interferes, diverts or prevents someone from concentrating on something important. This could be internal or external. The Christian family is faced with several distractions, however the Word of God has provided a way out for us to handle them.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Discuss family distractions and how we can handle them from the following Scriptures: Gen. 3:1-13; 16:1-6; 19:14-26; 25:21-24; 26: 1-6; Exo. 18:13-27; 2 Sam. 6:20-23; Job 2:7-10; Matt. 6:25-34; Lk. 10:38-42; 1 Tim. 6:6-10.

2.

How can we handle contemporary distractions in the family?

CONCLUSION

Distractions in the family can be handled if we make God our focus. Let us therefore like Mary, choose that one thing which is needful.

STUDY 10**HANDLING FAMILY RESOURCES**

TEXTS: Prov. 31:13-27; Matt. 25:14-30.

MEMORY VERSES

"The master said, 'Well done, my good and faithful servant. You have been faithful in handling this small amount, so now I will give you many more responsibilities. Let's celebrate together!' Matt 25:23 (NLT).

INTRODUCTION

Family resources are a stock or supply of money, materials, skills, talents and other assets that can be drawn on by members of the family in order to function effectively. God entrusts Christian families with resources so that they can make profit therefrom, cater for their needs, save, give to the poor and serve other purposes of God. God expects family resources to be handled prudently.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Discuss handling family resources from the following Scriptures: Gen. 25:5, 6, 26:12-22; Exo. 16:16-20; 2 Kgs. 4:1-7; Ps. 62:10; Prov. 11:24-26; 13:11; 21:17; 31:13-27; Matt. 25:14-30; 1 Tim. 6:6-10, 17-19.
2. Discuss some of the ways family resources are handled inappropriately.

CONCLUSION

God blesses us with various resources so that we are not a liability to others. However, we must handle them with contentment, equity, generosity and uprightness. May God help us to handle family resources wisely.

STUDY 11**PREPARING FOR, AND HANDLING DEATH IN THE FAMILY**

TEXTS: Gen. 49:28-33; Jn. 12:1-7.

MEMORY VERSES

"Everything that happens in this world happens at the time God chooses. He sets the time for birth and the time for death, the time for planting and the time for pulling up," Eccl. 3:1, 2 (GNT).

INTRODUCTION

The subject matter of death is one many people, Christians inclusive, do not want to hear or talk about. This is because it relates to negativity and usually makes fear grip the hearts of many. However, no matter how we view it, often, death has had to occur in families, meeting them unprepared, destabilized, shocked and unable to recover for a very long time. Even though we cannot completely prepare for death, our realistic attitude towards it can make the effect less devastating. As Christians, we should align our orientation on death with God's expectation and be free to teach, study and discuss issues concerning it in the family.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What should be our attitude to death as Christians?
Job 14:1-5; Ps. 116:15; Eccl. 3:1-4; 7:1-3; Jn. 12:1-7;
Rom. 14: 8; 1 Cor. 15:51-58; Phil. 1:21-26; 1 Thess. 4:12-18; 2 Tim. 4:6-8.
2. What preparations should be in place in the family, knowing that death is inevitable? Gen. 25:5-11; 49:28-33; Eze. 33:11; Eph. 4:31, 32; Heb. 12:14, 15.

CONCLUSION

As believers, we should not live in the fear of death or denial of it, but by faith prepare the best way we can, so as to mitigate the shock that the death of a family member may cause us.

STUDY 12

THE FAITHFUL FAMILY: THE CHURCH

TEXTS: Neh. 3:1-4; 1 Cor. 12:4-27.

MEMORY VERSES

The way God designed our bodies is a model for understanding our lives together as a church: every part dependent on every other part, the parts we mention and the parts we don't, the parts we see and the parts we don't. If one part hurts, every other part is involved in the hurt, and in the healing. If one part flourishes, every other part enters into exuberance. 1 Cor. 12:25, 26 (Msg).

INTRODUCTION

The Church is one big family of God's people. Every individual member should therefore, see himself as an integral part of this family and function as such. Failure to do this can lead to deficiency or malfunctioning of the whole body. For just as individual members of our nuclear families are expected to perform their respective duties, so are we all expected to do in the church, complementing one another.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Discuss the faithful family (the Church) from the following Scriptures:
Neh. 3:1-4; Acts 12:1-17; 1 Cor. 12:4-27; Rom. 12:6-16;
Gal. 6:1-10; Phil. 2:1-4; Col. 3:12-17; 1 Thess. 5:14;
1 Tim. 5:21; Heb. 10:24, 25.
2. What are some challenges inhibiting our freely integrating and functioning as members of this family (the Church)?

CONCLUSION

We should recognize that beyond our immediate and extended families, we all belong to this larger family of God's people – the Church. We should all be involved and play our parts as members of this family.

FOURTH QUARTER

Labourers with God
 The Cost of Being a Soldier
 Know Your Enemy
 Strategies for Battles
 Put on the Whole Armour of God I: Salvation and Righteousness
 Put on the Whole Armour of God II: Truth Faith and the Word of God
 Put on the Whole Armour of God III: Soul Winning and Fellowship
 Possessing the Gates of the Enemy
 Repairer of the Waste Places
 Standing your Ground

STUDY 11

LABOURERS WITH GOD

TEXTS: Exo. 33:12-17; 1 Cor. 3:9-15.

MEMORY VERSE

For we are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building. 1 Cor 3:9.

INTRODUCTION

God has a purpose to accomplish on earth. He chose man as His fellow worker to accomplish this. Discovering God's work and partnering with Him is an exciting, yet sobering experience. The child of God seeking to fulfil this responsibility needs to have a relationship with God, depend on Him daily and must continuously seek an understanding of the work and the master plan, so as to build according to pattern.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What does it entail to be a co-labourer with God?
 Exo. 33:12-17; Num. 25:6-9; 1 Sam. 17:45-54;
 Matt. 28:18-20; Lk. 4:18,19; 19:12-19; 1 Cor. 3:9-15.
2. What are the consequences of not labouring with God?
 1 Sam. 4:1-11; 15:18-28; 2 Sam. 6:1-7, 1 Cor. 3:13-15.

CONCLUSION

God does not approve of men who just work for Him; rather, He seeks those who will labour with Him. May we remain in partnership with God as we do His work.

STUDY 2**THE COST OF BEING A SOLDIER**

TEXT: Lk. 14:25-33.

MEMORY VERSES

Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please Him who hath chosen him to be a soldier. 2 Tim. 2:3, 4.

INTRODUCTION

A soldier is one who is trained and commissioned by the government of his country to defend and fight for his country. He is equipped with the necessary weapons to fulfil the task he has been assigned. So also, every Christian is called to be a soldier in the army of God. He is called to show loyalty, discipline, duty, respect, selfless service, honour, integrity and courage even at the expense of his life. Similarly, every Christian is called to be a soldier in the army of God.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Discuss the cost of being a soldier of Christ from the following Scriptures:
Lk. 9:23-26; 14:25-33; 1 Cor. 9:24-27; 2 Cor. 11:16-28;
2 Tim. 2:1-5; 4:6-18.
2. What are some challenges to paying the price of being a Christian Soldier?
Josh. 7:19-21; Judg. 7:3-8; 2 Tim. 2:4; 1 Jn. 2:15-17.

CONCLUSION

The cost of being a Christian soldier is enormous. However, it is nothing compared to the glory that awaits us if we pay the price.

STUDY 3**KNOW YOUR ENEMY**

TEXTS: Gen. 3:1-15; Rom. 7:18-25.

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

An enemy is a hostile personality force that fights and opposes a Christian with the intent of causing injury, distraction and loss of his faith. One of the first principles of winning the battles of life is to identify the enemy. The battle of every Christian is against a tripartite enemy: the flesh, the world and the devil.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Discuss the enemy of the believer from the following Scriptures:

Gen. 3:1-15; Matt. 4:1-10; 14:29-31; Rom. 7:18-25;
2 Cor. 10:3-5; Gal. 5:19-21; Eph. 6:12; Jas. 1:14, 15; 1 Pet. 5:8;
1 Jn. 2:15-17.
2. How can we overcome the enemy? Matt. 4:1-10; 26:41;
Rom. 13:14; 2 Cor. 10:3-5; Gal. 5:16; Eph. 6:10-18; Jas. 1:12,
21-27; 1 Pet. 5:8, 9.

CONCLUSION

We have an enemy that will continue to war against us as long as we are alive. Since we know the enemy, we should deploy our resources effectively in order to maintain our victory.

STUDY 4**STRATEGIES FOR BATTLE**

TEXTS: Gen. 39:7-12; Matt. 4:1-10.

MEMORY VERSE*Then Jesus said unto them, My time is not yet come:
but your time is always ready. John 7:6.***INTRODUCTION:**

A strategy is the overall technique, action and policy intended to accomplish a goal. The Christian life is full of battles that require divine strategies to maintain victory. Some of the strategies involve direct confrontation, while others are indirect. This study will focus on some of these strategies.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Discuss the strategies for battle from the following Scriptures:
Gen. 39:7-12; 1 Sam. 17:32-37, 45-52; 30:6-18; 2 Sam. 5:18-25; 2 Kgs. 5:8-17; 2 Chron. 20:14-22; Matt. 4:1-10; Acts 13:8-12; 16:16-18; Eph. 6:10-18; Jas. 5:13-15.
2. Share some personal strategies you have used.

CONCLUSION

There are diverse strategies in the Scriptures for battles. Let us be dependent on the Holy Spirit to choose the right strategy for each battle.

STUDY 5**PUT ON THE WHOLE ARMOUR OF GOD I:
SALVATION AND RIGHTEOUSNESS**

TEXTS: Ps. 112:1-8; Eph. 6:10-17

MEMORY VERSE*And take the helmet of salvation,
and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: Eph. 6:17.***INTRODUCTION**

Over the next three weeks, we will be focusing on the series 'Put on the whole armour of God'. The armour is the weapon of spiritual warfare made available to the children of God. This includes salvation, righteousness, truth, faith, the Word of God, soul winning and follow-up. Our study today will focus on salvation and righteousness as a weapon of warfare.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Discuss salvation as a weapon of spiritual warfare.
2 Sam. 22:33-37; Ps. 27:1-4; 149:4-9; Isa. 59:17;
Jn. 1:12, 13; Rom. 8:14-17; Eph. 6:10-17.
2. What is the significance of righteousness as a spiritual armour?
Job 27:6; Ps. 112:4-8; Prov. 10:2; 14:34; Isa.
1:26, 27; 11:4, 5; Eph. 6:14; 2 Cor. 6:3-7.

CONCLUSION

The helmet of salvation and the breastplate of righteousness guard our minds and assure us of the promises of God and eternity. Believing and holding on guarantee victory.

STUDY 16**PUT ON THE WHOLE ARMOUR OF GOD II:
TRUTH, FAITH AND THE WORD OF GOD**

TEXTS: Matt. 4:1-11; Eph. 6:10-17.

MEMORY VERSE*But He answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God. Matt 4:4.***INTRODUCTION**

As the physical sword is useless so long as it is confined to the scabbard, so is the Word of God if it rests idle in the intellect of a Christian. The Word of God is that weapon by which the Christian defends himself, and cuts down his enemies. However, this must be handled in truth and by faith. In today's study, we will be discussing truth, faith and the Word of God as weapons of Christian warfare.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Discuss the various ways we can use Truth and the Word of God as weapons. Ps. 15:1, 2; 119:9, 11, 105; Zech. 8:16, 17; Matt. 4:1-11; Eph. 6:10-17; 2 Tim. 3:16,17; 1 Jn. 2:14; Rev. 12:11.
2. Discuss the place of faith in the armoury of a Christian soldier. Hab. 2:3, 4; Matt. 17:19, 20; 2 Cor. 10:1-5; Heb. 4:2; 11:6.

CONCLUSION

We don't expect to find it easy in the world because it is a battle field. We must study and commit the Word of God to memory and sincerely wield it in faith against the enemy in order to attain victory.

STUDY 17**PUT ON THE WHOLE ARMOUR OF GOD III:
SOUL WINNING AND FOLLOW-UP**

TEXTS: Acts. 11:19-26; 1 Thess. 3:1-10.

MEMORY VERSE*The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; and he that winneth souls is wise. Prov. 11:30.***INTRODUCTION**

The Christian's feet being 'shod' with the gospel of peace implies that every Christian must display a readiness for preaching the Gospel and winning souls for the Kingdom. Soul winning is warfare because it involves binding the enemy and freeing his captives. More importantly, it behoves us to follow-up the young converts in order to establish them in the faith and protect them from isolation and vulnerability to satan's attacks.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Discuss soul winning as an armour from the following Scriptures:
Dan. 12:2,3; Matt. 28:18-20; Mk. 3:23-27; 16:15-18;
Acts 11:19-26; 26:15-18; Rom. 10:13-15.
2. Discuss the victory that comes from follow-up from the following Scriptures:
Acts 11:19-26; 15:3, 4; Phil. 2:19-24;
1 Thess. 1:1-10; 3:1-10.

CONCLUSION

Soul winning and follow-up afford us protection from the assaults of the devil and help to create a mutual spiritual bond between us and the converts in Christ. This twin strategy assures a healthy growth in faith.

STUDY 18**POSSESSING THE GATES OF THE ENEMY**

TEXTS: Gen. 22:15-18; Matt. 16:17-20.

MEMORY VERSE

That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies; Gen. 22:17.

INTRODUCTION

A gate is a passageway to an enclosed place, hence, it is very strategic. There are several gates through which the enemy seeks to take control of our lives, such as the lust of the eyes, lust of the flesh and the pride of life. However, our Lord and commander has broken the gates of hell and given us the victory. Therefore, we must take control of these gates and maintain the victory.

DISCUSSION QUESTION

1. Discuss what possessing the gates of the enemy entails from the following references.

Gen. 22:15-18; Deut. 28:6-13; Isa. 54:13-17; Obad. 17-21; Matt. 12:28-30; 16:17-20; Rom. 8:1-17; Col. 2:13-15; Heb. 12:1-6.

2. Share experiences of possessing the gates of the enemy.

CONCLUSION

We have seen from this study that, possessing the gates of the enemy is walking in the victory of the cross. Let us therefore maintain this victory.

STUDY 19**REPAIRER OF THE WASTE PLACES**

Isa. 61:1-4; Acts 10:38-43.

MEMORY VERSE

And they shall build the old wastes, they shall raise up the former desolations, and they shall repair the waste cities, the desolations of many generations. Isa. 61:4.

INTRODUCTION

Repair is an act of restoring something that is faulty to its original or functional state. Life was broken when sin came into the world and the consequences are seen around us every day: in the family, Church, community and work places. Christ died to restore life to the original intent of God and has committed to us the responsibility of repairing the waste places.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Mention some examples of waste places
2. Discuss what it means for Christians to be repairers of waste places from the given passages:
Gen. 18:18,19; 41:46-57; 50:18-21; Deut. 6:6-9; Judg. 6:25-32; Neh. 4:6-9; Prov. 22:6; Isa. 61:1-4; Matt. 21:12-14; 28:18-20; Acts 10:38-43; Tit. 1:10-14.

CONCLUSION

There are several situations around us calling for attention, therefore let us arise and repair the waste places.

STUDY 10

STANDING YOUR GROUND

TEXTS: 1 Kgs. 21:1-13; Acts 4:1-24.

MEMORY VERSE

Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage. Gal. 5:1.

INTRODUCTION

As we approach the end of this year and looking forward to the new year, you will agree that the Lord has given us several opportunities to learn at His feet. This last study is to encourage us to stand on the truth that we have learned. The Lord is counting on everyone of us to be faithful, irrespective of the challenges we may face.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How can a Christian stand his ground from the following scriptures?

Josh. 1:6-9; 2 Sam. 11:8-11; 1 Kgs. 21:1-13; Dan. 1:8-16; 3:10-30; Acts 4:1-24; Eph. 5:11; 6:10-18; Jas. 1:2-8; 4:7, 8.

2. Discuss the consequences of not standing your ground.

CONCLUSION

As soldiers of the cross, God has made every provision for us to stand our ground. Let us keep holding on till the end.