

# Program Transcripts

December 2025



IN  
**SEARCH**  
OF THE LORD'S WAY<sup>®</sup>

# **SEARCH PROGRAMS**

**December 2025**

*Topics subject to change without notice*

## **DECEMBER 7 – THE CHURCH OF CHRIST**

The Lord Jesus asks us to love the Lord our God with all our heart. This involves a total commitment of our inner being to the Lord. We are to love God even more than our own lives and put Him first in everything.

## **DECEMBER 14 – THE BATTLE FOR YOUR SOUL**

The Lord Jesus asks us to love the Lord our God with all our souls. The word soul has a variety of meanings but speaks mainly of the life within our whole being. We must make God the very focus of our life and intentions.

## **DECEMBER 21 – JESUS AND HIS PROMISES**

The Lord Jesus calls us to love the Lord our God with all our minds. What we think and believe matters to the Lord. We are to train our minds to believe what the Lord says and teaches; we must love and trust the truth He teaches.

## **DECEMBER 28 – THE GOD OF THE BIBLE**

The Lord Jesus calls us to love the Lord our God with all our strength. It is not enough to love in word; we must love the Lord and others with our deeds. The Lord wants us to be people who are zealous for good works.

## The church of Christ

The church Jesus built, the one that you read about in the New Testament, came to earth in identifiable, local congregations. They were like families in various locations, meeting each first day of the week to worship. They ate their meals together, they took care of their needy, and they served the Lord. Acts 2:42 says, "They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer." To be the church Jesus built today, congregations must seek to follow the examples of what God desires. We can know what God instructs by examining the New Testament.

The Lord's teaching was not merely for the first century; He gave it for all time. That teaching is preserved for us in written form in the New Testament, so that people in every age might know God's will. What God desired in the first century, He desires today. If the Lord gave us this model in the Word, shouldn't we follow it? Jesus said in Luke 6 and verse 46, "Why do you call me 'Lord, Lord,' and not do what I tell you?" Because we call Jesus our Lord, we follow Him and obey His words.

Our reading today comes from Paul's epistle to the Ephesians chapter 5 verses 23 to 27. And it speaks of Jesus and His love for the church.

For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the church, He Himself being the Savior of the body. But as the church is subject to Christ, so also the wives ought to be to their husbands in everything. Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her, so that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, that He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would be holy and blameless.

That's a reading from God's holy word. Let's pray together. Heavenly Father we're thankful that in Your work of love all through the ages, that You would have a Son who would purchase the church with His own blood. And love the church and sanctify it. Father we're so grateful that we can be a part of Your family in the church. Father help us always to do Your will and to obey You. In Jesus name, Amen.

As members of the Lord's church, our heart's desire is to believe in and to obey the Lord Jesus. We don't want to add to His words or take away from them. We want to believe and practice everything He taught and nothing else. When we became Christians, we recognized Jesus Christ as our only Lord. Colossians 3:17 says, "And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him." You see we act in His name and by His authority. We belong to the Lord Jesus Christ.

Some encyclopedias say that the church of Christ began in America in the early 1800s with men such as Thomas and Alexander Campbell and Barton Stone; but Campbell and Stone can't establish something that's already been established. I've never claimed membership in any church but the church that Jesus established at Pentecost in 30 A.D., some say 33. I wasn't baptized in the name of Campbell or Stone; they're just men. Neither of them was crucified for me. I believe in the Lord Jesus and was baptized in His name. I've taken up my cross to follow Jesus. He is my Lord and the only head of His church. Now churches of Christ look to Him alone as our Savior and Lord.

Today there are thousands of local churches of Christ across the United States. Like the churches of the New Testament, these congregations look to Jesus as their Lord and Savior. They don't have bylaws or a manual that they use in addition to the New Testament. They don't have a denominational headquarters or an organization over the local congregations. They don't meet annually to make official

statements of the church or to make binding theological decisions. While these congregations recognize one another as brethren, they are autonomous. Each congregation has its own leaders made up of elders and deacons, who follow the Bible for their teaching and practice.

Now should you visit one of these congregations on a Sunday morning, you'll find a warm welcome. Churches of Christ are spiritual families who come together with a common faith, hope, and love. They are brothers and sisters to one another, but there is room in their hearts for someone new. They care about your soul, your well-being, and your family. Churches of Christ generally have Bible classes for all ages on Sunday mornings. Now these classes study the Bible closely to learn the truth about God and how we should serve Him.

Churches of Christ gather each Lord's day, which is the first day of the week or Sunday, to worship the Lord. They look to the Scriptures to see how God wants them to worship. They pattern their worship today after the examples and instructions given in the New Testament.

Worship is a time to draw near to God and to express our love, our praise, and our thanksgiving to God. Worshiping God reminds us of how holy God is and how we stand in need of His grace and forgiveness. Worship is a time of humility and reverence toward God.

Christian worship to the Lord consists first of prayers. 1 Timothy 2:1 to 2 says, "First of all, then, I urge that entreaties and prayers, petitions and thanksgivings, be made on behalf of all men, for kings and all who are in authority, so that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity." As Christians we pray for those in need. We thank God for all His blessings and for peace. We pray for strength, courage, and comfort. We even pray for our enemies. We pray especially that God will open a door for the Word, so that men may learn the will of God.

During worship we enjoy the reading of Scripture. Paul told Timothy in 1 Timothy 4:13, "Until I come, give attention to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation and teaching." Scripture nourishes our hearts and builds us up. Paul told the elders of the church at Ephesus in Acts 20 verse 32, "And now I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified." God's Word builds us up and gives us our inheritance. We need God's Word in our lives every day.

Churches of Christ sing from their hearts, because they want to praise God and to edify one another. Ephesians 5:18 to 19 says, "And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, (or moral looseness) but be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord." Colossians 3 and verse 16 says, "Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God."

The music in Christian worship in the New Testament was by means of vocal singing, and every member of the congregation participates. The New Testament gives no example or instruction for Christians to worship with instruments of music. We seek to follow the New Testament teaching in all things, so we simply sing. We know this pleases God, because the early church didn't use instruments of music in worship for many, many centuries. Now since our worship is to glorify God, our desire is to please Him by following His instructions in the New Testament for Christian worship. Hebrews 13 and verse 15 says, "Through Him then, let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that give thanks to His name."

Now each Lord's Day, the first day of the week, we commune together in the Lord's Supper. Paul said in 1 Corinthians 11:23 to 26, "For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus in the night in which He was betrayed took bread; and when He had given thanks, He

broke it and said, 'This is My body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of Me.' In the same way He took the cup also after supper, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in My blood; do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.' For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes." The Lord's Supper is a simple memorial meal, and every member of the church partakes. Christians remember the body and the blood of Jesus sacrificed for them so they might have the forgiveness of their sins.

Now each first day of the week, Christians contribute to the Lord for the work of the church. They believe 2 Corinthians 9:6 to 7 where Paul said, "Now this I say, he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must do just as he has purposed in his heart, not grudgingly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." Churches of Christ do not send bills or expect a tithing or ten percent. They urge members to give cheerfully as they have prospered and as they purpose in their hearts.

During worship a preacher or minister will preach the word of God to build up and encourage brethren to live faithful and holy lives, to know the Lord and His truth, and to keep on doing good and reaching out to others with the gospel. Paul urged Timothy in 2 Timothy 4 and verse 2 to "preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction." Preachers have the responsibility of persuading the lost to come to Jesus and of strengthening the brethren. They must teach the whole counsel of God, and that means they must speak against what is false and immoral. They must call men to repent of their sins and to follow the Lord Jesus Christ.

The church is a family made up of brothers and sisters. In fact, 1 Peter 2 and verse 17 tells us to "love the brotherhood." Now no one is above or better than anyone else. Each member of the body is loved and valued. The Lord Jesus said to the apostles in Matthew 20 verses 25 to 28, "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. It shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be your slave, even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

The church Jesus built wasn't divided into clergy and laity. Each congregation had its own leadership, and no leader held power over several congregations. The idea of an archbishop or a hierarchy over many congregations is foreign to the New Testament. That was a development brought about by men over the centuries. In the New Testament a plurality of elders or shepherds oversaw the work of each congregation. They didn't have a bishop over the elders in a local church. When Diotrephes in Third John put himself first and tried to run the church, the apostle John rebuked him.

The Lord Jesus refused to let His followers assume a title that put them above others as some of the Jews did. Jesus said in Matthew 23:8 to 12, "But you are not to be called rabbi, for you have one teacher, and you are all brothers. And call no man your father on earth, for you have one Father, who is in heaven. Neither be called instructors, for you have one instructor, the Christ. The greatest among you shall be your servant. Whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted." For this reason, ministers and others in the church of Christ refuse to be called "Reverend" or "Father."

In the Lord's church every member is called a "saint"; there isn't any special class of saints above other Christians. Paul wrote in 1 Corinthians 1 and verse 2, "To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints together with all those who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours." Now every person washed in the blood of Jesus and sanctified by the Spirit is a saint.

In the Lord's church every member is a priest. Peter said to the whole church in 1 Peter 2 verse 9, "But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light." Now Israel may have had a special tribe of priests, but the church doesn't! According to 1 Peter 2 and verse 5, every Christian is a priest offering up "spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ." Every Christian has the task as a priest to serve God, to worship, and to teach others about God.

While the church Jesus built, that is the church that belongs to Christ, is not a denomination, no, or even a sect, you can find it today in identifiable congregations. And you can be a member of the Lord's church! You see, the same seed that made members of the church in the first century makes members of the church today. Well what seed is that? It is the Word of God. 1 Peter 1:23 says that Christians are "born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God." You see if you have the same seed, you have the same church. If you change the seed by mixing it with human traditions and doctrines, you have something different. Let's stay with God's Word and remain pure.

Would you pray with me? Heavenly Father we're so grateful that You have given to us, in Your word, the pattern that You would have Your church be. And how we should live and what we should believe and practice. Help us Heavenly Father, out of love, to want to serve You every day of lives. And to do Your will. In Jesus name, Amen.

The Lord Jesus said in Matthew 7:24 to 27, "Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock. And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell, and great was the fall of it."

My friend, you're building your religious house; and what you build will determine your eternal destiny. Be wise; listen to the words of Jesus and do them. Go to the New Testament, all of it, and find everything Jesus taught. Don't build your house on human traditions or doctrines and then expect to have a firm foundation. Go to the Bible alone to find the rock. In churches of Christ, it's our passion to listen to the Lord's words found in the New Testament and simply obey them. We don't want to add to them or take anything from them.



Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**What is the title and main subject of this lesson?**

---

---

**What scriptures are referenced within the lesson?**

---

---

---

---

**If this lesson includes any main Bible characters, who are they and what are some of their traits?**

---

---

---

---

---

**Why is this message important?**

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Are there specific things discussed in this lesson that you would like to work on in your personal life?**

---

---

---

---

---

**How would you share this message with others and with whom would you like to share it?**

---

---

---

---

---

## The Battle for Your Soul

We live in a chaotic world with many conflicting voices calling us to believe this or do that. The voice of God in Scripture will tell us the truth, while the world has many voices that'll try to lead us away from God. We have to look to God. Some voices encourage us to leave our faith and to follow the world. Some tell us "there is no God", "the Bible isn't true," what some say, or that "we're just the products of evolution," or "Christians are mean." Others tell us that our sins don't matter. If we believe the lies of the world, and the ones they tell, we can be lead astray just as Eve was in Genesis 3. We're facing an ideological battle and a moral battle for our souls. And I hope this gets your attention! Whether we believe and follow Christ or believe a lie and follow the world will determine how God will deal with us in eternity. Are you committed to Christ? Are you listening to His Word? Are you winning or losing the battle for your soul?

Our reading from God's holy word comes Paul's epistle to the Ephesians chapter 6 verses 10 to 13.

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might. Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore, take up the full armor of God, so that you will be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm.

That's a great challenge for all of us. To stand firm with the full armor of God. Let's pray together. Heavenly Father we're thankful that You can strengthen us through Christ. That You do give us armor to wear in this battle against the Devil and against the enemies of good. We pray Father that You'll help us each day of our lives to give ourselves fully and freely to You and to stand firm. In Jesus name, Amen.

We are at war with the devil, and he's a formidable opponent. He's had many centuries to exploit human weaknesses so that he can lead us into sin and defeat us. This battle is a personal one, like hand-to-hand combat between two soldiers. Now at the end of such a fight in ancient times, one soldier was standing and the other was dead. This battle is like a wrestling match, where two people were personally involved eye to eye. Now you can't pass this battle off to somebody else; you must face the devil yourself. He's watched you and he knows your strengths and your weaknesses. He'll use every trick he knows to defeat you. He has no qualms about cheating, lying, or using dirty tricks to win. He's serious about defeating you and he intends to win.

This spiritual battle isn't just for your life; it's for your soul. And not only that it's also for the souls of your loved ones. It's the most important conflict you'll ever face. If you're not aware that you're in a fight, you'll surely lose. If you don't have the will to fight, you'll most certainly lose. If you're not prepared to fight, you cannot win. If you fight but don't give it all, well you can still lose your soul. Your enemy, the devil, will do anything to capture your soul. And if that means trickery, he'll lie and twist God's word to suit his purposes.

The apostle Paul particularly warned Christians to hold to the truth. Paul said in 2 Corinthians 4:2 to 4, "But we have renounced disgraceful, underhanded ways. We refuse to practice cunning or to tamper with God's word, but by the open statement of the truth we would commend ourselves to everyone's conscience in the sight of God. And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled only to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God."

The devil blinds people to the truth, so they'll believe a lie and be lost. When people leave the Word of God, they leave the truth. So the devil twists and tampers with the Bible. To tamper with the word of God is to distort it or make it appear false by deception. Satan tampers with the Word to make it teach something that it doesn't actually say. The person who uses God's word cunningly just to advance his agenda is in Paul's eyes disgraceful and underhanded.

Scripture reveals how Satan's schemes follow a common pattern. If we understand the way that he operates, we can prepare for Satan's challenges. Satan, first, loves to ask questions that create doubt in the Word of God. You'll remember that in the Garden of Eden, the devil asked Eve, "Did God actually say, 'You shall not eat of any tree in the garden'?" (Genesis 3 verse 2) Now, Satan knew what God had said; he wasn't asking the question to learn the truth or to do the will of God. Rather he asked the question to create doubt in God! He wanted Eve to question God. Doubting the truth is the first step to apostasy. The Devil will always give you all the reasons you should not do the will of God. He wants you to forget doing things God's way, to think for yourself, and do what you think is best for you. By urging you to do what is self-focused, he gets you to go against God. He wants you to think that you know more than God.

Satan, second, contradicts what God says. When Eve told Satan that she would die if she ate of that fruit or even touch it, the devil said, "You shall surely not die" (Genesis 3 verse 4). The devil has no qualms about lying to achieve his purpose. Satan always wants people to place their confidence in him not God. Satan claims God has deceived you, cheated you, but he knows what is really true. This desire to know Satan's secrets and to be one of the elite of Satan, has led many unfortunate souls down the path to perdition. You see, he appeals to the worst in people: their flesh, their eyes, and their pride. He makes them feel God is holding them down and cheating them out of some pleasure.

The Lord Jesus told some Jews who followed Satan in John 8:44, "You are of your father the devil, and you want to do the desires of your father. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth because there is no truth in him. Whenever he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own nature, for he is a liar and the father of lies." Well, all you have to do to promote a lie is to tamper with the truth a little. You know rat poison is 98 percent corn meal and two percent poison. Now if it weren't mostly corn meal, the rats wouldn't eat it; but two percent poison is enough to kill. And a little lie can still keep you out of heaven. Buy the truth and do not sell it.

Satan appeals to what you want to hear and what makes you feel good. Eve was deceived by his lie. Oh, the devil likes to turn things upside down. He makes what is evil appear good and appealing, and he makes what is good appear evil and ugly. God said in Isaiah 5 and verse 20, "Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter!" Have you noticed how our world has labeled anything righteous as wrong, while things that are evil are attractive and enticing? That's the devil's scheme.

Satan, third, produces an alternative version of the "truth." He enticed Eve with these words found in Genesis 3:5 well: "God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." The devil's alternative mixes truth with error. There's enough truth to sound persuasive, but his message is full of misrepresentations and distortions. "Add it all up and the bottom line is a big lie." Satan wants everyone to believe that he has a better way, that God is trying to fool you, that God is not your friend but is cheating you out of something really good. His strategy is to get people to rely upon him for real "progress." His alternative always sounds appealing but ends up destroying those who follow it.

Satan, fourth, despises and persecutes anyone who exposes him. Jesus explained in John 3:19 to 20, "And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than

the light because their deeds were evil. For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed." Now, Jesus knew that if the world hated Him, it would also hate his disciples too when they preach the truth about sin. The devil loves to put down the church and the truth of the Bible. Peter said in 1 Peter 4 and verse 14 that, "If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you." The devil is a bully, but God sees everything and rewards those who follow Him. If you hold to the truth and righteousness, be sure the devil will despise you and speak evil about you.

Satan, fifth, pretends to be holy. Paul spoke about some deceivers in 2 Corinthians 11:13 to 15. You see they pretended to be men of God, but they actually served Satan. "For such men are false apostles, deceitful workmen, disguising themselves as apostles of Christ. And no wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light. So it is no surprise if his servants, also, disguise themselves as servants of righteousness. Their end will correspond to their deeds." In order to deceive Christians and lead them into his "alternative" churches, the devil pretends to be a Christian leader. There are religions today that pretend to follow the Lord Jesus, but the more you observe them, the more you realize they're not God's people.

With high-sounding phrases, Satan tries to persuade people that Christianity is like a smorgasbord of ideas, from which you can pick and choose whatever doctrines you like. Well, there are thousands of denominations in America, each teaching different doctrines and wearing different names. It has become popular to follow some man's ministry rather than listen to the Word of God. This is the devil's work. He's the one who provides heresies. And heresies are the divisive false teachings that lead people astray and divide the church.

If you listen to the devil, you'll come to believe there's no such thing as heresy, that every view is equally good. And when you believe that, you've already fallen into the trap of the devil. He tried to convince Eve to quit listening to God and to trust her own reasoning. And when people ignore the Bible and start listening to the beliefs of men, they fall prey to the devil's schemes. Their eyes become blind to the truth. God's ways and man's ways, they are not the same. You cannot ignore God's Word, build your house upon sand, and expect everything to be all right between you and God. Eve was deceived, she lost sight of God, and she did what she wanted. If we are deceived, lose sight of God, and do what we want, we too will have to face the consequences of our sin.

Satan, sixth, preys on the weak and ignorant. Peter said in 1 Peter 5:8 to 9, "Be of sober spirit, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. But resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same experiences of suffering are being accomplished by your brethren who are in the world." Now the devil is looking for gullible people who will fall prey to his immoral lifestyle and his disobedience to God. He uses false prophets and false churches as alternatives to the truth. He whispers to our consciences that we can sin and not be hurt by it. Oh, he's deceptive.

No matter how appealing his message is, the devil's goal is your spiritual death. So... resist him, firm in your faith. Pay close attention to the Word of God. Keep your eyes focused on the cross. God hasn't left us alone to fight the devil. Paul said in Ephesians 6:13 to 17, "Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace. In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God."

Oh I tell you, these things will help you in your struggle: righteousness, the gospel of peace, faith, salvation, and the word of God. The armor protects you from the devil's weapons, but the sword of the Spirit, is God's Word, it's a formidable weapon. It has the truth that pierces hearts and souls. The best thing you can do to fight Satan is to know the Word of God. To put on the full armor of God and to pray. Jesus said, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God" (Matthew 4 and verse 4). Yes what we need is the word of God; and nothing else will do.

Let's pray together. Heavenly Father we're thankful that You give us Your word that can build us up and strengthen us. And give us the things that we need in order to fight against the lies of this world and the devil. Father help us to look to You to do Your will, to love You, and to be the kind of child that always walks after You. This is our prayer in the name of Jesus, Amen.

When people follow their own desires rather than listen to and obey God, the devil wins and they lose. My friend, what about you? Is the devil tricking you? If the Lord and His Word doesn't rule in your life, you'll have a master who lies to you to take your soul away. If you follow the devil, he'll take you where you don't want to go. Let Jesus be Lord of your life. And to get right with God and to overcome the devil, you need the Lord's help. You can't win by your own strength. When Christ is in you and you are in Him, He'll give you the help and the strength that you need to overcome Satan. Ephesians 6:10 to 11 says, "Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might. Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil."

To become a Christian, believe with all your heart that Jesus is the Son of God, our Savior and the risen Lord. And out of love, repent of every sin and start living as God teaches. Confess Jesus Christ as the Son of God. Be baptized or immersed in water in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins will be forgiven. Galatians 3:26 to 27 says, "For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ." Live the Christian life. Get involved at church. The closer you are to God, the easier it becomes to resist the devil. Do it for yourself, and do it for those you love. Your strong faith will lead others to place their faith in the Lord as well. Don't let another day go by, till you have made your life right with the living God. Why not be obedient to the Lord today?



Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**What is the title and main subject of this lesson?**

---

---

**What scriptures are referenced within the lesson?**

---

---

---

---

**If this lesson includes any main Bible characters, who are they and what are some of their traits?**

---

---

---

---

---

**Why is this message important?**

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Are there specific things discussed in this lesson that you would like to work on in your personal life?**

---

---

---

---

---

**How would you share this message with others and with whom would you like to share it?**

---

---

---

---

---

## Jesus and His Promises

We love it when someone keeps a promise; but we're unhappy when someone breaks a promise. You've probably suffered the heartache of a broken promise, or you may have made a promise to someone and found that you couldn't keep your word. Those things disappoint all of us. People may be well intentioned, but we're all weak and forgetful. God, however, isn't weak or forgetful; He keeps His promises. Thanks for taking time with us today. We want to be a part of your life each week.

God is faithful, loyal, and trustworthy. You can count on Him. Moses explained in Numbers 23:19 that, "God is not a man, that He should lie, Nor a son of man, that He should repent; Has He said, and will He not do it? Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good?" Moses went through lots of struggles in His life, but He never gave up on God to keep His promises.

In the New Testament we have the apostle Paul who faced afflictions, struggles, conflicts, and death; but he said about God in 1 Thessalonians 5 and verse 24 that, "He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it." He didn't doubt but said in 2 Corinthians 1:18 to 20, "But as God is faithful, our word to you is not yes and no. For the Son of God, Christ Jesus, who was preached among you by us-- by me and Silvanus and Timothy—was not yes and no, but is yes in Him. For as many as may be the promises of God, in Him they are yes; wherefore also by Him is our Amen to the glory of God through us."

Our reading today comes from the book of Acts chapter 2 verses 36 to 39 and this is part of the sermon that Peter preached on the day of Pentecost. And it talks about the promise of forgiveness. Verse 36:

Therefore let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him both Lord and Christ—this Jesus whom you crucified." Now when they heard this, they were pierced to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brethren, what shall we do?" Peter said to them, "Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off, as many as the Lord our God will call to Himself."

Oh I'm thankful that today that we have the promise of being able to be forgiven even this day and time because the promise was universal. Let's pray together. Heavenly Father we're thankful that You love us that You watch over us, that You can forgive us. Help us Father to love You, to be obedient to Your will and to always turn away from sin. In Jesus name, Amen.

Joshua is one of my favorite characters in the Bible. The Scripture always speaks well of him, and he was a courageous and faithful leader in Israel. Joshua lived through the ten plagues, crossed the Red Sea on dry ground, led Israel into battle, ascended Mount Sinai with Moses, spied out the promised land and gave a good report with Caleb, stood beside Moses in all the wanderings, and led the people into the promised land. He crossed the Jordan River on dry ground too. He fought until Israel had conquered all the land promised to Abraham.

When he was an old man, he called all Israel together. He said in Joshua 23:14, "Now behold, today I am going the way of all the earth, and you know in all your hearts and in all your souls that not one word of all the good words which the LORD your God spoke concerning you has failed; all have been fulfilled for you, not one of them has failed." Now here is a man who saw God in action for many decades of his life, even when things seemed nearly impossible! Yet he never wavered in his faith that God would keep every promise!

We can trust God to keep His promises too. And we can do that for many reasons. First, God is all powerful; and nothing is impossible for Him. God can easily do things that you and I cannot do. Job said in Job 42:2, "I know that you [speaking of God] can do all things, and that no purpose of yours can be thwarted." Jeremiah 32:17 says, "'Ah, Lord GOD! It is you who have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and by your outstretched arm! Nothing is too hard for you.'" I am reminded of Ephesians 3:20 to 21, "Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen." Yes, God can and will keep His promises.

Second, God loves us and provides for His people. We only need to look at the cross to know how much the Lord loves us. 1 John 4 and verse 10 says, "In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation (that is the atoning sacrifice) for our sins." God sacrificed His Son—this is no small or easy gift. Paul explained in Romans 8 verse 32 that, "He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?" God is not stingy with His love and care for us!

Third, He is the God who cannot lie (Titus 1 verse 2). The book of Hebrews describes the very character of God when He makes promises. Hebrews 6:17 to 18 says, "So when God desired to show more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of his purpose, he guaranteed it with an oath, so that by two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to hold fast to the hope set before us." God's character guarantees His oaths and promises. You can count on God.

So... let's think about some promises that we have in Christ. It matters greatly whether we're in Christ or out of Him. God's promises are for those who love Him and follow Him. First, Jesus promises those who love, believe, and obey Him to forgive their sins. Hebrews 8 and verse 12 says, "For I will be merciful toward their iniquities, and I will remember their sins no more." Forgiveness is such a great blessing. 2 Corinthians 5 and verse 19 says, "in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them." When God forgives, He makes friends with us and He no longer holds our sins against us.

When the guilty people at Pentecost asked what they needed to do, Peter said to them in Acts 2:38, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself." Again Ananias told Saul of Tarsus in Acts 22:16, "And now why do you wait? Rise and be baptized and wash away your sins, calling on his name." The atoning blood of Jesus Christ will wash away our sins when we repent and are baptized. God promised it and God will do it! When we meet God's conditions, God keeps His promises.

The Christians sometimes finds themselves still committing sins and needing forgiveness. 1 John 1:7 says to the Christian, "But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin." Now, cleansing come to Christians who walk in the light. John continues in 1 John 1 and verse 9 that, "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." Now we have to be honest with God about our sins and we need to confess them. God responds by cleansing us from all, all unrighteousness—every sin. Jesus also stands by us as Christians with the Father. Christ doesn't want us to sin, but He knows our weaknesses. John wrote 1 John 2:1 to 2, "My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world." Oh, I'm thankful the Lord Jesus "always lives to make intercession" for me.

Second, Jesus promises that God will take care of us. The Lord Jesus said in Matthew 6:31 to 33, "Do not worry then, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear for clothing?' For the Gentiles eagerly seek all these things; for your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you." If we'll put God first, He'll provide our needs. David wrote in Psalm 37:25, "I have been young and now I am old, Yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken Or his descendants begging bread." Paul said in Philippians 4:19, "And my God will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus." Hebrews 13:5 reminds us, "Make sure that your character is free from the love of money, being content with what you have; for He Himself has said, 'I will never desert you, nor will I ever forsake you.'" God will take care of us.

Third, God promises to listen to our prayers. The Lord Jesus said in Matthew 7:7 to 11, "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. Or what man is there among you who, when his son asks for a loaf, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, he will not give him a snake, will he? If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give what is good to those who ask Him!" God knows what we need even before we ask. He will indeed answer our prayers!

Even in times of great stress and difficulty, we can call out to God. While he was bound with chains as a prisoner and in danger of death, Paul wrote in Philippians 4:4 to 7, "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice! Let your gentle spirit be known to all men. The Lord is near. Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And (here's the result) the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." When we call out to God, He hears us! He will set a guard around our hearts and minds to give us that peace that passes all understanding. That's a powerful reason to rejoice!

Third, God's love will never leave us. Romans 8:35 to 39 says, "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? As it is written, 'For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.'" No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord." No matter what has happened to you, there's never been one moment when the Lord God didn't love you. We can say with Peter, cast "all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you" (1 Peter 5 verse 7).

Fourth, Jesus will not give us more than we can bear. The Lord Jesus said in Matthew 11:28 to 30, "Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light." The Lord gives us a livable faith and a bearable burden! Christianity is not an impossible religion. You can live the Christian life and you can go and be with God in heaven one day! Some people imagine God has no interest in saving them, but that's not true. God wants all men, every person, to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth (1 Timothy 2 verses 3 to 4). God takes no delight in people losing their souls. No not at all.

Fifth, Jesus has prepared a place for you. Jesus knew that when He died, He would go to the Father who sent Him (that's from John 7:33; and chapter 16 verse 10). And He promised in John 14:1 to 3, "Do not let your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me. 'In My Father's house are many

dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you. "If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself, that where I am, there you may be also." Oh, we have the hope of eternal life and of living with God in heaven forever.

Ephesians 2:4 to 7 says, "But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come He might show the surpassing riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus." God wants to save you and bring you home to heaven so that He might bless you for all eternity. This is our hope! What a marvelous promise!

Let's pray together. Father we are thankful that You give us Your promises and that You keep them. And Father we have hope that one day we can come and live with You forever and ever. And we're thankful that Jesus made that possible. It's in His name we pray, Amen.

God makes sure and firm promises to those who are called and love Him! We shouldn't imagine that God forgets or ignores His promises to His children. Paul, who went through many trials and struggles said in 2 Corinthians 1:19 to 20, "For the Son of God, Jesus Christ, whom we proclaimed among you, Silvanus and Timothy and I, was not Yes and No, but in him it is always Yes. For all the promises of God find their Yes in him. That is why it is through him that we utter our Amen to God for his glory." Paul had confidence in Christ, and so can you!

The question for many of us is not whether God is faithful to us but whether we're going to be faithful and obedient to Him. Many who start out strong in faith and attend church regularly grow weary and fall away. They stop reading the Bible, they stop praying, attending worship, giving to God, or being kind to others, and avoiding sin. Oh, they meant to do right, at first, but they drifted away from God. Hebrews 2 verses 1 to 3 says, "Therefore we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it. For since the message declared by angels proved to be reliable, and every transgression or disobedience received a just retribution, how shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation?" Are you right with God?

God will forgive and redeem you only after you first place your faith in Jesus Christ as the Son of God; second, you must repent of your sins and follow the Lord; third, confess your faith, let everyone know; and fourth, be baptized into Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. Now being baptized into Christ takes place when we're immersed in water. And being baptized into Christ, we're also baptized into His death, and His blood washes us clean from sin and gives us newness of life.



Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**What is the title and main subject of this lesson?**

---

---

**What scriptures are referenced within the lesson?**

---

---

---

---

**If this lesson includes any main Bible characters, who are they and what are some of their traits?**

---

---

---

---

---

**Why is this message important?**

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Are there specific things discussed in this lesson that you would like to work on in your personal life?**

---

---

---

---

---

**How would you share this message with others and with whom would you like to share it?**

---

---

---

---

---

## The God of the Bible

We know many reasons to believe in God: the starry heavens above, the moral law within, and the complexity of the cells of our body are only a few of these reasons. Now these things couldn't have happened by accident. No. No, they came by intelligent design. Only a supremely intelligent and supremely powerful Being could have created them. That person is God! Romans 1 and verse 20 says that God's "invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made." We can perceive some things about God from looking at the world, but to know God truly, we must go to Scripture.

If God did, in fact, create us, then we need to know Him. We need to know how we can come into a relationship with Him and what He desires of us. We can't find that in the woods or by the seashore, we find God by looking into His divinely revealed Word, the Bible. Only the Bible can help us understand His nature, His character, and His love for us.

Our reading today comes from the prophet Isaiah chapter 40 verses 25 and 26. And Isaiah through these chapter distinguishes the idols of the peoples of that time. With the God who made us all.

"To whom then will you liken Me That I would be his equal?" says the Holy One. Lift up your eyes on high And see who has created these stars, The One who leads forth their host by number, He calls them all by name; Because of the greatness of His might and the strength of His power, Not one of them is missing

Yes our powerful God made the universe and made it with wisdom and He made it with design. Let's pray together. Heavenly Father we're thankful that You are our father. That You have made each of us and that we're made in Your image. And Father we pray that our love for You may grow more and more. That we'll always seek to do Your will and to honor Your name. In Jesus name we pray, Amen.

How do you view God? J. B. Phillips many years ago wrote a book entitled, *Your God is Too Small*, which created quite a stir. He saw that what many thought God was like and how the Bible describes God were quite different. Many people have never taken the time to study what the Bible actually says about the nature and the character of God. Some simply focus on one aspect of the Lord's nature and then ignore other aspects that are just as important. God is gracious, yes, but God is also holy and just. God is compassionate, but He will also punish evildoers who will not repent. God is not lopsided in character. He doesn't have faults like we do.

Isaiah 55 verses 8 and 9 says, "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways," declares the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways And My thoughts than your thoughts." Since we are imperfect and weak creatures, it's hard to understand our Creator who has no imperfections or weaknesses. We would like to believe that He's just like us; but He isn't. We compromise, but He doesn't. We sin, but He doesn't. We lie to ourselves, but God never lies. He is indeed perfect.

But God is not a "force" or simply an immovable object. No scripture describes God as a person. He thinks, feels, acts, loves, wills and judges. He has the mind, and emotions, and a will of a person. He can be grieved as He was in Noah's day (Genesis 6). He can love and He showed that love by giving Jesus for our sins. He can rejoice when sinners repent (Luke 15 verse 7). He can reason and He asks us to reason with Him (Isaiah 1 verse 18). He can become angry and does so with those who will not repent. God can plan and prepare for the future. When Jesus prayed, He prayed "Our Father." Christians have a relationship with God as a child does with his father. God made man in His own image, so that man has an intelligent and moral spirit.

When Jesus came to earth, He had flesh and blood; but the Father in heaven and the Holy Spirit are not physical or material. God is spirit. And the Lord Jesus said in John 4:24 that, "God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth." God is spirit; and the Lord said in Luke 24:39 that, "a spirit does not have flesh and blood." Paul told the philosophers at Athens in Acts 17:24 to 25, "The God who made the world and all things in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands; nor is He served by human hands, as though He needed anything, since He Himself gives to all people life and breath and all things." God created man. Paul said in Acts 17:29, "Being then the children of God, we ought not to think that the Divine Nature is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and thought of man."

Well, sometimes children ask, "Where did God come from?" Well, the answer is that God has always existed. Indeed, He is self-existent. Acts 17:28 says, "in Him we live and move and have our very being." You'll remember that God introduced himself to Moses in Exodus 3 and verse 14 as, "I AM WHO I AM." This phrase was revered as the holy name of God by the Israelites. Today we use words like Yahweh or Jehovah to reflect this self-existent nature of God.

God is not only spirit and self-existent, He is also infinite. God does not have the limitations of men. Space and time cannot limit God. As to time, God is eternal. Moses wrote in Psalm 90 verse 2, "Before the mountains were born Or You gave birth to the earth and the world, Even from everlasting to everlasting, You are God." 2 Peter 3 verse 8 says, "But do not let this one fact escape your notice, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years like one day." Now unlike us, God exists outside of time. He created time for us, but He's not limited by it. Nor is God limited by space. When Solomon finished building the Temple, he said in 1 Kings 8:27, "But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Behold, heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain You, how much less this house which I have built!" Proverbs 15 verse 3 says that, "The eyes of the LORD are in every place, Watching the evil and the good."

Now beyond this we must confess that God is all-wise and all-knowing. God knows and understands all things about people, nature, animals and the universe. Romans 11:33 to 36 says, "Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and unfathomable His ways! For who has known the mind of the LORD, or who became his counselor? or who has first given to him that it might be paid back to him again? For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be the glory forever. Amen."

God is not only all-knowing, He is also all-powerful. The Lord Jesus said in Mark 10 verse 27, "With God all things are possible." Job 42 and verse 2 says God "can do all things." Jeremiah said in Jeremiah 32:17, "Ah Lord GOD! Behold, You have made the heavens and the earth by Your great power and by Your outstretched arm! Nothing is too difficult for You." Being all-powerful doesn't mean that God can or will perform logical impossibilities such as making a square circle or a stone so large it couldn't be moved. No those things are illogical.

Ephesians 4 and verse 6 says there is "one God and Father of all who is over all and through all and in all." Yes God is certainly unique. The first of the Ten Commandments says that, "You shall have no other gods before Me." That is, no other gods besides Me. Man-made gods are forbidden, because they are imaginary and really they don't exist. Idols can't reflect the true grandeur and glory of the eternal God who doesn't live in temples made with hands (Acts 17 verse 24). Men sin against God when they forsake the immortal God and serve creatures as the pagans did with idolatry in ancient times. Paul said in 1 Corinthians 8 and verse 4, "Therefore concerning the eating of things sacrificed to idols, we know that there is no such thing as an idol in the world, and that there is no God but one."

Now since God is Lord of all, He is sovereign. God rules the nations. According to Jeremiah 18:7 to 10, God plants and uproots nations. According to Acts 17:26, He “made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place.” God now commands all men everywhere to repent (Acts 17 verse 30). At the end of the world God will judge each of us according to our works and according to His Word.

As the judge of men, thankfully God is impartial. God doesn't show favoritism but accepts men from every nation who fear him and do what is right (Acts 10 verses 34 and 5). Because God is holy, we can regard what He teaches is righteous. Psalm 19 verse 9 says that, “The judgments of the LORD are true; they are righteous altogether.” God's moral and religious standards will stand firm at the judgment. Though people want to set God's ways aside, God has revealed in His word the truth about spiritual matters and about morals. God hasn't given us permission to change his teaching.

As we consider God's character, we must realize that God is utterly holy. Isaiah tells of the seraphim who cry out, “Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord of Hosts” (Isaiah 6 verse 3). James 1:13 says, “Let no one say when he is tempted, ‘I am being tempted by God’; for God cannot be tempted by evil, and He Himself does not tempt anyone.” God commands His children in 1 Peter 1 and verse 16, “Be ye holy, for I am holy.” Because God is holy, sin is offensive. People today are keenly aware of what offends them, but they may not know what offends God. While God may love the sinner and has provided a way of salvation, God still gets offended when the people He loves sin.

God's grace doesn't cancel out His holiness. And God never, never approves of sin. The prophet Habakkuk says about God in chapter 1, verse 13, “Your eyes are too pure to approve evil, And You cannot look on wickedness with favor.” According to Hebrews 6:18, “it is impossible for God to lie.” It is God's holiness that demands justice when people sin. God's goodness means that He cannot ignore sin. God doesn't simply make up sins arbitrarily. Sin is sin, because God knows it's destructive and harmful, harmful. God speaks out against sin, because He loves people. Being holy is good for people; and sin is harmful.

And in addition, God is unchangeable. God Himself said in Malachi 3 verse 6, “I am the Lord, I do not change.” Moses wrote in Numbers 23:19 that, “God is not a man, that He should lie, Nor a son of man, that He should repent; Has He said, and will He not do it? Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good?” God doesn't have the weaknesses of fickle men who change at a whim. James 1:17 says that, “Every good thing given and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shifting shadow.” Oh, I'm thankful God doesn't change, because that means we can count on Him to keep His promises. We can also count on His commandments and His moral teaching. Culture doesn't change God. Right and wrong do not change with the times.

I'm thankful that God is merciful. The Lord Jesus said in Matthew 5:45 that your Father in heaven “causes His sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.” Well, even though men were foolish and disobedient, God's kindness and love appeared in Christ Jesus. Titus 3 and verse 5 says that “He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy.” God's mercy can save even the worst of sinners when they repent and turn to Him.

That's because, God is love. We know what love is and what good is, because of the great example of our God in Christ Jesus. 1 John 4:7 to 11 says, “Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. The one who does not love does not know God, for God is love. By this the love of God was manifested in us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world so that we might live through Him. In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love

one another.” God’s character teaches us how to live and how to love. We love because He first loved us (1 John 4:19).

Why does this matter? The more we know about God, the more we love Him and the more we want to be like Him. Christ embodied every good and righteous thing, and everything He did blesses us and gives us life. The Lord Jesus said in John 15:13, “Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends.” We need to know the Lord Jesus; and the more we know Him, the better we understand our Father in Heaven.

Let’s pray. Heavenly Father we’re thankful that You sent Your son Jesus into this world so that we might know about You and Your character, Your love, Your morality, Your truth, and Your judgement at the end of time. Help us to be faithful, to love You and to obey You always. In Jesus name, Amen.

God is God. He created us, gives us life, and will judge us at the last day. Whether we accept or approve of Him, He’s still the one true and living God. God’s power, His teaching, and character hasn’t changed, even if our culture changes. What we think or feel about God doesn’t define Him. God defines and describes Himself through His revealed word. And we must accept Him on His terms. The God of the Bible is very different from many popular beliefs. Some serve a false god that they wish existed rather than the true God revealed in Scripture. And this is why we must search the Scriptures. We want the true God.

I have a question. Paul called the God of the Bible “my God” in Philippians 4:19. Is He your God? Be honest: are you living in such a way that honors or dishonors God, that please or offends God? If you’re living in such a way that God is offended, then shouldn’t you think about your soul?

To get right with God, love and believe in Jesus Christ. Believe that He died for your sins and arose from the dead. Make Him your Lord by turning from your sins in repentance. Becoming a Christian is a transformation of life, leaving the old man of sin to become like Christ. With your love, faith, and repentance, confess your faith and be baptized into Christ. Baptism is an immersion in water for the forgiveness of your sins. Baptism is the time when God buries the old man of sin and raises you up to walk in newness of life according to Romans 6:3 to 7. In baptism God acts upon you, making you His child, adding you to the church, forgiving your sins, and giving you eternal life. What are you waiting for? The Bible says in Acts 22:16, “Rise and be baptized and wash away your sins, calling on his name.” Won’t you do that today?



Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**What is the title and main subject of this lesson?**

---

---

**What scriptures are referenced within the lesson?**

---

---

---

---

**If this lesson includes any main Bible characters, who are they and what are some of their traits?**

---

---

---

---

---

**Why is this message important?**

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Are there specific things discussed in this lesson that you would like to work on in your personal life?**

---

---

---

---

---

**How would you share this message with others and with whom would you like to share it?**

---

---

---

---

---