

Grace Ministries

Sunday School Study Notes

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“Knowing God’s Will For Your Life”

Page 1

(before-John 6:40; 2 Peter 3:9; John 3: 16-17)

(after- Eph. 2:10)

“NOW WHAT?”

...What would You have me do?... (Acts 9:6)

1- God has “saved us” and “called us” with a “holy calling” (2 Tim. 1:9)

a) saved us- 2 Peter 3:9; Romans 10:13; Eph. 2:8-9

b) called us- Romans 1 6-7; 2 Thess. 2:14; 1 Peter 2:9

2- Why did God save you and call you? (Eph. 2:10)

a) To go – Matt. 28:19-20; Mark 16:15; James 20:21

b) To be witnesses – Acts 1:8

c) To show forth -1 Peter 2:9; cF Matthew 5:14-16; Phil. 2:12-16

d) To bear fruit – Psalms 1:2-3; James 15:16; Proverbs 11:30

3- We are saved to become servants.

a) Jesus is our example - Luke 22:27; Matt. 20:28; John 13:1-17

b) Servants of Jesus Christ – 1 Cor. 7:22; Col. 3:24

c) Servants of one another – Gal. 5:13; Phil. 2:3-4

4 – We are to become workers.

a) Ordained beforehand by God – Eph. 2:10

b) We are to zealous of good works – Titus 2:14

c) We must work while it is still time – John 9:4; Eph. 5:16; Col. 4:5

d) Perform works that produce fruit – Col. 1:10; Psalms 1:3

5 – Where do I work?

a) The fields are white already to harvest – John 4:35; Mt 9:37-38

- b) God will put you where he wants you – 1 Cor. – 12:18**
- c) God will equip you with what you need – 1 Cor. – 4:11**

5 – Where do I work? Continued

- d) God's purpose for having workers-labourers – Eph. – 4:12**
 - (1) We are labourers together with God – 1 Cor. 3:9**
 - (2) Everyone is needed to work together – 1 Cor. 12:1-31**
 - (3) For equipping of the saints - Eph.4:12**
 - (4) For the work of the ministry - Eph.4:12**
 - (5) For the building up of the body - Eph.4:12**
- e) God has given us the ministry of reconciliation; reaching the lost for Christ – 2 Cor. 5:18-19**
- f) We are ambassadors for Christ – His representatives**
 - 2 Cor. 5:20**

As you have seen from the study of scripture God has chosen you, called you, saved you, placed you where He wants you, equipped you, and made you into servants, ministers, and ambassadors for the Lord Jesus Christ.

Now you may ask, “what is my calling and where do I belong in the body of Christ?” To get the answers to these questions you must go to God in sincere prayer, meditate on God’s word, and ask for divine guidance and spiritual discernment. God will answer and reveal the answer to you at the appointed time. (Acts 9:1-19)

God has given every person, especially you, a gift, talent, ability, and a desire to fulfill them. Ask yourself-

- (1) What do I enjoy doing?
- (2) What do I do best of all?
- (3) What is my heart’s desire to excel (to be greater or better than, or superior to (another or others) in?

There is no gift, talent, or ability too small for God not to use because He has given it to you and He expects you to be available to be used. (1 Cor. 12: 1-3)

One thing to remember- In God’s eyes, all members of the body of Christ are equal, valuable, and needed. There are no favorites where God is concerned- (Acts 10:3-4; cF Romans 2:11; Gal 2:6; Eph. 6:9)

Remember – God chose you, called you, saved you, placed you, equipped you, and made you into servants, ministers, and ambassadors. God did all of this in order to bless you and to use you in His Kingdom work. You are “somebody”!

Beware

NOTE Remember Christians – judgment day is coming; not for sins but for your works – the rapture, then the judgment! (Rom 14:10-12; 2 Cor. 5:10; Heb. 9:27) (1 Cor. 3:13-15) The unsaved (lost) will also be judged; not for sins but for their works - (Rev. 20:11-13)

SAVED TO SERVE

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- 1- Saved unto “good works” (Eph. 2:8-9 + 10) Work out (Phil. 2:12-13)
- 2- “What” will “thou” have “me” to “do”? (Acts 9:1-9 = 5-6).
- 3- Be obedient and faithful in your own service, not being concerned about someone else (John 21:15-23)
Jesus is talking to Peter – and “you”
 - 1)lovest thou Me? (verses 15, 16, 17) lovest thou Me? Follow Me
 - 2)Peter’s response (verse 17) You know I love You.
 - 3)Jesus’s response (verses 18,19) Follow Me.
 - 4)Peter responds again (verses 20,21) What shall this man do?
 - 5)Jesus responds again (verse 22) What is it to you? Follow Me.
 - 6)Don’t worry about others (verse 23) Tend to your own business.
- 4- Lord, I can’t do it (Ex. 3:1- Ex. 4:17; Phil. 4:13)
 - 1)God calls Moses (Ex. 3:10) I will send thee.
 - 2)Moses responds (Ex. 3:11 Who am I?) (Ex 4:10 I am not eloquent, slow of speech and tongue).
 - 3)God’s response (Ex. 3:12) Certainly I will be with thee)
 - 4)God will provide (Ex. 4:12) I will be with thou mouth, and teach thee what thou shalt say) (Ex. 4:14) will send Aaron thy brother to speak for you, he will be glad to do it)
(Ex. 4:15) I will put words in the mouths of both of you, and teach you what you shall do.
 - 5)Moses obeys (Ex. 4:17-20) Moses returned to Egypt.
- 5- Everybody has a gift or talent; everybody is different and distinct; everybody is an individual = one-on-one with God:
 - 1)God puts us where He wants us (1 Cor. 12:18)
 - 2) God gives us gifts to (1 Cor. 12:28; (why? Eph. 4:11-12)
- 6- How did you answer “the call”? Out of love I hope
(Isa. 6:1-8) Whom shall I send, who will go? (Here I am, send me)
- 7- Serve out of loving and thankful heart. God knows your heart
(Psalms 139:23-24; Hebrews 4:12; Jer. 17:9-10)
- 8-Answer the call – your service is invaluable (Eph. 4:12)

(Ezek. 3:15-21) (Acts 1:8, 22:15) (Isa. 50:4; Col. 4:6; 1 Peter 3:15)

As we talk with people, especially people of other faiths and religious beliefs, about spiritual matters we must show love, compassion, and concern. We are never to judge or condemn anyone.

The most effective witness you can have is the way you live out your life in public. Through your lifestyle God will provide you with an opportunity to witness. The best way to witness is just simply tell the person(s) what God has done for you and how He has changed your life.

As you witness never give your opinions, ideas, or thoughts but express what God’s word, the Bible states as absolute truth concerning any situation or circumstance – God’s word is truth (John 17:17)

Remember, you do not need to know or understand all there is involved in other faiths and religions. You only need to know, understand, and be able to communicate your own faiths and beliefs. God will equip and enable you to be an effective witness for His glory.

Scriptures

1-God has called us all to be witnesses – (Acts 1:8)

2-Witness to what you have experienced – (Acts 22:15)

3-Your lifestyle is your greatest witness – (Mat. 5:14-16; Phil. 2:15; Peter, 2:9)

4-Always use scripture when witnessing – (Acts 17:2)

5-Search the scriptures for the truth – (Acts 17:11)

6-Understanding comes from the scriptures – (Luke 24:27,32)

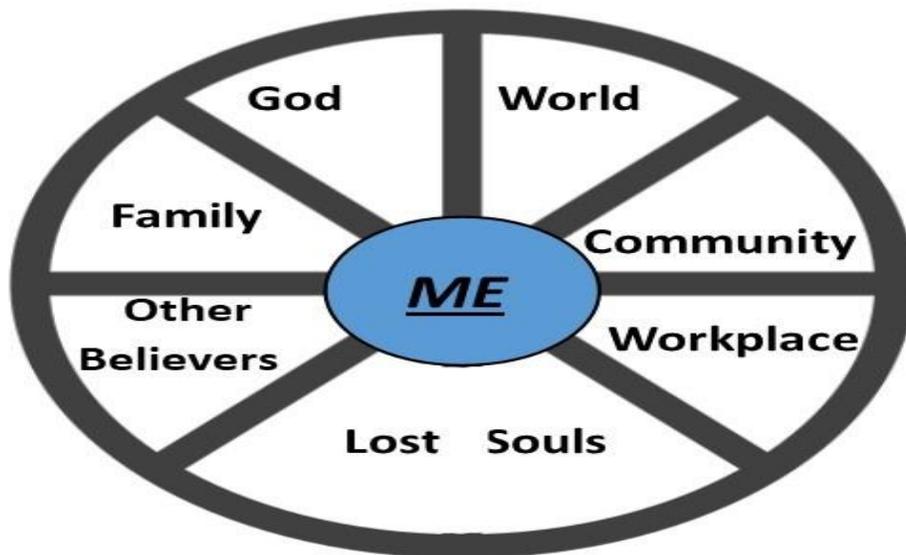
7-God gives understanding – (Jesus – Luke 24:45; Holy Spirit – John 16:8-13)

8-Be bold in your witness – (Acts 4:13,20)

9-Don’t be ashamed – (Romans 1:16; 2 Tim. 1:12)

- 10-Remember, it does not matter what we think or have heard, but only what Jesus has said – (Matthew 5:27-30, 31-32, 33-37, 38-42, 43-48)
- 11-Remember, you are not alone – (Hebrews 13:5; cF Josh. 1:5) (Isa. 41:10-12)
- 12-You will not know all the answers – (Romans 11:33; Isa. 55:8-9; Gen 18:25)

“Witness”



“Witness”

Page 5 continued

“Let Your Light Shine”

(1) Matthew 5:14-15-16 (2) Phil. 2:14-16 (3) 1 Peter 2:9

“Witness for God”

(1) Acts 1:8; 22:15 (2) Matthew 9:35-38

“No Respector of Persons”

(1) Acts 10:34 (2) Rom. 2:11 (3) Gal. 2:6 (4) Eph. 6:9 (5) 1 Peter 1:17

A-There are three levels of life:

(1) The Satanic level – evil for good.

(2) The Human level – good for good; evil for evil

(3) The Divine level – good for evil

(a) Christ’s Example (1 Peter 2:21-24) Believer’s Example (1 Tim 4:12)

(1) Character - 1 Peter 2:21

(1) In Word – Eph. 4:15

(2) Conduct - 1 Peter 2:22a

(2) In Conduct – 1 Peter 2:12

(3) Speech - 1 Peter 2:22b

(3) In Love – John 15:12

(4) Temper - 1 Peter 2:23 a, b

(4) In Spirit – Eph. 4:2

(5) Will - 1 Peter 2:23 c

(5) In Faith – Hebrews 11:1

(6) Spirit - 1 Peter 2:24

(6) In Purity – 1 Peter 2:11

B – Areas of your life where your witness is most effective:

(1) As a citizen – 1 Peter 2:13-17

(2) As a worker – 1 Peter 2:18-20

(3) As a marriage partner – 1 Peter 3:1-7

(4) As a church member – 1 Peter 3:8-12

(5) Christians suffer for doing good – 1 Peter 3:13-18

Note: Have any question? Call Greene Faulkner-252-432-7028

God Bless!

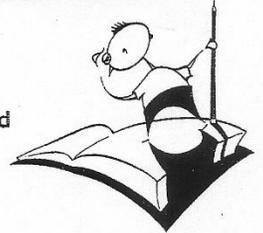
AUTHENTIC MINISTRY

- Requires Christians to use their spiritual gifts.
- Involves the whole body.



JOURNALING

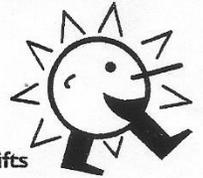
Draw a symbol to represent the spiritual gift(s) God has given you.



As you look at the symbol, think of how you will use your gift(s) to serve in the body of Christ. Take time right now to ask God how He might want you to use the abilities, gifts, and talents He has given you to serve Him through His church. Write a prayer of response to God.

WHAT ARE THE GIFTS?

A spiritual gift is an expression of the Holy Spirit in the life of a believer that empowers the person to serve the body of Christ, the church. Take a look at the gifts mentioned in the Bible and how a person with that gift helps to build up the body.



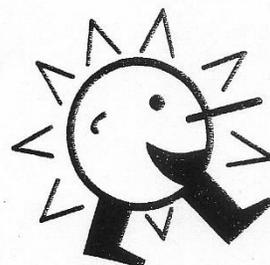
Leadership	Directs the body to accomplish goals and purposes of the church.
Administration	Leads the body to organize according to God-given purposes.
Teaching	Instructs in truths of Scripture to build up and mature the body.
Knowledge	Able to learn, know, and explain the truths of the Holy Spirit.
Wisdom	Applies the Spirit's teachings and actions to the needs of the body.
Prophecy	Proclaims God's Word boldly. Draws others to awareness of sin.
Discernment	Tests messages and actions for the well-being of the body.
Exhortation	Encourages involvement and enthusiasm in the work of the Lord.
Shepherding	Looks out for the spiritual welfare of others.
Faith	Trusts God to work beyond the human capabilities of the people.
Evangelism	Leads others to Christ effectively and brings them into the body.
Apostleship	Motivates the body to look past its walls to carry out God's work.
Service/Helps	Sees needs in the body and joyfully helps meet those needs.
Mercy	Empathizes with hurting members and makes others aware of needs.
Giving	Gives freely and joyfully to the work and mission of the body.
Hospitality	Makes visitors and strangers feel at ease.

SPIRITUAL GIFTS INVENTORY

Select the one response you feel best characterizes yourself and place that number in the blank beside each statement:

- 5—Highly characteristic of me/definitely true for me
- 4—Most of the time this would describe me/be true for me
- 3—Frequently characteristic of me/true for me, about 50 percent of the time
- 2—Occasionally characteristic of me/true for me, about 25 percent of the time
- 1—Not at all characteristic of me/definitely untrue for me

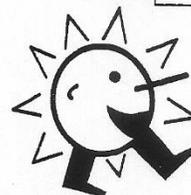
- ___ 1. I have the ability to organize ideas, resources, time, and people effectively.
- ___ 2. I am able to relate the truths of God to specific situations.
- ___ 3. I possess a special ability to communicate the truth of salvation.
- ___ 4. I am sensitive to the hurts of people.
- ___ 5. I experience joy in meeting needs through sharing possessions.
- ___ 6. I enjoy studying.
- ___ 7. I am able to sense the true motivation of persons and movements.
- ___ 8. I have a special ability to trust God in difficult situations.
- ___ 9. I take action to meet physical and practical needs rather than merely talking about or planning to help.
- ___ 10. I enjoy entertaining guests in my home.
- ___ 11. I have an ability and desire to teach.
- ___ 12. I have a natural tendency to encourage others.
- ___ 13. I am willing to take the initiative in helping other Christians grow in their faith.
- ___ 14. I have an acute awareness of the emotions of other people, such as loneliness, pain, fear, and anger.
- ___ 15. I am a cheerful giver.
- ___ 16. I spend time digging into facts.
- ___ 17. I feel that I have a message from God to deliver to others.
- ___ 18. I can recognize when a person is genuine/honest.
- ___ 19. I have a clear mental picture of God's leading and can communicate this to others in a way that helps make the vision a reality.
- ___ 20. I would like to be more active in getting the gospel to people in other lands.
- ___ 21. It makes me happy to do things for people in need.
- ___ 22. I am able to make strangers feel at ease.
- ___ 23. I am able to discover new truths.
- ___ 24. I have spiritual insights from Scripture concerning issues and people that compel me to speak out.
- ___ 25. I can trust in God even when things look dark.
- ___ 26. I can determine where God wants a group to go and help it get there.
- ___ 27. I have a strong desire to take the gospel to places where it has never been heard.
- ___ 28. I have been able to make effective and efficient plans for accomplishing the goals of a group.
- ___ 29. I often am consulted when fellow Christians are struggling to make difficult decisions.
- ___ 30. I am able to give spiritual direction to others.



(cont'd on Truth Paper 8b)

SPIRITUAL GIFTS INVENTORY

- 31. I have delivered to other persons messages that have come directly from God.
- 32. I feel that I should take the gospel to people who have different beliefs from me.
- 33. I am skilled in setting forth positive and precise steps of action.
- 34. I explain Scripture in such a way that others understand it.
- 35. I can usually see spiritual solutions to problems.
- 36. I welcome opportunities to help people who need comfort, help, encouragement, and counseling.
- 37. I feel at ease in sharing Christ with nonbelievers.
- 38. I can influence others to perform to their highest God-given potential.
- 39. I recognize the signs of stress and distress in others.
- 40. I desire to give money to worthwhile projects and ministries.
- 41. I am able to sense whether people are being honest when they tell of their religious experiences.
- 42. I enjoy doing little things that help people.
- 43. I can give a clear, uncomplicated presentation.
- 44. God has used me to encourage others to live Christlike lives.
- 45. I have sensed the need to help other people become more effective in their ministries.
- 46. I like to talk about Jesus to those who do not know Him.
- 47. I have the ability to make strangers feel comfortable in my home.
- 48. I feel assured that a situation will change for the glory of God even when the situation seems impossible.



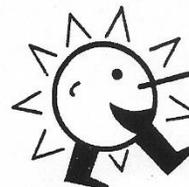
SCORE SHEET

Leadership	Administration	Teaching	Knowledge	Wisdom	Prophecy	Discernment	Exhortation	Shepherding	Faith	Evangelism	Apostleship	Service/Helps	Mercy	Giving	Hospitality
<input type="checkbox"/> Item 19	<input type="checkbox"/> Item 1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5 Item 11	<input type="checkbox"/> Item 6	<input type="checkbox"/> Item 2	<input type="checkbox"/> Item 17	<input type="checkbox"/> Item 7	<input type="checkbox"/> Item 12	<input type="checkbox"/> Item 13	<input type="checkbox"/> Item 8	<input type="checkbox"/> Item 3	<input type="checkbox"/> Item 20	<input type="checkbox"/> Item 9	<input type="checkbox"/> Item 4	<input type="checkbox"/> Item 5	<input type="checkbox"/> Item 10
<input type="checkbox"/> Item 26	<input type="checkbox"/> Item 28	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5 Item 34	<input type="checkbox"/> Item 16	<input type="checkbox"/> Item 29	<input type="checkbox"/> Item 24	<input type="checkbox"/> Item 18	<input type="checkbox"/> Item 36	<input type="checkbox"/> Item 30	<input type="checkbox"/> Item 25	<input type="checkbox"/> Item 37	<input type="checkbox"/> Item 27	<input type="checkbox"/> Item 21	<input type="checkbox"/> Item 14	<input type="checkbox"/> Item 15	<input type="checkbox"/> Item 22
<input type="checkbox"/> Item 38	<input type="checkbox"/> Item 33	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5 Item 43	<input type="checkbox"/> Item 23	<input type="checkbox"/> Item 35	<input type="checkbox"/> Item 31	<input type="checkbox"/> Item 41	<input type="checkbox"/> Item 44	<input type="checkbox"/> Item 45	<input type="checkbox"/> Item 48	<input type="checkbox"/> Item 46	<input type="checkbox"/> Item 32	<input type="checkbox"/> Item 42	<input type="checkbox"/> Item 39	<input type="checkbox"/> Item 40	<input type="checkbox"/> Item 47
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SCORING YOUR SURVEY

Follow these directions to figure your score for each spiritual gift.

- Place in each box your numerical response (1-5) to the item number which is indicated below the box.
- For each gift, add the numbers in the boxes and put the total in the TOTAL box.



“Survey”
“What About Me?”

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- Yes No Have I been born again? (John 3:3,5,7) (2 Cor. 13:5)
- Yes No Have I committed my life to Christ? (Joshua 4:7) (Isa. 6:8)
- Yes No Have I joined a local assembly? (Acts 8:29) (Acts 11:26) (Heb. 10:25)
- Yes No Have I answered God’s call to serve? (Psalms 100:2) (Acts 9:6) (Isa. 6:8)
- Yes No Am I using the gift God has given me? (1 Cor. 12:11) (1 Tim. 4:14-15)
- Yes No Am I participating in the church’s ministry? (Acts 9:6)
- Yes No Am I obedient to God’s plan for my life? (Acts 5:29)
- Yes No Am I faithful in my attendance? (Psalms 122:1) (Hebrews 10:25)
- Yes No Am I faithful in my financial support? (2 Cor. 9:7; 9:6-8)
- Yes No Do I pray for my church and its leadership? (1 Tim. 2:1-2)
- Yes No Do I pray for my brothers & sisters in Christ? (Eph. 6:18)
- Yes No Do I help meet the needs of others? (Matt. 25:35) (Acts 2:45)
- Yes No Am I an encourager? (Joshua 1:9; Isa. 41:10) (Hebrews 10:25)
- Yes No Do I visit people, on any occasion? (Matt. 25:36)
- Yes No Do I help restore any backslidden person? (Gal. 6:1)
- Yes No Do I share the gospel with the lost? (Acts 1:8) (Proverbs 11:30)

Note: Have I answered all of the above questions truthfully & honestly,
with God being my witness? Just remember one thing! God knows!
(Psalms 139:23-24; cF Jer.17:9-10; Hebrews 4:12)

PLEASE!

Pray for our church; its ministry; it’s leadership; its impact on our community; and its outreach ministry. Be faithful and obedient in serving and do your part. Love one another, pray for one another, be there for one another, encourage one another!

Happy and blessed you will be. (Psalms 100:1-5)

“Love Life” – See Good Days”

(1 Peter 3:10-12) = (Psalms 34:12-16)

Life is full of problems, trials, and tribulations. We have to make a decision on how to face these situations.

There are three choices:

1. Endure life – make it a burden
2. Escape life – run from it
3. Enjoy life – know that God is in control

King David recorded in Psalms 34 how we can face life’s problems and be victorious and have the peace of God in our hearts.

David wrote about facing:

1. Fears – Psalms 34:4
2. Troubles - Psalms 34:6,17
3. A broken heart - Psalms 34:18
4. Afflictions - Psalms 34:19

David also tells us how God is always ready to listen to our cry and will deliver us. (Psalms 34:4,6,7,15,17,19)

God will not leave us desolate (lonely, left alone) Psalms 34:22

God will never leave us (Hebrews 13:5)

God does not promise us a life free from problems, trials, tribulations, afflictions, fears, troubles, and heartaches. Jesus tells us that we will have many tribulations (John 16:33) and King David said we would have many afflictions (Psalms 34:19)

A “good day” for the believer who “loves life” is not one in which he is pampered and sheltered, but one in which he experiences God’s help and blessing “because of life’s problems and trials”.

It is a day in which he:

1. Magnifies the Lord – Psalms 34:1-3
2. Experiences answer to prayer - Psalms 34:4-7
3. Taste the goodness of God - Psalms 34:8
4. Senses the nearness of God - Psalms 34:18

“Christian Beliefs”

Absolute Truth

1. There is No Other God but Jehovah God Himself: (Isa. 44:6-8; 45:5-6, 18, 21-22; 46:9; Psalms 86:10) (Rev. 1:8; 22:13) (1 Tim. 2:5)
2. There is no one else like God: (Isa. 40:18,25) (Psalms 86:8)
3. The Godhead triune unity – the “Trinity”: (Matt.28:19; 1 Cor. 12:4-6; 1 John 15:7)
 - a. God the Father – (John 6:27; Eph. 4:6)
 - b. God the Son – (John 1:1-3; Hebrews 1:8)
 - c. God the Holy Spirit – (Acts 5:1-4)
 - d. All three in one Person – (John 10:30,38; 14:9-11; 1 John 5:7)
4. God created all things – (Gen. 1:1; Psalms 33:6; John 1:1-3; Col. 1:16; Hebrews 1:2)
5. God existed before anything was ever created – (Micah 5:2; Heb. 1:10; 1 Peter 1:19-20; Eph. 1:4; Psalms 90:2)
6. The “virgin birth” of Jesus Christ – (Matt. 1:18-25) (Not of Man-Matt. 1:16)
7. The “Incarnation” of Jesus Christ – (John 1:1-3,14,18)
8. You must “be” born again” – (John 3: 1-7)
9. You cannot earn your own salvation – (Eph. 2:8-9) (Titus 3:5) (Romans 3:20) (Gal. 2:16)
10. Justification – you are justified (your sins are forgiven, cleansed) only by the blood of Jesus Christ – (Romans 3:24-25; Hebrews 9:12)
11. Everlasting life – (John 3:16) You can know (1 John 5:11-13)
12. Rapture – (1 Thess. 4:13-18; Rev. 4:1)
13. The resurrection of Jesus Christ – (Luke 24:1-7), We who believe will also rise again one day (John 6:39,40,44-47)
14. No soul sleeps – (2 Cor. 5:8; Luke 16:19-31)
15. Judgement – (Romans 14:12; 2 Cor. 5:10) The unsaved (Rev. 20:11-15)
16. Millennial reign of Jesus Christ (Rev. 20:4,6) We shall rule and reign with Him (Rev. 5:10)
17. Live throughout eternity – (Rev. 21:1-22:21)
18. Jesus is the only way to heaven – (John 14:6)
19. Jesus is our mediator to God – (1 Tim. 2:5)
20. The Bible was inspired by God – (2 Tim. 3:16)
21. Holy men of God wrote the scriptures – (2 Peter 1:20-21)

1. Can you tell someone what the Great Commission is?
2. Can you tell someone what the gospel is?
3. Can you tell someone where in the Bible the gospel is defined?
4. How many ways are there to get to God?
5. Can you quote John 3:16?
6. What book and chapter of the Bible has the 10 Commandments?
7. What is the basic salvation message?
8. Must you be baptized in order to be saved?
9. Is salvation obtained by being good, by faith in Jesus alone, or both?
10. Can you define the term justification?
11. Can you define the term sanctification?
12. Can you tell someone the difference between Mormonism and Christianity?
13. Can you quote scripture and location that says we are saved by grace?
14. Can you quote scripture and location that says there is only one God?
15. Is Jesus God in flesh, a good man, or an angel who became a man?
16. Did Jesus rise from the dead in a physical body or not?
17. How many natures does Jesus have?
18. Is the Holy Spirit a person like the Father and Son, or a force like radar?

19. Can you explain what the Trinity is?
 20. Has God always been God?
 21. Can you tell anyone what some of the attributes of God are?
 22. Is Jesus going to return or not?
 23. Did Jesus bare our sins in His body on the cross or not?
 24. What is salvation?
 25. What is sin?
 26. What is damnation?
 27. What is hell?
 28. What is heaven?
 29. Is the Bible inspired or is it a good book full of good moral stories?
 30. What are the first five books of the Old Testament?
 31. Were Adam and Eve real people or not?
 32. What is the biblical reason that Adam and Eve were cast out of the Garden of Eden?
-

(...be not ashamed...)

(1 John 2:28)

1. Resurrections – John 5:28-29
 - a. Resurrection unto life – believers
 - b. Resurrection unto damnation – unbelievers
2. Judgment
 - a. The Judgment seat of Christ – 2 Cor. 5:10
 - b. The Great White Throne – Rev. 20:11-15
These judgments are not for salvation, that has already been determined, but are works and position.
 - Believers – their position as they rule and reign with Christ – (Rev. 20:1-6; 22:1-5)
 - Unbelievers – to the degree of punishment they will receive in the lake of fire – (Rev. 20:11-15) Degrees of punishment – (Matt. 11:20-24; Mark 6:10-11; Luke 12:47,48; Hebrews 10:29)
3. Believers will be judged for their works
 - a. Give an account of yourself – Romans 14:10-12
 - b. At the judgment seat of Christ – 2 Cor. 5:10
 - c. Works will be judged by fire – 1 Cor. 3:11-15
 - d. Saved to serve (work) – Eph. 2:8-9-10
 - e. God knows your heart – Hebrews 4:12; Psalms 139:23-24
Works will be judged for quality, not quantity.

Faithfulness is more important to God than duty. If each believer would use his God given abilities and talents with gratitude from the heart and our love for what Jesus has done, is doing, and will do, what an impact the Gospel of Jesus Christ would have on this world – LETS GET BUSY and G.R.O.W.! We already have the command for our marching orders. – (Matt. 28:19-20; Mark 16:15-16; Acts 1:8, 22:15)

4. For the text read Matthew 25:14-30

“REWARDS”

For Service

1 – Faithful 2- Unfaithful

1. Jesus is coming back: Jesus-John 14:1-3; Angels-Acts 1:9-11; Paul-1 Thess. 4:13-18

2. Rewards

Judgment

-Jer. 32:17-19

-Saved – Romans 14:12; 1 Cor. 3:13-15; 2 Cor. 5:10

-Matt. 16:27

-1 Cor. 3:8

-Lost – Rev. 20:11-15

-2 Tim. 4:14

-Rev. 22:12

Lose Rewards Mark 9:41; Matt. 25:28,29; Luke 12:46, 19:24; 1 Cor. 3:13-15

3. God gives us gifts, talents, and abilities. – Matt. 25:15; 1 Cor. 12:1-31(vs 11)

4. * You are accountable because now you know. John 9:41 *

5. We will rule and reign with Christ

On earth

new earth, new heaven

2 Tim. 2:12

Rev. 22:1-5

Rev. 5:9,10;20:4,6

NOTE – What position of rule have you earned? (Matt. 25:14-30)

“CROWNS”

The Judgment seat of Christ (Romans 14:12; 1 Cor. 3:11-15; 2 Cor. 5:10)

This judgment is not to determine a person’s salvation, that has already been determined, but to determine one’s reward for being faithful and obedient in his service to God.

In scripture there are rewards, known as crowns (5) that a person can earn or loose.

1. **Incorruptible Crown** – (1 Cor. 9:25) For those who can control the flesh
2. **Crown of Rejoicing** – (1 Thess. 2:19) For those who are soul winners
3. **Crown of Life** – (James 1:12) For those who endure trials
4. **Crown of Righteousness** – (2 Tim. 4:8) For those who love Christs’ appearing
5. **Crown of Glory** – (1 Peter 5:4) For those being willing to feed the flock of God

Summary

1. These rewards are associated with the dignity and honor bestowed on the overcomer. (1 John 5:1-5)
2. The redeemed are to bring glory to God. (1 Cor. 6:20)
3. Bringing glory to God will continue throughout eternity
4. The reward given to the believer is a capacity to manifest the glory of God-Christ. Christ will be glorified, not the believer.
5. Capacities to radiate the glory will differ depending on the reward(s) earned by the believer.
6. Each believer will be filled to the limit of his capacity to radiate the glory to Christ – “to show forth the praises of Him who hath called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.” (1 peter 2:9)