

New Christian Discipleship

Week 1 – The Gospel

- Person and work of Jesus
- Repentance & faith
- What happens when we die?

Week 2 – Bible overview

Week 3 – Growing as a Christian

- Living a life of repentance and faith
- Prayer
- Bible reading and memorising Gods word
- The Holy Spirit
- Reading Christian books

Week 4 – Serving as a Christian (Church life)

- Church membership
- Baptism and the Lord's Supper
- Service – using your gifts
- Meeting together – mutual encouragement edification and admonition
- Giving to the Lord's work
- Corporate Praying

Week 5 – Telling the good news

- Telling the story
- Telling your story
- Answering common objections

Week 6 – Christian Lifestyle (part 1)

- God's expectation for Family life

Week 7 – Christian Lifestyle (part 2)

- Working life
- Avoiding temptation to sin
- Suffering

WEEK 1 – THE GOSPEL

The Person of Jesus

That Jesus is fully God

- Hebrews 1:1-10; What does this reveal about His nature?
- Matthew 8; How do these accounts demonstrate Jesus' powers?
- John 10:28-30, John 11:25-26, 39-44; What did Jesus claim about Himself? (Look up OT refs, Prophecies.)

That Jesus is fully Man

- John 4:6, 4:7, 11:35; How do these reveal Jesus' humanity?
- Matthew 4:1-11; Why was Jesus tempted?
- Hebrews 2:10, 2:11; What has Jesus experienced that is common to man?
- Hebrews 2:14-15; What are some of the results of Jesus becoming a man?

That Jesus has two natures (God and Human) but is ONE person.

The Work of Jesus

Jesus lived a perfect life – “Without sin”

Jesus died a substitutionary death

- Matthew 16:21; What did Jesus predict would happen to Him?
- Isaiah 53:4-6; Why did Jesus die, who for?
- John 10:17-18; Was Jesus death voluntary? What is man's condition from Christ?
- 1 Peter 3:18; What did Jesus do to bring condemned men to God?

Jesus rose again – 1 Corinthians 15:1-19

What is the essence of the gospel message?

What certainty/ hope does this bring when we die?

How does Jesus' death, resurrection, help us understand what happens to us when we die? What promise does Jesus give the thief on the cross? Luke 23:42-43;

Jesus' work of Intercession for us

- Romans 8:34; What is Christ doing now?
- Read John 17; What are some of the things he asked for his followers?
- Read Hebrews 7:24-25; Do you think Jesus is praying the same things for you today?

Repentance and Faith

What did Jesus do for us?

Roms 5:6-11; What did God show us? What did Christ do for us? When did Christ die for us? What does Christ died for us mean? What did you do to deserve Jesus' death for you? Jesus' death means that we are now, what? How can we be sure that we shall be saved?

How are we to respond?

1 Thessalonians 1:9-10; What did the Thessalonians do?

What did they turn from and to?

What is it we are to turn from and to?

How do we turn?

Ephesians 2:8-10; What does faith (trust) have to do with salvation?

What does it mean to 'trust God'?

Is salvation our own work?

Salvation comes to us from God in what way?

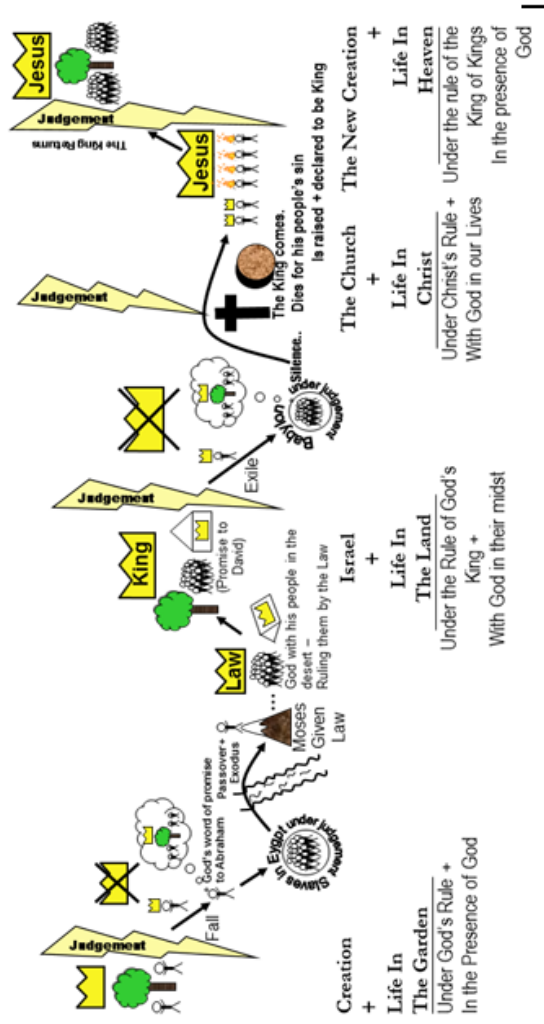
What works can we contribute to our salvation?

What credit can we take for our salvation?

WEEK 2 – BIBLE OVERVIEW

Week 2: Bible Overview

The story of the **King of Kings**



Using the Kingdom motif - taking people through the bible story:

Key passages:

The Pattern of the Kingdom - Gen 1 & 2 - Creation

The perished Kingdom - Gen 3 - The Fall

The Promised Kingdom - Gen 12 -

The promises partially fulfilled:

Gen 12- Ex 18 God's People

Ex 19- Lev God's Rule and Blessing

Numbers - Joshua - God's Place/ Land

Judges - 2 Chronicles - God's King

The Prophesied Kingdom

Prophets pointing us forward to the time when promises would be fulfilled.

The Present Kingdom (Jesus present)

Jesus' arrival and fulfilment of Kingdom

God's people = Jesus is the true Adam

God's place = Jesus is the true tabernacle, true temple

God's rule and blessing - Jesus introduces the new covenant. Jesus is the New King; Jesus is the source of God's blessing

The Cross: Salvation through substitution

Proclaimed Kingdom: The last days in now - God People = Church; God's place = Believers but looking to heaven; God's rule and blessing - Spirit within us to help us to obey.

Perfected Kingdom: New Creation, New Jerusalem, New Temple - all the promises utterly fulfilled.

Taken from God's Big Picture - Vaughan Roberts

WEEK 3 – GROWING AS A CHRISTIAN

Living a life of repentance and faith

Obedience & Grace

1 John 2:3-6; John 14:15; What marks out a Christian?

Titus 2:11-13; What is Grace? What does it mean that the grace of God has brought salvation? How has this happened? (While we are waiting for the 'blessed hope').

How Does Grace enable us to live? Why is this important? What should we say 'no' to? What positive things will we be doing instead? How are we taught or motivated to do this? How would you answer someone who said "Once you've been saved, it doesn't matter very much how you live." Do good deeds and godly living come as a result of God's grace or in order to earn it?

The battle: Roms 7:14-25, Gal 5:16-17 – What battle rages in each Believer?

YET what hope do we have?

1 Corinthians 10:13; James 1:13-15: What else is promised as the norm for each believer?

Repentance – 1 John 1:8-2v6 – What must we keep on doing? What can we be confident of if we do? Why can we be confident? What does this imply we will still do?

God's Provision – 1 Cor 3:16; 2 Corinthians 6:6; Gal 2:20; Who lives in every believer? 1 John 4:4; Roms 8:9; Why are Christians able to overcome their enemy in the world? (Touch briefly on **the work of the Holy Spirit** - The Holy Spirit is fully God, sent by the Father and the Son). What does the Spirit give - John 6:63? What else does He bring to our hearts, Romans 8:16; 1 John 3:24, 4:17. How does 4:17 tie in with 1Corinthians 12:3? What else is the Spirit's work - 1 Corinthians 2:12, 2 Peter 1:21; John 14:26, 16:13?)

Prayer – As a believer in Christ what special opportunity are we given – Hebrews 4:16? There are different types of prayer see if you can match these scriptures with the corresponding types of prayer: Ps 38:18; Hebrews 13:15; James 1:5, Ephesians 5:20, 1 Sam 12:23; With - Praise (for who God is), Thanksgiving (for what He has done); Confession; prayer for others; Prayer for personal needs.

Benefits of Prayer: Ephesians 3:30; Ps 34:4; Phil 4:6-7 – What areas of life is God interested in? What is God's promise?

Teaching New Disciples

Consider Jesus' pattern for prayer in Matthew 6:9-13 - How does the prayer begin?

Why is this important? Which requests are God-centred? Which request are man-centred? In what specific ways can this pattern for praying help you pray?

THINK A-C-T-S. God answers yes, no, wait!!

Who to pray for - Romans 10:1, 1 Tim 2:1-4; Matt 9:37-38

Bible Reading and Memorising Scripture

Our need: How does the Psalmist describe the Word of God Ps 19:7-11;
How does Ps 119:9-16; 2 Peter 1:4; Help us understand our need for God's Word?

Practically: What do each of these verses encourage us to do with God's Word –
Romans 10:17; Rev 1:3; Acts 17:11, Ps 119:11; Ps 1:2-3?

Discuss what doing each of these will mean and look like?

Demonstrate – Look through some bible study notes...

Reading Christian Books

Some good starter books:

God's Big Picture – Vaughan Roberts
Pursuit of Holiness – Jerry Bridges
Distinctive – Vaughan Roberts
Dig Deeper – Nigel Benyon and Andrew Sachs
Mere Christianity – C.S.Lewis
A Praying Life – Paul E Miller
Counterfeit Gods - Tim Keller
Disciplines of a Godly Man / Woman
Just walk across the Room – Bill Hybels
The Forgotten God – Francis Chan
The Hole in our holiness - Kevin DeYoung

WEEK 4 – SERVING AS A CHRISTIAN (Church life)

Church Membership

Read Romans 12:4-8 - what does Romans 12 imply about each Christian? We are to be a body, therefore we are to be members of a local church. Our handbook reads, "So we understand that local churches in the New Testament were made up of recognised members who were committed to one another for these common activities of church life, all Christians being members in this way. Each one who was joined to Christ was joined to the universal church, and this union was seen in commitment to a local church." [Christ Church Handbook]

Meeting together

Read Hebrews 10:23-25 – why are we to meet together? What will this involve?

Read 1 Corinthians 12:12-26 – how does the image of the body help us understand why we meet together? How are we dependent on each other? What is involved when meeting together

How do the following verses help shape what we should do? (Col 3:16; Ephesians 5:19; 2 Tim 3:16-17, 4:2)

Baptism

Why?

- Matt 28:18-20 (Jesus commanded it)
- Acts 10:44-48 (The apostles insisted on it)
- Acts 2:37-41, 8:36-38, 9:17-19; 16:13-15, 29-34, 18:7-8, (The New Testament Christians all practiced it)

How?

- Signifies
- Acts 22:16 (washing)
- Romans 6:3,4 (Burial and resurrection)
- 1 Corinthians 10:1-2, commitment (like the Israelites, we step forward in faith and obedience).

Lords Supper

Read Luke 22:14-19; 1 Corinthians 11:23-32 – what is the purpose?

Why do you think Jesus instituted this for us? Who is called to do it? Who is not allowed to partake?

1 Corinthians 10:16 - who else do we partake with as we eat and drink?

Service/ Gifts

Every member is called to serve the body.

Read Ephesians 4:11-13; 1 Corinthians 12:1-11; 1 Peter 4:10-11.

What is it that Jesus has given to each member? What are gifts to be used for? How can you use yours?

Giving

One of the things we are called to do is to give as part of our worship.

Matt 6:1-4 - this will involve giving to the church and to the needy.

2 Corinthians 8:1-6; 9:6-15 - who is it we ultimately give too? Whose money is it we give? What blessings are there for doing so?

Corporate Praying

One of the marks of the early church was their praying together.

Read Acts 2:42; 4:23-31 – what should be a mark of our church?

One of the responsibilities we have as church members is to be those who pray regularly for one another, for the ministries and leaders of the church, for our local community. How important is this ministry?

WEEK 5 – TELLING THE GOOD NEWS

Why do we need to? Matt 28:16-20, Romans 10:9-15

How? Sometimes we can feel as though we need to know all the answers before we can be an effective witness for Christ. Yet read 1 John 1:3 - what would you share with others? And for what purpose?

Telling the Story:

Spend time going through 'Two Ways To live'

Telling your Story:

Spend time rehearsing your story! Your simple, personal story that conveys the impact Jesus Christ has had in your life. In 45 seconds why you are so fired up for God? What has changed? What difference has Christ really made in your life? What were you like before Christ? And now what are you like after you've asked Christ to intervene? What is the before and after change?

It has to be brief, focused, coherent and true. Look at the story of the blind man in John 9 or Zacchaeus in Luke 19:1-10

Watch for:

1. Being long winded – be able to tell it in 3mins max;
2. Fuzziness – incoherent;
3. Religion – the use of jargon – DON'T;
4. Superiority – telling your story as if somehow you are better!

Answering Common Objections:

- 1 Peter 3:15
- Suffering
- Other Religions
- Science...

WEEK 6 – CHRISTIAN LIFESTYLE (part 1)

God's expectation for Family Life:

Marriage

Read Genesis 2:23-24 and Mark 10:6-9

What does the bible tell us about marriage? How does this differ from the world's view?

Read Ephesians 5:21-33

What should the wife's submission look like in v22-24? Why? What is submission and what is it not, in light of these verses?

What should the husband's love look like in v25-30? Why?

What is the connection between Jesus and his Church?

How does this contradict the world's view of marriage?

What, in v32, is the key to understanding marriage? How should it affect our attitude to marriage?

Read 1 Peter 3v7 - for husbands as we think about leading our families:

Peter highlights two particular truths about the wife that need to be remembered in this context:

a) 'the weaker partner': In what ways are women weaker? What will the husband's being 'considerate' mean in practice, therefore?

b) 'heirs with you': Why does Peter highlight this?

How, therefore, should a man care for his wife in the following areas - Physically, Sexually, Emotionally and Spiritually?

Family

Read - Deut 6:4-9/ Proverbs 22:6

What does Scripture call parents to do? [train a child, particularly in the ways of the Lord]

What will this look like practically?

What will it involve?

Read Proverbs 22:15, 23:15; 29:15

What else does Scripture call parents to do?

What will this look like?

Read Ephesians 6:1-4

What are children to do?

What are fathers not to do?

Read Ephesians 5:23

Who has ultimate responsibility for the children?

WEEK 7 – CHRISTIAN LIFESTYLE (part 2)

Working Life

Read Gen 2:15-17

What is it we are called to do?

How then are we to view work?

Read Colossians 3:22-25 & Ephesians 6:5-9

How are we to work?

Who are we to work for?

What will this look like in your work place?

Avoiding Temptation to Sin

Read Mark 9:42-50

How serious is sin?

What does Jesus say we should do?

What does this mean/ what will this look like?

What are the consequences for those who continue in sin?

Read Romans 8:9-17

What help does Jesus promise to those who follow him?

Whose control are we under now? What comfort/ encouragement does that bring to prevent us from sinning?

Who are we now and how does knowing this, help us fight sin? [The NT always encourages us to stop sinning by reminding us of what it is Christ has done for us – by thinking of this and fixing our eyes on the cross – our hearts will desire to sin!]

What can we look forward to and how does knowing this, help us fight sin?

1 Corinthians 10:13

What does God promise for those who are his?

In light of all these readings what practical daily things can we do, to help us avoid sin?

Suffering

Read 1 Peter 2:21-25 & 4:12-19

How likely is it that we will suffer? (Cf Hebrews 11:36-38, 2 Corinthians 11:22-29)

How are we to respond in suffering?

Who are we emulating in suffering - how does this help us to suffer?

What blessings are there for those who suffer?

What is surprising about our suffering in 4:17-18?

