

The Church

Group Time Packet



THE CHURCH

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June 6-27, 2020

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LESSON ONE

THE VISION CONCERNING THE CHURCH

Scripture Reading

Eph. 3:10-11; 1:22-23; 1 John 1:2; 5:1; Eph. 2:6; Rev. 21:9-10; Col. 3:1-3; Eph. 2:20; 5:25-27

Outline

- I. God's eternal purpose being the Church
- II. The church being the building up of all God's chosen, redeemed, regenerated, and transformed people, not a physical structure.
- III. The church being the organism of the Triune God, not an organization
- IV. The essence of the church is of life, not of knowledge
- V. The nature of the church being of heaven, not of earth
- VI. The foundation of the church being Christ
- VII. The church being glorious

Read Lesson 1

- pp. 9-10 paragraph subtitle Text
- p. 10 paragraphs subtitle GOD'S ETERNAL PURPOSE BEING THE CHURCH
- p. 11 paragraphs subtitle THE CHURCH BEING THE BUILDING UP OF ALL GOD'S CHOSEN, REDEEMED, REGENERATED, AND TRANSFORMED PEOPLE, NOT A PHYSICAL STRUCTURE
- pp. 11-12 paragraphs subtitle THE CHURCH BEING THE ORGANISM OF THE TRIUNE GOD, NOT AN ORGANIZATION
- p. 14 paragraph subtitle CONCLUSION

- 1. What do you "think" of when you hear the word "church"?
- 2. Is the church "precious" to you at this point of your life? Why or why not?
- 3. Do you feel like the church is "home" to you? Why or why not?
- 4. What do you struggle with in embracing the church life? Discuss.

LESSON ONE

THE VISION CONCERNING THE CHURCH

VERSE SHEET

Eph. 1:22 And He subjected all things under His feet and gave Him [to be] Head over all things to the church.

Eph. 1:23 Which is His Body, the fullness of the One who fills all in all.

Eph. 3:9 And to enlighten all [that they may see] what the economy of the mystery is, which throughout the ages has been hidden in God, who created all things.

Eph. 3:10 In order that now to the rulers and the authorities in the heavenlies the multifarious wisdom of God might be made known through the church.

Eph. 3:11 According to the eternal purpose which He made in Christ Jesus our Lord.

LESSON TWO

GOD'S PURPOSE FOR THE CHURCH

Scripture Reading

Eph. 1:4-5, 9-11; 3:9-11; 1 Pet. 1:2-4; 2:2; 1 Cor. 3:6; 2 Cor. 3:16-18; 4:16-18; 1 Thes. 5:16-18, John 2:19

Outline

- I. To express God through the sonship
- II. To make God's wisdom known to the enemy
- III. To head up all things in Christ

Read Lesson 2

pp. 22-25 first, fourth, fifth and last paragraph subtitle TO HEAD UP ALL THINGS IN CHRIST

- 1. What kind of confusion have you recently witnessed in your own life, in school, or on social media and in the news?
- 2. How can we be those who are filled with Christ as life and under the light?
- 3. Pray for each other, that the life within us would swallow up any death, and expel any darkness in our lives.

LESSON TWO

GOD'S PURPOSE FOR THE CHURCH

VERSE SHEET

Eph. 1:5 Predestinating us unto sonship through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will.

Eph. 3:10 In order that now to the rulers and the authorities in the heavenlies the multifarious wisdom of God might be made known through the church.

Eph. 1:10 Unto the economy of the fullness of the times, to head up all things in Christ, the things in the heavens and the things on the earth, in Him.

LESSON THREE

THE TWO ASPECTS OF THE CHURCH-UNIVERSAL AND LOCAL

Scripture Reading

Matt. 16:16-18; Eph. 1:22-23; Matt. 18:17; Eph. 2:22; 4:4; Titus 1:5; Acts 14:23; 13:1; Rev. 1:4a, 11; Acts 2:42; 1 Cor. 10:16-17

Outline

- I. The truth according to the Bible
- II. The universal aspect
 - A. Including all New Testament believers
 - B. As revealed by the Lord in Matthew 16:18
- III. The local aspect
 - A. The believers living in the local churches
 - B. The local churches being the local expressions of the Body of Christ
 - C. All the local churches constituting the one Body of Christ
- IV. The genuine ground
 - A. The ground of locality—one city, one church
 - B. The ground of the genuine oneness—one body universally
- V. The local administration and the universal fellowship
 - A. The administration being separate and equal locally
 - B. The fellowship being one universally

Read Lesson 7

- pp. 75-76 paragraph subtitle Text
- pp. 76-77 paragraphs subtitle THE TRUTH ACCORDING TO THE BIBLE
- pp. 77-78 first paragraph subtitle As Revealed by the Lord in Matthew 16:18
- p. 77 paragraphs subtitle Including all New Testament Believers
- p. 78 paragraph subtitle THE LOCAL ASPECT
- p. 78 paragraph subtitle The Believers Living in the Local Churches
- p. 79 paragraph subtitle The Local Churches Being the Local Expressions of the Body of Christ
- pp. 80-81 paragraphs subtitle The Ground of Locality—One City, One Church
- p. 82 first and second paragraph subtitle The Ground of the Genuine Oneness—One Body Universally
- p. 86 paragraphs subtitle CONCLUSION

- 1. How do you know that the church mentioned in Matt. 16:18 is the universal church?
- 2. How do you know that the church mentioned in Matt. 18:17 is the local church?
- 3. One of the best ways to build up the local church is through prophesying in the meetings. Write a prophesy (approx. 30 words) on one of the points that impressed you the most on this lesson. Share with others in your group.

LESSON THREE

THE TWO ASPECTS OF THE CHURCH-UNIVERSAL AND LOCAL

VERSE SHEET

- **Eph. 2:21** In whom all the building, being fitted together, is growing into a holy temple in the Lord.
- **Eph. 2:22** In whom you also are being built together into a dwelling place of God in spirit.
- **Matt. 16:18** And I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.
- **Matt. 18:17** And if he refuses to hear them, tell [it] to the church; and if he refuses to hear the church also, let him be to you just like the Gentile and the tax collector.
- **Titus 1:5** For this cause I left you in Crete, that you might set in order the things [which I have begun] that remain and appoint elders in every city, as I directed you.
- **Acts 14:23** And when they had appointed elders for them in every church and had prayed with fastings, they committed them to the Lord into whom they had believed.
- **Rev. 1:11** Saying, What you see write in a scroll and send [it] to the seven churches: to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to Pergamos and to Thyatira and to Sardis and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea.
- **1 Cor. 10:16** The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the fellowship of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the fellowship of the body of Christ?
- **1 Cor. 10:17** Seeing that there is one bread, we who are many are one Body; for we all partake of the one bread.

LESSON FOUR

THE SEVEN CHURCHES IN REVELATION SIGNIFYING THE SEVEN STAGES OF THE CHURCH

Scripture Reading

Rev. 1:3; 22:7; 2:1-29; 3:1-22

Outline

- I. The church in Ephesus depicts the end of the stage of the initial church during the last part of the first century
- II. The church in Smyrna prefigures the suffering church under the persecution of the Roman Empire from the last part of the first century to the early part of the fourth century
- III. The church in Pergamos pre-symbolizes the worldly church, the church married to the world
- IV. The church in Thyatira pre-symbolizes the apostate church from the ordination of the papal system in the latter part of the sixth century to the end of the church age
- V. The church in Sardis prefigures the protestant church, from the reformation in the early part of the sixteenth century to Christ's coming back
- VI. The church in Philadelphia prefigures the church of brotherly love, the recovery of the proper church life, from the early part of the nineteenth century to the second appearing of the Lord
- VII. The church in Laodicea foreshadows the degraded church life of the brothers from the latter part of the nineteenth century to the Lord's return

Read Lesson 11

- p. 145 paragraph subtitle THE CHURCH IN PHILADELPHIA
- **pp. 145-146** first, second and third paragraph subtitle **The Condition of the Church at This Stage**
- p. 147 third paragraph subtitle The Lord's Promise to the Overcomers of This Stage

Questions

1. Write a prophecy for one of the churches, the time period the church covers, the significance of its name, how its condition can be applied to us today, and what is the reward for the church and how it relates to its condition.

LESSON FOUR

THE SEVEN CHURCHES IN REVELATION SIGNIFYING THE SEVEN STAGES OF THE CHURCH

VERSE SHEET

Rev. 3:7 And to the messenger of the church in Philadelphia write: These things says the Holy One, the true One, the One who has the key of David, the One who opens and no one will shut, and shuts and no one opens.

Rev. 3:8 I know your works; behold, I have put before you an opened door which no one can shut, because you have a little power and have kept My word and have not denied My name.

Rev. 3:9 Behold, I will make those of the synagogue of Satan, those who call themselves Jews and are not, but lie--behold, I will cause them to come and fall prostrate before your feet and to know that I have loved you.

Rev. 3:10 Because you have kept the word of My endurance, I also will keep you out of the hour of trial, which is about to come on the whole inhabited earth, to try them who dwell on the earth.

Rev. 3:11 I come quickly; hold fast what you have that no one take your crown.

Rev. 3:12 He who overcomes, him I will make a pillar in the temple of My God, and he shall by no means go out anymore, and I will write upon him the name of My God and the name of the city of My God, the New Jerusalem, which descends out of heaven from My God, and My new name.

Rev. 3:13 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.

LESSON FIVE

THE STATUS OF THE CHURCH (1)

THE ASSEMBLY, THE HOUSE OF GOD, AND THE KINGDOM OF GOD

Scripture Reading

1 Cor. 1:2; Matt. 18:20; Gen. 28:12, 16-17; John 1:51; 1 Tim. 3:15; Heb. 3:6; 1 Pet. 4:17; Eph. 2:22, 19; Rom. 14:17

Outline

- I. The assembly of the called out ones—ekklesia
- II. The house of God
- III. The dwelling place of God
- IV. The kingdom of God
 - A. Being the living of the Church
 - B. The entrance into the kingdom of God

Read Lesson 3

p. 29 first paragraph subtitle THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CALLED OUT ONES—EKKLESIA

pp. 31-32 second and last paragraph subtitle THE HOUSE OF GOD

p. 33 third paragraph subtitle THE KINGDOM OF GOD

- 1. How does the first status of the church show that the church is not a physical building, but the built-up believers?
- 2. In this age the church is the reality of the kingdom. What is God's requirement for us to be in this kingdom today?
- 3. What is required of us in this age to enter into the manifestation of the kingdom in the next age?
- 4. What is the significance of Christ being the Head of the Body?
- 5. We have seen that the Body of Christ is composed of organic members. Could you hire or fire anyone for a particular function in the Body? Why?
- 6. How do we as members of the Body of Christ become His fullness?

LESSON FIVE

THE STATUS OF THE CHURCH (1)

THE ASSEMBLY, THE HOUSE OF GOD, AND THE KINGDOM OF GOD

VERSE SHEET

- **1 Cor. 1:2** To the church of God which is in Corinth, to those who have been sanctified in Christ Jesus, the called saints, with all those who call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ in every place, [who is] theirs and ours.
- Matt. 18:20 For where there are two or three gathered into My name, there am I in their midst.
- **Gen. 28:12** And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, and its top reached to heaven; and there the angels of God were ascending and descending on it.
- **Gen. 28:16** And Jacob awoke from his sleep and said, Surely Jehovah is in this place, and I did not know [it.]
- **Gen. 28:17** And he was afraid and said, How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.
- **John 1:51** And He said to him, Truly, truly, I say to you, You shall see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man.
- **1 Tim. 3:15** But if I delay, [I write] that you may know how one ought to conduct himself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and base of the truth.
- **Heb. 3:6** But Christ [was faithful] as a Son over His house, whose house we are if indeed we hold fast the boldness and the boast of hope firm to the end.
- **1 Pet. 4:17** For it is time for the judgment to begin from the house of God; and if first from us, what will be the end of those who disobey the gospel of God?
- **Eph. 2:22** In whom you also are being built together into a dwelling place of God in spirit.
- **Eph. 2:19** So then you are no longer strangers and sojourners, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God.
- **Rom. 14:17** For the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

LESSON SIX

THE STATUS OF THE CHURCH (2) THE BODY OF CHRIST

Scripture Reading

Eph. 4:4; 1:22-23; 5:23; 1 Cor. 12:12-13, 15, 21; Eph. 3:8, 19; Col. 3:11; John 6:48, 57, 63

Outline

- I. Christ being the Head
- II. We being the members of the Body of Christ
- III. The Body receiving from the Head
- IV. The fullness (expression) of Him who fills all in all
- V. The fullness (expression) of God

Read Lesson 4

pp. 39-40 first paragraph subtitle Text

p. 42-43 third and last paragraph subtitle THE FULLNESS (EXPRESSION) OF HIM WHO FILLS ALL IN ALL

- p. 44 last paragraph subtitle THE FULLNESS (EXPRESSION) OF GOD
- p. 45 last paragraph subtitle THE FULLNESS (EXPRESSION) OF GOD

- 1. Explain how a person's body can be his fullness, his expression.
- 2. How is the church as the Body something greater than merely a congregation?
- 3. Using food as an illustration, what is needed for the riches of Christ in Ephesians 3:8 to become the fullness in verse 19?

LESSON SIX

THE STATUS OF THE CHURCH (2)

THE BODY OF CHRIST

VERSE SHEET

Eph. 1:22 And He subjected all things under His feet and gave Him [to be] Head over all things to the church.

Eph. 1:23 Which is His Body, the fullness of the One who fills all in all.

- **1 Cor. 12:12** For even as the body is one and has many members, yet all the members of the body, being many, are one body, so also is the Christ.
- **1 Cor. 12:13** For also in one Spirit we were all baptized into one Body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and were all given to drink one Spirit.
- **Eph. 3:8** To me, less than the least of all saints, was this grace given to announce to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ as the gospel.
- **Eph. 3:19** And to know the knowledge-surpassing love of Christ, that you may be filled unto all the fullness of God.
- **Col. 3:11** Where there cannot be Greek and Jew, circumcision and uncircumcision, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free man, but Christ is all and in all.

LESSON SEVEN

THE STATUS OF THE CHURCH (3)

GOD'S MASTERPIECE, THE NEW MAN, AND THE COUNTERPART OF CHRIST

Scripture Reading

Eph. 2:10; 2:15; 4:22-24; Col. 3:10-11; Gen. 1:26-27; Eph. 6:12; 5:22-33; Gen. 2:21-24; John 3:29-30; 2 Cor. 11:2; Rev. 19:7-8; 21:2, 7-9, 17

Outline

- I. God's masterpiece
- II. The new man
 - A. Created by Christ on the cross
 - B. Bearing God's image to express Him
 - C. Fighting as a warrior
- III. The counterpart of Christ
 - A. The church as the bride, the wife, of Christ as the Bridegroom, the Husband
 - B. To be married at Christ's coming back
 - C. To be consummated in the New Jerusalem for eternity
 - D. To be a couple in eternity

Read Lesson 5

- pp. 49-50 first and second paragraph subtitle GOD'S MASTERPIECE
- pp. 50-51 first, second and third paragraph subtitle THE NEW MAN
- p. 52 first and last paragraph subtitle Created by Christ on the Cross
- pp. 53-54 last paragraph subtitle Created by Christ on the Cross
- pp. 55-56 first, fourth and fifth paragraph THE COUNTERPART OF CHRIST

- 1. What does the term "masterpiece" imply when referring to the church?
- 2. How did Christ's death on the cross create the new man?
- 3. Explain the parallel between Christ and the church and Adam & Eve? Support your answer with verses.

LESSON SEVEN

THE STATUS OF THE CHURCH (3)

GOD'S MASTERPIECE, THE NEW MAN, AND THE COUNTERPART OF CHRIST

VERSE SHEET

Eph. 2:10 For we are His masterpiece, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand in order that we would walk in them.

Eph. 2:15 Abolishing in His flesh the law of the commandments in ordinances, that He might create the two in Himself into one new man, [so] making peace.

Eph. 2:16 And might reconcile both in one Body to God through the cross, having slain the enmity by it.

John 3:29 He who has the bride is the bridegroom; but the friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices with joy because of the bridegroom's voice. This joy of mine therefore is made full.

Eph. 5:22 Wives, [be] [subject] to your own husbands as to the Lord.

Eph. 5:23 For a husband is head of the wife as also Christ is Head of the church, He Himself [being] the Savior of the Body.

Eph. 5:25 Husbands, love your wives even as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her.

Eph. 5:26 That He might sanctify her, cleansing [her] by the washing of the water in the word.

Eph. 5:29 For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, even as Christ also the church.

Eph. 5:30 Because we are members of His Body.

Eph. 5:31 For this cause a man shall leave his father and mother and shall be joined to his wife, and the two shall be one flesh.

Eph. 5:32 This mystery is great, but I speak with regard to Christ and the church.

Eph. 5:33 Nevertheless you also, each one of you, in the same way love your own wife as yourself; and the wife should fear her husband.

2 Cor. 11:2 For I am jealous over you with a jealousy of God; for I betrothed you to one husband to present [you as] a pure virgin to Christ.

Rev. 19:7 Let us rejoice and exult, and let us give the glory to Him, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready.

LESSON EIGHT

THE STATUS OF THE CHURCH (4) THE GOLDEN LAMPSTANDS

Scripture Reading

Exo. 25:31-40; Zech. 3:9; 4:2-10; Rev. 1:11-12, 20b; 4:5; 5:6; Col. 2:9; 1:15; Gen. 1:26; 1 John 5:11-12; Rev. 21:18b, 23; 22:1, 5

Outline

- I. The golden lampstands typifying Christ as the embodiment of the Triune God
 - A. Gold signifying the Father's divine nature, the divine substance, essence
 - B. The form signifying the Son as the embodiment of the Godhead in His humanity
 - C. The seven lamps signifying the Spirit as the expression
- II. The golden lampstands signifying Israel as God's testimony in the Old Testament and in the millennium
 - A. Shining through the Seven Eyes (Spirits) of Jehovah
 - B. As the Seven Eyes of Christ (the Stone-Savior for God's Building)
- III. The golden lampstands signifying the seven local churches as God's testimony in the New Testament
 - A. Shining in the dark age as in the night, bearing the testimony of Jesus
 - 1. With the Father's divine essence
 - 2. In the Son's human form
 - 3. Through the Spirit's expression
 - B. To be consummated in the New Jerusalem
 - C. Expressing the processed Triune God in eternity

Read Lesson 6

pp. 49-50 first paragraph subtitle Text

p. 64 paragraph subtitle THE GOLDEN LAMPSTANDS TYPIFYING CHRIST AS THE EMBODIMENT OF THE TRIUNE GOD

- p. 65 first paragraph subtitle Gold Signifying the Father's Divine Nature, the Divine Substance, Essence
- p. 65 second paragraph subtitle The Form Signifying the Son as the Embodiment of the Godhead in His Humanity
- p. 66 second and third paragraph subtitle The Seven Lamps Signifying the Spirit as the Expression
- pp. 66-67 first paragraph subtitle THE GOLDEN LAMPSTAND SIGNIFYING ISRAEL AS GOD'S TESTIMONY IN THE OLD TESTAMENT AND IN THE MILLENNIUM
- p. 69 last paragraph subtitle THE SEVEN GOLDEN LAMPSTANDS SIGNIFYING THE SEVEN LOCAL CHURCHES AS GOD'S TESTIMONY IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

- p. 69 first paragraph subtitle Shining in the Dark Age as in the Night, Bearing the Testimony of Jesus
- p. 72 second paragraph subtitle To Be Consummated in the New Jerusalem
- pp. 72-73 first paragraph subtitle Expressing the Processed Triune God in Eternity

- 1. Write a short essay about how the symbol of lampstand reveals the Triune God.
- 2. Why is the lampstand an appropriate symbol for the church?

LESSON EIGHT

THE STATUS OF THE CHURCH (4) THE GOLDEN LAMPSTANDS

VERSE SHEET

Exo. 25:31 And you shall make a lampstand of pure gold. The lampstand [with] its base and its shaft shall be made of beaten work; its cups, its calyxes, and its blossom buds shall be of[one piece with] it.

Exo. 25:33 Three cups made like almond [blossoms] in one branch, a calyx and a blossom bud; and three cups made like almond [blossoms] in the other branch, a calyx and a blossom bud--so for the six branches going out of the lampstand.

Exo. 25:37 And you shall make its lamps, seven; and set up its lamps to give light to the area in front of it.

Exo. 25:39 It shall be made of a talent of pure gold, with all these utensils.

Zech. 4:2 And he said to me, What do you see? And I said, I see that there is a lampstand all of gold, with its bowl on top of it and its seven lamps upon it, with seven pipes for each of the lamps on top of it.

Rev. 1:20 The mystery of the seven stars which you saw upon My right hand and the seven golden lampstands: The seven stars are the messengers of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches.

Rev. 5:6 And I saw in the midst of the throne and of the four living creatures and in the midst of the elders a Lamb standing as having [just] been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth.

Rev. 21:18 And the building work of its wall was jasper; and the city was pure gold, like clear glass.

Rev. 21:23 And the city has no need of the sun or of the moon that they should shine in it, for the glory of God illumined it, and its lamp is the Lamb.

Rev. 22:5 And night will be no more; and they have no need of the light of a lamp and of the light of the sun, for the Lord God will shine upon them; and they will reign forever and ever.

LESSON NINE

THE DIRECT BUILDING UP OF THE BODY OF CHRIST BY THE PERFECTED SAINTS

Scripture Reading

Eph. 4:12-13, 15-16; 2 Cor. 4:1; 3:8-9; Rom. 5:18b; Jude 3b; Eph. 2:15b; 4:24; 4:1

Outline

- I. Being willing and ready to be perfected
- II. The saints being perfected by the perfecting gifts with the life supply as the nourishment for the growth in life
- III. Unto the work of the ministry—unto the building up of the Body of Christ
- IV. Until we (the gifted persons and the saints) all arrive
 - A. The oneness of the faith and of the full knowledge of the Son of God
 - B. A full-grown and mature man
 - C. The measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ

Read Lesson 14

pp. 181-182 first, second and third paragraph subtitle BEING WILLING AND READY TO BE PERFECTED

pp. 182-183 paragraphs subtitle THE SAINTS BEING PERFECTED BY THE PERFECTING GIFTS WITH THE LIFE SUPPLY AS THE NOURISHMENT FOR THE GROWTH IN LIFE

Ouestions

- 1. What does it mean to be willing to be perfected? Are you willing to be perfected?
- 2. How are the saints perfected?
- 3. How is a "teachers college" a good picture to show how the perfecting of the saints should be carried out?

LESSON NINE

THE DIRECT BUILDING UP OF THE BODY OF CHRIST BY THE PERFECTED SAINTS

VERSE SHEET

- **Eph. 4:12** For the perfecting of the saints unto the work of the ministry, unto the building up of the Body of Christ.
- **Eph. 4:13** Until we all arrive at the oneness of the faith and of the full knowledge of the Son of God, at a full-grown man, at the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.
- **Eph. 4:15** But holding to truth in love, we may grow up into Him in all things, who is the Head, Christ.
- **Eph. 4:16** Out from whom all the Body, being joined together and being knit together through every joint of the rich supply and [through] the operation in the measure of each one part, causes the growth of the Body unto the building up of itself in love.
- **Jude 1:3** Beloved, while using all diligence to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you [and] exhort [you] to earnestly contend for the faith once for all delivered to the saints.
- **Eph. 4:1** I beseech you therefore, I, the prisoner in the Lord, to walk worthily of the calling with which you were called.

LESSON TEN

OUR ENTRANCE INTO THE CHURCH

Scripture Reading

Eph. 1:3-5, 7; Rom. 4:25; 1 Pet. 1:3; Eph. 2:5-6; Acts 2:4; 10:44-45;1 Cor. 12:13; Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; 26:19; 2 Cor. 4:1; Phil. 3:13

Outline

- I. Chosen and predestinated by the Father
- II. The redemption of Christ through His blood
- III. The resurrection and ascension of Christ
- IV. The outpouring of the Spirit on the Body
- V. Entering the church by believing and being baptized
- VI. Having no exit from the church
- VII. Being absolute for the building up of the church
 - A. Not disobedient to the heavenly vision
 - B. Not discouraged
 - C. Always pursuing the goal

Read Lesson 20

p. 248 paragraph subtitle ENTERING THE CHURCH BY BELIEVING AND BEING BAPTIZED

pp. 248-249 paragraph subtitle HAVING NO EXIT FROM THE CHURCH

- 1. Do you feel you have "entered into the church" and if so, explain when and how that happened?
- 2. What role did the Triune God—the Father, the Son, and the Spirit—have in our entrance into the Church?
- 3. We have seen in this lesson that it is possible to be disobedient to the heavenly vision—but is it possible to leave the church? Explain.

LESSON TEN

OUR ENTRANCE INTO THE CHURCH

VERSE SHEET

- **Eph. 1:3** Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenlies in Christ.
- **Eph. 1:5** Predestinating us unto sonship through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will.
- **1 Pet. 1:3** Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has regenerated us unto a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.
- **Eph. 2:5** Even when we were dead in offenses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved).
- **Eph. 2:6** And raised [us] up together with [Him] and seated [us] together with [Him] in the heavenlies in Christ Jesus.
- **1 Cor. 12:13** For also in one Spirit we were all baptized into one Body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and were all given to drink one Spirit.
- **Mark 16:16** He who believes and is baptized shall be saved, but he who does not believe shall be condemned.
- **Acts 2:38** And Peter said to them, Repent and each one of you be baptized upon the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.
- Acts 26:19 Therefore, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision.
- **2 Cor. 4:1** Therefore having this ministry as we have been shown mercy, we do not lose heart.
- **Phil. 3:13** Brothers, I do not account of myself to have laid hold; but one thing [I do:] Forgetting the things which are behind and stretching forward to the things which are before.
- **Luke 15:28** But he became angry and was not willing to enter. And his father came out and entreated him.

LESSON ELEVEN

YOUNG PEOPLE FOR THE BUILDING UP OF THE CHURCH

Scripture Reading

1 Sam. 2:18; 16:11-13; Dan. 1:4, 8, 17; 2 Tim. 2:22; 3:1-4; Eccl. 4:12

Outline

- I. God calling the young people for His move
- II. Being caught and occupied by God
- III. Purposing in our heart not to be defiled
- IV. The need for companions
- V. Praying and seeking the truth with companions

Read Lesson 22

pp. 263-265 paragraphs subtitle GOD CALLING THE YOUNG PEOPLE FOR HIS MOVE

pp. 265-266 paragraphs subtitle BEING CAUGHT AND OCCUPIED BY GOD

p. 269 first and second paragraph subtitle PRAYING AND SEEKING THE TRUTH WITH COMPANIONS

p. 270 second and third paragraph subtitle PRAYING AND SEEKING THE TRUTH WITH COMPANIONS

- 1. What are you living for right now? Why?
- 2. What captures your heart at this point of your life? Discuss.
- 3. Does giving your life to the Lord appeal to you? Why or why not?
- 4. Do you have a companion that you can pray and seek the Lord with?

LESSON ELEVEN

YOUNG PEOPLE FOR THE BUILDING UP OF THE CHURCH

VERSE SHEET

- **2 Tim. 2:21** If therefore anyone cleanses himself from these, he will be a vessel unto honor, sanctified, useful to the master, prepared unto every good work.
- **2 Tim. 2:22** But flee youthful lusts, and pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.
- 2 Tim. 3:1 But know this, that in the last days difficult times will come.
- **2 Tim. 3:2** For men will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boasters, arrogant, revilers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy.
- **2 Tim. 3:3** Without natural affection, implacable, slanderers, without self-control, savage, not lovers of good.
- 2 Tim. 3:4 Traitors, reckless, blinded with pride, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God.

LESSON TWELVE

OUR NEED TO SERVE FOR THE BUILDING UP OF THE CHURCH

Scripture Reading

Matt. 24:14; Acts 20:24; Rev. 1:9; 1 Tim. 2:4; Eph. 5:27; Mark 16:16; Matt. 28:20; 5:11-12; 2 Cor. 1:4

Outline

- I. The gospel needs to be preached
- II. The saved ones need to come to the full knowledge of the truth
- III. The local churches need to be established in every city
- IV. We must pray for His move
- V. We must go to disciple all the nations
- VI. We must teach them what we have been taught
- VII. We must go and establish local churches throughout all the earth
- VIII. We will bring the Lord and the kingdom to earth and will receive a reward

Read Lesson 23

- p. 276 paragraph subtitle WE MUST PRAY FOR HIS MOVE
- p. 276 first paragraph subtitle WE MUST GO TO DISCIPLE ALL THE NATIONS
- pp. 277-278 paragraph subtitle WE MUST GO AND ESTABLISH LOCAL CHURCHES THROUGHOUT ALL THE EARTH

- 1. Memorize 1 Timothy 2:4.
- 2. Why must we pray before going out to disciple all the nations?
- 3. Make a list of friends you're burdened to be saved. Pray over each other's list and fellowship about how to reach out to them.

LESSON TWELVE

OUR NEED TO SERVE FOR THE BUILDING UP OF THE CHURCH

VERSE SHEET

1 Tim. 2:4 Who desires all men to be saved and to come to the full knowledge of the truth.

Matt. 28:20 Teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you all the days until the consummation of the age.

VERSE MEMORIZATION SHEET

- **Eph. 1:22** And He subjected all things under His feet and gave Him [to be] Head over all things to the church.
- **Eph. 1:23** Which is His Body, the fullness of the One who fills all in all.
- **Eph. 1:10** Unto the economy of the fullness of the times, to head up all things in Christ, the things in the heavens and the things on the earth, in Him.
- **Matt. 16:18** And I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.
- **Rev. 1:11** Saying, What you see write in a scroll and send [it] to the seven churches: to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to Pergamos and to Thyatira and to Sardis and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea.
- **1 Cor. 1:2** To the church of God which is in Corinth, to those who have been sanctified in Christ Jesus, the called saints, with all those who call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ in every place, [who is] theirs and ours
- **1 Tim. 3:15** But if I delay, [I write] that you may know how one ought to conduct himself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and base of the truth.
- **Eph. 2:10** For we are His masterpiece, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand in order that we would walk in them.
- **Eph. 2:15** Abolishing in His flesh the law of the commandments in ordinances, that He might create the two in Himself into one new man, [so] making peace.
- **Eph. 5:25** Husbands, love your wives even as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her.
- **Zech. 4:2** And he said to me, What do you see? And I said, I see that there is a lampstand all of gold, with its bowl on top of it and its seven lamps upon it, with seven pipes for each of the lamps on top of it.
- **Rev. 1:20** The mystery of the seven stars which you saw upon My right hand and the seven golden lampstands: The seven stars are the messengers of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches.
- **Eph. 4:12** For the perfecting of the saints unto the work of the ministry, unto the building up of the Body of Christ.
- **Eph. 4:16** Out from whom all the Body, being joined together and being knit together through every joint of the rich supply and [through] the operation in the measure of each one part, causes the growth of the Body unto the building up of itself in love.
- Acts 26:19 Therefore, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision.
- **2 Tim. 2:21** If therefore anyone cleanses himself from these, he will be a vessel unto honor, sanctified, useful to the master, prepared unto every good work.
- **2 Tim. 2:22** But flee youthful lusts, and pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.
- **1 Tim. 2:4** Who desires all men to be saved and to come to the full knowledge of the truth.