

UNCOVERED

TEACHER'S HANDBOOK



- A BIBLE STUDY COURSE -

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LESSON 11

LIFESTYLE OF A BELIEVER

PRACTICES OF THE CHURCH
PURSUING HOLINESS
SPIRITUAL WARFARE
SPIRITUAL GIFTS
PRAISE AND WORSHIP

CHART 1 - PRACTICES OF THE CHURCH

Once a person is born again of the water and the Spirit, the Holy Spirit will begin to transform every area of that person's life. When looking at the resulting transformation of the newly born again believers on the Day of Pentecost, we see an example set for believers of future generations.

» **READ: Acts 2:41-47**

Acts 2:42 And they continued steadfastly in...

- » The Apostles' Doctrine (Biblical teaching of church leadership)
- » Fellowship (Associate with fellow Christ followers)
- » Breaking of Bread (Lord's Supper/Communion)
- » Prayers (Corporate and private communication with God)
- » Fear (Reverence for the things of God)
- » All Things in Common (Those who had excess gave to those in need)

Nothing the early believers practiced should be overlooked by us. We are a part of the same New Testament church that they were. Each one of the components listed in these verses plays a vital role in our growth as believers.

SIDE NOTE: *Notice that this pattern is impossible to follow if we do not become a part of a local assembly. The local church is absolutely essential in order for spiritual maturity to occur in the life of a born again believer.*

- » Hebrews 10:25 "...not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together..."

CHART 2 - PURSUING HOLINESS

When a brand new baby is born into the world, that baby is expected to mature and grow as time progresses. The same can be said for a spiritual birth. When we are initially born again, we are babes in Christ. However, we are meant to develop and grow into mature disciples of Jesus.

This process of maturity occurs as the Holy Spirit within us leads us into a lifestyle of holiness.

- » Isaiah 35:8 “A highway shall be there (*leading into heaven*)...and it shall be called the Highway of Holiness. The unclean shall not pass over it...”
- » Hebrews 12:14 “Pursue peace with all people, and holiness; without which no one will see the Lord.”

To live a life of holiness means to separate ourselves from our past sins and draw close to God. Holiness is a process that affects every area of our lives, beginning inwardly and eventually flowing outwardly.

Having Pure Thoughts

- » Philippians 4:8 “...whatever things are pure...meditate on these things.”

Using Pure Language

- » Colossians 3:8 “...put off all...filthy language out of your mouth.”

Staying Away from Ungodly Influences

- » 1 Corinthians 15:33 “...Evil company corrupts good habits.”

Taking Care of Your Body

- » 1 Corinthians 6:19 “...your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit...”

Finding Enjoyment in Obeying Jesus

- » 1 John 5:3 “For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome.”

CHART 3 - SPIRITUAL WARFARE

Although our past sins have been forgiven, that does not mean things will be smooth sailing for the rest of our life. We are told in Scripture that we are engaged in a war.

» **READ: 2 Corinthians 10:3**

We are not fighting against other people, but against the forces of darkness. We are engaged in a spiritual battle against addiction, lust, hatred, sexual immorality, pride, materialism, and other sins that keep us from being like Jesus.

READ: 2 Corinthians 10:4-5

Q. *How do we, as human beings, fight a spiritual war?*

A. *READ: Ephesians 6:11-18*

The Armor of God

- » Belt of Truth - holds all armor in place (We are to know sound biblical truth for the foundation of our faith.)
- » Breastplate of Righteousness - protects the most vital organs including the heart and lungs (We are to make right choices in life to protect our heart from the guilt of sin.)
- » Shoes of the Gospel - represent someone who is ready to travel (We should bring the gospel with us everywhere we go.)
- » Shield of Faith - held out in front of a soldier to protect them from any shots from the enemy (We are to live by faith and let God go in front of us.)
- » Helmet of Salvation - protects the soldier's head (We are to think on the things of God to keep ungodly thoughts far from us.)
- » Sword of the Spirit - the only offensive weapon (We are to use the words of the Bible to fight against the enemy.)
- » Prayer - the activator of the armor of God (We are to pray that God clothes us in His armor and goes before us into battle against the spirits of darkness.)

CHART 4 - SPIRITUAL GIFTS

Believers who have been filled with the Holy Spirit also have the privilege of experiencing God using them in supernatural ways. Any time a Spirit-filled believer is yielding themselves to God and walking by faith, God can use them to accomplish His will in this world.

In 1 Corinthians chapter 12, the Apostle Paul listed nine different ways that the Holy Spirit can use a person to bring glory to God.

» **READ: 1 Corinthians 12:4-11**

Spiritual Gifts

- » Word of Wisdom - divine counsel concerning people, things, or events
- » Word of Knowledge - revelation of a fact concerning people, things, events, or places
- » Faith - receiving a special measure of faith that exceeds the previously received measure given to believe the gospel
- » Gifts of Healings - the ability to pray for the mentally, physically, spiritually sick and witness restoration
- » Working of Miracles - the ability to be used in an instant supernatural occurrence as a result of prayer or a spoken word
- » Prophecy - a divinely spoken word pertaining to future events or a current situation
- » Discerning of Spirits - the ability to decipher between the Spirit of God and ungodly spirits
- » Different Kinds of Tongues - the ability to speak in previously unknown languages for personal or church edification
- » Interpretation of Tongues - the ability to interpret a message spoken in a previously unknown language

CHART 5 - PRAISE AND WORSHIP

Our praise and worship to God, both in private and in public, are essential components to our growth as born again believers. To praise and worship God is to immediately bring His presence into our situation.

God is Spirit. That means that He is invisible to us. When we begin to speak about the good things of God (praise), or we sing, clap our hands, lift our hands, dance, or kneel to Him (worship), we attract His presence and can feel Him moving around us and through us.

- » Psalm 22:3 “But You are holy, enthroned in the praises of Israel.”
- » Psalm 100:2-4 “Come before His presence with singing...Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise.”

These verses tell us that if we want God to come to us and move in our life, all we have to do is praise and worship Him and He will come.

SIDE NOTE: *When dealing with addiction, stress, worry, anger, temptation, etc. the solution is to simply praise and worship God. Thank God aloud for the blessings He’s given to you. Turn on some worship music and sing along to the Lord. Lift your hands and ask God to come into your situation and He will.*

- » 1 Timothy 2:8 “...pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands...”
- » Ephesians 5:19 “speaking to one another in...spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord.”
- » Psalm 47:1 “Oh clap your hands, all you peoples! Shout to God...”

Life as a born again believer is all about allowing the Spirit of God to lead you and fill your life. Every day. All the time.

- » 2 Timothy 1:6 “Therefore I remind you to stir up the gift of God which is in you.”