

Foundation School Documents all

MS 101 NEW CREATION

1. 1.0 INTRODUCTION

The new creation seeks to examine by reason of divine revelation, the nature and life of the man in Christ and the effect of the regenerative power of Christ in his spirit, soul and body. The new creation outline will basically examine the totality of the new creation, which is composed of three major sections:

- 1 The life of the regenerated human spirit.
- 2 The soul and the renewal of the mind.
- 3 The body and its discipline (subjection)

1. 1.1.0 THE NEW CREATION

The new creation is the born again man, created in Christ Jesus. 2 Corinthians 5:17 says “therefore ***if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: Old things are passed away; behold all things are become new.*** This scripture shows that the new creation is not the “reformed”. He never existed; he has a new life in the spirit, created in Christ Jesus. Ephesians 2:10 says, “*For we are his workmanship, **created in Christ Jesus unto good works...***” This goes further to show that the new creation life begins the moment he comes into Christ, because there are no traces of his past. For the new creation, being in Christ Jesus is the first right choice to life, as traditions of men, and other primordial considerations such as tribe, colour, wealth and age do not count Galatians 6:15.

1. 1.2.0 BORN OF GOD

The new creation is born of God. When God gave birth, He gave birth to us, because we believed in Him, we received his divine nature into our spirits. We were given birth to through His word. According to John 1:12-13, the natural man is born of blood, of the will of the flesh and of the will of man unto a perishable life. But the new creation is born of God. 1 Peter 1:23 says, “*being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever*”.

1. 1.3.0 SALVATION BY GRACE

The new creation did not get saved by his own accord or power. The new creation got saved because Jesus paid the price for his sins. The new creation is saved by grace, Ephesians 2:2-9 says that we are saved by grace through faith and not of any man's good works; it is the gift of God. (Rom. 5:17). Grace, which is an unmerited favour, is a divine act that translates one from the kingdom of darkness into the kingdom of His marvelous light.

1. 1.4.0 MAN

Man is a spirit; he has a soul and lives in a body. (1 Thessalonians 5:23, Hebrews 4:12; Job 4:19, Job 10:11). These scriptures confirm that man is a spirit; he has a soul and lives in a body.

1. 1.4.1 THE SPIRIT MAN

The spirit man is that 'being' that communes with and responds to God by the agency of the Holy Spirit. The spirit gives life to the body and could have dominion over the soul and body. The spirit of man is ageless, and has a voice, which is his conscience.

1. 1.4.2 THE SPIRIT MAN GOT SAVED

Therefore, if any man (spirit) be in Christ, he is a new creature, old things have passed away, behold all things are become new. The human spirit is created a new in Christ Jesus (2 Corinthians 5:17; 1Corinthians 6:17).

1. 1.4.3 HE LIVES IN THE WORD OF GOD

The new creation lives on the word of God. The word is the meal for the spirit wherein it derives its nourishment to grow and attain fullness in Christ (1 Peter 2:2; Matthew 4:4; Heb. 5:12-14)

1. 1.5.0 THE FRUIT OF THE CREATED HUMAN SPIRIT IN CHRIST

The new creation has the nature of God imparted into his spirit. Hence the new creation has the character of God in him that he exhibits as the fruit of the recreated spirit: love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, and temperance (Galatians 5:22)

1. 1.6.0 THE SOUL OF MAN

The soul houses the mind, the emotion and the intellect or the will.

1. 1. The mind (Luke 9:47) is the part of the soul that thinks. A man's thought is as powerful as his action and word and therefore can control your body and affect its discipline.
2. 2. The will is the part of the soul that makes decision.
3. 3. The emotion of man has to do with his feeling.

The soul is the doorway to the spirit; as such if the mind (soul) of a man is blocked, his spirit becomes inaccessible. The soul has control over the body. It is where a man carries out his reasoning and his recording system.

1. 1.7.0 THE RENEWAL OF THE MIND

The renewal of the mind is a sanctification that is continual for the new creation. Our minds need to be renewed (discard the old thoughts and intents and be filled with the knowledge of His will) that we may know the mind of Christ and Walk in His will. (Romans 12:1-3; Ephesians 4:22-24) Renewal of mind brings total transformation to the new creation.

1. 1.8.0 SANCTIFYING THE THOUGHTS

Temptation does not come from God, it is self contrived by reason of man's lustful thought, which gives birth to sin and death. It originates only because our thoughts gave birth to it. Hence, cleansing the thoughts keeps the right intents in the heart (James 1:13-15).

1. 1.9.0 RENEWED BY THE WORD OF GOD.

The new creation is transformed by the word, as we meditate on the word of God we become like Him and exactly what His word says we are, by the transforming power of God's word. 2 Corinthians 3:18 says, *"but we all with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord"*.

1. 1.10.0 THE BODY AND ITS DISCIPLINE

The body is the covering of the spirit man. (Job 10:11) It's with his body that a man attends to daily life issues. The body like all other perishable things that exist on earth is limited by time. The body also gives man the legal right to exist and function here on earth.

1. 1.10.1 BRINGING THE BODY UNDER SUBJECTION

Now that the new creation is alive in Christ, and has a renewed mind by the word of God, there is need to discipline (domesticate) the body. In 1 Corinthians 9:24-27; Colossians 3:5, Romans 6:13-15, Apostle Paul tells us that conscious effort has to be made by the new creation to discipline his body, that is to bring his body under subjection that he may fulfill the purpose of his life.

1. 1.11.0 ASSURANCE FOR THE NEW CREATIONS

2. a. Translated

The new creation was translated from darkness (ignorance) into light (knowledge). The new creation is conscious of the realm in which he lives. Colossians 1; 13

1. b. The Word

The word of God confirms that we are the children of God by reason of our confession and belief. (Romans 10:9-11, 1 John 5:9-13, Matthew 12:3 says, *"for by thy words thy shall be justified..."*

1. c. The witness of the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit bears witness with our spirit that we are the children (sons) of God. (Romans 8:16)

1. 1.12.0 REMISSION FOR THE UNSAVED

According to Acts 2:38; Ephesians 1:7, Matthew 26:28, the scripture says that remission (washing away of sin or blotting out of sin) is for the unregenerate i.e. the unsaved. This is necessary for them to become part of the common wealth of God's children in Christ Jesus.

1. 1.13.0 FORGIVENESS FOR THE CHRISTIAN

The Christian belongs to God and has the grace of God that ensures his citizenship of the commonwealth of God's people. When he commits sin he has an advocate with the father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the propitiation for our sins (I John 1:9-10; 1 John 2:1-3).

1. 1.14.0 HANDLING OF SIN

The new creation has power of God to live above sin by the help of the Holy Spirit that is at work in us. He also has the grace to ask for forgiveness if he does sin. However, the word of God does not encourage sin, rather it builds and strengthens the inner man (new creation) to live and enjoy a glorious life in Christ.

1. 1.15.0 CONCLUSION

The new creation is the man born anew in Christ. He could be transformed by the renewal of his mind through the word of God. And he is required to mortify and domesticate his body by doing the word of God.

1. 1.16.0 REVIEW OF THE CLASS.

The teacher should round up by asking the following questions to know how well they comprehend the lessons

1. 1. Who is a new creation?
2. 2. How does one become a new creation?
3. 3. Who is man? State and describe the various components of man as taught
4. 4. What are the things required for his total healthy living.
5. 5. How can one know that he is saved?
6. 6. How can the converted handle their mistakes?
7. 7. What is the difference between forgiveness of sin and remission of sin

1. 1.17.0 RECOMMENDED MINISTRY MATERIALS.

i. **Tapes**

The new man in Christ,

Explaining Christianity,

Growing in Word,

The new Superman

The newness of life, volume 1 & 2

The Essence of Christianity

1. ii. **Books**

Recreating your World

How to make your faith work

MS 102 WHO THE CHRISTIAN REALLY IS

1. **2.0 INTRODUCTION**

This class clearly teaches or explains whom the Christian really is in Christ Jesus. 2 Corinthians 5: 17 says, “if any man be in Christ he is a new creature”. This new creature (Christian) has the life and nature of God. The new birth means he is born of God and therefore belongs to God’s family. As new creature, he never existed before, he is a new being, which is born not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of man, but of God.

Objective

At the end of this class, the students should have a clear understanding of the following:

1. i. He is a new being that never existed
 2. ii. He belongs to the family of God.
 3. iii. He has dominion over every circumstances
 4. iv. He is seated in the place of power
- v. He can do all things through Christ
 - vi. He is complete in Him.

1. **2.1 BORN INTO GOD'S FAMILY (Colossians 1:13; Ephesians 3:15)**

Once a person accepts Jesus Christ as his Lord and saviour, he is immediately translated from the kingdom of darkness into the kingdom of God (Col 1:13). Once you've been translated into Gods kingdom you become a member of his family and all members of the family of God live in the kingdom of God. Paul speaking in Ephesians 3:14-15 makes it clear that the members of the family of God reside in heaven and on earth. As Christians we are members of the family of God resident on earth.

1. **2.2 THE NEW CREATION IS BORN OF GOD (John 1:11-14; Ephesians 4:6; Hebrews 12:9).**

John 1:11-14 puts it succinctly that once we receive Jesus by believing the gospel we are given the power to become sons of God. Not children born of blood, nor flesh, nor of the will of man but of God (1 Peter 1:23 - new living translation), for you have been born again. Your new life did not come from your earthly parents because the life they gave you will end in death, but this new life will last forever because it comes from the eternal, living word of God.

Furthermore, the bible refers to Jesus Christ in John 3:16 and John 1:14 as the only begotten Son of God. Is this true? Yes and No. Now as at that time, Jesus was the only begotten of the father but after the Pentecost when the Holy Ghost descended, Jesus seized to be the only begotten of the father but he became the first begotten of the father. Hebrews 1:6 and Hebrews 12:22-23 with emphasis on verse 23, makes this clear.

1. **2.3.0 DOMINION IN LIFE**

Dominion means rulership, control, authority, and mastership. As a Christian you have control or authority over the following:

a. The World (1 John 5:4, 1 John 4:4).

The bible refers to the devil as the god of this world (2 Corinthians 4:4). However Jesus spoiled principalities and powers (the devils) and made a show of them openly, triumphing over them in it (Colossians 2:15).

Now from the above, though the devil is the god of this world, Jesus has defeated him. The bible says in Ephesians 3:17 that Christ dwells in our heart by faith and therefore it is expressly declared in the book of 1 John 4:4 that we are of God and that greater is he (Christ) that is in us than he that is in the world. 1 John 5:4 also states that whatever is born of God overcomes the World.

b. Over life circumstances (Romans 5:17)

The Scripture above states thus: "For if by one man offence death reigned by one, much more they that receive abundance of Grace and the gift of Righteousness shall reign in life by one Jesus Christ". Through Christ obedience from the things he suffered he became the source of eternal salvation and man received the ability to reign in all circumstances.

c. Over sin (Romans 6:14)

"For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under the law but under the Grace". Now how did sin come? (Romans 7:8), "But sin taking occasion by the commandment wrought in me all manner of concupiscence, for without the law sin was dead". So sin came through the law but Jesus speaking in Matthew 5:17 said, "think not that I am come to destroy the law or the prophets, I am come not to destroy but to fulfill". In John 19:30, "when Jesus had therefore received the vinegar, he said it is finished ---"; marking the fulfillment of the law. So, if any man be in Christ he has fulfilled the law and therefore is not under the law; and as a result of this, sin is dead to him or he is dead to sin.

1. **2.4 GOD'S REASONS FOR SALVATION (Gen 12:1-2; Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 1:8)**

In Genesis 12:1-2, "Now the Lord had said unto Abram get thee out of thy country and from thy kindred and from thy father's house unto a land that I will show thee: And I will make thee a great nation and I will bless thee and make thy name great and shall be a blessing".

The call of Abram can be likened to our translation from the kingdom of darkness into God's kingdom. Abram was told to leave his country and kindred where there was idol worship unto a place where God alone is to be worshiped. God also promised to bless Abraham and make his name great and we through Christ have received this promise for the bible says in Genesis 13:16, Now to Abraham and his seed was the promise made, he did not say to 'his seeds' as of many but as of one, to thy seed which is Christ.

To be blessed is to be empowered to prosper in all things: health, wealth, relationships or friendship etc. Also from Genesis 12:3, God said that through thee shall all the families of the earth be blessed. Acts 1:8, Matthew 28:18-20 and Mark 16:5-20 commissions us to bless the families of the earth by preaching the Gospel.

We are saved for the following reasons, amongst others:

1. a. that we may prosper 3 John 2
2. b. that we may be a source of blessing to all
3. c. that we may escape the destruction that is to come, etc.

1. **2.5 WHAT IS TRUTH (2 Corinthians 5:7; John 17:17)**

John 17:17 makes us know that the word of God is truth. Sight is anything we can perceive with our physical senses i.e. smell, touch, sight, hear, and taste.

Sight and truth may not always agree e.g. a Christian may have all the symptoms of malaria but in truth he has been healed by the stripes of our Lord Jesus (Isaiah 53:5). Jonah speaking in Jonah 2:8 said, "they that observe lying vanities forsake their own mercy". Lying vanities here refers to things that can be seen, perceived, smelt and touched etc, but don't align with God's Word (the truth). However it is also possible for the sight to align with Gods word e.g. a Christian full of health, wealth and wisdom.

1. 2.6.0 WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A CHRISTIAN

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. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.

(Romans 10:9-10)

Nobody can be born again until the proclamation of the Lordship of Jesus. That's where salvation comes from. To become a Christian, you have to proclaim the Lordship of Jesus over your life.

Confessing the Lordship of Jesus Christ is so vital because that is what gives Him the right over your life. Until you confess Jesus as Lord of your life, you are a rebel and that is the reason He has the right to cast such a person into the lake of fire. But thank God we are not rebels because we have accepted and confessed His Lordship over our lives. This is what being a Christian signifies. When you give your heart to Christ and say Jesus is Lord of your life, it means that you have given Jesus the authority over your life and he has become your shepherd, your Jehovah, your bread provider who takes care of you! It doesn't stop there. It also means that He has given you His life and made you a joint-heir with Him and a partaker of His divine nature.

This is what it means to be a Christian, and this is why you must preach the gospel so that others can proclaim Jesus as Lord and receive the glorious life that is in Him.

a. Over the earth

Christ came to give life to man, to recreate man and give him the dominion that he lost. So, as many as accept Him, accept his provision of recreation. The outward man that was formed does not get born again, he still looks the same, but inwardly he is a new creation.

b. The son of God (1 John 3:1-3; John 1:12-13; Romans 8:16-17)

The book of John 1:12-13 states clearly that we are empowered unto sonship once we receive Christ by accepting the gospel. And the Holy Spirit confirms this.

c. Citizen of Zion (Hebrews 12:22-24; Colossians 1:13; John 17:14)

The LORD loves the gates of Zion more than all the dwellings of Jacob. Glorious things are said of you, O city of God. Selah (Psalm 87:2-3)

The Church of Jesus Christ is called the city of God. The Bible refers to it as Zion, the city of the great king (Psalm 48:2). The Bible states clearly in Hebrews 12:22-23,

“But you have come to Mount Zion, to the heavenly Jerusalem, the city of the living God. You have come to thousands upon thousands of angels in joyful assembly, to the church of the firstborn, whose names are written in heaven....”

If you are born again, you are a citizen of Zion; and as a citizen of Zion, you live above sickness and disease. The Bible says, *“And the inhabitant shall not say I am sick...”* (Isaiah 33:24). The inhabitants of Zion don't fall sick because their lives don't come from blood but from the Word of God.

Also, as a citizen of Zion, you function as a king and as a priest: *“But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people”* (1Peter 2:9). You minister to God as a priest (Hebrews 8:3) and declare words of power as a king (Ecclesiastes 8:4).

God has ordained every citizen of Zion to a victorious life in the earth. Some Christians don't understand this because they think Zion refers to Heaven. No, Zion doesn't refer to Heaven. Heaven is actually a geographical location in Zion. That's why you need to understand that the gospel of Jesus Christ is not all about going to Heaven; it's about the whole kingdom of God from earth to heaven.

d. He sits in the place of power (Ephesians 1:19-20; Ephesians 2:6 &10; Matthew 28:18-19; Mark 16:16-18)

Ephesians 1:19-21 with emphasis on verse 20, "which he wrought in Christ when he raised him from the dead and set him at his own right hand in heavenly places, far above principalities and powers, might and dominion". Ephesians 2:6 says, "And has raised us up together and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus". From these, it is evident that we are seated where Christ is seated - a place of power.

1. 2.7.0 I CAN DO MENTALITY (Philippians 4: 13; Matthew 19:26; Mark11: 24)

Philippians 4:13 states " I can do all things through Christ that strengthens me". The word Christ here does not refer to Jesus but rather to the Holy Spirit (the anointing). In John 1:12-13 it is seen that we've received power to live as sons of God. 2 Peter 1:3 says " according as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertains to life and godliness through the knowledge of him that has called us unto glory and virtue".

The power to do all things has been given to us; therefore what we need to know is how to make use of this power. From the Scripture above, in order to make use or take advantage of the power, we have to grow in the Knowledge of the Word.

1. 2.8.0 THE NEW CREATION IS COMPLETE IN HIM (Colossians 2:9-19; 1 John 3:2)

Colossians 2:9-10, "for in him dwells the fullness of the Godhead bodily. And you are complete in him, which is the head of all principalities and powers".

In Christ, you cannot lack anything: as for wisdom, the bible says, "Christ has been made unto us wisdom" (1 Corinthians 1:30), as for health, the bible says, "by his stripes we were healed" (1 Peter 2:24), as for wealth the Bible says, " God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by CHRIST JESUS" (Philippians 4:19).

1. **2.9.0. CONCLUSION**

The Christian is the one who is born of God, by confessing Jesus Christ as his Lord and saviour. This process of rebirth is what is called born again.

1. **2.10.0 CLASS REVIEW**

At the end of this class, the student should be asked of their understanding of the following:

1. i. Who is a Christian?
2. ii. How is he related to God?
3. iii. How can you describe the new creation: power, dominion, and authority?
4. iv. What is God's reason for salvation?

- v. What is truth?
- vi. What is Zion and how is it related to the Christian?
- vii. What is the total relationship of the new creature with all other beings on earth (both converted and the unconverted), all the terrestrial beings.

1. **2.11.0 RECOMMENDED MINISTRY MATERIALS.**

i. Tapes

The new Superman,

Reigning in life,

You are the Light of the world

Acknowledging Every Good thing

1. ii. **Books**

Recreating your World

MS 103

YOUR RIGHTS IN CHRIST

1. **3.0 INTRODUCTION**

This class addresses one of the very important areas of our Christian lives, our rights in Christ. The good understanding of this class is very important for every Christian because, like every area of life, if you don't know what belongs to you, you cannot enjoy them. Hosea 4: 6 "My people perish for lack of knowledge" Just like the woman whom the queen gave her whole estate to in her (queen) will, continued living in penury (abject poverty) until a lawyer came to visit her and executed the will. So this class teaches you of your entitlements.

Objective

At the end of this class, the students should know the following:

1. 1. Righteousness
2. 2. Eternal life
3. 3. His right in Christ
4. 4. His inheritance in Christ
5. 5. God's address
6. 6. The word of God, as his mirror

7. 7. Operation of the senses

1. 3.1.0 WHAT IS RIGHTEOUSNESS?

Righteousness is the nature of God. It's the ability to stand in the presence of God without fear or any sense of inferiority or condemnation. Righteousness is a free gift from God.

You cannot earn it by working for it or by doing something to obtain it. It is a free gift made available to all through the substitutionary work of our Lord Jesus Christ. God's righteousness comes through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.

You cannot grow or increase in righteousness but you can grow in the consciousness of your righteousness. This helps the communication of your faith become effective and productive (Philemon 1:6).

1. 3.2.0 HOW IS RIGHTEOUSNESS OBTAINED?

It is a gift Romans 5:17, 2 Corinthians 5:21 Romans 10:1-4, 2Corinthians 4:1. We are born of God and just as a dog gives birth to a dog with its nature and attributes, God gave birth to us with his nature (righteousness) and attributes (the fruit of the spirit).

There is an erroneous belief that righteousness is the complete absence of sin but righteousness is not sinless. A man no matter how well he barks or walks on his two legs and hands cannot be called a dog. Likewise, no matter how well a monkey or a dog walks on their legs they cannot be called men. Righteousness is not based on our ability not to transgress the law (not to sin) the bible says in Galatians 2:21 " I do not frustrate the grace of God for if righteousness could come by the laws then Christ died in vain". 2 Corinthians 5:21 says, "for he has made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin, that we might be made the righteousness of God in him".

We have God's kind of life

Animals, Trees and other living things each have their own kind of life. The life span of a chicken is different from that of a mortal man. The life span of tree is different from that of

dog. Now if we are sons of God we have the same quality of life: the indestructible life of God.

1. **3.3.0 THE NEW CREATION HAS ETERNAL LIFE (John 3:16; John 5:24,2; Timothy 1:9-10; 1 John 5:11-12)**

What is Eternal life? Is it possible for a man to live forever and not see death? These are the questions we need to ponder on as we discuss Eternal life.

Eternal life is God's kind of life, an everlasting life, a life that cannot be cut short by anything like disease, sickness or death. It is not acquired after a man is dead like some people think.

1. **3.3.1 Eternal life is a gift from God**

The bible says in Romans 5:21, "That as sin hath reigned unto death even so grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ". Romans. 6:23 says, "for the wages of sin is death but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ". Eternal life is a gift of God. It is imparted into our spirit the moment we got born again. God's love for man brought about the gift of eternal life and this life is in His son Jesus (I John. 5:11-12).

1. **3.3.2 Death has been abolished**

The Bible says (2 Timothy. 1:10) Jesus Christ abolished death and hath bought life and immortality to light, through the gospel. Immortality here means "eternal life" or "everlasting life". Legally, death has no hold on the new creation. Death reigned over the fallen human race and the ordinary man had a life span of 70 years or at most 100 years span. But the recreated human spirit has an everlasting life. Jesus brought life and immortality to light through the gospel, He lets us know that in John 5:24, that he that hears His Word and believes on Him that sent Him, hath everlasting life and shall not come into condemnation but is passed from death to life. He says, "HAS PASSED not WILL PASS".

This lets us know that the moment we get born again we pass from death to life, an everlasting life, a life above sickness and death. We do not work for it, just as a newborn baby does not work for its life, we inherited God's kind of life, because we are born of Him. WE ARE BORN OF GOD. God is immortal (I Timothy. 1: 17), and Christ has brought life and immortality to us.

1. **3.4.0 YOUR RIGHTS IN CHRIST (Luke 4:18; Galatians 2:4)**

The Introductory part of the Pastor Chris' book, 'Your Rights in Christ', highlights the Liberty we have in Christ. The word Liberty as used in Luke 4:18 means to release those that were bruised. Pastor Chris postulates that the word liberty has two meanings. Liberty, as in Luke 4:18 means to set free, to release; while liberty in Galatians 5:13 and Galatians 2:4 means right, synonymous with authority, a legal right. We have freedom that empowers us with a legal right. (Rights - a just claim, authority)

In Galatians 4:7 the bible says, "Thou art no more a servant but a son." A son has right that the servants do not have. The son has unlimited access to his father but a servant does not have. The servant might not have information concerning his masters business, but the son does.

1. **3.5.0 WHAT ARE THESE RIGHTS?**

These rights can be categorized into three: the right to choose, live, and rule.

a. The right to choose (Deuteronomy 30:19; Philippians 1:21-25).

The new creation is not a programmed robot; he has the Right to choose. Christianity is not a religion were you loose your right to choose. You have the right to choose between life and death, but the unbeliever is subjected to death already, he has no right, he is under bondage. Paul tells us of his dilemma on how he was caught between two options to make a choice to die and be with Christ, or to live and fulfill the gospel. In John 5:1, the Bible records that Jesus asked the man who had been infirmed for 38 years; if he wanted to be healed (Will thou be made whole, Verse 6). Many instances have shown that many are ignorant of their rights in this life. Some say, maybe God put the sickness on me to make me humble,

but that is absolutely wrong, because His will for us is to prosper, and be in good health even as our soul prospers (3 John 2). We have the right to choose.

b. The right to live (John 11:25-26; 2Tim 1:10; 1Cor 15:26; Hebrews 11:5)

Because we have believed in Jesus Christ we have the right to live. The bible says whoever believes in him shall never die (Amplified Bible says shall never die at all). This scripture in John 11:25-26 speaks of physical death. Yes many have quoted the scripture saying and it is appointed unto man once to die and after this, the judgment (Hebrews. 9:27). From this scripture, they say every human being must die but we know that we have been crucified with Christ and therefore the life, which we now live in the flesh we live by faith of the Son of God.

Death is a choice

The Bible says in (Romans 6:9) death has no dominion over us. Death is a choice because Jesus abolished death and brought life and immortality. The question that a lot of people ask is that why do some Christians still die? The scriptures say in 1 Corinthians 15:26 the last enemy that shall be destroyed is death. Death is still in existence. It has only been abolished but not yet destroyed. Being abolished means it has no legal right upon us but except we lay down our lives, we have the right to live. A man could live without the sting of death like Enoch and Elijah, who never died physically (John 10:17-18).

c. The right to rule (Romans 5:17; Revelation 1:5; 1Peter 2:9; Eccl 8:4)

The bible says we are kings and priests and as kings we have the right to rule. To reign means to rule, to govern. We must walk with the mentality of a king, a peculiar people and a chosen generation. God has given us the divine ability to cause changes. As kings our words are powerful when we speak, we speak word of power. The bible says 'Ye are gods' (Psalms 82:6)

Exercise: Exercise your right in Christ by speaking the right words

1. **3.6.0 YOUR INHERITANCE IN CHRIST**

The new creation has an inheritance in Christ. Galatians 4:7 says, “wherefore thou art no more servants, but sons, and if sons, then heirs of God through Christ”. If heirs, then what are our inheritance? By the reason of Jesus death, a will came into effect. Our inheritances are our legal possession. No one can revoke the will that has been written about our inheritance (Hebrews 9:15). What are the things that are rightly yours? A man died in poverty because he did not know that His late father left him a huge inheritance. What are our inheritances?

1. **3.6.1 All things are yours (Ephesians 1:11; 1Cor 3:21; Psalms 11 5:16; Romans 4:13)**

Firstly, we must understand that according to scriptures we have obtained an inheritance. Colossians says giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saint in light and 1Corinthians 3:21-23 tells us that all things are ours. Everything your mind can receive is yours whether death whether life, wealth, health, Joy, houses, education all things are yours. Abraham received the promise as the heir of the world and the promise was also to his seed. Now our inheritance can be classified into general, which is all things, and then specifically into three, which are: divine health, prosperity and abundance, and deliverance.

a. **Divine health (Isaiah 53:4-5; 1Peter 2:24; 3 John2)**

God's will for us is to be in good health. In Isaiah 53:4-5 and 1Peter 2:24, God affirmed divine healing and divine health to us. Isaiah 53:4-5 was a prophecy on health for the ordinary people. The bible says in verse 5 with his stripes we are healed. By the stripes of a man they had not yet seen, or known.

Divine healing

While divine healing is for the unsaved, divine Health is for the believer (1 Peter 2:24). For we being dead to sin should live unto righteousness by whose stripes we were healed. It means, we have already been healed because the scripture has been fulfilled. Therefore, we have divine health as our inheritance. It is God's will for us to prosper and be in good health even as our souls prosper. Sin brings diseases, sickness and death. But we are

the righteousness of God and sin has no dominion over us. Health denotes freedom from sickness. It means fitness, well-being, wholeness.

b. Prosperity and abundance (3 John2; 2Corinthians 8:9; 1Timothy 6:17)

Someone said, 'I really don't want to be too rich'. But the bible says God wants us to prosper and to have in abundance. To prosper means to flourish. Poverty is a state of lack. 2 Corinthians 8:9 says, Jesus became poor so that we through his poverty might become rich. He has given us all things to enjoy (1 Timothy 6:17). God wants us to have in abundance so that we can be a blessing to others.

c. Deliverance (Colossians 1:12-13; Mark 16:17)

God has delivered us and so it is wrong for a child of God to seek deliverance. Your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit. The bible says God has translated us into the kingdom of his son. He hath delivered us from the power of darkness, (The Amplified Bible, says "...and has drawn us to himself") and hath translated us unto the kingdom of his dear son. We have the power to cast out demons, not for them to possess us.

1. 3.7.0 YOU ARE GOD'S ADDRESS (Colossians 1:27; Ephesians 2:21-22; 1 Cor 6:19)

An address is a place of residence. The new creation is God's house, His address. Acts 17:28 lets us know that, He dwells in us, and that our body is the temple of the Holy Spirit. Colossians states that Christ in us the Hope of glory

1. 3.7.1 His extension (Jeremiah 51:20-22; Acts 1:8)

Bible says we are God's extension, the extension of his manifested presence on earth. We execute justice, maintain peace through our prayers, and reshape situations. Acts 1:8 says we shall receive power when the Holy Spirit comes. That power is that dynamic ability to cause changes. (See also Psalms 149:6-9). This honour has all the saints of God.

1. 3.8.0 GOD'S MIRROR PRINCIPLE (James 1:22-25; 2 Corinthians 3:17-18)

A mirror is used to see one's image. It is a reflector; it shows the exact representation of the image before it. The bible lets us know that, God's word is His mirror and when we look into it we see our true reflection; whom God says we are. The mirror has the power to effect change in a person's life. 2 Corinthians 3:18 says, "But we all with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord are changed into the same image from glory to glory even as by the Spirit of the Lord". It does not matter how you feel or see yourself, it is what the mirror shows you that you are. James 1:22-25 talks about being doers of the Word and not a forgetful hearer. It gives us a clear picture of a man who is not a doer of the word. The bible says such a person is like a man who beholds his natural face in a glass and straight away forgets what manner of man he was. A lot of Christians forget who they are because they do not dwell on the Word.

As we read the Word we become transformed, we become changed. We become more like Jesus, Romans 8:29 says He predestinated us to be conformed to the image of His Son. Note that the Word will do nothing until you act on it. The word reveals who we really are.

1. 3.9.0 OPERATION OF THE FIVE SENSES (2 Corinthians 5:7, 2 Corinthians 4:18)

The senses include hearing, seeing, talking, smelling, and feeling. They are in the physical perception, but the Lord wants us to live by faith. Physical perception connotes carnality and the bible says they that are carnal or in the flesh cannot please God, Romans 8:6-18. But the new creation is not in the flesh but in the spirit. The bible says in 2 Corinthians 5:7 that, "we walk by faith and not by sight". You must develop or grow your faith by hearing the Word of God. Pastor Chris points out in the book 'The Oil and Mantle', that whenever a man turns his eyes to the physical, he loses sight of God and this is what happens to a lot of Christians.

Faith in Jesus Christ alone is all that we need to live the Christian life. In the last paragraph of the page 26 of the book, it further says "God has called us to live the life of faith or the walk of faith". Hebrews 11:1 says " Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, evidence of things not seen". We are not looking out to see something we believe because God has said it. 2 Corinthians 4:18 says, "While we look not at the things which are seen but at the things not seen,

for the things which are seen are temporal but the things which are not seen are eternal”.

1. **3.10.0 CONCLUSION**

A Christian is the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus. He has eternal life, which is God’s kind of life. He has the right to rule, to live and to choose. He has inheritance in Christ: all things, divine health, prosperity and abundance, and deliverance. He is the dwelling place of God.

Class Review

At the end of this class, the students understanding of the class should be tested by review the following questions: -

1. 1. What is righteousness and how does one become righteous?
2. 2. What is eternal life? Who has eternal life and how is it gotten?
3. 3. State and explain the rights of a Christian in Christ
4. 4. State and explain the inheritance of a Christian in Christ
5. 5. Where does God live? What is the importance of this knowledge to the Christian?
6. 6. How do you relate God’s word with the mirror?
7. 7. What is the difference between working in faith and sight?

1. **3.11 RECOMMENDED MINISTRY MATERIALS.**

i. Tapes

The authority of a believer

An Inheritance for you

Understanding righteousness

1. **ii. Books**

Your Rights in Christ

MS 201 THE PERSON OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

1. 4.0 INTRODUCTION.

The person of the Holy Spirit is vital to the existence of the Christian. It would have been impossible for Jesus to accomplish his earthly ministry without the Holy Spirit. In fact, Jesus would not have been born without the Holy Spirit. Today, What differentiates Christianity from all the religions of the world is the presence and power of the Holy Spirit that resides in the church (the body of Christ).

Objective

A clear and proper understanding of the person of the Holy Spirit, His ministry in and through the Christian is vital if we must walk in all the fullness of the provision of our heavenly father. This study is designed to accomplish just that, But to do this we must first look at the Trinity.

The Trinity

Trinity Depicts the Godhead that operates in three personalities yet one. According to 1 John 5:7, “*there are three that bear record in heaven, the father, the word and the Holy spirit and these three are one*”. It is therefore important to note that in discussing the person of the Holy Spirit, we are invariably discussing the whole personality of the Godhead: God the father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

1. 4.1.0 WHO IS THE HOLY SPIRIT?

The Holy Spirit, which is the third person of the Godhead, is the Spirit of God and the Power of God. He is that Spirit that proceeds from the father and made manifest where the father pleases, and in the same wholeness of God as He is on the throne. The Holy Spirit is not in any way lesser than God the Father or God the Son. He is co-equal with God; He is Himself God in all of God’s Omnipotence.

4.1.1 The Holy Spirit is a person

Until we begin to appreciate the Holy Spirit as a person and relate to him as such, we'll not be able to enjoy the full benefit of his presence. He is a person with a purpose to reveal to us the things that God has prepared for us that love Him, and that we might know the things that are freely given to us by God (1 Corinthian 2:9, 10&12).

4.1.2 How do we know that the Holy Spirit is a person?

A person has a will, emotion and intellect: A will to determine or to take action, emotion to express feelings, and intellect to understand, apprehend and perceive. The Holy Spirit has all of these three.

His will is to dwell in us so that we could have the fullness of his benefits. The Holy Spirit has an unlimited reservoir of intelligence as evidenced in His revelation of hidden wisdom and through revelation of deep truths of God to us (1 Corinthians. 2:10). The Holy Spirit could be angry, grieved and blasphemed. He loves us with an everlasting love and has shed His love abroad in our heart (Romans 5:5).

1. **4.2.0 HE IS 'ALLOS-PARAKLETOS' i.e. another comforter of the same kind (John 14:16-20).**

The character of the Holy Spirit is properly described in the Greek word, 'Allos-Parakletos'. The word 'Allos-Parakletos' has seven synonyms: Comforter, Counselor, Teacher, Helper, Strengtheners, Intercessor and standby.

1. **4.3.0 SEVEN SYNONYMS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT AS RELATED TO THE CHRISTIAN I.E. WHO HE IS TO THE CHRISTIAN.**
2. **4.3.1 He is the comforter (John 14:16; 2 Corinthians 1:3)**

As a comforter, the Holy Spirit was sent primarily to comfort God's people. We (Christians) live in a world that is largely anti-God. God, knowing the opposition and persecution we would face as Christians, sent the Holy Spirit to us to be our source of comfort. The early disciples during the time of persecution walked in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit; and they were greatly multiplied (Acts 9:31).

1. **4.3.2 He is the counselor (Isaiah 11:2; Romans 8:14)**

Have you ever been faced with a moment of great decision? At such times you should turn to the Holy Spirit for guidance. The guidance of the Holy Spirit is available to every child of God. We should all expect the Holy Spirit to be our guide. After all, for as many as are led by the Spirit of God are the sons of God (Romans 8:14). Proverbs 20:27 says, "the spirit of a man is the candle of the Lord, searching all the inward parts of the belly". To live in continuous victory, we must be led by the Spirit of God.

1. **4.3.3 He is the helper (Romans 8:26)**

Help as defined by oxford-advanced learner's dictionary means "to make it easier for somebody to do something, to assists somebody. The Holy Spirit as our helper, assists us to do all that God has called us to do. He makes it easy for us to live successfully as Christians in this corrupt world. There are times when you are faced with a great task and you are wondering how you would succeed. Be sure of this, you are not walking alone. For example, Believers' Loveworld is a ministry that God has marvelously helped. In just a short time of our starting, we have achieved so much, if it were not for the help of the Holy Spirit; we would not have achieved this much. We are conscious of this fact that is why we know what we have done so far is just the beginning. With His help, there is no telling what we can do and where we can go. Glory to God!

1. **4.3.4 He is the strengthener (Philippians 4:13; Isaiah 11:2)**

God's Spirit gives strength to our inner man. Paul declared that He could do all things through Christ who strengthens him. Isaiah 11:2 calls Him the Spirit of might. In the Old Testament, men like David, Samson, Elijah etc, did mighty things by the power of the Spirit. In our days we can do much more. I heard the story of a woman whose son got involved in a car accident, when she got to the car she single handedly lifted up the car and rescued the son. People who saw her were amazed afterwards four strong men couldn't lift up that same

car. The Holy Spirit resident in our spirit is a source of great strength. If we stay full of Him, we can never experience defeat in our lives.

1. **4.3.5 He is the intercessor (Romans 8:26)**

An intercessor is one who stands in the gap for another. According to Romans 8:26, we don't always know what to pray for as we ought. We can't possibly know in our natural mind everything we should pray about in every situation and circumstance. The Holy Spirit assists us in our prayers with groaning, which cannot be uttered in articulate speech.

1. **4.3.6 He is the teacher (1Corinthians 2:9-11; 1 John 2:20; John 16:13).**

As a teacher, the Holy Spirit carried on the ministry of Jesus, which was to a large extent a teaching ministry. When we receive the Holy Spirit, He indwells our spirit man; He serves as a teacher to our spirit. We must realize that the things of God cannot be understood by the natural mind, but they are revealed to our spirits; it is with our spirit that we contact God. As a teacher, He reveals to us the hidden mysteries of the kingdom of God. Non-Christians cannot understand why we do the things we do. But we have unction from the Holy one and we know all things (1 John 2:20). As our teacher, He also reveals to us things to come (John 16:13). We must realize that the Holy Spirit is in us to teach us all things. Most times, when I want to study God's Word I pray this simple prayer, "O blessed Holy Spirit, unveil the truth unto my spirit that I may stand in the fullness of the provision of my father, for He is my father, I love Him and He loves me". He has made studying God's word a joyful experience for me.

1. **4.3.7 He is the standby (2Corinthians 12:9-10)**

Anytime we are in church during a service and there is an interruption in power supply, we always put on our standby generator. The Holy Spirit is also referred to as the standby, in John 14:17, Jesus said the Holy Spirit shall be in us and with us.

Paul went through different experiences that revealed certain weaknesses in His life. The good thing was that even in the midst of his weakness, the Holy Spirit was at hand to strengthen him. We can also enjoy this ministry of the Holy Spirit in our lives. There are

times when we are overwhelmed by issues and circumstances that reveal weaknesses in us. At such times we should remember the Holy Spirit as our standby. God has promised that He would never leave us nor forsake us (Hebrews 13:5)

1. 4.4.0 EVERY CHRISTIAN CAN RECEIVE THE HOLY SPIRIT.

The scriptures let us know that the Spirit has been poured out on all flesh

(Joel 2:28, Acts 2:17). This means the Holy Spirit has been made available for all to receive. The only requirement for receiving the Holy Spirit is for one to be born again. (Acts 2:38-39). The Holy Spirit responds to hunger and fills those Christians who desire Him. (Luke 11:13, Isaiah 44:3)

1. 4.5.0 FELLOWSHIP WITH THE SPIRIT.

Fellowship is explained in the chamber's English dictionary as "Companionship".

The dictionary further calls it a "Laying together". It is a relationship, a process that circles around two or more individuals. It is an affair; Fellowship with the Holy Spirit is a love affair between the Spirit of God and us. The word fellowship is best described by the Greek word 'Koinonia'. Koinonia is an all round word for fellowship, which gives a further insight with three words: Communication, Communion and Transportation.

1. 4.5.1 Communication

It is simply the transference of information between two or more individual with feedback.

In our fellowship with the Holy Spirit, we are engaged in communication with Him. A communication that comes about as a result of our relationship with him. We speak to Him knowing that the he will surely answer (1 John 5:14-15.)

1. 4.5.2 Communion

This is oneness, togetherness, a binding, a gluing, and identification. Communion with the Holy Spirit tells us who we are, and that we are one with Him, "For by

one spirit are we all baptized into one body and have all been made to drink into one spirit". (1Corinthians 12:13.)

1. 4.5.3 Transportation

This is the conveyance (movement) of goods and people from one place to another. You may ask how does this concern the Christian and his relationship with the Holy Spirit? There are times when you fellowship with the Holy Spirit and He will carry you (John 16:13)

4.6.0 THE HOLY SPIRIT MAKES THE DIFFERENCE IN THE CHRISTIAN'S LIFE

The life of the Christian should be different, and this can be made possible only by the infilling of the Holy Spirit. In John 16:12-13, Jesus Himself said, *"I have yet many things to say to you, but ye cannot bear them now. Howbeit when He, the Spirit of truth, is come, He will guide you into all truth..."* The unbeliever does not know the things to come, but the Holy Spirit reveals this to the Christian. The Christian is the man that has hope in this world.

The Holy Spirit makes the life of the Christian fruitful. Without Him, the life of the Christian is like a flower that does not receive daily nutrient. (Isaiah 32:15). This is the difference between the Spirit filled Christian and the Christian that is not filled with the Holy Spirit. With the infilling of the Holy Spirit, any dryness in the Christian turns to fruitfulness and fruitfulness to abundance (forest). The person of the Holy Spirit is Christ in you, the hope of glory (Colossians 1:27)

1. 4.7.0 HIS MINISTRY THROUGH CHRISTIANS

It is only by the power of the Holy Spirit that we can be effective witnesses of the death, burial and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ said to his disciples that they would receive power after the Holy Spirit is come upon them (Acts 1:8). This power is to enable them fulfill the ministry that he has called them into.

All Christians have been called into this ministry (Ephesians 4:12) Luke 4:17-18 records our function or responsibilities in this ministry. The Holy Spirit empowers all Christians to do the following:

1. a. Preach the gospel to the poor
2. b. Heal the broken hearted
3. c. Preach deliverance to the captives
4. d. Recovery of sight to the blind
5. a. Set at liberty them that are bruised

1. 4.8.0 CONCLUSION

The Holy Spirit is the third person of the Godhead. He helps the Christians to live victorious lives, through His character: comforter, counselor, teacher, helpers, strengthener, Intercessor and standby. It is very vital for a Christian to be intimately related to Him, by constantly fellowshiping with Him.

Class Review

At the end of this class, the teacher should assess the understanding of the students by reviewing the following questions:

1. 1. Who is the Holy Spirit?
2. 2. What is trinity?
3. 3. Name the seven synonyms of the Holy Spirit?
4. 4. Students should be made to explain each synonym.
5. 5. What is the importance of the Holy Spirit?
6. 6. How can you describe the fellowship of the Holy Spirit?
7. 7. How does the Holy Spirit minister through the Christians?

1. 4.9.0 RECOMMENDED MINISTRY MATERIALS.

i. Tapes

The Person of the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit and you

The outpouring of the Spirit

Jesus our intercessor

Prayer of petition

1. ii. **Books**

Seven Things the Holy Spirit will do in you

Seven Things the Holy Spirit will do for you

Prophecy

MS202 THE IMPORTANCE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN A CHRISTIAN'S LIFE

1. 5.0 INTRODUCTION

The importance of the Holy Spirit in the life of a believer can never be over emphasized. The Holy Spirit is the gift of God to everyone who believes (Acts 10:45; Hebrews 2:4). The earthly ministry of Jesus started after he had received the Holy Spirit. In several instances, such as in Luke 24:49, he told His disciples to remain in Jerusalem till they have received the Holy Spirit and in Acts 1:8, He says, "And you shall receive power after the Holy Ghost is come upon you...". This power refers to the dynamic ability to reproduce itself and it brings efficiency and might into the life of the believer as the very presence of God is brought to the believer. A sign of being filled with God's Spirit is by speaking in other tongues (Mark 16:17, Acts 19:6).

The Objective of this class

At the end of this class it is expected that the student should be filled with the Holy Spirit and speak in tongues. He;

1. a. Should have a broad knowledge of the nine gifts of the Holy Spirit and how to take advantage of them.
2. b. Should know the difference between the ministry gifts and the spiritual gifts.
3. c. Should know that the fruit of the spirit is inherent in him and that he bears them because he is spirit filled.

1. **5.1.0 SPEAKING IN TONGUES AND ITS PURPOSES**

Speaking in tongues is an outpouring of divine communication from our inner most being to God; thereby cutting off the opportunity for the wicked one's comprehension. (1 Corinthians 14:2) You speak mysteries to God, a language of the Spirit that only God understands.

1. **5.1.1 To edify yourself (1 Corinthians 14:4)**

When we speak in tongues we edify ourselves, improve and strengthen ourselves.

1. **5.1.2 To build up our faith (Jude 20)**

As we speak in other tongues we build up our faith. Each believer has been given a measure of faith. This measure can be improved upon through prayers. Speaking in other tongues is an effective way of praying to God because at that time it is your spirit that prays (1 Corinthian 14:4). Boldness comes to your Spirit as you speak in other tongues.

1. **5.1.3 To glorify God (Acts 10:46)**

There is a great depth at which you will worship God when you have the in filling of the Holy Spirit and worship Him in other tongues. Your mind is no more at work here but you worship Him in spirit and in truth (John 4:23). God is a Spirit and we must relate to Him that way.

1. **5.1.4 To speak mysteries to God. (1 Corinthians 14:2a)**

Because of the unfruitfulness of the mind (1 Corinthians 14:14) you speak secret truths and hidden things not obvious to the understanding yet. This means you speak mysteries unto God. This leads you to receiving divine revelations as you speak them.

1. **5.1.5 It is a sign of the believer (Mark 16:17)**

Jesus said it emphatically that speaking in tongue is a sign of knowing those who have believed.

1. **5.2.0 THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN MARK 16:17 and 1 CORINTHIANS 12:10**

In Mark 16:17, the signs of the believer is seen and speaking in tongues is a sign that must follow all who believe while in 1 Corinthians 12:10, we see the gifts of the Holy Spirit enumerated. The Holy Spirit to each individual distributes these gifts as He wills (1 Corinthians 12:11). These gifts are distributed differently to every individual according to God's own will (Hebrews 2:4).

1. **5.3.0 THE GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT (1 Corinthians 12:10)**

These gifts are nine in number and they bear testimony of the truth of God's Word and God's calling upon a man's life. They are like equipment God has given to us for our work as believers. They can further be classified into 3 categories:

1. **5.3.1 Power gifts**

These are action gifts that cause someone to do or accomplish something and they include:

1. a. Gift of healing
2. b. Faith
3. c. Working of miracles

1. **5.3.2 Utterance or vocal gifts**

These gifts make use of the vocals and they include:

1. a. Prophecy
2. b. Interpretation of tongues
3. c. And speaking in diverse kinds of tongues

1. **5.3.3 Revelation and inspirational gifts**

These make one to know or see a truth about another or situation. These are:

1. a. Word of wisdom

2. b. Word of knowledge,
3. c. and discerning of Spirits (supernatural insights into the realm of spirits)

These gifts of the Spirit are what God uses to equip the ministry.

1. **5.4.0 Ministry Gifts (Ephesians 4:11)**

God gives the Ministry gifts to individuals for the work of the ministry. These gifts have been given to the body of Christ by God to bring a balance in Church and this is vitally important for effectiveness. The ultimate goals of all ministry gifts are for:

1. a. The perfecting of the saints
2. b. Edifying the body of Christ
3. c. Unifying men in faith and knowledge
4. d. Perfecting the Church in Christ
5. e. Bringing men to maturity in Christ.

All these can be seen in Ephesians 4:12-13. These gifts are called the five fold ministry gifts as seen in Ephesians 4:11 and they are: Prophets, Pastors, Evangelists, Teachers and Apostles.

1. **5.4.1 Apostle**

From Greek word 'apostolos' translated means 'sent forth or sent one'. An Apostle is one with a commission. It could be to establish churches (1 Corinthians 9:2, 4:15) and he is first and foremost a preacher or a teacher of the word (1 Timothy 2:7, 2 Timothy 1:11). He is sent forth with a particular message.

His distinguished result is the ability to establish churches as he may have to oversee the churches until they have been fully established (1 Corinthians 9:1-2).

This office seems to embrace all other ministry gifts as the apostle will do the work of the Teacher. As a teacher, he will teach and establish people. As a pastor he will pastor and shepherd the people for a while.

1. **5.4.2 Prophet**

The Prophet Speaks from the impulse of a sudden inspiration, from the light of a sudden revelation at that moment. He speaks by direct divine inspiration, an immediate revelation. He is also first of all a preacher or a teacher of the Word.

1. **5.4.3 Evangelist**

One who brings the evangel (the good news); a messenger of good tidings. He brings the news of the redeeming grace of God and his favourite theme is salvation in its simplest form. He has a divine urge or burning within to preach the Word and get people saved.

1. **5.4.4 Pastor**

This means Shepherd. He is a Shepherd of God's Sheep in the local body and they are necessary for maturing, nurturing and equipping of the Saints.

1. **5.4.5 Teacher**

This is a divine gift and is about the calling placed on particular individuals to stand in that office and teach by supernatural abilities. It is a divine endowment to teach God's word.

1. **5.5.0 DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT AND MINISTRY GIFTS.**

The Ministry gifts are God's calling into an office and cannot be desired (Hebrews 5:4, Ephesians 4:11). It is God Himself who calls the individual into the five-fold ministry and no man can take it upon himself. The ministry into which one is called is not in name but in power; for even if one calls himself into an office, it doesn't make him what he calls himself. The ministry must be evident in the individual's life because God who has called him will surely equip him with the divine enablement or endowment to stand in that office.

On the other hand Spiritual gifts can be desired (1Corinthians 12:31; Romans 1:11), though it is the Holy Spirit who gives out as He wills or chooses (1 Corinthians 12:11).

1. 5.6.0 DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT AND FRUIT OF THE RECREATED HUMAN SPIRIT

The gifts of the Spirit are by impartation into man's spirit and they are abilities God gives to every believer to fulfill God's call upon his life. The fruit of the spirit are nine in number (Galatians 5:23) and they are the fruit a believer is supposed to produce by reason of the Holy Spirit dwelling in him. The believer has a level of control over the development of these fruit in his life. That is why Paul says, if we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit (Galatians 5:25) and those who belong to Christ have crucified the flesh with its passion, appetites and desires. (Galatians 5:24). The believer has the responsibility of ensuring that he bears the right fruit.

1. 5.7.0. EVERY CHRISTIAN CAN WALK IN THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Holy Spirit has been given to us as was promised by God through Jesus Christ. It is left for every believer to receive him for he has already been made available for us all. All an individual needs to do is to desire him in all of his fullness (Psalm 63:1-3,8). The Psalmist here has a deep hunger and desire for the presence of God i.e. the Holy Spirit who is also called the angel of God's presence (Isaiah 63:9,10a). Desire and hunger and you will be filled, for Jesus says in Matthew 5:6, that even in having the desire you are blessed and you will be filled. The most important thing is the desire of the Holy Spirit. For all that believe or desire shall receive. In the case of the apostles as we see in the scriptures, a desire had been placed in their hearts long before they received (John 14:16,17, and in Acts 1:8). We see where Jesus told them to tarry in Jerusalem till they had been endued with power from on high (Luke 24:49).

There was great anticipation and hunger in them and they were actually in the temple praying and expecting Him until He came as we see in Acts 2. This was important for them to have the ability to effectively minister the Word of God and live the Christian life. In Isaiah 32:15, we see what happens to a man's life when God's Spirit is poured forth into him. It brings productivity and fruitfulness. The Spirit changes things and causes you to increase greatly.

In Isaiah 44:2-4, God speaks again about desire saying, ".... I will pour water upon him that is thirsty and floods upon the dry ground: I will pour my Spirit upon thy seed and my blessing upon thine offspring: and they shall spring up as among the grass, as willows by the water courses." Jesus says in John 7:37& 38 that, "if any man thirsts, let him come to me and drink."

Note

It is however important to note that there is a difference between the infilling of the Holy Spirit, and the baptism of the Holy Ghost. The word baptism is taken from the Greek word "baptizo", which means to be immersed or dipped into. This actually took place the day we got born again, for we were immersed into the body of Christ by the Holy Spirit. The infilling however means you are filled with God's Spirit and given supernatural strength as a believer. The Spirit of God fills the believer to enable him be an effective witness of Christ, Acts 2:4.

1. 5.8.0 CONCLUSION

This class emphasized the importance of the Holy Spirit to the life of Christian. A lot of emphases was laid on speaking in tongue which is one of the Nine gifts of the Holy spirit to the Christian. This is because it is the gift that a Christian can use to build himself up. Jude 20, 2 Corinthians 14: 2. This class also differentiated ministry gifts which are: Apostle, Prophet, Evangelist, Pastor and teacher, from the nine gifts of the Holy Spirit, lastly, we learnt that every Christian can work in the power of the Holy Spirit.

CLASS REVIEW

As a way of finding out how well the students have assimilated the topics covered in this class, the following questions should be reviewed:

- 1 How can you define and describe speaking in tongue. In other words, what does it mean to speak in tongues?
- 2 What is the purpose of speaking in tongues?

3 Mention and explain all the gifts of the Holy Spirit. If possible, categorize them as you have been thought.

4 Give examples of the operation of each of the gifts of the Holy spirit

5 What are ministry gifts? List and explain the ministry gifts?

6 What is the difference ministry gifts and gifts of the Spirit?

7 What are the conditions for receiving the gifts of the spirit?

8 What is the fruit of the Spirit?

9 What is the difference between the fruit of the spirit and the gifts of the spirit?

1. 5.9.0 RECOMMENDED MINISTRY MATERIALS.

i. Tapes

Power for Change

The ministry of the Holy Spirit

The fellowship of the Spirit

The fullness & the fire volume 1 & 2

Charismatic renewal conference 2003

Charismatic renewal conference 2004 (Wednesday & Thursday evening)

1. ii. Books

The Power of Tongues

The Holy Spirit and you

Praying the right way

MS 301

THE CHURCH OF CHRIST

1. 6.0 INTRODUCTION

The Church has been God's plan from the beginning to establish His kingdom here on earth. In the Old Testament, God set the children of Israel free from the land of Egypt for them to worship Him. This is the first time we heard about the "Church in the wilderness". That is, God called the children of Israel out of Egypt, which gives the actual meaning of the Church "the called out ones"

Objective

At the end of this class, students should have good understanding of the following:

1. a. The meaning and origin of the church
2. b. The purpose of the church
3. c. Why it is necessary to belong to a local assembly of a church?
4. d. Who builds the church and our responsibilities in the church?
5. e. The need to fulfill our responsibilities in the church

1. 6.1.0 What is the universal church and how do I become a member?

Many people do not really understand what the word Church means. They talk about the "Protestant" Church or the "Catholic" or "Baptist" Church while others actually think the Church is the building in which Christians meet. The Greek word translated Church is ECCLESIA, which means a gathering of people called out from among other people. The New Testament describes the word Church in two ways:

1. a. It is used for all believers on earth. This is the Church, which is called Christ's body (Colossians 1:18,24; 1 Corinthians 12:12-13, 27).
2. b. It is used to refer to all believers in the local Church, 1 Corinthians 16:19.

1. **6.2.0 How doES ONE become a member of the Church?**

One becomes a member of the Church by believing in his heart that Jesus Christ died on the cross of Calvary for him and confessing with his mouth that He is his Lord and personal saviour (Romans 10:9-10).

1. **6.3.0 the purpose of the Church?**

The purpose of the Church is as follows:

1. **a. Glorify God**

The true purpose of the Church is to be a light, (Isaiah 60:1) and to glorify God in all our works and deeds, mindful of the fact that He is the Lord of our lives, our source and strength (Ephesians 3:21).

1. **b. To witness to the world**

The aim of the Church is to bear witness of Christ to sinners. We are to tell the world about the Lord Jesus and the work He did on the cross of Calvary so that all men might be saved. Therefore the local assembly should witness to the people in the place where it is located and should send forth Christians to take the message of salvation to people in other land (Matthew 18:20; Mark 16:15-18).

1. **6.4.0 WHY DO WE NEED LOCAL ASSEMBLIES?**

The local assembly actually is a gathering of believers in a given locality. We need local assemblies in order to bear witness of Christ. The gold lamp stands in Revelation 1:20 as a picture of a local assembly and gold speaks of divine righteousness. The local assembly positions the individual believer in the body of Christ and enables him or her function properly (1 Corinthians 12:26). The local assembly also builds up the individual member thereby nourishing him or her onto maturity. The local assembly also enables the believer discover the different gifts bestowed on him by the Holy Spirit.

1. **6.5.0 "UPON THIS ROCK I'LL BUILD MY CHURCH" IS THE ROCK PETER?**

No, the rock is not Peter. In Greek, the name Peter means Petros (small rock), while rock means Petra. Jesus Christ said in Matthew 16:18, "you are Peter (Petros) and upon this rock (Petra) I'll build my church." In this verse of scripture he was first talking about the revelation of the person of Jesus. He meant that the church is built out of those stones (small rock) that partake of the nature of the Petra (rock) by their confession of him. Peter's answer as to who Jesus is, sets apart from and beyond human reasoning as Jesus commended his having heard from God (Matthew 16:16,17). Afterward Jesus emphasized that leadership in his church would always be based not on man's ability to reason things out but on his readiness and receptivity to hear God through revelation knowledge. So Christ is actually the chief cornerstone and the firm foundation upon which every Christian's faith is built (1 Peter 2:4-7; Ephesians 2:18-20; 1 Corinthians 3:11).

1. **6.6.0 IS IT IMPORTANT TO BELONG TO A CHURCH?**

It is important to belong to a Church because the bible says we should not neglect the coming together of God's people as in fellowship (Hebrews 10:25). We also belong to a Church so as to grow spiritually onto maturity. Also it makes us consistent and committed members of the body of Christ (Ephesians 4:11-14).

1. **6.7.0 WHO BUILDS THE CHURCH**

2. a. **Jesus is the builder (Matthew 16:18)**

He is the rock of ages in whom there is salvation. Jesus Christ is the true foundation of Christian's life (1 Peter 2:6). He started building when he died on the cross of Calvary for all men.

1. **b. We are also builders**

We are builders also because when we believed, we began to exist as members of the body of Christ and therefore we need to take our place in the body of Christ (Ephesians 4:12-14) for the edifying of the body of Christ and the perfecting of the saints.

1. **c. We are co-labourers.**

We are partners with deity because God has chosen us as co-laborers in his vineyard and therefore we are God's husbandry and his building (1 Corinthians 3:9-10). We are in

partnership with God and we have been given the ministry of reconciliation whereby we reconcile souls back to him.

1. **d. *Why should I go to Church?***

- 1) To function as a member of the body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12:12-26)
- 2) To build ourselves up in the most holy faith (Jude 20).
- 3) To serve, which is in coming together as members of the body of Christ, the Holy Spirit helps each believer to worship God and witness Christ.
- 4) (Ephesians 4:11-14; Hebrews 10:25) we go to Church so that we can build others and to be built up to maturity.

1. **6.8.0 CONCLUSION**

The church of Jesus Christ is the body of all believers. One can only be a member of the church by being born again. The church's primary purpose is to glorify God and witness Christ to the world. It is required of every Christian to identify with a local assembly and fellowship with them. Participating in fellowship is not optional. In fact, Hebrews 10:25 admonishes us not to forsake the assembly of the brethren. Lastly, a Christian is a co-labourer with God in building the Church.

Class Review

The understanding of the students should be tested by reviewing the following questions:

1. 1. What is Church?
2. 2. How does one become a member of the Church?
3. 3. What is the purpose of the Church?
4. 4. Why does a Christian need to be a functioning member of a Local Assembly?
5. 5. Who builds the Church?

1. **5.9.0 RECOMMENDED MINISTRY MATERIALS.**

i. Tapes

How to pray for God's people

The harvest is plenteous

You are my witness

Christ builds His Church

1. ii. **Books**

Join this chariot

MS302 THE CHRISTIAN LIFE

1. **7.0 INTRODUCTION**

The objective of this class is to teach the student:

1. a. What Christian service and ministry is,
2. b. The various aspect of ministry such as:
3. i. The Great commission
4. ii. The ministry of reconciliation

iii Growing the Church

1. c. The believer's relationship with his or her leaders

d The believer's attitude during courtship and engagement according to Believers Loveworld teachings.

These areas collectively make up the Christian life. At the end of the class the students should know in clear terms why he needs to render service in the church, maintain the right attitude with his or her leaders as well as the right attitude in courtship and engagement according to Believers LoveWorld teachings.

1. **7.1.0 CHRISTIAN SERVICE**

Ministry is rendering service in the body of Christ or the church. Consequently, Christian service or ministry is the believer's active involvement in the body of Christ. (Romans 12-1, Goodnews Bible) Examples of service or ministry:

1. a. Your involvement in the activity groups such as: choir, ushering, helps etc.
2. b. Your involvement in the cell system etc.
3. c. Your involvement in the ministry programmes.

1. **7.2.0 THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CHRISTIAN**

a. THE GREAT COMMISSION (Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 16:16-18; Acts 1:8)

The great commission is a charge or commission given to all Christians by our Lord Jesus Christ to preach the gospel of salvation. It is necessary for us as members of the body to preach this gospel, thus liberating men from the evil intentions of the devil. We are to be witnesses of Christ in our world. Witnessing Christ helps us grow spiritually. The gospel of Christ is God's power for salvation for man (Romans 1:16). Carrying out this commission is equally rendering service in the body.

1. b. THE NEED FOR TRAINING (Eph 4:11-16; 2Tim 3:16-17; 2Tim 2:20-21).

The reasons why you need to be trained for Christian service or ministry are as follow:

1. a. It helps you to identify your ministry office (Ephesians 4:11).
2. b. It helps you to be effective in the work of the ministry (Ephesians 4:12).

3. c. It perfects you unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ (Ephesians 4:13).
4. d. It ensures that you receive good doctrines necessary to guide your Christian life (Ephesians 4:14).

Examples of people that were trained by God

1. a. David: (1 Samuel 17:34-36). David was trained from when he was a shepherd boy at the age of 17 to becoming the king of Israel.
2. b. Moses: (Exodus 1-3). Moses training was in 3 phases:
 3. i. The first 40 years was in the courts of Pharaoh where he was raised as a King's son.
 4. ii. The next 40 years was in Medina when he was a shepherd
 5. iii. The last 40 years was from when God delivered the Israelites through him, from Egypt through the red sea to the wilderness. And God gave him the Ten Commandments and the unction to write the first five books of the Bible.

Note: *Just as God trained each of these men to enable them fulfill their ministry; God is also training us for the work of the ministry.*

1. c. **THE MINISTRY OF RECONCILIATION (2Cor 5:18-21; Dan 12:3; 2Timothy 4:1-5; Proverbs 11:30).**

The ministry of reconciliation means reconciling or uniting man from his sinful nature back to the nature of God (Righteousness, holiness and love). It means making men God's friends (Ephesians 5:19 Good News Bible). God made Christ to be sin for us so that we can be made righteous. Therefore, as the ambassadors of Christ, we are to reconcile men back to God, (Daniel 12-3).

1. **7.4.0 GROWING THE CHURCH (Ephesians 4:12-16; 1 Corinthians 12-12-28; Exodus 35:5 Exodus 36:5)**

Ways in which we can grow in the church:

1. a. Carrying out the great commission (Matthew 28:18-20).
2. b. Being involved in Christian service or ministry (Ephesians 4:12)

3. c. Edifying (strengthening, giving support, encouraging) the church in love (Ephesians 4:16).
4. d. Bringing (special) offerings for the work of the ministry such as: Total experience, Camp meeting, Loveworld Television Ministry, Church building projects, etc (Exodus 35:5).

1. **7.5.0 YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH YOUR SPIRITUAL LEADER (Hebrews 13:17; 1 Samuel 15:22-23; Numbers 16)**

As a believer, you are to submit completely to your spiritual leaders in obedience. You should never criticize or judge your spiritual leaders in a bad light, even if you perceive they are not living right with God. It is your duty to pray for them (Hebrews 13:1b).

1. **7.6.0 THE RIGHT ATTITUDE IN COURTSHIP OR ENGAGEMENT (1 Corinthians 7:32-34).**

Courtship is the period of engagement between two people making preparation for marriage. During courtship it is important that we maintain the right attitude as believers. This we can do in two ways:

1. a. **Purity in courtship (Eph 5:3-5, 1Cor 6:18-20, Hebrews 13:4)**

You must abstain from fornication and all uncleanness. Fornication before marriage is a blood covenant and brings death into all that you do. (Refer to Pastor Chris' singles seminar tapes 1 & 2).

1. b. **Getting the church involved, (Matthew 16:19, Matthew 13:4).**

Your spiritual leaders, notably your Pastor should be aware of your relationship. Your Pastor will counsel you about marriage with the inspiration of the Holy Spirit; those who don't listen to their Pastor will end up with shattered dreams and broken homes (Pastor Chris singles seminar tape 1 & 2). "Be careful whether you are married or not, live as though you were not. Note that there is no marriage in heaven, (Matthew 22:36).

1. 7.7.0 SHOULD A CHRISTIAN BE IN RELATIONSHIP WITH A NON-CHRISTIAN? (2 Corinthians 6:14-16, 1 Corinthians 6:16-20).

A Christian should not be in courtship or be engaged with an unbeliever because the unbeliever is still in darkness and living in sin. Your relationship should be to preach the gospel to them.

1. 7.8.0 WHAT WOULD YOU DESCRIBE AS A PROPER CONDUCT FOR A BELIEVER?

It is very important to conduct oneself in manner befitting citizens of the kingdom of God. This means your behaviour, manner of life must align with what God says you are (Philippians 1:27, 3:17-20, II Corinthians. 1:12, Ephesians. 4:22) (I Corinthians. 10: 3, I Colossians. 3:17, 3:1-3).

When a person gets born again, the Holy Spirit becomes his guide and teacher; In other words, he no longer acts according to his feelings but is led by an inward witness. (Jn. 14:26), His spirit is alive to God, he knows what to wear to glorify God because he is led of God.

Now, the bible says the law has been abolished – that is, the law or ordinances and decrees that prescribed do's and don'ts for the children of Israel. We are not under the law but under grace (Ephesians 2:15-16, Romans 6:14). Paul emphasizes on the heart or inward man, not the body. "For man looketh on the outward appearance, but God looketh on the heart" 1 Samuel 16:17.

Some have said ladies should not wear trousers or come to church with their hair uncovered. Their bible references for the judgment is usually Deuteronomy 22:5, 1 Corinthians 1:1-15, 1 Peter 3:3, 1 Timothy 2:9. Deuteronomy 22:5 is the basis for stopping ladies from wearing trousers. "What pertaineth unto man is not restricted to trousers. It could be underwear, shirt or skirt. In fact, the bible records that during this time men wore skirts (Psalms.133: 2). The bible could not have been referring to trousers because there were no trousers in those days.

Today, there are men in some parts of the world who wear skirts. Right here in Nigeria, the Urhobos, Itsekiris and Benins who are born again still use ladies' wrappers and are not criticized by this same people. Again, such people should look at verses 9-11 because the world would according to their judgement be guilty of those verses. Ephesians 2:15 tells us that the law has been abolished. So brothers and sisters go ahead and wear beautiful things, as you are led by the Spirit.

The covering of hair as mentioned in 1 Corinthians 1:1-6 is not supposed to be controversial. Some believe ladies who do not use scarf over their heads lack authority over devils, and the angels of God will not act when such speak. This is a misconception. Our weapon and authority could not possibly be a mere scarf. The bible says the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but are mighty through God to be pulling down of stronghold (2 Corinthians 10:4). The name of Jesus is our only authority.

1. **7.9.0 CONCLUSION**

Christianity is a life of service to God. A Christian can render his service through his active involvement in the body of Christ. Every Christian has been commissioned by our Lord Jesus Christ to preach the gospel. In other words, he has been called into the ministry of reconciliation. So any Christian who is not involved in reconciling men back to God is not functioning well. A Christian must maintain the right attitude in courtship by keeping himself pure and getting the Church involved. A Christian should not be in courtship or engagement with a non-Christian. Lastly, the class explained what a proper Christian conduct should be from scriptural perspective as against the common man made theologies, which has held so many Christian into bondage.

Class Review

At the end of this class, the following question should be reviewed to test the students' comprehension:

1. 1. What does a Christian service entail?
2. 2. Why should I preach the gospel and labour to win soul and develop the soul
3. 3. What can you describe as the right attitude in courtship or engagement
4. 4. If I like an unbeliever who is so kind, can I not marry him and work on him to be born again afterwards

5. 5. What will you describe as the proper conduct for a Christian as thought in this class according to the scripture

1. **7.10.0 RECOMMENDED MINISTRY MATERIALS.**

- i. **Tapes**

Singles Seminar, Tape 1 & 2

Understanding 5 levels of relationship

Growing unto maturity

- ii. **Books**

The Promise Land

MS 401

DOCTRINE I

1. 8.0 INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this class is to establish the students firmly on the principles of the word of God in Christ (gospel), so that they will be no more children tossed to and fro and carried by every wind of doctrine. And to disabuse their mind of some basic tenets of the gospel, which they may have had. This class is very important as it forms the cradle of their understanding of the ministry. More so, a good understanding of this class would make their Christian lives joyous and struggle-free in the Holy Ghost.

1. 8.1.0 MEANING OF DOCTRINE

Doctrine is a set of teachings of the basic tenets of the gospel of our Lord Jesus. Biblically, doctrine is defined in the following scriptures as: -

1. a. (Deuteronomy 32:2). Translated doctrine as “instructions” culled from the Greek word LEQACH
2. b. (Acts 16:4). “Ordinances and decrees” culled from the Greek word Dogma

3. c. (1 Timothy 4:13,16 and Titus 2:1). Translated doctrine as “learning and teaching” culled from the Greek word ‘Disdaslia’

1. **8.2.0 BEING ESTABLISHED UPON THE TRUTH (Ephesians 4:14; Acts 20:28-32)**

In John 14:6, Jesus said "I am the WAY, the TRUTH and the LIFE", and in John 1:14 he was revealed as the Word of God who became flesh (Matthew 16:15-18). When Peter revealed the person of Jesus by the inspiration of the Holy Ghost "Jesus said, "thou art Peter" upon this rock I will build my Church". This Rock literally means "The TRUTH that was revealed. It can be deduced from this that Jesus Christ intended to find and build his Church and people upon an unshakable truth whose author and inspiration is the Holy Ghost.

1. **8.3.0 THE FOUNDATIONAL DOCTRINES OF CHRIST (1Cor 3:11; Hebrews 6:1-2)**

The book of John 1:14 reveals Jesus as the Word of God made flesh that dwells amongst us, and we know it is not possible to separate a person from his word. No wonder Jesus said in John 10:30, “I and my Father are one”. Peter reveals him as the Son of God (Matthew 16:15b).

1. **8.3.1 Repentance from dead works (Hebrews 9:12-14; Luke 5:32; Luke 24:47)**

Repentance is “remorse of the mind leading to a change of heart from sinful and wrongful actions and ideas towards the relationship with God”. While dead work is anything we do that is not initiated by God or void of the life of God.

Steps in repentance

1. a. Remorse (2 Corinthians 7:10)
2. b. Confession of sins (1 John 1:9)
3. c. A willingness to give up sin (Proverbs 28:13)
4. d. Repugnance and hatred for sin (Ezekiel 20:43)

Dead works are

1. a. Our former (evil) ways before we got born again (John 3:8; Galatians 5:19-21)
2. b. Sins (Romans 6:23)
3. c. Sin consciousness and motives (Proverbs 23:7; Hebrews 9:19; John 3:20-1)

In conclusion, we have to refrain ourselves from dead works because they will hinder our growth to maturity. You must repent immediately you find yourself in any manner of dead work. Also note that Jesus started his ministry preaching repentance (Matthew 4:19) and gave us as a commission to preach it (Luke 24:47).

1. **8.3.2 Faith towards God (Hebrews 11:1-6; Romans 1:17; 2 Corinthians 5:17)**

This is a total truth, reliance, assurance, confidence and submission to God and His word (Hebrews 11:1-6). It is interesting to note that through out the ministry of Jesus on earth till the cross, His doctrine was predominantly on teaching people to have faith towards God. And through this He could discern people's levels of faith. There are different levels of faith, such as:

1. a. Faith not found in Israel Matthew 8: 10
2. b. Great faith Matthew 15: 28
3. c. Little faith Matthew 8: 26, Matthew 15: 31
4. d. Faithless generation Mark 9: 19

Note: Faith comes only by the hearing and hearing by the word of God (Romans 10:17).

1. **8.3.3 Baptisms (Matthew 28:19; john 3:5)**

The word baptism is culled from the Greek word "Baptizo" which means to immerse, to dip or bury in There are two types of baptism:

1. a. Baptism of the Holy Ghost (new birth) (1Cor 12:13; Eph 4:4-5; Act 1:5).

This occurs at conversion, i.e., when a man gives his life to Christ (Romans 10:9-10). At this point the Holy Ghost comes and overshadows the person and reactivates the person's spirit, which was dead to sin (Act 1:5).

1. b. **Water baptism (1 Peter 3:21; Matthew 3:13-17; Romans 6:3-5)**

It takes place by dipping a believer into water and raising him up in the name of the father, the son and the Holy Ghost. Baptism represents an outward sign of inner grace to fulfill all righteousness, indicating that we identify with Christ in the reality of his death, burial and resurrection.

Note: Water baptism does not guarantee heaven but it is important because Jesus being 100% man and 100% God gave himself for this baptism.

In conclusion, both baptisms are pre-requisite to enter heaven (John 3:5). The baptism of the Spirit guarantees the salvation of the soul i.e. to see heaven (John 3:3, Romans 10:9-10), because in heaven there are 3 witnesses that bear record: the Father, the Word and the Holy Ghost.

1. **8.3.4. Laying of hands**

This is an act in which a person places his or her hands upon the body of a person for some definite purposes by either prayer or giving of prophetic words or both. Every spirit-filled Christian or minister can lay hands.

Reason for laying of hands

1. **a. For healing (Mark 16:17 -18; Luke 4:40; Luke 13:13 & Act 28:8-9)**

It is worthy of note that Lord Jesus Christ did a lot of this during his ministry on earth and he commanded us to do likewise (Mark 16:18).

1. **b. For the infilling of the Holy Ghost (2Tim 1:6, Acts 19:6 & Acts 1:8).**
2. **c. For anointing**

Hands could be laid upon someone to receive anointing. The receiving of this anointing is vital for the greater special works of the ministry.

d For the impartation of spiritual gifts (1 Timothy 4:14; 2Timothy 1:6).

The release of (God's Power) the gift of the Holy Ghost by the laying on of hands either by a spiritual leader, or a person with the same gift, or a minister of God.

1. **e. For ordination into the ministry (Acts 13:1-3, Acts 6:5-6)**

This is the separation and sanctification into the works of the ministry by the laying on of hands. The Holy Spirit expressly comes upon such a person and sanctifies him or her (Acts 1:8). Such ordination could be for Cell leaders, Deacons and Deaconesses, Church Workers, Pastors etc.

1. **8.3.5 Resurrection from the dead (John 5:28-29; 1Thessalonians 4:13-16; 1Cor 15:19)**

Resurrection means restoration of life from dead or a revival from death to life i.e. raising up from the dead. There are two kinds of resurrection: Spiritual and Physical.

1. a. **Spiritual resurrection**

Spiritual resurrection is that of the spirit being quickened from death in trespasses and sins. Such resurrection causes one to be renewed in the glorious likeness of God. After physical death, the person cannot experience this spiritual death because it takes place only in this life.

1. b. **Physical resurrection**

There are two kinds of physical resurrection: the righteous to life before the millennium and the wicked to damnation after the millennium. There will be 1000 years between the two resurrections. The righteous souls at the physical death, goes straight to heaven to wait for the second resurrection while the souls of the wicked goes to heir

1. **8.3.6 Eternal judgment**

This is a time after the second coming of our Lord Jesus Christ when every soul will be recompensed or retributed for their works on earth according to the gospel of God. There would be two judgments:

1. a. **Christian Judgment for reward (Romans 14:10; 1 Corinthians 3:11-16).**

This judgment, which is for the souls, will take place in Heaven after the rapture. (Romans 8:1).

1. b. **Judgment of the unbelievers for condemnation (Rev. 20: 11-15).**

This is the retribution for the rebellion of men that did not believe in Christ or receive the gospel.

1. **8.4.0 CONCLUSION**

In this class, we learnt about the meaning of doctrine and why we need to have the right doctrine. We also learnt some of the foundational doctrines of Christ, such as repentance from dead work, faith towards God, Baptism, laying on of hands, resurrection, and judgment.

Class Review

The understanding of the students should be tested by discussing the following questions:

1. 1. What is doctrine?
2. 2. Why is it important to know and understand the foundational doctrines of Christ as taught in this class?
3. 3. List all the foundational doctrines of Christ as taught in this class
4. 4. What is baptism?
5. 5. Describe eternal judgment
6. 6. Why do we lay hands on people?
7. 7. Define faith, and give examples of how you have acted by faith.
8. 8. What are dead works and does one repent from dead works?

1. **8.5.0 RECOMMENDED MINISTRY MATERIALS.**

i. Tapes

The terminal generation

A study on the book of Romans

The Lordship of Jesus Christ

The Rhema of God 1-6

Tapes on Faith

A study on the book of Romans

1. **ii. Books**

The Promise Land

MS 402

DOCTRINES II

1. 9.1.0 INTRODUCTION

The students should be acquainted with the subjects that would be thought in this class, which among others include, the new creation, righteousness, sanctification, holiness, faith etc. That is why this class should be participatory. At the completion of this class, the students should have good understanding of doctrines as taught by Apostle Paul.

The meaning of doctrine and the need for a good understanding of the bible teachings (Ephesians 4:14) should be reviewed. To achieve this, the following questions should be discussed:

1. a. What do you understand by doctrine i.e. your definition of doctrine?
2. b. Why do you think it is necessary to have a sound doctrine or a good understanding of the bible teachings?
3. c. What is the major text for your last class (Hebrews 6:1-2)? What are the fundamental doctrines of Christ from this text?
4. d. Name and explain the different types of baptism.
5. e. What are the purposes of laying hands?
6. f. Name and explain the different kinds of eternal judgment.

1. 9.2.0 The Pauline doctrines and his revelation

By Pauline doctrine, we mean the basic doctrines of Christ as taught by the Apostle Paul to all the Churches under him. You can find this in his epistles written to the churches. These doctrines are as follows:

1. **9.2.1 The new creation** (*2Corinthians 5:17; Galatians 6:15; Ephesians 2:1-6; Ephesians 4:24*)

The new creature or new man is a recreated man, which means that he is totally new specie of being that never existed before. As a new creature, your tribe, social status, colour, etc, do not matter. For the new creature, there is no account of his past life because he is a newly born child! Whatever he may have done does not stand against him because he was not the one that did them. He has a new spirit, which is different from the old one; and this spirit is created after God in righteousness and true holiness Ephesians 4:24 (Give an example).

1. **9.2.2 Righteousness**

Righteousness, which means having a right standing with God, is what gives the new creature the ability to stand in the presence of God without any sense of guilt or condemnation. Righteousness is not by works but it's a free gift of God to all those who have received Christ as their Lord. At recreation, i.e. at new birth, God takes away the sinful nature and put in him His very nature and character - righteousness (2 Corinthians 5:21). Since, your righteousness is that of God, you cannot be more righteous tomorrow than you are today, but you can become more conscious of that righteousness. Remember that Christ has become our righteousness i.e. our righteousness is from God by faith.

1. **9.2.3 Sanctification**

Sanctification can be said to be the process of separation between the world and us, and the world from us. Therefore we can see sanctification in two phases:

1. a. The first phase of sanctification is when God separated us from the World at the new birth.
2. b. The second phase of sanctification takes place after the new birth. It's the process of getting the world out of us through the Word of God by the Holy Spirit. Every time you study or hear the Word of God, your

mind gets renewed, and you are transformed. This can be likened to a man that is pulled out from a gutter. The man still stinks though he is out of the gutter. It will take a bath and change of clothes to stop the stench. This is illustrative of a life brought from the domain of the devil to God's Kingdom. God has separated him from the world but he has to separate himself from the world through the studying of the Word of God, fellowshiping, praying, testifying, witnessing and getting involved with the things of God that will make him renew his mind or think like God.

1. **9.2.4 Holiness (Hebrews 3:1)**

Holiness can be said to be a state of purity or sacred. It is anything or place where God comes upon or is present. The new creature becomes holy by the reason of the indwelling presence of God. Though God made the new creature holy, he has a role to play by ensuring that the holiness is seen through his lifestyle, speech, appearance etc. Romans 12:1-2 explains the part the new creature has to play by presenting his body as a living sacrifice.

1. **9.2.5 The Law (Romans 8:1-3; Ephesians 2:15; Hebrews; 7:18-19)**

The law was not given to the Christians! In the Old Testament, it brought about the knowledge of sin, and sin brought death to all. With the law, none is justified. Therefore, the law was abolished and done away with. Now, we have a new law that is at work in us: "The law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus." This law supercedes every other law and it is by faith in God.

1. **9.2.6 Remission (Ephesians 1:7)**

Remission is the act of totally blotting away or washing away of sins. Remission is mainly for the unbeliever or un-recreated man. At the recreation, i.e. at new birth, his sin is blotted out or washed away. Paul taught about the remission of sins.

1. **9.3.0 THE DifferenCE between Remission of sin and Forgiveness of sins**

Remission of sin

1. a. It is for unbelievers. It creates a relationship between the new creature and God and occurs when you get born again.
2. b. It can be seen as a pay back of debt for someone or for sin or punishment i.e. setting free from death and sin.
3. c. Can only take place once.

Forgiveness of sin

This is an act of pardon from an error or a mistake and could happen more than once.

1. a. It is for the Christians.
2. b. There is a relationship between you and God.
3. c. It occurs when you do a wrong thing or err either knowingly or unknowingly.

1. **9.4.0 WHAT IS FAITH? (Hebrews 11:1; Mark 11:23-24; Mark 9:23; Mark 10:27)**

"Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen". We can also say that faith is the response of the human spirit to the Word of God. Faith can be likened to a seed. That is, faith grows. We can develop and grow our faith by exercising our faith.

In Chemistry or Science, substance is a type of matter that has weight, has an existence and can actually be seen. That is why in relation to the evidence; you have to prove that it is real. That is what faith is. It is very real and the result is real.

1. **9.5.0 GIVING AND RECEIVING (Luke 6:38; 2 Corinthians 9:6; Galatians 6:7)**

Giving and receiving can be said to be the only way to prosper in the Kingdom of God.

Under the new law that governs us in the Kingdom (the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus), it reveals one of the most powerful principles of prosperity to us. You receive or reap as you give or sow. The only way to always remain in supply is by giving.

In Luke 6:38, Jesus explains what happens when we give. He says, "Give and it shall be given unto you, good measure, pressed down, shaken together and

running over, shall men give unto your bosom". What he is saying to us here is that when we give, we have in abundance. He will cause men to give unto us. In other words, He will open doors of opportunities and favour for us in the sight of men. Paul recognizes this fact when in Acts 20:35b he reminds us about the words of Jesus Christ that, "It is more blessed to give than to receive".

In 2 Corinthians 9:6, Paul explains the importance of the measure we ought to give, which corroborates Luke 6:38b that the measure, which you give, is the measure you receive. Paul states, "He who sows bountifully shall reap also bountifully".

Furthermore, in Galatians 6:7, the principle is also stated in a different form "...for whatsoever a man soweth, that he shall reap". Since giving is seen as sowing, i.e. whatever we are giving is a seed in our hand. We know that a farmer always sows the best of his seeds or his yields. In other words, we should sow our best to the Kingdom of God.

1. **9.6.0 TITHES AND OFFERINGS** (*Malachi 3:8-10*)

Tithe is 10% of your total income. It is taken out, separated and given to the Church or Priest for the work of God. It is a commandment from God to all His Children. It sanctifies your income thereby enabling you to accomplish more with the money. Besides, it causes God to rebuke the devourer for your sake.

On the other hand, offerings are freewill gift given in appreciation for the work, which God has done and is doing in our lives. The kind of gift you give to a person determines how important the person is to you. It is very essential to bring something as an offering when we come into the presence of God. This demonstrates how much we appreciate him and will ultimately determine how he responds to us. Someone once said "that if all failed, try giving an offering". We read in the bible how men like David and Noah touched the heart of God through their offerings (2Samuel 24:24; Genesis 8:20-22).

1. **9.7.0 HOW GOD SEES YOUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

2. a. He that is faithful in little will be faithful in much (Matthew 25: 21, 23-29). God uses little things to check our faithfulness. If we are faithful in those little things, God commits greater things to our trust. In other words, we are given greater responsibilities because we have been able to build on the things committed to us.
3. b. Remember that God, who is the creator of all things, gives you the power to get wealth (Deuteronomy 8:18). Therefore it will be wise to honour him with it. He gives us wealth for a purpose: to establish his covenant here on earth. So as you honour Him with your wealth, he makes more available to you.
4. c. Your tithes sanctifies your money, and since your money is sanctified, it goes a long way in accomplishing what you want to use it for (Malachi 3:8-11).
5. d. Open windows and closed windows (Malachi 3:10-11, Haggai 1:5-11). By open windows are opportunities. When we give our tithes and offerings, God makes a way for us to receive more, by presenting opportunities to us. The devourer being rebuked means that trouble or problems are taken away from our path. The reverse is the case for a closed window. We find out that things tend to be against us and unnecessary expenses arise; it will seem as if there is a hole in our pocket. Things concerning our finances start going bad, because we refuse to give our tithes and offering.

1. **9.8.0 CONCLUSION**

At the end of this class, the students should know what is doctrine and the reason why he should have the right doctrine which are based on God's word and not the traditions of men. More so, emphasis was laid on some of the basic doctrines of Christ, as taught by Apostle Paul.

Class Review

Discussing the following questions should test the understanding of this class by the students:

1. 1. Who is a new creation, righteousness, sanctification and holiness?
2. 2. What is the place of the law in salvation? State how it came about and how it relates to the Christian.
3. 3. Differentiates between the remission of sin and forgiveness of sin.
4. 4. What is faith? Give examples of how you have lived by faith?
5. 5. State the difference between tithe and offering?
6. 6. What are the benefits of tithes and offerings and how should they be given

1. **9.9.0 RECOMMENDED MINISTRY MATERIALS.**

i. Tapes

Tithes and Offering

First Fruit

The Book of Philippians

Tapes on Faith

Sons of consolation

Your seed and your destiny

Prosperity convention

1. **ii. Books**

The Power of Tongues

Prophecy

How to make your faith work

MS 501

THE CHRISTIAN MINISTRY

1. **10.0 INTRODUCTION**

This course focuses on the life of a Christian, which is for service to God. According to Romans 12:1, believers must possess a single-minded passion to please God in love, devotion, praise, and to offer the members of their bodies for His service. He must live for God, worship Him, obey Him, and imbibe Christ. This he does by conducting himself in a manner befitting to the Kingdom of God. This means his behaviour, manner of life must align with what God says he is.

1. **10.1.0 The New Commandment.**

As in John 13:34-35, the Lord says, he has given us a new commandment. This is because there was an old one, which we don't need to keep because it is replaced with the new.

The Old commandments are the Commandments contained in the ordinances that were handed over to Moses. But Jesus says all the commandments are in one new one: "Love one another as He has loved us". The Christian is commanded to love in a greater and special way. This is the way to distinguish Christians from non-Christians (verse 35). This love (Agape) must be the distinguishing mark of Christ followers (1 John 4:21). This agape love is basically a self-giving and sacrificial life, which seeks the good of another.

1. **10.2.0 Maintaining the unity of the Spirit (Ephesians 4:1-3)**

The unity of the Spirit cannot be created by any human being. It already exists for those who have believed the truth and received Christ by the Holy Ghost. We are to maintain it by walking worthy of the vocation wherewith we were called. This is done by being loyal to the truth, by walking after the Spirit. It causes the power of God to be manifested in a tremendous way. Refer to Psalms 133:1-3.

1. **10.3.0 Our Confession and Manner of Life**

In Philippians 3:20-21, the term "Conversation" is translated from the Greek word "politeuma", which means "CITIZENSHIP" or "HOMELAND". Paul emphasized that, Christians are no longer citizens of this world, but of heaven. We are strangers and pilgrims on earth.

As a result of this, our walk, values, confessions and directions in life has to be as becometh Christians. Therefore when you speak, it has to be consistent with the Word of God, irrespective of what the reality is. We have to live our lives based on the heavenly principles because that is our country.

It is also important to note the importance of confession. As God's Children we can recreate our world with confession (2 Corinthians 4:13). We speak in line with what we believe from the word of God and nothing else.

1. **10.4.0 Life and Death IS in the Tongue (James 3:4-6)**

As Christians we have the power to give life or kill by our tongue i.e. by what we say. This is about proper speech. What you say and what you don't say are both important. Proper speech is not only saying the right words at the right time but also controlling your desire to say what you should say. James compares the damage the tongue can do to a raging fire; the uncontrolled tongue can do terrible damage. Words are like fire; you can neither control nor reverse the damage they can do.

The Christian must keep his tongue under control by the guidance of the Holy Spirit, who brings into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ. From Mark 11:22-23, Jesus Christ says you shall have whatever you say if you believe. A Christian moulds his life with his tongue.

1. **10.5.0 The Faith Walk**

Just as the fishes live in water, the Christians also live by faith. Romans 1:17 says, the just (Christians) shall live by faith. For without faith it is impossible to please God. While walking by faith, we don't look at the things, which are seen, but at the things, which are not seen. In other words, we look at the word and not the reality. 2 Corinthians 5:7 says, "we walk by faith not by sight". This implies that a Christian that is walking by sight is not walking by faith.

1. **10.6.0 Christianity Is a Life of Submission**

God recognizes constituted authority. He expects us to obey authority as long as they fall within the context of His Word. He is a God of order (1 Corinthians 14:33). The Scriptures urge us to respect authority. For example, in the church, God has placed your Pastor over you. You should be faithful to instructions given, not rendering eye service, but serving with a cheerful heart and doing all things as unto the Lord. There are three levels of authority:

1. **a. Authority in the home**

In Ephesians 6:1-2, children are admonished to obey their parents because they stand as God's representatives. This scripture shows the first commandment with a promise.

Children are to obey their parents even when they are demanding and are unfair. God will bless children who obey their parents here on earth and in eternity. The obedience includes inward reverence, as well as outward acts.

Ephesians 5:22 talks about duty prescribed to wives: to submit to their husbands in the Lord, which includes honouring and obeying them. The wife is to submit to the husband's authority in the home. By a conscientious discharge of our duties we owe to our fellow creatures; we obey and please God Himself.

1. **b. Civil authority**

This refers to the governing authority in a state, country or locality. The grace of the gospel teaches us submission and quietness, but pride and carnal mind causes murmuring and discontentment. Whatever the person in authority over us may be, yet the first power they have as those in governing authority must be submitted to and obeyed. In Matthew 22:21, the Lord said, "Give unto Caesar what is Caesar's and unto God what is God's", when he was asked whether it is right to pay tax to the government.

In the general course of human affair, rulers are not terrors to honest, quiet, and good subjects but to evildoers. As Christians we must never be involved in tricks or fraud or disobeying civil authority, because they exist by God's appointment and sanction. Proverbs 8:15 talks about Kings reigning and rulers decreeing justice by God's wisdom. Daniel 2:21 also tells us that God removes and sets up Kings.

1. **c. Authority in the Church**

Ephesians 1:22 tells us that all creatures are in subjection to Jesus Christ and must either yield to Him in sincere obedience or fall under the weight of His scepter and receive their doom. God gave Christ to be head over all things. It was a gift to Jesus Christ

and it was a gift to the church to be provided with a head with so much power and authority. God gave Him all power both in heaven and in earth. In the local assembly (the church), the Pastor stands as a representative of Christ's authority in the church. Disobeying your Pastor is as good as disobeying God because God has appointed him to watch over His flock and God speaks through him to His flock.

1. **10.7.0 Your relationship with your spiritual leader**

The Bible says we should obey our spiritual leaders and submit to them (Hebrews 13:17). Your spiritual leader has been given the charge by God to watch over your spiritual welfare.

The leaders in the Church have the responsibility of training people who are under them, to full maturity. This responsibility could be a lot easier when the followers humble themselves in obedience to their leaders.

Your attitude should be such that your leaders would give your report with joy and not with grief. In 1 Samuel 15:22-23, this scripture like many other places clearly explained that, "obedience is better than sacrifice". This is one of the very important required characters of a Christian in his relationship to his leader. In other words, rebellion and stubbornness are serious sins. Scripture equates them to WITCHCRAFT and idol worship, sins worthy of death. Refer to Exodus 22:18; Leviticus 20:6

Also in Numbers 16, we read how Korah who was a Levite, and already one of the leaders rebelled against Moses, and was punished.

1. **10.7.1 Speaking against your leaders (Number 12:1-6).**

As Christians, it is not in our position to speak against our leaders even if they do something wrong. This is because they are ordained by God and are answerable to Him or their leader, and not to you who is under him. Romans 13:1-2 says "Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power that be but God's: the powers that be are ordained of God. Whosoever therefore resisteth the power resisteth the ordinance of God:

and they that resisteth the power shall receive to themselves damnation. Just like the example of Miriam and Aaron in Number 12:1-6.

1. **10.7.2 What do you do?**
2. a. Pray for him 1 Timothy 2:1-3

Paul urges us to pray for all people, particularly for our leaders. This is not when they have been good to us but even at times when things are not well.

1. b. Speak to someone senior to him in love, not complaining.
2. b. Forgive him in love.

1. **10.8.0 CONCLUSION**

This class teaches on the responsibility of the Christian, the relation between the old commandments, which have been done away with and the new commandments. Our confession and manner of lives must be consistent with the Word of God. There is power in our tongues, So we must speak the right words. A Christian must work by faith, because without faith he cannot please God. Christianity is a life of submission and therefore Christians must respect or submit to the authority at home, Church and office and government. Anything contrary to this is rebellious, which is as the sin of witchcraft. Finally, a Christian must not speak against his leader.

Class Review

At the end of this class, discussing the following questions should test the students' comprehension of the topics covered:

1. 1. What is the whole class all about?
2. 2. What is the new commandment? Relate it to the old commandments
3. 3. What is confession and what should be the manner of our (Christians) confession?
4. 4. What does it mean to say, "Life and death is in the power of tongue"?
5. 5. What is the significance of this statement to the life of a Christian?
6. 6. Why should a Christian be submissive?
7. 7. What are the three levels of authorities as taught in this class.

8. 8. How can you describe the ideal or recommended relationship with your spiritual leader?
9. 9. What should be your relationship with constituted authorities; both those who hate and maltreat you and those who love you.

1. **10.9.0 RECOMMENDED MINISTRY MATERIALS.**

i. Tapes

Christ in you

Striving for the faith of the gospel

Serving the Lord

One thing needful

3 important things

Walking in God

Living according to the Spirit

Three phases of God's will

The life of Christ in you

Maintaining a perfect heart

1. ii. Books

The Power of Tongues

The Gates of Zion

MS 502

BELIEVERS' LOVEWORLD INCORPORATION

1. 11.0 INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this class is to ensure that the student is well informed about the ministry. By the end of the class he should be better informed about the Cell System, conversant with leadership structure of the ministry and know who his leaders are.

This class will also serve as a spring board in launching the student into the realm of understanding what it means to give one's life a meaning: having an understanding of the vision of the ministry which is clearly spelt out in our outreach programs and our emphasis on training at all levels. And lastly, he must be at home with what we believe and preach in this ministry. This is summarized in our statement of faith.

1. 11.1.0 CHRIST EMBASSY AND YOU

The book of 2 Corinthians 5:20 says that we are ambassadors for Christ. Like any other ambassador here on earth posted to his station country, we are also ambassadors (representatives) of Christ to reconcile the world back to Him. We are posted into the World though we are not of the World. We are to win the World to Christ. (Zion is our home

country because we are on an official assignment). In doing this we give people's lives a meaning i.e. salvation, healing, prosperity, peace etc.

QUESTION: What are my responsibilities as an ambassador of Christ?

1. 11.2.0 THE CELL SYSTEM

a The main purpose of the cell unit is to be a missionary unit through which outreach will be carried out so that souls can be won, Hence, It is an avenue for soul winning and development.

1. b. It serves as an identity system, that is, everybody must belong to a cell, which serves as a basis of identification. It gives the individual a face in the crowd also it gives him position and makes the individual a vital, unique member of the church.
2. c. It serves as a place for the exploitation of leadership potentials: As we win souls and take responsibility over them, we can rise from being a bible study teacher who is responsible for at least three souls he won into the cell to becoming a PCF Leader. A PCF leader is responsible for about ten cells or more. The cell system gives the individual an opportunity to exercise himself in ministry.
3. d. It serves as a unit of fellowship. The cell unit encourages fellowship among brethren, which is necessary for the nurturing of their faith (*Hebrew 10:22-25*).
4. e. It is a unit to cater for the immediate need of brethren as they arise.
5. f. The cell system serves as a kind of security system that ensures souls are not lost. (*John 15:10, john 6:39*)

11.2.1 CELL STRUCTURE

PCUs (Pastoral Care Unit) are made up of at least 3 cells and PCF (Pastoral Care Fellowship) are made up of at least 3 PCUs. The Pastoral Fellowship Coordinating Center (PFCC) coordinates the cell ministry administration. We have cells for teenagers, singles and the married, which are all geographically located.

The P.C.D. (Pastoral Care Department) is in charge of church ceremonies such as wedding, water baptism, child dedication, naming ceremony, service of songs, and also coordinates services.

Question

Find out all the locations where we have PCFs and which covers each area. Get names of all the leaders in the various PCFs.

1. 11.3.0 BRIEF HISTORY OF THE MINISTRY

This ministry started as a fellowship at the then Bendel State University, Ekpoma. It was known as the "Youth For Christ." The name was later changed to Believers Love World Campus Fellowship. On graduating from Campus, Pastor Chris started Christ Embassy (the first church) in Benin and later handed over to Pastor Tom and came over to Lagos. In Lagos, Christ Embassy began at Adeniyi Jones in Ikeja, from there to Alausa and finally moved to Oregun Road. Today, we are in various continents of the globe.

1. 11.4.0 THE LEADERSHIP STRUCTURE

The President of the ministry is Pastor Chris Oyakhilome; he is also the head of the CEC (Central Executive Council), which is the highest, decision-making body of the ministry.

Members of the CEC include his lovely wife, Pastor Anita Oyakhilome, Pastor Tom Amenkhienan, Rev. Ray Okocha, Evangelist Edward Owase, Pastor Ken Oyakhilome, Pastor Tom Obiaze, Pastor Ambrose, Pastor Kayode Adesina and Pastor Tuoyo Edun. They are the senior ministers in the ministry.

The GEC (General Executive Council) is made up of all the Pastors in the ministry. This comprises the Pastors of C.E.C. (Christ Embassy Churches), Satellite Church Pastors, Campus Pastors and other ordained Pastors in this ministry. They meet at the Pastoral Conference, which holds in November annually.

EXERCISE: Identify and know your CEC members facially, also know the chapter of Christ Embassy they pastor.

1. 11.5.0 THE VARIOUS ARMS OF THE MINISTRY

There are three arms of the ministry

1. a. Church ministry

The name of the church is Christ Embassy. All the churches in this ministry are addressed as Christ Embassy. These comprise the Chapter churches headed by the CEC members, other Christ Embassy churches headed by non-CEC members and the Satellite Churches.

Each church has satellite churches operating under them. They are off shoots of the main CE churches.

QUESTION: Write the names of the various satellite churches we have in Ojo.

1. b. Campus ministry

The ministry as stated earlier on started from the campus. Pastor Chris has a unique ministry for the youth, which is why we have the results we get from our campuses. It is in line with the vision of the ministry. Today, we have our fellowship in virtually all the Universities, Polytechnics, Colleges of Education and Schools of Administration.

The name of the Campus Fellowship is Believers Loveworld (BLW) Campus Fellowship.

They are divided into zones. Training programmes are held from time to time for the leaders, to empower them for the work of the ministry.

QUESTION: Why do you think God told Pastor to start from Campus?

1. c. Media Ministry

The term media refers to the mode of transmitting information or news. This is done either by print or electronically. For the ministry, we transmit the good news through our books, tapes, TV programmes and the Internet. We ensure the gospel is made available to all men as much as possible through our pledges for LTM, Impact Europe and Partnership. Our involvement in the distribution or marketing of our books and tapes also helps to achieve our desire of spreading the gospel.

QUESTION: How many books, audiocassettes do you have from the ministry?

1. 11.6.0 LOVEWORLD MINISTERIAL COLLEGE

The growth rate of this ministry is very fast and thus the need for trained hands to handle the responsibility of nurturing new converts in the various arms of the ministry and the doctrine

of Christ. LMC is not a bible school but a training ground for leaders. Every member of the ministry is a potential leader. LMC affords us the opportunity of being trained on the Word, the vision of the ministry, for the work of the ministry and the edifying of the body of Christ. This is done in our own unique way. This is the highest level of training in the ministry. It offers courses from GS (General Studies) to church administration and lay Pastor.

1. **11.7.0 LOVEWORLD CORRESPONDENCE BIBLE COURSE**

This is also a training course open to all. It is done by correspondence i.e. without a classroom environment. It comprises daily study guides and questions, which enable us to cultivate a disciplined and steady study life. Monthly packs for this course are prepared for us and on completion of the course for each month, another month course is sent and thus you can continually take the course conveniently every morning or at night. A token fee is paid for each pack consisting of an audiocassette by Pastor Chris, a course manual and an exercise book for the answers.

1. **11.8.0 MINISTRY PROGRAMMES**

These are programmes that are held either annually or quarterly or at the discretion of our pastorate and by the direction of the Holy Spirit.

1. a. **Camp Meeting**

This is the most significant of all programmes we hold. Everyone who identifies with this ministry comes for camp meeting irrespective of whether they reside in Nigeria or not. It is a time to hear from God. We also hear of the great strides taken in the past years and the plan for the coming year. Reports are tendered by the various churches and campus fellowships, and prizes are awarded. At camp meeting, you as an individuals can take advantage of the period to hear from God by yourself on your way forward.

1. b. **Outreach Programmes**

These are primarily evangelical meetings with the Holy Spirit in total control. They create avenue for the Holy Ghost to move mightily in the lives of people for the salvation of their souls and healing of their bodies. Some examples of these programmes are:

- **Total Experience**
- **Atmosphere For Miracles Live**

- **Healing From Heaven**
- **Word Missions**
- **Night of Bliss**
- **Super Sunday**

1. c. **Prosperity Convention**

This is an in-reach meeting in which under the anointing of the Holy Spirit the brethren are taught on their rights to the blessings of God in Christ and to teach them on how to release themselves to becoming who God has made them to be in Christ Jesus. The brethren also learn how to activate God's ability not only to meet their needs but also to meet the needs of others regardless of what those needs might be.

1. d. **Pastor's conference**
2. e. **Partners Conference**
3. f. **Charismatic Renewal Conference (CRC)**

11.9.0 THE VISION OF THE MINISTRY

We are to take the divine life and the manifested presence of our Lord Jesus Christ to the people of the world with signs, wonders and miracles through the agency of the Holy Spirit and the Word of God and to give their lives a meaning. We are to win souls, build them and send them. Our vision is translated in the message we preach and how we preach it. Also, our tapes, books, ministry programmes and other ministry materials portray this vision.

1. 11.10.0 STATEMENT OF FAITH

The vision of this ministry is in line with God's Word and according to His goodwill for humanity, to reconcile all men to Himself. Therefore our statement of faith is the statement of Bible doctrine as believed and taught by the Believers' Loveworld Inc. aka Christ Embassy. This statement of faith has its source in the Bible and is in total agreement with the foundational principles of the doctrines of Christ.

1. 1. We believe that the Bible contains the inspired Word of God

(2 Timothy 3:16, 2 Peter 1:20-21)

1. 2. We believe that there is one God eternally existent in three persons: God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. (Ephesians 4:4-5; 1 Corinthians 8:6)
2. 3. We believe in the Deity of Christ
3. a. He was born of a virgin; (John 1:1-4, 10:30, Hebrews 1:1-5).
4. b. He was conceived of the Holy Spirit; (Matthew 1:18-25 Luke 1:30-35)
5. c. He died: (John 19:30-35)
6. d. He rose again from the dead bodily; (John 20:25-29, Luke 24:36-40)
7. e. He ascended into heaven bodily, (1 Thessalonians 4:16-17, Matthew 24:29-30)
8. 4. We believe in the rapture of the church, and the Second Coming of Christ (1 Thessalonians 4:16-17; Matthew 24:29-30).
9. 5. We believe that the only means of being cleansed from sin is repentance and faith in the precious blood of Jesus Christ (Acts 3:19, Luke 24:47, Ephesians 1:7)
10. 6. We believe that regeneration by the power of the Holy Ghost through the Word of God is essential for personal salvation (Titus 2:5, John 3:3-5, Ephesians 5:27)
11. 7. We believe that the redemptive work of Christ on the cross provides divine healing for the body and salvation for the soul to everyone that believes (Acts 3:16 Acts 9:32-35, 1 Peter 2:24).
12. 8. We believe that when an individual receives the Holy Ghost, he receives divine enablement for Christian service and witness (Acts 1:8; 2:4; 3:1-26; 4:5-12)
13. 9. We believe in the sanctifying power of the Holy Ghost. (1 Corinthians 6:11; Romans 15:16)
14. 10. We believe in the final resurrection of both the saved and the lost. The former to eternal life and the later to eternal judgment (Revelation 20:11-15, 1 Corinthians 12:23).

1. 11.11.0 CONCLUSION

This class is centered on the understanding of Believers Love World (BLW), which is the ministry that God gave to us through the President of the ministry, Pastor Chris Oyhakhilome. It explains the organizational structure of BLW and the various arms of the ministry such as the church, campus and media ministry. This class also teaches the vision of the ministry and our statement of faith. At the end of this class, the students should have good understanding of BLW: the reason we do what we do and the way we do them, which is totally based on God's word.

Class Review

At end of this class, the following questions should be administered to the students:

1. 1. What is the purpose of this class?
2. 2. What does the name of the ministry "Christ Embassy" implies?
3. 3. What is the purpose of the cell system?
4. 4. What are the main arms of the ministry?
5. 5. What is Love World Ministerial College, Loveworld Correspondence Bible Course? What are their significance?
6. 6. List and explain the various ministerial programmes in Believers Love World?
7. 7. List the BLW statement of faith
8. **11.12 RECOMMENDED MINISTRY MATERIALS.**

i. Tapes

The testimony of God

Being covenant minded

Being spiritually minded

The Harvest Is Plenteous

Operative Power Of God's Word

Keep Your Focus On Jesus

Living Beyond

Fulfilling Your Purpose

God's Greater Blessings

The Priestly Ministry of the Believer (An expose on prayer)

1. ii. Books

MS601 EFFECTIVE CELL SYSTEM

1. 12.0 INTRODUCTION

This class is all about an effective cell system. The following topics are covered in this course: The lay Christian on a mission, the Cell, organization of the cell, qualities of a cell leader, cell leaders' responsibilities and commitment, prayers as related to soul winning.

Objectives

At the end of this course the following objectives should have been achieved:

1. 1. To understand who a Christian leader is
2. 2. To know the cell system and its operations
3. 3. To identify the qualities of a good leader and his/her responsibilities.
4. 4. To know the importance of prayers in soul winning

12.1 THE CHALLENGES OF MOST URBAN PEOPLE

Ministry in urban areas is sometimes challenging to the faith of many who had been successful in their past evangelical involvements at Schools, their smaller towns, or their neighbourhoods. Many are unable to adjust to the structures of the urban cities. This oftentimes results in phenomenal called "Spiritual

burnouts". To be successfully and meaningfully involved in urban evangelism, you must understand the problems and structures of the cities.

1. a. **Psychological overload**

This refers to activities, calls, and urban stimulus that crave our attentions, such as the bombardment of sales messages, lots of casual relationships etc. Consequently, urban people tend to develop mental filters to enable them choose what they want. This is why door-to-door evangelism is not effective

1. b. **Social Isolation**

The four basic relationships are biological, geographical, vocational and recreational.

While the first two kinds of relationships are common in the rural areas, the third is the commonest in the urban areas. So, the person that is not employed suffers from what is called SOCIAL ISOLATION. A Christian must not remain unemployed because the isolated people cannot be reached.

1. c. **Social invisibility**

There is the high tendency for the urban people to be cut off from all relationships that have no economic values. This problem is largely caused by high financial responsibilities. For example, people could live in the same apartment buildings, estates, etc, and may never know each other. This problem is further aggravated by the long working hours. These problems must be taking into consideration for the effective evangelization of the cities.

12.2 THE LAY CHRISTIAN ON A MISSION

- a Who is a lay Christian?
- b What sort of mission?
- c What are the necessary tools or practical requirement?

The word lay means belonging to or involving the people of a church who are not members of the clergy. Hence, every Christian becomes a lay Christian once he gives his life to Christ. You might not be a professional preacher or teacher, apostle or evangelist, but you must recognize that God has sent you on a mission.

What is the Mission

A mission is group of people sent especially by a church to make converts or any task especially of a diplomatic nature. So from the definition it is very clear that every Christian is a missionary. *Mark 16:15* says, 'go ye into the world' and this is the greatest commission to us all. Jesus Christ's mission was to seek and save the lost. The bible says in *Romans 5:10*, "For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of His Son, much more being reconciled we shall be saved by his life". We have a mandate to reconcile the world back to God. In other words, God has committed unto us the ministry of Reconciliation. *2 Corinthians 5:18 –20* says, "And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation; to wit that God was in Christ reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation."

1. 12.3 INNATE ABILITY

For us to be effective in the mission, God has equipped us by giving us the Holy Spirit. *Acts 1:8* says, "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the utter most part of the earth". The power is translated from the same word that means Dynamics. The word Dynamics is the inherent power capable of reproducing itself like a dynamo. Amplified Bible says, "But you shall receive power (**ability, efficiency and might**) when the Holy Spirit has come upon you".

This lets us know that we receive divine enablements, which help us produce results. The Holy Spirit energizes us and equips us for the mission.

It is worthy of note that the great commission and the gospel benefits is for everybody in the world, not only to the Jews or for the first century as has been erroneously believed by some sects (*Notes from Dakes*)

To be an effective missionary or minister you have to understand the problems confronting your members. Some these problems amongst others include social

commitments, occult involvement, cultural bias, health, and financial difficulty etc. These people will need you to address some of these issues. That is why it is important to be prayerfully and be knowledgeable in God's Word through study. To reach prospective converts you must observe the following: Decency and cleanliness, Courtesy and good manner of speech, Basic hygiene, Prayerfulness, Knowledge of scriptures, Good reference bible, Illustrate with relevant situation etc, Acknowledge the individual's right to good living standards and progress and good ambitions, Never deviate from your main purpose of lovingly sharing the word of God.

[ROLE PLAY 1: Brethren should demonstrate how they could minister to unsaved and get them saved]

12.4 THE CELL SYSTEM

The cell, which is a missionary unit, is evangelically designed for soul winning and development of the brethren. The cell is God's house or operating headquarters. The word of God lets us know how the former Christians met. *Acts 2:46-47 (Amplified)* says, "and day after day they regularly assembled in the temple with united purpose and in their homes they broke bread (including the Lord's supper). They partook of their food with gladness and simplicity and generous hearts. Constantly praising God and being in favour and goodwill with all the people; and the Lord kept adding (to their number) daily those who were being saved (from spiritual death)". From this scripture the following can be deduced:

- a They regularly assembled
- b United purpose (Vision)
- c They broke bread in their homes, partaking with gladness
- d Constantly praising God
- e They were in favour and experienced good will
- f God added to their number daily

g Evidence of salvation.

As a believer starts winning souls in his mission station, they develop into a cell. All the members must regard the cell, as a missionary squad or unit and therefore the meetings should be evangelical.

The cell and the mother Church

The cell is the basic fellowship and outreach unit of the mother Church. Therefore, it depends on the mother Church for its effective functioning. The programs and activities of the cell are based on the guidelines given by the mother Church. The cell leader is a delegated official of the pastorate, so should neither be AUTONOMOUS nor INTERDOMINATIONAL. The cell ministry performs the following roles:

1. a. Following-up of converts and new comers in the Church.
2. b. The evangelical program of the Church is done through the cell groups.

1. 12.5.0 Cell Structures and Meetings

The cell activities are vital to the growth of the cell system and therefore should be given serious consideration. The purpose of Cell activities is basically to give every member of the Cell an understanding that everyone is responsible for and to one another for the Cell growth.

Different kinds of activities

1. 1. Prayer chains
2. 2. Outreaches
3. 3. Meeting
4. a. Prayer and Planning meeting
5. b. Bible study meeting
6. c. Outreach meeting
7. d. Fellowship meeting
8. 4. Special dates: Special dates for the cell members can be used as a form of Outreach to win souls or in-reach meeting to foster the relationships amongst Cell members
9. 5. Visitation meetings: The details of this meeting may differ as the leader follows the direction of the Holy Spirit. However, each meeting must be organized to meet definite objective towards the cell growth, development and nourishment of the brethren.

Prayer Chain Meetings

Prayer chain is one of the most important activities necessary for cell growth. Hence the importance of prayer chains in a cell cannot be over emphasized. Prayer topics could include:

1. a. Prayer for the nation.
2. b. Praying for the church
3. c. Praying for your PCU or Cell
4. d. Praying for the plans and objectives of the Cell.
5. e. Praying for the members of the Cell and their individual needs.
6. f. Praying for the advancement of the gospel in the area that the Cell is located.

The prayer chain could be held for three hours daily, probably from 6pm – 9pm.

This would give every member of the Cell the opportunity to participate, since in most big cities like Lagos a lot of people close from their offices at 6pm. The mode of operation of the Prayer Chain is very simple: everyone praying in his own closet at a particular time for a particular prayer point. It should be patterned in such a way that on everyday the emphasis would be on a particular prayer point with different sub-topics. Each Cell member should be faithfully and actively involved in it for the space of 30 minutes. Depending on the number of the Cell members, prayer topics can go from major to every seemingly minute detail. In Luke 18:1 the Bible says, *“Men ought always to pray, and not to faint”*.

The Cell Structure

1. 1. Cell Organization and Distribution in PCF's/PCU/Cells.

In all the above-mentioned fellowships of the Church, most of the Cells are structured thus: Vocational-Geographical, Residential Vocational, Strictly Vocational, Age group non geographical, and other specialized cells, which could be determined by the Pastorate.

2. Venue of Meetings for all Cells

The place of meeting for every cell is determined by the structure of the cell itself. However, it is advised that all our cell meetings hold in decent places such as hotels, conference centers, and restaurants. The use of schools is discouraged. In cases where homes will be used, it is necessary to get your PCF leader's approval.

1. 3. Starting a New Cell

A cell is formed by the division of an already existing cell. A cell could be formed in any of the following ways:

1. a. Cell Formation by 'Mitosis' (Cell Division)
2. b. Cell Formation by Outreach
3. c. Cell formation by Pioneering
4. **4. Growing into Pastoral Care Unit**

A PCU is formed when a cell gives birth to at least two other cells. The Cell leader of the original cell becomes the PCU leader.

1. **5. Building a new Pastoral Care Fellowship**

A PCF is formed when a PCU gives birth to at least three other PCUs. This rule is not strictly applied as it also depends on the size of the church. So this rule can be altered by the Pastorate depending on his church. Also note that the leadership of Cells, PCUs and PCF's must be duly approved by the Pastorate.

The Cell Meeting Patterns

For the effective functioning of the cell, the weekly meetings must be structured in the following ways:

1st Meeting - Prayer and Planning Meeting (Duration: One (1) Hour)

This meeting is very important for the Cell because it is at this meeting that the Cell members get acquainted with the goal of the Cell for the month, and pray toward its accomplishment as a body. So a Cell leader should not miss this meeting or even shelve it for any other activity because of its importance.

Outline of Meeting

ü Brief exhortation

ü Outlining goals and objectives for the month

ü Plan the different meetings in the month by defining the goals that must be achieved and the nature of the meetings. The monthly outreach meeting must be giving a special attention by specifically defining the nature of the outreach, ascertaining the program's content and assigning responsibilities to the various members of the cell.

ü Pray about plans and programs

2nd Meeting - Bible Study Meeting (In-reach) (Duration: One (1) Hour)

This meeting is also very vital in that it is designed for the building the brethren. Every month, the coordinating office will make the Cell Unit Bible Study outline available. Please note that this meeting should adopt an informal setting. The different fellowship departments should organize a preparatory class for all the Bible Study Class teachers before the day of this Cell meeting. Thus, your Bible Class teachers already know what to teach the group assigned to them before the meeting.

Outline of Meeting

- ü Use prepared study guides for Bible Study meetings
- ü Bible Study Class Teachers to handle different groups. This group teaching will hold for 30 minutes after which all the groups will come together for a recap and a question & answer session.
- ü Adapt this guide to suit the purpose of your group
- ü Everybody present is expected to be actively involved.
- ü It can include the breaking of bread.
- ü The meeting is concluded with announcements and closing prayers.

3rd Meeting - Outreach Meeting (Duration: Two (2) Hours)

This meeting is designed for Soul winning. In all your meetings you should ensure that people who are invited get saved and filled in the Holy Spirit. Now the Cell is corporately going out for Soul winning, it can be done in a lot of forms viz., Breakfast Outreach meeting, Dinner Outreach meeting, Musical Outreach etc, according to the leading of the Holy Spirit. But one most important thing is that it must be soul winning oriented. You must ensure that souls are won and the presence of the Holy Ghost is manifested.

Pattern of Outreach meeting

- ü Two or three testimonies (the kind that inspires to salvation)
- ü Guest speaker e.g. another PCU leader (Don't invite someone from outside the Church)
- ü Prayer & Alter call
- ü Special number
- ü Refreshment (If any)
- ü Closure

4th Meeting - Fellowship Meeting

This meeting can be patterned in a lot of ways depending on the plan of the Pastoral Care Unit. You can decide to have it separately as a PCU, or the whole PCF (Pastoral Care Fellowship) can come together, making the family bigger. It helps to get the members of the PCF acquainted with one another. It can also be a small forum of "Get Acquainted Special" for the people who were added to the Cell for that month. The PCF leader should plan this meeting with all his Cell leaders for a definite purpose. It is also a time of sharing testimonies and being edified by other members.

Workshop: *All students are to be divided into groups of fours or threes depending on the size of the class. They are to do the following*

- ü Come up with a name of a programme.
- ü Write down the objective of the programme
- ü Fix the time, date and target attendance for the programme.
- ü Draw up a work schedule by noting what is needed or what needs to be done
- ü Assign responsibility
- ü Come up with evangelism awareness strategy

The teacher should analyse each group’s programme at the end.

12.6 QUALITIES OF A CELL LEADER

Exercise: Write five attributes of the following

	Who is a leader	What is leading
a		
b		
c		
d		
e		

A leader is one who shows others the way by taking step first. The whole process of leadership entails guiding, directing, instructing, and commanding others to achieve a desired goal or vision. So a leader can also be defined as one who knows where he is going and carries other along. Leadership is developed not discovered.

Attributes of Leadership

- a Leadership moves the group towards its goals
- b Leadership builds meaningful relationship with people.
- c Leadership motivates the group members to great achievements.
- d Leadership is more than holding an office.

Acts 6: 3 says, "... Look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, ..." and from John 10: 11- 12 we know that a good shepherd risks and lays down his (own) life for the sheep. Psalms 23 says, "The Lord is my shepherd I shall not want, He maketh me to lie down in green pastures (Stress on the analogy of the shepherd and the sheep)". Refer to John 10:13-14 the living Bible translation.

12.7 RESPONSIBILITY AND COMMITMENT OF THE CELL LEADER

- a Primarily, His responsibility lies in soul winning and soul development, just as Jesus Christ who is our role model did.
- b Responsible for communicating the goal and vision of the cell.
- c He is responsible for the growth of the cell and spiritual development of the members through the various cell activities. (*See Romans 9:1-3*)
- d Follow up. He is responsible for visiting brethren both old and new ones.
- e A leader must show commitment to the work and responsibility that God has given to him. 1Timothy 1:11 says, *“According to the glorious gospel of the blessed God which was committed to my trust”*. So a leader must show commitment to the vision, to God’s word and to members of the cell. Hebrews 13: 17.
- f A leader must be diligent Proverbs 27:23 requires us to be diligent in our work and know the state of your flock.

12.8 THE ROLE OF PRAYER IN SOUL WINNING

The importance of soul winning cannot be over emphasized. Proverbs 11:30 says, “The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, and he that winneth souls is wise”. Soul winning requires effective prayer life because it is through prayers that men are delivered from the kingdom of darkness and translated into the kingdom of light. In John 21:6, Jesus instructed his disciples to pray. 2 Corinthians 4:3-4 says, *“But if our gospel be hid it is hid to them that are lost in whom the god of this world has blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ who is the image of God should shine unto them”*.

Every cell leader must be a praying person Ephesians 6:10-12, admonishes us to put on the whole armour of God. From Ephesians 6:10-12, we know that the kingdom of darkness is a systematically organized empire of evil with ranks and order, hence the need to pray. Prayer is a personal connection with God and it is inspiring, powerful, energizing, dynamic and

revitalizing. It is doing battle with the invisible forces of darkness. You develop a personal relationship with God through prayers.

Types of Prayer

From 1 Timothy 2:1 and other scriptures we know that there are different kinds of prayer. It says, *“I exhort therefore, that first of all, supplications, prayers, intercession and giving of thanks be made for all men”*. In this course, we will dwell briefly on the prayer of intercession because of its importance to soul winning.

Prayer of Intercession

The prayer of intercession is very vital for effective soul winning. The word “INTERCEDE” comes from the Greek word: “Entugchano”, which means to act as an agent or manage in all phases of salvation and dealings with God. An intercessor is one who stands in the gap between God and man and brings the request of the people to God in prayers. In Psalm 2:8, God instructs us to ask for the salvation of the people. We have the responsibility to ask Him for the souls of men because He said in His word that, “Behold all souls are mine...” Ezekiel 18:4. So, dynamic soulwinning comes through strong intercession.

The role of prayer in soulwinning

Soulwinning is the process of people being birthed into the kingdom of God. This entails being delivered from the kingdom of darkness and being translated into the kingdom of God.

It is important to note that, like every sovereign government or authority (whether physical or spiritual) Satan defends its territory and citizens while at the same time pursuing its goals. The kingdom of darkness is pitched against the kingdom of God. That is why Soul is the primary area of contention between the Kingdom of God and that of Satan. Prayer is therefore a veritable ingredient for soul wining. Without prayer for lost souls, there can't be genuine experience of salvation because Satan and his cohorts do not just loose anyone without fighting for the soul.

1. 12.9 HOW PRAYER HELPS IN SOULWINNING

ü Prayer makes the soulwinner sensitive.

ü Prayer gets the new born babes in Christ to be rooted and subsequently grounded in Christ.

ü It moves God to send labourers into the harvest field. Matthew 9:37-38.

ü It removes the veil shielding the sinner from the eternal truth.

CONCLUSION

This class started by letting you know that every believer is a lay Christian on a mission, which implies that every Christian is a missionary and that the cell system is a missionary unit. For the cell system to be effective and functional, it has to be operated according to the cell system guidelines as taught in this class. The responsibilities of the cell leader were highlighted and the importance of prayer to soul winning was also discussed.

Class Review

At the end of this class, the following questions should be discussed.

1. 1. List and describe all the various types of cell meetings in a month.
2. 2. What are the qualities of an effective cell leader?
3. 3. What is the role of prayer on cell growth?
4. 4. People should state their experiences on evangelism.
5. 5. Give experiences of their involvement in their respective cells.

MS602 THE PASTORAL CARE DEPARTMENT

13.0 INTRODUCTION

The Pastoral Care Department (PCD) is a ministry designed to meet the needs of the brethren spiritually and otherwise. It brings the Pastoral work to the individual members of the church thereby making them know, feel and participate in the body of Christ. It is therefore imperative to know and understand some aspects of the pastoral work, which are very important.

13.1.0 THE PASTOR: HIS CALLING AND HIS DUTIES

The word “Pastor” is derived from a Greek word “poime” which means shepherd. A shepherd is one who tends sheep. In other words, the pastor is the one who has people under his care to tend especially their spiritual lives as well as give them God -given guidance.

13.1.2 His calling

The office of the Pastor is specifically a calling of the Spirit of God. We find in *Ephesians 4:11* that “Pastoring” is an office in the church of Jesus Christ and according to *Hebrews 5:4*, this calling is from God.

13.1.3 His duties

God inspired every word in the scriptures so as to communicate His thoughts to us. Therefore, a pastor’s duty of teaching the flock is much more than that of feeding them with God’s word. The whole office of a shepherd encompasses guiding, guarding, leading, feeding, and nurturing. Thus, the word “Pastoral”

means that which pertains to the pastor or which relates to the work of the pastor.

13.2 WHAT IS CARE?

Care means to be concerned about or interested in someone else's well being; to have responsibility, charge or oversight, watchful regard or attention. It also connotes the sense of responsibility expressed in charge, management & oversight. Thus, pastoral care means that which pertains to the office of a pastor with the responsibility to care, expressed in charge, management and care.

1. 13.3 THE PASTORAL CARE DEPARTMENT (PCD)

The Pastoral Care Department (PCD) is the executive arm of the pastoral work through different activities. The Pastoral Care Department does the following:

- a Nurturing Helping individual members of the church to grow and develop through the cell system.

- b Feeding Giving spiritual food (the Word of God) to individuals, which is achieved through our various meetings in church, cells, publications and tapes.

- c Leading Directing individuals by the Word of God.

- d Guarding Protecting the brethren through spiritual leadership and God's
 - 1. Word.
 - 2. e. Breeding: Seeing to it that they multiply the right way, by reproducing people of their kind. Numerical growth is a vital aspect of breeding and the cell system aids the effectiveness of this.

The PCD is therefore the “co-coordinating centre” of all the “pastoral care” entails. It has the responsibility of monitoring the pastoral care, outreach fellowships, satellite churches, visitations, counseling and follow-ups. It ensures

the growth and development of these organs with the aim of achieving their set goals for the total benefit of the church.

1. 13.4 THE PASTORAL CARE FELLOWSHIP (PCF)

The Pastoral Care Fellowship is a system that has been put in place to help individuals from different social status, age, background, religious orientation etc. This system groups people according to their appropriate needs and caters for their total spiritual nourishment through fellowship. It's a family of believers aimed at reaching everybody's spiritual needs, dwelling in unity with one another, inspiring, teaching, exhorting one another, living like Christ and abiding in the Word for perfect victory in their daily lives. However, this family cannot remain stagnant numerically because where the Word is preached, it grows and multiplies not only in their individual lives but also as a group.

Every member of this family has a major responsibility to bring more people to this family (PCF) and make sure they are well fed with the Word of God so that they can enjoy God's family (the church) as well as have an experience of God's kind of life through the expression of love demonstrated by the brethren. The main goal of the PCF is soul winning and soul development.

1. 13.5 HOW TO ENJOY YOUR PARTICIPATION IN YOUR PCF

The PCF was not designed to be stereotyped but to be enjoyed. Spiritual things require a lot of discipline, training and hard work. As a member of a PCF, you have to be determined to make the best of your PCF.

1. 13.6 WAYS TO MAKE YOU PCF AN ULTIMATE PLACE FOR EXCITING SPIRITUAL GROWTH

a Be Available

Your being around and available creates an environment for growth and productivity.

b Have a Vision

Get interested in the way your meetings are organised, be involved in the meetings by inviting people to the meetings, preparing yourself by praying; thus giving an example for others to follow.

1. c. **Say positive things about your PCF**

You should always speak positive things about your PCF. And the members no matter the situation you find yourself for the power of life & death lies in the tongue. Make friends with your members and bless others with words of encouragement.

1. d. **Be Punctual**

You are required to always be punctual for your meetings because you are a potential leader who is being watched. You have to set examples for others to follow, for if you show your brethren that the meetings are vital by always being punctual, they would follow suit.

1. e. **Adequate Dissemination of information**

The plans and progress of the PCF has to be adequately and effectively disseminated through the PCF network, which must exist and be maintained.

1. f. **Be enthusiastic**

Get enthusiastic about what God is doing in your PCF and show your enthusiasm for it will rub off on others.

1. **13.7 THE CELL SYSTEM**

The Cell system is an avenue for soul winning and soul development. The cell units have been designed to encourage fellowship amongst brethren, which is necessary for the nurturing of their faith.

THE CELL STRUCTURE

1. **1. Organization and Distribution**

The cell units are structured in the following ways:

(a) Vocational – Geographical: Cell group according to the geographical location and vocation.

(b) Residential – Geographical: Cell group according to the geographical location and place of residence.

(c) Strictly vocational: Cell group at place of vocation.

(d) Age group – non geographical: Cell group according to age and not geographical location.

1. **2. Cell meetings venue**

The structure of the cell determines the venue for the cell meetings. It is however advised that cell meetings should hold in decent places such as restaurants, conference rooms etc. but the use of schools are discouraged.

3 Starting a new cell

A cell is formed by the division of an already existing cell but a cell can also be formed by pioneering a new one in an area where non existed before.

1. **a. Cell formation through Cell division**

This type of cell formation is very healthy since the cell is formed from an already existing healthy cell. A cell is due for division once it has more than 25 members.

1. **b. Cell formation by outreach**

A cell can also be formed as an end product of an outreach programme. Souls won at the end of an outreach programme can be grouped to form cells with the assistant cell leader who has met the requirements of a cell leader leading them.

1. **c. Cell formation by Pioneering**

This can occur when a committed member either due to relocation or LMC fieldwork or special interest in an area is permitted to pioneer (start) a cell in an area. Such a member has to be qualified to be a cell leader.

4 Growing into a Pastoral Care Unit (PCU)

A PCU is a grouping of three (3) existing cells, which initially emerged from one particular cell. The original leader of the first cell from which the others were formed becomes the PCU Leader.

5 Building a New PCF

A PCF can split to form another PCF when it has given birth to the required number of PCUs, which sometimes could be fifteen PCUs. The PCF leader for the new PCF would

be appointed by the Pastor based on the recommendation of the PCF leader of the mother PCF.

Please note that the Pastorate has to approve of a leader before he or she assumes his or her responsibilities.

13.8 LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Training people and bringing out the leadership qualities as well as instilling discipline in them is one of the most important vision of this ministry. The cell system has been especially designed and structured for leadership development. Leadership development must start at the cell levels, where the cell leader knows the members more than everybody else as he has a one-on-one contact with them.

Leadership structure

Pastor

Assistant Pastor/Pastoral assistant

PCD Lay Pastor (i.e. satellite coordinator)

PCF Leader

Deacons and Deaconesses

PCU coordinator

PCU Leader

Cell Leader

1. Asst. Cell Leader

Bible Study Class Teacher

Cell Member

Each Cell member is to be developed for leadership after being committed to the cell for a period of at least three consecutive months.

13.9 PCF ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

The PCF has a clearly laid down organizational structure, which has to be strictly adhered to. Thus organizational structure spells out the duties or responsibilities of every sphere of operation of the PCF. Therefore, for smooth organisation and information dissemination, there has to be a central executive body in the PCF with the following offices: PCF leader, Assistant PCF leader, Protocol officer, Programs director, Special duties director, Welfare officer, Music director, Follow-up co-coordinator, Publicity and library director, Venue management officer, Financial secretary and Secretary

13.10 LEADERS ACTIVITIES

1. a. Discipleship

The main goal of the church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ not only to make converts to Christianity. The disciple must hunger to know Jesus Christ in a deeply personal way as his Lord, to know Him in the power of His resurrection and in the fellowship of His suffering. (Philippians 3: 8-10)

The Cell gatherings provide an ideal place where close personal relationship between believers can be formed and where effective discipleship can occur. Being a disciple is not only about being content with Christ's teaching but also how to live in obedience to those teachings.

1. b. Visitation

A visitation programme has been put in place that involves the PCD, PCF, PCU, Cell Leaders and outreach fellowship co-ordinators. It also includes individual cell members visiting one another. Visitation periods are not only times for social visits but a time to impart spiritual instructions. A visitation programme (plan) should not only be for a season but for all seasons; it should be part of the system of the church. While visiting, you must bear in mind that you are going there to represent Christ so, be mindful of your physical appearance. You must also go with at least the following items: a bible, cell invitation card, a copy of Christ Embassy & You, special literatures designed with the name of church and address.

How to pay a visit

Personal visit: One-on-one contact with the person

- (ii) Use of phone: Making telephone calls to the person.
- (iii) Use of letters: Writing them letters to encourage & strengthen them.
- (iv) Go-in-twos: it is advised to go visiting in twos (i.e. male & female).

1. c. Follow-Up

This involves praying for the new converts, visiting them, writing to them, calling them on phone, sharing God's word with them, meeting a need when possible. It also includes introducing them to Christian service and other Christians so that they may be positively influenced to have a deep desire for God and the things of God. (*Acts 14:22-23*). You don't only do the follow-up but get the person involved in follow-up also.

1. d. Monitoring Team

This team has been set up by the PCD to see to the proper functioning of the PCFs. They work to ensure that the performance of the PCFs conforms to the plans and visions of the cell system. This team is made up of some PCD Staff, some PCF Leaders and other church members that the PCD may deem fit to carry out the responsibilities. They ensure that:

- (a) Cells follow the specified meeting patterns.
- (b) Cells follow the set procedures for leadership development

(c) Effective operation of the follow-up system in the PCFs is in place

(d) The fellowships are monitored based on their prayer requests.

(e) The cells hit the targets set for them by PCD or Pastor.

(f) They make workable recommendations to the PCD.

1. e. **Cell Registers**

These are report for all the cells. The cell registers have provisions where all the information about the cell and its members are recorded including their weekly meetings. It is submitted every week to the PCD immediately after the Cell meetings with all the necessary information supplied by the cell leaders.

1. f. **Accounts**

Every PCF, PCU, Cell, Outreach Fellowship and activity department is required to open and maintain an account with the PCD. All offerings collected in the Cell meetings, PCF, PCU, and departmental meetings are forwarded to the PCD after which a receipt is issued. Any group that wants to make a withdrawal from their account are to apply in typed writings to the PCD with at least 24 hour notice. Such money that is withdrawn from the account should not be used for the purchase of gifts for members or as gifts to members. The money should be used only for the running of the cell, for example paying for the cell meeting venue. Money received as offering should not be spent without the prior approval and necessary authorization of the PCD.

1. **13.11.0 CONCLUSION**

In this class we dealt with PCD: meaning, function, and relationship with PCF, PCU, Cell and the entire members of the church. This class will also deal with the cell system and ways of forming cells. Through the leadership development, every member of the cell has the opportunity to get to the top of the leadership structure. Lastly, there are very important activities that are required for the healthy growth of the system. These among others include: visitation, follow-up, and involvement of the monitoring team, filling the cell register, and adhering to the approved financial practice.

Class Review

At the end of this class, the following questions should be discussed.

1. 1. What is PCD, PCF, and Cell? What is the role of PCD to the Cell System?
2. 2. What should you do to enjoy your involvement in the cell system?
3. 3. List and explain the various ways that you can start a cell
4. 4. Describe the organ gram of the Cell System.
5. 5. What is the relationship between the Cell and PCF?
6. 6. As a leader, what are the vital activities that you must carry out?

1. 13.12 RECOMMENDED MINISTRY MATERIALS.

i. Tapes

Who Is My Neighbour?, One Thing Needful, You Are My Witnesses

El-Shaddai, Jehovah & Jesus, Jesus: our redemptive sacrifice

The names of the Father, Desiring the healer, That same Spirit

You can be full of power, Desiring The Healer