



# **The Christian Life**

**Module 1**

*Your New Life in  
Christ*

# INSTRUCTIONS

## 1. Textbook.

The only textbook we will use is the Bible. All Bible quotations are from the **New Living Translation (NLT)**, and it is recommended that you purchase an NLT if you do not have a Bible. However, other versions, such as the **New International Version (NIV)** are also fine to be used. **The Amplified Bible** is an outstanding translation for Bible study.

## 2. Study Materials.

First of all, you will need whatever you like to write with: a **pencil or pen**. Remember, this is a study course, so feel free to make plenty of notes on your page.

## 3. How to Study.

It is important that you find a **quiet place of study** where you can be alone with God. In some situations, that may not be possible, so the key will be **concentration**. Close your mind to all distractions as you concentrate on the Bible readings and the lesson material. And plan to set aside twenty to thirty minutes each day to work on the lesson without interruptions. Lengthy periods of study are generally much more productive in grasping the scope of any particular point of emphasis.

Start your study time with a few minutes of prayer. Ask God to help you study. The Bible is His Word, and each of us need the help of the Holy Spirit in order to understand the Scriptures.

- a. **TOPICS:** Each lesson is broken down into a minimum of five topics. The topics conveniently divide each lesson, providing a break if you do not have the time to study the entire lesson in one session. Therefore, it is strongly recommended that in each study session you attempt to complete at least one topic.
- b. **STUDY PASSAGES:** Over 200 passages from the Bible are examined in this course, almost all of which are introduced by the word **STUDY**. It is very important that you study each of these passages carefully **before** you read the lesson material, for the lesson narratives are based on the **STUDY** passages. Also you will want to let the Word of God speak to your heart in a personal and private way before you study our comments.
- c. **SELF-STUDIES.** You will encounter at least one **SELF-STUDY** in each lesson. You will be asked to study a passage of Scripture and write down your own answers to several questions concerning the passage. The final **SELF-STUDY** in each lesson is a review of the whole lesson. You will find the answers at the end of each lesson. After you have worked the **SELF-STUDY**, check your answers with the correct list. **If you have missed any questions, rework the Scripture passage.**
- d. **BOLDFACE TYPE:** Take special note of all words, phrases, sentences, and even paragraphs which are in boldface type. These are especially important points to remember.
- e. **NOTES:** As we mentioned earlier, you should be making plenty of notes as you study through the 12 lessons. God will give you many insights as you study His Word. By writing them down you can refer to them again and again.

- f. **ORDER OF STUDY:** Please, for your own benefit, **DO NOT JUMP AROUND** in the course. Each lesson is built upon the one which preceded it. Your understanding of Lesson Five, for instance, will depend upon some things you will learn in Lesson Four.

#### 4. **Self-Check Procedure.**

After you have finished each lesson, review it carefully. Answer all questions, and if you find there are any you are unable to answer, carefully review the reading material.

#### 5. **Questions.**

On occasion a question will not refer to something specifically discussed in the lesson, but will be based on the conclusions we want you to draw from the lesson material. Also, a few questions will be asked directly from the study passages. Therefore, it is important that you carefully think through each question before answering it. You will find the following four types of question throughout the twelve exams:

- a. **True or False:** Think carefully. The entire statement must be true or the answer is False, simple circle the correct answer.
- b. **Multiple choice.** All multiple-choice questions have four possible answers. The correct answer is the one which is most accurate. Circle the letter of the answer you believe is correct.
- c. **Short Answers:** Beginning with lesson #3 you will find questions which require short answers. Be as brief as possible. Sometimes a question can be answered with one or two words. Usually a sentence is required, but never more. In some cases correct answers can be stated in different ways.
- d. **Essay Questions:** Only lesson #12 will contain essay questions. Answer them as briefly as possible, but be thorough.

May God bless you abundantly as you study His Word.

## **COURSE OUTLINE**

LESSON ONE

**Your New Life in Christ**

LESSON TWO

**Jesus Christ**

LESSON THREE

**Salvation**

LESSON FOUR

**The Bible**

LESSON FIVE

**How to Study the Bible**

LESSON SIX

**Commitment to Christ**

LESSON SEVEN

**The Dynamics of Faith**

LESSON EIGHT

**Prayer**

LESSON NINE

**The Baptism in the Holy Spirit**

LESSON TEN

**How to Have the Love of God**

LESSON ELEVEN

**Sharing Christ with the World**

LESSON TWELVE

**God and His Relationship to Man**

## MODULE ONE

# *Your New Life in Christ*

### 1. GOD LOVES YOU

#### **STUDY John 3:16-17.**

The most important thing you can know is that **God really loves you**. Verse 17 states that God didn't send Jesus Christ into the world to judge people, but rather to save them from their sins. In other words, **God loves you so much that He was willing to send His only son to suffer and die so that you might be united with Him and live forever in heaven**. That's **real** love.

#### **STUDY Romans 5:6-8.**

Paul further amplifies the words of John by showing us that, logically, people just don't die for one another. Sometimes a man will risk his life for a good man. But seldom, if ever, will a man ever chance death for one who is not worthy of it. But Paul says that in sending Jesus to die for us God revealed His great love, for we are not worthy of the sacrifice of a man's life. And notice that Paul includes himself when he calls us "sinners" in verse 6 and again in verse 8.

#### **STUDY 1 John 4:9-10.**

John further illustrates the love God has for us by stating that it was through Jesus Christ coming and dying that God has made His love known in the world. Some people do not see God's love in the world, but that is simply because they do not believe in Jesus. He is God's gift of love. John adds in verse 10 that **it wasn't because we loved God that he sent Jesus, but because He loved us**. How great is God's love!

#### **STUDY Romans 8:38-39.**

Human love may fade and die, but Paul says that God's love is different. **His love for us will never end**, and there is no way in which we can be separated from His love. None of us will ever be perfect Christians, **but God loves us even in our imperfections. His love is the most powerful force in the world**.

Don't ever forget that God really loves you!

## 2. YOU ARE A PERSON OF VALUE TO GOD

### **STUDY Luke 15:7.**

Jesus said there is much joy in heaven when a sinner repents. Can you imagine how the angels must have rejoiced the moment you received Jesus as your Saviour? It is because God loves you that he sees you as a person worth rejoicing over, worth the price of His very own Son.

### **STUDY Matthew 6:25-33.**

In our society we are often known only by our numbers. Banks, businesses, and government agencies know us better by our numbers than by our names.

But God has not given us a number. **He knows each of us only by our names.** He cares for us. He is ready to help us with our problems and the cares of life that threaten to drag us down. Jesus said in Matthew 6:8 that God knows our needs even before we go to Him in prayer. He states further in Matthew 10:30 that God even knows the number of hairs on our heads! You see, **God knows all about you because He loves you and He considers you a person of great value.**

Your worth in the sight of God is an important point to remember about your new life in Jesus Christ.

### 3. YOUR NEW NATURE IN CHRIST

#### **STUDY Galatians 2:20.**

No doubt you have already experienced some changes since you received Jesus Christ as your Saviour. You probably have a keen awareness of God's presence in your life along with a desire to serve Him. Why is that? First of all, it is because you repented of your sins. Secondly, it is because you asked Jesus Christ to come into your heart, and **He did!**

Paul (who, the book of Acts tells us, was a terrible sinner who bitterly persecuted Christians) says that the new life he lived as a Christian was not really his own. In fact, **it is impossible to live a life for God on your own.** We need His help! And Paul says that in reality it was now Jesus who lived within him. No wonder he can say in 2 Corinthians 5:17, "This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!"

Study Galatians 2:20 again. Notice that Paul says the new life he is now living on this earth he is living by faith in Christ. In other words, **he is trusting and depending on Christ each day to be his guide and his strength and his help.** You too must by faith trust Jesus Christ, who, by virtue of His very presence in your life, has made a new person out of you.

Jesus is your new nature.

## 4. YOU HAVE POWER TO OVERCOME SIN

### STUDY 1 John 4:4.

“The devil made me do it” has become a popular excuse among people who laugh at their sins. But in reality **the devil cannot make anyone do anything**. He may exert pressure, persuade, and tempt, but man has the freedom of choice to serve God or not to serve Him. It is true that a non-Christian has little power over sin; he has only the capacity of receiving Christ. But once Jesus Christ is in a person’s life he can then triumph over sin and the devil.

Take another close look at 1 John 4:4. The first thing you should note is that “**you belong to God.**” You don’t belong to Satan or even to this world. **You belong to God!** When John says that we have won a victory over “those people (them, in most translations),” he is referring to evil spirits, Satan’s workers, which he mentioned in verses 1-3. How have you overcome these evil spirits? It is through **Jesus living within you**, for **He** is greater than Satan. John’s first statement, “the Spirit who lives in you” is Jesus, and the second statement, “the spirit who lives in the world” is Satan, the author of all that is evil in the world.

### STUDY Romans 6:12-14.

The devil cannot make you sin. **The key to overcoming sin is in giving yourself to God each day. Trust in Jesus who is living within you**, for, as John has said, **He is greater than Satan**. Paul says if you do that, sin (or, in a sense, the devil, since he is the power behind sin) can have no power whatsoever over you. You are a conqueror in and by the power of Jesus Christ. **You have power over the devil.**

## 5. GOD WANTS TO BLESS YOUR LIFE

### STUDY John 10:10.

**Jesus came that we might have a full and satisfying life.** First and foremost, this refers to eternal life, the life we shall someday live with God in heaven. But Jesus was also referring to life here on earth. In Christ you have a **more abundant life** than you could ever have without Him.

This does not mean that life will be without its trials and sorrows, as Jesus clearly explains in John 16:33.

### STUDY Galatians 5:22-24.

God wants to bless you spiritually, and as you let Jesus Christ have more and more control of your life you will find that the “Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: **love, joy, peace, patience, kindness....**” **All the fruits of the Holy Spirit are blessings in our lives that can only come from God.** They make life worth living.

### STUDY 3 John 2.

Here is a beautiful little prayer by the Apostle John to some of his Christian friends. He is praying that even as they are strong in spirit (in other words, they have grown and matured as Christians) God will keep them in health and that **everything may be well with them.**

The verb in the original Greek language refers mainly to “succeeding,” as one would in business. Used here, John is merely praying that they will have successful lives on this earth. And that is just what God wants you to have. **He loves us, and because He does, He wants to see not only the salvation of our souls but the blessings in our lives that only a knowledge of Jesus Christ can bring.**

There is nothing more exciting than a new life in Jesus Christ. Aren't you glad that you decided to receive Christ as your Lord and Saviour?

## SELF-STUDY #1

1. The fact of God's love is demonstrated supremely in Jesus Christ. T ( ) F ( )
2. God loves us because we first loved Him. T ( ) F ( )
3. There is rejoicing in Heaven when God punishes sinners. T ( ) F ( )
4. God is concerned with some of our problems, but He is too remote and too busy to be concerned with all of the cares of our lives. T ( ) F ( )
5. The new nature we have as Christians is really Jesus Christ living within us.  
T ( ) F ( )
6. The Apostle Paul looked to the dynamics of human resources for strength and help. T ( ) F ( )
7. A Christian has power over the devil simply because Jesus is in his life. T ( ) F ( )
8. The secret to overcoming sin is to give your life to God each day. T ( ) F ( )
9. When we let Jesus take control of our lives it is easier to have love and joy in our hearts. T ( ) F ( )
10. God wants to bless our lives in every way just because he loves us. T ( ) F ( )

## ANSWERS TO SELF-STUDY #1

1. T
2. F
3. F
4. F
5. T
6. F
7. T
8. T
9. T
10. T