

We must work in the harvest of the Lord confidently and joyfully because He is working in us (Philippians 1:6; 2:13). There is never a lack of spiritual gifts for Christians (I Corinthians 1:7). The Holy Spirit enables us for the service of the Lord, and He does this through the gifts he has given us (I Corinthians 12:4-6).

We should obey God as we understand what He instructs in His Word. By doing this, the result will be fruit from Him who is working the will of God in us (Gal. 5:22-26).

APPLICATION

Pray silently.

Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal any sin in your life.

Confess all the sins, which He brings to your mind.

Dedicate your life to him and obey daily.

II. The Pioneer Evangelist and Prayer

INTRODUCTION

It is impossible to be a disciple of Jesus Christ unless you are a person of prayer. The pioneer should be determined to maintain his time alone with God as the first and foremost priority in his life. If this is not the case, the pioneer will never know God in a deep way. He will not stay under God's direction, nor will he produce any true, spiritual fruit.

Please observe eight aspects of prayer that can be practiced during our time alone with God.

1. Praise and Worship

The Bible says in Psalms 48:1, "Great is the Lord, and most worthy of praise...." Psalms 34:1-3 says, "I will extol the Lord at all times; his praise will always be on my lips. My soul will boast in the Lord; let the afflicted hear and rejoice. Glorify the Lord with me; let us exalt his name together."

We praise the Lord in our worship services on Sundays. But, how do we act in our time alone with the Lord between Monday and Saturday? The Bible says in Psalms 22:3, "Yet you are enthroned as the Holy One; you are the praise of Israel."

What is praise? Praise is lifting up and exalting the Lord for WHO He is. Thanksgiving is thanking God for what he has done for us. Praise is exalting the character and the attributes of God.

Biblically, to praise God, one should utilize his mind, his will, and his emotions. It is not wrong to express emotions during worship services when we are praising the Lord. To say that this is wrong is the same as saying that someone cannot use his mind or his will. Man has a body, a soul (his **mind**, **will** and **emotions**), and a spirit (I Thessalonians. 5:23).

However, there is a very large difference between emotions and emotionalism. Emotionalism is losing control of one's emotions. If this happens in a worship service, the service begins to fall out of the Biblical limits of order. The Bible does not prohibit the use of emotions in worship services; however, it speaks out against emotionalism.

Here are a few suggestions as to how one can praise the Lord in his own personal time with God:

A. Sing hymns to God using a hymnal or Christian songbook

If there are other people in the room in which you are having your time alone with God, you may wish to read the words of the songs mentally to the Lord. A good example of a hymn full of praise is the hymn, "Holy, Holy, Holy."

Read the first verse of the hymn, then stop, think, and meditate on the meaning of the words. Praise the Lord based on what you have read in this verse. After doing so, read the second verse, and do the same thing throughout the hymn. In the subject index of most hymnals, a list of praise songs may be found.

B. Sing or read praise choruses

The Bible says in Ephesians 5:19-20, "Speak to one another with psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of the Lord." Be assured that praise choruses are Biblically correct.

C. Read passages of prayers in the Bible, and personalize each verse

Psalms 8:1 says, “O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens.”

To personalize this verse, simply substitute your name. For example, “O Lord, ‘my’ Lord, how majestic is your name in all of the earth, for you have set your glory above all the heavens.” Read each verse one time as it is found in the Bible, then read the same verse again personalizing the verse in personal praise to the Lord.

Some chapters of the Bible that are very appropriate for this type of worship are: Psalms 8,9,19, 24, 65, 92,104, 139, the prayers of Jesus and the apostle Paul, various chapters found in the book of Revelation. Another way to find good praise passages in the Scripture is to simply look up the word “praise” in a concordance.

Praise is an essential part of each believer’s spiritual growth. Read Revelation 4 and 5 to discover what we will be doing in heaven.

2. Confession

It is not necessary to spend a great deal of time in confession. When we commit a sin, the Holy Spirit immediately speaks to our consciences in regard to our sin. The confession of each sin should occur at the moment that the Holy Spirit convicts us. The Bible says in I John 1:9 that, “When we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sin, and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”

During our time alone with God, the Holy Spirit may bring to mind recent non-confessed sins. Perhaps He will remind us of a bad attitude, anger, or bitterness towards someone. In this case, we should confess all of the sins in our hearts.

3. **Thanksgiving**

The Bible says in Philippians 4:6, “Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.”

Gratefulness is thanking God for what He has done for us. For example, “I thank you God for my health, my food, and my family.”

4. **Hearing God’s Voice**

The Bible says in Psalms 62:5, “Find rest, O my soul, in God alone; my hope comes from Him.” Psalms 46:10 says, “Be still, and know that I am God...”

How do we hear the voice of God?

God primarily uses two means to speak to His believers on a daily basis: the Holy Spirit and His Word. Romans 10:17 says, “Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ.”

The Bible is a love letter from God. God’s desire is to speak to every one of us everyday through His Word by the Holy Spirit. Here are a few ways to hear the voice of God:

- A. Begin reading a book of the Bible. We suggest beginning with the book of Ephesians.
- B. Ask God to show you spiritual truths in each verse or paragraph. For example, Ephesians 1:1 says, “Paul, apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, to the saints in Ephesus, the faithful in Christ Jesus.” Four spiritual truths are:
 - 1) Paul is a believer and an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God.
 - 2) He was chosen by the will of God.
 - 3) The word, “saints” refers to the Christians in Ephesus.
 - 4) These Christians were faithful to Christ Jesus.
- C. Personalize each spiritual truth. God is speaking to the reader through these truths. For example, God is telling me four truths in Ephesians 1:1:
 - 1) Wade, you are a disciple of Jesus Christ by my will.

- 2) Wade, I chose you by my will.
- 3) Wade, you are a saint where you live in Belo Horizonte, Brazil.
- 4) Wade, I want you to be faithful to Christ Jesus.

5. Paraphrase the Word of God

Use the verse to pray to God. Using this particular verse in Ephesians, we can say, “Dear Father, my God, I thank you, Lord, because you, Lord, called me to be a disciple of Jesus Christ. I thank You, Lord, because I am a Your saint. I am a person set apart by You. My Father, my desire is to be a person who is faithful to Christ. In Jesus’ name I pray, Amen!”

After walking through these steps with the first verse, proceed to the second verse and continue all the way through the text.

6. Intercession

The Bible says in Ephesians 6:18, “And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints.”

Intercession is prayer for other people. Most people have a blank sheet at the end of their Bible. Divide this page in eight columns, or perhaps use a separate notebook to make a list of the people for whom you wish to pray.

For example, on the top of the page write the word, “**Daily**,” then proceed to write the name of your spouse, children, parents, brothers, etc. These people are those that are closest to you.

On the next page, or in the next column, write the word, “**Sunday**.” Under this word make a list of those people for whom you will pray on this day of the week. Pray for your pastor and his wife, your Sunday School teacher or your students.

Proceed to the next page, or column, on which you will write the word, “**Monday**.” This is the page where you will list your family members and friends.

The next page, or column, will have at the top the word, “**Tuesday.**” On this day pray for the people you know who are lost.

“**Wednesday**” will be at the top of the next page or column. Under this word write the names of missionaries, leaders of your association of churches, leaders of your church or others for whom you wish to pray.

On the next page or column write the word “**Thursday.**” On this page write the names of the leaders of your country. First Timothy 2:1&2, “I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone- for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.”

On the next page or column write the word “**Friday.**” On this page or column write the names of those you know who have fallen away from the church, or perhaps, who are lost.

The following page is entitled “**Saturday.**” In this list write the names of friends, fellow church members and special projects in which you are involved.

If the pioneer does this, he will pray for many people each day of every week. Some people believe that Romans 16 is Paul’s prayer list for the Christians in Rome.

INTERCESSORY PRAYER LIST

PRAYER: PRAISE AND WORSHIP, CONFESSION,
THANKSGIVING, INTERCESSION, AND SUPPLICATION.

DAILY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Spouse, Children, Parents and Siblings	Bible study peers, Spiritual leaders and their Families	Company, Employees, Boss, Work mates	Lost people and Friends

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Pioneer Evangelists and Christian leaders	Public officials I Timothy 2:1-2	Discouraged believers and special projects	Other close relatives, extended family

Using this sheet, you will pray daily for many people
Chart created by Pr. Gilberto Penido Bertho

7. Meditation and Scripture Memory

The Bible says in Joshua 1:8, “Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful.”

This verse says that meditating on the Word of God day and night results in a transformed life. Romans 8:29 says that God’s purpose is to make the pioneer conformed into the image of Jesus Christ. The result of this is a prosperous walk and a successful life. The question is however, “How do we meditate on the Word of God day and night? How do we meditate on the Word when we are asleep?”

- A. Choose a verse in the Bible each week.
- B. Read the verse in its context.
- C. Ask God to show you the spiritual truths of this verse.
- D. Personalize this verse in a prayer.
- E. Write this verse on a card including the reference.
- F. During the day, read this verse various times. Do this while you are waiting in line or in your quiet time, but remember to pull your card out at least five times a day.
- G. The last thing you do every night is to read this verse. This is done to embed the verse in your subconscious.

8. Supplication

The Bible says in Hebrews 4:16, “Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.” Supplication is simply presenting to God your own needs.

III. The Pioneer Evangelist and Salvation

Your beliefs always precede your actions. Matthew 12:34 says, “for out of the overflow of the heart the mouth speaks.” The pioneer evangelist must understand basic New Testament doctrines. What the pioneer evangelist believes about the Bible, salvation, the ministry and the

church is crucial to his success in ministry. His belief concerning salvation is reflected in his message. Many Christians do not know how to answer even the most basic questions about the Bible.

1. What is the Gospel? (Write in pencil your understanding of the Biblical definition)

To find the only definition of the gospel in the Bible, read I Corinthians 15:1-4.

2. What is eternal life? (Write your answer in pencil, based on a Biblical definition)

To find the only definition of eternal life in the Bible, read John 17:3.

It is very important that the pioneer evangelist clearly understands what is salvation according to the New Testament. Since a New Testament church is composed of saved people, the doctrine of the pioneer evangelist concerning salvation is fundamental to his work. The pioneer evangelist does not have any function unless he believes that people without Christ are eternally lost and will spend the rest of eternity in hell. **Do you really believe that?** The pioneer evangelist must also understand that a person without Christ is separated from God and their life is filled with tension, loneliness, fear, guilt, and that he has a great emptiness that lies deep within his soul.

A very important issue is the doctrine of the final judgment. There are some cultures that practice spiritism and the doctrine of reincarnation is very strong. Jesus taught us about the resurrection, not reincarnation. In Hebrews 9:27 it says, "Just as man is destined to die once and after that to face judgment."

Luke 19:10 says that Jesus came to seek and save the lost. This is also the task of the pioneer evangelist. People are lost if they depend on any other thing for their salvation except Jesus. Galatians 2:16 says, “Know that a man is not justified by observing the law, but by faith in Jesus Christ. So we, too, have put our faith in Christ Jesus that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by observing the law, because by observing the law no one will be justified.”

Just as it is important for the pioneer evangelist to be conscious that lost people are not saved, the lost individual must see himself as lost. We cannot simply desire to see “decisions for Christ,” instead we must make disciples. We have to integrate the new believers into the work of the church, train the local leaders, and organize a self-sustaining, self-governing, and self-propagating local church under the leadership of the Holy Spirit.

Therefore it is extremely important for a person to clearly understand what he must do to be saved. A person is not saved until he has repented from his sins and has put all of his trust in Jesus Christ as Lord and only Savior. The pioneer evangelist must do everything he can to make sure that the interested people understand both their lost condition and what they should do to receive Christ.

First- He must repent of his sins. What is repentance? The word “to repent” means to turn your life around in the direction of Jesus Christ and change your mind (ideas). To change one’s mind, to turn from one’s sin to Jesus, means to recognize that the individual has been controlling his own life and desires to surrender the control of his life to Jesus. It means to submit one’s life to Jesus Christ. Repentance is abandoning your sins (a self-controlled life) and giving your life to Jesus as Lord and Master.

Second- He must put his faith in Jesus as his only Lord, Savior, and Mediator. This is more than knowing in one’s mind the facts about Jesus Christ. The Bible says in James 2:19 that even the demons believing in the facts about Jesus.

The word “faith” or “to believe,” in the Greek is “Pistis.” This means that one must give his life to Christ in order to be one with Christ. Anything less than this is not true faith. A major problem is that many people believe in historical facts about Jesus Christ with their minds. Our

job is to show people the difference between true faith, a faith that saves, and one that is false.

A true faith that saves does not put its trust in any additional thing for salvation. For example, a person must stop trusting in his good works, good life, idols, the Virgin Mary, angels, and saints, and place his complete trust in Jesus Christ as his only Mediator, Savior, and Lord. In his book, Indigenous Church Planting, Charles Brock says, “A definition of salvation that does not accurately treat the issues of sin, repentance, and faith will produce a religious group but will not produce a church.”

Every pioneer evangelist must follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit because He is the only one that will convict the lost of his or her sins. The pioneer evangelist must share the true and full gospel of Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit for Him to work in the hearts of the people and for Him to produce fruit that remains.

IV. The Pioneer Evangelist and the Personal Testimony

The purpose of a testimony is to share a personal experience. It is possible to argue about things that have happened to other people, but it is difficult to argue with someone about their own experience. In Acts 22:1-16 and Acts 26:9-23, the apostle Paul tells about his story of how he accepted Christ and what happened after he found Him.

1. Guidelines to remember in sharing one’s testimony

- A. Be brief (maximum of two minutes).
- B. Remember that your purpose is to show the lost person how you found Christ. The gospel will be explained later.
- C. Do not preach a sermon.
- D. Do not explain the plan of salvation at this time.
- E. Do not have an invitation.
- F. Do not use vague terms. For example, “I was baptized.” A non-believer will think that in order to be saved you must be baptized. It is better to say, “One night I accepted

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Jesus in my heart,” or “I trusted Christ as my only Savior and Lord.”

- G. Use Bible verses if you desire.
- H. Write your testimony out. It should be no more than 250 to 350 words.
- I. Conclude the testimony with these two phrases:
 - 1) Now I am sure of having eternal life.
 - 2) May I explain to you from the Bible how you may have assurance of eternal life?

2. Testimony

Answer the following questions to help you write your testimony:

A. How was my life before I knew Jesus? Tell about your attitudes, lifestyles, and sins. (Acts 22:1-5 and 26:4-11)

B. How did I realize my need for Jesus? (Acts 22:6-8 and 26:12-15)

C. Where and how did I accept Christ? (Acts 22:6-10 and 26:13-18)

D. How has my life been different since I accepted Christ? (Acts 22:10-21 and 26:19-23)

E. Conclusion:

Always conclude by saying, “I now have assurance of eternal life. May I explain to you what the Bible says about how you may have the assurance of eternal life as well?”

What you have done is to build a bridge between you and the lost person. You are now asking for permission to cross the bridge and enter into his personal life. He may say “yes” or he may say “no.” If he agrees, you present the gospel to him. If he says “no”, then you may ask him if you can write his name in your Bible as a reminder to pray for him daily.

V. The Pioneer Evangelist and Personal Evangelism

This method should be used when you do not have the opportunity to start a Bible study and this is your only opportunity to share the gospel. However, if you can return and lead a home Bible study do not use this method. We do not want to rush those who are not ready to receive Christ.

OBSERVE: THIS APPROACH SHOULD ONLY BE USED IN A CHRISTIAN BASED CULTURE WHERE PEOPLE ALREADY HAVE A GENERAL BACKGROUND OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH. WE USE OTHER APPROACHES IN THIS MANUAL FOR NON CHRISTIAN BASED CULTURES.

We do want to emphasize that how this is accomplished will vary greatly depending on culture. We suggest some tips on how to enter into a home, gain a hearing, and etc. This will vary greatly by culture or the openness of society to Christianity (due to security issues). For example, in the Latin American, European, Eastern and Southern African context where there is more awareness and understanding of Christianity the approach suggested here has proven successful.

REMEMBER: THIS APPROACH WILL BE USED IF YOU ONLY HAVE ONE OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE THE GOSPEL. IF YOU CAN GO BACK WEEKLY AND DO A HOME BIBLE STUDY AND/OR USE THE STORYING METHOD OF SHARING THE GOSPEL WE STRONGLY RECOMMEND YOU DO THAT INSTEAD OF PRESENTING THE GOSPEL ON THE FIRST VISIT. HOWEVER, IF YOU ONLY HAVE ONE OPPORTUNITY THEN DO THE FOLLOWING:

Guidelines that may prove helpful in some cultures:

1. Six objectives of the visit:

- A. Try to win the confidence and friendship of the unbeliever.
- B. Identify his spiritual condition. Ask the following question, “Do you know that you have eternal life if you died tonight?” Explain the plan of salvation.
- C. Invite the person to accept Jesus as his only Lord and Savior.
- D. Invite the person to visit the next Bible study that you will be conducting.
- E. Make sure that you will be welcome to visit again.

Not everyone will accept Jesus as Savior and Lord but it is important to develop a good relationship with those that do not.

2. When you should not enter a home:

- A. During a time when all the extended family is together.
- B. When the house is full of other visitors. In such a situation simply say, “I can come back some other time.”
- C. When the family is getting ready to leave.

3. How to gain the person’s interest

If at the moment of your visit, a person’s attention seems to be dedicated to a particular activity like watching television, wait until the end of the program or come back later. However, most of the time, the easiest thing to do is to try to talk to him about various subjects. If he is more interested in talking to you than in the TV then you can ask him to turn down the volume and let him turn it off. Never turn off the television without permission.

4. The responsibilities of the team (if the pioneer is not alone)

- A. The team leader will direct the visit.
- B. The team members will be in prayer and share as asked to by the team leader.

5. The responsibilities of the team members

- A. Participate in the beginning of the conversation.
- B. Help by sharing their testimonies (at the leader's request).
- C. Share parts of the plan of salvation if this has been pre-planned by the leader.
- D. Help with babies.
- E. Help win other people in the home.
- F. Pray silently.

6. How to get inside the home

- A. Introduce the team. The team leader will introduce each member of the team, identify his church or Bible study group, and ask permission to enter. For example, "Good evening. My name is John and her name is Mary. We are visiting people in our community. May we come in and talk to you for a few minutes?"
- B. Choose a good place to sit down. The team member who will share the gospel should sit closest to the host. This will enable him to do the following:
 - 1) Maintain eye contact with the person.
 - 2) Maintain a normal conversational volume.
 - 3) Read each verse with the person.A principle: If you listen to the person in the beginning, you will earn the right to be heard in the end.
- C. Discuss things of interest to the host.

**A principle: If you listen to the person in the beginning,
you will earn the right to be heard in the end.**

7. A guide for the introduction - "FIRE".

A. FAMILY

A good place to start a conversation is about one's family. This is a good place to find common ground. The pioneer can tell about his own family and ask questions about the family of the non-believer.

For example:

- How many children do you have, sir?

-Three

-I have three too. My children are 8, 10 and 16. How old are your children?

B. INTERESTS

Where do you work? What kind of company is that? What is your responsibility there? Oh, I work at . . .etc.

C. RELIGIOUS EXPERIENCE

What church do you go to? (This would only be a good question in a Christian based culture. Or, what religion do you have?)

D. ETERNAL QUESTIONS

Non-Christian Based Culture Questions

In this case you may should begin with a more basic question such as, “What is your understanding of God and who He is?” Listen to the person and then ask if you could conduct a series of studies with him. In a non-Christian based culture you would ask if he would like to learn about the Creator God who created the world and how you can come to know Him personally. Use simple Bible studies or chronological Bible stories.

Christian Based Culture Questions

“May I ask you a question? If you died tonight do you know that you have eternal life and would go to heaven?” (Memorize this question). If the person doesn’t answer correctly then continue to give your testimony and share the gospel. If he answers, “I do have assurance,” then ask him this second question, “Suppose you were before God at this moment and He asked you, ‘Why should I let you into my heaven?’ How would you answer him?” (Memorize this question). If he cannot answer you correctly, then share with him the gospel. Another question that you can use is this, “Have you developed a personal relationship with Jesus Christ or are you in the process of building one?”

OBSERVE: The eternal questions for Hindus, Buddhists, and animists should be very different than those used in Christian based culture such as Roman Catholicism. In these cultures, any references using words such as “God”, “Jesus”, “heaven” or “hell” must be defined according to each individual cultural context. For example, describing God as the Creator of all things as the all-powerful Spirit is often a good start for defining who is God. The incarnation of Jesus and its purpose must be described when referring to Him.

Another good example is the term “heaven”. Heaven for a Buddhist means escape from all desires. For a Hindu, it means escaping from the cycle of reincarnation. For many animists, it can mean many things and may only be distinguished from hell by whether or not your posterity makes sacrifices to you (in many East Asian settings).

In many cultures the Bible is NOT a book of which people are aware. Many if not most people among unreached people groups will never have heard of the Bible. What I have done in these cases is to begin by sharing that the Bible is a book that God gave us to reveal Himself. They do not have to believe this. They probably will not, but if they are willing to study it with you then the Holy Spirit WILL do his job and begin to reveal to them truth.

NEVER argue whether the Bible is God’s Word or not. Just present that your faith is based on what you believe to be written in God’s book and you would simply like the opportunity to share it with them.

It is very important that the pioneer finds an appropriate witnessing tool for the people he/she is ministering among.

THE FACTS OF THE GOSPEL NEVER CHANGE, BUT THE APPROACH WILL ALWAYS CHANGE BASED ON CULTURE.

REMEMBER: In a Christian based culture you can use the preceding eternal questions. But in a non-Christian based culture you will need to use

discernment in identifying the different levels of spiritual understanding. The person's understanding of words such as "heaven" may not be the same as the concept in the Bible.

8. Testimony (optional)

After asking the questions about the eternal life, the pioneer may share his testimony or ask another member of the team to do so. He may say, "Mary, will you please share with us the testimony of how you received Jesus Christ and eternal life into your own life." After this testimony, the team leader will then present the gospel.

9. Permission

The pioneer must always ask permission before continuing at this moment. The following question should be asked, "May I please share with you how the Bible tells us that we can have eternal life?"

Important: Always show respect for your host.

10. The Presentation of the Gospel

Use a tract such as "**HOW TO HAVE ETERNAL LIFE**" or any other gospel presentation that is complete and easy to follow. Again, in non-Christian based cultures it may take weeks or even months to present these simple fundamental truths of the gospel. The issue is not how you do it but that these truths are in your presentation regardless of what approach you do use.

HOW TO HAVE ETERNAL LIFE

OBSERVE: These are the fundamentals of the gospel regardless of what culture. Culture can NOT change the gospel. It only dictates how we present the gospel. These basic truths will need to be shared someway, somehow before a person can receive Christ. We suggest presenting these truths either in a long term Bible study format or by Storying. In Christian based cultures one can often present them

immediately after meeting a person. Regardless of what format one chooses to use in his presentation he does need to know these basic fundamental facts of the gospel.

1. The purpose of God for your life

The Bible says in **I John 5:13**, “I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life.” The purpose of the verse is to show that God wants to give assurance of eternal life because of His love for man. Eternal life is two things:

- a) To know Jesus Christ and have His peace in your heart now while you live in this life. (John 17:3)
- b) To live with Jesus Christ in heaven for eternity after you die. (John 14:1-3)

According to the Bible, you can have assurance of eternal life today.

Observe: in Christian and non-Christian based cultures these terms will need to be clearly defined and this may take lots of time.

2. Your need

The Bible says in **Romans 3:23**, “for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God”. The purpose of this verse is to show that all of us are sinners. What is sin? Sin is disobeying God. For example, all of us have committed sins such as lying, anger, bitterness, greed, lust and pride. Do you recognize that you have sinned? What is the consequence of sin? The Bible says in **Romans 6:23**, “For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

The purpose of this verse is to show that all deserve death because of our sins. What is death? Death means to be separated from God in two ways.

First, death is separation from God now in this life on earth. It is a life without joy or peace in the soul. It is a life without assurance of eternal life and without Jesus in your heart. Separation from God leaves man with an empty and fearful heart.

Second, death is separation from God for eternity in hell. This is a life without Christ for all eternity. According to the Bible all of us deserve death, separation from God, because of our sins.

3. The provision of God

The Bible says in **Romans 5:8**, “But God demonstrates his own love to us in this: while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” The purpose of this verse is to show that God loves us so much that He gave His son Jesus Christ to die for our sins. The only payment for sin is death. Jesus Christ was punished, judged and condemned to death on the cross to pay the penalty of sin in our place.

The death of Jesus was the only sacrifice that was sufficient to free man of the guilt of sin. Many people are trying to get to God through different ways: depending on their own good life or good works. They also may try to get to God through saints, idols, images, spirits or reincarnation.

Man’s own efforts have no power to purify man of his sins. The only way to have a relationship with God is through Jesus Christ. After Jesus Christ died on the cross for our sins, He arose from the dead, conquering death. He is alive and He wants to live in your heart. Do you believe that Jesus Christ is your only Lord, Savior and Mediator?

4. Your response

The Bible says in **Romans 10: 9**, “That if you confess with your mouth, ‘Jesus is Lord’, and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.” The purpose of this verse is to show that to receive Jesus you must do two things:

- a) First, to receive Jesus you must confess Christ as your only Lord. You must abandon your sins and turn to follow Jesus. This means to turn the control of your life over to Christ. This is repentance.
- b) Second, to receive Jesus you must believe in your heart that Christ rose from the dead and is your only Savior. This means that you have

to stop putting your faith in other things like morality, good works, idols, images, saints or reincarnation and put your trust in Jesus Christ as your only Savior.

Are you ready to stop putting your faith in other things and give your life to Christ right now as your only Lord and Savior? The Bible says in **Romans 10:13**, “for, ‘Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.’” The purpose of this verse is to show that anyone that calls on the name of Jesus will be saved. This means that you can accept Jesus by faith right now in your heart.

Are you ready to give your life to Jesus and ask Him to enter in your life right now? If you are ready, say this prayer with all your heart to God.

“Lord, I am a sinner. I trust in you, Lord, as my only Lord, Savior and Mediator. I give my life to You. Come into my heart and save me right now. Transform me and take full control of my life. Amen.”

Do you believe that Jesus answered your prayer? Than where is Jesus right now? Are you saved?

VI. The Pioneer Evangelist and How to Begin A New Church

When the pioneer enters into a new city, he should keep in mind that the Holy Spirit will lead him to the people who are spiritually hungry. God is at work everywhere and He is preparing the hearts of some to be open to accept Christ, if only they had the opportunity to hear the gospel message personally. The evangelist must have total confidence in the Holy Spirit to do his job. His job is to prepare hearts. The evangelist’s job is simple—find those whom the Holy Spirit has prepared.

There are several things that will never change. The Bible message is always constant. Methodology is always changing. The methods presented in this book function under the leadership of the Holy Spirit. They are based on starting new and self-supporting churches under the leader-

ship of the Holy Spirit:

1. One that is self-governing under the leadership of God.
2. One that is self-supporting under the leadership of God.
3. One that is self-propagating under the leadership of God.

This is the goal. In order to arrive at this goal we use Biblical methods that are possible to everyone. The pioneer should choose an area, visit it, and meet the people in the streets, bars, houses, and anywhere else. A census may even be used.

It is the work of God to prepare the hearts of lost people. The pioneer evangelist can NOT do this. Only the Holy Spirit has the power to prepare someone and make his need for Christ known. It is the responsibility of the pioneer church planter to find the person or persons whose hearts have been prepared by the Holy Spirit. In other words we seek to find seekers.

Jesus called this person the man of peace in Luke 10:5-6 which says, “When you enter a house, first say, Peace to this house. If a man of peace is there, your peace will rest on him; if not, it will return to you”.

There is another principle at work at this point. It is the **oikos** principle. Acts 16:31 says, “Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved and thy **household**”. **Oikos means “household” or your “sphere of influence”**. Everyone in the entire world belongs to an oikos.

So, when you find the man of peace you will need to begin to get this person to introduce you to all the people in his oikos. You then penetrate his oikos. Also, every person in his oikos also has another oikos. For example, if a man of peace has ten people in his oikos then each of those ten may have another ten in their oikos. You can then penetrate those as well. So, you just follow the flow of oikoses. So, the key is to find the man of peace and then just follow the natural oikoses.

The pioneer should go into an area and simply say, “I am available to lead a Bible study, would you be interested?” If several people answer “yes”, allow them to suggest a place where they feel the Bible study should take place. Why do this? Every action should be taken from the very beginning to start a church that will become self-governed. Some Bible studies could be held underneath a tree, in

someone's home, or any public place. However, it is very advantageous to have the Bible study take place in the same place each week if possible. It eliminates misunderstandings concerning location. It is better if the pioneer does not start his work with children. After he has developed a strong nucleus, he can work with children. But in the beginning, his purpose should be to have Bible studies in various locations, and these should be as different and spread out as possible. The primary purpose of the pioneer is not to be a teacher of the Bible but to use the indirect method of Bible study as a leader. He will be sowing seeds. The Holy Spirit will produce the fruit in His time.

Rick Warren in his book, The Purpose Driven Church page 190-191 shares that he began the Saddleback Community Church, one of the largest in the United States by asking the following five questions to people in his community. This would be good to use in Christian based cultures:

1. In your opinion, what are the greatest needs that people have in this region? This question will open the door for you to begin a conversation.
2. Are you attending a church? (In a non Christian based culture you could just ask what religion do you have)
3. Why do you think most people do not attend a church? (This question is really asking them why they do not attend a church.)
4. If you were looking for a church to attend what type of church would you long for?
5. What could we do for you and what advice could you give for those who want to start a church in this area?

We would like to add just one question to this list:

6. Are you interested in having a Bible study in your home?

We also want to mention how responses to radio broadcasts, responses to tract distribution, or large events can be used to identify people who might be open to the gospel. These are additional ways but in all cases the

pioneer and his team should always ask those who express interest if they would be interested in having a home Bible study (besides personally asking people) to find those in whose hearts the Holy Spirit is working.

Notes:

VII. THE PIONEER EVANGELIST AND HOW TO LEAD BIBLE STUDY THROUGH THE INDIRECT METHOD - by Charles Brock

INTRODUCTION

This study, which will take around one hour to complete, was written to help anyone learn how to lead a Bible study using the Indirect Method. It will become clear that no formal education or special training is necessary to teach using this leadership method.

This leadership method can be applied to many different studies or books; however, we have prepared this study especially for those series of studies that relate to Pioneer Evangelism, which could be in this case, the Good News Bible studies, or the discipleship material.

HOW TO USE IT

There will be a line after each question. Below this line will be the answer to the question directly above. It is necessary to put a card or cover over the double lines and answer as you go down the page. After reading all the questions and filling in all of the empty spaces, move the card enough to see if you answered the question correctly. Follow this process all the way down the page.

REMEMBER NOT TO LOOK AT THE ANSWERS BEFORE FILLING IN THE SPACES.

PIONEER EVANGELISM

1. The object of this section is to IDENTIFY TWO THINGS THAT ARE INVOLVED IN INDIRECT LEADERSHIP.

Indirect Leadership is not the same as Direct Leadership.

Indirect Leadership involves two things:

- a. The leader gives direction to the group.
- b. There is participation to the group.

Indirect Leadership involves _____ by the leader and _____ by the group.

DIRECTION

PARTICIPATION

2. Indirect leadership does not require that a leader preach a sermon. It requires from a leader to give _____

DIRECTION

3. When a leader does everything: talk, preach, sing, and pray, this is an example of:
- a. Direct Leadership
 - b. Indirect Leadership

DIRECT LEADERSHIP

4. The group should take part in the discussion. The leader should lead the group into the discussion of the study. One very important part of Indirect Leadership is that the group _____

PARTICIPATES

5. Indirect Leadership involves two things.
- a. _____
 - b. _____

DIRECTION BY THE LEADER PARTICIPATION OF THE GROUP

6. The object of this lesson is: **RELATE FIVE RULES** that should be followed when leading a Bible study group using the indirect method.
7. **THE LEADER SHOULD ENCOURAGE THE MEMBERS OF THE GROUP TO PARTICIPATE.**

Indirect Leadership is not possible when the leader does everything. In Indirect Leadership it is important that all the members be encouraged to _____.

PARTICIPATE

8. When the leader dominates all of the discussion, the members of the group do not have the opportunity to participate. When this occurs the leader is not practicing _____ leadership.

INDIRECT

9. Members of the class can participate by reading the question, giving the answer, or after they are saved, praying. Indirect Leadership requires that (which of these items) participate in the above examples.
- a. Only the leader
 - b. All the members

ALL THE MEMBERS

PIONEER EVANGELISM

10. Who participates when the indirect method is used to teach a Bible study? _____

ALL THE MEMBERS

11. **PROVIDE A BOOK WITH FILL IN THE BLANK QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS OR ANY OTHER READING MATERIAL FOR THE MEMBERS. THIS WILL HELP GIVE THE TEACHER DIRECTION TO THE GROUP.**

These materials also encourage the members to participate. An exercise book helps the teacher give _____ to the group. It also encourages the members to _____.

DIRECTION

PARTICIPATE

12. Following the lessons chosen by the leader will help him give direction to the group. If a Jehovah Witness who is participating in the meeting begins reading The Watchtower magazine. This means the leader is not giving proper _____ to the group.

DIRECTION

13. When the members follow an _____ book which uses fill in the blanks, they are not only led by the leader but also by the exercise _____.

EXERCISE

BOOK

14. Some people are shy and others like to talk even if they don't know what they are talking about. Both of these types of people have participation problems. Having an exercise book with fill in the blanks or

any other good material will help correct the problem of

_____.

PARTICIPATION

15. It is important that the leader give direction to the members and encourage their participation. This can be done when the leader provides an _____ or other reading materials.

EXERCISE BOOK

16. **PATIENCE IS REQUIRED BY THE LEADER WHEN LEADING A BIBLE STUDY OF NON-BELIEVERS.** Patience is especially necessary while using the indirect method. Some members of the group will want to participate a lot; others will not participate at all. A rule to be followed by the leader is to always be _____.

PATIENT

17. When the leader asks a question, the members of the group might be very slow in responding. The tendency of the leader might be to hurry them up and answer the question while the members are still thinking about the question. The leader must be _____.

PATIENT

18. It is required of the leader to be patient when a member of the class does not know how to find a chapter or a verse in the Bible. This type of patience is a necessary aspect if one wants to be a successful leader using the _____ METHOD.

INDIRECT

PIONEER EVANGELISM

19. Because people are often slow to participate the leader must be _____.

PATIENT

20. We have studied three rules or principles. They are:

- a. The leader should encourage all the members to participate.
 - b. He must provide an exercise book or any other reading material for the members.
 - c. The leader needs to practice patience.
- These rules are important when the leader is practicing _____ leadership.

INDIRECT

21. IN LEADING A BIBLE STUDY GROUP THE LEADER SHOULD PRACTICE A REPRODUCABLE LEADERSHIP.

Reproductive leadership means a type of leadership where the members of the class will soon be able to do the same thing that you are doing.

The leader should conduct himself in such a way that his leadership can be _____ by the members of the group.

REPRODUCED

22. A wise leader will think in terms of passing his responsibilities of leadership to others. The leader then will always need to be aware of how he is leading. Because he is an example for future _____.

LEADERS

23. A leader that desires to be in front of the group for as long as possible

HOLY SPIRIT

28. Group leaders can sow the seeds of the Gospel of John Bible Studies. The Holy Spirit is the only one that can make these seeds produce. Therefore, group leaders have to depend on the _____.

HOLY SPIRIT

29. Who is capable of bringing true conviction and conversion of sin?
_____.

HOLY SPIRIT

30. We have studied five rules or principles that must be followed while using the Indirect Method of Leadership. List these five rules or principles:
- a. The leader should encourage _____ to participate.
 - b. Provide an _____ or reading materials for the members.
 - c. A leader should always be _____.
 - d. A leader should practice _____ leadership.
 - e. Only the _____ can bring true conviction and conversion.

-
- a. ALL THE MEMBERS
 - b. EXERCISE BOOK
 - c. PATIENCE
 - d. REPRODUCTIVE
 - e. HOLY SPIRIT

31. We have studied five things that a leader should do in indirect leadership. We will now study three things that a leader should never do while leading a Bible study group.
32. Frequently the leader of the Bible study group knows more about the Bible study than the members of the class. Sometimes a leader will be proud of this advantage. He will then feel that he must say everything he knows about every item discussed. This attitude is _____.
- a. Desirable
 - b. Undesirable in Indirect Leadership

UNDESIRABLE

33. A leader who is secure in his knowledge and relationship with God does not feel the need to prove _____ that he _____ about the subject.

ALL KNOWS

34. To be in silence and to listen is not a sign of ignorance on the part of the leader. When a leader is quiet it does not mean that he is _____.

IGNORANT

35. A leader should not feel the need on every subject to _____.
- a. Say all he knows
 - b. Be an authority
 - c. Listen

SAY ALL HE KNOWS

BE AN AUTHORITY

36. In a Bible study group, someone will emerge who will want to show off his intelligence. We call this person the “philosopher.” IT IS A
-

PIONEER EVANGELISM

WASTE OF TIME TO DEBATE WITH SUCH PEOPLE. These “philosophers” generally are _____ . (choose more than one)

- a. Genuine seekers of the truth
- b. Trying to draw attention to themselves
- c. Like to talk

TRYING TO DRAW ATTENTION
TO THEMSELVES

LIKE TO
TALK

37. A “philosopher” that has never experienced true salvation cannot experience spiritual things. A leader should be willing to discuss which of these two subjects with this person

- a. How to be saved
- b. The Trinity

HOW TO BE SAVED

38. A “philosopher” will quickly change from one subject to another. He will then become the momentary leader of the study. The debate will bring _____ for the other members of the class

- a. Confusion
- b. Clarity

CONFUSION

39. A Bible study group will be confused if there is _____ with the philosophers.

DEBATE

40. Since indirect leadership means that many members of the class will participate THE LEADER MUST BE SURE THAT ONE PERSON DOES NOT DOMINATE THE DISCUSSION. When a person dominates the whole time this means that the leader is not exercising good _____ leadership.

INDIRECT

41. When a person talks the whole time it is difficult for many members of the group to _____.

PARTICIPATE

42. If good indirect leadership is practiced the responsibility of the _____ is to assure complete participation from the entire group.

LEADER

43. Indirect leadership does not permit _____ to dominate the discussion.
- a. One person
 - b. Two people
 - c. All the members

ONE PERSON

TWO PEOPLE

44. We have studied three things that a leader should never do. These three rules are:
- a. The leader should not feel that he must tell _____ he _____ about the subject at hand.
 - b. The leader should not _____ with philosophers.
 - c. The leader should not allow _____ to dominate the entire study.

a. EVERYTHING

KNOWS

b. DEBATE

c. ONE PERSON

PIONEER EVANGELISM

45. Now we will study two reasons why the indirect method of leadership is a good method to use while starting new churches.
46. When we use the indirect method, **IT IS EASIER TO TRANSFER THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF LEADERSHIP TO THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE GROUP.** It is the simplest answer in providing leadership to a group through Bible studies that will one-day build a church. One of the main characteristics of a wise leader is his ability to _____ the leadership.

TRANSFER

47. A leader who is a pastor of another group (church) may find it difficult to continue meeting with the group that he is trying to start. For this reason it is important to find a new leader for this group, and it is natural that the leader comes from the _____
_____ itself.

GROUP

48. Because a wise leader will use the indirect method from the beginning of the group's meetings, it is natural for the members to participate while the group is still developing. It will then be _____
that some of the members will become leaders.

NATURAL

49. Because all of the members are encouraged to participate from the beginning of the Bible study, it will be natural for the members to continue to _____. One or more members will then become _____.

PARTICIPATE

LEADERS

50. If a leader can not or will not always continue to be the leader of a certain Bible study group, how can he plan for the future?

He should _____ the leadership to the members of the group.

TRANSFER

51. When you use the type of indirect leadership that we have studied in this lesson YOU WILL BEGIN AND LEAD NEW GROUPS THAT ARE NOT LIMITED TO AN EXPERIENCED LEADER, TRAINING OR MONEY.

This means that many people are able _____ new groups.

LEAD

52. A leader that is a new Christian can still lead a Bible study group even if he is not very _____ .

EXPERIENCED

53. Write true, "T," or false, "F," in the blank spaces:

- a. _____ A person who has been through extensive seminary training is capable of leading a home Bible study group.
 - b. _____ A farmer who has little training can successfully lead a home Bible study group.
-

BOTH ANSWERS ARE "TRUE"

54. Who has enough money to began leading a home Bible study group? (Chose one or more of the alternatives)

- a. A lawyer
 - b. A carpenter
 - c. A doctor
-

- d. A teacher
- e. A factory worker

FARMER/ CARPENTER/ DOCTOR/ TEACHER/
FACTORY WORKER

55. According to what we have learned, Indirect Leadership is the best leadership with which to start home Bible study groups which will result in churches. It is a good method because:
- a. It is easy to _____ the leadership to another member of the group.
 - b. Many people can start these groups because a person does not need much _____ ..

-
- a. TRANSFER
 - b. EXPERIENCE, TRAINING, AND MONEY

56. REVIEW OF WHAT WE HAVE LEARNED

- I. Indirect Leadership involves two things:
 - 1. _____ of the leader
 - 2. _____ of the members

- II. Five things to remember while leading a group Bible study are:
 - 1. The leader should encourage the _____ of all the _____
 - 2. Provide an _____ book or any other good _____ materials.
 - 3. A leader should practice his _____
 - 4. A leader should practice _____ leadership.
 - 5. Only the _____ can bring true conviction and conversion from sin.

- III. Write out two reasons why the indirect method of leadership is good method for starting new churches.

Answers to the Review

I.

1. DIRECTION
2. PARTICIPATION

II.

1. PARTICIPATION MEMBERS
2. EXERCISE READING
3. PATIENCE
4. REPRODUCTIVE
5. HOLY SPIRIT

III.

1. The leader can easily and quickly transfer the leadership to the members of the group.
2. A leader can begin a new home Bible study group even if he has little experience, training or money.

VIII. THE PIONEER EVANGELIST AND HOW TO LEAD A HOME BIBLE STUDY WITHOUT BIBLE STUDY MATERIALS

- by Thomas Wade Akins

The key to studying God's Word is the Holy Spirit. Jesus said in John 16:12-14, **"But when He, the Spirit of Truth, comes, He will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on His own; He will speak only what He hears, and He will tell you what is yet to come. He will bring glory to me by taking what is mine and making it**

known to you.” Jesus is truth, and the Holy Spirit is the one who reveals truth in your heart.

Have you ever been reading the Bible and suddenly a verse of Scripture just suddenly is illuminated in your heart and the Holy Spirit speaks a truth to you? This has happened to me on many occasions. Once I was walking through some very difficult and hard times. I was in a pit of almost total darkness. Yet, at the bottom of the pit was light—the light of Jesus. I began reading the Word to get a word from God. I began to read Isaiah, and I as read chapter 43 God’s Holy Spirit suddenly illuminated deep within my soul verse two which says, **“when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you, When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned”**. When God spoke this truth into my heart a great peace flooded my soul. I still had to walk through many dark days of trial by fire but I knew I would not get burned because God had spoken to me personally His truth.

It is important for the leader to remember that he is NOT teaching the Bible study but leading it. He is leading in a way that requires the participants to participate. He does not read the verse but asked someone in the group to read it. He does not tell them what truths are in the verse, but he asks questions to help the group to discover the truths. He does not apply the verse for them but asked them to give their ideas on how to personalize and apply the verse. As we lead a group in Bible study, our objective is to hear God speak truth through His word. I would like to suggest the following steps:

Step 1: The leader of the group will select a passage to be studied. He can begin with verse one of a book and study every verse of every chapter. For example, you can begin with the Gospel of John, chapter one, verse one.

Step 2: The leader will ask someone in the group to read the first verse.

Step 3: The leader will reread the verse using modern and simple language. In other words he will paraphrase the verse. He will read the verse in a very simple form.

Step 4: After reading the verse, the leader then will ask questions to search for spiritual truths in the verse. Ask these type of questions: who, what, when, where, why, and how.

Ask these types of questions:

1. What does this verse say about God?
2. What does this verse say about Jesus?
3. What does this verse say about sin?
4. What does this verse say about obedience?
5. What does this verse say about me?
6. What spiritual truth or truths are in this verse?

Step 5: The leader then should show the group other passages or verses in the Bible that relate to the truths discovered in this verse. In other words, show the group other passages in the Bible that will illustrate and illuminate the truth in the verse.

Step 6: The leader then should apply the verse. Make the verse personal by placing your name in the verse and by placing personal pronouns in the verse. Discuss each truth in a personal manner and apply it to each person in the group. Ask this question to each person: how does the truth in this verse apply to you? What is this verse saying to you personally and allow each person in your group to respond.

Step 7: After following this procedure with verse one, continue to verse two and use this method to study every verse in the entire book, verse by verse.

Step 8: At the end of the study, lead the group in prayer and pray about the spiritual truths discovered in the passage studied.

EXAMPLE

Step 1: Select the book or passage. For our purpose we will select the Gospel of John.

Step 2: Ask someone in the group to read the first verse. John 1:1, **“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God”**.

Step 3: Paraphrase the verse. This verse is saying that in the beginning was the Creator, and he was both with God and was God.

Step 4: Questions:

1. What does this verse say about God? He is from the beginning. He is the beginning. He is the Word.
2. What does this verse say about Jesus? If you read verse 14 you will see that the Word is Jesus. Therefore, Jesus Christ is God.

Step 5: Read other related verses. John 1:14 says, **“The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.”**

Ask as many questions you can think of and let the group answer them—not the leader.

1. Who became flesh? Jesus
2. Who dwelt among us? Jesus
3. Who saw his glory? John, the person who wrote this book.
4. What did John see in Jesus? His glory.
5. What does “his glory” mean? It means that he was exalted and honored.
6. What else did John see in Jesus? He came from the Father.
7. What else did John see in Jesus? He was full of grace.
8. What is grace? Grace is God doing things for us that we do not deserve. Jesus is grace.
9. What is truth? Truth is the opposite of a lie. Jesus is full of truth in who He is and in everything He said.

Step 6: Apply the verse. What does this verse teach us? What **spiritual truths** are in this verse? Make them personal. The leader should allow the group to respond.

Some truths in the verse:

1. God is in the beginning.
2. He had no beginning and no end.
3. He is eternal.
4. Jesus is God.
5. Jesus is the Creator of the World.
6. Jesus created me (making it personal).
7. Jesus is full of grace and truth. Jesus gave me what I do not deserve.
Jesus teaches me what is true. (Remember to use personal pronouns.)

Step 7: Read the next verse and use this same procedure. Continue this procedure through the entire book week after week after week. After you finish John, then select another book and use the same procedure.

Step 8: Close in prayer but pray about the spiritual truths God revealed to you and the group through the passage studied.

IX. The Pioneer Evangelist and How to Lead the Good News Bible Studies

IMPORTANT: It is very important that you understand about the materials used in this ministry and the references to them used in this training manual. We are repeating this notice for a second time so there will not be any confusion. Any good evangelistic follow-up and discipleship material will work. The person presenting the gospel and doing the follow-up work is more important than the materials. When this program was developed in Brazil, the following materials were used:

- Gospel Tract: *How to Have Eternal Life* by Wade Akins.
- Basic Evangelistic Bible Studies: *Gospel of John Bible Studies* by Dr. Waylon Moore.
- Simplified Evangelistic Studies: *New Life* by Wade Akins. For people who are not good readers. These studies have the same information as the gospel tract above, but have been divided into seven lessons.

- Basic Evangelistic Bible Stories: *The Good News of Jesus* by Christy A. Brawner
- Immediate Follow-up Sheet: *Six Truths for New Converts* by Wade Akins. To be done within 48 hours after the person's conversion.
- Discipleship Bible Studies: You will need to select discipleship study material which will allow the new believers to learn about basic doctrines of Christianity such as baptism, tithing, Christian growth, and the like. This type of material is used to support and encourage new believers to mature in Christ. The storying material, *Beginning a New Life in Christ* by Christy A. Brawner, is included in this book.

As you study through this manual you will note references to these materials. However, you can use other materials if you desire. For the purpose of this training we make reference to the "How to Have Eternal Life" gospel tract. Other examples of the same type of material are The "Four Spiritual Laws", by Campus Crusade for Christ; and "Steps to Peace With God", by Billy Graham. You may use the gospel tract of your choice every time you see a reference to the one provided in this book. The same principle is applicable to any of the other materials listed above.

Charles Brock, missionary in the Philippines and author of this method suggests the following steps:

1. The First Meeting

- A. The Pioneer should take the following to the meeting:
 - a. The New Testament
 - b. A pen
 - c. sheet of paper
 - d. A sheet of choruses that relate to the study
 - e. The track "How to Have Eternal Life", "Good News" studies, "Good News" stories or whatever study material he plans to use.
- B. The pioneer should present himself and emphasize that he is a Bible study leader.

- C. The pioneer should ask everyone to sign his or her name on a piece of paper, along with his or her age and birth date. Explain to the people that this list is for you to pray for each member of the group, also explain that at the next meeting you will bring a Gospel of John for every member of the group. This list should be put in the “daily” section of your prayer notebook.
- D. The pioneer should then introduce several choruses, and ask them if they would like to learn them. Let the group decide. If they choose to sing the songs, teach them one or two good choruses.
- E. The pioneer should choose one of the choruses as a theme chorus.
- F. The pioneer should ask the group members of any specific needs or prayer request in their lives. Then pray with them for these request and make a commitment to pray for these request throughout the week.
- G. The pioneer should give each person an evangelistic track. This is for them to read at home.
- H. Only spend one hour for each meeting; after one hour it may be best to leave and go to another scheduled location.

2. The Second Meeting

- A. The pioneer should bring the following:
 - a. A Bible
 - b. Copies of the Gospel of John (take the number you think that will need)
 - c. The “Good News” studies or “Good News” stories.
 - d. A sheet of songs
 - e. The track “HOW TO HAVE ETERNAL LIFE”, or any other evangelistic tract

If you have twenty to fifty people attend your second meeting; you normally can expect half this number to continue through until the very end. If the seven “Gospel of John Bible Studies”

lessons are taught to twenty people, this is enough to start a church.

The second meeting will require more patience on the part of the pioneer than will any other meeting. A lot of patience is required with those who know nothing about the Bible. The pioneer must show every single member of the group how to find chapters and verses in his Bible.

B. The Order of the Program

- a. Sing three songs
- b. Sing the theme song
- c. Collect the song sheets
- d. Distribute the Good News Studies lesson. (only give out the first lesson)
- e. Distribute the gospel of John if you are using the John series. This will not be necessary if you are using the Storying material.
- f. Study the lesson using the indirect method if you are using the John series.
- g. At the end ask the question, "Does anyone have any questions?" If there are no questions, close the meeting with a prayer.
- h. Close with a time of intercessory prayer.

3. The Sixth and Seventh Meetings

The sixth lesson of the "Good News" studies has an invitation (if you use the Storying lessons the invitation is in the seventh lesson.). The leader may also use the tract "How to Have Eternal Life" or any other appropriate material to explain the gospel and invite the members of the group to accept Jesus as their Lord if he needs to.

After the final lesson it will be time for the group to make a decision. The pioneer should ask if they wish to continue studying together. If the answer is "yes" he should recommend the Follow-up material. A great change will occur at this point. The pioneer should suggest that all groups meet in one place if possible.

For all those who made a decision to give their lives to Christ, the

pioneer will lead them in the “Six Truths for New Converts” study. This study can be done in the individual groups or in the first meeting once all the groups are meeting together in one place.

X. The Pioneer Evangelist and How to Lead the Follow-Up Bible Studies

1. A Decisive Point

The pioneer has arrived at a very decisive point. He will now begin a meeting with all of the people who have finished the Good News Studies. At this point he should do two things:

- A. Start the study of the Follow-up material.
- B. Begin four to six more groups using the Good News Studies series with new prospects. The pioneer should lead the Follow-up material using the indirect method. The pioneer can use any material he desires but we recommend using the Storying material: *Beginning a New Life*.
- C. If the pioneer has not taught the SIX TRUTHS FOR THE NEW CONVERT by Pastor Thomas Akins in the eighth meeting he should do this before starting the Follow-up material.

2. The Third Week

This is one more decisive week. The pioneer should let the group choose a local leader who will lead the discussion for the following week. The pioneer should not try to choose the leader for the group but make himself available to give guidance in order to avoid doctrinal error.

3. The Fourth and Fifth Weeks

The local leader will lead the study and the pioneer, without interrupting, will only be a listener. The local leader will continue to lead the studies in place of the pioneer.

4. The Sixth Week

This week the pioneer should find a reason why he can not attend the meeting, but he must explain that the meeting must go on anyway.

XI. AN INTRODUCTION TO BIBLE STORYING

By: J.O. Terry

Bible Storying, What is it? —Bible storying is the intentional use of Bible stories for the purposes of evangelism, church planting, discipleship, leadership training, and ministry. Bible storying is distinguished from other forms of Bible teaching by its reliance upon the preserved biblical narrative or story. Bible storying is often used with various forms of instructional teaching including exposition, inductive sessions and simple application to today's life.

The Bible is 60-70% narrative format in content. It contains *explicit stories* which are those that are well defined and located in one or more references as a story. Examples of this are the stories of Adam and Eve, Cain and Abel, the Flood, Abraham's offering of Isaac and many others. In fact there are several hundred stories of which some are very long covering several chapters of the Bible and others are very short complete in only a few verses.

There are *implied stories* in which all the details are included in the Bible but not in one place or not written as a story. The creation of the Spirit World is one such story if you accept the accounts in Ezekiel 28 and Isaiah 14 as referring to Satan's first estate and subsequent fall. In Psalm 148:2, 5 plus a number of other references there begins to emerge a story of the creation of the spirits, which we know as angels, and those that became demons. There are other stories related to Paul's letters in the Epistles as Paul addressed the issues such as the young man's sin in the Corinthian church, improper observance of the Lord's Supper and the straying of the Galatians due to false teachers.

Many of the stories were told as stories by Jesus or are the stories of what Jesus did as he taught, healed, forgave sin, brought peace, and fed hungry people. Jesus began to teach in parables because of the opposi-

tion of the religious leaders (see Matthew 13:10-13 and Mark 4:1-2, 33-34). Later Jesus did explain to his disciples the meaning of the stories he told the public.

Why use stories? —There are several reasons why Bible stories should be used even though other forms of witness and discipling presentations could be used.

1. Many of the unreached peoples of the world live in *oral cultures* where people share news *orally*, learn new things *orally*, and teach others *orally*. In these cultures stories are utilized as a form in which the important things may be easily remembered in the stories. Oral culture people prefer stories as their medium of instruction even if they could learn by other means. They often describe people by telling stories about them. One way to teach about God is to tell stories about God and His work. The stories may be told and retold by those who hear them.

2. Many prefer oral culture because they cannot read and write. While some in the culture may read and write, others, typically older adults, cannot read or write at all. Even the readers may be handicapped in what they can read and understand. Overcoming the literacy barrier then is one powerful reason to use stories to inform and instruct a people.

In some instances the Bible may be available in the regional market language that is used for trade and travel but not in the spoken heart language of the people. This means that many religious vocabulary words are not known or not commonly used by the people.

3. Stories are used in a Bible storying strategy for evangelism particularly because either of resistance to traditional evangelistic presentations or outright hostility to the Gospel. There is no intent to trick the listeners into hearing what they do not want to hear. But if the Bible stories are entertaining to them and they are attentive to hearing them, the Holy Spirit can use what the people are hearing to convict them of sin and need for a Savior.

Another reason for using Bible storying is that of giving the people an *Oral Bible*. What is an oral Bible? It is a Bible in stories, proverbs and memory verses that the people can remember and retell to others. It becomes a living Bible in their hearts. Incidentally, we all have an oral Bible of sorts in our hearts as we can recall a significant amount of the Bible orally from the stories we have heard as children, sermons we have heard and our own Bible reading and study.

What forms of Bible storying are used?

The most common form we are all familiar with is the *topical story*, which is usually related to a Bible lesson topic. Topical stories are often used to instruct and disciple and are a good way to give corrective teaching as several story lessons are brought to bear upon an issue. Topical stories work best with people who already are familiar with the stories and where there is general acceptance of the Bible and its teaching as being relevant to their lives. One of the disadvantages of topical teaching is that, unless several stories and lessons are used, the stories may be reinterpreted or restructured negatively to support an erroneous view. In stories that dealt exclusively with God's judgment upon a sinful people it could give the impression that God is an angry God that looks for opportunity to destroy people. These stories would need to be balanced with stories that explored the grace of God in providing an escape from the punishment of sin if the sinner would believe him and do what God told them to do. Topical stories are best used for discipling and training leadership.

Chronologically arranged stories are those that are used in a timeline chronology so that each story leads into the following story or in some way prepare for the following stories. When the New Tribes missionaries were popularizing chronological teaching it was basically a chronological teaching by exposition. That is, they taught through the Bible *story* following a chronological timeline and used the method that most Western trained missionaries would use—exposition verse by verse giving interpretation of what the Bible taught, but making no effort to preserve the Bible stories as *narratives*. This doesn't mean what they did was wrong, it just has certain limits and may not be as field reproducible as oral culture methods involving