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REAL TALK

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Today, we live in a global community so interconnected that a problem in one part of the world can affect another that's thousands of kilometers away.

In this virtually expanded and complicated world,

Can an ordinary person make a lasting impact?

Can you really make a significant difference in someone's life?

Can peace, security, and hope be found in the middle of our search for answers to our individual and global concerns?



a simple booklet of simple truths that can transform lives forever.

Together, we can explore how lasting change can happen — first in us, then in the world around us. It happens one life at a time — one by one.

In a series of conversations, we will discover that there is a greater Story than all the news that we hear today. This Story will change your life because it speaks volumes about the Solution to our greatest problem.

Are you ready to begin the journey?

Then turn to the next page, and together let's start having REAL TALK!

Let's get

Recommended for one-on-one conversations.

This material is designed for 1 on 1 most ups. It is no

This material is designed for 1on1 meet ups. It is personal and promotes a face-to-face conversation with a family member or friend.

- Enjoy a 6-week discussion about God and His desire for your life. There are 6 sessions in this booklet, but feel free to take more time so you can maximize your learnings.
- Ask questions. Every session has personal questions to help you grow in your relationship with God and with one another. Your discussions are a safe zone for both of you, so engage, listen and be open to share your thoughts, learnings and experiences.
- Lead others by passing it on. You probably know of someone who wants to hear what you have learned through this material. Be a blessing and share it with them as well.



What is the most important decision you can make in your life?

We make 3 kinds of decisions in life. They can be...

Simple or trivial, like "Where will I eat?" "What will I wear?";

Significant, like "What career should I pursue?" or

Life changing, like "Who do I marry?"

What is the most important decision you've made in your life?

Today, you have the opportunity to make one decision that will impact your life now, your future, and your eternity.

But before getting to that decision point, let's discuss a few things that you need to know.



THE TRUTH IS: There is a God and He loves you and He desires for you to...

Have eternal life with Him.

John 3:16

"For God so loved the world. that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life."

Have an abundant and meaningful life with Him.

John 10:10

"...I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly."

How do we know that this is true?

Jesus Christ, the son of God. was the one speaking in both verses.

God loves you, but do you know that something separates you from Him?

We live in a broken world with broken families and relationships. Pain and suffering is a reality, and many people are not experiencing a meaningful and abundant life. Why?



THE TRUTH IS:

We have a sin problem that separates us from God.

Everyone has sinned.

Romans 3:23

...for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God

And the penalty of sin is death.

Death is eternal separation from God.

Romans 6:23

For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord

Do you know the implication of these verses?

Here, we see that our sin separates us from God, and oftentimes, we think that religion, good works, and good morals are the solution.

Have you ever had thoughts like these?

"I'm not that bad compared to others."

"God will accept me into heaven if I do enough good works."

"Hopefully, good moral character will get me into heaven."

This may surprise you, but none of these thoughts are true!

There is only one solution — and it is from God Himself.



Jesus Christ is God's answer to our problem.

Jesus is the ONLY way to heaven.

John 14:6

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me."

How?

Jesus COMPLETELY paid the penalty of our sins.

Colossians 1:13-14

¹³For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, ¹⁴in whom we have redemption, the foraiveness of sins.





Merely knowing about Jesus is not enough, we must place our faith in Him to save us.

To be saved means to be forgiven from your sins, to be sure you will go to heaven, and to have eternal life.

Ephesians 2:8-10

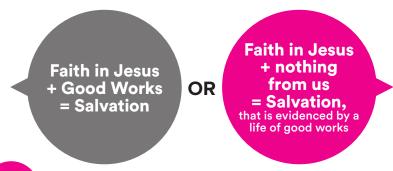
For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; ⁹ not as a result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰ For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.

What about good works?

Do they save us?

8 redemption, the torgiveness of sins.

Based on Ephesians 2:8-10, which is the correct formula for salvation?



- Here, we learn that good works are not the means to salvation but the EVIDENCE of salvation.
- Rnowing this, would you like to place your faith in Jesus to save you?

You can pray this prayer:

"Lord Jesus, thank You so much for loving me. I confess that I have sinned against You. Thank You for dying on the cross to pay for my sins. Today, I put my trust in You as my Lord and Savior. Please forgive me of all my sins. I repent of my sins. I accept Your free gift of eternal life and I surrender my life to You. Thank You for forgiving my sins. From this day on, I choose to love and follow You. Amen."

Why is this the most important decision ever?

1 John 5:11-13

¹¹ And the testimony is this, that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. ¹² He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life. ¹³ These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

Because you have received God's gift of eternal life, today you know you are going to heaven, your sins are forgiven (past, present, and future), and you have an eternal, personal relationship with God.



The most important decision is Jesus.

And the most important part of that decision is recognizing the Lordship of Jesus.



What does Jesus require of us? The Lordship of Jesus



Do you have any questions about the last session? Are there any insights or realizations you want to share?

Before we start, here's one question:

- ?
- What comes to your mind when you hear the name "Jesus"?
- 1

Our understanding of who Jesus is will impact not only our eternity but our current and present lives.

Philippians 2:9-11

⁹For this reason also, God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee will bow, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and that every tongue will confess that **Jesus Christ is Lord**, to the glory of God the Father.

The Bible clearly declares that Jesus is more than a Savior — He is Lord. The word Lord in Greek — "kyrios", means master or ruler. This means that accepting Jesus is simply not about getting a ticket to heaven but allowing Him to be the Master of our lives.

The statement Jesus is Lord is a declaration that **He is God** and is supreme over all. Therefore, when we acknowledge that **He is Lord**, we declare that He has our full loyalty and obedience.



How would you describe someone who has Jesus as Lord and Savior?

What would our lives look like when we truly acknowledge Him as Master?

We let go of everything to follow Him completely.

His Lordship involves surrendering our lives to His good and perfect will. Everyone who claims that Jesus is Lord and Savior must yield his plans entirely to what God wants.

Luke 9:23-25

²³And He was saying to them all, "If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross daily and follow Me. ²⁴For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake, he is the one who will save it. ²⁵For what is a man profited if he gains the whole world, and loses or forfeits himself?



Luke 6:46

"Why do you call me 'Lord, Lord', and do not do what I say?"

His Lordship over us requires our complete obedience to Him. This obedience to His commands is also our right response to the overflowing love He poured out on us, as Jesus said.

John 14:15

"If you love Me, you will keep My commandments."

12 commandments." 13

Matthew 7:21

Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven will enter.



Making Jesus our Lord calls us to repentance. True repentance is not simply feeling sorry for the wrong things we have done. It is recognizing that sin is offensive to God and choosing to turn away from it. It involves a change in our minds, hearts and actions as a result of our decision to make Him our ultimate Master.

Luke 5:32

"I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance."

The Bible tells us that true believers of Jesus will be transformed — they will want to obey His commands and desires, and will begin to follow Him. While we may be far from perfect, people who have a relationship with Christ will continue to grow in obedience and in Christlikeness.



Are your relationships, resources and time submitted to His Lordship?

Is there any sin that you need to repent of?

Or is there anything in your life that you need to let go of and surrender to God?

Would you like to take time to pray and surrender all these to God? Let's also pray together to commit to obey and follow Him the rest of our lives.



Who drives your life?

The Power of the Holy Spirit

WELCOME BACK! Do you have any questions about the last session? Are there any insights or realizations you want to share?



Who are the people in your life that have supported you through trials or challenges?

How have they helped you?

Life is hard. But do you know that living the Christian life is not hard? It is impossible! In fact, it is SUPERNATURAL! That is why Jesus sent Someone to help us – the Holy Spirit.

Many people misunderstand who the Holy Spirit is. They think of Him as a "force," a conscience, or just a voice inside our heads.



The Biblical truth is this: the Holy Spirit is God, the third person in the Trinity. There is only one God, but He exists in three persons: The Father, the Son, the Holy Spirit. This is called the Trinity or Tri-unity. The Holy Spirit is co-equal with the Father and the Son (Matthew 28:19; 2 Corinthians 13:14).

When do we receive the Holy Spirit?

We receive the Holy Spirit when we trust in Jesus Christ to be our Lord and Savior. We find this in Ephesians 1:13-14,

¹³ In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation—having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise, ¹⁴ who is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of God's own possession, to the praise of His glory.

What does the Holy Spirit do for us?

He helps us and comforts us. He indwells us permanently and will never leave us (John 14:16-17)

He helps us grow in Christlikeness (Galatians 5:22-23)

He empowers us to witness to others about Jesus (Acts 1:8)

He gives us power over sin (Galatians 5:16)

He gives us insight into God's Word (John 14:26)

He helps us pray according to God's will (Romans 8:26-27)

Indeed, the Holy Spirit is the source of the abundant and fruitful Christian life. That is why God commands us to be continually filled (controlled) with the Holy Spirit. It says in Ephesians 5:18,

And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit

What does it mean to be filled with the Holy Spirit?

The Bible describes 3 types of people:





someone who has not received Christ (1 Corinthians 2:14)

- · JESUS is outside their life
- SELF is in control of their life
- Spiritually blind, empty inside, does not have eternal life





someone who lives in the power of the Holy Spirit (Acts 13:52)

- JESUS is in their life as Savior and Lord
- HOLY SPIRIT is inside and controls and empowers
- SELF is surrendered to Christ
- Follows and obeys Christ, overcomes temptation, witnesses for Jesus, has Christlike character

ILLUSTRATIONS ADAPTED FROM CAMPUS CRUSADE FOR CHRIST

This is the normal Christian life.





someone who lives in the power of the flesh (1 Corinthians 3:1-3)

- JESUS is in their life but the HOLY SPIRIT is not in control.
- SELF is in control of their life.
- Disobedient to God, habitully sinning, self-centered, frustrated, no real joy or peace, defeated, powerless, and spiritually fruitless
- Someone who habitually lives a carnal life may not be a true follower of Jesus.

This is the abnormal Christian life.

Galatians 5:19-21

¹⁹ Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: immorality, impurity, sensuality, ²⁰ idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions, ²¹ envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these, of which I forewarn you, just as I have forewarned you, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.



Which of the three types of people can you identify with? Why?

How can we be filled and empowered by the Holy Spirit?

Confess and repent of every known sin that the Holy Spirit brings to your remembrance.

1 John 1:9

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Surrender your self-will and ask the Holy Spirit to take control of your life and by faith claim God's promise to answer you.

God's command

Ephesians 5:18

¹⁸ And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit

God's promise

1 John 5:14-15

¹⁴ This is the confidence which we have before Him, that, if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. ¹⁵ And if we know that He hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests which we have asked from Him.

By faith, obey Jesus and live in the power of the Spirit moment by moment.

James 1:22

But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves.

Would you like to be filled with the Holy Spirit right now? You can pray this prayer:

Dear Father,

I confess that I have been in control of my own life.
I recognize that I have sinned against you and I repent from my sin/s of ______.

Thank you for forgiving me for all my sins. I desire to be filled with the Holy Spirit. Please fill me now with the Holy Spirit as You commanded me to be filled. I claim Your promise that You will answer me when I ask anything according to Your will. I surrender the control of my whole life to You. By the power of the Holy Spirit I will follow You and live to please You and tell others about You. In Jesus' Name I pray, Amen.

Where do you find security?

Assurance of Salvation



Do you have any questions about the last session? Are there any insights or realizations you want to share?

We all value the feeling of security. We think money, relationships, status, outward appearance, and power can make us feel secure.



What are one or two things in your life you are quite sure of?

What are one or two things in your life you wish you were certain of?

In the Christian life, we also have questions about security.

What if I sin again? Will my relationship with God change?

Will God get tired of forgiving me?

Will I lose the promise of eternal life?

But our security is not in feelings, in the words of men, or in religion — it is in God Himself, in His faithfulness, in His word, and in His promises. Let's see what the Bible says about the above fears.

There are **promises of God** which we can be assured of if we place our trust in Jesus as Lord and Savior of our lives.



You are 100% forgiven. All your sins are forgiven—your past, present and future sins!

It says in Colossians 2:13,

When you were dead in your transgressions and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He made you alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our transgressions

But what if we sin or disobey Him? What happens to our relationship with God?

This bring us to the next promise.



Jesus describes our relationship with Him through two beautiful and intimate illustrations: as a Father to His child and as the Good Shepherd to His sheep.

John 1:12-13

¹² But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name, ¹³ who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

God assures us that if we believe and accept His Son, we will become God's adopted child, and therefore a part of His family. This relationship is permanent. Jesus further guarantees this when He described Himself as our Good Shepherd. He made it clear — He knows those who are His and nothing can separate us from Him.

What happens when we sin again?



While our **relationship** with God is permanent, our **fellowship** with Him is affected. Because of our unconfessed sin, we cease to enjoy a close or intimate fellowship with our Heavenly Father.

This can be restored when we confess our sin. God deals with us as His children.

1 John 1:9

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Hebrews 12:6

For those whom the Lord loves He disciplines,

And He scourges every son whom He receives."



If we surrender our lives to Jesus, He will make us new! Regardless of what we were like (our old self) before we trusted Jesus, He is able to transform us into the person He wants us to be (our new self).

2 Corinthians 5:17 says,

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come; The old has gone, the new is here!

God desires for us to leave our life of sin and become more and more like Jesus – not by our own power, but through the power of the Holy Spirit!

This is why from now on, we should choose to live a life that pleases God. This decision not only defines our purpose here on earth, but is also the greatest proof that we belong to Jesus and want to be pleasing to Him.



The promise of eternal life becomes ours the moment we place our trust in Jesus as our personal Lord and Savior.

We see this amazing promise in 1 John 5:11-13, ¹¹ And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. ¹²Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life. ¹³ These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

God doesn't want us to live doubting our eternal destiny. He wants us to live with peace, joy and the assurance of eternal life.



Now that you know about these promises, how will you respond to them?

Are there any burdens in your heart that you would like to share and for us to pray for?



Are you ready to tell the world?

Baptism

WELCOME BACK! Do you have any questions about the last session? Are there any insights or realizations you want to share?

We love celebrating special moments in our lives—birthdays, graduations, anniversaries, and memorable experiences.



What was your most memorable milestone in life?

Today we will talk about an important milestone that we celebrate as Christians. This is "Water Baptism". It is basically a combination of celebration, commemoration, and declaration.

Before taking part in this milestone, we must first understand its meaning and role in our spiritual journey.

Let's read Acts 2:38, 41

³⁸ Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

⁴¹ Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.

Peter gave the people the biblical pattern of a person's response to the Gospel: repent, and be baptized. Baptism should then be our next proper response when we have believed in and accepted Jesus Christ as our personal Lord and Savior.

Baptism by immersion is a picture of going from death to new life.

When we placed our faith in Jesus Christ, something happened to us in the spiritual realm. This act of immersion (and coming out of the water) symbolizes our identification with Christ's death, burial, and resurrection through our faith in Him.

It says in Romans 6:3-6

³ Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death? ⁴ Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. ⁵ For if we have become united with Him in the likeness of His death, certainly we shall also be in the likeness of His resurrection, ⁶ knowing this, that our old self was crucified with Him, in order that our body of sin might be done away with, so that we would no longer be slaves to sin It's us declaring.



"I believe in the death & resurrection of Jesus Christ; and as I have been baptized into Christ, I am now united with Christ. In His death and resurrection I have died to sin and now live for God, under His grace and empowered by His Spirit."

In baptism we identify ourselves with what Christ did on the cross: we are spiritually baptized into His death and burial by considering ourselves cut-off from our old and sinful life; and we are spiritually baptized into His resurrection by living the new life that is victorious over sin with Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit.



Matthew 28:18-20

¹⁸ And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."



Have you completely put your trust in Jesus Christ's death on the cross and His resurrection?

If so, can you tell me in your own words what it means to be baptized?

It is important to know though that baptism is NOT a requirement for salvation.

A person is buried and raised with Christ NOT because of the physical act of water baptism, but because of his identification with the death and resurrection of Christ through FAITH. That happens the moment a person receives Christ in his life. Baptism is a physical declaration of that act of faith.



If it doesn't affect our salvation, why should we go through the act of water baptism?

Baptism is a picture of us declaring God's Lordship

Romans 10:9

that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved

If we have truly understood the Gospel and have put our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, identifying with Him through water baptism should be our response afterwards. It's a vital step of obedience in surrender to Jesus Christ's lordship over our lives.

Ultimately, baptism demonstrates our outward response to an inward change of belief. It is a declaration to the whole world that we now believe in Jesus Christ and commit to follow Him for the rest of our lives. It is no longer we who live, but Christ who lives in us!

Romans 6:12-13

¹² Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its lusts, ¹³ and do not go on presenting the members of your body to sin as instruments of unrighteousness; but present yourselves to God as those alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God.

Baptism signifies that a new life has begun for us who believe in Jesus Christ, who are committed to follow Him and live our lives for Him. It is a milestone meant to be remembered and celebrated!

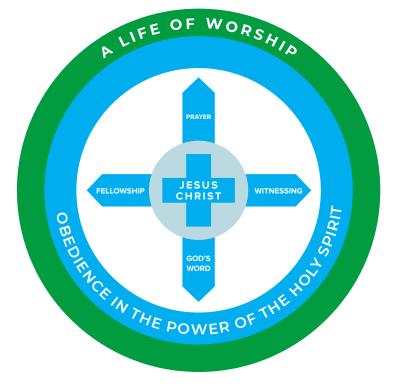


Are you 100% committed to following Jesus? Are you willing to publicly declare your faith in Jesus through water baptism and follow Him for the rest of your life?

If you are, it will be a privilege to be part of that important milestone in your life and walk with you in following Jesus!



We all grow in our own relationship with Christ. Here is a visual guide that shows the important elements in this spiritual growth:



1. Christ the center

A wheel's power comes from the hub. When you let Christ be at the center of your life on a daily basis, the wheel will move smoothly. Although in life there will be bumps ahead, if Christ remains at the center, nothing can shake the wheel or steer you away from His direction.

2. Obedience in the power of the Holy Spirit

Obedience to Christ is where the "rubber meets the road." This is when you start to take action, get serious, and when "theory" becomes reality.



But how will you know what God wants you to do?

Let's look at the vertical spokes of the wheel for the answer. The vertical spokes represent your vertical relationship with God.



Open communication is a vital ingredient in any healthy relationship. Prayer is an ongoing conversation with God — it is listening and talking to God from our heart.

Colossians 4:2

Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with an attitude of thanksgiving;



The Bible is God's primary way of speaking to us. Reading His Word regularly enables you to know His character, His heart, His ways, His plans and His commands.

2 Timothy 3:16-17

¹⁶ All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; ¹⁷ so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.

Now God also uses other people to strengthen your relationship with Him. The horizontal spokes (representing horizontal relationships) show that.



One of the ways to know Jesus more and be discipled is by being part of a small group with other believers. It's an avenue to study God's Word together and encourage one another.

Hebrews 10:24-25

²⁴ and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, ²⁵ not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more as you see the day drawing near.

Acts 2:46-47

⁴⁶ Day by day continuing with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart, ⁴⁷ praising God and having favor with all the people.

This verse emphasizes the importance of not neglecting to meet one another to encourage and teach one another to live a life of obedience to Christ.

I would be thrilled if you can join a small	group!
Or we can start one. Are you available	every
at	?
We can meet in	•



You can observe that as we keep doing the things above, it will result into a life of worship. We worship God daily, and also when we all come together to worship on weekends. **Everything** we do should bring honor to Christ – even when we are at work, at home, at school, or at play. That is worship.

Romans 12:1-2

¹Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship. ² And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.

John 4:23-24

²³ But an hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for such people the Father seeks to be His worshipers. ²⁴ God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."

Sharing the Gospel ("Witnessing")

Another thing that would significantly strengthen your relationship with Jesus is telling others about Him. That's what "Witnessing" is all about in the horizontal spoke. We have the BEST NEWS EVER and we need others to know about this, too, so that they can experience the joy and freedom we found in Christ.

Acts 1:8

"...but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth."



Who do you want to share Jesus with?

You can do PRAY, CARE, SHARE to introduce Jesus to others.



means we regularly ask God that He would prepare the hearts of our friends or loved ones to believe in Him.



is showing genuine concern and trying to meet their needs. Ask how you can pray for them and follow up by asking if there were answers to their prayers.



is telling them how to have eternal life in Jesus by inviting them to have REAL TALK discussions with you using this booklet.

Why don't you start doing PRAY, CARE, SHARE for the person God placed in your heart this week?

We can pray about it together!



Let's take this time to pray for one another.

Let's also pray for the person you will Pray and Care for and Share this booklet with, too.

It has been such
a blessing to have a Real Talk
with you for the last few weeks.
I appreciate the time we have
spent together and we praise
God for this opportunity.
Let's continue together in
this beautiful journey
with the Lord!