Eternal Life in Christ

Lesson One

BAD NEWS / GOOD NEWS!

Welcome to the Eternal Life in Christ Bible Studies! This series of home Bible studies is designed to help you to know Who God is . . . and to help you to know Him personally.

God has a special message for you and me and His message has been recorded in the Bible, the Word of God. God loves you and wants you to have his *gift* of EVERLASTING LIFE!

> *"But these are written, **that ye might believe** that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; **and that believing ye might have life through His Name."** John 20:31*

WHY was the Bible written?

You may be wondering .. . **"What's so special about the Bible?"** Why bother to study the Scriptures? Let's let the Bible speak for itself as you begin a new adventure in hearing the Word of God speak to your heart! **ENJOY!**

The Bible is more than a normal book - the Bible is INSPIRED by God!

Why study the Bible?

The Bible claims to be INSPIRED by God. "Inspiration" means "God breathed" (kind of like a window fan moving without being plugged in because of a breeze blowing through the window). God moved in such a way that men wrote down God's thoughts . . . God's Word!

1. **Use your own Bible or the verses in the right column to fill in the missing words for the following Bible passages:**

> *" . . . no prophecy of the Scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not at any time by the will of man, but **holy men of God** _____ **as they were** _____ **by the Holy Spirit."** 2 Peter 1:20-21*

> ***"All Scripture is given by** _____ **of God** and is _____ for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness." 2 Timothy 3:16*

*"Know this first, that no prophecy of the Scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not at any time by the will of man, but **holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit."***
1 Peter 1:20-21

***"All scripture is given by inspiration of God**, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness."*
2 Timothy 3:16

2. Bible teacher Warren Wiersbe suggests that "doctrine" tells us what is **RIGHT**, "reproof" tells us what is **NOT RIGHT**, "correction" tells us how to **GET RIGHT**, and "instruction" tells us how to **STAY RIGHT**! The Bible is truly *"profitable"* and you will not be disappointed in studying it! *(1 Tim. 3:16)*

"Doctrine" tells us what is _____.
"Reproof" tells us what is _____ _____.
"Correction" tells us how to _____ _____.
"Instruction" tells us how to _____ _____!

"But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God; for they are foolishness unto him, neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned."
1 Corinthians 2:14

Spiritual truth is never just "discovered" - it is REVEALED by the Spirit of God. God Himself is our teacher!

3. Spiritual truth is never just "_____" - it is _____ by the Spirit of God!

*"But the Comforter, Who is the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My Name, **He shall teach you all things,** and bring all things to your remembrance, whatever I have said unto you."*
John 14:26

4. Just as the Holy Spirit of God *inspired* the writing of all the Scriptures, He is the One Who must _____ us all truth. Without His guidance, we could never understand the Bible. *(John 14:26)*

" . . . when He, the Spirit of Truth, is come, He will _____ you into all truth; for He shall not speak of Himself, but whatever He shall hear, that shall He speak; and He will _____ _____ things to come."
John 16:13

*" . . . when He, the Spirit of Truth is come, **He will guide you into all truth,** for He shall not speak of Himself, but whatever He shall hear that shall He speak; **and He will show you things to come."***
John 16:13

Because the Bible is a spiritual book taught by the Spirit of God, I find it a good practice to PRAY and ask the Lord to teach me and guide me into all truth. Before you read or study God's Word, just ask the Lord to be your teacher and guide!

5. According to John 20:31, **WHY was the Bible written?** So that I may _____ that Jesus Christ is the Son of God and thereby have _____ through His Name.

*"But these are written, **that ye might believe** that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and **that believing ye might have life** through His Name."*
John 20:31

6. **Circle the right answer below:** According to 1 John 5:13, the person who BELIEVES on the Name of the Son of God should . . .
   a) HOPE he (she) has eternal life
   b) NEVER KNOW for sure that he has eternal life
   c) KNOW that he has eternal life
   d) WORRY about where he will go after he dies

*"These things have I written unto you that believe on the Name of the Son of God, **that ye may KNOW** that ye have eternal life . . . "*
1 John 5:13

BAD NEWS: God created man to have eternal life and to walk with Him in perfect fellowship. Adam apparently spoke with the LORD face to face . . . but then **something terrible happened . . .**

7. What did God say would happen to man if he sinned or rebelled?
Read Genesis 2:17

*"And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat; But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it; for in the day that thou eatest thereof **thou shalt surely die."** Genesis 2:16-17*

God warned man that he would _____ if he ate of the forbidden fruit.

The day that man sinned, he began to die *physically*. He also died *spiritually*. Adams' fellowship with God was broken and he hid from God *(Genesis 3:8).* Mankind is still separated from God until each person is born spiritually into His Kingdom!

Later, Adams' oldest son Cain would murder his younger brother . . . all because of the curse of sin and death! Can you imagine the sorrow that sin brought upon all mankind? Adam and Eve set in motion this terrible curse upon all men as we read in *Romans 5:12 (Romans chapter 5 and verse 12) -*

*"Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin, **and so death passed upon all men, for all have sinned."***
Romans 5:12

8. ***"_____ passed upon all men for all have _____"***

9. Which of the following was the result of sin?
   a) life
   b) death

10. WHO has been guilty of sin according to this verse?
"_____ have sinned".

***"For the wages of sin is DEATH** but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."*
Romans 6:23

11. Romans 6:23 tells us that the *"wages of _____ is death . . . "*

The greatest tragedy of sin and death is that man will spend *eternity* apart from God if he dies and has never been set free from that curse.

This is indeed **BAD NEWS** but the message of the Bible also brings hope and **GOOD NEWS!**

GOOD NEWS!

12. What is the good news of Romans 6:23? _____
_____
_____

*"For the wages of sin is death but **THE GIFT OF GOD IS ETERNAL LIFE** through Jesus Christ our Lord." Romans 6:23*

There is a great difference between a *wage* and a *gift*. A wage is an earning . . . something we receive for the work we do. A gift is just the opposite. A gift is something we receive *free* . . . it is the result of the work that another person does and *gives* to us . . . no strings attached!

13. How would you describe a wage? _____

14. **Circle the right answer:** Is a wage something you ***earn*** or something that is ***free*?**

15. How would you describe a gift? _____
_____

Is a gift something you *earn* or something that is *free*?

16. According to *Romans 6:23*, what is the *gift* of God? _____
_____

*"For the wages of sin is death but **the gift of God is ETERNAL LIFE** through Jesus Christ our Lord."*
Romans 6:23

THE GIFT OF GOD IS ETERNAL LIFE! Because God loves us, He was willing to pay *"the wages of sin"* which is death. How did He pay for the gift of eternal life according to *Romans 5:8?* ***"God showed His love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners,*** _____ _____ _____ _____***."***

*"But God showed His love toward us in that **while we were yet sinners, CHRIST DIED FOR US."***
Romans 5:8

When Jesus died upon the cross, He was NOT murdered . . . nor was He a mere martyr. He died as a sacrifice of love for all mankind! The Bible tells us that Jesus Himself is God, the eternal Creator *(see John 1:1-3)*.

Imagine! The Creator dying so we could live!

Such love is hard to comprehend isn't it!

"In the beginning was the word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by Him; and without Him was not anything made that was made."
John 1:1-3

17. Read John 3:16. WHY did God send His Son into this world? ____
_____
_____

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."
John 3:16

18. Ephesians 2:8-9 tells us - *"For by* _____ *are ye saved through* _____*, and that not of yourselves, it is the* _____ *of God."*

*"For by grace are you save through faith and that not of yourselves, **it is the gift of God** - not of works lest any man should boast."*
Ephesians 2:8-9

Note: **A gift is only good if you receive it.** God's gift of eternal life must also be received . . . just like you would receive a gift from a special friend.

By a simple act of prayer and faith, you can admit to God that you are a sinner and ask Him to be your Savior and Lord. We hope you will do that right now!

"For what does it profit a man if he gains the whole world and loses his own soul?"
Matthew 16:26

Have you prayed and asked Christ to save you from your sins?
_____ Yes _____ Not Yet

If you have any questions you can get help by calling (303) 322-0942 or by e-mail **PastorChk@aol.com**

When you are finished with Lesson 1, you can FAX your answer sheet to (303) 322-0942 or send it to Chuck Anderson, 407 S. Holly Street, Denver, CO 80246 80918. **You can also return this lesson by email to PastorChk@aol.com**
Lesson #2 will be sent at your request.