

The Great Questions of Life



THE GREAT QUESTIONS OF LIFE

Dear Friend,

Do you sometimes wonder what life is all about? Why you were born? How do you find happiness? If so, these six lessons will be very helpful to you. The six studies are:

- 1. What's Happening to the World?**
- 2. What's the Truth About God?**
- 3. What's Life All About?**
- 4. How Can You Meet Your Greatest Need?**
- 5. What Happens After Death?**
- 6. What Is the True Church?**

Although the first lesson is complete in itself, it serves also as an introduction to the other lessons. These lessons answer the great questions that every person asks about life.

Each lesson is carefully designed to help you better understand the content. Scripture memorization and study questions are an important part of this design. Please take time to memorize the Scripture verses and answer the study questions in each lesson.

As you complete a lesson, turn to the Lesson Review Questions at the end of this booklet and answer the review questions for that lesson. Do the same as you complete each lesson. When you finish all six lessons and answer the questions for each lesson, mail the Lesson Review Questions to the address provided at the end of your booklet. Then we will mail you a certificate of completion.

As you might imagine, finding the answers to life's great questions will require some effort on your part. However, you will find that these lessons are interesting and easily understood.

We will be happy to receive your personal letters. Ask any questions that may come to your mind during the course of this study. We will always be glad to hear from you!

Welcome to the Global University family.

~The Director

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WHAT'S HAPPENING TO THE WORLD?

IN THIS LESSON YOU WILL STUDY

- *How Can You Know the Truth?*
- *How Did the World Begin?*
- *What Went Wrong With the World?*
- *Is There Any Hope for the World?*

PART 1

HOW CAN YOU KNOW THE TRUTH?

Science, History and Observation

You can learn many wonderful things about the world and its people through science, history, and observation. However, you cannot learn the answers to many of the great questions of life from these sources. They do not tell how life began, what its purpose is, and what the future holds.

The Bible

Only the One who made the world can tell you how He did it and why. He tells us the truth about these things in His book, the Holy Bible. It is a book of instructions for living in this world.

This Course — The Great Questions of Life

These lessons are based on the Bible. They quote from it some of the many verses that answer your questions. Before each quotation is the reference: the name of the book, chapter, and verse where the words are found in the Bible.



There are many different translations of the Bible from the languages in which it was first written. The words here may be different from those in your Bible. They are from the King James Version and Today's English Version (also called the Good News Bible).

PART 2

HOW DID THE WORLD BEGIN?

Did It Just Happen?

Do you ever ask yourself, "Where did the world come from? Did it just happen? Or did a great mind plan it and a great power make it?"

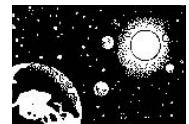
When you see a bicycle, a car, or an airplane, you know that it couldn't have just happened. Someone planned it and made it so that it would operate according to fixed rules.

The World Was Made According to a Plan

The world and everything in it functions according to fixed patterns that we call the laws of nature. The more science discovers about these laws, the more sure we are that Someone planned every detail of the universe, made it, and keeps it functioning according to His plan. That Someone is God, the all-powerful and all-wise Creator. He is the Lord, or Ruler, of the Universe.

Memorize This

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



John 1:3. *All things were made by him.*

God Made a Perfect World

God created the sun, moon, stars, and earth. He fixed their orbits so they would not crash into one another. He ordered the exact distance of the earth from the sun—not too close, or everything would burn up; not too far away, or we would freeze. Ocean and land were in perfect proportions, and the atmosphere was just right. Then God made the living things. Last of all He created man and put him in a beautiful, wonderful world.



Memorize This

Genesis 1:31. *And God saw everything that He had made, and . . . it was very good.*

Why God Made the World

God made the world for His own enjoyment. He created the human family to be His children that He would love and enjoy. He made the earth for their home. God would enjoy the beauty and the orderliness of His universe, but most of all He would take pleasure in the love of His children.



Revelation 4:11. You have created all things, and for your pleasure they are and were created.

Psalms 149:4. The Lord takes pleasure in his people.

God wanted His children to be like Himself and to share in His work. So He gave Adam and Eve, the first man and woman, a nature like His own in many ways. God would teach them. With His help, mankind would rule over the earth.

Genesis 1:26. And God said, Let us make man in our image . . . and let them have dominion . . . over all the earth.

For You to Do

- What book tells us how and why the world was made?
- Who set the patterns for life that we call the laws of nature?
- For whose pleasure was the world created?
- Was the world good or bad?
- God gave Adam and Eve a nature that is like.....
- God wanted the human family to enjoy His love and be His.....
- With the help of..... mankind was to rule over the

**Check your answers by looking back over the section you just studied.
Correct any that are wrong.**

PART 3

WHAT WENT WRONG WITH THE WORLD?

Something Went Wrong

Look around and you will see suffering, sorrow, quarrels, violence, war, hunger, and death. The world is not perfect now. What went wrong? This once-perfect world has been spoiled by an enemy of God and by man himself.

God's Enemy

God has an enemy called Satan, or the devil. He was made by God, but he became proud and rebellious. Now Satan is against everything that God is for . . . God is good; Satan fights good with evil. God wants to help us; Satan tries to destroy us. God wants to enjoy man's love and fellowship, but the devil tries to separate us from God. Satan tries to make us follow him instead of God.

Man's Sin

Satan told Adam and Eve lies about God. He persuaded them to sin; that is, to disobey God. God had warned Adam that sin would bring death, because sin separates a person from God. Life comes from God, so separation from Him ends in death. Adam and Eve chose to believe Satan instead of God. They broke God's rules and went their own way with tragic results for the world.

The Effects of Sin

Sin brought disease and death into the world.

Romans 5:12. Sin came into the world through one man, and his sin brought death with it. As a result, death spread to the whole human race, because all men sinned.



Sin has broken the fellowship between God and man. As long as man is rebellious, disobedient, and sinful, he cannot have fellowship with God. Instead of being a servant of God, he is a servant of sin.

Romans 6:16. When you surrender yourselves as slaves to obey someone, you are in fact the slaves of the master you obey—either of sin, which results in death, or of obedience, which results in being put right with God.



By choosing to disobey God, we join Satan’s rebellion and accept his rule. The earth has become a battlefield between God and Satan. You must choose on which side to be.

Your Choice—God’s Way or Satan’s Way

Joshua 24:15. Decide today whom you will serve, . . . As for my family and me, we will serve the Lord.



GOD OFFERS US

In Nature

A Perfect Creation
Abundant Provision
Balance Order

In Our Body

Life and Health
Wholesome Appetites

In Our Thinking, Feeling, and Acting

Wholesome Love
Good Thoughts
Freedom of Choice
Fellowship with God
Obedience
Helpfulness
Happiness Justice
Confidence Peace
Humility Trust
Purpose Wisdom
Truth Creativity
Faith Joy

SATAN OFFERS US

In Nature

A Corrupt Nature
Disorder Poverty
Chaos Hunger

In Our Body

Disease and Death
Vices
Lust
Gluttony

In Our Thinking, Feeling, and Acting

Enslavement to Sin
Separation from God
Rebelliousness
Selfishness Crime
Aimlessness Wars
Bad Thoughts Hatred
Destruction
Sadness
Unbelief Pride
Suspicion Error
Injustice Fears
Fighting Folly

For You to Do

Put an X by everything you want in the chart and a zero (0) by those you don’t want.

- According to what you have marked, would you rather be on the side of God or Satan?

PART 4

IS THERE ANY HOPE FOR THE WORLD?

God Still Cares for the World

God still loves us in spite of our sin. He has made a way to save us from sin, Satan, and eternal death. God still rules the universe and will one day bring the earth back into obedience again.

The Son of God Took Our Punishment

Every person on earth has sinned and has been sentenced to die. We had no way to save ourselves. God loved us so much that He sent His own Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, to take our punishment.



Nearly 2,000 years ago Jesus came to earth and was supernaturally born of a virgin in the land of Palestine. He taught men the truth about God and His love. He did nothing wrong in life. He treated everyone with respect and kindness. Yet he was treated as a criminal, nailed to a cross, and put to death. He died for our sins.

God showed the world that Jesus was His Son by bringing Him back to life after three days. Forty days later Jesus went back to heaven.

Friends of Jesus who saw Him after His resurrection and watched Him go up to heaven have told us about it in the Gospels.

Accepting Jesus Makes Us God’s Children

Since Jesus has taken our punishment, those who accept Him as their Savior are freed from the power of Satan. When we turn away from our sins, God makes us His children and gives us His life.

God urges us to believe in His Son and be saved from sin, but He will not force us to do it.

Romans 5:17. Through the sin of one man death began to rule . . . But how much greater is the result of what was done by the one man, Jesus Christ! All who receive God's abundant grace and the free gift of His righteousness will rule in life through Christ.

Memorize This

John 3:16. For God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not die but have eternal life.



Romans 6:23. For sin pays its wage—death; but God's free gift is eternal life in union with Christ Jesus our Lord.

You Can Live in a Perfect World

One day Jesus is coming back to the world to free it from sin and make everything new. If you accept Him as your Savior now, you will live with Him in complete happiness then. Even now, your life will be better because Jesus will come to live in you so you can do what pleases God. You can begin to enjoy today the blessings that belong to the children of God.

For You to Do

Write your name in the blanks.

For God loved

.....

so much that He gave His only Son, so that

.....

who believes in Him may not die
but have eternal life.

If you want to accept Jesus as your Savior now, pray this prayer.

Prayer

Thank You, God, for loving me and sending Your Son to die for my sins.

I accept Jesus now as my Savior.

All the rest of my life, I want to be on your side and not on Satan's.

Please make me the kind of person that

You want me to be.

CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR COMPLETION OF LESSON 1.

Turn to the Lesson Review Questions at the end of this booklet. Answer the questions for Lesson 1. Then continue with your study of Lesson 2.

May God richly bless you!

WHAT'S THE TRUTH ABOUT GOD?

IN THIS LESSON YOU WILL STUDY

- *Why Should You Know the Truth About God?*
- *How Can You Know the Truth About God?*
- *What Is God Like?*
- *How Does God Want You to Worship Him?*

PART 1

WHY SHOULD YOU KNOW THE TRUTH ABOUT GOD?

You need to know the truth about God:

Because of Who God Is



God is the Creator, the Ruler, and the Judge of the universe. As Creator He has made everything that exists. As Ruler He has certain laws for the good of all His creatures and His world. As Judge He will decide the final reward of men and women according to how they have responded to Him. Since God is your Creator, Ruler, and Judge, you need to know the truth about Him and His plan for you.

God is a loving Father, too; He offers you true joy. You need to know Him to enjoy His love and blessings.

Because It's a Matter of Life or Death for You

God is the Giver of life. He offers you a better, fuller life now and a never-ending perfect life after death.

Memorize This

John 17:3. And this is eternal life: for men to know you, the only true God, and to know Jesus Christ, whom you sent.



Because to Please God, You Must Know Him

God's children love Him and want to please Him. If you have received Jesus as your Savior, you are now a child of God. You will want to know your heavenly Father better every day, and you will want to find out what He likes so you can please Him in all that you do. This is the only way to find real satisfaction in life, because you were created to do the things that please God.

For You to Do

Fill in the blanks.

It is important for me to know the truth about God because

- of God
- it is a matter of or
..... for me.
- to God, I must
Him.
- of John 17:3. And this is
.....: for men to know
you, the
....., and to know
..... whom you
sent.

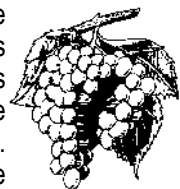
PART 2

HOW CAN YOU KNOW THE TRUTH ABOUT GOD?

By Looking at His Works

You can learn some things about a person by looking at his work. When you look at the world that God has made, you know that He is very wise and powerful.

Romans 1:20. Ever since God created the world, his invisible qualities, both his eternal power and his divine nature, have been clearly seen. Men can perceive them in the things that God has made.



From Others

You can find out the truth about a person from those who know him personally. In the Bible we read thrilling accounts of many people who knew God personally. He talked with them, solved their problems, and supplied their needs. He healed their bodies and gave them strength and joy. God hasn't changed. On every continent today you can find thousands of persons who know and love God. They will tell you how wonderful He is.

1 John 1:3. What we have seen and heard we tell you also, so that you will join with us in the fellowship that we have with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ.



From What He Says

You can know a person by reading his writings and by hearing him talk. God talks to you in the Bible. In it you discover His character, His plans, His feelings, and His love for you.



John 5:39. You study the Scriptures And these very Scriptures speak about me.

Through Personal Experience

You can know a person well by living, talking, and working together with him. God wanted us to know Him in this way, so He sent His Son Jesus Christ to live among men and women. Jesus is just like His Father, so in Him you can see the nature of God. You can know God through Christ.

Hebrews 1:1-3. In the past God spoke to our ancestors many times and in many ways through the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us through his Son. . . . He reflects the brightness of God's glory and is the exact likeness of God's own being.

When you accept Jesus Christ as your Savior, He will reveal God to you. As you talk with Him in prayer and read His Word, you will experience His presence and come to know Him in a way you never dreamed was possible.

John 14:21, 23. My Father will love whoever loves me; I too will love him and reveal myself to him. . . . Whoever loves me will obey my teaching. . . . My Father and I will come to him and live with him.

For You to Do

Listed below are five ways to get acquainted with God. Are you coming to know Him through all of them? Draw a line under those you need to begin to do or do more.

- Appreciating His works in nature
- Listening to those who know God and His Word
- Reading His book, the Bible
- Learning about His Son, Jesus Christ
- Talking with God personally in prayer

PART 3

WHAT IS GOD LIKE?

God Is an Infinite, Eternal Spirit

God is not limited by time, space, and natural laws as we are. He has always existed and always will. He is everywhere. He knows everything and can do anything.

God Is Three Persons in One

Some people think of God as an impersonal force that controls the universe, or as an influence for good. We know that He is a Person because He thinks, feels, and acts.

In fact, the Bible teaches that God is three Persons in one, the Triune God. The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit are just the same in nature, power, and purpose. They work together in perfect harmony as one Person—one God.

Matthew 28:19. Baptize them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.



God Is Love

God is love—love is His nature. He loves everyone. He loves you and wants to give you what is best for you in life. Then He wants you to live with him in His wonderful home in heaven.



1 John 4:8. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love.

God Is Perfect

God is completely good, pure, truthful, and right in all he does. He is generous and kind.

Matthew 5:48. Your Father in heaven is perfect.

God Is Just

God is a righteous judge. This means that He always does what is right. Because He loves everyone, He has made a way for them to know Him through Jesus Christ. He rewards those who accept Jesus by giving them eternal life. Those who reject Jesus and follow Satan receive the punishment God intended for Satan. Through Jesus, He wants to save us from sin and all of its effects. But if we won't let Him, He can only allow us to feel the evil results of our wrong actions.

Psalms 19:9. The judgments of the Lord are just; they are always fair.

Romans 3:26. God shows that he himself is righteous and that he puts right everyone who believes in Jesus.

God Knows Everything

God knows the past, present, and future. He sees, hears, and understands everything that happens. He



knows your thoughts and why you do what you do. God knows what is best for you and wants to help you make the right choices.

Genesis 16:13. Thou God seest me.

1 John 3:20. God . . . knows everything.

God Can Do Anything

The Creator has built into His world certain patterns that we call the laws of nature. Everything

functions according to these patterns. God is above these natural laws and is not bound by them. He does supernatural works called miracles, things that are beyond the power of man or nature.

Jesus did many miracles when He was on earth. He healed the sick, raised the dead, and changed lives. He is still the Great Physician and enjoys making us well in both body and soul.

Matthew 19:26. With God all things are possible.

Exodus 15:26. I am the Lord that heals you.

For You to Do

ONE of the following statements is NOT true. Draw a line through it.

- God loves you and wants to help you.
- God is a righteous judge who punishes sin.
- God is impersonal.
- God sees and knows everything, everywhere.

THINK: Does it make you feel good or uneasy to know that God is watching you? Why?

PART 4

HOW DOES GOD WANT YOU TO WORSHIP HIM?

In worship we show God that we love, honor, and respect Him. We thank Him for what He has done, and we talk with Him. In different churches you will see different ways in which men worship God. How does He want you to worship? What will please Him?

Be Honest and Sincere

You must mean what you say. You must believe in God and be willing to obey Him.

John 4:24. God is Spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and in truth.

Hebrews 11:6. He who comes to God must have faith that God exists and rewards those who seek him.

Worship Only God

Your Creator is the only true God. He does not want you to pray to any other gods, persons, spirits, images, or things.

Exodus 20:3. Worship no god but me.

Acts 14:15; 17:29. We are here... to turn you away from these worthless things to the living God. We should not suppose that God's nature is anything like an image of gold or silver or stone.



Thank the Lord for His Blessings

In song and prayer, and even in the silence of your own heart, thank God for His love and goodness and for all of His blessings to you.

Psalms 98:1. Sing a new song to the Lord; he has done wonderful things.



Psalms 150:6. Praise the Lord, all living creatures.

Worship Humbly but With Faith

Recognize that you cannot make yourself good enough to come before a holy God. However, since you have asked Jesus to be your Savior, God has forgiven you and accepted you as His child. So talk to Him as you would talk to your Father and tell Him whatever is in your heart.

For You to Do

- **THINK:** Do I worship God in the four ways suggested in this lesson? Do I plan to do it?

Pray to God now in your own words, asking Him to reveal himself to you. Worship Him.

CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR COMPLETION OF LESSON 2.

Turn to the Lesson Review Questions at the end of this booklet. Answer the questions for Lesson 2. Then continue with your study of Lesson 3.

May God richly bless you!

WHAT'S LIFE ALL ABOUT?

IN THIS LESSON YOU WILL STUDY

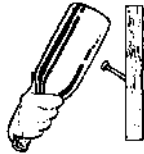
- *Why Were You Born?*
- *How Are You Like God?*
- *How Are You Not Like God?*
- *What Kind of Person Do You Want to Be?*
- *How Can You Know You Are a Child of God?*

PART 1

WHY WERE YOU BORN?

You Need to Know

What would you think of a person who tried to use a straw hat as a cooking pot or a glass bottle as a hammer? What would you think of a person who used up all his life before finding out its purpose?



Until we put our lives to the use they were made for, we are like the hat on the fire or the bottle used as a hammer. We go through life without finding satisfaction and fulfillment.

God has a purpose and plan for your life. He has a work for you to do on earth and has prepared a wonderful home for you in heaven. You were born to fit into God's plan.

You Were Born to Be God's Child

You have learned that you were created for God's pleasure, to be His child, enjoy His love, and love Him in return. Whatever else you do, if you don't have this fellowship with God, you have missed the main purpose of life.

Psalm 16:11. You will show me the path that leads to life; your presence fills me with joy and brings me pleasure forever.

You Were Born to Grow in God's Likeness

For you, a child of God, life on earth is like a school to prepare you for eternity. Your experiences are lessons to equip you for the part

you will have in God's Kingdom. The problems and struggles you experience now are designed to teach you patience, faith, and obedience. They will help you to mature spiritually so you will be more like your heavenly Father. Let God make you the dependable person He can use both now and in the future.

2 Timothy 2:12. If we continue to endure, we shall also rule with him.

You Were Born to Work with God

You were born when you were, where you were, and who you were so that you could be a blessing to your family, your community, your country, and the world. God wants you to be His partner and work with Him. He will help you lead others to Jesus Christ and to a better life in Him.



Ephesians 2:10. God is our Maker, and in union with Christ Jesus he has created us for a life of good works, which he has already prepared for us to do.

For You to Do

- God has given me life so that I can: be His, grow in His, and with Him as His partner.

Ask yourself:

- Does my life really please God?
- Do I accept suffering and struggles as opportunities to develop patience and character?
- Am I doing what I can to help others?
- Do I live as though death were the end of everything, or am I using my life now as a preparation for eternity?
- Do I enjoy fellowship with God?
- Have I started to follow God's plan in my home and community?

PART 2

HOW ARE YOU LIKE GOD?

God Gave You a Spirit Made in His Likeness

God made Adam's body out of dust, giving it an earthly nature like that of other earthly creatures. You have inherited that earthly nature. Adam's inner life, his spirit, came from the breath of God. Adam's spirit was like God. Your spirit, too, is like God in many ways.

Memorize This

Genesis 1:26; 2:7. Then God said, "And now we will make human beings; they will be like us and resemble us.... Then the Lord God took some soil from the ground and formed a man out of it; he breathed life-giving breath into his nostrils and the man began to live.



God's Image in You Is Shown in Many Ways

This special spirit makes you different from the animals. We call it the image of God in human beings.

You can see the image of God in yourself in:

- Your moral nature: sense of right and wrong.
- Your aesthetic nature: love of beauty.
- Your intellectual nature: desire to know the truth, ability to reason, power of speech, and communication.
- Your spiritual nature: desire to worship and ability to have fellowship with God.
- Your creative nature: desire to improve your surroundings. Man builds skyscrapers, channels rivers, harnesses electricity, and invents machines to work for him. He creates beauty in music, art, architecture, poetry, song, motion, and his handiwork.

These things come from God's nature and make you very different from the animals. They show

that you were born to be God's child and that He has a special purpose for your life.

For You to Do

- The spirit that God placed in people is a reflection of His and makes us different from
.....
- We see traces of the image of God in man in his enjoyment of beauty, or aes..... nature; ability to reason, or int..... nature; inventions, or cr..... nature; sense of right or wrong, or nature; search for God, or nature.

You can see how these abilities make you very different from the rest of God's creation. Think of something you did that is an example of each God-given ability. You have many ideas and powers that no other creature has. A monkey cannot write a book; a lion cannot fly a jet. Thank God for each part of your nature that causes you to be like Him.

PART 3

HOW ARE YOU NOT LIKE GOD?

You Have a Physical Body

God is an infinite, eternal, all-powerful Spirit. He is not limited by time or space. He will never die. Your spirit lives in a body which has very limited strength, can only be in one place at a time, and will die some day. However, it is a wonderful gift from God to you. Because of your body, you can work for God in ways that would be impossible if you were just a spirit. You should take good care of your body because it is a home for your spirit and a temple for God to use.



1 Corinthians 6:19, 20. Don't you know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who lives in you . . . ? So use your bodies for God's glory.

Some people blame their bodies for the bad things they do. They punish their bodies to try to make themselves good. Your body is neither good nor bad. It is like a tool that you use. You decide what to do, and your body does it. You can use your body for either good or evil, for Satan or for God. God uses His Spirit for only good.

Romans 12:1. Offer yourselves a living sacrifice to God, dedicated to his service and pleasing to him.



Be sure to control your body. It is a good servant but a poor master. If you allow its physical needs to rule your life, you will have trouble. You can even become a slave to habits that will destroy your health and make you do sinful things that are evil and displeasing to God. When you neglect the needs of your spiritual nature and live only to satisfy the desires of your body, you become less and less like God.

Sin Has Ruined Your Nature

Sin has blurred the image of God in you. People get worse and worse as they try to rule their own lives and ignore God's purpose for them.

Galatians 5:19-21. What human nature does is quite plain. It shows itself in immoral, filthy, and indecent actions; in worship of idols and witchcraft. People become enemies and they fight; they become jealous, angry, and ambitious. They separate into parties and groups; they are envious, get drunk, have orgies, and do other things like these. I warn you now as I have before: those who do these things will not possess the Kingdom of God.



You Can't Please God by Your Own Efforts

God has a good purpose for you. But unless He helps you, you will not be able to follow it. No matter how hard you try, you will never be strong enough to do what pleases Him all the time. He must change you.

Romans 7:18-20. I know that good does not live in me—that is, in my human nature. For even though



the desire to do good is in me, I am not able to do it. I don't do the good I want to do; instead, I do the evil that I do not want to do.... It is the sin that lives in me.

You Are So Unlike God That You Must Be Renewed and Changed Inwardly

You can't change yourself simply by joining a church or trying to be good. You need God to help you. If you let Him, He will send His Holy Spirit to restore His nature in you. Only then will you be able to please Him.

For You to Do

Read this section again while checking for ways in which you are not like God. Draw a line under anything that you do NOT want in your life.

- Our body is a wonderful from God.
- We become less and less like God if we let our rule over us.
- Can you please God by your own efforts?

PART 4

WHAT KIND OF PERSON DO YOU WANT TO BE?

A piece of clay can be either an ugly lump or a piece of fine porcelain. The outcome depends on the owner's desires and the potter's skill.

Human nature left to itself goes from bad to worse. It becomes a filthy wallow of dirty, hateful thoughts and wicked actions. However, in the hands of God, the Master Potter, your life can become an example of wonderful beauty and usefulness.

Romans 12:2. Do not conform yourselves to the standards of this world, but let God transform you inwardly by a complete change of your mind. Then you will be able to know the will of God—what is good and is pleasing to him and is perfect.

For You to Do

- Do you want God to renew you and change you inwardly? In your own words, ask Him to do it.
- If you are already a Christian, maybe you want to get rid of what you know displeases Him and become more like God. If so, tell Him about it and ask His help.

For You to Do

- Have you accepted Jesus as your Savior?
- Do you know that you are a child of God?
- Believe what God's Word says about it and thank Him now for having made you His child.

PART 5

HOW CAN YOU KNOW YOU ARE A CHILD OF GOD?

The minute you accept Jesus Christ as your Savior, God accepts you as His child. He makes you aware of this in three ways:

- Through His Word, which says so
- Through the inward assurance of the witness of the Spirit
- Through the change in your life

1 John 5:10-12. Whoever believes in the Son of God has this witness in his heart.... God has given us eternal life, and this life is ours in his Son. Whoever has the Son has this life.



Romans 8:16. God's Spirit joins himself to our spirits to declare that we are God's children.

1 John 3:14. We know that we have left death and come over into life; we know it because we love our brothers.

CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR COMPLETION OF LESSON 3.

*Answer the questions for Lesson 3 in the Lesson Review Questions at the end of this booklet.
Then continue your study in Lesson 4.*

May God richly bless you!

HOW CAN YOU MEET YOUR GREATEST NEED?

IN THIS LESSON YOU WILL STUDY:

- *What Is Your Greatest Need?*
- *How Does Jesus Meet Your Greatest Need?*
- *Is Jesus Your Savior?*
- *What About Your Other Needs?*

PART 1

WHAT IS YOUR GREATEST NEED?

Is It for Your Body or Soul?

The person who is lost in a desert or jungle, or who is adrift on a raft in the ocean, needs to be found and rescued. The starving man needs food; the condemned prisoner needs pardon. The person who has been poisoned needs an antidote.

Although these needs are vital, you have an even greater one. You are much more than a body. You have a spiritual nature, a soul. Your soul is the spring of real life in you. Without God, though, it is ruined. You are like a person dying of thirst. Life and health for your soul are more important than the most urgent need of your body.

Romans 5:12. Sin came into the world through one man [Adam, the first human being], and his sin brought death with it. As a result, death has spread to the whole human race because everyone has sinned.

Your Greatest Need Is a Savior

The Bible teaches us that man's soul is lost, starving, deathly sick, and condemned to die. Man needs a Savior to find, feed, cure, and pardon him. A Savior is your greatest need because you can't save yourself.

- Having Christian parents won't save you.
- Being a church member won't save you.

- Trying to be good won't save you.
- Without a Savior, you can't be saved.

For You to Do

- Which phrase describes the greatest problem a person can have? Draw a line under it: physical disease, spiritual death, lack of food.
- I, (your name), may have many needs, but my greatest need of all is for a, because I can't myself from sin and death.
- If you have already accepted Jesus Christ as your Savior, this lesson is still very important for you. It tells how He will help you day by day.

PART 2

HOW DOES JESUS MEET YOUR GREATEST NEED?

Jesus Is the Savior God Has Sent for You

God sent His Son to find, feed, and cure your sick, starving soul that was lost in sin. He became a man so that He could die in your place and give you a pardon. His name is Jesus, which means Savior. Only He can save you.

Memorize This

Acts 4:12. Salvation is to be found through him alone; in all the world there is no one else whom God has given who can save us..



Jesus Shows You the Truth and the Way

Satan has blinded our minds with error and unbelief. We have wandered away from God and lost our way. The devil tries to make us doubt God's Word, power, wisdom, goodness, and love. Some people even doubt that there is a God.

2 Corinthians 4:4. They do not believe, because their minds have been kept in the dark by the evil god of this world.

Satan deceives many people with false religions. Some pray to spirits or images.

Romans 1:23. Instead of worshiping the immortal God, they worship images made to look like mortal man or birds or animals or reptiles.

Satan lies to us about what is good for us and what is right or wrong. We go down the wrong road looking for happiness and find death instead.

Jesus, unlike Satan, came to find us and lead us back to God, to happiness, and eternal life. In Him and His teaching you will learn the truth and be free from unbelief and error.

Memorize This

John 14:6. Jesus answered him: "I am the way, I am the truth, I am the life; no one goes to the Father except by me."



Luke 19:10. For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.

John 8:12. I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will have the light of life.



John 8:32. You will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.

If anyone comes to God sincerely wanting to know the truth and willing to follow it, God will show it to him. Read the Bible and pray with an open mind; be willing to do what God wants.

John 7:17. Whoever is willing to do what God wants will know.

Ephesians 4:23. Your hearts and minds must be made completely new, and you must put on the new self, which is created in God's likeness and reveals itself in the true life that is upright and holy.

For You to Do

Answer with the word Jesus or Satan.

- Who blinds us as to what is good?
.....
- Who shows us what God is like?
.....
- Who frees us from error and unbelief?
- Who makes us doubt God's Word?
.....
- Who leads men into false religions?
.....

Prayer

Thank You, God, for sending Your Son Jesus to teach me the truth. Please show me the truth and help me to follow it, whatever it costs.

Jesus Cures the Deadly Sin of Your Heart

You have already learned that sin is disobeying God's orders. So the greatest sin of all would be to disobey God's most important command, wouldn't it? Jesus told us which one this is.

Matthew 22:37-39. "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind." This is the greatest and the most important commandment. The second most important commandment is like it: "Love your neighbor as you love yourself."



We have all broken God's two most important commandments. Selfishness, the root of all sins, has filled our hearts and smothered out love. We have repaid God's love with indifference and ingratitude. We think much more of ourselves than we do of God or of others. What sinners we are! Our self-centered hearts cause conflict and problems between individuals and among nations. Sin in the heart produces a sinful world.

2 Timothy 3:2-4. People will be selfish, greedy, boastful, and conceited; they will be insulting, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, and irreligious; they will be unkind, merciless, slanderers, violent, and fierce; they will hate the good; they will be treacherous, reckless, and swollen with pride; they will love pleasure rather than God.



Jesus came to cure you of sin and fill you with God's love.

1 John 1:9, 7. But if we confess our sins to God, he will keep his promise and do what is right: he will forgive us our sins and purify us from all our wrongdoing. But if we live in the light . . . we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from every sin.

Romans 5:5. God has poured out his love into our hearts by means of the Holy Spirit.



For You to Do

- Have you broken God's two greatest commands?
- Read 2 Timothy 3:2-4 again and draw a line under every sin mentioned there that you have been guilty of at least once in your life.
- Ask God to forgive you and fill your heart with His love.

Jesus Breaks the Power of Sin and Satan

Sin has weakened our willpower until we cannot do what we know we should do.

John 8:34. Everyone who sins is a slave of sin.



Romans 7:14, 15, 18. I am . . . a slave to sin. . . . I don't do what I would like to do, but instead I do what I hate. . . . For even though the desire to do good is in me, I am not able to do it.

Jesus breaks the chains of sin and delivers from bad habits. He delivers us from uncontrolled anger, immorality, cheating, stealing, and lying ; He frees us from harmful addictions such as to alcohol, tobacco, drugs, and gambling. He breaks the power of evil spirits and Satan.

Memorize This

John 8:36. If the Son makes you free, then you will be really free.



Jesus Took Your Place—Secured Your Pardon

Because God is just, He cannot ignore sin. Death is God's punishment for sin as well as the result of sin. But God loved you so much that He sent His Son to die in your place. When Jesus died, it was as if you had died. Because He rose again and went to heaven, so can you.

1 Peter 2:24. Christ himself carried our sins in his body to the cross, so that we might die to sin and live for righteousness.

Galatians 2:19, 20. So far as the Law is concerned, however, I am dead—killed by the Law itself—in order that I might live for God. I have been put to death with Christ on his cross, so that it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me. This life that I live now, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave his life for me.



When you accept Jesus as your Savior, you accept His death as your death, and His life as your life. In that very minute you become a child of God. Sin once separated you from God, but through Jesus you have pardon, new life, and fellowship with God, as if you had never sinned.

For You to Do

- I do not have to die for my sins because Jesus
- If you have any habits from which you want Jesus to free you, tell Him about them in prayer and ask Him to deliver you.

PART 3
IS JESUS YOUR SAVIOR?

It Is Up to You to Decide

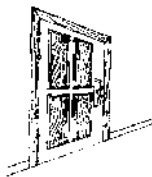
Jesus is willing to be your Savior, but He won't force you to accept Him.

Now Is the Time to Accept Him

If you haven't yet accepted Jesus as your Savior, do it now. Now is the best time.

Later might be too late. Besides, you want to enjoy every day possible of this wonderful new life in Him. He is knocking at the door of your heart today; let Him in.

Revelation 3:20. Listen! I stand at the door and knock.



Hebrews 3:15. If you hear God's voice today, do not be stubborn.

2 Corinthians 6:2. Listen! This is the hour to receive God's favor, today is the day to be saved.

For You to Do

- Jesus is right there by you and can hear your prayer. In your own words thank Him for dying for your sins, and ask Him to be your Savior. If you have already done this, thank Him for the ways in which He meets your greatest need.

PART 4
WHAT ABOUT YOUR OTHER NEEDS?

Your Father Cares for You

Matthew 6:31-33. So do not start worrying: "Where will my food come from? or my drink? or my clothes?" Your Father in heaven knows that you need all these things. Instead be concerned above everything else with the Kingdom of God and with what he requires of you, and he will provide you with all these other things.



Talk With God Every Day About Your Needs

Philippians 4:6. Don't worry about anything, but in all your prayers ask God for what you need, always asking him with a thankful heart.

Jesus Will Be Your Healer

He still heals the sick in answer to prayer.

Acts 10:38. Jesus . . . went everywhere . . . healing.



Hebrews 13:8. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

For You to Do

- Thank God for His care and ask His help with any problem that you may have.

CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR COMPLETION OF LESSON 4.

Now answer the questions for Lesson 4 in the Lesson Review Questions at the end of this booklet. After you complete and send in the questions for all six lessons, we will send you a beautiful certificate.

May God richly bless you!

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER DEATH?

IN THIS LESSON YOU WILL STUDY

- *After Death—What?*
- *What Are Heaven And Hell Like?*
- *How Important Is Your Choice?*
- *How Can You Go to Heaven?*

PART 1

AFTER DEATH—WHAT?

The Initial, Temporary Condition

What happens when you die? Your spirit leaves your physical body. Your body will remain here, since it was made to be in this world. However, you will always be fully conscious.

If you have accepted Jesus Christ, you will go to be with Him at once. But if you have refused God's offer of eternal life, you will go away from Him to the place which is called Hades or Hell. Hell was prepared for Satan and all those who follow him.

Luke 16:22, 23. The poor man died and was carried by the angels . . . to the feast in heaven. The rich man died . . . and in Hades . . . was in great pain.

The bodies we now have are not suited to heaven. They are temporary "houses" that are given to us for our life on earth. When we die, we leave them behind. God has prepared a new kind of body or home for us, one that will fit into His new creation.

2 Corinthians 5:1. For we know that when this tent we live in—our body here on earth—is torn down, God will have a house in heaven for us to live in, a home he himself made, which will last forever.

The Resurrection

Jesus is coming back again, possibly very soon, for those who belong to Him. At that time, those who have accepted him will be changed. We will

be given new bodies like His. Like a lily from its bulb, your soul will rise with a new body.

John 11:25. Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me will live, even though he dies."

1 Corinthians 15:42, 43. When the body is buried, it is mortal; when raised, it will be immortal. When buried, it is ugly and weak; when raised, it will be beautiful and strong.

Philippians 3:20, 21. We eagerly wait for our Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, to come from heaven. He will change our weak mortal bodies and make them like his own glorious body.

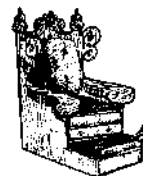
Memorize This

1 Thessalonians 4:16, 17. The Lord himself will come down from heaven. Those who have died believing in Christ will rise to life first; then we who are living at that time will all be gathered up along with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will always be with the Lord.

The Judgment Seat of Christ

As children of God we will be judged according to what we have done on earth and why we did it. Rewards will be given for faithful service. God will assign us certain responsibilities and privileges in His eternal Kingdom.

2 Corinthians 5:9, 10. More than anything else, however, we want to please him.... For all of us must appear before Christ, to be judged by him. Each one will receive what he deserves, according to everything he has done, good or bad, in his bodily life.



The Millennium

After this first judgment, Jesus will come back to earth with His followers. The devil will be imprisoned for a thousand years.

Jesus will set up His kingdom and rule over all the earth for a thousand wonderful years of peace and prosperity. This period of time is called the Millennium. Even the wild animals will live at peace with one another and with man.

Revelation 20:4. They lived and ruled as kings with Christ for a thousand years.

Isaiah 11:6. Wolves and sheep will live together in peace, and leopards will lie down with young goats . . . and little children will take care of them.



Isaiah 35:1, 5-6, 9-10. The desert will rejoice, and flowers will bloom in the wastelands. The blind will be able to see, and the deaf will hear. The lame will leap and dance, . . . Those whom the Lord has rescued . . . will be happy forever, forever free from sorrow and grief.



The Resurrection and Judgment of the Unsaved

After the Millennium and a final conflict between Christ and Satan, the devil will be thrown into the lake of fire. Then the dead who did not accept God's plan of salvation will come to life again and be judged. All those who insisted on following Satan instead of God will have to go to the place of punishment prepared for the devil.

Revelation 20:11, 12, 15. I saw a great white throne and the one who sits on it. . . I saw the dead, great and small alike, standing before the throne. Books were opened, . . . The dead were judged according to what they had done, as recorded in the books. Whoever did not have his name written in the book of the living was thrown into the lake of fire.



The Eternal State

The righteous (those who are right with God and who are His children) will enjoy forever all that God has prepared for them. Those who have refused His salvation will be separated forever from God.

Matthew 25:46. These, then, will be sent off to eternal punishment; the righteous will go to eternal life.

For You to Do

Choose the right word.

- After death the spirit is
(conscious, unconscious).
- Those who have not accepted God's plan of salvation go to
(heaven, hell).
- After death, those who have accepted Christ will live on in
(heaven, hell).

PART 2

WHAT ARE HEAVEN AND HELL LIKE?

One of two places will be your eternal home: heaven or hell. The word hell refers both to Hades and to the lake of fire.

HELL	HEAVEN
<p>Separation From God</p> <p>Matthew 25:41. Away from me, you who are under God's curse!</p>	<p>At Home With God</p> <p>John 14:2. There are many rooms in my Father's house, and I am going to prepare a place for you.</p> <p>Revelation 21:3. Now God's home is with mankind! He will live with them, and they shall be his people.</p>

Everything good comes from God. With Him are light, life, beauty, and joy. Separated from Him, there are darkness, suffering, sorrow, and death.

HELL <i>Suffering</i>	HEAVEN <i>Perfect Happiness Forever</i>
<p>Luke 16:23, 24. In Hades, where he was in great pain, . . . he called out, “. . . I am in great pain in this fire!”</p> <p>Matthew 25:30. Throw him outside in the darkness; there he will cry and gnash his teeth.</p> <p>Revelation 20:10. And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.</p>	<p>Revelation 21:10, 11, 16, 18. The Holy City . . . shining with the glory of God . . . was fifteen hundred miles long and was as wide and as high as it was long. . . . The city itself was made of pure gold.</p> <p>Revelation 22:5. There shall be no more night, . . . The Lord God will be their light, and they will rule as kings forever and ever.</p> <p>Revelation 21:3, 4. God himself . . . will wipe away all tears from their eyes. There will be no more death, no more grief or crying or pain.</p>

Let’s think about what kind of neighbors we will have when we choose our home for eternity.

HELL	HEAVEN
<p>Matthew 25:41. Away to the eternal fire which has been prepared for the Devil and his angels!</p> <p>Revelation 21:8. But cowards, traitors, perverts, murderers, the immoral, those who practice magic, those who worship idols, and all liars—the place for them is the lake burning with fire and sulfur.</p>	<p>John 14:1, 3. Jesus told them, . . . “I will come back and take you to myself, so that you will be where I am.”</p> <p>Hebrews 12:22, 23. You have come to . . . the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, with its thousands of angels. You have come to the joyful gathering of God’s first-born sons You have come to God . . . and to the spirits of good people made perfect.</p>

For You to Do

- Beside the Bible verses in Part 2, write NO by every line that tells of something that you don’t want in your eternal home or that you don’t want to experience. Write YES by whatever you want.

PART 3
HOW IMPORTANT IS YOUR CHOICE?

Don’t blame God for sending anyone to hell. He wants to save everybody, but each person must choose between heaven and hell.

Deuteronomy 30:19, 20. I am now giving you the choice between life and death, . . . Choose life. Love the Lord your God, obey him and be faithful to him.

Whether you choose heaven or hell, others will follow you there. Think of your family and friends. Where do you want to lead them?

For You to Do

- Thank God for sending Jesus to save you. Pray for any of your family or friends who are on their way to hell. Ask God to help you warn them and lead them to the Savior.

PART 4
HOW CAN YOU GO TO HEAVEN?

If you want to lead others to heaven, first be certain that you, yourself, have taken these steps. Then help your friends to take them.

Get off the Wrong Road

We have all been traveling the road of SIN away from God and toward hell. We turn away from our



sin, determined to obey God and go His way. We ask His forgiveness for our disobedience. This is repentance, the first step toward heaven.

We must acknowledge the wrong we have done to others and do what we can to straighten it out. We must forgive our enemies, ask forgiveness of those we have wronged, and return what we have stolen. As we confess all our sins to God, He will forgive us and help us in whatever we have to do.

Memorize This

1 John 1:9. But if we confess our sins to God, he will keep his promise and do what is right: he will forgive us our sins and purify us from all our wrongdoing.

2 Peter 3:9. He is patient with you, because he does not want anyone to be destroyed, but wants all to turn away from their sins.



Recognize the Right Road

God has given you a road map, the Bible. It says that Jesus Christ is the Way. Follow it.

Memorize This

John 14:6; 6:37. Jesus answered him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life; no one goes to the Father except by me. I will never turn away anyone who comes to me."

Choose the Right Road

This means to accept Jesus Christ the Son of God as your personal Savior and Lord of your life. Believe that He accepts you too, and trust in Him.

Memorize This

Acts 16:31. "Believe in the Lord Jesus," they said, "and you will be saved."

John 20:31. These have been written in order that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through your faith in him you may have life.



Follow the Right Road to the End

Follow Jesus the rest of your life. He will guide and help you as you read the Bible and pray.

1 Peter 2:25. You were like sheep that had lost their way, but now you have been brought back to follow the Shepherd and Keeper of your souls.

For You to Do

In this part of the lesson, going to heaven has been described as taking a journey.

- Have you personally taken the steps that will lead to heaven?

If not, will you now?

- Find a friend or member of your family and explain the steps of the journey to him or her.

CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR COMPLETION OF LESSON 5.

Now answer the questions for Lesson 5 in the Lesson Review Questions at the end of this booklet. After you complete and send in the questions for all six lessons, we will send you a beautiful certificate.

May God richly bless you!

WHAT IS THE TRUE CHURCH?

IN THIS LESSON YOU WILL STUDY

- *What Does Church Mean?*
- *What Does the True Church Do?*
- *Why Belong to a Church?*
- *What's Happening to the Church?*

PART 1

WHAT DOES CHURCH MEAN?

The word church has several meanings:

Those Who Belong to Christ

Jesus said, "I will build my church." The word He used means "called out ones." Christ calls us out to follow Him. We leave our old life of sin and become members of that great body of called out ones who recognize Jesus as their Head. This is the true Church. Only God knows who all of its members are. Many of them are already in heaven.

Colossians 1:18. He is the head of his body, the church; he is the source of the body's life.

Romans 12:5. Though we are many, we are one body in union with Christ, and we are all joined to each other as different parts of one body.



The Local Church

In any community those who share the same faith in Christ get together regularly to worship Him, just as they did in Bible times. They form a local church and work together for the Lord.

Matthew 18:20. For where two or three come together in my name, I am there with them.

Colossians 4:15. Give our best wishes to the brothers in Laodicea, and to Nympha and the church that meets in her house.



National Church or Denomination

A national church, or denomination, is an organization of many local churches. They help one another and can do much more for the Lord by working together than they could separately. They publish literature, train ministers, open up new churches, and operate schools and orphanages.

The leaders of the national church or denomination help the local churches with their problems, as the apostles did in Bible times.

Acts 15:6, 23, 41. The apostles and the elders met together to consider this question. . . . They sent the following letter He went through Syria and Cilicia, strengthening the churches.



Different denominations have been formed because of the differences in belief about the right form of worship, the best form of church organization, and the meaning of certain parts of the Bible. However, many denominations agree on the most important points, and they cooperate in work and worship.

The word church also means a building where God's people meet together. Whether it is large or small, richly decorated or simple in form is not important. What really matters is God's presence there.

For You to Do

Underline the one phrase that completes each sentence correctly.

- When Jesus said, "I will build my church," He used a word for church which meant a
 - a. national organization of leaders and officials.
 - b. group of people called out from the world.
 - c. building set apart for worship and prayer.

For You to Do (cont)

- When the Bible says that the church is like a body, it is drawing attention to the church as a
 - a. living unity of different parts with Christ as its head.
 - b. network of local groups of Christians who work together.
 - c. society of people who teach children and help orphans.
- Those who are part of the true church all
 - a. belong to one national organization.
 - b. follow identical forms of worship.
 - c. share the same faith in Christ.

PART 2

WHAT DOES THE TRUE CHURCH DO?

Church here and in Part 3 refers to the body of Christ as it works through local and national churches.

The True Church Loves God and Lives for Him

God wants us to love Him fully and completely. He made us so that we could be His children, enjoy His love, and love Him too. The church meets with God in worship. Together and individually its members express their love to God in prayer, praise, music, giving, Christian service, and obedience to His commands.

The True Church Tells the World About Jesus

Every Christian should tell his family and friends how they can be saved. The Holy Spirit helps us take the gospel message to every part of the world. We work together to do this.

Memorize This

Mark 5:19. Go back home to your family and tell them how much the Lord has done for you.



Mark 16:15. Go throughout the whole world and preach the gospel to all mankind.

Acts 1:8. But when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, you will be filled with power, and you will be witnesses for me . . . to the ends of the earth.

The True Church Teaches God's Word

The church uses every way it can to teach its members the truth and train them to follow Jesus.

Matthew 28:19, 20. Go, then, to all peoples everywhere and make them my disciples; baptize them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to obey everything I have commanded you.

The Church Cares for Its Members

The church provides for the spiritual growth of its members by meeting regularly for worship, Bible study, fellowship, and Christian service.

The church gives counsel and help to those who have problems. It does what it can for those who are in need, both members and non-members.

For You to Do

- The people in David's church care for each other, meet to worship God, and have times of Bible study. What do they also need to do that they are not doing? Write your answer in the space provided.

.....
.....
.....
.....

PART 3

WHY BELONG TO A CHURCH?

Because You Need the Church

God has placed people in the church to help you and teach you. In this way He meets your spiritual needs.

Ephesians 4:11, 12. He appointed some to be . . . evangelists, others to be pastors and teachers. He did this to prepare all God's people for the work of Christian service, to build up the body of Christ.



You should not join a church with the idea of getting it to help you with money, food, or other material needs. As you put God first in your life, He will see that all your needs are met.

Because the Church Needs You

Every part of the body has its work to do. There is work for you as a member of the body of Christ. By itself, a finger is not useful. It must join with the hand to become useful. Likewise, you must take your place in the church and let God use you to help others.

Romans 12:4, 6. We have many parts in the one body, and all these parts have different functions. So we are to use our different gifts in accordance with the grace that God has given us.

Because You Can Serve God Better in the Church

When you are baptized in water and join a church, this is a good testimony to others as well as an act of obedience and dedication to God.

You serve God also by giving to His cause. You can do this best through a church. It administers the money carefully, paying the expenses for taking the gospel to the local community and to many other places. Because someone gave, you heard the gospel. Because you give, others hear and are saved.

2 Corinthians 9:6, 7. Remember this: the man who plants a few seeds will have a small crop; the one who plants many seeds will have a large crop. Each one should give, then, as he has decided, not with regret or out of a sense of duty; for God loves the one who gives gladly.



You have many opportunities for Christian service in the church: praying, witnessing, giving out literature, singing, teaching, preaching, and taking others to church. Even your faithful attendance pleases God and encourages others.

Hebrews 10:25. Let us not give up the habit of meeting together, as some are doing. Instead, let us encourage one another, all the more since you see that the Day of the Lord is coming near.



For You to Do

Vincent believes that he doesn't need to meet with other Christians because he can read the Bible and pray at home. What should you do to help him realize that he is misguided? Draw a line under the description of the best response.

- Point out that he needs friends even though he thinks he does not.
- Explain the reasons the Bible gives for meeting with other Christians.
- Tell him that other Christians can help him with his financial problems.

PART 4

WHAT'S HAPPENING TO THE CHURCH?

Twenty Centuries of Warfare

Ever since Jesus Christ founded His church, Satan has been fighting against it. The church is battling to rescue souls from his lies and deceptions.



Ephesians 6:12. We are not fighting against human beings, but against the wicked spiritual forces.

1 Peter 5:8. Be alert, be on the watch! For your enemy, the Devil, roams around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour.

Satan's Strategy and Weapons

Satan tries to separate Christians from Christ so that he can defeat the church. His main strategies are persecution, deception, and temptation.

He uses people to persecute and kill Christians. He infiltrates the church with false teachers and blinds some of its leaders with unbelief. He tempts Christians to sin so that they become weak and powerless. He tries to make them doubt God and neglect their relationship with Him.

The Church's Strategy and Weapons

Our defense is to stay in touch with our Commander in Chief, the Lord Jesus Christ. Our main weapons are prayer, faith, and the Word of God. The Holy Spirit, who is stronger than Satan, gives us the strength and power to defeat him.

Ephesians 6:10, 11. Build up your strength in union with the Lord and by means of his mighty power. Put on all the armor that God gives you, so that you will stand up against the Devil's evil tricks.



The Victory of the Church

Through the ages persecution has purified the church and made it grow. The Holy Spirit has sent waves of revival to deliver her from sin and false teachings. We may have to suffer now, but soon

the war will be over. Satan will be defeated, and the church will reign forever with Christ.

Matthew 16:18. I will build my church, and not even death will ever be able to overcome it.



Romans 8:37. In all these things we have complete victory through him who loved us!

Your Part in It All

In this war every Christian is a soldier.

2 Timothy 2:3. Take your part in suffering, as a loyal soldier of Christ.



Revelation 2:10. Don't be afraid of anything . . . Be faithful to me, even if it means death, and I will give you life as your prize of victory.

For You to Do

- Every Christian is a soldier in the spiritual battle that is taking place because every Christian is a target for
- The Christian defeats Satan and his lies by using the sword of truth which is the

CONGRATULATIONS ON HAVING FINISHED THIS COURSE!

Now, complete the questions for Lesson 6 in the Lesson Review Questions at the end of this booklet. Then send your answers to the review questions to your local ICI director or office. The address is on the back cover.

We hope you have enjoyed studying these lessons. We encourage you to enroll in another ICI course so you can learn more about God and His wonderful plan for you.

LESSON REVIEW QUESTIONS



DIRECTIONS

Please write in BLOCK letters:

Your Name:.....
Post Office Box:
Street Address:.....
.....
City:
State/Province:
Postal or Zip Code:
Country :.....
Email address:

In order to receive your certificate for *The Great Questions of Life*,
answer all the questions in this booklet.

Carefully remove the answer sheets and the page with the names and addresses of your
friends by cutting along the dotted line.

Send these pages to your local ICI director or office at the address on the back cover.

Now you are ready to complete the Lesson Review Questions for Lessons 1–6.

*Answer all the questions as completely as you can, then send the answer sheets to your ICI
director or office as directed at the end.*

L E S S O N 1

- 1 I did all of the “For You to Do” exercises in Lesson 1, answered all the questions, and memorized the Bible verses. Yes. No
- 2 The only way to learn the truth about the creation of man and the world is from
.....
- 3 God made man and the world for His
- 4 Disease and death were brought into the world
- 5 Our punishment for sin has been taken from us by

L E S S O N 2

- 1 I did all of the “For You to Do” exercises in Lesson 2, answered all the questions, and memorized the Bible verses. Yes. No
- 2 I need to know the truth about God because He is my,
my, and my
- 3 You can know the truth about God from what God himself says in His Word, the Bible. You can also know the truth about God from your own personal
- 4 God is a God of love. He knows everything and He can do
- 5 God wants you to be honest and sincere in your worship of Him. He also wants you to thank Him for His to you.

L E S S O N 3

- 1 I did all of the “For You to Do” exercises in Lesson 3, answered all the questions, and memorized the Bible verses. Yes. No
- 2 You and I were born to be God’s children and to in His likeness.
- 3 As a human being, I am able to tell right from wrong, to appreciate beauty, to think, to worship God, and to make useful things. All of these abilities show that I have the
..... in me.
- 4 When I do things that are wrong and live only to satisfy the desires of my body, this shows that the image of God in me has been
- 5 In order to please God, I must allow Him to my nature and to
..... His image in me.
- 6 When I accept Jesus as my Savior, I become God’s child and His image in me is restored. God shows me this has happened through His, through the witness of His
....., and through the in me.

L E S S O N 4

- 1 I did all of the “For You to Do” exercises in Lesson 4, answered all the questions, and memorized the Bible verses. Yes. No
- 2 Draw a line under each sentence which describes a person who has met his or her greatest need:
Marta has received spiritual life from God. Thomas has found a way to earn more money.
Jonas has been cured of blindness. Carl has asked Jesus Christ to save him.
- 3 The greatest sin is to God’s most important commandment which is to
- 4 The best time for me to ask Jesus Christ to save me is
- 5 The Bible says that God will meet my needs for food and clothing if I will give first place to

L E S S O N 5

- 1 I did all of the “For You to Do” exercises in Lesson 5, answered all the questions, and memorized the Bible verses. Yes. No
- 2 When a child of God dies, his or her spirit goes
- 3 When Jesus returns to earth, all those who belong to Him will receive new bodies that are like
- 4 Heaven is the place God has prepared for all who, and hell is the place God has prepared for Satan and all who
- 5 I have chosen to follow the road to heaven when I have confessed my to God and accepted as my Savior.

L E S S O N 6

- 1 I did all of the “For You to Do” exercises in Lesson 6, answered all the questions, and memorized the Bible verses. Yes. No
- 2 Those who belong to the true church are those who follow as their leader.
- 3 The true church does four main things. State these by completing each of these four sentences:
The true church worships, tells the about Jesus, teaches to its members, and cares for those who are.....
- 4 Those who belong to the true church help each other to grow spiritually by.....
- 5 The kind of victory that the true church will have includes the complete defeat of

**YOUR COMMENTS AND
QUESTIONS**

Perhaps you would like to express your personal comments about these lessons. If so, respond to each as you are directed.

1 Had you understood God's plan of salvation and accepted Jesus as your Savior before starting to study Lesson 1? **Y / N**

2 If you did not, did you accept Jesus as a result of studying these lessons? **Y / N**

3 If you have not accepted Him yet, will you accept Him now? **Y / N**

4 Do you belong to a local church? **Y / N**

If so, what church?

5 Would you like to have an address of a local church in your area? **Y / N**

6 These lessons include many truths about God. Which has/have been the most help to you in your life right now?

.....

.....

.....

.....

7 If you like, state a special need or problem that you would like a Christian brother or sister to pray about with you.

.....

.....

8 Would you like to have information about other courses like this that you can study? **Y / N**

Congratulations on having finished these lessons and completed the Lesson Review Questions. Send the answer sheets to your local ICI director or office whose address is shown on the cover. May God bless you as you love and serve Him.

**SEND US THE NAMES AND
ADDRESSES OF YOUR FRIENDS**

We will send them Lesson 1 of
“The Great Questions of Life.”

Print Clearly _____

Last Name

First Name

Mailing Address

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City

Province or State

Zip or Postal Code

Country

Last Name

First Name

Mailing Address

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City

Province or State

Zip or Postal Code

Country

Last Name

First Name

Mailing Address

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City

Province or State

Zip or Postal Code

Country

Your Last Name

Your First Name

Mailing Address

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