

A THREE-LESSON STUDY FOR THE NEWLY BAPTIZED

Welcome to the Family of God

What God did for you when you obeyed the gospel, and what He
now requires of you

1

LESSON 1 OF 3

What God did for you

The new birth, the church you were added to, and the gift you received.

IN THIS LESSON

- 01 You obeyed the gospel
- 02 Your sins are gone
- 03 The Lord added you to His church
- 04 What the church is and why it matters
- 05 You are a new creation
- 06 The gift of the Holy Spirit

You obeyed the gospel

You did not invent a path to God. You obeyed the one He revealed, the same pattern every convert in Acts obeyed. Acts 2:37–41; 8:35–39; 16:30–34

1

Heard

Faith comes by hearing the Word of God

Romans 10:17

2

Believed

Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God

John 8:24

3

Repented

Turned from sin to serve God

Acts 17:30

4

Confessed

Jesus as Lord with your mouth

Romans 10:9–10

5

Baptized

Immersed for the remission of sins

Acts 2:38

Obedience that would not wait

THEN

First century

A busy royal treasurer read Isaiah on a long trip. Philip preached Jesus to him. He saw water, asked what hindered him, and was baptized on the spot.

Acts 8:26–39

NOW

Today

A nurse reads the Bible on her phone after night shifts. A coworker studies with her. She asks, “What keeps me from being baptized?” That night, she obeys.

THE LESSON

When the truth is clear, obedience is urgent. Neither one waited for a convenient day. 2 Corinthians 6:2

Washed away

“Arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord.”

Acts 22:16

Buried and raised with Christ

You were baptized into His death and raised to walk in newness of life.

Romans 6:3–4

Saved by His blood

Baptism now saves you, not by washing the body but by the answer of a good conscience.

1 Peter 3:21

TODAY When a debt is paid in full, the statement reads \$0. Not paused, not reduced. Gone.

The Lord added you

You did not join a denomination or vote yourself in. The moment you were saved, Christ added you to the one body He purchased with His own blood.

TODAY No baby applies to join a family. Birth makes them a member. Your new birth did the same. John 3:5

Acts 2:47

The Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.

1 Corinthians 12:13

By one Spirit we are all baptized into one body.

Ephesians 4:4–5 · Acts 20:28

One body, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, bought with His blood.

What is the church?

ekklesia

“The called out.” The church is the people God has called out of sin by the gospel and gathered to Christ: the body of the saved.

Not a building, a denomination or a club. People who belong to Christ. [2 Thess. 2:14](#); [1 Peter 2:9](#)

Built by Christ [Matthew 16:18](#)
“Upon this rock I will build my church.”

Bought by His blood [Acts 20:28](#)
He purchased it at the price of His own life.

Headed by Christ [Colossians 1:18](#)
He is the head of the body; His Word governs it.

One body [Ephesians 4:4](#); [1:22–23](#)
One church, seen in local congregations of saints.

What Scripture calls the church

Church of Christ

It belongs to Christ and wears His name.

Romans 16:16

Church of God

God is its owner and its builder.

1 Corinthians 1:2

The body

Christ is the head; members serve together.

Ephesians 1:22–23

The kingdom

Christ reigns as King over His people.

Colossians 1:13

House of God

A family of brothers and sisters in Christ.

1 Timothy 3:15

The bride

Loved by Christ and kept pure for Him.

Ephesians 5:25–27

ITS MEMBERS are called disciples, Christians, saints and brethren. Acts 11:26; 1 Peter 4:16; Colossians 1:2

Following men instead of Christ

THEN

First century

Corinth split into camps: “I am of Paul,” “I of Apollos,” “I of Cephas.” Paul answered, “Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you?”

1 Corinthians 1:10–13

NOW

Today

People choose a church by a favorite preacher, a music style or an online personality, and wear names that Scripture never gave.

THE LESSON

Christ alone was crucified for you. Follow Him, wear His name and stay united in His Word. 1 Corinthians 3:4–7

Why the church matters

Ephesians 5:25

Christ loved the church and gave Himself for it.

Ephesians 5:23

He is the Savior of the body. The saved are in it.

Ephesians 2:16

We are reconciled to God in one body by the cross.

Ephesians 3:10–11

It was in God's eternal purpose, not an afterthought.

1 Timothy 3:15

It is the pillar and ground of the truth.

Ephesians 3:21

God is glorified in the church by Christ Jesus.

THINK ABOUT IT

Saying "I love Jesus, but not the church" is like telling a man you love him but despise his bride.

“If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.”

2 Corinthians 5:17

The old life was buried in the water. The life you live now, you live by faith in the Son of God. Galatians 2:20

The gift you received

Promised at baptism

The gift of the Holy Spirit is for all who repent and are baptized.

Acts 2:38–39; 5:32

He leads through the Word

The sword of the Spirit is the Word of God, not a feeling.

Ephesians 6:17; John 16:13

He dwells in you

Your body is now His temple. Honor God with it.

1 Cor. 6:19–20; Romans 8:9

Miracles confirmed the Word

Signs confirmed the message until it was complete.

Mark 16:20; Heb. 2:3–4; 1 Cor. 13:8–10

TODAY Feelings rise and fall with sleep and circumstance. Test everything by the Word. 1 John 4:1

Answer from your Bible

1 What did baptism do with your sins?

Read: Acts 22:16

2 Who added you to the church?

Read: Acts 2:47

3 Why does the church wear Christ's name and no man's?

Read: Romans 16:16; 1 Corinthians 1:13

4 How does the Holy Spirit lead you today?

Read: Ephesians 6:17

Write your answers down. Bring any questions to [mentor's name] or to Bible class.

2

LESSON 2 OF 3

Now you must grow

God has given three means of growth: His Word, prayer and the assembly.

IN THIS LESSON

- 01 Grow like a newborn
- 02 How we got the Bible
- 03 How God kept His Word
- 04 How we know what God approves
- 05 Open your Bible every day
- 06 Prayer and worship

Grow like a newborn

“As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby.”

1 Peter 2:2 A baby who never eats does not stay a baby; it dies.

01

The Word

God speaks to you

2 Timothy 3:16–17

02

Prayer

You speak to God

Philippians 4:6

03

The assembly

You worship with the saints

Hebrews 10:24–25

How we got the Bible

God breathed it

All Scripture is given by
inspiration of God.

2 Tim. 3:16–17



Spirit-led men wrote it

Holy men spoke as moved
by the Holy Spirit.

2 Pet. 1:20–21



Churches received it

Read, copied and shared as
the Word of God.

Col. 4:16; 1 Thess. 2:13



It reached you

Translated so every nation
can hear and obey.

Rom. 16:25–26

66

books

About 40

writers, one Author

1,500 years

roughly, from Moses to John

3

languages: Hebrew, Aramaic,
Greek

How the books were recognized

OLD TESTAMENT

Jesus confirmed it

He named its three parts: the Law, the Prophets and the Psalms.

Luke 24:44

He spoke of it from Abel to Zechariah, first book to last.

Luke 11:51

NEW TESTAMENT

The apostles gave it

Their writings carried the Lord's own authority.

1 Cor. 14:37; Ephesians 2:20

They called one another's writings Scripture.

2 Peter 3:15–16; 1 Tim. 5:18

REMEMBER God gave the books. His people received them. No council made them Scripture.

God kept His Word

“The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever.”

Isaiah 40:8 · 1 Peter 1:23–25 · Matthew 24:35

God promised to preserve His Word, and He has. The Bible in your hands is the message the apostles delivered.

TODAY Like a file saved on thousands of devices: if one copy has a typo, the others expose it.

5,000+

Greek manuscripts of the New Testament, far more than any other ancient book

1947

Dead Sea Scrolls found: Isaiah copied a thousand years earlier reads the same

Complete

The faith was delivered once for all. Nothing to add or take away. Jude 3; Rev. 22:18–19

How we know what God approves

Whatever we do in word or deed must be done in the name of the Lord Jesus, by His authority. **Colossians 3:17; 1 Peter 4:11**

1	2	3	4
Command	Approved example	Necessary conclusion	God’s silence
“Repent, and be baptized.”	Disciples met on the first day to break bread.	Preaching Jesus included teaching baptism.	“Gopher wood” ruled out every other wood.
Acts 2:38	Acts 20:7	Acts 8:35–36	Gen. 6:14; Heb. 7:14

TODAY A prescription for one medicine does not let the pharmacist add others. God’s silence is not permission.

Adding to what God said

THEN

First century

Teachers told Gentile Christians they must also be circumcised. Paul said adding to the gospel perverts it, and those who bound it were severed from Christ.

Galatians 1:6–9; 5:4

NOW

Today

A church adds whatever draws a crowd, reasoning, “The Bible doesn’t say not to.” God’s silence is treated as permission.

THE LESSON God’s Word is complete. Adding to it is as serious as taking from it. Revelation 22:18–19; 2 John 9

Open your Bible every day

“Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”

2 Timothy 2:15

Be like the Bereans: receive the Word eagerly and search the Scriptures daily to see whether things are so. Acts 17:11

TODAY Most of us check our phones before we get out of bed. Open God’s Word first.

A first reading plan

WEEKS	READ
1–3	John: who Jesus is
4–6	Acts: how the church began
7–8	Romans 1–8
9–10	Ephesians and Philippians
11–12	James and 1 Peter

Bring your questions to Bible class. No question is too small.

Speak to your Father

Pray without ceasing

Make prayer the habit of every day, not an emergency measure.

1 Thessalonians 5:17

Pray in Jesus' name

Christ is the one mediator between God and men.

John 14:13–14; 1 Timothy 2:5

Bring every care

With thanksgiving, make your requests known, and His peace will guard you.

Philippians 4:6–7

Pray for others

The fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.

James 5:16

TODAY Prayer is not a 911 call for emergencies. It is the daily conversation of a child with his Father.

Worship with the saints

“Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is.” [Hebrews 10:25](#)

Every first day of the week, the church worships as the New Testament directs, not as men prefer.

ACT OF WORSHIP	WHAT IT IS	SCRIPTURE
Lord’s Supper	Remembering His death every first day	Acts 20:7 ; 1 Cor. 11:23–26
Singing	With the voice, making melody in the heart	Ephesians 5:19 ; Col. 3:16
Prayer	Praying together as one body	Acts 2:42
Preaching	Hearing the Word proclaimed	Acts 20:7 ; 2 Tim. 4:2
Giving	Laying by in store as prospered	1 Cor. 16:1–2 ; 2 Cor. 9:7

Answer from your Bible

1 Where did the Bible come from: men or God?

Read: 2 Peter 1:20–21

2 What does God’s silence teach us?

Read: Hebrews 7:14

3 What does the church do every first day of the week?

Read: Acts 20:7; Ephesians 5:19

4 When will you read and pray each day? Write your plan.

Read: Psalm 55:17

Write your answers down. Bring any questions to [mentor’s name] or to Bible class.

3

LESSON 3 OF 3

A new way of life

Living holy, standing firm, serving the body and sharing the good news.

IN THIS LESSON

01 Put off the old, put on the new

02 When temptation comes

03 Assurance and faithfulness

04 Answer opposition with love

05 Use what God gave you

06 Tell someone what the Lord did

Put off the old, put on the new

Put off Colossians 3:5–9

- Sexual sin of every kind (1 Thess. 4:3)
- Anger, rage and filthy talk (Col. 3:8)
- Lying, even small lies (Eph. 4:25)
- Stealing and cheating (Eph. 4:28)
- Drunkenness and getting high (1 Pet. 4:3)

Put on Colossians 3:12–17

- Compassion and kindness (Col. 3:12)
- Forgiving as Christ forgave (Col. 3:13)
- Honest, hard work (Eph. 4:28)
- Speech that builds up (Eph. 4:29)
- Thankfulness in everything (Col. 3:15)

TODAY This includes what you watch, scroll, post and text. Ask: would I do this with Christ beside me? Philippians 4:8

A costly clean break

THEN

First century

New Christians in Ephesus confessed their deeds and publicly burned their books of magic, worth fifty thousand pieces of silver.

Acts 19:18–20

NOW

Today

A new Christian deletes apps, cancels subscriptions, blocks old contacts and ends a sinful relationship, even when it costs money and friends.

THE LESSON

Christ is worth more than anything you give up. Make a clean break, not a slow goodbye. Philippians 3:7–8

When temptation comes

Baptism did not end your battle with sin. It enlisted you in the Lord's army. Satan will press harder now, but God has not left you defenseless.

Resist

God will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear; He makes a way of escape. Resist the devil and he will flee.

1 Cor. 10:13; James 4:7; Eph. 6:10–11

When you stumble

You are not baptized again. Repent, confess your sin to God, and pray. As you walk in the light, the blood keeps cleansing you.

1 John 1:7–9; Acts 8:22; James 5:16

TODAY Delete the app, leave the group chat, change the route home. Flee temptation; do not flirt with it. 2 Timothy 2:22

You can know you are saved

“These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life.” 1 John 5:13

Built on God’s promise

Not on how you feel today. God cannot lie.

Mark 16:16; Titus 1:2

Kept in the light

As you walk with Him, the blood keeps cleansing.

1 John 1:7

No condemnation

Those in Christ are not under God’s sentence.

Romans 8:1

TODAY A child does not wake up wondering if he is still in the family. Live as God’s child: confident and faithful.

“Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.”

Revelation 2:10

A Christian can fall away. Scripture warns saved people to take heed lest an evil heart of unbelief turn them from the living God. Salvation is kept by continuing in the faith. [Hebrews 3:12–14](#); [Galatians 5:4](#); [2 Peter 2:20–22](#); [Matthew 24:13](#)

TODAY The marathon medal goes to the runner who crosses the finish line, not the one who started fast. [Hebrews 12:1](#)

One drifted, one came back

THEN

First century

Demas served beside Paul, then forsook him, loving this present world. John Mark once left the work too, but returned and became useful.

NOW

Today

A young man's new job takes his Sundays. He drifts for months. A brother keeps calling, and he comes home to the Lord and the church.

2 Timothy 4:10–11; Acts 13:13

THE LESSON Drifting happens slowly. If you drift, come back. If a brother drifts, go after him. James 5:19–20

Answer opposition with love

Expect it

Jesus said even family may oppose those who follow Him.

Matthew 10:34–37; 2 Tim. 3:12

Let your life speak

Godly conduct can win people without a word.

1 Peter 3:1–2; Matthew 5:16

Answer gently

Be ready to give a reason for your hope, with meekness.

1 Peter 3:15

Do not turn back

Seek to please Christ, not to win approval.

Luke 9:62; Galatians 1:10

TODAY Someone may say, “I was already baptized as a baby.” Don’t argue. Open the Bible together and study.

Use what God gave you

Every member has a function. No one is a spectator. [Romans 12:4–8](#); [1 Peter 4:10](#)

Welcome visitors and new members

[Romans 15:7](#)

Visit the sick, widows and shut-ins

[James 1:27](#)

Learn now so you can teach later

[2 Timothy 2:2](#)

Give cheerfully each Lord’s Day

[2 Corinthians 9:7](#)

Help with practical needs

[Galatians 6:10](#)

Pray for the members by name

[Ephesians 6:18](#)

TODAY A team loses when players sit on the bench. Ask [contact person] where you can start serving this month.

Tell someone what the Lord did

John 1:41

Andrew first found his own brother Simon and brought him to Jesus.

Acts 8:4

Ordinary Christians went everywhere preaching the Word.

Matthew 28:19–20

Go, teach, baptize, and teach them to observe all He commanded.

TODAY If you found the cure for a disease killing your family, you would not keep it quiet. The gospel is that cure.

Three people I will invite to study or worship

1.

2.

3.

Answer from your Bible

1 What one thing must you put off this week?

Read: Colossians 3:5–9

2 What should a Christian do when he sins?

Read: 1 John 1:7–9

3 How should you answer someone who objects?

Read: 1 Peter 3:15

4 Who will you tell about Christ this month?

Read: John 1:41

Write your answers down. Bring any questions to [mentor's name] or to Bible class.

THIS WEEK

Your first steps

1 Read John chapters 1–3
John 20:31

2 Memorize Acts 2:38 and 1 John 1:7
Psalm 119:11

3 Pray every morning and every night
Psalm 55:17; Daniel 6:10

4 Sunday class [time] and worship [time]
Acts 20:7

5 Wednesday Bible study [time]
Acts 2:42

6 Study with [mentor's name] on [day]
2 Timothy 2:2

YOUR CHARGE

“Choose you this day whom ye will serve... as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.”

Joshua 24:15

01
Read daily

02
Pray always

03
Assemble faithfully

04
Live holy

05
Tell others

Fight the good fight, finish the course, keep the faith. A crown of righteousness waits for all who love His appearing. 2 Timothy 4:7–8

“I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.”

John 14:3

The Lord Himself will descend from heaven, the dead in Christ will rise, and we will be with Him forever. **1**
Thessalonians 4:16–18

TODAY Like a family counting the days until a soldier comes home, live ready for His return. 2 Peter 3:11–14

WELCOME HOME

“Ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.”

Galatians 3:26–27

You have brothers and sisters here who will pray for you, study with you and walk beside you. Call on us.

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