

Welcome To....

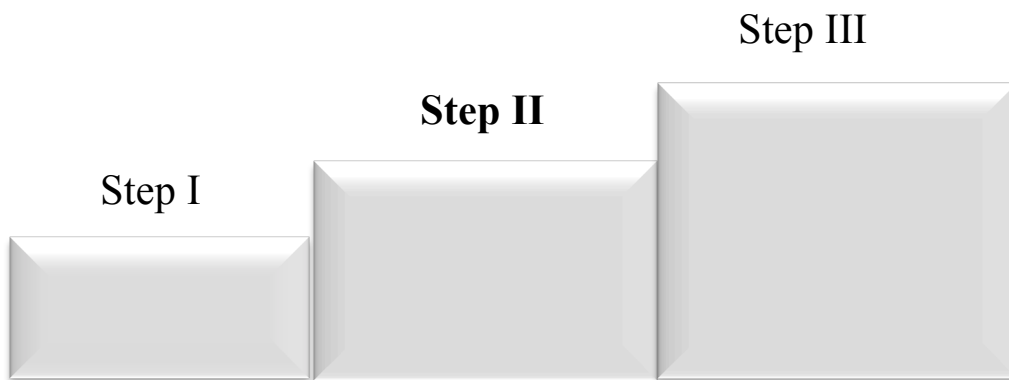


and

STEP TWO

of

“Three Steps Toward Christian Maturity”



“Accelerated Growth and Discipleship”

Step II is especially designed for **enjoying God and sharing His Word**, soul winning discipleship, and also serves as the Lay Minister’s Intern Class.

LESSON I
The Bible And You

This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day in night, that thou mayest observe to do according to that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success. Joshua 1:8

Just as physical life requires food, rest, and exercise, spiritual life requires certain things for growth. Without food for the physical body, one becomes weak and ill. Lack of spiritual food will produce the same results in our spiritual lives. The Word of God the Bible, is our “spiritual” menu.

1. What do we learn from the following verses?

- a. 1 Peter 2:2,3 _____

- b. Matthew 4:4 _____

- c. Ecclesiastes 12:13 _____

2. When we take the time to regularly study the Word of God, it produces fruit in our lives. Make a list of the fruit from the following verses:

- a. Isaiah 26:3,4 _____
- b. 1 John 2:5 _____
- c. Nehemiah 8:10 _____
- d. 2 Timothy 1:7 _____
- e. 2 Timothy 2:15 _____

3. Explain Hebrews 4:12

4. List at least four things that the Word of God will do for you to help you live the Christian life. (See 2 Timothy 3:16,17 and Romans 15:4)

5. According to Psalm 119:105, how does the Bible give us guidance?

6. How can a believer keep from sin, according to Psalm 119:9-11?

7. Explain Romans 10:17

8. Obeying the Word of God is necessary before it can work in your life.

9. List some of the benefits of obedience from the following passages of scriptures:

a. John 14:21 _____

b. John 15:4,5 _____

c. James 1:22-25 _____

d. Jeremiah 7:2 _____

LESSON II

The Bible

The two most important things in the life of a Christian are the Bible and the filling of the Holy Spirit. WE will talk later about the filling of the Holy Spirit. Let's get a good view of the Bible. Here's what God's promise is to you.

1. How can we be assured of our salvation? List some key words from the following passages of scripture.

a. 1 John 5:11-13 _____

b. Revelation 3:20 _____

c. Romans 10:9 _____

2. How do we know that the Bible gives us confidence and power in prayer? See Matthew 4:1-11 and John 15:7

3. The Bible teaches us about cleansing from sin. Support this statement using the following verses:

a. John 15:3 _____

b. 1 John 1:7-9 _____

c. Psalm 51:1-10 _____

4. According to John 15:11, why did Jesus say He spoke the Word of God to us?

If you read the writings of men, or look at the problems that surround you, your joy will turn to fear, dread, and even depression. Be safe on the alert. The WORD brings JOY.

5. Write out and Memorize 2 Timothy 1:7.

6. What do the following verses say about peace?

a. John 14:27 _____

b. Colossians 3:15 _____

c. Philippians 4:6, 7 _____

7. Support this statement: "The Bible gives us guidance when we need to make life's decisions."

a. Psalm 119:105 _____

b. Proverbs 3:5,6 _____

c. James 1:5 _____

8. According to John 17:8, how does the Bible enable you to exercise your faith?

9. The Bible guarantees your success if you follow certain commands. What are they?

LESSON III
Know What You Believe

Loveland is made up of people who have come from many different backgrounds. Many people have no church background and have come and given their lives to the Lord Jesus Christ through the evangelistic emphasis at Loveland. Others have come from Baptist, Pentecostal, Evangelical, Catholic, or Muslim backgrounds into Christ. With the various backgrounds, it's important to know what you believe.

1. God is "just". What is His attitude toward sinners?

- a. Romans 3:19 _____
- b. Romans 6:23 _____

2. God is "love", but people still go to Hell. Has God made any provision to stop this?

- a. Romans 5:8 _____
- b. Ephesians 2:4,5 _____

3. What about those who have never heard the name of Jesus? How do they know about God? (See Romans 1:18-20 and Psalm 19:1)

4. What does the Bible reveal about the Trinity?

- a. 1 John 5:7 _____
- b. John 1:1 _____
- c. 1 Peter 1:2 _____
- d. Hebrews 1:8,9 _____

5. What does the Bible say about angels in Hebrews 1:14?

6. What does the Bible say about Creation in the following verse?

- a. Colossians 1:16 _____

- b. John 1:3 _____
- c. Genesis 3:17-19 _____
- d. Romans 8:22 _____

7. What does the bible teach about the creation of man? (See Genesis 1:26,27;Psalm 100:3; Psalm 119:73 and Psalm 139:13-16)

8. Man has an inherited a sin nature. Support this statement from Ephesians 2:3 and Romans 5:12, 19.

9. What does the Bible teach us about the natural man’s intellect, heart, and total being?

- a. 2 Corinthians 4:3,4; Romans 1:28 _____
- b. Mark 7:20-23 _____
- c. Isaiah 53:6 _____

10. What does the Bible teach us concerning racial or sexual partiality in Galatians 3:28, Colossians 3:11, and Acts 10:28, 34, 35?

LESSON IV

Fellowship

Loveland is an exciting fellowship. There's a reason why people come together and a reason why they enjoy fellowship at the church. Let's study fellowship and find out what the reasons may be.

1. According to Acts 2:46, 47; Matthew 18:20; and Hebrews 10:24, 25, what is fellowship?

2. Why is fellowship so important according to 1 Corinthians 12:13-27 and Romans 12:4, 5?

3. What are some results of quality fellowship? Make a list from the following verses.

- a. Romans 12:10-16 _____
- b. Philippians 2:4 _____
- c. 2 Timothy 2:2 _____

4. What are some of the results of the lack of fellowship, according to Romans 16:17; 1 Corinthians 3:1-3; 2 Thessalonians 3:10, 11?

5. What determines the depth of our fellowship with God? See Matthew 5:6, 6:33; 1 Peter 2:2; Hebrews 11:6

6. What determines the depth of our fellowship with each other? See James 5:16, Proverbs 11:13, 25; Philippians 2:3, 4; Romans 15:1; Romans 14:13.

7. How is fellowship with God broken, according to 2 Corinthians 6:14-16; Ephesians 4:30; and Psalm 66:18?

8. According to 1 John 1:9 and James 4:8, how is this fellowship restored?

9. What is an area of Christian fellowship that is not often exercised? See Galatians 5:13, 14; 1 John 4:20, 21; 1 John 3:17, 18.

10. How is broken fellowship with other Christians restored, according to Colossians 3:12-14; Galatians 6:1-2; and James 5:16?

LESSON V

Your Quiet Time

The only way to get to know God better is through spending time alone with Him (reading his Word and conversing with Him in prayer). This time is called “private devotion” or “quiet time”.

Many People suggest that the morning is the best time because you are refreshed and have not become involved in the day’s activities. Others prefer the evening and the stillness after a busy day’s activities. Whatever time you choose, be consistent. Meet with God at a regular time and place each day.

1. We need to follow Jesus’ example. He prayed consistently and constantly. List some of the times and places He prayed.

- a. Mark 1:35 _____
- b. Matthew 14:23 _____
- c. Luke 6:12 _____

2. List some reasons why it is important for us to have a consistent quiet time, according to following verses.

- a. Matthew 6:33 _____
- b. 2 Timothy 2:15 _____
- c. Matthew 6:5-8 _____

3. What are some of the benefits we receive when we spend time alone with God?

- a. Jeremiah 33:3 _____
- b. 1 John 5:14,15 _____
- c. Jeremiah 29:11-13 _____
- d. James 1:5 _____

4. Read Isaiah 40:31.

- a. What does the phrase “Wait on the Lord” mean?

b. Explain the following phrases:

1) "Mount up with wings as eagles" _____

2) "Run and not be weary" _____

3) "Walk and not faint" _____

5. What is the chief purpose of prayer, according to James 4:8; Psalm 145:18, 19; Hebrews 4:15, 16?

6. What two ingredients did the early church include in their quiet time in Acts 6:4?

7. Explain Psalm 5:1-3

8. When is God available to spend time alone with us? See Psalm 55:17

9. List some of the benefits of prayer in our quiet time from 2 Chronicles 7:14 and 2 Chronicles 6:30-31.

10. What is increased by spending time alone with God and alone in the Bible?

a. 2 Timothy 3:17 _____

- b. Philippians 2:13 _____
- c. Galatians 5:22-25 _____
- d. Ephesians 6:10-13 _____

LESSON VI

Making Your Quiet Time Effective

Start with a short prayer, asking God's blessing on your time with Him. Even if you don't feel like having a quiet time, pray anyway and ask God to increase your desire to be with Him. He knows exactly how you feel.

Read something from His word.

- 1. If you are just getting acquainted with the Bible, you'll probably want to start with the Gospel of John. This will help you to get to know Jesus as a man, and as your Savior, as you read the Bible.**
- 2. The psalms (or songs) of praise, worship, and wisdom are a delight to God. You may simple want to read one back to Him. Here are some suggestions:**

Psalms 8, 9, 19, 27, 30, 60, 100, 103, 150.

There are many others that will become meaningful to you personally as you read through the Psalms.

- 3. There are 31 Proverbs and 30 or 31 days in all the months except February. Therefore you can read one a day every month. Don't worry. You will never become bored –or ever learn at all!**

Prayer.

- 4. From the following verses, make a list of ways we should pray.**

- Matthew 6:6,7 _____
- James 1:6-8 _____
- Matthew 5:23,24 _____
- I Thessalonians 5:17 _____

In our private times with God in prayer and Bible study, men and women can be brought to Christ, Christians strengthened, holiness deeply rooted into lives, circumstances altered, tragedies averted, perplexing problems solved, governments and kingdoms overturned, and the forces of evil defeated and left helpless. We have such a great privilege and such power in prayer.

5. We experience these things by faith. Explain Hebrews 11:6.

LESSON VII

Bible Study

Because of the excitement in the air and the emphasis on the Word of God and the Will of God at Loveland, it can be tempting to not put enough emphasis on personal Bible study. Oftentimes we wonder how to enjoy the Word of God in our personal time like we enjoy it in the worship services. It should be understood these are two different modes and should be approached with that in mind.

This lesson is designed to show you how to have an effective Bible study. Many have discovered that this simple outline will challenge them to really get the most out of what they are studying. In order to use this effectively you will need a notebook to record what you are studying.

I. Key Verse

When studying a passage look for the verse that seems to summarize the whole passage, or the verse that means the most to you. Write it down.

II. Summarize

Write a summary of the verses read. Put them in your own words using no more than two paragraphs.

III. Highlights

- a. Which verses stood out to me?
- b. How can I explain them in my own words?

IV. What Is God Saying To Me?

- a. What is the Holy Spirit saying to my heart?
- b. What is the truth of the passage that God wants me to learn?

V. What Am I Going To Do About It?

Ask yourself how you can apply the truth you have learned to your daily life, especially to some circumstance or problem which you are currently experiencing.

Assignment:

Using this method of Bible study, read Romans 8:26-39.

LESSON VIII

What Is Soul Winning?

We are commanded by Christ to be witnesses of him (Acts1:8).

1. Explain Matthew 4:19 in your own words.

How does this relate to Luke 24:46-48 and Mark 16:15?

2. What do we offer to others when we present Jesus Christ to them?

- a. 1 John 5:11-12 _____
- b. Colossians 1:14 _____
- c. 2 Corinthians 5:17 _____
- d. John 14:27 _____
- e. John 10:10 _____
- f. John 10:28 _____
- g. John 1:12 _____

3. Read Romans 1:16 and 2 Timothy 1:7-8. Why should we not be ashamed of the good news?

4. Even though we may be nervous while witnessing, what is our strength according to 1 Corinthians 2:1-5?

5. To whom should we witness according to Acts 20:21?

6. Witnessing is simply sharing Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit and leaving the results to God. Therefore, if you present Christ to someone and he refuses to accept Him, have you you're your part?

7. According to Romans 10:14-15, what is your responsibility as a soul winner?

8. List at least two things Christ has done for the lost soul according to 2 Corinthians 5:14-15.

Challenge to witness...

You and I do not want to witness! Is that not the case? Satan is interested in keeping us from being vital, and you can be certain that his fifth column agent within us (the old nature) is working with the enemy of our souls to defeat us here. You may even feel fatigued, sick, rushed, worried...but Christ feels wonderful. Give Him a chance. If your heart is cold, think of all Christ has done for you and what it would mean if one of your friends came to know Him too.

LESSON IX
Why Win Souls?

Although we have a knowledge of what witnessing is and even though we know that it is a command of Christ, not all of us are necessarily convinced of the need to witness. Therefore we allow excuses to keep us from witnessing. "I'm just too busy", "He won't want to hear what I have to say", ... "It's more important for me to live the Christian life than to say anything anyway"...and the list goes on.

1. Why did Jesus Christ come according to Luke 19:10?

2. Why must we point the lost to Jesus? Consider John 14:6; Acts 4:12; and 1 Timothy 2:5.

3. Read Matthew 9:37-38 and John 4:35-39

a. Do people want to hear about God? _____

b. What part do you play during harvest? _____

4. What two important ingredients does the Holy Spirit promise to give believers according to Acts 1:8?

a. _____

b. _____

5. What did the early church do after they received power? See 8:4 and 15:35.

6. According to Acts 2:41, 47, how did the Lord honor the faithfulness of the early church?

C.T. Studd, Missionary to China, Africa, and India:

“If Christ be God and he died for me, then there is nothing too great that I can do for Him.”

Jim Elliot, martyred by the Auca Indians of Ecuador:

“Lord, pour out my life as an oblation for the world. Blood is only of value as it flows before Thine altar.”

7. List other reasons why it is so important to win others to Christ.

- a. Mark 16:15; John 14:21 _____
- b. Ezekiel 3:18 _____
- c. 2 Corinthians 12:15; 1 Thessalonians 2:8 _____
- d. John 15:8 _____
- e. John 15:16 _____

LESSON X

Sharing The Four Spiritual Laws

A. Benefits of using The Four Spiritual Laws

1. It provides a means by which you can share your faith naturally and easily. You can open a conversation simply by asking “Have you heard of the Four Spiritual Laws?”
2. It begins with a positive, “God loves you”.
3. It presents the claims of Christ clearly.
4. It includes an invitation to receive Christ.
5. It offers suggestions for growth, including the importance of the church.
6. It gives you confidence because you know what you are going to say and how you are going to say it. It enables you to always be prepared.
7. It enables you to stay on the subject...to lead the conversation.
8. It enables you to be brief. Learn to present the Four Spiritual Laws without unnecessary comments.
9. It represents a “transferable technique”(something you can share with others). A new Christian can use the book to share with others.

B. Introducing The Four Spiritual Laws

Effective ways to introduce:

1. Have you heard of the Four Spiritual Laws?
2. Would you help me by giving me your opinion of the Four Spiritual Laws?
3. My name is _____ and this is called the Four Spiritual Laws. May I share it with you?
4. My name is _____ and this is _____. We are from Loveland and would like to get your opinion of this little booklet called the Four Spiritual Laws. May I share it with you?

5. **This little booklet called the Four Spiritual Laws contains the best news I have ever heard...may I/we share it with you?**
6. **This little booklet is about God's love to mankind...may I/we share it with you?**

C. Presenting The Four Spiritual Laws

1. **Be sensitive to an individual's interest and the leading of the Holy Spirit.**
2. **The simplest way to share the Four Spiritual Laws is to read the booklet aloud as written.**
3. **Seek to communicate in a natural way. Remember, the individual is listening and thinking along with you so share with this in mind.**
4. **When questions come up that would change the subject, explain that most questions are answered as you go through the Four Spiritual Laws, or say, "That's a good question; let's talk about it after we have read through the Four Spiritual laws." Whenever possible seek to answer such questions by referring to specific passages in the Bible. Remember, the Holy Spirit uses the Word of God, not our opinionated views or human logic.**
5. **If there seems to be no response, stop and ask, "Is this making sense?" or some similar question to hold the interest of the listener.**
6. **Hold the booklet so it can be seen clearly. Use a pen to focus in on key points. This will help to hold the interest of the listener.**
7. **In a group give each person a Four Spiritual Laws booklet. Pray with those who are interested in receiving Christ. If only one is interested, be sensitive, and in most cases talk with him privately.**
8. **If someone has already heard of the Four Spiritual Laws, ask him what he thought of them, and if he has any questions. If he is interested, and the Gospel is not clear, go over the Four Spiritual Laws again.**

LESSON XI

Sharing The Four Spiritual Laws

I. Role Play

II. Responding to Questions in the Four Spiritual Laws

A. “Which circle represents your life?”

- 1. If the person says his life is represented by the circle on the left, simply move on to the next question.**
- 2. If the person says he is not sure or in-between, simply continue, moving on to the next question.**
- 3. If the person says his life is represented by the circle on the right:**
 - a. Ask him how he knows this is true. Then go through the prayer with him, as in “c” below.
 - b. Tell him that you would like to finish the booklet so that he can also use it to share his faith with someone else.
 - c. Ask him to read the prayer and then tell you if he has ever received Christ into his life in the manner expressed in the prayer. If he has not, give him as opportunity to invite Christ into his life right then.

Not everyone who says e is in the circle on the right actually is. Sometimes, people do not understand what you mean or have different definitions for the same word. By using this approach and going through the prayer, you can help others to be sure of their relationship to Christ.

B. “Which circle would you like to have represent your life?”

- 1. If the person says the one on the right, simply continue in prayer.**
- 2. If the person says that he is not sure:**
 - a. Maintain a positive and loving attitude and tell him that when he is ready, you would like to show him how he can invite Christ into his life.
 - b. Ask him if it is all right for you to finish the booklet since you are almost finished.

3. If the person says the one on the left, follow the same procedure as in response #2 above.

LESSON XII

The Prayer Room Counselor

Each Sunday an invitation to receive Christ is extended at the end of worship celebration. At that time people stand and make their way to the aisles and come down front to receive Christ. At the same time, prayer room counselors who are members of the church who have been in Step @ also come forward to help in counseling these new Christians. You are needed as a prayer room counselor and your services will have eternal benefits. First, let's understand why we have prayer room counselors.

1. The church is headed by Jesus Christ, who showed us how to evangelize and teach; and who by His life and instruction pointed us to the practical, as well as the theoretical aspects of Christianity. Jesus summarized his teaching in two laws. What are these laws? (Matthew 22:37-40)

a. _____

b. _____

2. We first demonstrate the principles of the church in the prayer room. As a prayer room counselor, you are the first picture of body life presented to the new believer. What should the new believer see? (john 13:34-35)

3. Study John 14. Basic to Jesus' style of helping was his personality. In His teaching, caring, and counseling, He demonstrated those traits, attitudes, and values, which made him effective as a people helper, and which serves as a model for us.

Jesus was absolutely honest, deeply compassionate, highly sensitive, and spiritually mature. He was committed to serving His fellow human beings, prepared for His work through frequent periods of prayer and meditation, was very familiar with Scripture, and sought to help needy people turn to him where they could find ultimate peace, hope and security.

4. As an example of the need for helping, the words "one another" appear in the Bible many times. What instructions do we receive from the following verses?

a. Romans 14:19 _____

- b. Romans 15:7 _____
- c. Romans 12:10 _____
- d. Galatians 5:13 _____
- e. Galatians 6:2 _____
- f. Ephesians 4:32 _____
- g. Colossians 3:16 _____
- h. I Thessalonians 5:11 _____
- i. James 5:16 _____
- j. I John 4:7 _____

5. As believers in the Lord Jesus Christ, what are we called to do? (Matt.28:19-20)

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____

While these instructions clearly extend beyond prayer room counseling, they are certainly inclusive of what is included in the “love” and “building up” ministry of the church. The prayer room is the beginning of this process.

It is well known that some people are better counselors than others. This raises an important basic question...is it possible for every Christian to be an effective counselor? Or is counseling a gift which is reserved for selected members in the body of Christ?

According to the Bible, all believers should have compassionate concern for their fellow human beings, but from that it does not follow that all believers are, or can become, gifted counselors.

In this respect, counseling is like teaching. Every parent has a responsibility for teaching children, but only some are especially gifted as teachers.

The prayer room counselor has accepted the responsibility of “parenting”. We begin the spiritual “training up process” (Proverbs22:6) in the prayer room.

LESSON XIII

Introduction to Discipleship

A disciple is one who has committed his life to serving and learning from the Lord Jesus Christ.

Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary defines a disciple as "one who accepts and assists in spreading the doctrines of another". In the Greek, it indicates one who has directed his mind towards something. A disciple is someone who is following another.

As Christians, we are followers of Jesus Christ. Therefore, we are His disciples.

1. Read 2 Timothy 1:13, 2:2, 3:10, 14.

- a. How was Timothy taught?
- b. What was expected out of Timothy regarding the things he had learned?

2. Read Matthew 28:16-20

- a. What is the commission given in verses 19 and 20?
- b. How is Philippians 4:9 related to verse 20?
- c. What does this say about your life as a Christian if you are going to disciple others?

As disciplers, we are teaching others to follow Jesus. It becomes our responsibility to live as Christ commanded.

3. Explain Ephesians 5:1-10

4. How does this relate to verses 15-21

5. What is the price of discipleship, according to Luke 14:26, 27, 33?

6. What does Jesus mean by the word “hate” in Luke 14:26 (See Matthew 10:37)

7. Read John 15:1-16

a. What does the word “fruit” mean?

b. How do you “bring forth fruit”

c. How can you be certain that you will have “much” fruit?

d. Ask yourself, “Since I became a Christian, how much fruit have I had?”