Walk in Love

BECOMING AN IMITATOR OF GOD

"And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us..." --Ephesians 5:2a (ESV)

Book 2 of The Walk Series

Published by Good Soil - A Ministry of ABWE

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WELCOME



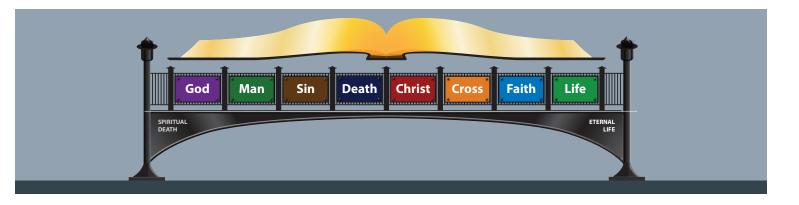
Becoming Acquainted

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APPENDIX



ChronoBridge Review

from The Story of Hope and The Way to Joy

The Gospel in 8 Key Words

	God: One, true, eternal, and holy God
נ	exists who is our all-powerful Creator and
	just Judge to whom we are accountable.
	(Hebrews 11:6)



Man: We are made and loved by God who deserves our full obedience. (Genesis 2:7)



Sin: We all have sinned against God and deserve His righteous punishment. (Romans 3:23)



Death: We are facing God's judgment and cannot escape it on our own. *(Hebrews 9:27)*



Christ: Jesus Christ is the perfect Son of God and the perfect Son of Man, and He is the only way to eternal life. (*John 14:6*)



Cross: Jesus Christ, God's Son, died for our sins, rose from the dead to rescue us from death and to give us eternal life. (1 Peter 2:24)



Faith: We must trust in Jesus' death on the cross as the only satisfactory payment for our sins, abandoning our trust in other things on which we formerly relied to save us. (Ephesians 2:8-9)



Life: Jesus alone has power over death and gives eternal life to those who trust solely in Him for the forgiveness of sins. *(John 11:25-26)*





Walk in Love

Book 2 in "The Walk Series" — Continuing on the Path to Disciple Maker

Congratulations! You finished *Walk Worthy* and are ready to move on to *Walk in Love.* In *Walk Worthy*, you learned about spiritual disciplines, how to do inductive Bible study, and went on to use your new skills to study about how we, as believers, ought to be transformed as we live by means of the Spirit.

Now, we're going to learn how to walk in love in the Body of Christ, His Church. Your inductive Bible study skills will be put to work so you can learn about...

- \cdot The unity we have in Christ
- The spiritual gifts we receive to serve the Body
- How to worship and serve together
- How to relate to one another
- \cdot How to reach out to others outside the Body of Christ

Have fun studying God's Word and growing as you relate to God's Church.

INDUCTIVE BIBLE STUDY REVIEW

Before we start our first session, let's review the Inductive Bible study approach that we learned in Session 1 in *Walk Worthy* that we will continue to use in *Walk in Love*.

"Inductive Bible study is an approach to God's Word focusing on three basic steps that move from a focus on specific details to a more general, universal principle" so says <u>www.GotQuestions.org</u>. The three basic steps are Observation, Interpretation, and Application.

OBSERVATION asks:

What does the text we're studying say?

During this step, we should answer basic reporter questions; who, what, when, where, why, and how. Also look for words that seem to be repeated or seem particularly significant — **STUDY**.

INTERPRETATION asks: What does the text we're studying mean?

During this step, we are trying to determine what the Bible story or text meant to its original audience. Try to put yourself in their place. What might they be thinking? Feeling? Experiencing at that time? — **CONTEXT**.

Then we'll usually try to pass the text through our essential truths grid: what does this passage tell us about GOD, MAN, SIN, DEATH, CHRIST, CROSS, FAITH, LIFE? This can help us build our theology.

APPLICATION asks:

How should I respond to God or how should I change the way I relate to people based on this text?

During this step, we're trying to determine how we should respond based on the meaning we discovered in steps one and two. Certainly, people will have different responses, but our different applications should come from a singular, non-contrived meaning. We want our application to have a response to the God who gave us His Word and also a response to the people around us. A text may demand a response to both—or not—but we want to ask ourselves the questions to be sure — **OBEY/APPLY**.



Opening Prayer

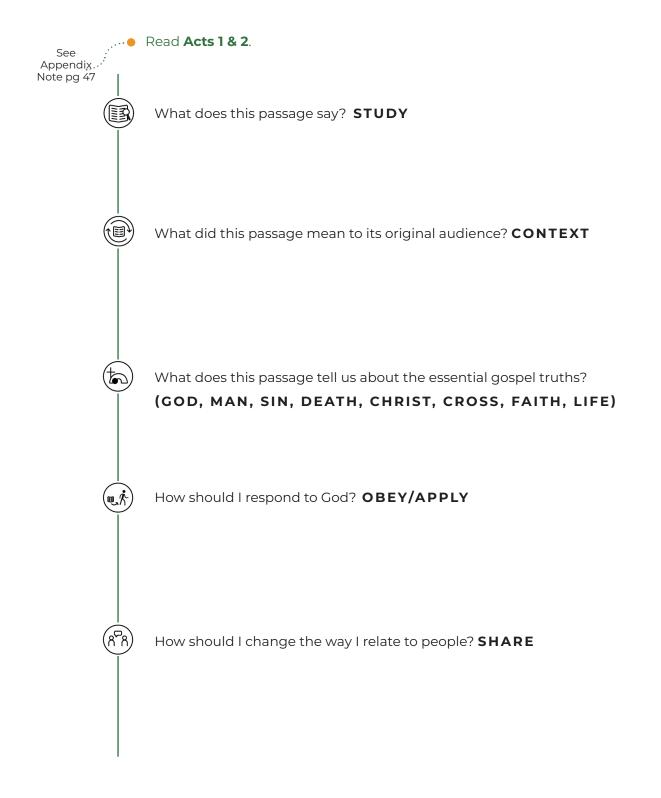
Quiz each other on all or any of the verses, starting with Galatians 5:16-26. (10-15 mins)



*Prayer scattered throughout this section as is deemed appropriate.



Read **Ephesians 5:1-2**. We finished our *Walk Worthy* sessions and today are moving into *Walk in Love* sessions. Notice who is our example of walking in love—Jesus. Let's watch for followers of Jesus who walk in love, also.



In Ephesians, we have already been talking about how we *should walk* as opposed to how we *should not walk*. This story in the book of Acts emphasizes the fact that the people walked in unity.

Now let's read **Ephesians 4:1-6**.

There's our exhortation to walk worthy of our calling. According to verses 2 and 3, what is part of a "worthy walk"?

See Appendix Note pg 47 🛛 🗤 🔶

Play around a bit with the 7 "ones" in Ephesians 4:4-6, and see if you can make a diagram or sketch which would illustrate the content of those verses.



Evangelism & Discipleship Skills

The early church was unified. We are exhorted to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. What practical steps can you take to walk in unity with people in your church? In the Body of Christ outside your church?

MEMORY ASSIGNMENT:

Ephesians 4:1-3.

(We are adding verse 3 to verses 1-2 already memorized at the beginning of Walk Worthy.)

Pray for each other before you go.



Opening Prayer

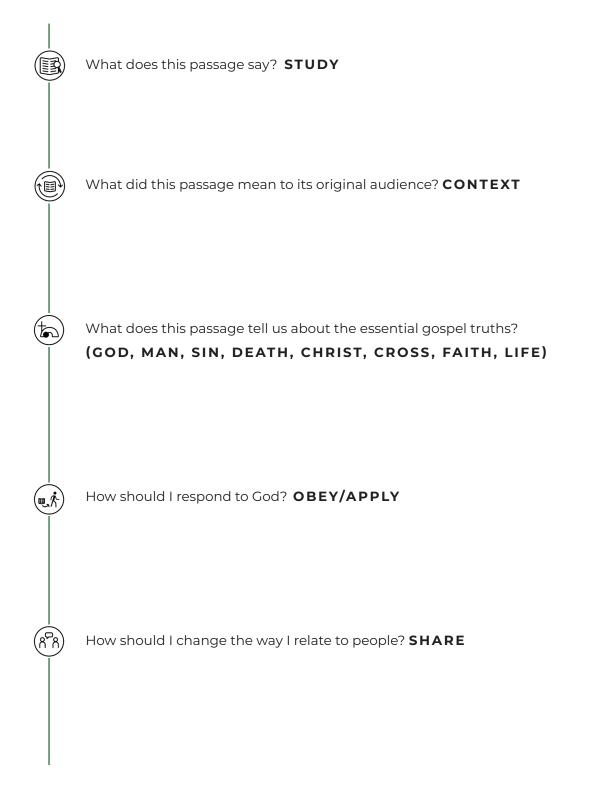
Quiz each other on all or any of the verses, starting with Ephesians 4:1-3. (10-15 mins)



*Prayer scattered throughout this section as is deemed appropriate.



Read **Ephesians 4:1-16** and answer the five questions together, then work through the questions following the five.



Who is the **person**

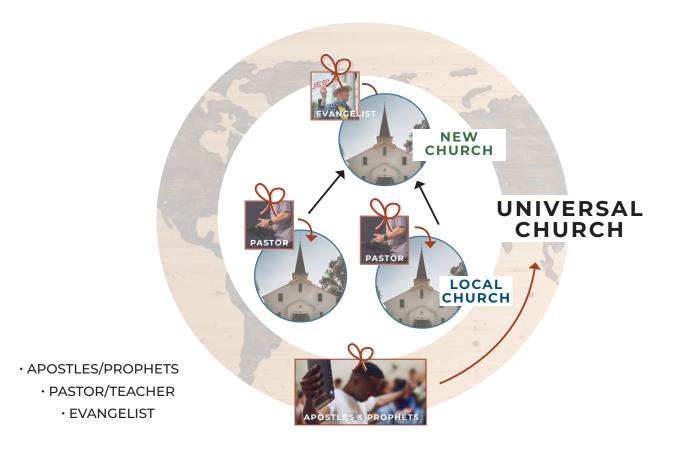
responsible for the ministry of the local church? In other words, who gave the gifts to the local church? (verse 11)

See Appendix Note pg 47 · · · · · •

Gifts! | Part 1

Look at the graphic, and see if you can explain it to your disciple-maker.

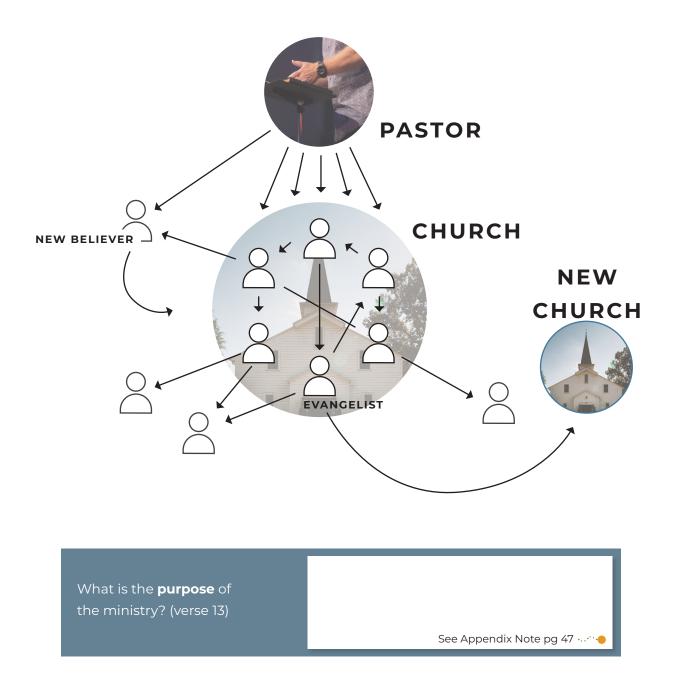




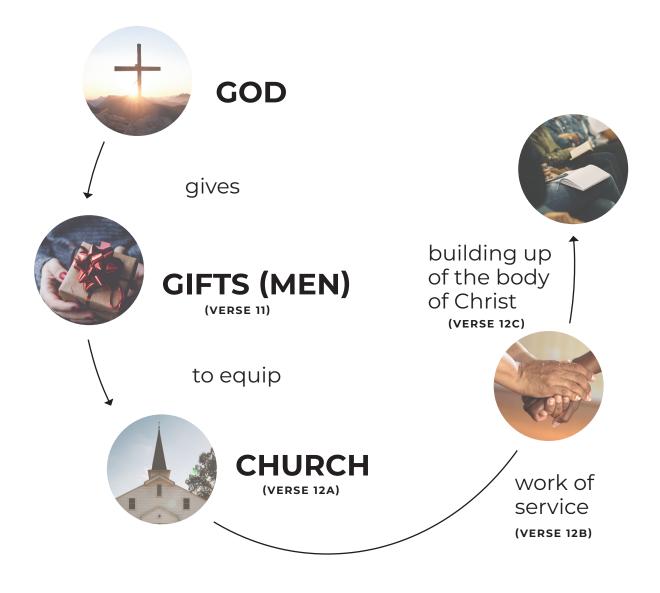
Why were the gifts of men given (what was the **purpose** in giving them)?

See Appendix Note p 47 ••••••••

So, the **personnel** and **process** might look something like the following graphic. Explain what you understand to be the meaning of the graphic.



You may have noticed that in each of these questions, a key word that starts with the letter 'p' shows up. Sometimes that helps people remember concepts. Next time you get together, you will deal with the **practicality** of the ministry. But for now, the **personalness** of the ministry needs to be noted: ME! Every one of us needs to be involved in the ministry of the church. As seen in the graphic below, which illustrates 4:13-16, the gifts of pastor-teachers are given to equip us, the church, to do the work of the ministry. Read the verses slowly as you walk through the graphic.



The following two anonymous stories on the next page illustrate well what should happen in the church but often doesn't.

A STORY ABOUT FOUR PEOPLE

There was an important job to be done, and Everybody was sure that **Somebody** would do it. **Anybody** could have done it, but **Nobody** did it. **Somebody** got angry because it was **Everybody's** job. **Everybody** thought that **Anybody** could do it. But **Nobody** realized that **Everybody** wouldn't do it. It ended up that **Everybody** blamed **Somebody** when **Nobody** did what **Anybody** could have done. So, who did it? **Nobody**!

Does that sound familiar? Instead, this should be our attitude.

I am only one.

But I am one. I can't do everything—but I can do something. And because I can't do everything, I won't refuse to do the something I can do.

What is exciting is that God not only gives the Church pastor-teachers to equip us, but He also gives each of us individually gifts to help us do the ministry to which He has called us. We'll look at those gifts next time.



Evangelism & Discipleship Skills

Are you involved in serving in your church? If not, what steps can you take?

MEMORY	ASSIGNMENT:
	ASSIGNMENT

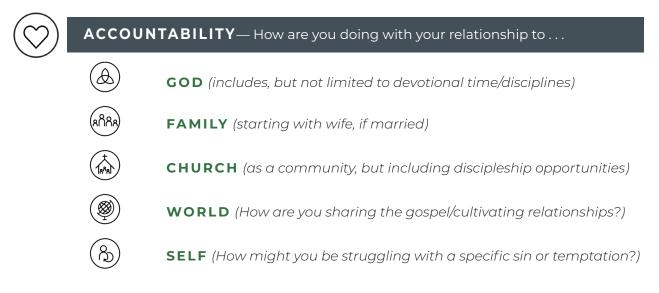
I Corinthians 13:1

Pray for each other before you go.



Opening Prayer

Quiz each other on all or any of the verses, starting with Corinthians 13:1. (10-15 mins)



*Prayer scattered throughout this section as is deemed appropriate.

BIBLE STUDY



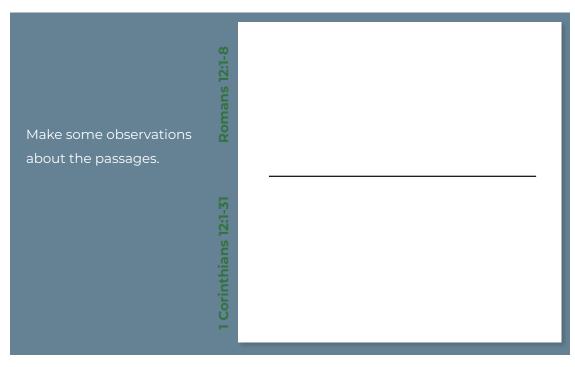
Last time, we looked at Ephesians 4 as we learned about spiritual gifts. Interestingly enough, four passages deal with gifts in the New Testament—two 4s and two 12s— Ephesians 4, 1 Peter 4, Romans 12, and 1 Corinthians 12. While the principal message of Ephesians 4 is that God gave gifts of men to the Church to minister spiritually (and the men were gifted in certain ways), the other passages inform about individual spiritual gifts given to people so they can minister. Remember, the gifts of men were given to equip the saints to do the work of the ministry. The saints also receive spiritual gifts to be used in ministering.

Today, we are going to use the Observation, Interpretation, Application method. Even though we always do something very similar, today, we will not be using the 5 questions, but simply observing, interpreting, and applying the passages. Read **1 Peter 4:8-11** and make as many observations as you can especially about verses 10 and 11.

Verse 10	Verse 11
● ···· See Appendix Note pg 48	See Appendix Note pg 48
Based on your observations, make some interpretations. In other words, what does this mean for you?	

Now, let's look at Romans 12:1-8 and 1 Corinthians 12:1-31 where the actual gifts

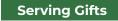
are listed. • ······See Appendix Note pg 48



1 Corinthians 12 ends with a "cliff hanger." What is this more excellent way of which Paul is talking in verse 31? We'll deal with that next time.

Place the gifts under the two categories found in 1 Peter 4:11. • See Appendix Note pg 49







Evangelism & Discipleship Skills

What are some practical steps (application) you might take now that you've

learned about the gifts? ••••••See Appendix Note pg 50

MEMORY ASSIGNMENT:

1 Corinthians 13: 2.

Pray for each other before you go.



Opening Prayer

Quiz each other on all or any of the verses, starting with 1 Corinthians 13:1-2. (10-15 mins)



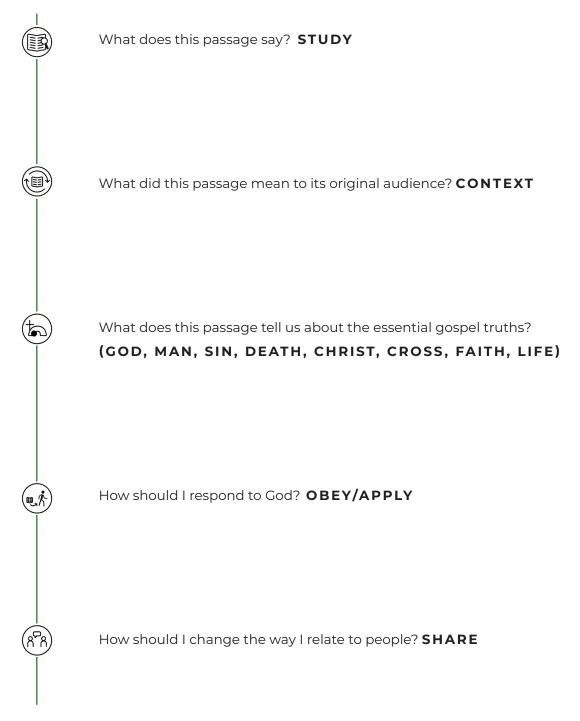
*Prayer scattered throughout this section as is deemed appropriate.



BIBLE STUDY— based on 5 questions

Recently, we looked at 1 Peter 4, Romans 12, and 1 Corinthians 12 and saw what they teach about spiritual gifts. As Paul finished Chapter 12 in 1 Corinthians, he said that there is a "more excellent way" in verse 31. That way is developed and illustrated in Chapter 13.

Read 1 Corinthians 13. Then answer the 5 questions below.



Now move on to Chapter 14 and ask the same questions.

What is *most* important? (How should you use your gift?)

It is very clear from 1 Corinthians 13:8-10, that prophecies, tongues, and knowledge will pass away because they were (at the time of Paul's writing) partial (v.9).

When would they be done away with? (verse 10)	See Appendix Note pg 50
Which gift is better? Why?	See Appendix Note pg 50

The word τέλειος ("perfect" in ESV and "complete" in NIV) means something brought to completion, fully accomplished, fully developed, or thorough; complete, entire.

When the written Word of God was completed, these kinds of prophecies and knowledge would be "set aside" ($\kappa \alpha \tau \alpha \rho \gamma \epsilon \omega$ —rendered useless or unproductive by something else) and tongues would cease ($\pi \alpha \iota \omega$). Thus, we believe sign gifts (e.g. tongues and prophecy) have ceased or been done away with for now, but that the other gifts are still in use by the Spirit who gives each believer one or more to be used in ministry.

BUT HOW DOES ONE LEARN HIS/HER GIFT(S)?

First, let's define "spiritual gift" based on what we've read in the gifts passages: an ability given by God to serve Him. The spiritual gifts were given to meet the true needs of members of the Body of Christ, thus building up the Body. There are several spiritual gift inventories available in which a person answers many questions about him or herself. Then, based on the answers, the respondent is *told* what his/her gift is. We believe that since spiritual gifts are for the purpose of meeting the needs of people, one would do better to:

Inform yourself about the gifts. Study the passages. Note what the gifts are and how they work.



- **Practice**—do the ministries associated with various particular gifts.
- 3
- **Ask** questions of people around you (in the Body) to determine how they see God working through you. Since a God-given spiritual gift enables us to minister more effectively, then the areas in which people see God using you or where you are having more fruit, it is likely that you have that particular gift.

Appendix pages 59-62 will help you follow the above plan. Work through these pages over the next several weeks. Be sure to talk with your disciple-maker about what you are learning and experiencing. The first two pages give definitions of the gifts. Study the definitions and the passages so that you know them. Then practice them (number 2 above) and ask others how they see God using you in their lives (number 3 above).



Evangelism & Discipleship Skills

Walk through the steps, detrmine what your gifts are, and use them!

1 Corinthians 13:3.

Pray for each other before you go.



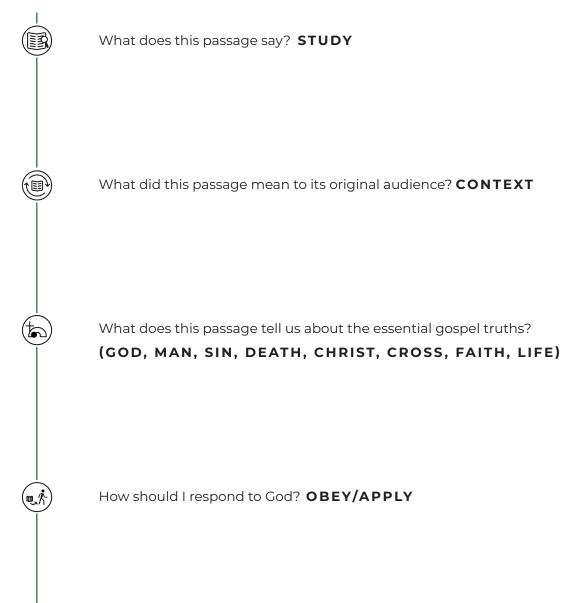
Opening Prayer

Quiz each other on all or any of the verses, *starting with* 1 Corinthians 13:1-3. (10-15 mins)



Lesson 9 "The Joy of Fellowship" in **The Way to Joy**, emphasized the importance of belonging to a Bible-believing church and attending regularly so you have a place to grow and serve. One of the main functions of a local church is corporate worship, and most believers would probably be able to tell you that. However, many of us do not worship well. "Modern man worships his work, works at his play, and plays at his worship."¹

But we are commanded to worship (Deut. 6:13; Matt. 4:10). And whether it is done out of duty or out of love, worship should be an important part of our lives. Read **Psalm 95** and ask our 5 questions of the text.



¹ Quoted in Donald Whitney, Spiritual Disciplines for the Christian Life (Colorado Springs; NavPress, 1991), 89.

How should I change the way I relate to people? SHARE

We naturally notice how the substance of a passage teaches us, but, sometimes, especially in poetry like the Psalms, *structure* can teach us as well. The structure of Psalm 95 ephasizes the importance of worship along with the substance.

Look at the psalm again. What do you notice about its structure

See Appendix Note pg 50-51

> What practical steps can you take this week to improve your participation in corporate worship?



Evangelism & Discipleship Skills

In Psalm 95, we were challenged to "come". Who could you invite to come? Think about who you are going to invite to church this week, and pray.



MEMORY ASIGNMENT:

I Corinthians 13:4-5.

Pray for each other before you go.

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Relationships!

Opening Prayer

Quiz each other on all or any of the verses, starting with 1 Corinthians 13:1-5. (10-15 mins)

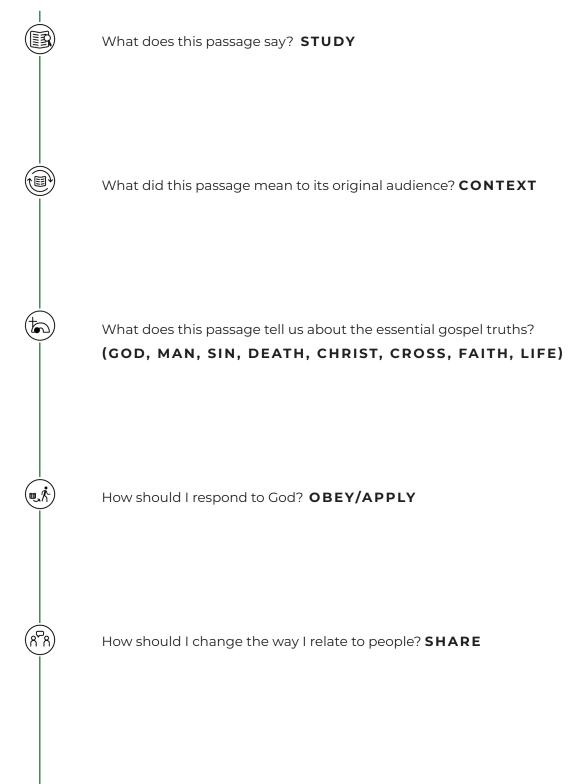
ACCOUNTABILITY— How are you doing with your relationship to ...

- GOD (includes, but not limited to devotional time/disciplines)
- FAMILY (starting with wife, if married)
 - **CHURCH** (as a community, but including discipleship opportunities)
 - **WORLD** (How are you sharing the gospel/cultivating relationships?)
 - **SELF** (How might you be struggling with a specific sin or temptation?)

*Prayer scattered throughout this section as is deemed appropriate.



Read **Hebrews 13**, making observations based on our 5 questions. Then, go back and see how many types of relationships and what our relationships should be like with the church.



• ·····See Appendix Note pg 52

What practical steps might you need to take to better your relationships with leaders and others in the church?

Now read and ask the same questions about **1 Timothy 2**. What relationships do you see there?

Types of relationships	What are they to be like?
● ······See App	pendix Note pg 52



Evangelism & Discipleship Skills

Pray about a relationship you have with a non-believer, and look for "open doors" to share the Gospel with them.

 MEMORY ASSIGNMENT:
1 Corinthians 13:6

Pray for each other before you go.



07

Opening Prayer

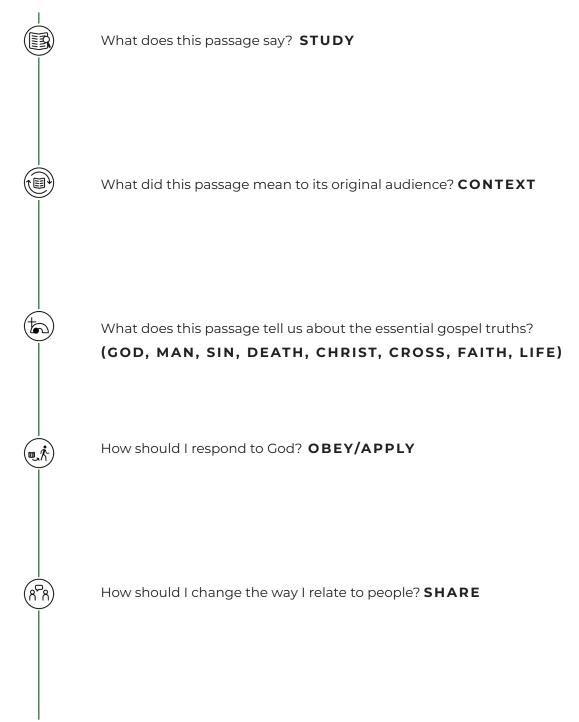
Quiz each other on all or any of the verses, starting with I Corinthians 13:1-6. (10-15 mins)



BIBLE STUDY— based on 5 questions

If the Antioch church in Acts 11-13 was a model evangelistic, mission-oriented church (and it was!), and if our church desires to be like or imitate that church, then it would help to know what the people were like in the Antioch church. So, let's take a look at the church and its people.

Read Acts 11:19-30 & 13:1-4, and then answer our five questions together.



When Barnabas arrived in Antioch, what did he see in the people?

• ······ See Appendix Note pg 53-54

In what ways did the Antioch church grow?

• ····· See Appendix Note pg 53-54

How did the people in Antioch respond to the needs of the church in Judea?

• ······ See Appendix Note pg 53-54

⁴⁷Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. ⁸ Love never ends."

1 Corinthians 13:7-8a (ESV)



Evangelism & Discipleship Skills

How can you and your church show God's grace to people around you? Be generous with your time and resources.

MEMORY ASSIGNMENT:

1 Corinthians 13:7-8a

Pray for each other before you go.







Appendix : Note pgs.: Quiz each other on all or any of the verses, *starting with* 1 Corinthians 13:7-8a. (10-15 mins)

ACCOUNTABILITY— How are you doing with your relationship to ...

(A)

See

54-57

GOD (includes, but not limited to devotional time/disciplines)

(a88a)

FAMILY (starting with wife, if married)

(Tana)

CHURCH (as a community, but including discipleship opportunities)



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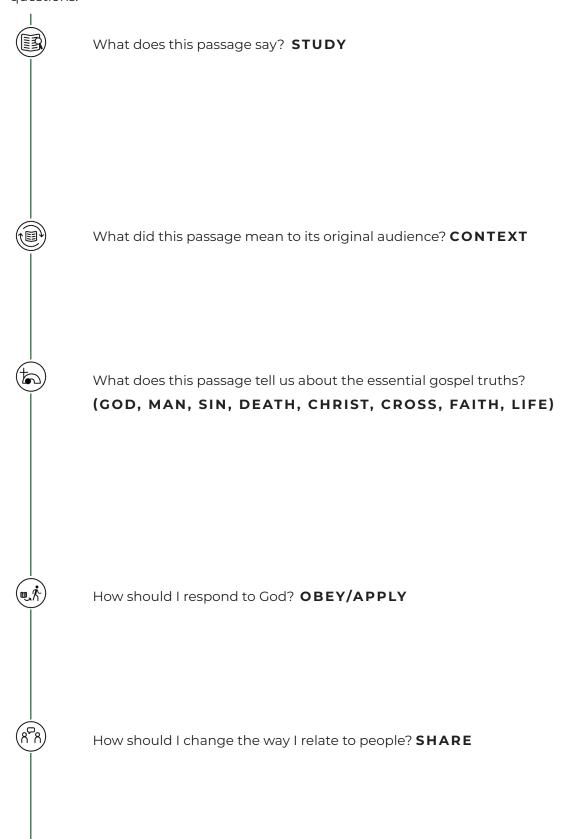
WORLD How are you sharing the gospel/cultivating relationships?)

SELF (How might you be struggling with a specific sin or temptation?)

*Prayer scattered throughout this section as is deemed appropriate.



Read **John 13:1-35**. Respond to the 5 questions, and then answer the extra questions.



Jesus' "one another" commands (here and in Mark 9:50) occur chronologically first. Every "one another" command in the rest of the NT is the work of the apostles to explain **how we obey this overarching command**. The primary command, therefore, is that we imitate Christ in loving one another.

How did Jesus demonstrate love before He gave the commandment to love?

• ···· See Appendix Note pg 58

How did He demonstrate His love in an even greater way just a few hours later?

• ···· See Appendix Note pg 58

Approximately one third of the "one another" commands are about loving. Look at the list of "one another" commands and pick several that explicitly say to love one another or seem to contribute to loving. Talk about them and then ask God to help you "one another" people around you by loving them.





Evangelism & Discipleship Skills

What are practical ways you can demonstrate the kind of love Jesus is talking about...to the body? ...to unbelievers?

 MEMORY ASSIGNMENT:
John 15:12

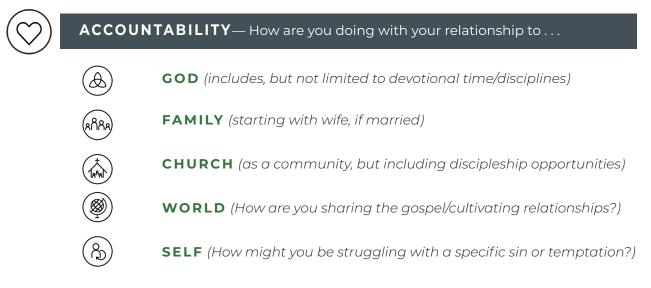
Pray for each other before you go.

One Another! Part 2

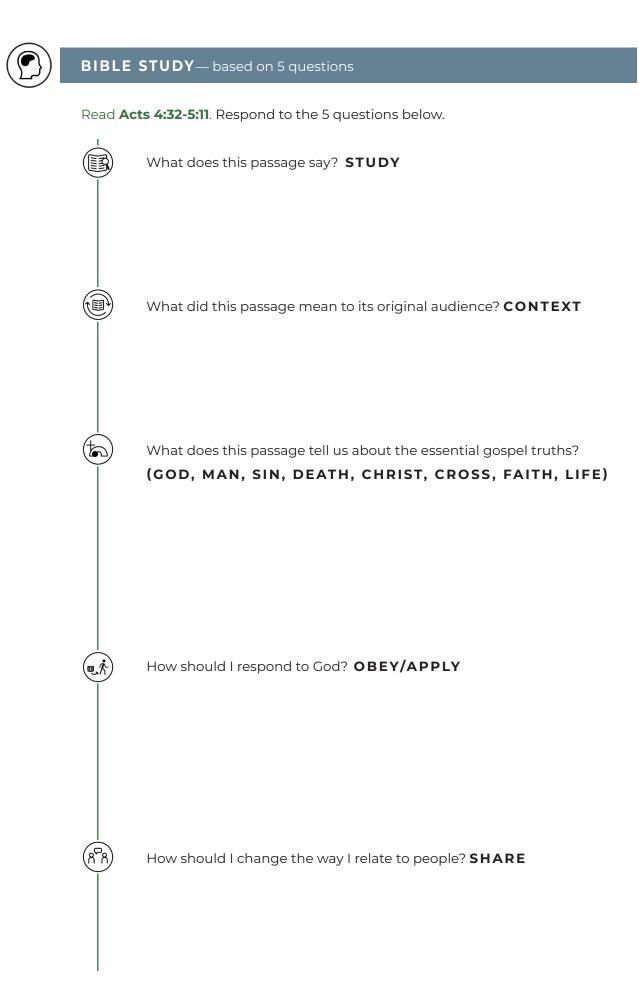
09

Opening Prayer

Quiz each other on all or any of the verses, starting with John 15:12. (10-15 mins)



*Prayer scattered throughout this section as is deemed appropriate.



In the T-chart below, list positive or negative observations you may find about the main characters in the story.

— Barnabas	+
Annanias	
Sapphira	See Appendix Note pg 58
Was Barnabas practicing the "love one another command"? How did he demonstrate love?	
	🕒 👑 See Appendix Note pg 58
Were Ananias and Sapphira practicing the "love one another command"? Why or why not?	

See Appendix Note pg 58

About one third of the "one another" commands deal with unity. Look at the list of "one another" commands on pages 56 & 57, and pick several that you think contribute to unity. Ask God to help you "one another" people around you and thus build unity.

About 15% of the "one-anothers" deal with humility. Can you find them by looking at the list? Can you put some of them into practice this week?



Evangelism & Discipleship Skills

Obviously, "the one anothers" have to do with the church. But God wants us to love people outside the church as well. How will you show love to unbelievers this week?

MEMORY ASSIGNMENT:

1 John 3:18.

Congratulations! You finished *Walk in Love* and are ready to move on to *Walk in Light* and learn to be discerning.

Pray for each other before you go.

- Page 7 **DISCIPLE-MAKER:** As you begin the Walk in Love sessions, you may think about changing up some of your accountability questions for a time. Here some other good questions which can stimulate thinking and conversation:
 - What are you especially thankful for since we last met?
 - How did it go with your action items from last time? What progress have you made?
 - Where have you seen God's grace in your life and where do you need to keep growing?
 - What insights or guidance did the Holy Spirit give you in your Scripture readings since we last met?
 - On which Scripture are you meditating and how are you applying it to your life?
 - How did you share Jesus with others?
 - What challenges or opportunities are you facing now?
 - How can I be helpful to you?
 - How can I be praying for you?

Additional resources you may want to refer to or give to your disciple for the following sessions:

Session 1: Unity!

Life in the Father's House, chapter 9 Work for Unity - 9Marks by Henry Fujiwara Forbear with One Another - 9Marks by Dan Miller

Session 3: Gifts! Part 2 Life in the Father's House, chapter 7

Session 5: Worship!

Life in the Father's House, chapter 6 Show Up! - 9Marks by Mike Gilbart-Smith Sing to One Another - 9Marks by Matt Boswell Prepare to Hear God's Word - 9Marks

Session 6: Relationships!

a. Relating to Church Leadership *Life in the Father's House*, chapter 4 *Invite Your Pastors Into Your Life*, 9Marks by Omar Johnson *Encourage Your Pastor -* 9Marks by Chad Van Dixhoorn *Don't Muzzle the Ox -* 9Marks by Ken Mbugua
b. Fulfilling Our Roles as Men and Women *Life in the Father's House*, chapter 5

Session 7: Reaching! (Col 4:2-6)

Be a Good Witness in the Community - 9Marks by Marwan Aboul-Zelof *Evangelizing the Lost,* 9Marks by Eric Bancroft

Session 9: One Another! Part 2

Life in the Father's House, chapter 10 Pray for Other Members - 9Marks by Ty Gooch Life in the Father's House, chapter 8 Cleanse Out the Old Leaven, 9Marks by Matthias Lohmann Pursue Wandering Sheep - 9Marks by Jeff Lacine

Page 8 Acts 1 & 2 is a long passage (73 verses), but it clearly demonstrates unity within the context of the beginning of the church.
Take the time to read the passage carefully and give special attention to 1:14 and 2:41-47.

Page 9 **ANSWER:** humility, gentleness, patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace

Page 13 **ANSWER:** Jesus Christ (Ephesians 4:11)

- Page 13 The three categories of gifts were given by Jesus to the church.
- Graphic Apostles and prophets were given to the Universal Church to establish it in the beginning; to lay the foundation. Pastor-teachers are given to individual local churches, and evangelists are given to local churches to help build the churches and to eventually be sent out to start new churches. Evangelists could be considered what we call missionaries today.
- Page 14 ANSWER: To equip the saints (believers who are part of the church)
 Top to do the work of the ministry. They are not to do all of the ministry, but to equip the church members to do the work of the ministry. (Ephesians 4:12a)
- Bottom **ANSWER:** The building up of the body—its multi-faceted growth. (Ephesians 4:12b-13)

Page 18

VERSE 10

- "Each" receives a gift—they are for everyone.
- They are to be used to serve others.
- \cdot We need to be good stewards of what we were given.
- Apparently, the gifts are "varied"—there are several different gifts.

VERSE 11

- There are two categories of gifts—Speaking gifts and Serving gifts.
- \cdot The gift is to be used according to the grace and strength which God gives.
- The gifts are for serving others, but so that God will be glorified through Jesus Christ, the gift giver.

Page 19 **ANSWER:**

Top Romans 12:1-8

- Before the gifts are even mentioned, there is an appeal to present our bodies to God as a living sacrifice. We should be in the word which will renew/transform our minds and thus, will be able to discern God's will. (Romans 12:1-2)
- Again, before the gifts are listed, the Romans are challenged not to think too much of themselves. (Romans 12:3)
- The church is compared to a body with man different members. (Romans 12:4)
- The gifts given are different, just as members of a body are different.
 (Romans 12:6)
- Several gifts are listed. (Romans 12:6-8)

1 Corinthians 12:1-31

- As in 1 Peter 4, there are varieties of gifts—but it is the same Spirit (God) that gives the gifts and empowers people to serve (v 4-6) as He wills (v. 11).
- Service is mentioned again as in Romans and 1 Peter. (1 Corinthians 12:5)

- Every one [every believer or church member since this is written to the Church] receives at least one gift. (1 Corinthians 12:6-7)
- The purpose of the gifts (manifestation—v 7) is "for the common good" (compare to the purpose of serving others in 1 Peter).
- Several are listed, and very few are the same as in Romans. However, "utterance of wisdom and/or knowledge" could be associated with teaching and/exhortation. (1 Corinthians 12:8-10)
- The Body is again the metaphor. (1 Corinthians 12:12-31)
- Examples are given showing the diversity (and equality?) of the members of the Body. (1 Corinthians 12:14-20)
- Verses 21 to 31 appear to be teaching that one gift or gifted person is not necessarily more important or special than another.

Page 19 SPEAKING GIFTS

Bottom

- Prophecy (Romans 12:6)
 - Teaching (Romans 12:7)
 - Exhorting or Exhortation (Romans 12:8)
 - Utterance of Wisdom
 (1 Corinthians 12:8)
 - Utterance of Knowledge
 (1 Corinthians 12:8)
 - Speaking of Languages
 (1 Corinthinas 12:10)
 - Interpretation of Languages
 (1 Corinthians 12:10)

SERVING GIFTS

- Service (Romans 12:7)
- Contributing or Giving (Romans 12:8)
- Leading (Romans 12:8)
- Mercy (Romans 12:8)
- Faith (1 Corinthians 12:9)
- Gifts of Healing (1 Corinthians 12:28)
- Working of Miracles (1 Corinthians 12:10)
- Helping (1 Corinthians 12:28)
- Administrating (1 Corinthians 12:28)

- Page 20 One practical application would be to determine which gift(s) the Spirit gave to you when you trusted Jesus as your Savior.
- Page 23 **ANSWER:** How you use your gift—in love. (1 Corinthians 13:1)

ANSWER: "When what is complete comes."

ANSWER: Proclaiming truth/being understood is preferred over tongues which are not understood. (1 Corinthians 14)

Page 27 **DISCIPLER:** Encourage your disciple for whatever he/she notices. Then build on what he/she saw and/or share these concepts:

In relation to structure, we notice at least three things: 3 stanzas, 1-2 1-2, and 1-2-3.

There are three stanzas in this poem—one short one and two long ones. The first stanza is a call to worship ("Oh come!" and "Let us come.") The next two stanzas tell why we should come, each one beginning with "For". ("For the LORD is a *great* God . . ." and "For He is *our* God." Notice the physical participation requested in that call to worship: come, sing, enter, make a joyful noise, worship, bow down, kneel. Our worship is <u>not</u> to be passive!

Call/Reason—There is a call to worship and then a reason is given. Then another call to worship and another reason given. These go from general to specific. In the first call to worship, the reason given to worship is that God is great, the Creator. In the second, we are to worship because we belong to Him, our Maker, and our Shepherd.

Page 27
 1-2-3 – This shows up at least twice. First, in the three different words translated "come" in English which calls us to worship. In verse 1, the idea is "Let's go" or "Come on!" It's loud as if to the people in the crowded city streets. The second (v. 2) is quieter, "Let's approach" or come into His presence. Finally, the word translated "come" in verse 6 has the idea of entering the throne room humbly.

But the progressive 1-2-3 idea shows up in the positions called for in verse 6 as well. We are to "worship." This word has to do with a prostrate position, getting as low as we can before Almighty God. The next word translated "bow down," is similar but is more like being on one's knees and bowing before a king. The last position word in verse 6 is "kneel" which has us on our knees, but sitting up, ready to listen to the word which the psalmist begins to preach in verse 7. What a beautiful picture! We too, are to worship, but sit up attentively to hear the word preached. We could spend more time on this psalm and other passages, but just in these few observations, **we can see that our worship is to be active. We are to be intensely involved, not passive in our worship.**

Chapter Six of *Life in the Father's House* has more excellent insight into worship including how we need to prepare for worship during the week, be praying for each other and praying corporately, the place of the ordinances in worship, giving, and serving one another. Do not be shy about spending more time to develop the concept of worship with your disciple.

Page 31 Here are a few examples to consider:

Тор

TYPES OF RELATIONSHIPS	WHAT ARE THEY TO BE LIKE?
Brothers and sisters	Brotherly love should rule
Hospitality to strangers	Do it.
Visiting people in prison	Do it.
Marriage relationship	In honor/marriage bed undefiled
Remember/obey/imitate leaders	Respectful, honoring

Page 31	TYPES OF RELATIONSHIPS	WHAT ARE THEY TO BE LIKE?
Bottom	With kings (government officials)	Respectful, godly, obedient, exemplary
	With God	Jesus is the mediator
	With each other in the church	Prayerful, not quarreling, upright, modest behavior, good works to one another

This chapter and others indicate that God has reserved the "role of teaching the Word of God to all the people of God . . . for men . . . He has ordained that men alone should feed the whole flock of God when it gathers (1 Tim. 2:12-14; 1 Cor. 14:34-35)" ¹

¹Mack and Swavely, Life in the Father's House (Phillipsburg: P&R Publishing, 1996, 2006), page 100.

You might consider sharing *Life in the Father's House* by Wayne A. Mack and Dave Swavely with your disciple. They do an excellent job of showing how men are to fulfill the principal roles in the church of loving leaders, effective teachers, and godly examples while women are to be submissive learners, gifted trainers (of children and other women), skilled hostesses, and humble servants. They emphasize that "this submissive role of women does not mean that they are inferior to men in any way. The difference between men and women is not one of equality or ability, but of function."² At some point, everyone—male and female—who would serve God in His church must come to grips with His plan for its leadership and development.

- Page 35 Some observations you can listen for or add to your disciple's thoughts:
 - 1. The **grace** of God was clearly seen in their lives (Acts 11:23). God had saved them gloriously.
 - 2. They experienced **growth**—numerical (Acts 11:21, 24, 26) and spiritual (v. 26—their conduct had changed).
 - 3. They were **generous**! (Acts 11:28-30)

After listing and talking about these, ask, "How is our church doing in these areas?

² Ibid, page 109.

Page 35 Then, make some observations about the leadership of the Antioch church:

- The leadership understood and obeyed Jesus' command even when others didn't—they were telling non-Jews about Jesus (obeying the Great Commission!) when no one else would. (Acts 11:19-20)
- They were bold, innovative, (see number 1) and gave of their best in 13:4, they gave Barnabas and Saul to God to be missionaries when God asked for them.
- 3. They were cosmopolitan—look at the leaders listed in 13:1:
 - a. Simeon was black,
 - b. Lucius was from Northern Africa (an Arab?),
 - c. Manaen was Jewish royalty,
 - d. Saul was an intellectual Pharisee who had trained under the best (Gamaliel).
 - e. Barnabas was just a normal "Joe" (that was his name). He wasn't an apostle or even a deacon, but he served willingly and "was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith" (11:24).
- 4. The leadership was also responsible. When God asked for two of the five pastors, they responded positively and without hesitation. (13:3).

Once again, ask, "How are we doing? Are we like the Antioch church? How can we improve? What should we do?"

Page 37 The principal passage and memory verse for the "one another" commands: "This is my commandment, that you love one another, just as I have loved you." – John 15:12

Page 37

The objectives of the next two sessions are as follows:

KNOW

- Each of the "one another" commands in the NT demonstrate the same character by which Jesus loved the disciples. Jn 15:12
- Jesus' "one another" commands are chronologically first. Every "one another" command in the rest of the NT is the work of the apostles to explain how we obey this overarching command. The primary command, therefore, is that we imitate Christ in loving one another.

FEEL

- Appreciation for the myriad ways in which Christ loves his people.
- Desire to show one another similar love.
- \cdot Willing to do the difficult work of putting others' interest above our own

DO

• Sacrificially and humbly love, serve, and help one another.

Here are some orientations for your interaction during the lesson content:

- **Observe:** The full list of "one another" commands.
 - o Which ones came first Chronologically? Who spoke them?
 - o What are some common themes that you observe?
 - o Which commands are repeated?
- Interpret: How the commands fall under the heading of Jn 15:12
 - o Which of these commands happened first, chronologically?
 - o How are the other commands (not spoken by Jesus) an effort to explain "how to obey" Jesus' Command?
 - o What do the "one another" commands show us about the way Jesus loves the church?
 - o How did Jesus exemplify "one another" love?

Page 37 • Apply: How must we obey?

- o Which "one another" command is most natural?
- o Which "one another" command is most difficult?
- o Which "one another" command is most like the way that Jesus loved us? (Jn 15:12)
- o Which "one another" command would make the most change in your local church?
- o Which "one another" command would you like me to check in with you about next week?

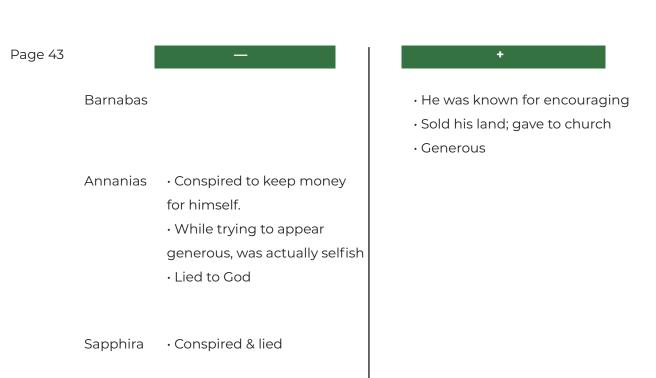
Here is a list of the "One Anothers" in the New Testament which you can use during your study time:

Mark 9:50	Be at peace with one another	
John 13:14	Wash one another's feet	
John 13:34, 35, 15:12: 15:17	Love one another	
Romans 12:10; 16 (15:5)	Love one another, live in harmony with	
	one another	
Romans 14:13	Don't pass judgment on one another	
Romans 15:7	Welcome one another	
Romans 16:16	Greet one another with a holy kiss	
1 Corinthians 7:5	Do not deprive one another	
1 Corinthians 11:33	Wait for one another	
1 Corinthians 12:25	Have the same care one for another	
1 Cor 16:20; 2 Cor 13:12	Greet one another with a holy kiss	
2 Corinthians 13:12	Comfort one another/agree with one another	
Galatians 5:13	Through love, serve one another	
Galatians 6:2	Bear one another's burdens	
Ephesians 4:2; Col 3:13	Bear with one another in love	
Ephesians 4:25	Speak the truth one to another	

Ephesians 4:32	Be kind/forgive one another
Ephesians 5:19	Address one another in psalms, hymns, etc.
Ephesians 5:21	Submit one to another
Colossians 3:9	Do not lie to one another
Colossians 3:16	Admonish one another
1 Thessalonians 3:12	Abound in love for one another
1 Thessalonians 4:9	Love one another
1 Thes 4:18; 5:11	Encourage one another; build one another up
1 Thessalonians 5:15	Do good to one another
Hebrews 3:13	Exhort one another
Hebrews 10:24	Stir up one another to love and good works
Hebrews 10:25	Encourage one another
James 4:11	Do not speak evil against one another
James 5:9	Do not grumble against one another
James 5:16	Confess your sins to one another/pray for
	one another
1Peter 1:22	Love one another earnestly from a pure heart
1 Peter 4:8	Keep loving one another earnestly
1 Peter 4:9	Show hospitality to one another
	without grumbling
1 Peter 4:10	Use gift to serve one another
1 Peter 5:5	Clothe selves in humility toward one another
1 Peter 5:14	Greet one another with the kiss of love
1 Jo 3:11; 3:23; 4:7; 2 Jo 1:5	Love one another

A good tool to give you and your disciple an overview of one another commands can be found at <u>www.OverviewBible.com</u>. On the site, search for "One Another Commands in the New Testament".

Page 39 **ANSWER:** Humbled Himself as a slave and washed their feet.



ANSWER: He suffered and gave His life for them.

Page 43 Was Barnabas practicing the "love one another command"? Yes, he sold his property and gave fully.

Were Ananias and Sapphira practicing the "love one another command"? No, they sold their property and kept back some for themselves - lying to God. They wanted the attention.

The Sign Gifts

Apostle	The twelve and a few others in Acts who founded the church. (Ephesians 2:20)
Prophecy	Receiving special messages directly from Deus. They were authenticated by other sign gifts. (Acts 11, 13, 21)
Discerning of Spirits	Distinguishing between true revelation and false in the New Testament writings.
Miracles	Special signs to authenticate apostleship or gifts of prophecy.
Healings	Special signs to authenticate apostles or gifts of prophecy.
Tongues/ Interpretation of Tongues	Speaking in other known tongues to unbelieving Jews of the dispersion. The gift ceased when the written Word was completed.
Word of Wisdom/ Knowledge	Special abilities related to the early church and the writing of the New Testament. These were done away with as tongues ceased. (1 Corinthians 12:8; 13:8)

Permanent Spiritual Gifts

GIFTS OF SPEAKING

Evangelism	Evangelism Proclaiming the good news—souls are saved.
Teaching	Explaining and applying biblical truth—change occurs in the lives of the hearers.
Exhortation	Giving opinion, counsel; encouraging with an appeal to action.

GIFTS OF SERVING

Pastoring	As a shepherd, caring for the flock/protecting it. This gift is linked to teaching.
Helps	Availability; person in whom one can trust; there to accomplish a task.
Administration	Qualities of leadership; directs; details; organizes.
Giving	Earns and uses money to the glory of God.
Faith	Vision; sees through problems to God's provision.
Show Mercy	Happily, willingly helping the sick and afflicted. Praying and visiting.
Ministry	Serves, understands, counsels. Deacon.

How to Recognize Your Spiritual Gifts

- 1. Humbly ask God to help you recognize your gifts.
- 2. Obtain available information from the Bible.
 - a. What the gifts are.
 - b. What God says about their use.
- 3. Examine yourself for spiritual results.
 - Have you ever found yourself doing something you thought you couldn't do? Write it here:

Make a list of three of the gifts of which you've seen more results:

1._____ 2.____ 3.____

 b. Do you know other people who clearly manifest certain spiritual gifts? How are you similar of different? Try to think of someone that has a gift in your "A" list above.

1._____ 2.____ 3.____

c. In which gift areas do you sense a strong desire to be involved?

1._____ 2.____ 3.____

How to Recognize Your Spiritual Gifts

4. Ask other people to evaluate your spiritual gifts. (You can show them a list of the gifts, if necessary.) You should ask people who know you well.

Person	Gift observed
a	
b	
C	

For what do believers congratulate/thank you in the area of ministry?

- 5. Test your gifts. Go on! Experiment. Try them out!
 - Do people experience change or progress as a result of your ministry? Write the names of three people who changed, progressed, or were affected.

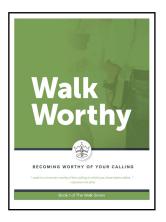
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b. Do you enjoy a certain ministry? Make a list of the gifts/ ministries that give you the most satisfaction or enjoyment.



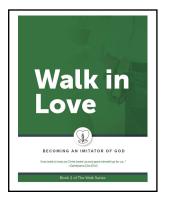
- c. Are there any areas that frustrate you? (It seems you don't see many results in these areas.) Make a list of these areas.
 1. ______ 2. ____ 3. ____
- 6. Do you see a group or cluster of gifts as a result of this exercise? Some of the gifts form clusters, making it possible to minister more effectively. What might be your opportunity?

The Walk Series is a free download on our website: GoodSoil.com



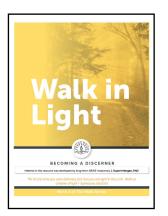
Book 1, Walk Worthy Becoming Worthy of Your Calling

"...walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called... " —Ephesians 4:1b (ESV)



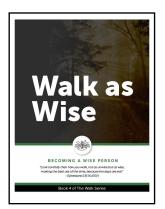
Book 2, Walk in Love Becoming an Imitator of God

"And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us..." —Ephesians 5:2a



Book 3, Walk in Light Becoming a Discerner

"for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light" —Ephesians 5:8



Book 4, Walk as Wise

Becoming a Wise Person

"Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil." —Ephesians 5:15-16