

**Christian
Warrior**
Training Manual

Christian Warrior Training Manual

Preface

The purpose of this manual is to help equip new believers to live their life with purpose and direction. It teaches how to use God's operating assets that were received at salvation. The one we will stress the most is the rebound technique and how to walk in the Spirit. What is rebound? Here are some illustrations.

When a boxer gets knocked down in a fight, to continue the fight he must get up again. When a basketball misses the hoop, a player must try to regain possession to continue the game. When a football is fumbled on the field, the team that recovers it has the opportunity to score. In the world of sports, that's called rebound.

In everyday life when we get knocked down or relapse back into our old ways, giving into our addictions, rebound is the way we pull ourselves up and get back in the battle. Rebound is where you will find new purpose and direction for your life. The spiritual meaning of rebound is that when we fail (sin), we can regain forgiveness and fellowship with God and continue in our Christian walk and growth. Rebound is God's grace provision for His children to live a victorious life here in the devil's world. Upon completion of the course, participants will be prepared for victory every day and able to claim the promise, **"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."** Philippians 4:13.

LESSON	GOSPEL	MEMORY VERSES	BIBLE STUDY
Basic Training			
1. Introduction	God?	Genesis 1:1	Who is Jesus Christ?
2. Salvation	Why?	John 3:16	Work of Jesus Christ
3. Spiritual Life	Stay?	1 Corinthians 6:19-20	Conflict with Sin
4. Eternal Life	Do?	John 3:36	Eternal Life in Christ
5. Power Life	Sins?	Romans 8:9	Holy Spirit
6. Spiritual Gifts	Clues	1 Peter 4:10	The Church
7. Rebound	Rejects	1 John 1:9	New Life
8. Review	Enter	Ephesians 2:8-9	Maturing in Christ
Advanced Training			
9. Warfare	Deception	Ephesians 6:11	Know Your Enemy
10. Victory	Armor	1 John 5:4	Demonstrating Christ
11. Prayer	Prayer Steps	John 15:7	Power in Prayer
12. Ambassador	Barrier	2 Corinthians 5:20	Helping Others
13. Witnessing	As You Go	Acts 1:8	Witnessing
14. Baptism	Identify	Matthew 28:19	Obedience
15. Eucharist	Remember	1 Corinthians 11:16	Follow-up
16. Review/Comments/Certificates		Philippians 4:13	

Christian Warrior
Basic Training



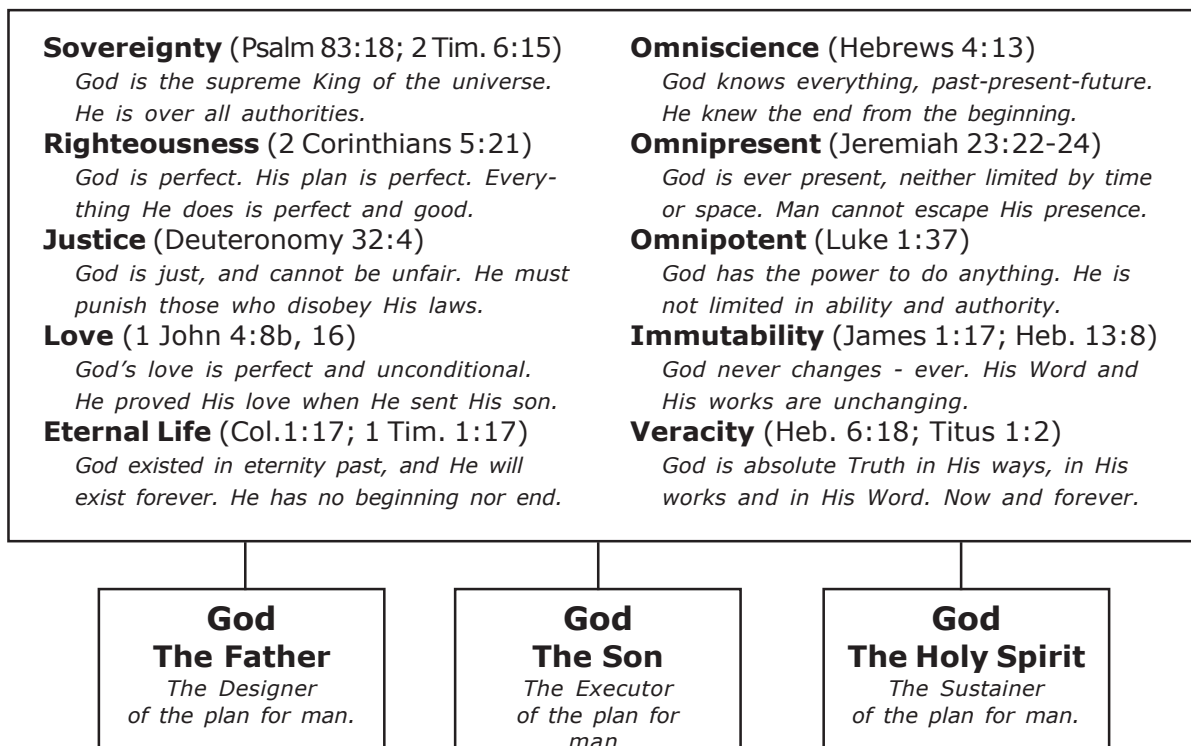
Basic Training... **Introduction**

GOD'S PROMISE

"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."
Genesis 1:1

WHAT IS GOD LIKE?

The phrase **Essence of God** or **Attributes of God** are terms used to refer to God's personal characteristics. God has revealed something of what He is in the Word, but only He knows Himself fully. We must rely on what is written in the Bible for any understanding of what God is like.



THE TRINITY

There are three distinct Persons of the Godhead, each possessing the entire essence of deity. The full title of God is **God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit** (Matthew 28:19; 2 Corinthians 13:14). Each Person is made up of the same divine characteristics, making each equal to either of the other two (John 10:30; 16:15) Therefore, when the Bible speaks of God as being One, it is a reference to Essence.

THE PERSON OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Scripture passages referring to the Spirit of God show:

- that the Holy Spirit is distinctly a Person, that is, that He has personality;
- that He is God, that is, that He shares all of God's eternal attributes; and
- that He has an objective, real ministry in the world during the Church Age, particularly in the lives of Christians.

Question: Which way?

Answer: "Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."
John 14:6



MAN'S WAY (HUMAN VIEW)

*"There is a way that seems right to a man, but in the end it leads to death."
(Proverbs 14:12)*

You are what you think. You become what you think about!



Your mind is like a garden, it doesn't care what you put in it, it will produce!

GOD'S WAY (DIVINE VIEW)

"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the LORD." (Isaiah 55:8)

10 Commandments - Exodus 20

2 Commandments - Matthew 22:36-40

- Children obey your parents. - Ephesians 6:1
- Be not unequally yoked. - 2 Corinthians 6:14
- Obey authority. - Romans 13:1-2
- Flee fornication - 1 Thessalonians 4:3; Galatians 5:19; 1 Corinthians 6:18

"For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he." (Proverbs 23:7)

Basic Training... **Salvation**

GOD'S PROMISE

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only son, that whosoever believes in Him, will not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16

Perhaps the best known verse in the Bible, John 3:16, tells how we can personally benefit from what God had done. To see how this works, fill in your first name in each of the following blank spaces:

"For God so loved _____ that He gave His one and only Son (Jesus), that if _____ believes in Him (Jesus), _____ will not perish (pay the penalty for sin), but _____ will have eternal life."

1. What did Jesus Christ come into the world to do? 1 Timothy 1:15

2. How did Jesus take away the sins of the world? 1 Peter 2:24

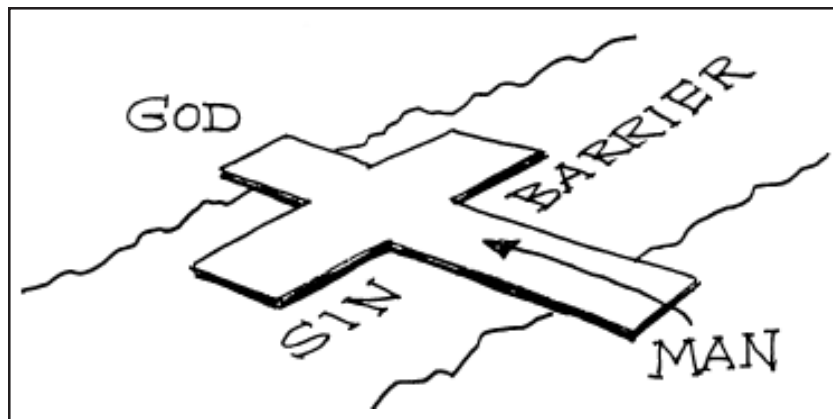
3. What must a person do to be saved? Acts 16:31

4. What must a person believe to be saved? 1 Corinthians 15:3-4

5. What happens when you believe in Christ? John 3:36

6. Write in John 14:6, "Jesus said, I am the _____, and the _____ and the _____ ; no one comes to the Father, but through Me."

ONLY GOD CAN REACH DOWN TO MAN.



Adam (Gen. 3:18), Noah (Gen. 6:9), Abraham (Gen. 12:1), Moses (Ex. 3:4), Jesus (Jn. 1:1-14)

Question: Why does a person need to be saved?

Answer: *"Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned."* Romans 5:12

Man's problems started in the Garden of Eden. "Wherefore as by one man (Adam) sin entered into the world, and death (spiritual & physical) by sin, and so death (separation from God) passed upon all men for all sinned (inherited from Adam)." Romans 5:12

In the beginning, God created all things and on the sixth day, He made man. God formed man in His own image of the dust of the earth and He breathed into his nostrils the breath of life and man became a living soul. "And God saw everything that He had made, and, behold, it was very good." Genesis 1:31



Body: Houses the Soul

Soul: To understand the things of the world
Mentality, Emotions, Self-consciousness, Conscience, Volition

Spirit: To understand the things of God.

God provided everything for Adam's happiness.

Perfect Environment (Garden of Eden)

Perfect Mate (A beautiful mate, Eve, his wife)

Perfect Job (Name all the animals & to keep the garden)

Perfect Food (All except from one tree, the tree of knowledge of good and evil)

God tests Adam's volition (decider) - Man's Way or God's Way

"And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, From any tree in the garden you may eat freely; but from the tree of knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat from it, you shall surely die." Genesis 2:16-17



Adam disobeyed God and ate from that tree and man became a sinner.



After God clothed Adam and Eve, He sent them out of the garden, never to return but with a promise that one day He would send a Savior to pay the price for sin (Genesis 3:15).

As descendants of Adam, we are all born with a body and a soul and an OSN, and because of Adam's sin, we too are all born spiritually dead (separated from God).

Think: God's promise provides every person a way to be saved in Jesus Christ (John 3:16; Acts 16:31; 1 Corinthians 15:3-4).

Basic Training... **Spiritual Life**

GOD'S PROMISE

"Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body." (1 Corinthians 6:19-20)

God has provided for His children to live the victorious Christian life every day. Therefore God gives each believer the indwelling of the Holy Spirit at the moment of salvation to enable us to live a holy and spiritual life.

The believer is commanded in Ephesians 5:18, "to be filled with the Holy Spirit."

The believer is instructed in Galatians 5:16 to "walk by the Holy Spirit, and you will not carry out the desires of the flesh."

When the believer receives the indwelling of the Holy Spirit at salvation, his body becomes the _____ of the _____ according to 1 Cor. 6:19-20.

AT THE POINT OF SALVATION EVERY BELIEVER, BY FAITH IN THE GOSPEL, ENTERS INTO:

BEFORE SALVATION, a person's life is under the complete control and power of his own sin nature. Physically alive but spiritually dead (Romans 5:12).

AT SALVATION, God the Holy Spirit takes up residence inside the believer's life and is the power over the sin nature (1 Corinthians 6:19).

AFTER SALVATION, when a believer sins, he hinders the Holy Spirit's control of his life. This is called carnality (Romans 8:5-7; 1 Corinthians 3:1-3). To put the Holy Spirit back in control of his life, he must confess that personal sin (1 John 1:9).

Question: What does a person believe to do to be saved?

Answer: *"Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shall be saved."* (Acts 16:31; Romans 1:16; 1 Corinthians 15:3-4)

Genesis 4: After Adam disobeyed God by eating the fruit and became a sinner, God banished him and his wife from the beautiful garden and placed an angel with a flaming sword at the entrance to keep them from ever entering it again. Remember that before God cast them out that He made a promise that one day He would send a Savior to pay the price for their sin.

Adam and Eve set out to make a new home. Family life was about to begin and the human race would populate the earth. The first child to be born was a son whom they named Cain. Soon, another son was born and they named him Able. Both children had been born into the world with their father's OSN, separated from God. As they grew, they were taught about the garden, about God and what they must do about the sin issue to have a relationship with God. They were taught that each year they were to bring the offering of a lamb as an atonement (covering) for their sin. It was to be a first born male without blemish or spot. This was the picture of the Son of God, the Lamb of God, who would one day come and take away the sins of the world (John 1:12, 29).

Cain and Abel grew and each decided on an occupation (something they liked to do). They were both successful. Cain was a farmer and grew produce, grains, fruits and vegetables. Able was a herdsman and raised goats, camels and sheep.



The time of the yearly sacrifice came and each boy brought an offering. Able brought a lamb as he had been instructed. Cain brought the best of his harvest. God accepted Abel's offering, but Cain's was rejected. Abel did it God's way. Cain did it man's way.

God loved Cain and hoped he would change his mind and do as God had commanded. Cain was angered and rebelled toward God's way (To believe in the Lord Jesus Christ). He would not even listen anymore. He was jealous over Abel's offering being accepted that he killed him. Cain was banished from the family and his abilities to grow anything was taken away. He became a nomad and dependent on others to provide his food. Cain lived out all his days (with a mark) separated from God because he chose not to do it God's way. (1 John 3:11-15)

We too must come to the place where we deal with salvation man's way or God's way.

Basic Training... **Eternal Life**

GOD'S PROMISE

"He who believes in the Son has Eternal Life; but he who does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him."

John 3:36

Eternal life is not obtained nor maintained by being religious, keeping a set of rules, or doing good works. It is obtained by believing that Jesus died for our sins, was buried, and was raised from the dead to give eternal life. (Eph. 2:8-9)

Fill in your first name in the following blank spaces.

"I give eternal life to, _____, and _____ shall never perish; and no one shall snatch _____ out of My hand." John 10:28



7 SCRIPTURAL APPROACHES TO ETERNAL LIFE IN JESUS CHRIST

1. GOD'S TRUTH APPROACH - *"Truly, Truly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes Him who sent me has **Eternal Life** and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to life."* (John 5:24; 1 Timothy 2:3-6)

2. GOD'S LOVE APPROACH - *"For God so LOVED the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have **Eternal Life**."* (John 3:16; 1 John 3:16, 4:10, 15-16, 19; Romans 5:8)

3. GOD'S SON APPROACH - *"And the witness is this, that God has given us **Eternal Life**, and this life is in His Son. He who has the SON has the LIFE; he who does not have the SON OF GOD does not have the LIFE. These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the SON OF GOD, in order that you may **know** that you have Eternal Life."* (1 John 5:11-13; John 5:39; 17:1-3; Hebrews 5:8-9)

4. GOD'S HAND APPROACH - *"I give them **Eternal Life**, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all ; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand.."* (John 10:28-29)

5. GOD'S GRACE APPROACH - *"That, as sin reigned in death, even so GRACE might reign through righteousness to **Eternal Life** through Jesus Christ our Lord."* (Romans 5:21; Ephesians 2:8-9; Titus 3:5-7)

6. GOD'S GIFT APPROACH - *"For the wages of sin is death, but the FREE GIFT is **Eternal Life** in Christ Jesus our Lord."* (Romans 6:23; 5:15-17)

7. GOD'S PROMISE APPROACH - *"And this is the PROMISE which He Himself made to us: **Eternal Life**"* (1 John 2:25, 5:20; Titus 1:2)

If after reading all these Scriptures pertaining to ETERNAL LIFE, you still believe that there is something that you can do to keep you from going to Heaven -- Then, just don't do it!

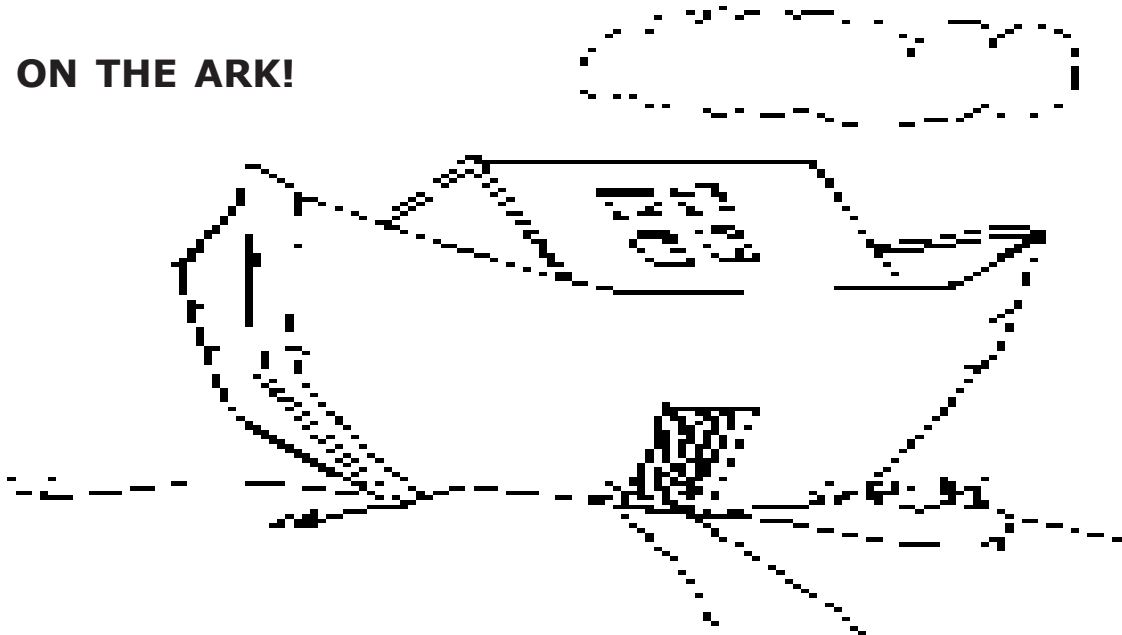
Question: What must a person do to stay saved?

Answer: *"Hereby know we that we dwell in him, and he in us, because he hath given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world. Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwelleth in him, and he in God. (1 John 4:13-15)*

At a time in human history when there was maximum unbelief in the world, God found only one family that believed. God spoke to Noah, and instructed him to build an ark (boat) so that he would have a safe place when the storm hit God had planned to send a flood to destroy all life on the earth (Gen. 6:5-8). The ark was a picture of the promised salvation in Christ. (Matthew 24:35-39)

God always lets his people know about His plan of salvation (2 Peter 3:9). If they will listen and believe His word, they will be rescued from what ever comes without fear. (Romans 8:1)

GET ON THE ARK!



ARK	CHRIST
Safe in the ark Wooden boat One door to ark	Safe in Christ Wooden cross One way to salvation

- Q.** What was the difference between the people getting in the ark and those remaining on the outside? (2 Thessalonians 1:8-9)
- Q.** What do we have to do to be saved in Jesus Christ? (Acts 16:31)
- Q.** If you want to get in to the Ark of Salvation, read John 10:9 and John 14:6)
- A.** You can be saved right now by believing the gospel of Jesus Christ. (Romans 1:16)

Basic Training... **Power Life**

GOD'S PROMISE

"You, however, are controlled not by the sinful nature but by the Spirit, if the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ." Romans 8:9

When a person accepts Christ as Savior, the Holy Spirit comes into (indwells) his life permanently. The Holy Spirit indwells for the purpose of glorifying Christ, but indwelling alone does not guarantee that Christ will be glorified by the believer's life. For this reason, Christians are commanded to be habitually "filled" with the Holy Spirit.

Acts is the book of spiritual power – where it comes from, how it is obtained, and how it is used. The promise of Jesus Christ to his disciples was *"He shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever, even the Spirit of Truth...He dwells with you and shall be in you."* John 14:16-17

8 WORKS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT AT SALVATION (ACTS 1:5-8)

Baptism – *"For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body."* (1 Corinthians 12:13)

Indwelling of the Holy Spirit – *"Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?"* (1 Corinthians 6:19)

Seals & Earnest – *"who also has sealed us and given us the Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee."* (2 Corinthians 1:22; Ephesians 1:13-14)

Regeneration – *"not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit,"* (Titus 3:5; John 3:1-8)

Spiritual Life – *"even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved,"* (Ephesians 2:5)

Access to God – *"For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father."* (Ephesians 2:18)

Adoption – *"For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, 'Abba, Father.' The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs; heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together."* (Romans 8:14-17)

Spiritual Gift – *"But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills."* (1 Corinthians 12:11) Each believer receives one of these supernatural gifts to function during the Church Age: Pastor/Teacher, Evangelist, Helps, Giving, Mercy, Leadership, Administration, Exhortation, Service.

THE INDWELLING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Holy Spirit lives in every Christian. (Romans 8:9; Galatians 3:2, 4:6; 1 Corinthians 6:19-20)

The indwelling of the Holy Spirit must be distinguished from the filling of the Holy Spirit.

- The Indwelling is automatic at salvation.
- The Filling is a function of the believer's volition and may be lost through carnality. (Ephesians 4:30)
- The Filling is commanded. (Ephesians 5:18)
- The Filling is regained through confession of Sin. (1 John 1:9; Proverbs 1:23)

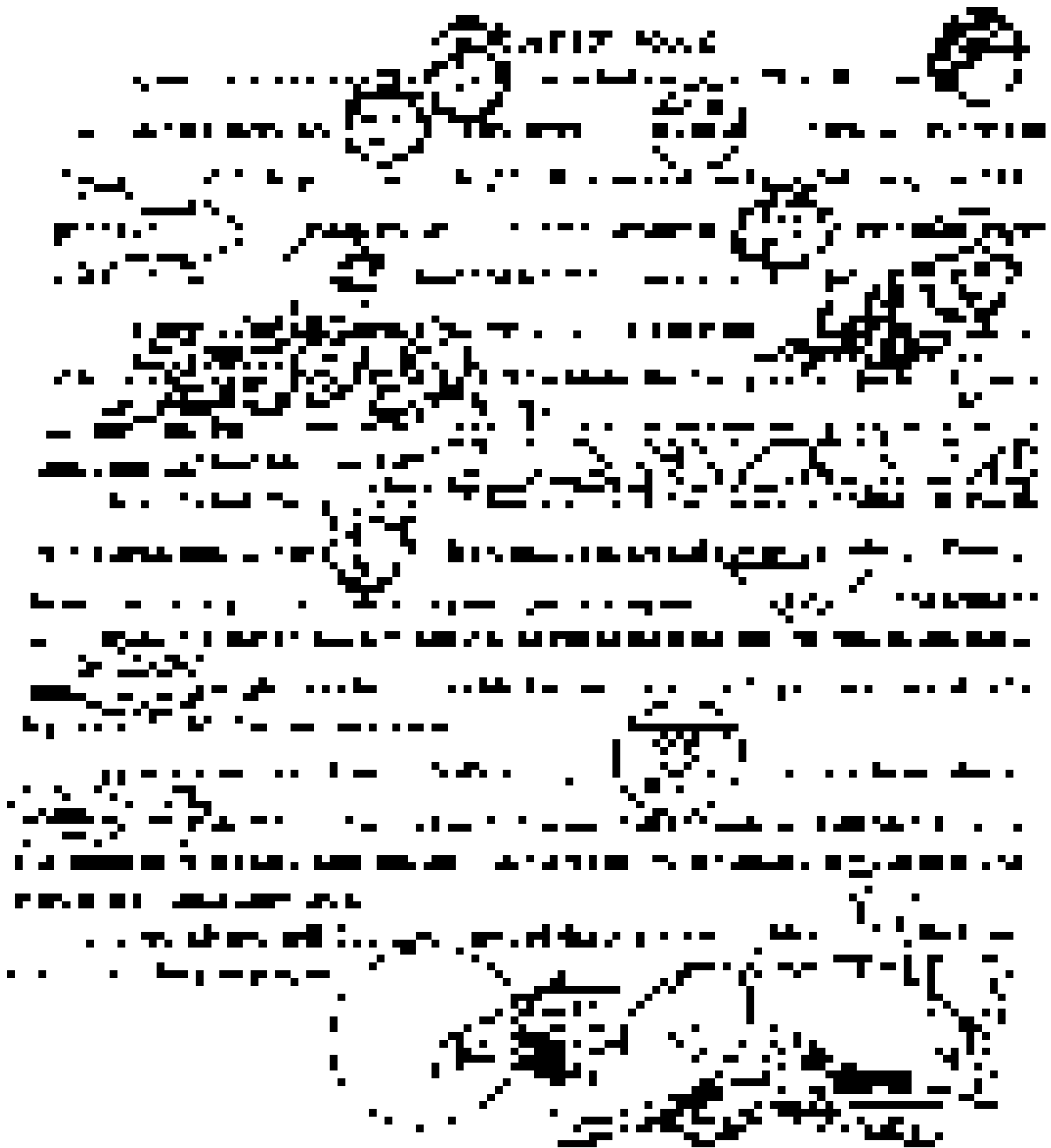
THE SEALING MINISTRY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

The sealing work of the Holy Spirit is the basis for our eternal security. Seals indicate ownership; God owns the believer, having purchased him from the slave market of sin. (Ephesians 1:7; 1 Corinthians 6:20) The believer is sealed as a guarantee of his eternal security. The three phases of salvation are given in Ephesians 1:13-14.

- First, you must hear the word of truth, the gospel.
- Then, you must believe the gospel.
- *At that point, you are sealed by the Holy Spirit.*

Question: If a believer sins is he out of God's family?

Answer: *"Because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, "Abba, Father." So you are no longer a slave, but a son; and since you are a son, God has made you also an heir."* Galatians 4:6-7



Basic Training... **Spiritual Gifts**

GOD'S PROMISE

"As each has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God." (1 Peter 4:10)

Permanent Spiritual Gifts

There are nine permanent spiritual gifts which function in the Post-Canon period of the Church Age. They are divided into two categories: Communications and Specialized Services. (1 Peter 4:10-11) A spiritual gift gives the believer a supernatural ability through the filling of the Holy Spirit to serve the body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12:4-6). The ultimate goal of function of Spiritual Gifts under good stewardship is that God may be glorified through Jesus Christ (Romans 12:3-8).

Communications

1. **Pastor-Teacher**-Ability to comprehend, categorize and communicate the Word of God for spiritual growth. His ministry is to study and teach - to feed the flock. (Rom. 12:7; 1 Cor. 12:28-30; Eph. 4:11-13; Heb. 5:13-14)
2. **Evangelist**-Ability to identify pockets of positive volition and to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ for salvation or condemnation. Also to bring the new convert through the Basics (Milk Doctrines of Salvation). (Eph. 4:11; Acts 6:5-15; 8:4-40; Rom. 1:16; 1 Cor. 15:3-4; 1 Pet. 2:2)

Specialized Services

1. **Service**-Ability to serve in ministry activities within the local Church body. Deacons, Teachers, Cooks, and Bus Drivers, etc. (Rom. 12:7)
2. **Exhortation**-Ability to exhort in a situation where encouragement and reassurance is needed within the Church body and to help the person to pursue a course which is compatible with the Word of God. (Rom. 12:8)
3. **Giving**-Ability to perceive a need and to give of one's self and one's resources to generously meet that need with a grace attitude. This gift supports a large part of the Church ministries. (Rom. 12:8; 1 Cor. 13:3)
4. **Leading**-Ability to take the leadership initiative in some specific function of the Church for others to eagerly follow. (Rom. 12:8)
5. **Mercy**-Ability to identify those who suffer within the Church and to render kindness that encourages their spirit towards hope such as Hospitals, Nursing Homes, Shut-ins and funerals. (Rom 12:8; Acts 9:36-39; 1 Cor. 16:18)
6. **Helps**-Ability to render assistance to some burdensome task within the Church, those in need, widows etc. (1 Cor. 12:28; 16:16)
7. **Administrating**- Ability to coordinate details of the projects, activities and ministries within the Church. (1 Cor.12:28; Acts 6:1-4)

The extension and magnitude of your Spiritual Gift ministry will be determined by the consistency of your spirituality (Gal. 5:16-17) and your spiritual maturity (2 Pet 3:18)

Temporary Spiritual Gifts

Temporary spiritual gifts were to equip the infant church in the transition of dispensation, divine agency, and covenants. Dispensational change from the Jewish age to Church age. Divine agency change from priest nation to church, and covenant change from old to new. (Eph. 1:9-10; Heb.8:13)

1. **Apostle**-This gift was given to those called to establish the Church and the Canon of Scripture. (Acts 2:42; Eph. 2:19-22; 4:11; 1 Cor. 4:9; 2 Cor. 12:12; Rev. 1:9)
2. **Prophet**-This gift was given to bring divine revelation to believers prior to the canonization of the Scriptures. (Acts 11:27-30; 21:10-14; Rom. 12:6; 1 Cor 12:10, 28-30)
3. **Discerning Spirit**-Associated with the gift of prophesy. It was the ability to detect false prophetic teaching prior to the canonization of the Scriptures. (1 Cor. 12:10; 13:8)
4. **Different Kinds of Tongues**-Ability to speak the truth of gospel of Jesus Christ in an unlearned foreign language to unbelievers present. (1 Cor. 12:10, 28-30; 13:8-10; 14:2-6, 14, 20-28)
5. **Interpretation of Tongues**-Ability to translate an unlearned foreign language being spoken to believers present. (1 Cor. 12:10, 30; 13:8-11; 14:1-13)
6. **Word of Wisdom**-Ability to know the mystery doctrines of the Church Age prior to the canonization of the Scriptures. (Rom. 11:25; 16:25-27; 1 Cor. 2:7-9)
7. **Word of Knowledge**-Ability to enquire into spiritual truths related to the plan of God prior to the canonization of the Scriptures. (Rom. 11:33-36; 1 Cor. 12:8; 13:2)
8. **Different Faith**-Ability to believe a revelation of God's Will apart from the Scriptures. Associated with miracles and healing. (Acts 12:9; 1 Cor. 12:8-11, 28-30; Not Rom.10:17)
9. **Working of Miracles**-Ability to interrupt the laws of creation to a revelation of God's Will. Designed to focus attention on gospel of Jesus Christ. (1 Cor. 12:8-10,28-29)
10. **Gifts of healing**-Ability to cure any illness (not a process of healing). Also designed to focus attention to the gospel message of grace salvation. (1 Cor. 12:9, 28-30)

The temporary Spiritual gifts were cancelled by two events: fall of Jerusalem and the completion of the canon of Scriptures. 1. Fall of Jerusalem (70 AD) cancelled different tongues and interpretation of tongues (Isa. 28:9-11; 1 Cor. 14:21-22). One of three messianic signs to Israel. (Isa. 28:9-11) 2. Completion of the canon of Scriptures cancelled word of wisdom, knowledge, prophesy, discerning spirits, effects of miracles, and gifts of healing which focused upon substance of canon and gospel message. (1 Cor. 13:8-10)

There are six clues that can help identify your Spiritual Gift.

1. Understanding the function of the Spiritual Gifts.
2. Be involved in different opportunities of services within the local body and watch for the natural and comfortable function of Spiritual Gifts.
3. Personal inclination toward the category of Spiritual Gifts: Communication and Specialized Services.
4. Personal inclination toward certain gifts (remember they are not natural talents).
5. Often other spiritual mature believers can observe being served by your gift (when it becomes obvious to many of them, it could be your Spiritual Gift).
6. Spiritual Gifts function under the filling of the Holy Spirit. Therefore, your Spiritual Gift will function in the Christian Life as you walk in the Spirit (past experiences can be a clue).

Basic Training... **Rebound**

GOD'S PROMISE

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (1 John 1:9)

Rebound means restoration to fellowship with God and recovery of the filling of the Holy Spirit. (Ephesians 5:14)

Rebound must be understood in the light of relationship with God (Jeremiah 3:13) or positional truth. (Romans 8:1)

The frame of reference for rebound is the effectual death of Christ on the Cross, where He paid for our sins. (2 Corinthians 5:21; 1 Peter 2:24; 1 John 1:7-9) which is extended to the believer in confession.

Eternal security is the prerequisite to understanding the rebound technique. (Romans 8:38-39)

- The believer sins after salvation, but such sin is categorized as CARNALITY, not loss of salvation (1 Corinthians 3:1-3; 1 John 1:8, 10).
- Both carnality and reversionism are results of refusing or rejecting the rebound technique.

The mechanics of the rebound technique:

Confess it – *"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness."* (1 John 1:9)

Conclude it – *"I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. Let us therefore, as many as are perfect, have this attitude; and if in anything you have a different attitude, God will reveal that also to you."* (Philippians 3:13-14)

Correct it – *"See to it that no one comes short of the grace of God; that no root of bitterness springing up causes trouble, and by it many be defiled."* (John 8:11; 1 Peter 4:2-4; 1 Cor. 5:9-11)



God removes it – *"As far as the east is from the west, So far has He removed our transgressions from us." (Psalm 103:12) "Though your sins are as scarlet, They will be as white as snow; Though they are red like crimson, They will be like wool." (Isaiah 1:18)*

The alternative to rebound is divine discipline.

Warning – *"For this reason many among you are weak and sick, and a number sleep. But if we judged ourselves rightly, we should not be judged."* (1 Corinthians 11:31)

Suffering – *"For those whom the Lord loves he disciplines, and he scourges every son whom he receives."* (Hebrews 12:6)

Death – *"If anyone sees his brother committing a sin not leading to death, he shall ask and God will for him give life to those who commit sin not leading to death. There is a sin leading to death; I do not say that he should make request for this."* (1 John 5:16)

Question: What if a person rejects God's salvation?

Answer: *"Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God's wrath remains on him."* John 3:36



When you were born, your name was written down in God's Book of Life. Not all names stay in that book. Anyone who dies without believing on the Lord Jesus Christ has his name blotted out. Now there is an awful blank space where his name might have been. On the day of the last judgement the books will be opened for all to see.

The Lord Jesus Christ will sit upon the great white throne. With Him will be all believers and the angels of heaven. Before Him will stand all the unbelievers of all time. They have been raised from the dead and must now be judged. They find out that all their works were not good enough to get the to heaven. Only what the Lord Jesus Christ did for them could have made them good enough to live in God's presence, and they have not believed in Him. It's too late now. They must go to the lake of fire.

Is this fair? Yes, God is a Just Judge. He let them choose where they wanted to go. They made their choice. Now you must make a choice, too. Will you come to God according to His plan? "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life; and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on Him." John. 3:36

Fill in the blanks.

God is keeping books up in _____. When you were born. He wrote your name in the Book of _____. Your name in this book is your pass into _____. But to keep your name in it you must _____ in the Lord Jesus Christ before you die. If you should die without choosing to receive Christ as your Savior, your name will be _____ out of God's book. God writes down every good thing that everybody does in His Book of _____. One day all _____ will stand before the Lord Jesus Christ to learn why they cannot go into heaven. They will see all their _____ works written in the Book, but they will see that they are still not good enough. To go into heaven they must be as perfect as _____. Is this fair? _____. It is fair because Jesus died to make them as good as He is. Have you made your choice to receive the Lord Jesus Christ as your own Savior? _____. When? _____.

Basic Training... **Review**

GOD'S PROMISE

"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith--and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God-- not by works, so that no one can boast."
Ephesians 2:8-9

SALVATION

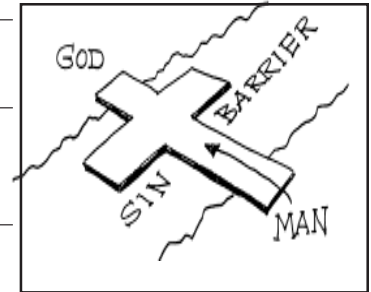
1. What did Jesus Christ come into the world to do? (1 Timothy 1:15)

2. How did Jesus take away the sins of the world? (1 Peter 2:24)

3. Why was it necessary for **Jesus to die for the sins of mankind?**
(Romans 3:23; 5:12)

4. What must a person do to be saved? (Acts 16:31)

5. What must a person believe to be saved? (1 Corinthians 15:3-4)



GOD'S PROMISE: *"For God so loved the world that He gave His only son, that whosoever believes in Him, will not perish but have eternal life."* John 3:16

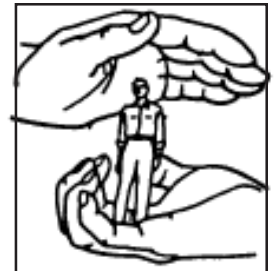
ETERNAL LIFE

1. Is there anything a person can do to lose the promise of eternal life?
(John 10:28)

2. Whose hand is no one able to snatch a believer out of? (John 10:29)

3. What must a person do to have a Father-Son relationship with God? (John 1:12)

4. How can a person know for certain that he has eternal life? (1 John 5:13)



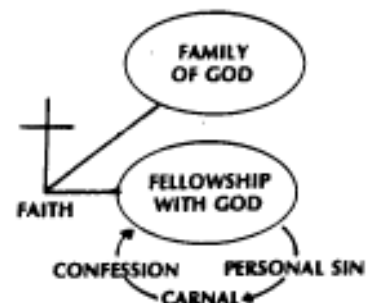
GOD'S PROMISE: *"He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him."* John 3:36

SPIRITUAL LIFE

1. How does a person receive the Holy Spirit? (John 7:38-39)

2. How long will the Holy Spirit live in the believer? (John 14:16)

3. How does personal sins affect the indwelling Holy Spirit?
(Ephesians 4:30)



- In 1 John 1:9 what must a believer do regarding his personal sins and then what does God promise He will do?

GOD'S PROMISE: "Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body." 1 Corinthians 6:19-20

POWER LIFE

- Where does the Christian's power come from? (Acts 1:8)
- Where does the Holy Spirit reside? (1 Corinthians 6:19)
- In Ephesians 5:18, what is a believer commanded to do about the Holy Spirit?
- What does the sealing of the Holy Spirit guarantee the believer? (Eph. 1:13-14)



AT SALVATION

GOD'S PROMISE: "You, however, are controlled not by the sinful nature but by the Spirit, if the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ." Romans 8:9

REBOUND

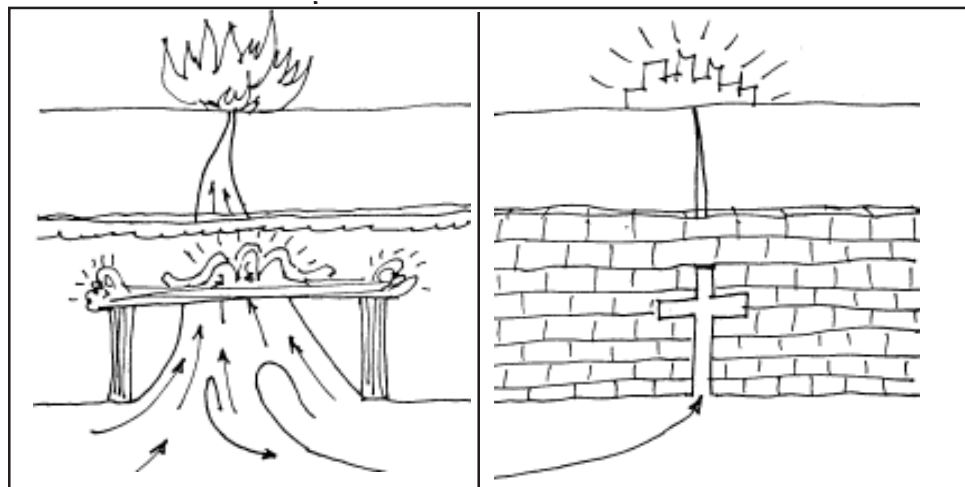
- When a believer confesses his sins, how far does God remove them? (Psalm 103:12)
- What is a believer's sin categorized as? (1 Corinthians 3:1-3)
- What does God warn will happen if His child refuses to rebound? (1 Cor. 11:31)
- If we confess (name) our sins to God, what does He promise to do? (1 John 1:5-7)
- Why is confession of sin important for the believer? (Ephesians 5:14)



GOD'S PROMISE: "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.: 1 John 1:9

"Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it."

Matthew 7:13-14



Christian Warrior
Advanced Training



Advanced Training...**Warfare**

GOD'S PROMISE

"Put on the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil." Ephesians 6:11

The Christian life is a constant battle against three enemies of the believer's soul (1 John 2:14-17). The first enemy is the world system, ruled by the devil, and pushed through human viewpoint. The second enemy is flesh (old sin nature); and the third enemy is devil (combat with religion and false doctrine). The Lord Jesus Christ has made victory possible (at the cross). However the believer must use the grace assets and weapons God has provided to make victory effective in his life. (Ephesians 6:10-18)

Your enemy, Satan is very tricky. He has two ways to attack: Front and sneak.

Frontal attack is compared to a roaring lion, (1 Peter 5:8).

Sneak attack is compared to an angel of light, (2 Corinthians 11:14). Satan's sneak attacks as a angel of light can be more dangerous than his frontal attacks as a roaring lion because we don't recognize his tricks. Satan sneaks up on us with false ideas presented very beautifully and wisely. His ideas usually have a very religious sound, seem very sweet and good. It is very easy to be caught off guard (2 Corinthians 11:3). That is why we must know God's word. When we know the truth, we won't be deceived by error (1 Timothy 6:20-21; 2 Timothy 3:7-8).

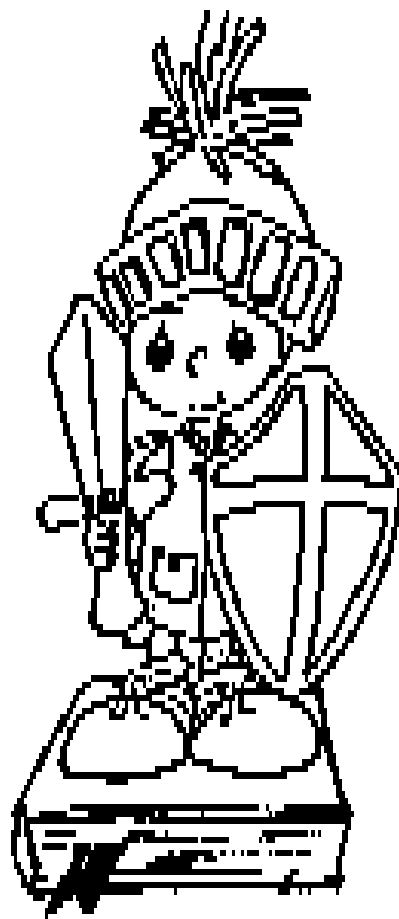
STETE'

STAND FIRM IN THE FAITH (Ephesians 6:14)

The Christian soldier is enabled to "stand firm" by means of the faith in the unchanging Word of God (Romans 4:20-21). Our feet are planted on the foundation of the promises of God. (Hebrews 6:17-20) When we have put on the "full armor of God", through Bible study (the belt, the breastplate, the sandals, shield of faith, the helmet, the sword, and prayer), we can then "**STAND FIRM**" (Ephesians 6:14-18/read).

If you are not saved, before you can never hope to stand against the attacks of these enemies. You must be in Christ (2 Corinthians 5:17).. This is the only place where you have the power of God. When we say that victory was won on the cross, we mean that the Lord Jesus Christ died for your sins to set you free from Satan's and sins power (2 Corinthians 4:3-4; Romans 6:4-11). Your freedom from sin and Satan cannot be bought by anything you have or do. It is by grace through faith (Ephesians 2:8-9) Faith in Christ dying on the cross for your sins and being raised from the dead the third day to give you everlasting life (1 Corinthians 15:3-4, 56-57)

Look at the picture of the soldier and write next to each armor what the Bible calls it in Ephesians 6:17-17.



SATAN'S TACTICS

Satan's primary tool is deception (2 Corinthians 2:11). He works through the processes of our minds in an attempt to get us to call good "bad" and bad "good." He is a master of twisting the truth and veiling what is harmful to us so it **appears** to be beneficial (2 Corinthians 11:3).

The more Satan watches our lives and knows about us, the more veiled his tactics become. He rarely attacks a person head-on at their strengths. Rather, he discovers their weaknesses and bores into them over time, chipping away at their lives with persistence and increasing subtlety (Genesis 3:1-7; 1 John 3:12). Over time, this can reach the point where Jesus said that even those who were the strongest, most committed Christians, would be in danger of becoming deceived (Matthew 24:24; Luke 22:31-34).

FIVE-FOLD PROCESS OF DECEPTION (Genesis 3)

First, we allow a false idea to be planted in our imaginations. The first thing the devil does to deceive us is to plant an idea in our minds that has an appealing element to it. Usually our first impulse toward Satan's planted ideas is to reject them. If we do so, we can cut off Satan's efforts before we experience any negative backlash (Galatians 5:16-17). Unfortunately, the devil's ideas always are wrapped in some element that has a certain amount of appeal to us.

Second, we begin to identify with the false idea that the devil has planted in our imagination. We start to put ourselves into the picture. We wonder, *How would it feel to own that object . . . to be with that person...to go to that place...to participate in that activity...to be a part of that group?* (Genesis 3:5-6)

Third, we have a growing desire to experience the full reality of Satan's sinful idea. Then we begin to plot a way in which we might act out the thing we know is wrong. The more we identify with one of Satan's ideas, the stronger our desire grows to experience the idea. When that desire reaches a certain degree of intensity, our wills become involved. We begin to make a *plan* for acting out the full-blown desire that began as only a prick of our imagination (2 Samuel 11:2-5). The more we dwell on one of Satan's ideas, the more we are trapped by it. We sometimes say that certain things or ideas "capture" our imaginations. In fact, they do! The longer an idea is entertained in the imagination, the more likely we are to act on the idea.

Fourth, we act out the sinful idea. In acting out an idea, we rarely have an intent of turning the action into a habit. We usually say to ourselves, "I'm just going to try this one time to see what it's like." "**Got you!**" But, generally speaking, if we try something we know to be sin, the part that was appealing to us in the first place is going to be temporarily satisfying to us, and we are going to continue to desire and do what we know to be wrong.

Fifth, when we make a decision to act out sin, we are self-deceived. We think that we can control our fleshly tendencies to sin. In reality, **our fleshly tendencies, desires, and lusts are in control of us.** When we give in to sin and it becomes a habit in our lives, we become addicted to that sin. **It rules us** (Romans 7:15-25). It dominates our every waking thought. It governs our every action. (1 John 2:12-17: 4:4)

In the following passages of scripture, underline five ways Christians are to stand firm (STETE).

1 Corinthians 15:57-58 *"But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brethren, **be steadfast**, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord."*

Galatians 5:1 *"**Stand fast** therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage."*

Philippians 1:27 *"Only let your conduct be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of your affairs, that you **stand fast** in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel."*

Philippians 4:1 *"Therefore, my brothers, you whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, that is how you should **stand firm** in the Lord, dear friends!"*

2 Thessalonians 2:15 *"So then, brothers, **stand firm** and hold to the teachings we passed on to you, whether by word of mouth or by letter."*

Advanced Training... **Victory**

GOD'S PROMISE

"I can do all things through Christ which strengthens me."
Philippians 4:13

The Christian is commanded to *"put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil"* (Ephesians 6:11). The pieces of armor represent the techniques of the Christian way of life, or the means by which the believer overcomes his enemies and lives a victorious life in the devils world Just as a good soldier must go through a period of training before he can use his equipment expertly, so a good soldier of Jesus Christ must learn to use what God has provided.

Ephesians 6:14 *"Stand, therefore, having about your waist the equipment belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of divine righteousness;"* The belt of truth is the Word of God on which anchors the breastplate of righteousness. The belt must be put on first, then the breastplate. The righteousness of God is the basic protection of the believer.

Ephesians 6:15 *"Having shod your feet by means of full preparedness on the good news of God's peace.* Preparation means flexibility and the ability to use God's Word in witnessing. Knowledge of the basis doctrines of salvation is necessary for witnessing. You need to know about Reconciliation, Propitiation, Redemption, Imputation, Regeneration, and the Barrier, as a starter.

Ephesians 6:16 *"In addition to all this, having taken up the shield of the believer's faith, wherewith you shall be able to extinguish or cut off the fire arrows of the wicked one."* The shield stands for the faith of the believer in the promises of God. Faith must have an object and the object of the believer's faith is the Word of God. For the unbeliever it is the Lord Jesus Christ (Acts 16:31).

Ephesians 6:17 *"And receive the helmet of salvation, and the sword provided by the Holy Spirit, which is the Word of God."* It is the soul which is said to be saved; and the soul is in the head (with its mentality, volition, self-consciousness, emotion, sin nature). The helmet is used to represent salvation.

ARMOR OF GOD

Belt of truth: Knowing the Word of God is the basics of everything in the Christian life. Through the Word we learn how to use all that God has provided for our Christian life.

Breastplate of righteousness: The filling of the Spirit allows the Holy Spirit to produce the fruit of the Spirit in our life (Galatians 5:22-23) producing the character of Christ.

Shield of faith: It is knowing and using the promises of God's Word ward-off the attacks of Satan. This allows us to ward off the temptations to sin (Faith rest, is trusting the promises of God regardless of the circumstances (2 Corinthians 5:7).

Shoes of preparation: To carry the gospel of Jesus Christ preparation or training. You don't have your shoes on without this spiritual preparation.

Helmet of salvation: Protects our minds against any doubts concerning our salvation. If you think you can lose your salvation, you cannot advance, grow, or serve the Lord.

Sword of the Spirit: Learning God's Word categorically is effective in our life-battle, we must study and meditate on it every day, then practice what we have learned. (Living in the Word and occupation with Christ.)

It is up to you to learn to practice what you have learned. Know God's Word, its doctrines, promises and techniques; believe it, and He will make it powerful and victorious in your life.

LITTLE PILGRIM'S JOURNEY

Once upon a time there was a little boy named Pilgrim. He lived in the City of Destruction where he was born. (This is where everyone is born.) It was not a nice city. It was a lawless place. There were drugs, broken homes, fathers deserting their families, prostitution, homosexuals, pregnant teens, disease, children being abused, murder, crimes of all kind.

One day, Pilgrim ran away to find a better life. On his way he found a little black book (Bible). He started reading it. It told him that he was lost, in darkness, without hope and perishing. That he was spiritually dead and separated from God (Romans 5:12). But when he came to the story of Christ dying on the cross, he found that God loved him and had a better plan for him (John 3:16) and wanted him to become His child (John 1:12).

Pilgrim read the "Good News" how Christ died for his sins, was buried, and raised again the third day to give him everlasting life (2 Corinthians 5:21; 1 Corinthians 15:3-4; 1 John 5:11-12). Pilgrim believed the "Good News" and received Christ as his Savior.

His name was changed to Christian and he started on a new journey toward the Celestial City of God which the little book said had no sadness, no crying, no sickness, pain or sin.

He was on the right road but all was not smooth and easy. He had his ups and downs; but finally he arrived at Palace Beautiful where he was welcomed and given rest and refreshment.

The keeper of the palace (The Holy Spirit) did not want Christian to leave until he saw all the God had provided for him to live a victorious life. He showed him the "Armory" where all that a soldier would need to win the battle. The Armory is the Word of God, where we find out what God has provided for our defense against our spiritual enemies.

Christian is told to take a suit of armor for himself and put it on. He first selected the Belt of Truth (Word of God) on which all the other armor and equipment is fastened. Breastplate of Righteousness (The Holy Spirit) to produce the fruit of the Spirit in his life. The Shoes of Preparation to carry the gospel of Jesus Christ. The Shield of Faith (using the Word of God) to ward off the temptation to sin. The Helmet of Salvation to protect the mind against any doubts about salvation. And the Sword of the Spirit (each part of the Word of God) for effectiveness in the life-battle, but we must know how to use it.

Christian is showed another little room which held the secret weapon (Prayer). The world cannot know its power; but the believer can reach God the Father at any time, so long as the communication line is not cut off through sin. The lines are repaired by rebound (confession of know sins).

Now that Christian has on his armor and knows how to use each piece, he is ready to continue on his journey once more. His path takes him down into the Valley of Humiliation, where his armor is immediately tested. Christian comes face to face with the devil. He asked, "Who are you, where are you going?"

Christian stood his ground, he felt very brave. "I am Christian; I have left the City of Destruction and I am going to the Celestial City of Heaven."

"The City of Destruction is my city," said the devil. What do you mean by running away from my service? If you'll come back, I'll give you a better time than you've ever had. Do you think this Christian way of life is fun?"

Christian answered that he would be true to his new master, the Lord Jesus Christ. His pleasures are much better and they last forever.

At the name of Jesus Christ, the devil became furious. He rushed Christian throwing his arrows thick and fast.

Christian warded off the blows with his shield of faith; but soon doubts and fear and unbelief made him so weak, his sword was knocked out of his hand.

The devil thought the fight was over, but he had not counted on Christian's secret weapon - Prayer. Christian rebounded and prayed for strength. Christian grabbed his sword and thrust it at Satan. "We are more than conquerors through Him that loved us," he shouted. Satan fled, just as God's word had promised (James 4:7). Christian was not prepared and ready to go back home and bring others out of Satan's control (Mark 5:19).

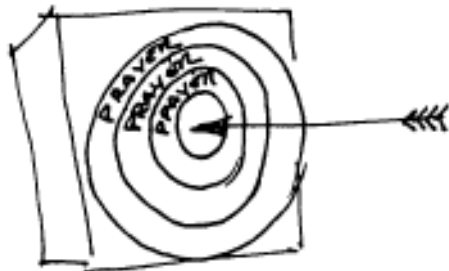
What happened to Christian happens to you, too. You are "Chris Heaven. God has the same armor for you, but you must take it off the shelf and put it on. This is your time of training from the Word of God. Like Christian, when you walk out of here, you will have your tests. You will be tempted to doubt whether God's Word is true, or whether it will work when the going's rough. Don't forget, "Greater is he that is in you (Holy Spirit) than he that is in the world (Satan). (1 John 4:4).

Advanced Training...Prayer

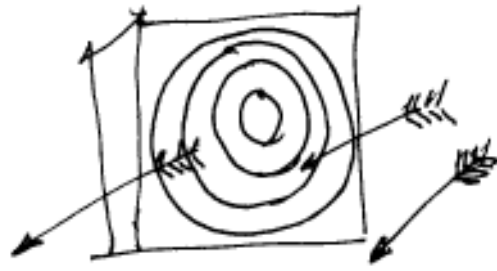
GOD'S PROMISE

"If you abide in me and my words abide in you, ask for what ever you wish and it will be done for you." John 15:7

God has wonderful promises regarding effective prayer life of a child of God. For example, James 5:16 says, "The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much." God wants you to have an effective prayer life to hit the bull's eye. This lesson will help your prayers hit the bull's eye every time.



HIT THE MARK



MISS THE MARK

God has already shown you that your prayers can hit the bull's-eye, because he answered your prayer to be saved. "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." (Romans 10:13)

To see how God's wonderful promise of answered prayer works, **fill in your first name in the blank spaces.**

"And this is the confidence _____ has before Him, that if _____ ask anything according to His will, He, hears _____. And if _____ know that He hears _____ in whatever _____ ask, _____ know that _____ has the requests which _____ has asked from Him." (1 John 5:14-15)

Circle how you are instructed to pray on all occasions.

"With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints." (Ephesians 6:18)

Circle four things the Holy Spirit who lives in you does in prayer.

"And in the same way the Spirit also helps our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we should, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groaning too deep for words; and He searches the hearts and knows what is the mind of the Spirit is, because He intercedes for the saints according to the will of God." (Romans 8:26-27)

Circle what must abide in you in order for God to answer your prayers.

"If you abide in Me and My words abide in you, ask for what ever you wish and it will be done for you." (John 15:7)

Circle what hinders prayers from being heard and answered.

"If I regard iniquity (sin) in my heart the Lord will not hear me." (Psalms 66:18) Therefore, it is essential that personal sins be confessed before your prayers are offered. (1 John 1:9). **Fill in your name on the blank lines.**

"If _____ confesses his sins, God is faithful and righteous to forgive _____ his sins and to cleanse _____ from all unrighteousness.

PRINCIPLES OF PRAYER

- Prayer is only for Christian believers or members of God's family. (John 1:12)
- Prayer should be directed to God the Father. (Ephesians 5:20; Matthew 6:9)
- Prayer should be made in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. (John 14:13, 15:16)
- The power of prayer is through the ministry of the Holy Spirit. (Ephesians 6:18)

FOUR PARTS TO PRIVATE PRAYER

- Confession of personal sins. (Psalm 66:18; 1 John 1:9)
- Thanksgiving for God's blessing and provision. (Ephesians 5:20)
- Intercessory prayer for others. (Ephesians 6:18)
- Pray for your own needs. (Hebrews 4:16)

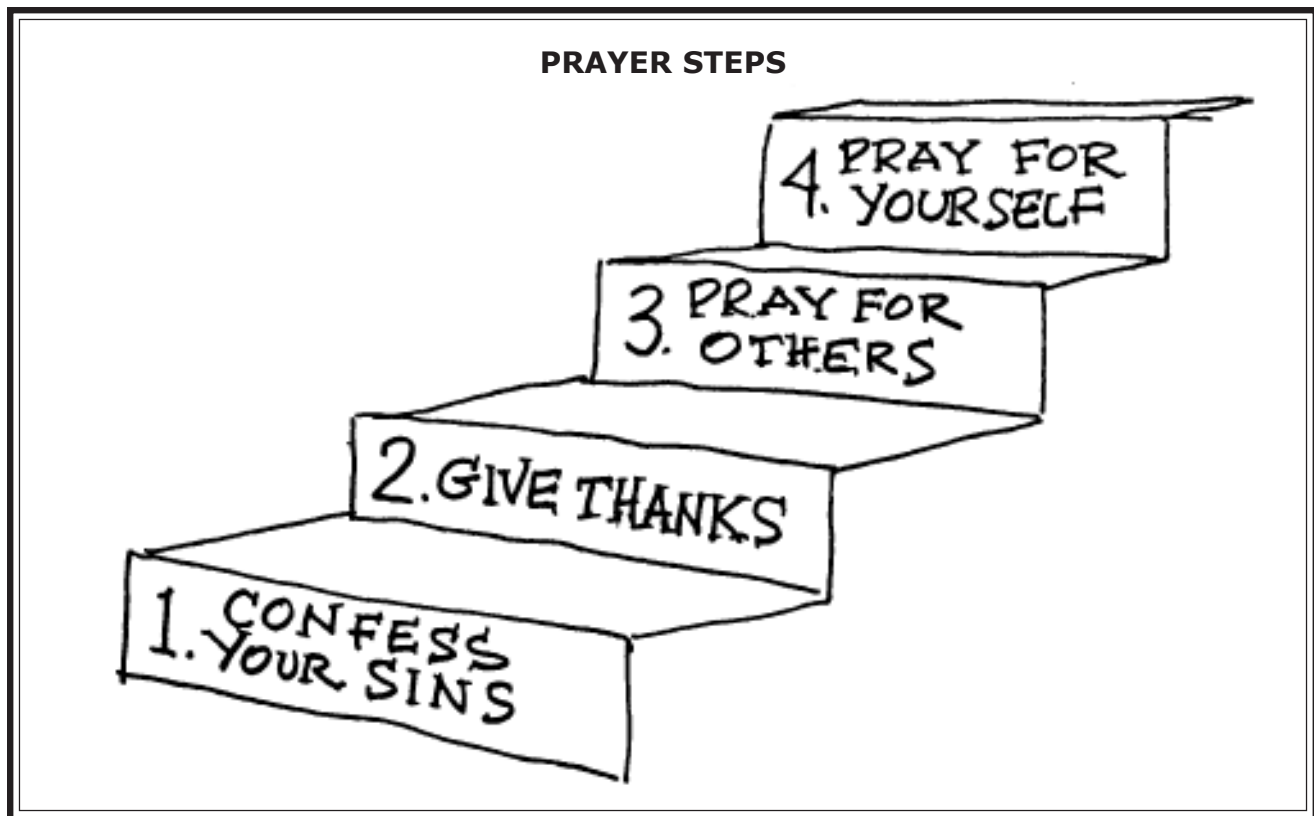
SPECIFIC REQUEST

And this is the confidence ...” 1 John 5:14-15

- Ask according to God's will (Bible promises)
- God hears our prayers (complete and fair hearing)
- We know that He hears us (God's will)
- We know that we have the request that we ask of Him (wait on the Lord's timing - Zachariah waited forty years for his prayer for a son to be answered. Luke 1:13)

GOD'S WILL REGARDING SALVATION

- Not willing that any should perish. (2 Peter 3:9)
- The veil of unbelief will be removed from unbelievers eyes. (2 Corinthians 4:3-4)
- Believers will be sent to present the Gospel. (Romans 10:13-14)
- Open doors to areas of people wanting to hear. (Colossians 4:2-4)



Advanced Training... **Ambassador**

GOD'S PROMISE

"Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God."
(2 Corinthians 5:20)

SIX CHARACTERISTICS OF AN AMBASSADOR FOR CHRIST.

1. An ambassador of Christ is a distinguished and privileged messenger who represents the sovereignty. The Roman Emperor used the ambassador to represent his provinces. He was directly commissioned by the emperor to represent him in foreign lands. He spoke for the emperor in his absence and conveyed his sovereign word. This is illustrated in two parables of Jesus (Luke 14:31-32, 19:12-14).
2. Every believer receives ambassador status in Christ based on salvation. This is one of twenty status privileges of royal family received at the moment of salvation which can never be lost in time nor eternity. Every believer is the official representative of Jesus Christ to the world (Ephesians 2:19; Colossians 4:5-6; 1 Thessalonians 4:11; Philippians 3:20).
3. The believer becomes an active ambassador, presenting the gospel of Jesus Christ to the community of the world, as a result of his spiritual training as a Christian warrior (Ephesians 6:15; 2 Corinthians 5:15; Acts 1:8; Colossians 4:3-4). The ambassador has been given the ministry of reconciliation (2 Corinthians 5:15-20)
4. The ministry of reconciliation is called evangelism because the message is the gospel (euangelion). Every person needs to be reconciled because of Adamic sin (Romans 3:10-12,22-25; 5:12-21). The message of the ambassador for Christ is the gospel of grace salvation (Romans 1:16; Ephesians 2:8-9; 1 Corinthians 15:3-4; 1 Thessalonians 1:5).

"that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures, that He was buried, that He was raised on the third day according to the scriptures".

5. The effectiveness of the service of an ambassador for Christ will depend on three key mental attitudes listed in Romans 1:14-16: I am a debtor; I am ready; I am not ashamed. Debtor shows an attitude toward the mission field which is people who need to hear the gospel. Ready shows an attitude toward the mechanics of the gospel of Christ. Not ashamed shows an attitude towards the message of grace salvation to these people.
6. The ambassador's adversary is Satan, and not the unbeliever (Ephesians 6:10-17; 2 Corinthians 4:3-4, 10:3-4; 1 Peter 5:8). The problem that the ambassador for Christ faces in the world is not the light of the gospel but the eyes of understanding of the unbeliever in the angelic conflict (Matthew 13:18-23; 1 Corinthians 1:18).

Listen to what the Parable of the sower means. **The seed is the word of God.**

*"Those by the **way side** are they that hear; then cometh the devil, and taketh away the word out of their hearts, lest they should believe and be saved. They on the **rock** are they, which, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no root, which for a while believe, and in time of temptation fall away. And that which fell among **thorns** are they, which, when they have heard, go forth, and are choked with cares and riches and pleasures of this life, and bring no fruit to perfection. But that on the **good ground** are they, which in an honest and good heart, having heard the word, keep it, and bring forth fruit with patience."* (Luke 8:5-15 KJV)

SIN

"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God." (Rom. 3:23)

"In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace." (Eph. 1:7)

PENALTY OF SIN

"For the wages of sin is death..." (Rom. 6:23)

"Having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross." (Col. 2:14)

PHYSICAL BIRTH

Man is born physically alive, but spiritually dead - without fellowship with God.

"And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins." (Eph. 2:1)

John 3:1-18

CHARACTER OF GOD

Man cannot measure up to a perfect God. No one is as good as God.

"They have all turned aside; They have together become unprofitable; There is none who does good, no, not one." (Rom. 3:12)

Rom. 3:22-26

MAN'S RIGHTEOUSNESS (-R)

No matter how good man may be, his righteousness is still lacking.

"But we are all like an unclean thing, And all our righteousnesses are like filthy rags." (Isa 64:6a)

POSITION IN ADAM

"In Adam all die..." (1 Cor. 15:22a)

Adam's fall disqualified all mankind from fellowship with God.

"For we walk by faith, not by sight."

(2 Cor. 5:7)

GOD

**THE
BARRIER**

MAN

Removal of the barrier is called RECONCILIATION

Advanced Training... **Witnessing**

GOD'S PROMISE

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." (Acts 1:8)

PREPARATION

From this discussion of Ephesians 6:15, "**And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace.**" We are taught to be ready at any time to minister the gospel. Note that all believers are included in this command. Every Christian is in full time Christian service, always on the front line of God's service of the gospel.

Preparation of the gospel implies the ability to fight. Preparation means flexibility and the ability to use God's Word in witnessing. Knowledge of the basic doctrines of salvation is necessary for preparation of Christian Warriors (not salesmanship techniques). You need to know about Reconciliation, Propitiation, Redemption, Imputation, Regeneration, and The Barrier, as a starter. You don't have your full armor on without this preparation.

Even a Christian who doesn't want to fight is in the spiritual warfare. A soldier may be untrained and in poor condition and drop beside the road before the enemy is reached.

There are two sources of a Christian Warrior's witness:

THE TESTIMONY OF HIS LIFE

(Read 2 Corinthians 3:3)

THE TESTIMONY OF HIS LIPS

(Read 2 Corinthians 5:14-21)

The context for witnessing is that part of the Word of God called the Gospel (1 Corinthians 1:18, 15:3-4; Ephesians 6:17; Romans 1:16).



THE GOSPEL

The word gospel is translated from the Greek, euaggelos, which means "good news." The "good news" is that the Gospel is the power of God to save everyone who believes from the judicial penalty of sin (Romans 6:23).

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO THE SCRIPTURES IS GIVEN IN 1 Corinthians 15:3-4

- Christ died as a substitute for our sins (The work of salvation – "It is finished!")
- Christ was buried in the tomb.
- Christ rose from the dead on the third day to give eternal life to those who believe.

MAKE IT CLEAR AND KEEP IT SIMPLE!

"BAD NEWS"

What does a person have to believe to be saved? I have heard everything from "Believe in God" and "Obey the Ten Commandments" (or "Obey the Sermon on the Mount") to "Just believe that Jesus Loves you." (This is Bad News!)

A CLEAR GOSPEL ACCORDING TO THE SCRIPTURES:

Nowhere in the NT is the Gospel laid out more clearly than by Paul in 1 Corinthians 15:1-4. Paul reminds the Corinthians about the Gospel that he preached, that they received, and by which they were saved. (This is Good News!)

Christ died for our sins. That He died for our sins implies that we are sinners in need of forgiveness. The word "for" (hyper) conveys the idea of "on account of," i.e., to deal with our sins.

According to the Scriptures. The OT Scriptures pictured or predicted the suffering of God's Messiah (e.g., Exodus 12; Leviticus 16; Psalm 22, 110; Isaiah 52-55, especially 53:4-6).

And was buried. This statement functions as Jesus' death certificate. It reminds the reader of the many eyewitnesses to His death. Only dead men are buried. Christ's death was witnessed by multitudes, including the soldier sent to break His legs. The grave and body were also attended by Joseph of Arimathea, Nicodemus, the women, and soldiers sent to guard the tomb.

He arose. The second proposition attests to Christ's resurrection from the dead, which implies that God accepted the sacrifice. A dead man cannot save anyone. A Savior has to be alive. Only then can He offer and effect salvation.

According to the Scriptures. It may seem hard to find the resurrection of Christ in the OT. However, it is there not only explicitly (e.g., Psalm 16:8-11; 110:1), but also implicitly. The implication is clearly that He rose from the dead. (Acts 2:27-31)

PRESENTING THE GOSPEL

Saying too little. People can be told that God loves them, but certainly that is not enough to save them.. They can be convinced they are terrible sinners, but still not know how to deal with that sin. A persuasive speaker can move people to some kind of response without them knowing exactly to what they are responding.

Saying too much. A witness is not the time to dump our "smarties" on a bewildered unbeliever. Too often we try to give too much biblical data. If we start in Genesis, there's a good chance we will lose our audience by Leviticus. How much Bible did Jesus use with the woman at the well (John 4), or Paul with the Philippian jailer (Acts 16)? We should tell people only what they need to know from the Bible to be saved - The gospel.

Clear and Simple. We must explain the Gospel as clearly as possible. Isn't it a wonderful fact of life that God will still use us in spite of the misplaced approaches and methods that we use? We know, however, that He can accomplish more through a clear biblical message. Given all that is at stake, we need to share the Good News as clearly and simply as possible and in a way that is pleasing to God and not just convenient to men.

We give the last word to the Bible: *"But as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel, even so we speak, not as pleasing men, but God who tests our hearts."* (1 Thessalonians 2:4)

Advanced Training... **Baptism**

GOD'S PROMISE

"For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body; whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free; and have all been made to drink into one Spirit."
1 Corinthians 12:13

The word "baptize" (from the Greek baptizo - to dip) means "to identify" or "to be made one with". In general, it refers to the act of identifying one thing with another thing in such a way that its nature or character is changed, or it represents the idea that a real change has already taken place. For example, white cloth submerged into red dye becomes red cloth. It became identified into what it was dipped.

THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Baptism of the Holy Spirit is a Spiritual baptism. When a person accepts Christ as Saviour, he is placed into the body of Christ. He is identified as a believer. The mechanics are given in 1 Corinthians 12:13. *"For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of one Spirit."*

The baptism of the Holy Spirit is the basis for Positional Truth. Believers are placed "in Christ." Positional Truth is where believers accepted into union with Jesus Christ (Romans 6:4-6; Galatians 3:27).

POSITIONAL TRUTH

Positional truth is a term that describes the transferal of a person from the position in Adam (spiritual death) to the position in Christ (eternal life) through grace salvation. (1 Corinthians 15:22; Romans 5:12; Colossians 3:3; 1 John 3:5)

Personal faith in the gospel of Jesus Christ (1 Corinthians 15:3-4) transfers the person from the position in Adam to the position in Christ (John 5:24; Colossians 1:13-14; Ephesians 2:5-6). Jesus Christ qualified to redeem man from the Slave Market of Sin (1 Timothy 2:5-6).

The mechanics for placement into union with Christ is the baptism of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 12:13; Galatians 3:26-27; Ephesians 4:5; 1:3; 2:6). This union in Christ occurs at salvation (John 7:38-39; 1 Corinthians 6:19-20; Galatians 3:2).

Your union with Jesus Christ does not change whether the carnal or the spiritual believer (1 Corinthians 1:2, 30; 12:13; Galatians 5:16-18). The believer cannot improve nor cancel union in Christ because it is based on grace salvation (Ephesians 2:8-9; 2 Corinthians 5:17).

The Christian "in Christ" has become a "new creature" with a new birth, a new human spirit. He has the ability now to have a relationship with God, as His father. "Old things have passed away", spiritual death is done away, and "all things are become new". Spiritual life has begun. (2 Corinthians 5:17)

BAPTISM OF HOLY SPIRIT ESTABLISHES 8 POSITIONAL TRUTHS

1. Fact for all believers, whether spiritual or carnal. (1 Corinthians 1:2; cf. 1:11; 3:1-4)
2. Fact, not a feeling. One is united with Christ regardless of how he feels. (2 Corinthians 5:17)
3. Not progressive; cannot be improved upon; we receive it in total at salvation. (1 Corinthians 6:19-20)
4. Not commanded by God; it is given by God at salvation. (John 7:37-39)
5. Permanent; it will never be taken away; it does not depend upon our faithfulness; it depends on the faithfulness of God. (2 Timothy 2:13; 1 Corinthians 1:9)
6. Fact guarantee of eternal security (Romans 8:1; 8:35-39; 1 John 5:11,12)
7. Fact doctrinal basis for spirituality (Romans 6:1-13)
8. Fact illustrated by water baptism. The believer is identified with Christ in His death, burial, and resurrection.

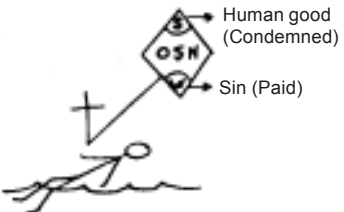


WATER BAPTISM (RITUAL)

In water baptism, the believer is identified with Jesus Christ's death, burial, resurrection and ascension.

A baptism is called a ritual baptism, or a ceremonial baptism, when water is used as a symbol for representative identification. The individual is placed in the water, which means, symbolically, that he is identified with that which the water represents.

The Baptism of Believers. In believer's baptism the water represented the Lord Jesus Christ and symbolizes positional truth. The real baptism of the Holy Spirit. Water Baptism is a ceremonial representation of that fact, a picture of Spirit baptism. Let's review the word baptism. It comes from the Greek term *baptizo* which meant to "dunk," "dip," "plunge," "submerge," or "immerse."

IN BAPTISM THE BELIEVER IS IDENTIFIED WITH CHRIST'S DEATH, BURIAL AND RESURRECTION.

<p>Into the water 1 (Water - Christ)</p>  <p>Believer died with Christ. Christ died to destroy power of sin nature. Paid penalty for sin.</p>	<p>Under the water 2</p>  <p>Buried with Him. No longer need to give in to sin and sin nature.</p>	<p>Up from the water 3</p>  <p>Raised with Christ. Alive to God. Walk in newness of life by filling of Spirit. Victory over sin and sin nature.</p>
--	--	---

1. As you go down into the water, you show that you have received Christ as Savior, for the water stands for Jesus Christ Himself. He died to free us from the penalty of sin (Romans 5:8-10). He died to free us from the power of the sin nature (Romans 6:10).
2. As the water closes above your head it pictures your identification with Christ in His burial. "In Christ" you have died to your sin nature, it has no more power over you and you need not to give into it any longer (Romans 6:6-7).
3. Then, just as Christ was raised from the dead, you are brought back out of the water. You are dead only to the old sin nature, but alive to God; you are identified with His resurrection and ascension (Romans 6:4-5; Colossians 2:12). Jesus Christ ascended and sent back the Holy Spirit to indwell (live inside) your body (1 Corinthians 6:19-20; Galatians 5:16-17).

A BELIEVER CHOOSES TO PARTICIPATE IN WATER BAPTISM, BUT NOT BAPTIZING HOLY SPIRIT.

Christ instructs believers to be baptized. Jesus instructed his disciples to "go therefore and make disciples...baptizing them." The disciples were instructed to lead people believe in Jesus as Savior and then to baptize them as a sign of their identification with Him. We should choose baptism as the next step after salvation.

Baptism is the believer's statement of his identity with Jesus Christ. Believing in Christ comes first, then baptizing. Think about the thief on the cross. He believed in the moments just prior to his death. There was no time for baptism; yet Jesus assured him that they would meet in paradise that day. If water baptism was required for salvation, the thief would have not be saved. It is clear from Jesus' words that the thief was saved the moment he believed.

Every believer in the Gospel of Jesus Christ should choose water baptism. Baptism should be a part of every believer's experience, but is not a requirement for salvation. It is called "believers baptism" to underscore the connection between believing and baptism.

Advanced Training... **Eucharist**

GOD'S PROMISE

"For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death till He comes." 1 Corinthians 11:26

There are five names associated with this church ordinance.

Eucharist - giving of thanks for grace salvation (1 Corinthians 11:24-25)

Lord's Table - grace provision and privilege (1 Corinthians 10:21)

Lord's Supper - Agape feast and fellowship (1 Corinthians 11:20-22, 25)

Breaking Bread - emphasis on unity in Christ (1 Corinthians 10:16-17)

Communion - sharing together through common interest of faith in Christ (1 Corinthians 10:16)

The historical origin of the Eucharist was the last supper of Jesus (Luke 22:14-23; 1 Corinthians 11:23-32). The last supper was the observance of the Jewish Passover. The Passover looked back to deliverance from Egyptian bondage and forward to deliverance from sin/death bondage. (Exodus 12:3-38; 1 Corinthians 5:7)

The Eucharist is a time for the church in assembly to proclaim the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ until He returns for it (1 Corinthians 11:26). It is a time for recalling pertinent doctrines associated with the bread and the cup.

THE BREAD

"This is my body, which is given for you this do in remembrance of me." (Luke 22:19)

Virgin Birth (Without Adamic Sin) *"The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; and for that reason the holy offspring shall be called the Son of God."* (Luke 1:31-35)

Impeccable (Without Personal Sin) *"He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him."* (2 Corinthians 5:21)

Hypostatic Union (God/Man) *"Who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross."* (Philippians 2:6-8)

Celebrityship

- **Head of the church** *"He is also head of the body, the church; and He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; so that He Himself might come to have first place in everything."* (Colossians 1:18)
- **Savior of the body** *"For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the church, He Himself being the Savior of the body."* (Ephesians 5:23)
- **High Priest** *"Now the main point in what has been said is this: we have such a high priest, who has taken His seat at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens."* (Hebrews 8:1)
- **Advocate** *"My little children, I am writing these things to you that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and He Himself is the propitiation for our sins; and not for ours only, but also for those of the whole world."* (1 John 2:1-2)
- **Chief Shepherd** *"And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory."* (1 Peter 5:4)
- **Guardian of the Soul** *"For you were continually straying like sheep, but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Guardian of your souls."* (1 Peter 2:25)
- **Mediator** *"For there is one God, and one mediator also between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself as a ransom for all, the testimony borne at the proper time."* (1 Timothy 2:5-6)

THE CUP

"This cup is the new testament in my blood which is shed for you." (Luke 22:20)

Redemption (Purchased from the slave market of sin) *"In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace."* (Ephesians 1:7)

Reconciliation (Made right with God) *"and through Him to reconcile all things to Himself, having made peace through the blood of His cross; through Him."* (Colossians 1:20)

Justification (The justice of God is satisfied) *Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him."* (Romans 5: 8-9)

Propitiation (Christ took our place and appeased the wrath of God) *"being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus; whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith."* (Romans 3:24-26)

Forgiveness (Our sins, imputed, inherited and sin nature) *"And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you."* (Ephesians 4:32)

Cleansing (From all sin, past, present, future) *the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."* (1 John 1:7-9)

New Covenant (Church Age) *"And in the same way He took the cup after they had eaten, saying, "This cup which is poured out for you is the new covenant in My blood."* (Luke 22:20)

Victory in the Angelic Conflict (Overcome Satan) *"And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, "Now the salvation, and the power, and the kingdom of our God and the authority of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren has been thrown down, who accuses them before our God day and night And they overcame him because of the blood of the Lamb and because of the word of their testimony, and they did not love their life even to death."* (Revelations 12:10-11)

Peace with God *"Therefore having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,"* (Romans 5:1)

THE EUCHARIST SERVICE

Read 1 Corinthians 11:23-31

Eucharist is only for believers. Believers are commanded to participate. Unbelievers can participate after they believe that Lord Jesus Christ died for their sins, was buried and raised again the third day.
They can do this right now! (God I believe!)

Believers are to be in fellowship through confession of personal sin (1 John 1:9).

When each element is given, hold it until all are served and then take it together.

Special prayer for the Bread and for the Cup.

Hymn – Amazing Grace.



Advanced Training... **Review**

GOD'S PROMISE

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." (Philippians 4:13)

VICTORY LIFE

1. What is the Christian told to put on to stand firm against the devil? (Ephesians 6:11)

2. Satan has two ways of attack.
(1 Peter 5:8) _____
(2 Corinthians 11:14) _____
3. On which piece of armor does everything in the Christian life hinge? (Ephesians 6:14)

4. Name the pieces of equipment that God has provided for victory. (Ephesians 6:14-17)

5. What is an effective warrior prepared to share when witnessing? (Ephesians 6:15)

GOD'S PROMISE: *"For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith."* (1 John 5:4)

PRAYER LIFE

1. Who is able to reach God through prayer? (John 1:12)

2. What hinders a believer's prayer from reaching God? (Psalm 66:18)

3. Before a believer prays what must he do about any sin in his life? (1 John 1:9)

4. To whom is prayer addressed? (Matthew 6:9)

5. In whose name? (John 14:13)

GOD'S PROMISE: *"If you abide in me and my words abide in you, ask for what ever you wish, and it will be done for you."* John 15:7

AMBASSADOR LIFE

1. What sovereign person does the believer represent? (Ephesians 2:19)

2. What is the ministry of the ambassador of Christ? (2 Corinthians 5:18)

3. What is the message of reconciliation? (1 Corinthians 15:3-4)

4. Why do people need to be reconciled to God? (Romans 3:10-12)

5. Who is the ambassador's enemy? (Ephesians 6:10-17)

GOD'S PROMISE: *"Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God."* (2 Corinthians 5:20)

WITNESSING LIFE

1. What are the two sources for a Christian's witness?

2 Corinthians 3:3 _____

2 Corinthians 5:14-21 _____

2. Where is a Christian to witness? (Acts 1:8)

3. What is the gospel (Good News of death burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ) that a Christian is to share? (1 Corinthians 15:3-4)

4. Where does the gospel get its power to save? (Romans 1:16)

5. How can a person know for sure that they have eternal life? (1 John 5:13)

GOD'S PROMISE: *"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."* (Acts 1:8)

SUMMARY

GOD HAS A THREE-STEP PLAN FOR MANKIND

1. *"Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and you shall be saved."* (Acts 16:31)

What must a person believe? 1 Corinthians 15:3-4

Have you put your trust in Jesus Christ as your Savior and made Him Lord of your life?

If so, when _____ and where _____?

If not, what are you waiting for? _____

2. *"Walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desires of the flesh."* (Galatians 5:16)
According to 1 John 1:9, what must a person do to be able to walk in the Spirit? What does it say God will do as a result of confessing sin?

3. *"Grow in grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ"* (2 Peter 3:18).

Closing Christian Warrior... Comments

by Chuck Farmer

AVOID BEING A CASUALTY IN THE BATTLE FOR SOULS.

"Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against the spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand." Ephesians 6:11-13.

In the spiritual war, the objective is to avoid becoming a casualty. Basic orientation to the battle requires that we remember two things which Paul reveals in these verses.

THE ENEMY AND HIS STRATEGY

The Enemy. Our spiritual enemy is the devil and his hosts of demons. We read of his rebellion in Isaiah 14:12-15 and in Ezekiel 28:11-19. We learn of the revolt of Lucifer, mightiest of the angels. He is called, *"The anointed cherub that covereth"* whom God had created as *"the seal of perfection"* in wisdom and beauty. His unique position was *"on the holy mountain of God"*, which speaks of God's throne-room. His covering of precious stones and his relation to music implies that he was the High priest of the angels, leading them in the worship of God. Lucifer declares his intention to exalt himself above the throne of God and make himself *"like the Most High."* And so it was that Lucifer, *"son of the morning"* became *"The great dragon...that old serpent...called the devil and Satan"* (Revelations 12:9).

However, when Satan was cast out he was not alone. He had deceived one third of the angels into joining in his rebellion (Revelations 12:4). These fallen angels who became demons make up the armies of which Paul speaks in Ephesians 6:12.

The Strategy. Satan's strategy to oppose God brought this invisible conflict into the human race. Starting with the temptation of Eve, and the fall of Adam, and Cain and Able (Genesis 3,4). Since God had given Adam dominion over the whole earth, his fall passed this rule to the devil, who then became *"the god of this world"* (2 Corinthians 4:4). On his continuing quest to exalt himself in God's likeness, the Devil chose to counterfeit everything divine. In the place of faith, which depends totally on a Holy and Loving God, the devil substitutes religion, which tells man what he can do to improve himself. In this way the lust for self-exaltation is passed from fallen angel to fallen man. Religion, in whatever form it takes, is the devil's chief strategy to keep men from coming to God in faith in Jesus Christ.

Because Abel believed God's promise of a coming Redeemer (Genesis 3:15), he offered as the evidence of his faith a lamb from the flock. By doing this he was depicting his trust in the one and only *"Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world"* (John 1:29). But Cain chose the way of religion in rejecting the need for the sacrificial element in man's redemption, he fell for the lie of the devil, that the fruit of his own labor was sufficient. Because his "religion" was rejected by God, Cain revealed the diabolical side of religion by killing Abel his brother (1 John 3:12).

By a multitude of religions the devil *"deceives the nations"* (Revelations 20:3,8,10) and leads men away from simple faith in Jesus Christ, the Son of God. The Bible tells us that the cross of Christ is the only means of our souls salvation. *"Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and you shall be saved"*, (Acts 16:31). Satan says, through religion, *"trust in your ability to reform and improve yourself"*.

For those who have entered the family of God by faith in Jesus Christ, the devil's tactics remain the same:

- He orchestrates his false ministers (2 Corinthians 11:13-15; 2 Peter 2:1-3).
- He proclaims a false gospel (2 Corinthians 11:3-4; Galatians 1:8-9).
- He teaches false doctrines (1 Timothy 1:4; 2 Timothy 3:5, 4:3-4)
- He tries to lead the believer astray from the path of simple faith and obedience in God's word.

Once we know our enemy and are wise to his strategy, *"for we are not ignorant of his devices"* (2 Cor. 2:11), we will be able to avoid deception and overcome his tactics. *"Greater is He who is in us than he who is in the world"* (1 John 4:4).

Be a victor not a victim. There are two keys to spiritual victory:

1. "putting on" the whole armor of God. This is accomplished by living faith day by day. The life-style of discipleship is contained in the disciplines portrayed by the armor. As we trust God in each of these areas, we are *"walking by faith, and not by sight"*, (2 Corinthians 5:7). In every decision and action, we are looking to our Father in heaven for guidance and strength. We trust in His word and rely on His indwelling Spirit for enabling power to do His will.

Once the armor is put on, we come to the second phase of attaining the victory.

2. "stand firm!" When the child of God, by simple faith, chooses to stand on the word of God, regardless of the cost, he cannot help but win.

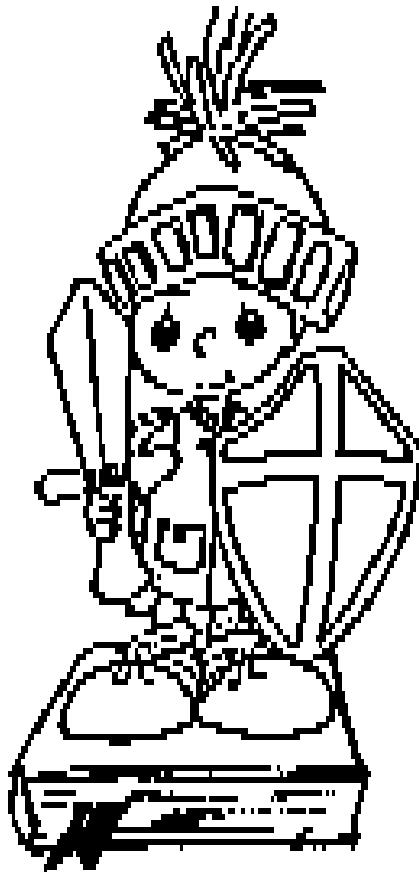
As long as you stand firm by faith on the word of God, you will never *"give place to the devil,"* (Ephesians 4:27), and you cannot lose in your personal arena of life (Romans 4:18-21).

As we "stand firm", we will expand the borders of His Kingdom seeing souls *"delivered from the power of darkness and transferred into the kingdom of His dear Son,"* (Colossians 1:13).

By standing firm we will conduct ourselves as *"good soldiers of Christ Jesus"* (2 Timothy 2:3), and *"fight the good fight"* (1 Timothy 1:18, 6:12; 2 Timothy 4:7-8).

Get the reward. At the battles end, we will stand before our Commander-in Chief, the Lord Jesus Christ, and hear his commendation, "well done". It will be reward enough!

"STETE" **(STAND FIRM)**



This completes our study of the Christian Warrior.