

“For They Shall All Know Me”

Developing a New Covenant Relationship with God

TEACHERS MANUAL

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Theme

God wants a relationship with people.

Key Passage

31 Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, 32 not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, declares the Lord. 33 For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. (Jeremiah 31:31-33)

Class Objectives

- Know the big picture of the Bible:
God wants a relationship with a holy people who

voluntarily choose Him

- Understand how the “relationship” theme develops from the Old Covenant to the New Covenant
- Develop a “relationship” perspective in your own walk with God.

Lesson 1: Introduction

Goals

- Become familiar with the class theme, key passage, and class objectives.
- Understand how each subsequent lesson fits into the class objectives.
- Do an initial evaluation of how relationship-focused your religion is.

Lesson 2: I Will Be Their God

Goals

- Consider who God is, and consider how He is similar and different from man.
- Explore the different ways God has revealed himself to man.
- Think about ways to improve my perspective on who God is.

Lesson 3: They Shall Be My People

Goals

- Recognize that God wants a people who choose Him voluntarily
- Understand that God always provides for people to come to Him
- Appreciate how unique and special a Christian's relationship with God is

Lesson 4: The Covenant I Made With Their Fathers

Goals

- Examine the role that covenants play in God's relationship with man
- Establish the importance of faith in both the Old and New Covenants
- Reflect on any ways that Christians could 'return' to the weaknesses of Old Covenant

Lesson 5: I Was Their Husband

Goals

- Examine what it means for God to be a husband to His people.
- Elaborate on how God's love motivates us
- Consider practical ways to recognize and respond to God's love

Lesson 6: My Covenant They Broke

Goals

- Summarize how Israel rejected God's love under the Old Covenant
- Examine the consequences of rejecting God's love for Israel and for us
- Develop a plan to prevent falling away from God

Lesson 7: Behold The Days Are Coming

Goals

- Know some prophecies from the Old Testament about the New Covenant
- Analyze how New Covenant prophecies set the expectations and hopes for the faithful of the Old Covenant
- Evaluate Bible prophecies that are not yet fulfilled, and the expectations and hopes they set for us⁶

Lesson 8: I Will Make a New Covenant

Goals

- Understand what the New Covenant is
- Examine why the New Covenant was needed
- Assess how God's relationship with His people changed from the Old to the New Covenants

Lesson 9: Written On Their Hearts

Goals

- Know what your ‘heart’ is and how the New Covenant is ‘written’ upon it
- Determine some internal and external ways to evaluate our hearts
- Commit to continual heart transformation as a way to draw closer to God

Lesson 10: For They Shall All Know Me

Goals

- Show that God's people are now joined by a common faith not a common ancestry
- Elaborate on what it means to 'know' God
- Come up with a plan to know God better

Lesson 11: From the Least to the Greatest

Goals

- Review the separation that existing under the Old Law between God and His people
- Appreciate the breadth of people that make up the New Testament church
- Propose godly ways we can enhance the inclusiveness of the Lord's church

Lesson 12: I Will Forgive Their Iniquity

Goals

- Know what sin is, why it separates us from God, and what God has done about it in the New Covenant
- Examine why it is easy for us to strive for perfect lawkeeping rather than faithfulness
- Consider ways to keep the guilt of past sins from damaging your current relationship with God

Lesson 13: Review

Goals

- See Class Objectives on page v

