

Bible Study Manual

for

**CHERUBIM & SERAPHIM CHURCH
UNIFICATION CAMPUS
FELLOWSHIP**

Theme:

“Jesus! Our Focus”

PREFACE

The Cherubim and Seraphim Church Unification Campus Fellowship came into being in 1980 as a campus-based church with both undergraduate and graduate membership.

Our vision statement is to raise and nurture generations of Cherubim and Seraphim youths, especially students and graduates of institutions of higher learning in Nigeria and Overseas, to worship together in oneness of mind and purpose, spread the gospel of Jesus Christ, teach the fear of God, love of God and mankind, with the view of making them Christ-like.

In pursuance of above, the church, in her objectives, identifies Bible Lectures which include Bible Study as one of the pragmatics means of authenticating the mission. Therefore, Bible Study Manual has hitherto become an essential tool for the spiritual existence and growth of the church.

The year 2022/2023 edition of the Bible Study Manual is themed; “Jesus! Our focus”. The edition which is purposely prepared for fifty two (52) Weeks, from 1st May 2022 to 30th April, 2023 (since there is provision for virtual Bible Study even when schools are not in session) has the topics stated in the subsequent page.

THE USAGE OF THE BIBLE STUDY MANUAL

It is important to invite the attention of the users of this manual to the following guides;

- a. The manual should be used for Bible discussion group but not as ‘monologue lecture’ in which it is only the leader that does the talking or lecturing while others listen. The Bible Study Group Leaders should purposely and deliberately involve the participation of individual Bible study group members. This encourages individual members to prepare

- his lesson in advance and make himself ready to share whatever he had discovered with the class.
- b. Members of the Bible group should be encouraged to prepare for the class in advance as this will ward off what can be referred to as ‘share-our ignorance’ session. A situation where Bible Study group members failed to research into the topics and pray ahead of the class will certainly yield very little profit because members only share what they ‘think’ is right-(share ignorance) in a session like this.
 - c. Even when members of the group prepared ahead, the Bible Study discussion should not be made to be dominated only by experts or overly opinionated members. Any situation in which only a few are made to participate, the others retreat in shyness and never contribute. Consequently, the withdrawn members may stop preparing for the class and this type of study discourages spiritual growth. The Bible study leaders should ensure every group member is involved in the discussion. Therefore, Bible Study Group Leaders should inform members about the topic or text for the study ahead.
 - d. A good discussion leader should therefore aid the group to discover biblical truths for themselves instead of just giving them his answers. This is only possible by asking stimulating and clear questions which act as springboards to launch the discussion among the members.

It has been discovered that questions are the heartbeat of any true discussion, hence this Bible study manual aids the Bible study discussion with four (4) fundamental kinds of questions, viz; discovery, understanding, correlation and application questions.

DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

These kinds of question help the group members to interact and discover or get the truths they may not have known before about the text under consideration. It identifies what the passage is saying and the facts in the passage.

UNDERSTANDING QUESTION

The next step is to determine what your discovery means. That is, the question purposely helps to **discern** what the text means. It is not the job of the leader to tell the group what the passage means but to ask the kind of question that will cause the answer to surface from the group member's response.

Notwithstanding, a good leader would have done research into the meaning of the passage in order to guide the group in the right direction. The tools that can help such leaders are good Bible Dictionary, Concordance and Bible Commentary. Yet the leader should enable the group to determine the definition which the author had in mind.

CORRELATION QUESTION

The essence of this question is to relate the passage we are studying to other passages and to see how various truths relate to one another.

The question helps to shed more light on the issue from other parts of the word of God. It increases understanding and develops new truth.

APPLICATION QUESTION

This question essentially helps group members to determine how they should apply what they had learned to their own personal lives.

The Bible was primarily given to change our lives and not to just make us more knowledgeable James 1:22 and Psalms 119:59-60.

Brethren, I beseech you to always note that making Christ our focus is essential to understand the mystery of His kingdom (Mark 4 : 11). This is why Paul said he was pressing on toward the goal Phil. 3:12-15. Here, the goal is to maintain your position as a Christian. I sincerely appeal to you, brethren that you adopt this Bible study manual correctly and conscientiously as its origin (Bible) is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction and for instruction in righteousness that the man of God (Disciple) may be complete and thoroughly equipped for every good work (2 Timothy 3:16-17).

It is my sincere prayer that you adopt this manual with sincerity of purpose. Thank you and God bless.

Pastor Aringbangba Joseph Aregbesola

Apostolate/Chairman,

Central Executive Council

08028554541

May, 2022.

DATE:	1 ST MAY 2022	WEEK 1
THEME:	CHRIST IS BORN	
TOPIC:	THE BIRTH OF CHRIST FORETOLD	
TEXT:	ISAIAH 7:1-25	
FOCUS:	THE PROMISE OF GOD STANDS SURE FOR HIS CHILDREN	

INTRODUCTION

After the death of king Jotham, his son Ahaz reigned in his stead. Ahaz was the king of Judah at this point in time but he was faced with threats of coup from two different nations and one individual. His heart was troubled because of these threats and God sent Isaiah to assure him of peace. God also numbered the days of these ravaging countries to bring them to an end if Ahaz will believe His words but if not, it will not come to pass neither will it stand.

God told Ahaz to ask for a sign if he is in doubt of His word but Ahaz did not ask for one and as a result, Christ was given as a sign (Is 7:14).

The bible says the promise of God stands sure, He is not a man that He should lie...(Num. 23:19) what has the Lord promised you? Be what it may, He is able to perform all He has said concerning you. He promised to send a saviour even Christ Jesus and it was manifested so also were the nations destroyed as promised; just as Ahaz believed in his heart without doubt so should Christians believe that whatever God has promised must come to manifestation. Furthermore, as the nations were destroyed so will God destroy every nation that will not serve Christ at His coming, there will also be abundance and peace when Christ shall come unto all who believe in Him.

In conclusion, whatever God has promised, He will surely accomplish, therefore make every effort to believe in His promise and put every doubt beneath your feet.

DISCOVERY QUESTION

- * What is the name of Isaiah's son?
- * How many years did God promise Ahaz that He will wipe out the nations?
- * Did Ahaz believe the word of the Lord?

UNDERSTANDING QUESTION

- * Give a list of the three nations that confronted Ahaz?
- * What are the things the bible foretold that Christ will eat?
- * Can the promise of God come to manifest in one's life if he/she does not believe?

CORRELATING QUESTION

- * How can you relate Isaiah 66:12 to vs. 21-23 of today's passage?
- * Make a detailed explanation of Dan 2:31-34 in line with verse 9 of today's passage.

PRAYER

- * I receive the power to believe in God's promise for my life.
- * I come against and conquer every spirit of doubt in Jesus name.

DATE:	8 TH MAY, 2022	WEEK 2
THEME:	CHRIST IS BORN	
TOPIC:	THE GENEALOGY OF CHRIST JESUS	
TEXT:	MATTHEW 1:6-16	
FOCUS:	FULFILMENT OF GOD'S COVENANT	

INTRODUCTION

The Lord made a covenant with David in I Sam. 7:14-16 that He would establish the throne of his kingdom forever. He will raise up offspring to succeed him who will come from David's body. However, after the death of David, Solomon his son reigned in his stead (1 Kings 2:10-12). From the reign of Solomon as king of Israel, twenty-one royal descendants of Solomon of which nineteen were kings of Judah before the captivity in Babylon (1 Chron. 3:10-17). The last king of Judah was Jeconiah also known as Jehoiachin or Coniah. He had eight sons but none of them could ever sit on the throne of David and rule in Jerusalem and over Israel for God had cursed him and his seed forever, cutting them off from kingship (Jer. 22:24-30).

When the king of Babylon, Nebuchadnezzar captured Judah taking Jehoiachin captive, he made Mattaniah his uncle the king of Judah and changed his name to Zedekiah (2 Kings 24:15-17). Also, Zedekiah rebelled against the king of Babylon, he was attacked by the Babylonian soldiers and entire city of Judah including the temple was destroyed (2 Kings 25). Since then, there had been no king in Israel.

Conclusively, the genealogy of Jesus Christ exhibits different kings that reigned in Judah at different times, there are crowned princes that never assumed the throne as well as how they lived their lives and state of their hearts to the Lord. All these further enable one to identify the point of error in a lineage. However, the eternal king of Judah was to be the Messiah who was to come of the kingly line

to fulfil God's covenant regarding the eternal king of David's seed. This covenant was fulfilled through Virgin Mary and Joseph who was heir to the throne through Solomon.

DISCOVERY QUESTION

* Identify kings that reigned after King Solomon before exile in Babylon (Ref.: today's passage)

*According to the passage under whose reign were people exiled to Babylon

UNDERSTANDING QUESTION

*After exile from Babylon why were there no kings in Judah?

*How was Christ Jesus able to be an eternal king of Judah?

CORRELATING QUESTION

*How would you relate genealogy in Luke 3:23-31, Matt 1:1-16 and 1 Chron. 3:5

APPLICATION QUESTION

*Do you think knowing the history or background of your family is really important. Why?

*What approach should one take to deal with generational problems?

PRAYER

Lord Jesus help me to leave a Godly inheritance for my generation and beyond in Jesus name

DATE:	15 TH MAY 2022	WEEK 3
THEME:	CHRIST IS BORN	
TOPIC:	JESUS	
TEXT:	MATTHEW 1:18-21	
FOCUS:	JESUS, THE REASON FOR THE SEASON	

INTRODUCTION

‘.....And thou shall call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins’. John 1: 21b

If Christ had not being born, He would not have died, and without his death, Christianity would not have existed. Jesus Christ left his glory in heaven, came into this sinful world so that as many as receive, believe and accept him might have life and have it more abundantly. John 10:10

As we prepare to celebrate Christmas which is the season of Jesus’ birth, we should be mindful that there are many who are yet to accept Christ Jesus hence, their celebration of the season is only Merriment! Remember that Christ is the Way, the Truth and the Life; no one cometh to the father except through Him. As the way, Jesus is our path to the Father, as the truth, He is the reality of all God’s promises, as the life, He joins His divine life to ours, both now and eternally. To come to the Father is more than salvation alone, it includes; to obtain His favour, to have access to His throne by prayer, enjoy divine prosperity, and finally to enter His kingdom.

Why do people need to come through Jesus? We are ignorant, and He alone can guide us. We are sinful, and it is only by His death and resurrection that we can be pardoned. We are blind, and He only can open our eyes and enlighten us.

Conclusion: God has appointed Jesus as the Mediator and has ordained that all blessings shall descend to this world through Him.

There is no alternative to this truth. Therefore, if you have not accepted Him, you have the opportunity now.

DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

*Who is Jesus?

UNDERSTANDING QUESTIONS

*Why is Jesus the reason for the Christmas season?

*Why do people need to come to God through Christ?

CORRELATION QUESTIONS

*What is the relationship between this bible verses Acts 4:12 with today's lesson?

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

*Is there any alternative to Jesus in the world today to get access to God?

PRAYER

Lord Jesus, reveal yourself and the power of your resurrection to me.

DATE:	22 ND MAY, 2022	WEEK 4
THEME:	THE COMMADMENT OF THE COVENANT	
TOPIC:	THE LAW AND HOLINESS	
TEXT:	EXODUS 20:1-20	
FOCUS:	THY RIGHTEOUSNESS IS AN EVERLASTING RIGHTEOUSNESS, AND THY LAW IS THE TRUTH. PSALM 119:142	

INTRODUCTION

The Ten Commandments was given to the people of Israel when they began as a new nation. That era was known as the dispensation of the law. That was the name used to designate the period which the people of God were governed by the law.

The commandments were designed to make the People of Israel live a life of holiness.

There have been arguments among the present day Christians whether the Ten Commandments is still relevant to the New Testament era of the church.

The response of Jesus in the book of (Matt. 22:34-40) gives an accurate answer to this argument.

Jesus did not only put the argument to rest, he also summarized the ten commandment into two in (Matt. 22:34-40) (1). To love the Lord your God.
(2). To love your neighbour as yourself.

Although, we are in the dispensation of grace and not of the law, we have no justification to jettison the law since Jesus did not condemn it.

DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

Why did God give commandment?

UNDERSTANDING QUESTIONS

Did you think Jesus broke the law by healing on Sabbath day? (Matt. 12:10-13).

CORRELATION QUESTIONS

What is the correlation between the Ten Commandments and Jesus' disposition to the law in the New Testament?

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

How did Jesus summarized the law in the New Testament? –Matt. 22:36-40

CONCLUSION

We have no excuse about the law since it is seriously connected with holiness because we are commanded to be holy as the Father in heaven is holy. But we need not to do it as a religion but as a means to please our father in heaven.

PRAYER POINT

Father, give us the grace to do your will at all time

DATE:	29 TH MAY, 2022	WEEK 5
THEME:	ISREAL ACCEPTS THE LORD'S COVENANT	
TOPIC:	THE PURPOSE OF THE BLOOD	
TEXT:	EXODUS 24:1-8	
FOCUS:	AND HE TOOK THE BOOK OF THE COVENANT, AND READ IN THE AUDIENCE OF THE PEOPLE: AND THEY SAID, ALL THAT THE LORD HATH SAID WILL WE DO, AND BE OBEDIENT. EXODUS 24:1-8	

INTRODUCTION

What happened here was an affirmation ceremony of the covenant that God caught with his people and it shows the willingness of the people to God's position.

The study of this place helps us to understand the holiness of God and His disposition to sin. God hates sin and He will do everything to make man stay away from it

In the process of ratifying the covenant, blood of an animal was shed to proof that a life must be given for another. Also that blood must be shed for forgiveness.

Glory be to God that the blood of Jesus has replaced the blood of animal which was a mere symbol and no one is required to shed the blood of animal for redemption of man any more.

DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

What can we say about God and sin in this lesson?

UNDERSTANDING QUESTIONS

1.Explain why the blood of animal was shed and sprinkled on the people.

CORRELATION QUESTIONS

Relate Heb 9:19-26 with today's study.

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

What replaced the blood of animal in the New Testament?

CONCLUSION

As Moses sprinkled the blood of the animal on the people of Israel to affirm that the price of their sin as been paid and they were united to God. So also is the blood of Jesus once and for all shed for us thereby unite anyone who accept Jesus as His Lord and Saviour with the father.

PRAYER POINT

Lord Jesus, cleanse and protect us by your blood.

DATE:	5 TH JUNE, 2022	WEEK 6
THEME:	THE GOLDEN CALF	
TOPIC:	GOD CAN NEVER COME LATE	
TEXT:	EXODUS32:1-15	
FOCUS:	I WILL MULPLE YOUR SEED AS THE STARS OF HEAVEN, AND ALL THIS LAND THAT I HAVE SPOKEN OF WILL I GIVE UNTO YOUR SEED, AND THEY SHALL INHERIT IT FOR EVER. EXO. 32:13B.	

INTRODUCTION

The story of the Israelites is very interesting with lots of lessons to learn from their relationship with God.

Here, these people that God loved so much, despite witnessing many miracles that God wrought among them still abandoned God for ordinary image because they felt Moses was coming back late.

We must not at any time in our Christian journey abandon God and go back into the world because, since they have been saying Jesus is coming back, he has not shown up. The second coming of Jesus is real as the word of God affirms it, we must not therefore waiver. To serve another god apart from the God that accepted us even when we did not qualify is a great sin.

Leaders must maintain their stand and not bow to the followers' pressure to turn away from God like Aaron. Instead, they must let the congregation understand God, why He hasn't come back and encourage them to stand firm in God when it seems he is coming late.

DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

What law did the Israelites break here?

UNDERSTANDING QUESTIONS

Why do you think the people of Israel forget God's in their lives to abandon him?

CORRELATION QUESTIONS

Compare God's reaction in the text to Deut. 6:14-15.

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

Have you had any course to think God was coming late in your life?

Conclusion

As children of God, we must know that God is a God that declares the end from the beginning. Jesus said the day of His second coming is only known to His father, our responsibility is to be watchful for the day.

PRAYER POINT:

Father in heaven, help me to wait for you without wavering in Jesus name.

DATE:	12 TH JUNE, 2022	WEEK 7
THEME:	MOSES INTERCEDES FOR ISREAL	
TOPIC:	RIGHTEOUS/HOLY ANGER	
TEXT:	EXODUS 32:19-35	
FOCUS:	AND JESUS WENT INTO THE TEMPLE OF GOD, AND CAST OUT ALL THEM THAT SOLD AND BOUGHT IN THE TEMPLE, AND OVERTHREW THE TABLES OF THE MONEYCHANGERS, AND THE SEATS OF THEM THAT SOLD DOVES, MAT 21:12.	

INTRODUCTION

Last week, we saw how the people of Israel created a golden calf and worshiped it because Moses did not come back at the time they expected. Their action invoked the anger of God. Today, we are going see what came after.

As God was angry about the action of the people, Moses also showed his anger at them. Though, anger is a sin before God, we must not condone sin just because we did not want to display anger. There is a room for what is called righteous or holy anger in the kingdom. It is frowning at and condemning sin among brethren. Any where we may find ourselves, we must not look aside when we see people doing the wrong thing.

Moses, after rebuking the people for creating an idol and worshiped it, he didn't isolate himself from their sin. Instead, he went to God and pleaded for forgiveness. This is a great lesson for the leaders.

DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

What is righteous anger?

UNDERSTANDING QUESTIONS

When can the holy anger become a sin?

CORRELATION QUESTIONS

1. Compare the righteous anger to the sinful anger.
2. Relate this scripture Matt. 21:12-13 to Moses' reaction in the text.

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

Have you exhibited the holy anger before? How did you avoid sin in the process?

CONCLUSION

We have seen how it is wrong to see people do what is wrong and pretend all is well. However, we must be careful to know the limit, so that a good intention will not become another sin. Jesus' action at the temple should be our model (Matt. 21:12).

PRAYER POINT

Lord, give me the boldness to stand against that which is not right in the kingdom.

DATE:	19 TH JUNE, 2022	WEEK 8
THEME:	MOSES SAW THE LORD'S GLORY	
TOPIC:	DESIRING TO KNOW GOD	
TEXT:	EXODUS 33:12-23	
FOCUS:	THAT I MAY KNOW HIM, AND THE POWER OF HIS RESURRECTION, PHILIP. 3:10	

INTRODUCTION

Moses desired to see God's glory as evidence of His presence. He saw it but only the back after God has passed. It is a good thing, there is no doubt to desire a good thing, but it should not be out of disbelief in God and his promises.

We have to understand that there is no one existing in this world that can see God physically. God can only be known by what He does and His acts. This is because we can only know God by faith not by seeing him.

It is impossible to comprehend God as He really is. The best way to know God in this New Testament era is through Jesus Christ (John 10:30; 14:9). Accept Him into your life and you will understand who the father is.

DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

Was Moses wrong to have requested to see God's glory?

UNDERSTANDING QUESTIONS

Can we really know God?

CORRELATION QUESTIONS

Compare knowing God in the Old Testament to that of New Testament.

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

How much of God did you know? Describe to the church.

CONCLUSION

If you want to see God's glory and his presence, after accepting Jesus as Lord, study the word of God continuously. The more of the word you know the more of God and his glory you will see. Don't be like an unbeliever that says he would not belief until he sees God.

PRAYER POINT

God let your glory manifest in my life.

DATE:	26 TH JUNE, 2022	WEEK 9
THEME:	A NEW COPY OF THE COMMANDMENT	
TOPIC:	THE COVENANT RENEWED	
TEXT:	EXODUS 34:1-14	
FOCUS:	HEB 4:16. LET US THEREFORE COME BOLDLY UNTO THE THRONE OF GRACE, THAT WE MAY OBTAIN MERCY, AND FIND GRACE TO HELP IN TIME OF NEED.	

INTRODUCTION

After the first tablet of commandments was broken by Moses, he went back to God for forgiveness on behalf of the people. God shown mercy with new commandment given and enter into a new covenant with the people of Israel afresh.

Moses received a positive response from God and enjoyed His mercy, faithfulness, grace; compassion and forgiveness for these are the nature of God.

Many Christians today did not see God as God that is merciful but one that is full of wrath that cannot be approached. But the tender mercy of God can now be touched through His action towards Moses.

DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

Why did you think God accepted to give another commandment to Moses?

UNDERSTANDING QUESTIONS

Can we exhaust the forgiveness and mercy of God?

CORRELATION QUESTIONS

Compare the approach to God in quest to seek for his mercy in the Old Testament to that of New Testament.

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

How did you see God, a merciful God or an angry God?

CONCLUSION

We must not be too big to go back to God whenever we find ourselves in sin. God is not interested in anybody to perish in sin but for everyone to come to repentance. However, we must because God is a forgiving God become a perpetual sinner.

PRAYER POINT

Let us ask for God's mercy and compassion over our sin today.

DATE:	3 RD JULY, 2022	WEEK 10
THEME:	RECEIVING GOD'S BLESSINGS	
TOPIC:	BLESSINGS OF OBEDIENCE	
TEXT:	LEVITICUS 26:1-13	
FOCUS:	IF YE BE WILLING AND OBEDIENT, YE SHALL EAT THE GOOD OF THE LAND. ISA 1:19	

INTRODUCTION

The main reason why God gave the laws to the people of Israel was not to punish them but to give them a direction that would make them become closer to him.

It is evident in today's text how sweet it can be when God's people obey His commandments.

The array of blessings includes; rain in its season, fruitfulness, protection from enemies, peace in the land etc.

As the blessings were highlighted for the Israelites in the Old Testament for obeying God's instructions, so also are they relevant till today. If we obey and do the will of God as children of God, the blessings are ours.

DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

What are the benefits of obedience as highlighted in our text today?

UNDERSTANDING QUESTIONS

How can obeying God be easy for us as believers?

CORRELATION QUESTIONS

Relate Isaiah 1:19 with today's text.

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

What blessings have you received from God that can be directly linked with obeying certain instruction from him?

CONCLUSION

Know this; God is not a partial God. Everyone that follows his instructions will enjoy the blessings that follow. In fact, obedience is key to the blessings of Abraham.

PRAYER POINT

My father, as I obey you always, I will not miss my blessings in Jesus name.

DATE:	10 TH JULY, 2022	WEEK 11
THEME:	RECEIVING GOD'S BLESSINGS	
TOPIC:	PUNISHMENT FOR DISOBEDIENCE	
TEXT:	LEVITICUS 26:14-35	
FOCUS:	AND IF YE WILL NOT YET FOR ALL THIS HEARKEN UNTO ME, THEN I WILL PUNISH YOU SEVEN TIMES MORE FOR YOUR SINS. LEV 26:18	

INTRODUCTION

This will be the second part of last week lesson and it is opposite of what we saw.

As there are blessings for obeying God, there are equally punishments for disobeying God's instructions.

If the Israelites obeyed God, they would enjoy plenty and peace in their land but if they chose to disobey, the consequence would be disease, defeat, sealed heaven, disaster and calamity.

People of Israel disobeyed God despite that the end results were not hidden to them and they were conquered by their enemies and held captives.

The life of these people of God should be a great lesson for us today. After all, it is written that all that happened to them are examples for us (1 Cor. 10:11). Let us then learn from them so that we will not suffer what they suffered.

DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

What are the punishments for disobedience to God?

UNDERSTANDING QUESTIONS

1. Why do people even Christians disobey God?
2. Is it hard to obey God's instructions?

CORRELATION QUESTIONS

According to 1 Cor. 10:11, what how did today's lesson be an example written for us?

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

Share your experience of disobedience to God and the after effect you faced?

CONCLUSION

God is not interested in anybody's calamity. That is why He always warned ahead of danger. The scripture is full of these warnings; anyone that yields to them will escape the punishment.

PRAYER POINT

1. Lord, show your blessing in my life.

DATE:	17 TH JULY, 2022	WEEK 12
THEME:	A CHOSEN PEOPLE	
TOPIC:	THE PRIVILEGE OF HOLINESS	
TEXT:	DEUT. 1-10	
FOCUS:	AND I WILL FEED THEM THAT OPPRESS THEE WITH THEIR OWN FLESH; AND THEY SHALL BE DRUNKEN WITH THEIR OWN BLOOD, AS WITH SWEET WINE: AND ALL FLESH SHALL KNOW THAT I THE LORD AM THY SAVIOUR AND THY REDEEMER, THE MIGHTY ONE OF JACOB. ISA 49:26.	

INTRODUCTION

God promised his people, the Israelites that he would clear away all the enemies that are around and he fulfilled this promise. He never fails and can never fail in his pledges.

Some people may think why would God who is said to be love and love everyone destroy some people regarding them as enemies.

God's decision to wipe away the enemies of his people can be seen in two ways; 1. To preserve His chosen people for them to fulfil their purpose on earth. 2. To judge the nations of their sins.

God here was committed to protecting the people He had separated as holy people to Himself, that they might not be contaminated with sins of idolatry and immorality that those nations are known for.

This is a privilege of holiness that separates them as holy people for Himself and ensure that they were preserved. These same privileges apply to us today.

DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

What is the privilege of holiness?

UNDERSTANDING QUESTIONS

Why do God fight for us and punishes our enemies?

CORRELATION QUESTIONS

What can you say about this passage Isa 49:26 in relation to the text?

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

How did this privilege applied to us today as Christians.

CONCLUSION

When we keep holiness we will enjoy the protection and blessings of God. But when we decided to go against him, we face his judgment like his enemies. We mustn't be too close to God to think he will overlook our unholy acts.

PRAYER POINT

Help me oh Lord not to abuse the privilege of holiness.

DATE:	24 TH JULY, 2022	WEEK 13
THEME:	WHEN PEOPLE OBEYS	
TOPIC:	SECURING GENERATIONAL BLESSINGS	
TEXT:	DEUT. 7:11-24	
FOCUS:	THAT THE BLESSING OF ABRAHAM MIGHT COME ON THE GENTILES THROUGH JESUS CHRIST; THAT WE MIGHT RECEIVE THE PROMISE OF THE SPIRIT THROUGH FAITH. GAL 3:14.	

INTRODUCTION

Our God is a God that reckons with generations. When he blesses, it is not for an individual who received the blessing at the time but for generations to come after. This is why we are partakers of Abraham's blessings even though he had lived long before we came, it was made possible through faith in Christ (Gal3:14).

Moses announced to the people the intention of God to wipe out their enemies in batches. This does not imply that God have no power to do it once, but He chose to do it in gradually.

In the same vein, God has the power to deal with your situation and give you answers to your prayers instantly. But he chose to take you there gradually because he wants you to learn lessons one step at a time

DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

Why is God a referred to as God of generations?

UNDERSTANDING QUESTIONS

1. What are generational blessings?
2. Why did God choose to wipeout the enemies of his people bit by bit?

CORRELATION QUESTIONS

How did we qualify for the blessings of Abraham since Abraham lived in the Old Testament?

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

When you discover that God did not answer all your request once, what will your reaction be?

CONCLUSION

Perhaps you are angry with God because you feel he has done just little out those things you tabled before him. You must understand that God can change your life instantaneously, but he can choose to answer you the way he likes. Remember, his ways are not your ways neither his thought your thought.

PRAYER POINT

God give me the grace to understand what you are doing about my life per time.

DATE:	31 ST JULY, 2022	WEEK 14
THEME:	REMEMBER THE LORD YOUR GOD	
TOPIC:	NEVER FORGET YOUR SOURCE	
TEXT:	DEUT.8:1-19	
FOCUS:	DEUT. 8: 3 AND HE HUMBLLED THEE, AND SUFFERED THEE TO HUNGER, AND FED THEE WITH MANNA, WHICH THOU KNOWEST NOT, NEITHER DID THY FATHERS KNOW; THAT HE MIGHT MAKE THEE KNOW THAT MAN DOTH NOT LIVE BY BREAD ONLY, BUT BY EVERY WORD THAT PROCEEDETH OUT OF THE MOUTH OF THE LORD DOTH MAN LIVE.	

INTRODCUTION

Many people, even Christians believe that the kingdom of God is all about bread and butter or satisfying their sense of taste. They equate good life with money, good dressing or belonging to the elite class in the society. As much as all these things are good, they can only give temporary satisfaction. The greatest and true satisfaction in life comes through total commitment to God.

The best way to stay connected to God always is to live by His words, because every word that comes out of His mouth is life. How can we live by the word of God? We must acknowledge there is a need for the Word, agree that no one can truly satisfy us apart from God, pray for His presence, wisdom and revelation and lastly, practice what the Word teaches.

DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

How can we have true satisfaction in life?

UNDERSTANDING QUESTIONS

How can the Word help us stay connected to God?

CORRELATION QUESTIONS

Where did the core verse mentioned in the New Testament and did quoting the word helped in overcoming temptation?

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

1. How has the Word of God helped you to remember your source?
2. How did you the core verse of today personally?

CONCLUSION

No believer can ever become bigger and better in this world than the amount of the Word of God absorbed and this would be possible by making the word a priority. When our focus is the Word and not only the bread will we be able to overcome like Jesus the devil's antics.

PRAYER POINT

Give me understanding of your word and let me not disconnect from you my father.

DATE:	7 TH AUGUST, 2022	WEEK 15
THEME:	CROSSING THE RIVER JORDAN	
TOPIC:	VICTORY BY GOD'S GRACE	
TEXT:	DEUT.9:1-6	
FOCUS:	BUT THANKS BE TO GOD, WHICH GIVES US THE VICTORY THROUGH OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST. 1 COR 15:57.	

INTRODUCTION

The people of Israel were confronted with two major challenges at this point in their journey.

They wanted to take over the land God promised them and there was a river Jordan on the way.

This was the land that was spied in Numbers 13:23-30 that the occupiers of the land were Anakites - the giants which made them afraid of them.

Moses, despite these challenges revealed to the people how their victory is sure through God who is a consuming fire.

This same God is still alive today and he's available to clear away all the giants in our lives for no giant can stand his power. Only for anyone who desire to be victorious to rely on him.

One major tragedy of victory is for the victorious to believe he got the victory by his own might and wisdom. We must always remember that no man can prevail by his own strength.

DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

Why is our victory by grace?

UNDERSTANDING QUESTIONS

Describe God as he appeared to the people of Israel in the text.

CORRELATION QUESTIONS

What relevance has these bible passages Numbers 13:13-28; Heb. 12:29; I John 4:4 with the study?

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

What are those things that represent giants in life today and your life in particular?

CONCLUSION

Everyone must recognize and keep it to heart that victory can only be gotten by God's grace through the name of Jesus and not by power nor by might.

PRAYER POINT

My victory is sure in Jesus name.

DATE:	14 TH AUGUST, 2022	WEEK 16
THEME:	WARNING AGAINST IDOLATORY	
TOPIC:	BEWARE OF FALSE PROPHETS	
TEXT:	DEUT. 13:1-11	
FOCUS:	WHEREFORE, I GIVE YOU TO UNDERSTAND, THAT NO MAN SPEAKING BY THE SPIRIT OF GOD CALL JESUS ACCURSED: AND THAT NO MAN CAN SAY THAT JESUS IS THE LORD, BUT BY THE HOLY GHOST. 1COR 12:3.	

INTRODUCTION

When it comes to the issue of prophets, our church is blessed so much. But the unfortunate thing is that false and fake ones have infiltrated the church and have tried to tarnish the image of the church. But thanks be to God who will not allow the gate of hell to prevail against this church.

Moses warned the people of Israel against false prophets who could lead them astray and he exposed their tricks.

How can these devil incarnates be identified? They can be known when you notice any of the following in anyone who call him/herself a prophet (i). He gives prophecies that contradicts the word of God and inculcate fear in you. (ii). the focus is about self and not God and others. (iii). Tell you to worship another thing apart from God as remedy to get out of troubles. (ICor.12:3; I John4:2-3.)

DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

Who is a false or fake prophet?

UNDERSTANDING QUESTIONS

How can the false prophets be identified?

CORRELATION QUESTIONS

Relate these bible passages. (ICor.12:3; I John4:2-3) to today's text.

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

Share with people your experience with a false prophet and how you were able to escape his trap.

CONCLUSION

There is no any excuse again for anyone to fall victim of these fake servants of God because you've been exposed to the truth, and you also must not be one. Remember God frowns at worshiping idols under any disguise and he will not hesitate to judge anyone who bows to another god.

PRAYER POINT

1. Lord, flush out every false prophet destroying your church in Jesus name.
2. I will not be a victim of them in Jesus name.

DATE:	21 ST AUGUST, 2022	WEEK 17
TOPIC:	YESTERDAYS' EYE part 1	
TEXT:	ROM 1-6	
FOCUS:	BEEN JUDGEMENTAL	

INTRODUCTION

Growing up in the lord I have always wondered and asked why Apostle Paul started majority of his letters the way he started the book of Roman (Rom 1:1-2) "Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, separated unto the gospel of God, (Which he had promised afore by his prophets in the holy scriptures),..." he would always say "Paul called to be an Apostle by the will of God" or something similar in meaning to this; shortly the Holy spirit gave me an answer..."yesterday's Eye"

Paul would always make it clear to the brethren, that if they judged him with his actions and intentions against the church as regarding how he plundered the church and killed many who believed in Christ in is days of ignorance Act 8:3; they would miss the message that was why he would always say by the "will of God". His coming to Christ was by the grace, plan and will of God. In the same manner the Lord Jesus was faced with the challenge of the Jews in his ministry, they would normally say, is this not the carpenter's son whom we know? (Mark 6:3) with this attitude they were not able to align themselves with the blessing he carried.

Most times when we know a person history/or hidden dirty secretes, we are fast to condemn them and speak against them, especially when they become public figures, not knowing that the person must have made it right with God, repented just immediately after the event or not knowing that God has qualified the person. In another context, knowing fully well that our transformation is a gradual thing, perhaps that individual is still struggling with a particular weakness that God knows about like

Apostle Paul (Rom7:15), but because we carry a judgmental spirit, we are quick to say nasty things about that person and cause more hurt in the body of Christ, this is the more reason brothers and sisters pretend a lot in other to gain approval from others and why some shy away from the body of Christ.

Have you been Judgmental?

DISCOVERY QUESTION:

How do you think yesterday's eye has affected your perception about a member of the excos that you think was wrongly appointed or a church member?

UNDERSTANDING QUESTION:

How do you know when you are been judgmental?

APPLICATION QUESTION:

How would you explain the attitude of Christ as to the woman caught in the act of Adultery?

PRAYER:

Every Judgmental spirit operating in my life be destroyed in the name of Jesus.

DATE:	28 TH AUGUST, 2022	WEEK 18
THEME:		
TOPIC:	YERSTERDAYS' EYE part 2	
TEXT:	ROM 1-6	
FOCUS:	DEALING WITH THE ISSUE AND NOT THE PERSON	

INTRODUCTION

Yesterday's eye is that eye that holds on to grudges of the past and sees no good in today, it brings separation amongst the brethren hence not giving room to forgiveness, hope and second chance- this is Gods definition of "MERCY". As the prayer coordinator a brother offends you on in the fellowship and you stopped him from taking the prayer session that he was scheduled to take, or as bible study coordinator because you feel one of your members shows a deeper level of scriptural understanding than you during pre-study class, you never give him an opportunity to teach in the fellowship. As Christians we should learn to deal with our personal differences in such a way that the work of ministry should not be affected. The "yesterdays eyes" is always looking for faults in others in order to bring them down, it is simply the tool of the accuser of the brethren- the devil. The reality is that most people we look as sinners must have been probably forgiven by God a long time ago. God showed Apostle Paul mercy (forgiveness, hope and second chance) and today is one of the most celebrated Apostles in bible history "And who through the spirit of holiness was declared with power to be the son of God by his resurrection from the dead..." (NIV) The spirit of God is an advocate of repentance and in the ministry of making/calling men out of their weakness/Sin into the greatness of their redeemer has for them. In all by dealing with issues we must learn to speak the truth in love or correct in love.

DISCOVERY QUESTION:

What do think is the difference between been judgmental and correction in love?

UNDERSTANDING QUESTION:

Which is right to be judged, people's intent or actions?

APPLICATION QUESTION:

In what ways can prevent ourselves from operating through this "eye"?

PRAYER:

Father Lord, deliver me from the spirit of error.

DATE:	4 TH SEPTEMBER, 2022	WEEK 19
TOPIC:	SPIRITUAL GIFTS	
TEXT:	ROM 1: 7-13	
FOCUS:	ALL BELIEVERS SHOULD BE GIFTED	

INTRODUCTION

Rom 1:10-11 “making request, if by any means now at length I might have a prosperous journey by the will of God to come unto you. For I long to see you, that I may impart unto you some spiritual gift, to the end ye may be established...”

Most times when we hear of spiritual gifts, we think it's only prophets, pastors and a few chosen people in the body of Christ that has access to it. This is certainly not true; Paul knew the importance of this to a believer and earnestly longed to see the Roman church to impart unto them spiritual gifts. Spiritual gift is our senses in the spirit realm, just like a man has five senses which he uses to relate to his environment and people, in the same manner spiritual gifts are our spiritual senses. They are spiritual accessories to make life easy for believers. Those who possess these gifts and learn how to operate it will rule their world. They give us unprecedented access and influence in the spirit realm, in addition to the fact that we are children of God. You cannot be gifted and not be spiritually awakened!

Yes, we are born again and have access to the Father by nature of second birth, but to be gifted gives and adds more color to our spiritual nature, we become spiritual heavy weights that cannot be easily tossed by waves of life”....that I may impart unto you some spiritual gift to the end ye may be established...” Rom1:11.

Those who operate in one form of spiritual gift will stand out in the midst of many. Our spiritual gift allows us to do more and go the extra mile and causes us to remain in command; even Jesus himself was gifted (John 1:8). Have you ever observed that most bible time

heroes where gifted in one area or the other, Abraham had the gift of faith; Daniel could interpret hard riddles, etc; So long for spiritual gifts, it will surely impart positively on your spiritual race!

DISCOVERY QUESTION:

Do we need to go through rigorous fasting, prayer and rituals before God gives us gifts?

UNDERSTANDING QUESTION:

In what areas has spiritual gift helped in the body of Christ that you know?

APPLICATION QUESTION:

How do I know I am gifted?

PRAYER:

Lord, endow me with spiritual gifts that I need to enhance my productivity as a child of God.

DATE:	11 TH SEPTEMBER, 2022	WEEK 20
THEME:		
TOPIC:	LIVING THE GOSPEL	
TEXT:	ROM 1:13-17	
FOCUS:	READINESS	

INTRODUCTION

Paul in the fifteen verses said ...''I am eager to preach the gospel also to you who are at Rome'' (NIV).

His eagerness /readiness to preach in the capital city Rome been the capital of the Roman empire, a busy place with a bundle of knowledgeable men (home of men like Archimedes, Aristotle, etc) was out of this world, he had been consumed with the fire of the word/gospel which is the power of the God to them that are saved. Although Rome was the Capital, it didn't have Christ and although it had wise and knowledgeable men, they didn't know the way! They were dead even though they seemed alive. In the same manner, the world around us looks bright, colorful and beautiful, but it is in actual sense dead. Until all men come to the knowledge of Christ and live Christ, they are but dead.

As Christians, we must arm our selves with the same readiness of Paul, in sharing the gospel.

On the contrary some may argue that they do not have the gift/grace to share or evangelize, which is true, however, the best form of evangelism/sharing the gospel in readiness is that type of sharing where by we live that gospel as a life always any time any where and not in fellowship alone. Some only live the gospel during worship moments in church and quick to put away the gospel the moment they get to their hostels and in the midst of their friends. In summary our readiness is when we live that life such that we become the gospel men read to know Christ.

DISCOVERY QUESTION:

Look around, can one live this life in this age?

UNDERSTANDING QUESTION:

How do I achieve living in readiness per time?

APPLICATION QUESTION:

What is the limitation that sets us back from living in readiness?

PRAYER:

Lord, I receive to day the mind which was also in Christ Jesus to live in readiness.

DATE:	18 TH SEPETMBER, 2022	WEEK 21
THEME:		
TOPIC:	GOODNESS OF GOD PART 1	
TEXT:	ROM 2:1-6	
FOCUS:	SECOND CHANCE	

INTRODUCTION

God is kind but not soft, many have always asked why do the wicked prosper and it looks like the righteous is not moving forward, on the other hand, why and how does God use somebody who we know has messed up and still brings glory to himself or why doesn't God just strike dead evil politicians so that the children of God can take over or why didn't God strike you dead the last time you vowed not to do a particular thing again, yet you did it?

One must understand first that God is the God of the universe and can use any body and any means to accomplish His goal (he is the sovereign God) on the other hand, in his sovereignty, God doesn't want any man to perish. In his sight, no man is worth spending a minute in the lake of fire, that is why he gives every Individual who does not know him, who have "backslide" and continuously living in deception and hypocrisy enough time to repent. His goodness is in his compassion, mercy and grace which gives us second chance each time we mess up (Rom 2:4).

Every believer should understand that God's goodness comes with each day, hour minute and second of every moment. God doesn't give up on us, even most times he comes looking for us, knowing the dangers we are faced with by separating ourselves from him and not learning from our mistakes and mistakes of people around us. Indeed, he finds us no matter how deep we must have fallen or how far we have gone astray, however he never forces us to accept him even when he locates us...more often we send him back by rejecting him. Above all we must also know that no matter how

long God may suffer (Gods longsuffering) in locating us, his door of second chance has an expiry date. Prov 1:24-33

DISCOVERY QUESTION:

Look in to your life, do you think you are keeping God waiting.

UNDERSTANDING QUESTION:

Can God use a sinner?

APPLICATION QUESTION:

How can we as Christians maximize the Grace of God?

PRAYER:

Lord, let not your grace expire over me in Jesus name.

DATE:	25 TH SEPTEMBER, 2022	WEEK 22
TOPIC:	STANDING STRONG	
TEXT:	ROM 2: 7-21	
FOCUS:	DISCIPLINED LIFE STYLE	

INTRODUCTION

(Rom 2:7) "... to those who by persistence in doing good seek glory, honour and immortality, he will give eternal life'" (NIV)

The Christian faith is a calling and journey to stand for righteousness, living it and above all to manifest the kingdom of God right here on earth; becoming a living proof that there is a God in heaven. But those who must heed this call and embark on this journey must know that it is not a battle for the weak and more importantly the undisciplined... bible says

Mat 11:12 "And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffer violence, and the violent take it by force"

Standing strong in our calling/ministry is not Childs play but involves been persistent or continuity in the area of call. However, one cannot be persistent if discipline is lacking. Samson was strong but he lacked discipline in the area of managing women and watching what he says. Alongside being persistent, we must continually seek, that, which will bring glory and honour to God and seek to be continually found doing things with eternal value and reward. In this world, the devil does not want you to grow and come to the knowledge of truth, he does not want you to pray and do those things that pleases God and things that will cause men to receive their deliverance, however, one way to resist him is by being persistent in building on the truth/revelation we have received (James 4:7).

Men may slander you because they do not understand the power of God, they may say you are showing off or too forward...don't mind

them, just be persistent and disciplined. As there is no room for the lazy and undisciplined in this race. Just like an athlete disciplines/separate himself from certain food and drinks so that he can give is best, and trains persistently to be the champion, in the same way our calling/ministry is with persistence and with discipline; with this, we will stand strong when the storms of temptation/life come.

DISCOVERY QUESTION:

Do you think you or the fellowship is standing strong in what it's called to do?

UNDERSTANDING QUESTION:

Analyze now...what do you think you need to stand strong in, to bring out the best in you?

APPLICATION QUESTION:

In what areas do you think the fellowship/you will need discipline to stand strong?

PRAYER:

Power! For great kingdom impact...fall on me in Jesus name.

DATE:	2 ND OCTOBER, 2022	WEEK 23
TOPIC:	GOODNESS OF GOD PART 2	
TEXT:	ROM 2:21-29	
FOCUS:	HIDDEN SECRETS	

INTRODUCTION

‘For the name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles through you...’ Rom 2: 24

The word Christian came out when people saw the deeds of Jesus in the life of the Apostle in Antioch ((Acts 11:26), also when they saw Peters and John’s boldness, they perceived he must have been with Jesus (Acts 4:13). The truth is that we can’t receive Jesus genuinely and his natures not rob on us. In this age, the Jesus people receive is the Jesus of the mouth who is praised from the lips only (Isaiah 29:11) and not the Jesus received into the heart and even when some receive him into the heart they do not allow him to teach and tutor them in the things of the kingdom of God such that they may be able to bear fruits... “hence having the form of godliness but denying the power” 2Tim3:5. When we receive the son of God into our lives, He is birthed in us and we are birthed in Him such that we can grow together doing the will of the father.

In many so-called Christians lives, there is no pointer that this Jesus is even in our lives, men cannot see it and testify to it for if men see it, they must surely testify to it! Even unbelievers don’t see any reason why they should give their lives to Christ because their character and lifestyle is far better than many professed Christians; God’s name, image and power is blasphemed amongst many unbelievers because of us- Christians who claim to be born again-unit leaders, excos, prayer warrior, bible study teacher, evangelist, Daniel member, etc

We don’t show mercy or easily forgive, hold serious grudges, we fight always, hot tempered, wear seductive cloths on campus, some

live “couples’ life”, we still involve ourselves in examination malpractice, unruly behavior in the class room, vulgar language, we are still found in questionable places, we join cult groups, sexual perversion of all manners (lesbianism, masturbation, homosexuality). In summary, let us all work on the weakness which are the blemishes and wrinkles that remain in our lives and take advantage of Gods goodness now!

DISCOVERY QUESTION:

What are the fruits to be looked out for in a believer’s life?

UNDERSTANDING QUESTION:

How do you escape the trap of been religious?

APPLICATION QUESTION:

How do we move from just confessing Christ to living Christ and moving from activity that doesn’t bear fruits?

PRAYER:

I receive power over every little thing in me that disqualify me and my works before the father in Jesus name.

DATE:	9 TH OCTOBER, 2022	WEEK 24
THEME:		
TOPIC:	GOD WHO JUSTIFIES	
TEXT:	ROM 3:1-31	
FOCUS:	FAITH	

INTRODUCTION

Rom 3:10 “As it is written: there is no one righteous, not even one; there is no one who understands, no one who seeks God all have turned away, they have worthless there is no one who does good, not even one” (NIV)

The above scripture was the exact definition and description heaven could give about man, man was worthless, even the bible says in the scripture the thoughts of men are evil always (Gen 6:5), humanity had drifted down to a point even God regretted creating man. God gave man the law to with the intent to help school him into right standing but the law condemn man further and brought Sin upon those who were under it as man could not fulfill the requirements of the law...hence no man could stand righteous before God ... (Rom 3 :19-20)

On the contrary the same God who brought the law (which brought death, sin and condemnation) to school man into a right standing with him worked out another way that man should have a right stand before him each time he looked down from heaven...this way is in the simple faith in the Son of God -Jesus!

Now, man has a new type of right standing (righteousness) that is not worked for but given by God, with this man is justified from the fulfilment of the requirement of the law which God himself brought initially. Rom3:25-28

Now we are no longer worthless in the sight of Go das we sit at the right side of God in the heavenly places and walk righteous before

him (Eph 1:21; Heb 12:22). This is redemption...this is the essence of Christmas...celebrating Christ our righteousness! Hallelujah!

DISCOVERY QUESTION:

How much faith does one needs to be justified by God?

UNDERSTANDING QUESTION:

If faith saves, then were lies how works?

APPLICATION QUESTION:

Do you think the C&S is operating under the law?

PRAYER:

Lord, help me have faith, to grow it and to use it.

DATE:	16 TH OCTOBER, 2022	WEEK 25
THEME:		
TOPIC:	ULTIMATE FAITH	
TEXT:	ROM 1:1-25	
FOCUS:	FIRST AND LAST	

INTRODUCTION

Rom 4:12-13 “ And he also the father of the circumcised who not only are circumcised but who walks in the footsteps of faith that our father Abraham had before he was circumcised. It was not through law that Abraham and his offspring received the promise that he would be heir of the world, but through the righteousness that comes by faith” NIV

One of the things that made Abraham who and what he is today is simply the “ Promise” God made to him which he provoked to manifestation by his faith. Abraham began with faith and Jesus ended it with faith being also a seed of Abraham.

It is important to note that faith answers to any one who knows how to utilize it, irrespective of circumcision or uncircumcision. It is not about religious obligations, rituals, or a matter of what you do right and what you didn’t do right. The promise is only delivered on the account of faith in God. Faith is the ultimate in the kingdom of God and the greatest weapon God has handed over to humanity. (1John 5:4)

“He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God and fully persuaded that what he had promised he was able to perform” Rom 4:20-21

Only faith delivers and it will answer any time any day any where! And it will take a living faith to connect with a living God for a living being to have a living testimony! Faith is the Ultimate!

DISCOVERY QUESTION:

Does faith have an expiry date?

UNDERSTANDING QUESTION:

In having faith in God, what are the do (s) and don'ts?

APPLICATION QUESTION:

What are the areas that I can't apply my faith in?

PRAYER:

Lord, cause my faith to be a living one so that it may deliver.

DATE:	23 RD OCTOBER, 2022	WEEK 26
THEME:	AN OPEN INVITATION TO COVENANT LIVING	
TOPIC:	LOOKING FOR JESUS	
TEXT:	MARK 1: 32 – 45	
FOCUS:	THE WILL OF GOD	
CORE	MARK 1:37 “and when they found him, they	
VERSE:	exclaimed: everyone is looking for you!”	

INTRODUCTION

Throughout His ministry on earth, Jesus never lost a minute of focus on the purpose for which He was called i.e. to redeem the world. The will of God was first and it informed everything that He did. Even in the face of temptations (Matthew. 4: 3 – 10) and several threats to His life, the will of God ruled everything He did. When He healed people or set people free from demonic bondage, it was always in obedience to the will of God and never for personal gains or popularity.

DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

1. Identify the needs of the various people who looked for Jesus: The Pharisees, The Sadducees, The poor, sick etc.
2. What kind of kingdom did Jesus come to inaugurate and what was His real mission?

UNDERSTANDING QUESTIONS

1. What is the import of the leper’s statement “if you are willing, you can make me clean”?
2. What do people doubt, God’s ability or God’s willingness to do things, and why?

CORRELATING QUESTIONS

1. “Not with eye-service, as men pleasers; but as the servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart” (Ephesians 6:6)

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

1. When Jesus exercises power over nature, diseases, demons etc., what message was He passing across?
2. Assuming Jesus decides to visit you and stay with you, going out and coming in with you, how will you receive and live with Him?

CONCLUSION

In the overall, in everything we do as Christians, we not lose focus that the will of God must be done always.

PRAYER

Lord, please strengthen me so that I will be focus and rely on you alone.

DATE:	30TH OCTOBER, 2022	WEEK 27
THEME:	AN OPEN INVITATION TO COVENANT LIVING	
TOPIC:	RECOGNISING JESUS	
TEXT:	MARK 5: 1 – 13, 18 – 20	
FOCUS:	THE DEVIL KNOWS HIS LIMITS	
CORE VERSE:	MARK 5: 6 “when he saw Jesus from a distance, he ran and fell on his knees in front of him”	

INTRODUCTION

Do you know Him that you serve; can you recognize Him when you see Him? Even your enemy, the devil knows his limits, but exploits your ignorance (the fact that you don’t know your right in Christ Jesus) and your fear.

Jesus was everywhere manifesting and demonstrating the love of God to all, conquering all without exception: nature, humans and spiritual forces of evil.

DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

1. What is the implication of the recognition of Jesus by demons?
2. What are the goals of demons in a person’s life?
3. Why did the people ask Jesus to leave their community?

UNDERSTANDING QUESTIONS

1. Why do people who have experienced God’s goodness still want to value their possessions more than a relationship with Him?
2. What do the presence and a relationship with Jesus do to our lives?

CORRELATING QUESTIONS

1. Can you confirm how many times Jesus' authority was restricted in the Bible, and what are the implications (Mark 11: 13 – 14, 20 – 22)
2. Why was Jesus able to overcome all challenges and powers (Col. 2: 10, Eph. 1: 21, Rom. 4: 17)

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

1. What power is available to you when you are overcome by challenges and fear? (Matt. 19: 26)
2. What are the implications of the healed man's request to follow Jesus?

CONCLUSION

Jesus' authority must be recognised and never to be neglected because ALL authority in heaven and earth belong to Him.

PRAYER

Lord, please let me continue to dwell and do everything in your authority.

DATE:	6 TH NOVEMBER, 2022.	WEEK 28
THEME:	AN OPEN INVITATION TO COVENANT LIVING	
TOPIC:	HOLDING ON TO FAITH	
FOCUS:	THERE IS ALWAYS A DELIBERATE ATTEMPT TO DISQUALIFY YOU, HOLD TO YOUR FAITH.	
CORE VERSE:	MARK 7:28 "yes lord, she replied, but even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs"	

INTRODUCTION

God is Omnipresent, HE cannot be hidden. Faith (which comes from your knowledge of him) is stubbornly holding on to your conviction no matter the distraction and from whatever quarters it is coming from. Your faithful conviction in Him will always win you your desires. When His words go out, every other spirit s bow and obey them. As our maker, He is able to always complete His work of creation in us and make us complete.

Are you patient and focused enough to recognize and ignore detractions in favour of what you want from God, are you open or close hearted? Jesus' power knows no bounds or limitations; no one is outside the healing touch of God.

DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

1. What are the road blocks to the attaining of your goal in Christ?
2. Who has the right to Jesus, miracle, grace, salvation?
3. Through whose authority can demons be cast out? Or can we cast out demons by our own powers? Act 19:13.

UNDERSTANDING QUESTIONS

1. What is the work of faith in getting what you desire from God and countering the devil's discouragement?

2. How does your obedience influence God?

CORRELATING QUESTIONS

1. What comes out of your mind when provoked? Luke 6:45
2. What is the source of your faith? Rom 10:10

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

1. What are your responses to God's assumed answers to your prayers?
2. Do you burry your pride when you go before God?

CONCLUSION

We must know that every kneel bow and every tongue confess at the mentioning of His name, Stay in Him and don't be distracted.

PRAYER

Lord, please let me be patient enough to recognise distractions we they come and be focused on you alone.

DATE:	13 TH NOVEMBER, 2022	WEEK 29
THEME:	AN OPEN INVITATION TO COVENANT LIVING	
TOPIC:	OPTING OUT	
TEXT:	MARK 10: 17 – 31	
FOCUS:	LET THERE BE A CONGRUENCE BETWEEN YOUR WORLDLY NEEDS AND YOUR DESIRE FOR ETERNITY	
CORE VERSE:	MARK 10: 22 “At this the man’s face fell, he went away sad, because he had great wealth	

INTRODUCTION

Most of the time we don’t demonstrate that we know what we want, while our heads are with God, our hearts are with the world. The goodness of God is not partial, not narrow, not selfish, but total and towards all. His goodness is demonstrated in His love that gives to all without counting costs and always giving the best He can offer. As disciples who aspire, we should strive to become like Him every day. There is the need to put possessions in their places: a means of satisfying necessities. We should not be deceptive by claiming to be in the Lord when all our hearts are with the world (Gal. 6:7). Anything that takes God’s place (first place) in our lives must go.

DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

1. What is the implication of a relationship with God on your terms and not on God’s terms?
2. Do rich Christians have any place in eternity?
3. When Jesus’ words pierce your heart, how do you respond?

UNDERSTANDING QUESTIONS

1. When do you need God; when you have it and in excess or when you are poor and in need?
2. What are you giving-up to follow Christ?

3. How possessive have you been for worldly properties, do your possessions stand between you and God?

CORRELATING QUESTIONS

1. How vulnerable are you in your present position?
2. How is Christ rejected and what are the implications? (Isa. 66: 5, 1John 3:13)

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

1. Are you surrendered to and reliant upon God or on your possession?
2. What type of acquisitions are you engaged in, spiritual or physical?
3. Are you ready to accept what Jesus is offering you now (including its accompanying pains) on your way to eternity?

CONCLUSION

In the overall, we should not be deceptive to claim to be in the Lord when so many things have taken God's position in our hearts.

PRAYER

Lord, please enable me to surrender all to you and you alone.

DATE:	20 TH NOVEMBER, 2022	WEEK 30
THEME:	AN OPEN INVITATION TO COVENANT LIVING	
TOPIC:	A HOLY PEOPLE	
TEXT:	1 PETER 1: 13 – 25	
FOCUS:	FEAR OF AND OBEDIENCE TO GOD	
CORE	1 PETER 1: 15 “but just as he who called you	
VERSE:	is holy, so be holy in all you do”	

INTRODUCTION

The biggest peace we can have in the world and on any issue is the peace of God, and this is acquired through life in Christ, the fear of God, obedience, not being worldly, purity and Godly reverence. To be holy unto the Lord, you must have a reverence for Him, to revere is to fear and respect, this is the gateway to living a holy life in the kingdom

DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

1. What is holiness?
2. Does man have a righteousness of his own? (Isa. 8: 13, Isa.29:23)
3. When you say “I fear God” what fruits are expected to be manifested in your life?

UNDERSTANDING QUESTION

1. Is there a relationship between who you are and what God says you are?

CORRELATING QUESTIONS

1. Are you able to stand before your enemies, why not? (Josh. 7: 13)
2. Is Christ reigning in your soul? (1Th. 2:19, Rom. 6: 11, Gal. 2: 19)

APPLICATION QUESTION

1. What is the relationship between the fear of God and holiness? (Acts 10: 22, 11Cor. 7: 1)

CONCLUSION

In the overall, we must always seek God's peace that surpasses all understanding.

PRAYER

Lord, grant me your peace.

DATE:	27 TH NOVEMBER, 2022	WEEK 31
THEME:	TEST OF OUR FAITH	
TOPIC:	WHY ME? Part 1	
TEXT:	JAMES 1:1-4	
FOCUS:	GOD IS WORKING OUT SOMETHING	

INTRODUCTION

Most times as children of God when we go through certain difficulties of life, we generally want to give God reasons why we feel we should not go through such. We often make comments like: but I am born again, I pay my tithe, I don't fornicate, or I have not cheated in an exam etc. So why should I have an extra year, why should I finish with a pass, why should it be me to lose this opportunity. As believers we must fully understand this that we will face trial and our faith shall be tested. James 1:2-3.

On the contrary the testing of our faith brings promotion when we overcome and ultimately brings us to perfection (maturity and completeness)- being fit for the master's use. James 1:2-3.

The children of Israel complained to Moses and murmured against God at the red sea, not knowing God intentionally led them there for a purpose, Exodus 13:17-18. The truth is that, God's children are not disadvantaged in anything the Father leads them into. If we must answer the question why me as children of God, then we must know, it is so that the best of God can be made manifest out from us.

DISCOVERY QUESTION

What do you think happens when some, don't come out well from their trial?

UNDERSTANDING QUESTION

Does God tempt with evil?

APPLICATION QUESTION

In what ways should we position ourselves when we are being tried?

PRAYER

I receive grace to overcome in the days of trial.

DATE:	4 TH DECEMBER, 2022	WEEK 32
THEME:	TEST OF OUR FAITH	
TOPIC:	WHY ME? Part 2	
TEXT:	JAMES 1:4	
FOCUS:	GOD IS WORKING OUT SOMETHING	

“...Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything...” James 1:4

Friends, the truth be told, God does not raise mediocrity rather, he raises the best to give their best for kingdom advancement. According to divine plan and wisdom, by the time God completes his job in our lives, we will now be celebrated and needed for our wisdom, ability or skill that God as imparted us with in the midst of the trial *“...because you know that the testing of your faith **produces** perseverance...” James 1:3*

There are always some measures of virtues that is produced in us. Who would have thought that the skills David gains in killing a Lion and Bear will help him defeat Goliath and finally end him in the palace, who would have thought that the skills Joseph learned in the house of Potiphar would later help him to govern the whole of Egypt as the Prime minister, who would have thought that Esther the slave girl would end up in a palace?

But these people where tried; in their trial God finished his works in them which ultimately made them presentable and over comers. Again, I say, God does not raise mediocrities; when he deals with you, he never leaves you empty. When he deals with us, he opens our eyes; he toughens our person and strengthens our resolve to believe in him the more. It is with this resolve of faith, trust, ability in self and God that makes Gods children into champions

DISCOVERY QUESTION

What do you think have been produced in you through the challenge you recently went through?

UNDERSTANDING QUESTION

How can we miss God in the midst of the trial?

APPLICATION QUESTION

In what ways should we position ourselves when we are being tried?

PRAYER

Lord, make me and let me formed into the mold you want to make me.

DATE:	11 TH DECEMBER, 2022	WEEK 33
THEME:	TEST OF OUR FAITH	
TOPIC:	TEST AND TEMPTATION	
TEXT:	JAMES 1:12-18	
FOCUS:	SECRET SINS	

INTRODUCTION

In religious circles the word test and tempt is a common word and often synonymously used wrongly. Testing or what we call trial is more associated with God. James 1:13; makes it clear that God does not tempt rather he test or tries, that is, he makes you go through trials. The ultimate goal of the test or trials God makes us pass through is to search out what is in the deep corners our heart and secondly, to promote us (perfects and endows us with more grace) when we succeed. In other words, like a lecturer who prepares a series of test for his students to know how well they understand is course, so he can know where to concentrate on. Interestingly, God does this too!

However, when we talk about temptation, it is a deliberate act to bring one down. The dictionary defines it as ‘an act to incite somebody to transgress.’ This is what the devil does, he tempts to bring down, but God test to prepare and build up. In all this the door to be tempted by the devil is opened when we are drawn away by our evil desires; James 1:14. Know that when one falls into temptation, he will need a breakthrough.

DISCOVERY QUESTION

How do we differentiate a test from temptation?

UNDERSTANDING QUESTION

How does one pass God’s test and overcome the enemy’s temptation?

APPLICATION QUESTION

Explain how evil desires fuels the power of temptation?

PRAYER

Lord, where I have failed your test, I receive strength to stand and where temptation as overcome me. I receive power to breakthrough.

DATE:	18 TH DECEMBER, 2022	WEEK 34
THEME:	TEST OF OUR FAITH	
TOPIC:	WHEN WE PRAY	
TEXT:	JAMES 1:5-8	
FOCUS:	POWER OF DOUBT	

Have you ever asked yourself this question...what does God have to gain by not answering my prayers...? Well, the truth is that, God has nothing to gain when our prayers are not answered. We must know that a life of unanswered prayers is a life of no testimony and ultimately a life with no testimony does not glorify God. In addition, we must understand that God is a prayer answering God and not a prayer storing God.

Having said this, the fundamentals of prayer cannot be pushed aside which is faith and the opposite of faith is doubt. The Bible says ‘without faith it is impossible to please God,’ Heb11:6. When faith is absent, doubt is at work. It is this doubt that is the pit fall of many believers. Whatever comes out of our mouth must align with what our heart is saying. More often our mouth says something and our heart says another, this is doubt in the highest order. But when what comes out of the mouth aligns with what comes out of the heart then faith is exercised in its purest and simplest form. As simple as the misalignment of our mouth and heart may look, it can hinder the prayers of the saints of God.

DISCOVERY QUESTION

What is the root cause of doubt and in what way do we exercise doubt?

UNDERSTANDING QUESTION

In what ways can we deal with doubt in our lives?

APPLICATION QUESTION

How can I align my words with my heart?

PRAYER

Lord, do not let my testimony turn to shame in Jesus name.

DATE:	25 TH DECEMBER, 2022	WEEK 35
THEME:	TEST OF OUR FAITH	
TOPIC:	WHEN BLESSING MAY TURN TO CURSE	
TEXT:	JAMES 1:16	
FOCUS:	BE OPEN MINDED	

In the text above, the writer admonishes believers not to be deceived. Most times, through religious and false teachings, many believe that good things of this world do not come to the children of God. Some even preach that having money and other things of life is not necessary and that the kingdom of heaven is the ultimate, some are so indoctrinated that when they see you in a very nice car, they quickly judge you to be an occultist or probably involved in embezzling money somewhere, some even tag you not to be born again when they see you looking beautiful with your hair nicely done. Well, if it is true, then we should all drop out from the university, stop working, probably shouldn't take our baths and start preaching everywhere.

We must understand that all good gifts come from the Lord James 1: 17. However, we must be careful not to allow the blessings (beauty, intelligence, wealth) of God upon our lives become a curse to us and others. Whatever God gives us is a tool to do his will and not to fulfill our evil lust.

DISCOVERY QUESTION

What are those things we think God has given us (in the fellowship and as individuals) that are gradually becoming a burden to us?

UNDERSTANDING QUESTION

Why do you think and how does blessing becomes a curse-
Analyze?

CORRELATION QUESTION

Give other areas in the scripture where the blessings of God are abused

APPLICATION QUESTION

How do we make amends of the above urgently?

PRAYER

Lord, every blessing that has become a burden and a curse to our fellowship and our lives, receive restoration in Jesus name.

DATE:	1 ST JANUARY, 2023	WEEK 36
THEME:	MORAL EXCELLENCE	
TOPIC:	MORAL FILTH Part 1	
TEXT:	James 1:19-21	
FOCUS:	TOWARDS MORAL EXCELLENCE	

In today's topic, we would see two human nature, that if not put under the authority of the Holy Spirit, can ruin lives, destroy homes, set longtime friends on the journey of hatred. This human nature has divided churches, and caused men to take wrong decisions in life. It has caused war to break between nations. These human natures are hastiness to speak and anger. When combined, they can be instruments of havoc in the hands of the enemy for any believer who does not exercise self-control. 2 Tim 1:7. When believers cannot take charge of these nature and rule over them, then it becomes filth before the master and in the masters' service. The Apostle Paul was indirectly telling James to think before he talks and never allow his emotions to overtake is present situation. Words they say is like an egg, when broken, it cannot be put together again.

As regards anger, it is simply an emotional reaction to an unpleasant situation or circumstance. However, how far we now go in reacting to this emotional discomfort is one of our focuses as children of the kingdom. There is really no sin in anger as it is human to get angry, however, it can lead to sin as the bible says sin not when angry, Eph. 4:26.

DISCOVERY QUESTION

Can anger and the tongue be controlled? If yes, give guidelines on how best to be in control over them?

UNDERSTANDING QUESTION

Explain further the evil in talking without thinking / talking with haste & anger and their subtlety in the life of a Christian?

UNDERSTANDING QUESTION

Correlate this passage with other passages in the Bible.

APPLICATION QUESTION

How do you think we can put anger and hastiness in speech to good use, if possible?

PRAYER

Lord, purge me of every filth that can disqualify me and my service before you.

DATE:	8 TH JANUARY, 2022	WEEK 37
THEME:	MORAL EXCELLENCE	
TOPIC:	MORAL FILTH Part 2	
TEXT:	JAMES 1:19-21	
FOCUS:	TOWARDS MORAL EXCELLENCE	

Beyond hastiness to speak and anger, there are other human nature or characters that can pass for the phrase moral filth (see NIV version). We must understand that our restoration does not end at salvation. We must see to it that we grow in the new realm/ world that we have been translated into by the death of Jesus. Receiving Jesus gives us a license into the newness of life; however, this is not enough. Verse 21 says ”... *Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you...*”

This verse states two categorical steps in tackling this filth. The first one is “Get rid”-which is a deliberate identification and war against spiritual contaminants; and the second is “Humility”-By this we mean humbly accepting the word. E.g. some still believe pre-marital sex is normal and don’t buy the idea of sexual purity, this is not humbly receiving the word.

In summary, our walk towards moral excellence beyond and after salvation must take a deliberate effort and humbly receiving the word of grace that is able to save.

DISCOVERY QUESTION

Can you explain why some believers still find themselves in a moral filth; is it normal?

UNDERSTANDING QUESTION

Can God use a morally filthy vessel; if yes, give instances?

UNDERSTANDING QUESTION

Give other passages in the scripture that correlate with today's study

APPLICATION QUESTION

Please shed more light on the phrase Get rid in James 1:21 (NIV) and give more instances where we reject the word of God, yet were believers?

PRAYER

Lord, I receive power to deliberately say NO to every spiritual and sexual contaminant.

DATE:	15 TH JANUARY, 2023	WEEK 38
THEME:	MORAL EXCELLENCE	
TOPIC:	WHERE POWER RESIDES	
TEXT:	JAMES 1:22-27	
FOCUS:	DOING THE WORD	

Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves James 1:22-25 (NIV). Do what it says. Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror and after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom and continues in it—not forgetting what they have heard but doing it—they will be blessed in what they do.

It is a very noble thing for a believer to listen to the word of God, take down notes, study the scriptures for hours or even get engrossed in a long discussion with others as regards the Bible; even Paul admonished Timothy to study to show himself approved..., 2Tim 2:15. But as noble as these acts may be, the sad part is that it does not generate Power, fruits or results. All that was afore mentioned will only give the believer information or for some people a sense of self-fulfilment or self-appraisal. Brethren, until the information gotten from the books is turned into action, power does not go forth. It is the doing of the word that is the ultimate, it is doing the word that qualifies a man before God; it is doing the word that speaks before God and nothing else under heaven.

Those who hear the word must grow to the realm of speaking the word and those who speak the word must move to the ultimate realm of acting on the word.

DISCOVERY QUESTION

Which real do you think you are: Listening only, speaking only, Doing the word or all of the above? How do you identify a “Doer”?

UNDERSTANDING QUESTIONS

1. Is it true that, with God if you don't qualify in one of his tests, you don't get grace/power climb/move to another class of glory and responsibility?
2. Why do you think people find it hard to do Gods word?

APPLICATION QUESTION

Beyond the subject of sin-hell; how do you think not doing the word hinders believers?

PRAYER

Let Power to do the word of God fall on me today.

DATE:	22 ND JANUARY, 2023	WEEK 39
THEME:	MORAL EXCELLENCE	
TOPIC:	UNITY IN DIVERSITY	
TEXT:	JAMES 2:1-4	
FOCUS:	FAVOURITISM FORBIDDEN	

Since people come from different background of Christian faith or different Churches, it is most likely that they will tend to show favour to those who they are more familiar or whom they are of the same Church with. In some cases, when we are in position of authority or decision making, our decision tends towards the side of those we know or are familiar with. As little as this may look, if not handled with wisdom can cause division in the church. The church is filled with hundreds of people with different characters, doctrines, orientation and background.

The relationship we have with others must be fair and just and not based on certain biases or prejudices. We must rebuke the spirit of "I am of Paul and I am of Apollo; I am of the President; I am of the choir master. "Everybody should be given a fair chance of understanding why they act the way they do and a fair chance to contribute their quota to the house of God irrespective of whose friend they are or their mother church.

The fact that you do not like the way a particular sister sings does not mean you should disqualify her. If a brother is not gifted does not mean he should be disqualified; this other brother must not be given special preference because his parents sowed a large seed to help the fellowship. Before Christ we are all one and no one was bought with a more special blood than the other

DISCOVERY QUESTION

Do you think we have favoritism at work in our fellowship; if yes identify it?

UNDERSTANDING QUESTION

Is favoritism a societal norm that has entered into church or normal thing?

APPLICATION QUESTION

If it is, how best do you think it can be dealt with

PRAYER

Lord, do not take away your word from our midst.

DATE:	29 TH JANUARY, 2023	WEEK 40
THEME:	PRAYER	
TOPIC:	PRAYER, PATIENCE AND SUBMISSION	
TEXT:	1 SAMUEL 1:6	
FOCUS:	THE ACT OF SURRENDERING TO HIS WILL & PATIENCE IN PRAYER	

One thing a man must know is that God is neither wicked nor evil in nature, but the devil is wicked and does evil. As long as a man is in Christ, all things are working together for his good. Gods' acts sometimes to men may be unexplainable and seem evil or wicked to some because we do not have a full picture of the end which He sees and knows (Jeremiah 29:11). God's moves are with reasons and not without cause. He shut the womb of Hannah so as to give Samuel a perfect entry into the world to replace Eli at the right time. He allowed the Jews to kill Jesus to usher in salvation for humanity; He is never too late or too early more so, Jesus had to submit to death on the cross saying "Father let thy will be done". There is always a purpose for every move of God which is to give his children an expected end compared to the devil whose move is to bring shame and ridicule John 10:10.

Our resolve as Christians is to walk in his will by submitting to it and be patient for its manifestation through persistent prayer. Even when His will is not clear to us, we are to search it out prayerfully with patience and submit to it. Lack of patience and submission to his will make us fall out of grace and purpose. Children of God must understand that our prayers must be accompanied by patience and submission; for it may be that the hand of God may be involved in what we are going through. Could it be an extra year in school, insufficient funds, carryover, indebtedness and sometimes the death of a close one? In all these, we are more than conquerors. Even when afflictions are stirred up by the enemy, one is thing is

sure, He that is in the center of God's will, will certainly breakthrough.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, only the will of the enemy must not be submitted to. Submitting to it will mean victory of the enemy over one and the cheapest way to breakthrough concerning a matter is to discover the will of the master in prayer and submit it to it.

DISCOVERY QUESTION

Did Hannah submit to the condition and know God shut her womb?

UNDERSTANDING QUESTION

How does patience and submission to God influence our prayer?

APPLICATION QUESTION

How should we apply these three virtues to our lives?

PRAYER

I receive grace to be patient and submit to God's will.

DATE:	5 TH FEBRUARY, 2023	WEEK 41
THEME:	UNVEILING THE MYSTERY OF THE CHURCHES	
TOPIC:	THE VISION OF THE SON OF MAN	
TEXT:	REV 1:12-20	
FOCUS:	UNDERSTANDING THE VISION	

According to the revelation of Jesus Christ unto John on the Island of Patmos, He revealed himself as son of man clothed with garment vested with golden girdle having head and hair as white as wool. His eyes flaming with fire, His feet like brass, standing in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks. The golden candlesticks signify the churches which receive their light from Jesus Christ and the gospel. They are pure and precious (that is, the ministers and members of the church). Their light should shine before men to engage others to give glory to God (Matt 6:16). Christ Jesus appearing in the midst of the golden candle sticks also indicates that He is always with the churches to the end of the world (Matt 28:20); filling them with light, love and life.

The identification of the angel of each church with the church itself is shown in a marked way by the fact that, although each epistle (Rev 2-3) is addressed to the angel, yet the constantly recurring refrain is “Hear what the Spirit saith to the churches” not “to the angel of the churches”. The angel and the church are the same under different aspects: one is its spirit character personified; the other is the congregation of believers who collectively possess the character. In literal sense, the character (spiritual) of the pastor/bishop/president determines what will be embraced by the congregation as you will be seeing in the epistles to the churches. If pastor condones or he’s insensitive to indiscipline, unholy and unscriptural acts, the congregation will embrace same.

DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

1. According to Rev 1:17, why did the son of man instruct the writer of the vision to “Fear Not”?
2. The phrase “I am he that liveth.....” identifies who? (Eph 2:14-15, John 21:14)
3. The keys of hell and death signify? (Matt 16:19; 18:18, Is 22:22)

UNDERSTANDING QUESTIONS

1. According to vs 19 what can you infer from the following statements: Write the things
 - a. “...which thou hast seen” (Rev 1:12- 16)
 - b. “...the things which are” (Rev 2-3)
 - c. “...the things which shall be hereafter” (Rev 4-22)
2. The seven stars and seven golden candlesticks represent what?

CORRELATION QUESTION

1. How would you relate the angel to the churches to the prince of the kingdom of Persia in Dan 10:13, 20-21?

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

1. As believers, how true is it that angels are assigned to every believer? (Ps 34:7, I Kings 19:7, Is 37:36).
2. Who should believers relate with directly? Angels or God? (Ps91:11, Matt 26:53, Heb 1:13-14, I Chron. 21:12-18, Ps 103: 20-21)
3. How does the lifestyle or character of the angel to the church (Pastor, Bishop, Shepherd, and President) affect the spiritual growth and character of his members?

CONCLUSION

The identification of the angel of each church with the church itself is shown in a marked way by the fact that, although each epistle (Rev 2-3) is addressed to the angel, yet the constantly recurring refrain is “Hear what the Spirit saith to the churches” not “to the angel of the churches”. The angel and the church are the same under different aspects: one is its spirit character personified; the other is the congregation of believers who collectively possess the character.

In literal sense, the character (spiritual) of the pastor/bishop/president determines what will be embraced by the congregation as you will be seeing in the epistles to the churches. If pastor condones or he’s insensitive to indiscipline and unholy, unscriptural acts, the congregation will embrace same.

DATE:	12TH FEBRUARY, 2023	WEEK 42
THEME:	UNVEILING THE MYSTERY OF THE CHURCHES	
TOPIC:	FIRST LOVE	
TEXT:	REV 2:1-7	
FOCUS:	SEEK INTIMACY WITH GOD	

Paul the Apostle wrote to the church in Ephesus commending their love and strongly encouraged them to grow in love (Eph. 4:15). However, the church in Ephesus despite their good works of coming against that which was evil, there was the need for repentance because fault was found in them. They lacked genuine love, intimate relationship with the Lord and no longer fervent in their love and joy for the Lord. Many professing believers behave in such manners especially when first drawn to the Lord by the Holy Spirit. They were moved by great love, always on fire for the Lord, seeking his presence, intimacy, spiritual growth and delighting in service to Him.

All of a sudden, the light began to dwindle; hunger for the Lord began to diminish and other things became more important to them than the relationship with Christ Jesus. These things took residence in their hearts above love for God. Slothful in prayer, lost interest in studying the word and no longer desire the presence of the Lord. Service had taken priority over intimacy with the Lord. Church functions have taken more time spent than time spent alone with God.

CONCLUSION

The Lord gives less importance to church functions but your heart seeking after Him. You cannot find Him in programmes, you can only find Him if you seek after Him by taking time to know Him.

Remember where you have fallen, repent and turn back to your first love (Is 55:6-7).

DISCOVERY QUESTION

1. Identify the works demonstrated by the Christians in the church of Ephesus.

UNDERSTANDING QUESTION

1. What do you understand by first love?

CORRELATION QUESTION

1. How will you relate first love to the admonition of the writer in Hebrews 10:32-36

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

1. Zeal and knowledge of God, are both important to keep love for God intense and untarnished in our heart?
2. Why do Christians at times dwindle in love and spiritual vigour for God as they journey with God over the years?

PRAYER:

Lord Jesus, let my love for you never cease.

DATE:	19TH FEBRUARY, 2023	WEEK 43
THEME:	UNVEILING THE MYSTERY OF THE CHURCHES	
TOPIC:	ENDURING HARDSHIP	
TEXT:	REV 2:8-11	
FOCUS:	REMAIN FAITHFUL TO THE END	

Smyrna was located about 35 miles north of Ephesus. A city of great trade and wealth. However, it was obvious that the believers in this city were living a life that was indeed difficult. They had to struggle against to two hostile forces: Persecution (Jewish population strongly opposed Christianity) and suffering (non-Jew population that supported worship of idols). A closer look at the spiritual state of believers in this city, one would observe that they are poor in temporal (physical riches) but rich in spiritual, poor in spirit, and yet rich in grace. Their spiritual riches are set off by their outward poverty. Rich in faith, in good works, privileges, in bonds and deeds of gift, in hope. God's people are impoverished in temporal for the sake of Christ Jesus and good conscience. He makes all up to them in spiritual riches which are more enduring and satisfying. Similarly, Christ Jesus knows about the tribulation, persecution they underwent. Those who will be faithful to Christ Jesus must expect to go through many tribulations but Christ will recompense tribulation to those who trouble them. But to those who are troubled rest with himself (Jesus Christ).

DISCOVERY QUESTION

1. Could it be possible for Christians to suffer and God watches to see His children suffer?

UNDERSTANDING QUESTIONS

1. What does the passage imply by; they are in poverty yet still rich?

2. Is suffering part of the life of a believer and should a believer suffer when Christ Jesus has suffered for us?
3. According to the passage read, why should Jesus Christ encourage the believers on what they are about to suffer?

CORRELATION QUESTIONS

1. What inference can you make with respect to suffering as it relates to the ten days used in the passage?
2. How would you relate the passage to John 16:33.

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

1. Supposing you were given a prophecy that you would be cast into jail and suffer for 10days, how would you handle such prophecy?
2. Give examples of blasphemous words that people (including the so-called men of God) use about God in our society today (in line with the passage read)?

PRAYER:

Lord Jesus, help me to stand firm in you during trials and tribulation.

DATE:	26 TH FEBRUARY, 2023	WEEK 44
THEME:	UNVEILING THE MYSTERY OF THE CHURCHES	
TOPIC:	DO NOT COMPROMISE	
TEXT:	REV 2:12-17	
FOCUS:	BE STEADFAST	

Pergamos was the ancient capital of Asia, located about 50 miles north of Smyrna. This church was apparently in the heart of all manner of evil as the Lord describes a place where “Satan dwells” and yet the believers did not deny the faith or the name of the Lord even in the face of great pressure to compromise. However, the Lord had charges against them. There were some of them who taught it was lawful to eat things sacrificed to idols and that simple fornication is no sin, it is harmless. The filthiness of the spirit and the filthiness of the flesh produce corrupt doctrines.

Corrupt worship often leads to a corrupt conversation. To continue in communion with persons of corrupt principles and practices is displeasing God, draws a guilt and blemish upon the society when God comes to punish the corrupt members of the church. He rebukes that church itself for allowing such communion to continue in its communion, and some drops of the storm fall upon the society.

DISCOVERY QUESTION

1. How could it have been possible for believers that are ardent lovers of God’s name to still permit some believers to teach heresy in the church?

UNDERSTANDING QUESTIONS

1. What was the teaching of Balaam that was allowed in the church (Num. 22:21-30)?
2. What was identified as the Nicolaitans teaching?

CORRELATION QUESTION

1. Compare Num. 25:1-3 with today's passage.

APPLICATION QUESTION

1. How would leaders in the Church address infiltration of worldly doctrine in churches today

PRAYER:

O Lord, help me to stand firm and rooted in your word alone.

DATE:	5 TH MARCH, 2023	WEEK 45
THEME:	UNVEILING THE MYSTERY OF THE CHURCHES	
TOPIC:	REV 2: 18-19	
TEXT:	SEXUAL IMMORALITY	
FOCUS:	STAY AWAY FROM CORRUPTION	

God acknowledged the good deeds of the believers in the church of Thyatira. He recognized their charity, service, ministration, faith, patience. However, the Lord found fault in them because they embraced false doctrine and followed after evil and corrupt teachings. They permitted the wicked seducer among them that is, Jezebel who professed to be a prophetess but who was actually a servant of the devil. Her sole purpose was to seduce the servants of the Lord from the truth. Through the power of persuasion and seduction she lures many away from following the truth into acts of fornication and worshipping of idols. Believers rejected the divine order of God in following after their flesh to lead them. However, the spirit of Jezebel hovers greatly in most churches, fellowships today. It is very sneaky, manipulative, unruly, seductive, pride and boastful. It enters the church not in secret but makes itself known and those who are walking according to the spirit can instantly identify its presence.

CONCLUSION

Keep the spirit of Jezebel away from you. The blessed union between husband and wife is similar to the union of Christ Jesus with us and the church. The spiritual union must not be given to corruption. It should be kept pure, blameless (I Corinth. 7:17).

DISCOVERY QUESTION

1. How were men of God in the church of Thyatira easily persuaded by false doctrines?

UNDERSTANDING QUESTIONS

1. Why should the wickedness of Jezebel be charged upon the church?
2. Why did God give space for the repentance of Jezebel? Why not punish her immediately the sin was noticed? (I Peter 3:9).

CORRELATION QUESTION

1. How would you relate the issue of false teachers with the writing of Peter in 2 Peter 2:1-end?

APPLICATION QUESTION

1. How could the church have helped the issue of the false prophetess Jezebel in curbing her false doctrine in the church? (I Corinth 5:6-12).

PRAYER:

Heavenly father, quicken my spirit man to discern between evil and good in Jesus name.

DATE:	19 TH MARCH, 2023	WEEK 46
THEME:	UNVEILING THE MYSTERY OF THE CHURCHES	
TOPIC:	REV 3: 1-6	
TEXT:	DEAD CHURCH	
FOCUS:	SPIRITUAL RE-AWAKENING	

The church at Sardis has a unique feature of outwardly having the appearance of being alive which inwardly they are dead. On the other hand, it is important to note that the life of the body is the spirit. When the spirit departs, the body is dead. To man's observation the outward appearance was perfect but the Lord observed the state of the inner man and found many of them imperfect. Despite their spiritual vitality they were spiritually dead. They lacked the true power of God because they had not the spirit. The Lord warns them to strengthen the little that remains and to be watchful. To be careful in the watch against sin and not slothful in not having their garments defiled.

DISCOVERY QUESTION

1. As large as the city of Sardis, few names have their garments undefiled. What can be implied from this?

UNDERSTANDING QUESTIONS

1. What does the garments used in the passage connote? (Jude 1:23, Zech. 3:4)
2. When can it be said that a church is dead?

CORRELATION QUESTION

1. How would you relate this garment with Eph. 5:27?

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

1. What can be done to revive a dead church?

2. What should be done to prevent one's garment from being defiled?

PRAYER:

Lord Jesus, re-awaken my spiritual vitality in Jesus name.

DATE:	26 TH MARCH, 2023	WEEK 47
THEME:	UNVEILING THE MYSTERY OF THE CHURCHES	
TOPIC:	REV 3: 7-13	
TEXT:	BE FAITHFUL	
FOCUS:	HOLD FAST TO WHAT YOU HAVE	

The church in Philadelphia (Greek meaning “Brotherly Love”) is the second church out of the seven churches that received no criticism. It is the only church whom the Lord gave the promise to keep from the “hour of temptation” which shall come upon the world. They were greatly encouraged and commended of the Lord. Despite they had very little strength; they had yet remained faithful to Him, kept His word and did not deny His name. Apparently, they were not large in size like other churches (body of faithful believers) and unlike many others, did not possess the outward appearance of greatness. Yet in the eyes of the Lord, they were, because of their great faith and diligence of service in love to Him.

CONCLUSION

The faithful church holds fast to what she has (truth of the gospel), that no man may take the crown. It is possible for one to run the race, to lose the reward due to slothfulness, not keeping watch and falling into deep sleep upon the return of the Lord. It is a race, keep faith to possess the crown.

DISCOVERY QUESTION

1. Identify the promises God promised the believers in the church of Philadelphia.

UNDERSTANDING QUESTIONS

1. List out points that makes this church different from previous churches studied

2. What does it mean to be a “Pillar in the temple of God”?
3. From the passage, what quality has the believers to make God keep them in the hour of temptation”?

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

1. List the steps to take to emulate these believers.
2. What are you doing to hold fast to the truth of the gospel in situations when your faith is challenged and under pressure to compromise?

PRAYER:

Lord Almighty, keep me from the hour of tempt

DATE:	2ND APRIL, 2023	WEEK 48
THEME:	SALVATION AND SUFFERING	
TOPIC:	ENCOURAGEMENT FOR SUFFERING	
TEXT:	1 ST PETER 1: 3 – 12	
FOCUS:	ENDURING SUFFERING WITH JOY	

INTRODUCTION:

When you are saved you are safe, but there are some sufferings that must be endured for Christ.

In this study, we will be looking at: Encouraged for suffering, Tested for suffering then Salvation and suffering

Encouraged for Suffering: as a believer, a lot of persecutions will come from different quarters, from friends, colleagues and even family members, this letter is therefore written to encourage believers in times of persecution and the encouragement is based on the following: 1) their election 2) their sanctification, 3) their new birth, 4) their future glorification and inheritance

Tested for Suffering: The proper attitude towards suffering by believers should be that of joy Salvation is a thing so vitally present as to cause exhilarating joy, despite present trials, but the suffering should be in the will of God and if it is necessary that we suffer. The basic aim for this suffering is that the believer's faith may be proved genuine, which will result in praise, honour and glory to Christ

Salvation and Suffering: the OT prophets were intrigued by the plan of salvation which was hinted in their prophetic utterances concerning God's grace. This grace of God involved Christ's sufferings to secure salvation, so also may His grace involve suffering for those who possess His salvation. It was then revealed to the prophets that their message and ministry were intended for a future age (ours).

Memory Verse: 1 Peter 1:7

Further Studies: Romans 6:12, Mt 5:12; Ro 12:12; 2Co 4:17; 6:10; Jas 1:2; 1Pe 4:13; 5:1

QUESTIONS:

- a) What is the suffering all about?
- b) What further encouragement was given by the reminder?
- c) How do believers endure suffering with joy?
- d) What suffering have you endured before?

PRAYER: Oh Lord, grant me grace to endure any suffering for your sake in Jesus name

DATE:	2 TH APRIL, 2023	WEEK 49
THEME:	SALVATION AND SUFFERING	
TOPIC:	1 ST PETER 1: 13 – 25	
TEXT:	HOLY LIVING AND SUFFERING	
FOCUS:	LIVING IN HOLINESS	

INTRODUCTION:

Holiness is one of the major virtues a believer should possess to live in constant and instant connection to the throne of Grace, this virtue is required to be in place irrespective of the situation

In this lesson therefore, we will be looking at the following TOPICS: Holy living and suffering then Regeneration and behaviour

Holy Living and Suffering: as believers we are exhorted to holy living because this so great salvation demands a once-for-all attitude of separation from sin. Such holiness of life involves mental alertness, seriousness, mature patience in light of future blessing, obedience etc. the reason for holy living is that our great redemption is the essential basis for a holy life. We are reminded of the greatness of this redemption via: 1) its infinite cost and worth – 18-19 2) its effectiveness 3) its redeemer, Christ, whose blood is “precious”, 4) its impartation to man through faith in Christ

Regeneration and Behaviour: the new birth is to be manifested in transformation of character. The writers had realized the cleansing of their own souls brought about by obedient response to the truth of the Gospel. This principle is now being relayed to other believers to continue therein as evidence of their new birth

Thus, holiness is not an option but a compulsion for all Christians no matter the situation we may find ourselves

Memory Verse: 1 Peter 1:13

Further Study: Le 11:44; 19:2; 20:7, Lu 1:74-75; 2Co 7:1; 1Th 4:3-4,7; Heb 12:14; 2Pe 3:1

QUESTIONS:

- a) What are the other ways in which we are exhorted to holy living?
- b) What do you understand by Regeneration?
- c) What are the means of Regeneration?
- d) What are you doing to live a holy life?

PRAYER: Oh Lord, empower me to live a life of holiness all the days of my life

DATE:	16 TH APRIL, 2023	WEEK 50
THEME:	SALVATION AND SUFFERING	
TOPIC:	THE BELIEVER'S GROWTH AND SUFFERING	
TEXT:	1 ST PETER 2: 1 – 10	
FOCUS:	GROWTH THROUGH THE WORD OF GOD	

INTRODUCTION:

Every believer is expected to grow in the grace of God; this is based on the Word, because the word is required for spiritual growth.

The believer is expected to separate him or herself from evil (malice, heresies, guile etc.) and have an unquenchable desire for the word of God, in this lesson, we are going to learn: Desire for the Word and Spiritual identity, an encouragement in suffering.

Desire for the Word: The believer is expected to exhibit an intense appetite for the word of God, because it is the nourishment which makes growth and development possible

Spiritual identity, an encouragement in suffering: the believer is to identify with Christ in a personal and intimate way. This relationship is symbolized using a building; Christ is the precious living stone while the believers, possessing His life are living stones which constitute a spiritual house.

The believers are also to identify with God's own: Identification with Christ also brings one into living relationship with the whole company of believers. The company is referred to as “a chosen race”, “a royal priesthood”, “a holy nation”, “a peculiar people” and “the people of God”.

The responsibility of those who possess such a relationship is to declare the gracious goodness of God in calling lost men out of darkness into His ‘wonderfully admirable’ light

Memory Verse: 1 Peter 2:1-2

Further Studies: Ps 118:22; Mt 21:42; Ac 4:11, Mt 18:3; Mr 10:15; Ro 6:4; 1Co 3:2; 14:20; Heb 5:12-13; 1Pe 1:2

QUESTIONS:

- a) In what situation is the believer expected to identify with Christ?
- b) What do you understand by the word “cornerstone”? Differentiate between “a stone of stumbling” and “a rock of offense”
- c) How does the following words relate to you: chosen race, royal priesthood, holy nation and a peculiar people?

PRAYER:

I receive power to be a royal priest in Jesus name

DATE:	23 TH APRIL, 2023	WEEK 51
THEME:	SALVATION AND SUFFERING	
TOPIC:	THE BELIEVER'S PILGRIMAGE AND SUFFERING	
TEXT:	1 ST PETER 2: 11 – 20	
FOCUS:	THIS WORLD IS NOT OUR OWN	

INTRODUCTION: Believers are required to live a life that is not based on only acquiring things of this world, because we are only in the world but not of the world, so we are to exhibit the character of a traveller who is yet to get to his or her destination. In this lesson, we will be exposing the following: Pilgrim character described, Pilgrim conduct enjoined and Pilgrim conduct and suffering

Pilgrim Character Described: the believers are described in a threefold designation thus: 1) beloved 2) strangers and 3) pilgrims

Pilgrim conduct enjoined: this conduct includes abstaining from ‘fleshly passions’, they are also to maintain good conduct among the people they are living, that the unsaved might glorify God by the good works of His own, they are to submit to constituted civil government

Pilgrim Conduct and Suffering: maintaining a good conscience toward God as a pilgrim, often calls for enduring pain, suffering unjustly. This sort of suffering finds favour with God

Memory Verse:

Further Studies: Mt 22:21; Ro 13:1; Tit 3:1, 1Co 7:22; Ga 5:1

QUESTIONS:

- What are the other conducts the pilgrims are enjoined to have?
- What do you understand by the words used to describe the believers in this lesson?

- c) How can believers on campus apply the lessons in this study to their lives?
- d) How can the sufferings believers find favour with God?

PRAYER: Oh Lord, grant me the enablement to endure hardship for your kingdom

DATE:	30 TH APRIL, 2023	WEEK 52
THEME:	SALVATION AND SUFFERING	
TOPIC:	SUFFERING AND CHRIST'S EXAMPLE FOR VICTORIOUS LIVING	
TEXT:	1 ST PETER 4: 1 – 11	
FOCUS:	LOOKING UNTO JESUS IRRESPECTIVE OF THE SITUATION	

INTRODUCTION:

Believers are to understand that Christ is our example of the type of life we are to live, that is victorious living. This WEEK we are going to learn about the basis for victorious living, the case against sinful living, judgment and service amidst suffering and serving in the Spirit of Love

The Basis for Victorious Living: we have learnt previously about Christ's example to enforce patience in suffering, we are taught to mortify sin through suffering. We are to arm ourselves with "the same mind" i.e. attitude and purpose that Christ had – purposing to suffer rather than to sin (Phil.2; 5 – 8).

The Case against Sinful Living: the Apostle goes on to contrast the lustful living of the Gentiles with the life lived in the will of God, six particular sins are mentioned which are the characteristic of the unregenerate. Believers, because of their changed lives, bring condemnation to the ungodly, resulting in Christians being maligned for their purity of life

Judgment and Service amidst Suffering: the statement, "But the end of all things is at hand" still has the subject of judgment in mind. Therefore, the believer is enjoined to "be of sound judgment and sober spirit for the purpose of prayer"

Serving in the Spirit of Love: foremost is the injunction to "exercise fervent love toward one another, because love covers a multitude of sins". Lack of love broadcasts and uncovers these sins

to the detriment of God's work. Service or hospitality should also not be grudgingly and the use of one's spiritual gift for the welfare of one another, but should bear the mark of God's authority and humility.

DISCOVERY QUESTION: "...for he that hath suffered in the flesh hath ceased from sin;" – how does this verse apply to believers?

UNDERSTANDING QUESTION: What should be the goal of our service to God?

APPLICATION QUESTION: How have you applied "...charity shall cover multitude of sins" before?

PRAYER: Oh Lord, baptize me with the Spirit and Power for a victorious life in Jesus name

NOTE THAT THIS BIBLE STUDY MANUAL WILL KEEP YOU FROM LOOSING FOCUS OR LIVE OUTSIDE CHRIST WILL KEEP YOU FROM IT.