ONE BY ONE

BOOK

GLC LEVEL 1

ONE BY ONE

BOOK

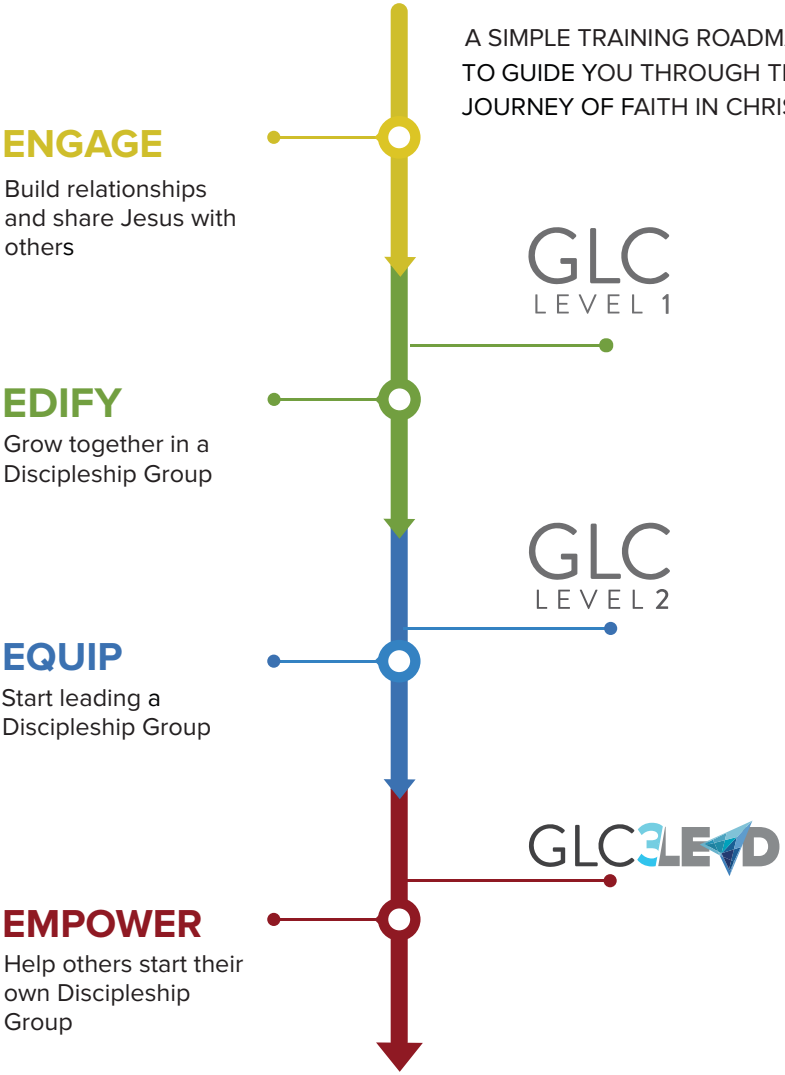
GLC LEVEL 1

BOOK 1: ONE BY ONE (5th Edition)

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The GLC Program

Global Leadership Center (GLC) is CCF's very own discipleship resource to help you grow in your walk, start a group, and help others start their own group.



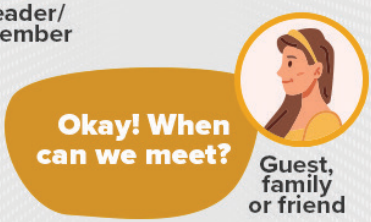
DISCIPLESHIP JOURNEY

engage

build relationships and share Jesus with others



DLeader/ Dmember



Guest, family or friend

TOOLS FOR YOUR JOURNEY:

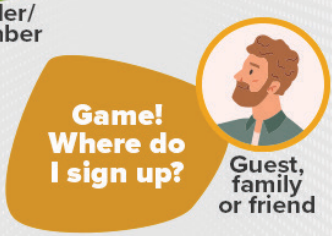
Best Decision Tract
Real Talk Booklet

edify

grow together in a Discipleship Group



DLeader/ Dmember



Guest, family or friend

TOOLS FOR YOUR JOURNEY:

Real Talk Booklet
True Life Retreat
GLC 1

equip

start leading a Discipleship Group

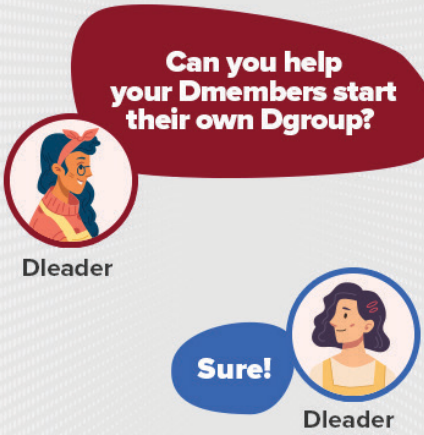


TOOL FOR YOUR JOURNEY:

GLC 2

empower

help others start their own Discipleship Group



TOOL FOR YOUR JOURNEY:

GLC 3

OUR TRAINING

GLC
LEVEL 2

GLC
LEVEL 1

ENTRY
OPEN TO ALL

▶ GLC LEVEL 1

Trainees at this level are taught basic Biblical truths and how to effectively share the Gospel **(Pray, Care, Share)**

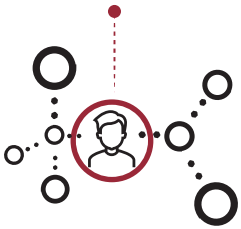


MILESTONES

ENTRY
TRAINEES SHOULD BE DISCIPLING AT LEAST THREE PEOPLE

▶ GLC 3 LEAD

Trainees at this level are taught how to be spiritual multipliers



ENTRY
TRAINEES SHOULD BE FOLLOWING UP AT LEAST TWO PEOPLE

▶ GLC LEVEL 2

Trainees at this level are taught the right doctrines and how to start discipling through a DGroup



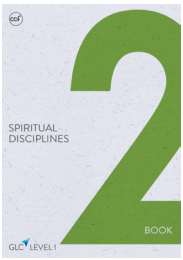
GLC LEVEL 1

OPEN TO ALL
EXPLAINS THE GOSPEL, THE BASICS OF THE CHRISTIAN LIFE, AND CCF'S DNA.



ONE BY ONE

Explore how you can experience lasting change from the inside out through a personal encounter with Jesus Christ. Make a positive impact on the world around you as you discover and live out the truth and grace of the gospel.



SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES

Learn about spiritual habits that, when practiced diligently will help you know Jesus more. Discover His will for your life through His Word, the Bible.



THE HOLY SPIRIT

Discover who the Holy Spirit is and the importance of the Spirit-filled life for every child of God. Understand the gifts and fruit of the Spirit and learn how to be more dependent on the Lord as you apply the truth about the Holy Spirit in your life.



CCF DNA

See the big picture of what Christ's Commission Fellowship is all about, discover our God-given mission, vision, and core values. Know how you are uniquely designed by God to take part in this lifetime of faith adventure of fulfilling God's Great Commission.

GLC true life

OPEN TO ALL

True Life, a two-day spiritual retreat, explores the meaning of a truly fulfilling life. Many seek happiness through worldly success, possessions, and relationships, yet these often leave a void.

The retreat emphasizes that it's faith in Jesus Christ alone that brings true life, one that's filled with joy, hope, and purpose. John 10:10, ("I have come that they may have life and have it to the full") highlights Jesus' promise of abundant life. Participants examine their hearts, share their stories, and discover the victorious life Christ makes available to all who believe in Him.

GLC BAPTISM

OPEN TO ALL

Coming to know Jesus as our Lord and Savior causes us to experience various changes in our lives, beginning with our hearts. Water Baptism is the outward expression, a symbol of what has taken place inside us when we accepted Jesus as Savior and Lord.

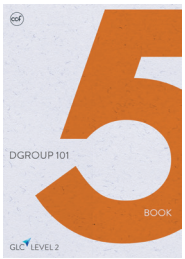
GLC LEVEL 1 COMPLETION REQUIREMENTS

1. Completed Books 1 to 4
2. Registered as a Dgroup Member
3. Attended / Commit to attend a True Life Retreat
4. Accomplished the LifeApp form (signed/attested by Dgroup Leader)

GLC LEVEL 2

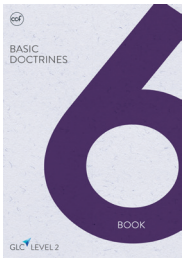
OPEN TO ALL GLC LEVEL 1 FINISHERS AND DGROUP LEADERS

TRAINS YOU HOW TO START A DGROUP, NURTURE YOUR FAMILY, AND KNOW THE BASIC DOCTRINES OF OUR FAITH.



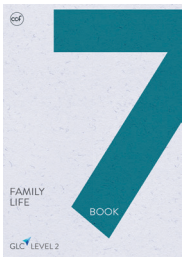
DGROUP 101

Learn about how we grow in a Dgroup that is faithful to Christ's design and is truly transformative.



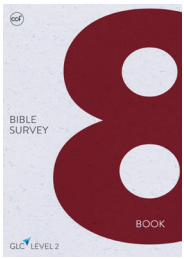
BASIC DOCTRINES

Discover the foundational doctrines behind the Statement of Faith which we believe and profess.



FAMILY LIFE

Be a blessing to your family and lead them to Jesus as you become a Christ-like spouse, sibling, and child.



BIBLE SURVEY

This module presents an extensive chronological overview of the Bible from Genesis to Revelation.

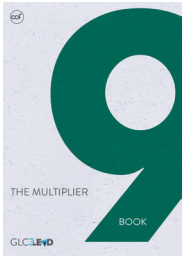
GLC LEVEL 2 COMPLETION REQUIREMENTS

1. Completed all GLC LEVEL 1 requirements
2. Completed Books 5 to 8
3. A Dgroup leader with at least 2 members
4. Accomplished the LifeApp form (signed/attested by Dgroup Leader)

GLC3LEAD

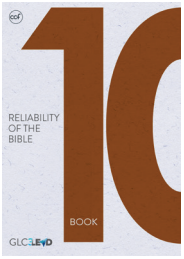
OPEN TO ALL DGROUP LEADERS WITH ACTIVE MEMBERS

TEACHES CCF DGROUP LEADERS HOW TO BETTER MENTOR, COACH, AND EMPOWER THEIR MEMBERS TO START THEIR OWN DGROUP.



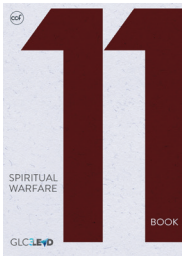
THE MULTIPLIER

Be equipped to lead with Christlike character and multiply leaders for God's glory.



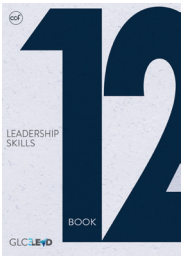
RELIABILITY OF THE BIBLE

Discover why the Bible is truly reliable and examine the historical accuracy of Scripture.



SPIRITUAL WARFARE

This module provides an overview of Biblical principles for winning in Spiritual Warfare.



LEADERSHIP SKILLS

Be equipped to lead others Biblically through mentoring, counseling, conflict resolution, and disciple-making relationships.

GLC3 LEAD COMPLETION REQUIREMENTS

1. Completed GLC LEVEL 1 and GLC LEVEL 2 requirements
2. Completed all sessions of books 9 to 12 *(or its equivalent)*
3. A Dgroup Leader with one timothy, discipling 2 members
4. Accomplished the LifeApp form (signed/attested by Dgroup leader)

WHAT'S A GLC LIFEAPP?



The end goal of discipleship is Christikeness. The Christian life is not a "to-do" list; it is a moment-by-moment loving, relationship with our Heavenly Father. It is a life of faith and obedience as we follow Jesus through the discipleship path He has laid for us.

The GLC training curriculum aims for the life application of God's Word. The Bible-based lessons are not merely for information, but for transformation. Hence, the GLC Life App is intended to ensure we apply what we learn.

Download the GLC LifeApp here:

go.ccf.org.ph/LifeApp

GLC TRAINING PLATFORMS

GLC training is offered through different learning platforms so you can choose which one best suits your needs.

GLC FACE TO FACE CLASSES

Make your “on-the-job” training experience more meaningful by joining face-to-face classes and interacting with GLC teachers and other trainees. Check out your local and international CCF satellites announcements and schedules.

GLC zoom CLASSES

Be part of a live online class and learn together in the comfort of your own home, office, or anywhere you are in the world. Check out your local and international CCF satellites announcements and schedules.

GLC in Dgroups

Learn together with your DGroup members as you meet for fellowship, accountability, and Bible study using GLC resources.

GLC eLEARNING SELF-PACED

Can’t Attend GLC F2F and Zoom Classes? Choose the GLC E-Learning Self-Paced program that is designed to fit your busy schedule. Start your discipleship journey to be equipped on your own time, at your own place, and at your own pace.



Welcome Wednesday is a weekly Bible study community designed for those who want to grow in their Discipleship Journey.

Whether you're just starting your walk with God, asking questions, or wanting to grow deeper, this is a safe and encouraging place for you.

Through our Biblical Foundation Series, you'll learn more about who God is, what it means to follow Him, and be plugged into a Dgroup.

Biblical Foundations First-Timers Bible Study Series

This series is well-suited for those who are taking baby steps in their walk with Christ, or those who are simply curious and have questions about the Christian faith. Discover life-transforming answers from God's Word about the forgiveness of sins, heaven and hell, and the best decision you can ever make in this life and for eternity.

Biblical Foundations Follow-Up Bible Study Series

Examine more closely what you know and believe about the nature of sin and its effects on us; the characteristics of genuine faith in Christ and why salvation is free for us, yet has a very high cost that we cannot even pay for.

Holy Spirit
Discover who the Holy Spirit is and the importance of the Spirit-filled life for every child of God.

Galatians
The Book of Galatians is as relevant to us today as it was to the first Christians and within its pages we find important Biblical truths for the defense of the true gospel.

Evangelifestyle
A very important part of our relationship with Jesus is to take part in His mission to reconcile people back to our Heavenly Father. Here you will learn how to pray, care and share the love of Christ to family, friends and even strangers as you go about your daily life.

Spiritual Disciplines
Learn about spiritual habits that, when practiced diligently will help you know Jesus more. As you get to know Christ, you will also discover His will for your life through His Word, the Bible.

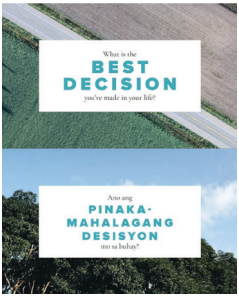
Membership (CCF DNA)
See the big picture of what CCF is all about, discover our God-given mission, vision, and core values. Know how you are uniquely designed take part in this lifetime of faith adventure of fulfilling Christ's Great Commission, and what it means to be a member of God's CCF family.

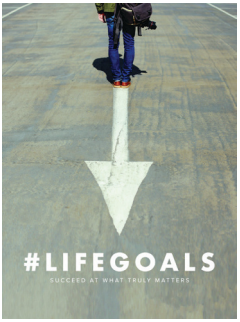
GLC TRAINING



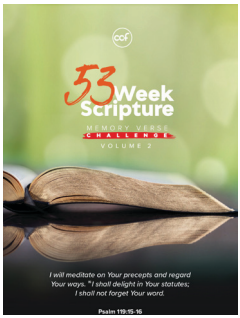
MATERIALS

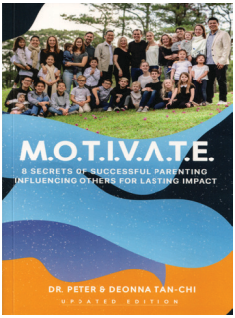


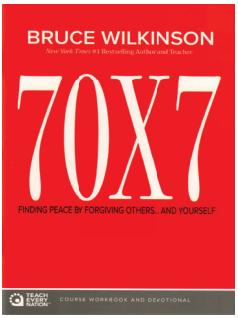


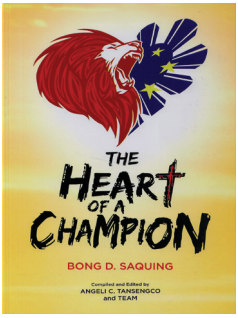












Want to get your own copy of the GLC Books?

You may send your request to **glc@ccf.org.ph,** and our team will gladly assist you with the details.

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INTRODUCTION

A MERE GLANCE AT THE HEADLINES WILL CONVINCE ANYONE THAT OUR WORLD IS IN CHAOS.

From deadly viruses to terrorists from tragic accidents to natural calamities; we all have to live with these harsh realities everyday.

With our increasingly interconnected global community, it would seem that a problem in one part of the world can affect us who live thousands of kilometers away. On the other hand, a positive difference made by one individual can make a difference to millions of people.

The question is, can any ordinary person make a lasting and lifechanging impact in our complicated world today? What significant difference can one make in someone else's life?

Welcome to Book 1: One by One. Together, we will explore through this workbook, and see how lasting change can happen as we go out and influence another one, then another one – one by one.

We will discover that there is a greater Story behind all the news that we hear today. This Story will change your life. The Solution to our greatest problem is probably something that you have never known before.

HOW TO USE THIS WORKBOOK

This workbook is for the GLC Book 1: One by One study. If you are a Dgroup facilitator, please make sure that you do a personal Bible study using this workbook ahead of your Dgroup meeting.

Encourage your group members to have their own workbooks. You may download the PDF version for free at glc.ccf.org.ph. Do not divert from the teaching topic – stick to what is in the workbook.

The workbook includes the Bible lesson, and individual and Dgroup learning activities to help you get the most out of your meetings. There are four parts in every session: Welcome, Talk About It, Apply It and Pray It.

Welcome —

Contains individual and small group activities that help prepare you for the Bible study.

Talk About It —

This is where you go through the Bible lesson with the group. This is also where the members of the group get a chance to express more of their insights, questions, and thoughts about the Bible lesson. They can do it in writing, doodling or drawing, and sharing with the rest of the group.

Pray It —

Suggested prayer points based on the lesson asking for the Lord's grace in applying what has been learned after the study.

This workbook is just a tool. We need to depend on the Holy Spirit to teach us God's truth and transform our hearts as we go through the Bible studies.

So, come and discover the One who will change your life!

Apply It —

This section is accomplished outside the group meeting time. There are suggested individual or group Life Apps that will hopefully help you experience life transformation as you apply God's truth in practical ways.

SESSION ONE

ONE TRUTH:
The Gospel



What is the gospel?

The word “gospel” in Greek literally means “good news.”

The question is what is the “good news”? The answer to this and most of our questions about the Christian faith are found in the Word of God, the Bible. We will discover, as we study the Bible, how Jesus truly is relevant to our lives – how He loves us, and how He can truly transform our lives.

WELCOME



Form a group of 3-4 persons. Give time for each one to introduce themselves. They will also share something based on the last digit of their birth year. Be guided by the following criteria:

If your birth year ends with:

0-1 : Something good that happened to you today
2-3 : Something good about your family
4-5 : Something good that you will like to eat for breakfast
6-7 : Something good about your work or school
8-9 : Say something good about the person to your right

Learning Nugget

People love to share good things that has happened to them. The Bible tells about the greatest news that mankind has ever received. But the big question is, what is the ‘‘good news’’ and why is it so?

THE GOOD NEWS

TALK ABOUT IT

God desires to have a relationship with you!

God loves us
Read 1 John 4:8–9
1) What do these verses tell us about God's basic nature?

Read John 10:10
2) In your own words, what do you think Jesus meant when He said that He came to give us an abundant life?

While God is loving, He is also holy
Read 1 Peter 1:15.

3) How is God described in this verse? What does it mean that God is holy?

So far we have seen that God is loving but He is also holy. In the following verses, we will see how these two aspects of God's nature are both involved in the Good News. But how does this relate to us?

Our Problem: Sinful and opposed to God

4) How does Isaiah 53:6 describe us prior to placing our faith in Christ?

Read James 2:10

5) Is there any difference between breaking one commandment and breaking *all* the commandments? How would this truth impact people who think they are basically good?

Read Romans 6:23

6) What is the consequence of our sin? Is anyone exempted from the sentence that has been handed down by God? Why or why not?

God sent Jesus to pay the penalty for our sin

7) What do Romans 5:8 and John 3:16 say about what God has done?

DID YOU KNOW?

ANOTHER DEATH SENTENCE

On the 14th of June 1830, US President Andrew Jackson granted pardon to convicted robber George Wilson who was handed the death sentence by the circuit court of the eastern district of Pennsylvania. However, on October 21, 1830, George Wilson appeared in court and said that "he had nothing to say, and that he did not wish in any manner to avail himself... of the pardon referred to." Sadly, even if pardon from the death sentence was available for Mr. Wilson, "the court cannot give the prisoner the benefit of the pardon, unless he claims the benefit of it, and relies on it by plea or motion... It is a grant to him... he may accept it or not, as he pleases."

Source: https://www.law.cornell.edu/supremecourt/text/32/150

This seems impossible to believe, but many today do not accept the forgiveness that Jesus offers. Why?

- Some may be too proud to accept that they need God's pardon.
- Some feel they have to do something first to make themselves worthy before accepting pardon.
- Some think there is another way to be pardoned, and insist on doing it their way.

We all have a choice to accept or reject the offer Jesus gives us. Have you ever made a decision to accept His gift of forgiveness?

If you have not, you can accept that gift right now by faith. One way to express our faith in Christ is through prayer. Prayer is simply talking to God, and expressing to Him the desires of our hearts. You can open your heart to God right now and accept His gift of salvation through a simple prayer of faith. Pray something like this:

Prayer

Lord Jesus, thank You so much for loving me. I am so sorry for my sins. Thank You for dying on the cross for all of my sins.

With Your help, I will turn away from all my sins. Today, I trust in You to be my Savior and Lord. And I receive You into my heart. Thank You for forgiving my sins and for coming into my heart. I accept Your free gift of eternal life. Thank You that one day, I will go home to You in heaven. From this day on, I will follow and obey You. Amen.



APPLY IT

If you made the decision to trust in Christ as your Savior and Lord, therefore, entering into an eternal relationship with God, read and sign the pledge below as a reminder of your commitment today:

"Today, Jesus, I trust in You to be my Savior and my Lord and I accept Your free gift of eternal life. I commit to love and obey You for the rest of my life."

Signed _____ Date _____

PRAY IT

Heavenly Father, I thank You for Your unwavering love. Help me to truly understand the depth and breadth of Your amazing love for me, and to respond daily with a heart overflowing with gratitude. Guide me to live a life that reflects Your love in every thought, word, and deed.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

SESSION TWO

ONE WAY:
The Savior



How many ways are there to salvation?

There are many views on how to be saved and how to be certain of our eternal destiny. Most of them may have a ring of truth. Yet when we think more deeply, we find that many are in conflict with what God Himself has revealed to us in His Word. The Bible gives us the truth. It corrects many of our wrong ideas about being saved. What are some of the common thoughts or feelings we have concerning our salvation?



WELCOME

Which of the following statements is true?

1) Eating chocolate gives you acne.
2) Eating food within 5 seconds of dropping it on the floor is safe.
3) Coffee stunts your growth.
4) People get warts from frogs and toads.
5) Pulling one gray hair causes more to grow in its place.

Learning Nugget

Some wrong beliefs may not cause us too much harm – like believing eating chocolate will give you acne, etc. Other wrong beliefs can have more devastating consequences, such as jumping off a tall building and flapping your arms believing that you were born to fly.

On the other hand, right beliefs will lead to good consequences for us, such as correctly believing that eating more fruits and vegetables will help us live healthier lives. When it comes to spiritual things, what we believe in will have serious consequences not only in this life, but for eternity.

HAVE YOU EVER HAD THOUGHTS LIKE THESE?

TALK ABOUT IT

I. "God will save me, after all I am not so bad."

Perhaps you have heard or even thought, "God wouldn't send him to hell, he is basically a good person." Or, "I may not be perfect, but I am a lot better than she is even if she goes to church all the time."

In both cases, our standard for determining whether someone should be saved is how good they are compared to other people we know. We think that someone who is relatively good by human standards is a better candidate for heaven than someone who is not so good. But this is not what the Bible teaches.

Read Romans 3:10–12

1) What do these verses tell us about human goodness?

No one would disagree that some people are better in character than others. Yet when God judges us, He does so by a completely different standard.

Read James 2:10

2) According to this verse, what is the result of breaking God's law even one time?

These verses make it clear that being good compared to other people is insufficient to qualify one for salvation. To be qualified for salvation through one's own effort, one would have to be as holy as God Himself.

Many Jews in the time of Christ had this perspective. Paul, before his conversion to Christ, was one of them. But, after coming to faith in Christ, his outlook changed dramatically.

Read Galatians 2:15-16, Luke 18:9-14

3) Jesus contrasts two people in this story. What was the Pharisee like? What was the tax collector like? Who was declared righteous (justified) before God? Why?

II. "God will save me if I do enough good works."

Many people think God will judge us with a set of scales that compare our good deeds with our bad deeds. But that is not the picture of the basis of our standing before God as found in the Bible.

Read Ephesians 2:8–10

4) According to verse 9, can we earn our salvation through good works – i.e., doing kind deeds, going to church, etc.? How is a person saved? Based on this, how would you define grace?

5) Salvation is a gift because Jesus paid for it by His death on the cross. How do you receive a gift? Do you have to pay for a gift?

Based on the above verses, which is God's formula for salvation?

A FAITH IN JESUS + GOOD WORKS = SALVATION
ex. GOOD WORKS (charity, prayer, good deeds vs. sin)

B FAITH IN JESUS = SALVATION which results in good work

The correct formula is B.

It is clear from the Bible that salvation is not the result of our good deeds. We can never be good enough to please God because He is righteous and holy, and we are not. This realization often leads us to the next perspective concerning salvation: "I couldn't possibly be saved because I am so bad."



III. "God could never save me... I am too bad to be saved."

Perhaps this is how you feel today. This perspective is based on the very same assumption as the perspective that "God can only save those who are somehow good enough to gain His favor". But, as we have seen above, is this true?

The Thief on the Cross
Read Luke 23:39–43

6) What were Jesus' companions at the crucifixion like? Were they basically good people? What did Jesus promise to the criminal who asked Him for mercy? Did he do anything to make himself worthy of salvation? What did he demonstrate when he asked Jesus to remember him when Jesus goes to paradise?

God's Perspective on Salvation
Read Psalm 103:8–13

7) What do these verses say about the forgiveness God offers? Have you ever placed your faith in Christ alone for salvation? If you have not done so, would you like to right now?

If you would like to do so, simply pray in faith asking Him to come into your life as your Savior and Lord as the prayer from the end of Session 1 indicates.

If you have already done so, thank God that He has saved you, forgiven your sins and given you a new life.

APPLY IT

Which of the wrong perspectives about salvation have you believed in the past? Now that you know how you can be saved, what will you do differently this week?

Ephesians 2:10 says that one result of having faith in Christ is that we can do good works that He created for us to do. What good thing will you do this week that will show your faith in Jesus?

PRAY IT

Thank you, Lord Jesus, for saving me from my sin and making me understand that salvation is not by works but by believing in what You have done on the Cross for me. Help me to live a life grounded in the reality of my salvation.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

SESSION THREE

ONE PROOF:
Our New Life in Christ



How can I know if I have eternal life?

In the first two sessions, we saw that the Bible is very clear – one cannot be saved on the basis of doing good deeds, being religious, or trying to make up for our sin through religious rituals. We are saved by God's grace through faith alone in Christ's sacrifice for our sin. It is not because we are good that we are saved, but because God is good, He made a way for us to be saved.

At the same time, the Bible warns us that not everyone who thinks they are saved will actually experience eternal life.

Matthew 7:21 says that not everyone at the final judgment who says to Him "Lord, Lord" is truly saved. Can we know for sure?

WELCOME



Please take a moment to answer these questions:

1) Name the oldest person that you know and their age.
2) Name the oldest living actor/actress that you know.
3) Name a popular brand that is no longer in the market today.
4) Name one of your favorite things that you hope is still functional today.

Learning Nugget

Most of us desire to live forever. Jesus Christ made the bold claim that He is the source of eternal life. Let's investigate this and see what the Bible says.

WE CAN KNOW!

TALK ABOUT IT

Read 1 John 5:11–13

1) What do these verses promise us? According to this passage, who has been given eternal life? How can a person be sure?

Knowing the Shepherd

One of the most powerful illustrations of the certainty of our relationship with Christ is His story of the Good Shepherd.

Read John 10:11–14; 27–30

2) What is the difference between the good shepherd and the "hireling?" What will the hireling do when things are not going well? What will the Good Shepherd, Jesus, do for the sheep?

3) What is the guarantee that we will never be taken from His hand?

The proof of our new life in Christ

One way to be confident of our relationship with Christ is to see tangible evidence – a transformed life. The Bible mentions several ways that we can recognize that God really has entered our lives, and is beginning to accomplish His work within us.



Read 2 Corinthians 5:17

4) What does this verse say we are if we have Christ in our lives? After receiving Christ into your life, what do you expect to happen in your life?

Two markers of our new life: Obedience and Love Read 1 John 2:3–6

5) How can we say we really know God? What evidence did John say should be seen in a person's life as a fruit and proof of his faith?

Read 1 John 2:7–11

6) How should we relate to one another? How is that a demonstration of our relationship with Christ?

Read Titus 2:11–12

7) How does grace work in our lives?

As you can see in these verses, changes are to be expected as a result of our experience of God's saving power in our lives.

The Bible tells us that true believers will be transformed – they will want to obey what God desires, and will begin to love others in ways they may have never experienced before.

While we will never be perfect, people who have a relationship with Christ will continue to grow in Christlikeness.

Are you beginning to see the work of God in your life? If you are beginning to see these changes take place, you can be sure that you have begun a lasting and eternal relationship with the Good Shepherd!

Take a moment to pray and thank God for the changes He is beginning to bring. If you are yet to experience any of these, ask Him to help you trust Him to begin His work within you.

APPLY IT

List down some changes you see in yourself:
Examples: Love for others, desire to learn more about God

PRAY IT

Lord Jesus, I have given my life to You. Transform me by cultivating in my heart a love for Your Word and a desire to obey it, renewing my mind with Your truth, and strengthening my will to resist temptation.

May I choose Your ways, softening my heart with compassion, forgiveness, and love for others, equipping me with the gifts and
graces necessary to fulfill Your purpose for my life. Make me a living testimony of Your transforming power, reflecting Your love and grace to all those around me.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

SESSION FOUR

ONE PROMISE:
The Assurance of Our Salvation



In the previous session, we learned that we can have the wonderful assurance of having a permanent relationship with God. At times we might feel otherwise – that perhaps we may disappoint Him, and that somehow that relationship will change. What does the Bible say about such fears?

WELCOME



Please answer the following questions:

1) When you were younger, what did your parents promise you that they were able to keep?

2) How did you feel when they fulfilled the promise?

Learning Nugget

A promise is only as good as the one who gives it. We may make promises we intend to keep, but because human beings have limitations, we do not have the ability to keep all of our promises and thus we cannot give total assurance that things will go the way we promised them. Only our all-powerful and sovereign God can totally assure us that all His promises will come true.

HE PROMISES HE WILL NEVER LEAVE US

TALK ABOUT IT

Read Hebrews 13:5–6

1) What does God promise that He will never do?

2) What does this mean for our relationship with Christ?

"But what if I disobey Him?"

It is great to know that Christ promises to NEVER leave us once we begin our relationship with Him. But what if we sin or disobey Him? What happens to our relationship with Christ?

If you have accepted Christ as your Savior and Lord by faith, then you have become a follower of Christ – a Christian. You have become a son or daughter of God.

In **John 1:12-13** we are told:

12 Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God 13 children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

Our relationship with God is permanent. It will never change.

But sometimes there are problems and conflicts within a family that affect the way we relate to each other. The Bible gives us a powerful picture of that reality in a famous story told by Jesus.



The Story of the Prodigal Son
Read Luke 15:11–24

3) What was the relationship between the two main characters in this story? After the younger son left his father, did his position as his father's son end? How do you think the prodigal son's actions affected their relationship as father and son, first when he left home, and later when he went back to his father?

You and the Prodigal

This story is a picture of our relationship with God. We are His children because we have received Christ into our lives (John 1:12). He has promised never to leave us or abandon us (Hebrews 13:5). Yet we can (and often do) commit sin. Does our relationship with Him change?

This story beautifully illustrates the answer. Even when he dishonored his father and squandered his inheritance, the prodigal never stopped being his father's son. In the same way, even when we sin we are still God's children. Our relationship does not change.

What changes is our fellowship with Him. Sin makes us ashamed and feel distant from God. We cease to enjoy a close or intimate relationship with our Heavenly Father, but we do not lose our relationship with Him. God is ready and waiting for us to return to Him and restore the joy of our salvation. We need to return to our Father, humble ourselves before Him, and ask Him to forgive us.

Restoring our fellowship with God

How can we restore fellowship with God when we have sinned?

Read 1 John 1:8–9

4) What should we do if we sin against God? What does verse 9 promise that God will do if we confess our sins to Him?

Read 1 Timothy 2:5–7

5) Who is the one mediator between God and man (a mediator is someone who stands between two parties in order to facilitate an agreement)? What are the implications of this concerning confessing your sins?

Hebrews 10:19–22 says that Jesus made a way for us to go directly to God. This means we have the great privilege of approaching God humbly, yet confidently.

The Bible tells us that we can restore our fellowship with Jesus by going directly to God, asking His forgiveness, and once again seeking to serve and follow Him. We do not need to go to anyone else to confess our sins, and we do not need the intervention of any other intermediary – we have the privilege of going straight to our heavenly Father, who welcomes us back into fellowship with Himself through Jesus Christ our mediator.

But wait...

This sounds too easy. Can't this be abused? If God will forgive us anyway, doesn't that mean we can sin whenever we want?

It is possible to come to the wrong conclusion that since God is gracious and forgives all of our sins, then we can deliberately sin without consequences. But this is not what the Bible teaches.

Read 1 John 3:6, 9–10

6) According to these verses, what do God's children practice? How does this relate to people who think they can sin whenever they want because they know God will forgive them?

Read Hebrews 12:9–11

7) What do fathers do to help their children grow up and live well as adults? What does it mean that God disciplines us? What is His purpose in disciplining us?

Ever wonder if you can do whatever pleases you without regard for God's will? Consider what Galatians 6:7–8 says:

"Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, this he will also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life."

These verses tell us two things:

First, true believers will never invoke God's promise of grace and forgiveness as an excuse to live a life of sin. Such a lifestyle points to another possibility: perhaps such a person does not even know Christ. Second, these verses teach us that there are consequences for our disobedience and sin.

Even if God loves and forgives us, when we disobey Him, we will experience the effects of our disobedience. God also promises to discipline us when we disobey. Just like a loving father will discipline his children to help them make right choices in life, so too will our heavenly Father correct us so that we will experience His blessings and avoid the consequences of our wrong choices.

A final word on the certainty of our relationship with Christ:

Even if we know the promises of God that He will not leave us, and that we only need to ask His forgiveness to restore us to right fellowship with Him, sometimes we don't feel that He has forgiven us.

We feel we have to do something more to make it right. Or we believe the lie of Satan that God can't forgive us, because somehow our sin is too bad for Him to forgive.

The following diagram is a good reminder of the proper relationship between our feelings and the truth of God's Word.



Engine (God and His Word)	Fuel (Our trust in God and His Word)	Passenger Car (The result of our faith and obedience)

The train will run with or without the passenger car. But it is futile to attempt to pull the train by the passenger car. In the same way, we as Christians do not depend on feelings or emotions, but we place our faith (trust) in the trustworthiness of God and the promises of His Word.

If you begin feeling that God cannot forgive your sin, remind yourself of the promises of God that our relationship with Him is permanent, and our fellowship with Him can be restored by asking for His forgiveness and turning away from our sin. He promises to cleanse us and restore our fellowship with Christ!

Take a few moments to thank God for the certainty of our salvation and the assurance of our relationship with Christ.

APPLY IT

1) Now that you know you have eternal security in your relationship with God, what will you do this week if you start to doubt God's love for you?

2) Have you surrendered your uncertainties to the Lord in prayer? Take time to memorize and pray according to God's promises. *See Hebrews 13:5, Psalm 23:1, 4 and 6.*

PRAY IT

Heavenly Father, thank You for Your unwavering love and the assurance that You will never leave me. I am eternally grateful to be Your child. Thank You for Your boundless grace and forgiveness when I confess my sins. Help me to live a life that reflects Your righteousness, remembering Your Word that those who abide in You do not continue to sin.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

SESSION FIVE

ONE PURSUIT:
Living Victoriously in Christ



How can I live a life that honors God?

In Session 4, we learned that our relationship with God is permanent. Even if we occasionally stray, sin does not permanently damage our relationship with God. We can be restored to the joy of our new life in Christ by confessing our sin and turning back to God.

But it would be even better to consistently see victory over sin! How can we consistently grow in the Lord, and live in a way that pleases the Lord? In this session, we will learn important principles which will help you grow in obedience to Christ and experience victorious living.

WELCOME



Think about a time when you went through a challenging experience at work, in the family, with your health or finances. Who were the people who provided you with the support you needed to overcome your challenge? How did they help you?

Learning Nugget

No one is truly ever a “self-made” person. We all need someone’s help and support at times. Jesus promised His disciples Someone who will always be with them to help them in their times of need. We will not be able to overcome our battles without the help of this promised One — the Holy Spirit.

HOW TO LIVE VICTORIOUSLY

TALK ABOUT IT

We please God when we consistently overcome temptation and learn to follow Jesus as a way of life. But how do we live a victorious life?

Know the Three Primary Sources of Temptation

A. The World
Read Romans 12:2, Psalm 119:9–11

How are we conformed to the world system? How do we avoid being conformed to it?

The World System

In this verse, Paul refers to our society and culture's worldview. For instance, we often think an action is wrong only if we are caught (like running through a red light or cheating on an exam, or telling a "white lie"). Because our society accepts it ("everyone does it"), we think it is OK. But God's Word calls lying, and cheating and breaking the law sin, whether or not you are caught.

God is watching. The Bible says it clearly: "For His eyes are upon the ways of a man, and He sees all his steps. There is no darkness or deep shadow where the workers of iniquity may hide themselves." (Job 34:21-22) We should have our minds renewed by the Word of God, so that we will no longer be conformed to this world's way of thinking.

B. The Flesh
Read James 1:13–16, 2 Timothy 2:22

What is the source of our temptation? When does temptation become sin? What should we do when we find ourselves tempted to sin?

C. The Devil
Read Ephesians 6:10–12

What instruction does God's Word give us to win against the devil and his forces?

Use the Right Strategy
The Bible outlines several important strategies that we should use to avoid sin:

Read Luke 11:1-4

Why do you think Jesus included the words "lead us not into temptation and deliver us from evil" at the end of the prayer He modelled? What is the role of prayer in overcoming temptation?

Flee from lust
Read 1 Corinthians 15:33–34

According to these verses, what is the danger in spending time with people who don't follow Christ? Do they encourage you to follow Christ?

Resist the devil
Read Ephesians 6:10–12, James 4:7, and 1 Corinthians 10:13

Who is our enemy in the spiritual battle we are in? What should we do when the devil tempts us? What does God promise to do for us?

Be controlled by the Holy Spirit in all situations
Read Galatians 5:16

Many people misunderstand who the Holy Spirit is. They think of Him as an inanimate force, like the "force" in Star Wars. However, The Holy Spirit is God, the third person of the Trinity. He is one of the Persons of the Godhead, coequal with the Father and the Son. Because He is God, He is all-knowing, all-powerful and omnipresent. He helps us in our difficulties. He comforts us. He guides us into truth.

And most importantly, He lives within us and gives us the power to obey Christ. It has been said that it is impossible to live the Christian life. But through the indwelling power of the Holy Spirit, we are enabled to obey Him. The Holy Spirit makes the impossible possible!

Cultivating our relationship with Christ
These elements can all be seen in the life of the early church.

Read Acts 2:42–46

1) What did the first Christians do after they came to know the Lord?

Through Prayer
Read 1 John 5:14–15

2) What do these verses tell us about our prayers?

Through God's Word (The Bible)
Read Psalm 119:105; Joshua 1:8

3) What do these verses tell us about God's Word?

These are the two main elements that will help us develop our relationship with God: prayer and God's Word, the Bible.

Prayer is talking to God, telling Him whatever is on our hearts, and asking His help, guidance and involvement in our lives.

The Bible is God's primary way of speaking to us. Through the Bible, God communicates to us about who He is, and how we are to live for Him. It tells us how to obey Him in the power of the Holy Spirit so that we can be pleasing to Him.

Jesus' example
Read Matthew 14:23 and Luke 5:15–16

4) How would you characterize Jesus' life and ministry? How did He respond to the demands on Him?

If Jesus, God's own Son, needed to retreat frequently to spend time with the Father, we need to do so even more. Daily time with God is often referred to as our "Quiet Time" with the Lord, or our personal devotional time in prayer and reading the Bible.

Cultivating our relationship with people through fellowship

Hebrews 10:24–25

5) What do these verses instruct believers to do?

Through Witnessing

Acts. 1:8

6) What did Jesus tell His disciples they would receive and become? What does a witness do?

Have you been pressured not to talk about Christ to others? What should your response be? What steps will you take to share Christ with others?

Spending time each day in the *Word, in prayer,* and *witnessing* for Christ is indispensable for every child of God.

PLEASE READ

How to have a Quiet Time

- A “quiet time” is a time for you to meet with the Lord daily to grow in your relationship with Him.
- Choose a place where you will not be disturbed and where you can concentrate well.
- Select a time when you are alert, not rushed, and when you can be consistent.
- Bring your Bible, a ballpen and notebook to write down prayer requests and things the Lord teaches you from His Word.
- Begin spending a few minutes a day with the Lord. Later, you may want to extend the time as you get to know Him more.
- Be creative. Although the basic elements of a quiet time are the same (prayer, praise, Bible reading, singing, meditating on the Lord and His word, etc.), there are different ways to spend time with the Lord.

APPLY IT

Schedule a time to read the Bible and pray. If you read for at least ten minutes every day, you can finish the whole Bible in a year!

When will you spend regular time with God in prayer and reading the Bible this week?

Will you commit to read a chapter of the Bible everyday (Genesis to Revelation, or follow a Bible reading plan)?

"I commit to read the whole Bible in a systematic way, reading 1 chapter a day."

(Sign here):_____

PRAY IT

Our Father in heaven, I long to experience consistent victory over sin in my life. Help me to grow in my relationship with You, Lord.

Grant me the strength and discipline to abide in You, to study Your Word diligently, and to obey Your commands. May my life be a living testament of your transforming power.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

WHAT'S NEXT?
Book 2: Spiritual Disciplines

Congratulations! You have completed Book 1: One by One.

We sincerely hope that you have made the decision to enter into a committed relationship with God through Jesus as a result of this study.

When you enter into a new relationship, you make space for that special person in your schedule, in your budget, in your circle of friends and in your family. You choose to prioritize your relationship over other endeavors. This is similar to your life with Jesus Christ. A committed follower of Christ will see changes happen in his lifestyle in response to God's presence in his life.

But what does it mean to live life with Jesus Christ? How does one "make space" and prioritize God? What kind of changes in your life can you expect as you grow in intimacy with the Lord? These and other FAQs of the life of a committed follower of Christ will be dealt with in Book 2: Spiritual Disciplines.

We hope that you continue discovering more about Jesus Christ and what it means to have Him in your life!

SUGGESTED ANSWERS

SESSION 1

1) God is love; His basic nature is that He is a loving God.
2) A full and meaningful life; a life with purpose; a life with love, joy, and happiness.
3) God is holy; He does not sin, and keeps Himself completely separate from anything sinful or impure.
4) We were like sheep that have LOST their way.
5) If we break one commandment, we are guilty of the whole law; even if we think we are basically good, we must realize that our good deeds cannot outweigh our bad deeds.
6) Death – eternal separation from God; there are no exceptions because everyone has sinned.
7) God showed His love for sinners like us when He sacrificed His only Son, Jesus to die on the cross for the penalty of our sins (death); He offers us the gift of eternal life through faith in Jesus Christ.

SESSION 2

Welcome Activity

All of these statements are false. Because the truth is...
1) There are no studies linking chocolates to the development of acne.
2) The five-second rule isn't a real thing. Bacteria can contaminate food within milliseconds.

3) Most research finds no correlation between caffeine consumption and bone growth in kids.
4) Frogs or toads won't give you warts, but shaking hands with someone who has warts can.
5) Plucking gray hair will only get a new gray hair in its place because there is only one hair that can grow per follicle.

Session 2 Answers

1) There is no one who really seeks God, and no one who is really good.
2) We are guilty of the whole law.
3) The Pharisee was boasting of his good works. He looked down on the tax collector. The tax collector humbled himself before God. He admitted he was a sinner and needed God's mercy.
4) We are saved by grace through faith. We are not saved by our good works – instead, when we do good things, they show that we are simply fulfilling God's design for our lives. Grace is something we receive that we do not deserve.
5) We receive a gift when we accept it from the giver. No, we do not have to pay for a gift – the gift-giver already paid for the gift!
6) They were convicted criminals and were not "good" people. Jesus promised that the repentant criminal will be with Him in paradise. The criminal on the cross did not (and could not) do anything to make himself worthy of salvation. He demonstrated faith in Jesus as his Savior.
7) He does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our wrongdoing. He has removed our transgressions from us.

SESSION 3

1) God has given eternal life to all those who believe in His Son. A person can be sure of eternal life based on God's promise as written in these verses.
2) The good shepherd will not abandon the sheep, he will give up his life to protect the sheep. The hireling will abandon the sheep when there is danger. Jesus laid down His life for His sheep.
3) Absolutely no one—every true Christian—can be taken from His hand.
4) We are a new creation. I would expect my life to be different from my old one.
5) We can say that we really know God if we keep or obey His commands. A person who lives like how Jesus lived shows evidence of his faith in Christ.
6) We should love one another. The passage says that loving our brothers and sisters is evidence that we are in the light. Since God loves us, loving each other reflects how He relates to us.
7) God's grace teaches us to say "No" to ungodly living and worldly passions.

SESSION 4

1) God promised that He will never leave us or forsake us.
2) Since Jesus promised He will always be with us, we do not need to worry about losing our salvation.
3) They were father and son and the relationship is permanent. The son remained his father's son even when he left home.

However, the son's actions resulted in alienation from the father. He could no longer enjoy the closeness or fellowship with his dad. This fellowship was restored after the son went back to the father who welcomed him with delight and forgiveness.
4) We should confess our sins to God; He will forgive us of our sins and cleanse us from impurity.
5) Jesus Christ is the only mediator between God and man. We confess our sins only to Him, and to no one else.
6) No one who lives in God keeps on sinning. God's children do what is right. Those who keep on sinning because they believe God will forgive them anyway shows that they do not belong to Him. Our actions will have consequences. Sin could result in broken relationships with others, shame, guilt, financial crisis, etc. while obedience will result in peace, harmonious relationships, a purposeful life and other blessings from God.
7) Fathers discipline their children. When God disciplines us, it means that He treats us as His legitimate children. His purpose is to train us for our good, for us to become godly or to be like Him.

SESSION 5

A) By letting the way the world thinks influence us to think and act the same way; by allowing our mind to be renewed by God's Word.
B) Our fleshly lusts; we start by thinking about it, then by considering it, then by doing it; do not be deceived by lustful thoughts; God's Word keeps us from sinning. Flee from temptations because we should not unnecessarily expose ourselves to tempting situations.

c) By putting on the armor of God – belt of truth, breastplate of righteousness, the sandals of the gospel, shield of faith, helmet of salvation, sword of the Spirit (the Word of God). Because He wanted us to practice praying so we can avoid falling into sin. Prayer allows us to receive God's strength to say "No" to temptation. Morally bad people can influence us not to follow Christ. The devil and his forces; against rulers of darkness, spiritual forces of evil in the spiritual realm. Resist the devil; he will flee from us. God will never give us a temptation that is impossible to overcome; He will always give us a way to escape.

Cultivating our Relationship with Christ, through fellowship and witnessing

1) They met together for prayer, to study God's Word, for fellowship, and for witnessing. In order to produce spiritually healthy disciples of Jesus Christ.
2) God listens to our prayers. Praying in line with God's will is the key to getting whatever believers ask in prayer.
3) We have to meditate on God's Word daily. God's Word directs and guides us in our Christian walk. It is the sole rule of our faith and conduct. God's Word will help us to become successful in God's standards, to mature in the faith and become Christ-like.
4) Jesus' life and ministry is characterized by prayer and fellowship with the Father. Many people came to hear Him preach and to be healed of their diseases but Jesus made sure He had time alone with the Father and that He prayed regularly.

5) We should always gather together to worship God, share our faith and to strengthen one another in our Christian walk. We have to enjoy encouragement from one another especially in times of challenges and difficulties.
6) The disciples will receive power from the Holy Spirit to become witnesses. Being a witness for Christ is simply sharing to your friends, family, relatives and associates what Christ has done in your life.

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