The Ministry of Gospel Addicts The Global Virtual Church Foundation School Manual [2016]

Introduction to the Foundation School:

It is with great pleasure that we welcome you to the Foundation School of Gospel Addicts Global. You are one of the opportune to be equipped with the foundations of the ministry. Knowledge is vital and makes the difference between success and failure. It is our expectation that you will be impacted with the basic knowledge of God's Word which will place you at the privilege position of living a successful Christian life.

Aim of the Foundation School:

The aim of the Foundation School is to educate members concerning the basic doctrines of Christ; and lay a good and strong foundation upon which you can build a successful and fulfilling Christian life.

The Foundation School will:

- Through the manifestation of the Word and by the Holy Spirit, work to present every person perfect in Christ Jesus [Colossians 1:28]
- Correct any errors and or false ideas that you might have had prior to this time [Ephesians 4:11-14]
- Enable you to grow, by increasing in knowledge of God's Word [1 Peter 2:2]
- Prepare you for the ministry of reconciliation. You will be trained to be a master soul winner [2 Corinthians 5:18-19]

Furthermore: The knowledge you will obtain through this study manual will equip you to understand the function and teachings of the ministry.

Examinations:

All students will be expected to write a final test [exam] to asses the understanding of each student. Registered students will be emailed the exam, which must be completed within 24hrs of receipt and returned to sender within this time. The exam is an open book exam [however, late submissions will be declined; and candidates will be forwarded new exams on the next examination date].

Graduation:

As we are a cyber ministry; each successful graduate will receive a certificate. This is not just a peace of paper to say you completed the Foundation School; but a very important attribute to a Higher Life in Christ.

What is expected of you?

Each student will be expected to study the manual on their own time, to be completed before the date of the next exam given. The manual has been divined into class sections to help you manage you study times. Have a Bible and note pad ready!

On behalf of the entire ministry of Gospel Addicts, we say a BIG WELCOME to you!

The Principal Foundation School Gospel Addicts Global

If you have any questions, please email us at gospeladdicts@gmail.com

CLASS 1 101 NEW CREATION

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)

1.1.0 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, color, wealth and age do not count [Galatians 6:15].

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".

1.3.0 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.

1.4.0 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; therefore, man is first a spirit being; which reasons through his soul [mind], and functions in this world in a body.

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.

1.4.2 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).

1.4.3 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). Like the flesh which will grow weak without physical food, so to the spirit of man will grow weak without the Word of God.

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; which is: love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, and temperance (Galatians 5:22)

1.6.0 THE SOUL OF MAN

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

- a. The mind (Luke 9:47) is the part of the soul that thinks. A man's thought is as powerful as his action and words; and therefore can control your body and affect its discipline.
- b. The will is the part of the soul that makes decision.
- c. 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.

1.7.0 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; and through the Bible, we see that the above is in reach of every born again and is true.

1.8.0 SANCTIFYING THE THOUGHTS

Temptation does not come from God, it is self contrived by reason of man's lustful thoughts, 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). The way we clean the thoughts is through constantly pondering on the Word of God and building a relationship with God through communion.

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 [mirror] the glory of the Lord are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord".

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.

1.10.1 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.

1.11.0 ASSURANCE FOR THE NEW CREATIONS

- a. <u>Translated</u>: 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
- b. <u>The Word</u>: 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...")
- c. <u>The witness of the Holy Spirit</u>: The Holy Spirit bears witness with our spirit that we are the children (sons) of God. (Romans 8:16)

1.12.0 REMISSION FOR THE UNSAVED

According to Acts 2:38; Ephesians 1:7, and Matthew 26:28, the scripture says that remission (the 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. Salvation is not obtained by good deeds, works, or ant self change; but by believing in your heart and making confession of what you believe unto salvation.

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).

1.14.0 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 (the new creation) to live and enjoy a glorious life in Christ.

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. This is also the working out of our own salvation (Phil.2:12). The working out of your own salvation is dependant only

on you; you can't hold anyone accountable for that; but God will hold you accountable for your own salvation.

CLASS 2 201 WHO THE CHRISTIAN REALLY IS

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 (the 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 a 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:

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

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

Once a person accepts Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior, 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.

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 / NLT), 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 day of Pentecost when the Holy Spirit 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.

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 (devil) 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 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.

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:

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

2.5.0 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.

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 does not refer to Heaven. Heaven is actually a geographical location in Zion [a city on the highest mountain in Heaven called 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. The new creation 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; seated in authority.

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 which strengthens me". The word Christ here does not refer to Jesus, but rather to the Holy Spirit (and the original version renders the anointing as 'which strengthens me'; laying emphasis on the power of the Holy Spirit in us). 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.

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" (1Peter 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). Therefore, if the fullness of the Godhead is in Christ, which indwells us bodily; then the fullness of God dwells in us – The fullness and completeness of God is alive in us!

2.9.0. CONCLUSION

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

CLASS 3 301 YOUR RIGHTS IN CHRIST

3.0 INTRODUCTION

This class addresses one of the very important areas of our Christian lives, our rights in Christ. A 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

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).

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.

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 – it is the here and now.

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).

3.3.2 Death has been abolished

The Bible says in 2 Timothy. 1:10 that 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.

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

You have Liberty in Christ. The word Liberty as used in Luke 4:18 means to release those that were bruised. 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 rights 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.

3.5.0 WHAT ARE THESE RIGHTS?

These rights can be categorized into three categories: 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 heath even as our soul prospers (3 John 2). We have the right to choose. You have been chosen to preach the Gospel to the world (Matt.28:19-20, Acts 1:8); therefore it is wise to choose to preach the Gospel and enjoy the benefits of doing so.

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. <u>The right to rule</u> (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 words of power. The bible says *'Ye are gods'* (Psalms 82:6). Exercise your right in Christ by speaking the right words!

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, it has come 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?

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, heath, 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 deliverance

- a. <u>Divine health</u> (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 heath 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 born again Christian (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. <u>Prosperity and abundance</u> (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. Jesus became poor; meaning that He has poured out His very life for us; and through His resurrection, we have a new life in Him. He brought us an inheritance!
- c. <u>Deliverance</u> (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.

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.

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

The 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. (also see Psalms 149:6-9). This honour has all the saints of God.

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

A mirror is used to see ones 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 (mirror) and straight away forgets what manner of man he was or saw to be. A lot of Christians forget who they are because they do not dwell on the Word as often as they ought to. 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; but we have the responsibility to act on what it says.

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. 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. 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".

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 4 401 THE PERSON OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

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 Sprit, we are invariably discussing the whole personality of the Godhead: God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

4.1.0 WHO IS THE HOLY SPIRIT?

The Holy Spirit, Who 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 coequal with God; and 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; but He loves us with an everlasting love and has shed His love abroad in our heart (Romans 5:5).

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, 'AllosParakletos'. The word 'Allos-Parakletos' has seven synonyms: Comforter, Counselor, Teacher, Helper, Strengthener, Intercessor and standby.

4.3.0 SEVEN SYNONYMS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT AS RELATED TO THE CHRISTIAN I.E. WHO HE IS TO THE CHRISTIAN.

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).

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.

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, Gospel Addicts 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!

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 which 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 was 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.

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.

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 an 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. A simple prayer like this, "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"; that will bring about deep revelations. The Holy Spirit makes studying God's word a joyful experience.

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).

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). If you are not desiring Him yet, start now and see what He will do in, for and through your life.

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.

4.5.1 Communication

It is simply the transference of information between two or more individuals 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 He will surely answer (1 John 5:14-15).

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).

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). He will carry you into the realm of the spirit.

4.5.4 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).

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 to 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:

- a. Preach the gospel to the poor
- b. Heal the broken hearted
- c. Preach deliverance to the captives
- d. Recovery of sight to the blind
- e. Set at liberty them that are bruised

4.8.0 CONCLUSION

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

CLASS 5

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

INTRODUCTION

The importance of the Holy Spirit in the life of the Christian 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, Jesus 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 Spirit 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 born again, as the very presence of God is brought to the Christian. 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 if he doesn't do so already.

He:

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

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. It is laterally the Holy Spirit Who speaks through us as we allow Him.

5.1.1 To edify yourself (1 Corinthians 14:4)

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

5.1.2 To build up our faith (Jude 20)

As we speak in other tongues we build up our faith. Each born again 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.

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.

5.1.4 To speak mysteries unto 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.

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

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

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). While every believer should speak in tongues, there is also a gift of tongues given to some. The gift of tongues is speaking God's language at a higher level as the ordinary believer; and many times here the believer also receive the ability to speak in a diversity of tongues.

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:

5.3.1 Power gifts

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

- a. Gift of healing
- b. Faith
- c. Working of miracles

5.3.2 Utterance or vocal gifts

These gifts make use of the vocals and they include:

- a. Prophecy
- b. Interpretation of tongues
- c. And speaking in diverse kinds of tongues

5.3.3 Revelation and inspirational gifts

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

These are:

- a. Word of wisdom
- b. Word of knowledge
- 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.

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:

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

It is important that every denomination and every local church identify and empowers these ministry gifts. Newly formed churches might not have all five gifts, but they will be added as the church grows; depending on the maturity of elders.

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.

5.4.1 Apostle

From the 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.

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.

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 favorite theme is salvation in its simplest form. He has a divine urge or burning within to preach the Word and get people saved.

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.

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.

It is important that we understand these gifts; to identify those around us who has these gifts. Within one assembly, you might find more than one of the above present in a church; for example: you might find more than one prophet or pastor, etc...

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).

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 born again is supposed to produce by reason of the Holy Spirit dwelling in him. The born again 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 born again has the responsibility of ensuring that he bears the right fruit.

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 born again 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 to be an effective witness of Christ (Acts 2:4).

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 tongues, 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 6 601 THE CHURCH OF CHRIST

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:

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

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:

- 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).
- b. It is used to refer to all believers in the local Church (1 Corinthians 16:19).

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 Savior (Romans 10:9-10). From there, you might find yourself searching for the appropriate assembly to attend. In today's modernized world, many have issues with the church, yet they seek a place to learn about God; therefore we have cyber platforms offering up such. Church itself is not in the building, but in the assembly of those who has been called out among others, to have a fellowship (you can read more on the benefits of the Virtual Church at the end of this manual).

6.3.0 The purpose of the Church?

The purpose of the Church is as follows:

- a. <u>Glorify God</u>: 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).
- b. <u>To witness to the world</u>: 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 lands (Matthew 18:20; Mark 16:15-18).

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 is 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 to 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 to discover the different gifts bestowed on him by the Holy Spirit.

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 him 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).

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). In our case as a Virtual Church, we offer a broader spectrum for believers to get involved; and also reach out to the world at large. The Virtual Church is not to replace the local or physical church; but it renders an extension to the church's overall reach and impact globally.

6.7.0 WHO BUILDS THE CHURCH

- a. <u>Jesus is the builder</u> (Matthew 16:18): He is the rock of ages in whom there is salvation. Jesus Christ is the true foundation of a Christian's life (1 Peter 2:6). He started building when He died on the cross of Calvary for all men.
- b. We are also builders: We are also builders, 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.
- c. We are co-labourers: We are partners with the 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.
- d. Why should I go to Church?
- To function as a member of the body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12:12-26)
- To build ourselves up in the most holy faith (Jude 20).

- 7 To serve, which is in coming together as members of the body of Christ, the Holy
- 8 Spirit helps each believer to worship God and witness Christ.
- 9 (Ephesians 4:11-14; Hebrews 10:25) we go to Church so that we can build others
- and to be built up to maturity.

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 7 701 CHRISTIAN SERVICE AND MINISTRY

INTRODUCTION

The objective of this class is to teach the student:

- a. What Christian service and ministry is
- b. The various aspect of ministry such as:
 - i. The Great commission
 - ii. The ministry of reconciliation
 - iii Growing the Church
- c. The believer's relationship with his or her leaders
- d. The believer's attitude during courtship and engagement according to Gospel Addicts' 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 the ministry's teachings.

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:

- a. Your involvement in the activity groups such as: choir, ushering, helps etc.
- b. Your involvement in the cell system and social media etc.
- c. Your involvement in the ministry programmes.

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 (Good News) 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.

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:

- It helps you to identify your ministry office (Ephesians 4:11).
- It helps you to be effective in the work of the ministry (Ephesians 4:12).
- It perfects you unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ (Ephesians 4:13).
- It ensures that you receive good doctrines which is necessary to guide your Christian life (Ephesians 4:14).

Examples of people that were trained by God is;

- 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.
- Moses: (Exodus 1-3) Moses training was in 3 phases:

- -The first 40 years was in the courts of Pharaoh where he was raised as a King's son.
- -The next 40 years was in Medina when he was a shepherd
- -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 to fulfill their ministry; God is also training us for the work of the ministry.

7.3.0. 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 GoodNews 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). It brings the unbeliever unto repentance; which are broken up into two portions from the Greek words:

<u>Re</u>: meaning to return and <u>Pent</u>: meaning to the top

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:

- a. Carrying out the great commission (Matthew 28:18-20)
- b. Being involved in Christian service or ministry (Ephesians 4:12)
- c. Edifying (strengthening, giving support, encouraging) the church in love (Ephesians 4:16)
- d. Bringing (special) offerings for the work of the ministry such as the expansion of the ministry in the internet and hosting, social media platforms, programs and equipment, the building of recording studio, ministry programs, etc... (Exodus 35:5).

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

As a Christian, 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 instead (Hebrews 13:1b).

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 Christians. This we can do in two ways:

a. <u>Purity in courtship</u> (Eph 5:3-5, 1Cor 6-18-20, Hebrews 13:4): You must abstain from fornication and all uncleanliness. Fornication before marriage is a blood covenant and brings death into all that you do.

b. <u>Getting the church involved</u> (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. Pastors are there to guide you, as they are the Shepard of the flock. "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).

7.7.0 SHOULD A CHRISTIAN BE IN RELATIONSHIP WITH A NONCHRISTIAN? (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 first. Christians are unequally yoked with those who don't share their believes.

7.8.0 WHAT WOULD YOU DESCRIBE AS A PROPER CONDUCT OR DRESS CODE FOR A CHRISTIAN?

It is very important to conduct oneself in a manner befitting citizens of the Kingdom of God. This means your behavior, 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. (Jhn. 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. As long as you are not dressed in a way which can tempt lustful thoughts, you can wear what is comfortable and suitable to you.

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.

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 8 801 DOCTRINES

801 (A) DOCTRINE I

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. Morse so, a good understanding of this class would make their Christian lives joyous and struggle-free in the Holy Spirit.

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:

- a. (Deuteronomy 32:2); Translated doctrine as "instructions", from the Greek word LEQACH
- b. (Acts 16:4); "Ordinances and decrees", from the Greek word Dogma
- c. (1 Timothy 4:13,16 and Titus 2:1); Translated doctrine as "learning and teaching", from the Greek word 'Disdaslia'

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 Spirit; 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 Spirit.

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).

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:

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

Dead works are:

- a. Our former (evil) ways before we got born again (John 3:8; Galatians 5:19-21)
- b. Sins (Romans 6:23)
- 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 when you find yourself in any manner of dead work. Also note that Jesus started His ministry preaching repentance (Matthew 4:19); and gave us this as a commission to preach (Luke 24:47).

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:

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

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

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:

- 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).
- 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 Spirit.

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 Spirit.

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:

- a. For healing (Mark 16:17 –18; Luke 4:40; Luke 13:13 & Act 28:8-9). It is worthy of note that the Lord Jesus Christ did a lot of this during His ministry on earth; and He commanded us to do likewise (Mark 16:18).
- b. For the infilling of the Holy Spirit (2Tim 1:6, Acts 19:6 & Acts 1:8).
- 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 Spirit by the laying on of hands, either by a spiritual leaders, or a person with the same gift, or a minister of God. 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 (Acts1:8). Such ordination could be for Cell leaders, Deacons and Deaconesses, Church Workers, Pastors etc.

8.3.5 Resurrection from the dead (John 5:28-29; 1Thesselonians 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

- a. 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.
- 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 hell.

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:

- 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).
- 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.

8.4.0 CONCLUSION

In this class, we leant about the meaning of doctrine and why we need to have the right doctrine. We also leant 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 9 901 DOCTRINES OF PAUL

901 (A) DOCTRINES II

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. 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.

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:

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 a 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).

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 or at the new birth, God takes away the sinful nature of man 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 and our righteousness is from God by faith.

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:

- a. The first phase of sanctification is when God separated us from the world at the new birth.
- c. 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, fellowshipping, praying, testifying, witnessing and getting involved with the things of God that will make him renew his mind or think like God.

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.

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.

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 or at the new birth, his sin is blotted out or washed away. Paul taught about the remission of sins.

9.3.0 The Differece between Remission of sin and Forgiveness of sins

Remission of sin

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

Note: Remission of sin is for the soul of man

Forgiveness of sin

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

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

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, it 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.

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, 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.

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

Tithes 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 works of the ministry, and that 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). Offerings can be given in church, spiritual meetings or through online ministries — in all these, there are a gathering and you are equipped with knowledge unto a higher life in Christ.

9.7.0 HOW GOD SEES YOUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

- 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.
- 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.

- 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).
- 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.

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 10 101 THE CHRISTIAN MINISTRY

THE CHRISTIAN MINISTRY

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 behavior and manner of life must align with what God says he is.

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.

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 Spirit. 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.

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 emphasied 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 and birth place. 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.

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 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; so bad words will give you bad results; and good words will give you good results.

10.5.0 The Faith Walk

Just as fish 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.

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:

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.

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.

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.

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.

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 resiteth 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.

10.7.2 What do you do?

- 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.
- **b.** Speak to someone senior to him in love, not complaining.
- c. Forgive him in love.

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, 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 11 111 GOSPEL ADDICTS GLOBAL VIRTUAL CHURCH

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/she should be better informed about the overall works of the ministry. This class will also serve as a spring board in launching the student into the realm of understanding what it means to evangelize the world with the Gospel; having an understanding of the vision of the ministry. And lastly, he must feel at home with what we believe and preach in this ministry. This is summarized in our statement of faith.

11.1.0 GOSPEL ADDICTS 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; for example: salvation, healing, prosperity, peace etc.

11.3.0 BRIEF HISTORY OF THE MINISTRY

The Ministry of Gospel Addicts has been established in February 2014 by Rudi Ferreira, who is a global evangelist through cyber networking. Through the guidance of the Holy Spirit, Gospel Addicts has reached many new souls globally; and are continually expanding its reach into un-preached areas of the world. The Global Virtual Church primarily takes the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the message of salvation to the lost souls of the world; and secondly serves as teachers of the Word of God to the born again Christian.

11.4.0 THE VISION OF THE MINISTRY

To teach men, women and youth alike globally with the Word of God; imparting valuable Truths in order to raise up leaders who will take their cities for Jesus through active evangelism.

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; evangelizing the world with the Gospel. We are to win souls, build them and send them.

11.5.0 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 Gospel Addicts Global; aka The Global Virtual Church. This statement of faith has its source in the Bible and is in total agreement with the foundational principles of the doctrines of Christ.

- We believe that the Bible contains the inspired Word of God (2 Timothy 3:16, 2 Peter 1:20-21)
- 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)

• We believe in the Deity of Christ

He was born of a virgin; (John 1:1-4, 10:30, Hebrews 1:1-5).

He was conceived of the Holy Spirit; (Matthew 1:18-25 Luke 1:30-3 5) 5. He died: (John 19:30-3,5)

He rose again from the dead bodily; (John 20:25-29, Luke 24:36-40)

He ascended into heaven bodily, (1 Thessalonians 4:16-17, Matthew 24:29-30)

We believe in the rapture of the church, and the Second Coming of Christ (1 Thessalonians 4:16-17; Matthew 24:29-30)

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)

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)

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)

We believe that when an individual receives the Holy Spirit, he receives divine enablement for Christian service and witness (Acts 1:8; 2:4; 3:1-26; 4:5-12)

We believe in the sanctifying power of the Holy Spirit. (1 Corinthians 6:11; Romans 15:16)

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).

11.6.0 OUR PURPOSE

Found on the word in **Nehemiah 2:17-18**; talking about the broken walls of Jerusalem and the rebuilding thereof; the Lord has given **The Ministry of Gospel Addicts** an unique mandate to reach people globally with a **Global Virtual Church** – Furthermore; with the base foundation verse found in Psalm 67: 2 (TLB0; "Send us around the world with the saving power of Your Word; and Your eternal plan for all mankind", using the internet as a global platform to minister Truth unto those who have ears to listen. We do encourage people to attend local church assemblies; however, this is not a possibility all over the world. In some countries Christianity is forbidden and many are murdered for their beliefs. The platform of Gospel Addicts offers everyone an equal chance to hear and grow in the glorious Good News we preach of our Lord Jesus Christ; giving everyone an equal chance to obtain their salvation and the working out thereof, which was freely given to all men by Jesus Christ.

Gospel Addicts aims to pull down the walls of false doctrine and rebuilding the walls of truth in people's lives across the globe. Through the internet, we can reach [not hundreds, not thousands, not million], but billions of people. Many churches seat very large congregations and even fill stadiums with overflow venues. Some of the world's largest churches make use of satellite and internet broadcast streaming to reach all their branches globally in one meeting. Although all this is good and pleasing unto the Lord; still many billions of people are not reached through sanctions against Christianity in their countries.

Although the ministry isn't based in a building such as the common church buildings known, but through one studio, a global church is formed, filled with a global congregation. **The Ministry of Gospel Addicts** has the potential to seat the whole world in a single meeting all at the same time – no physical venue can comprehend such a reality; and many folks can't comprehend the magnitude of a global cyber congregation. The anointing of Christ has no limitation and no medium can withhold that anointing reaching the world. The anointing which is released through the segments found on our **Global Virtual Church** is just as real as in any other meeting – with real testimonies; healings, restoration, prophecies, fellowship, the Word and SALVATIONS.

11.7.0 MINISTRY ARMS

- a. Our *Ministry Arms* consists of various social media platforms like; FaceBook, Twitter, Whatsapp; with various fellowship groups within the Whatsapp platform.
- b. <u>Healing Ministry:</u> With an online Healing Ministry, the ministry provides folks from around the world with insightful information, teachings, and global links; equipping folks with the knowledge to receive healing through Christ. The ministry also provides open lines for anyone to contact us in need of prayer and healing.
- c. *Ministry Materials*: All our ministry materials are free; series', teachings, MP3 & MP4's, book, etc... Which is all available online at www.gospeladdicts.com

The ministry relies on those who desires to tithed, give offerings, partnership and make donations towards the works of the ministry to generate funds in furthering the reach of the ministry globally. Nothing comes cheap in these last days; and as any physical church has running cost, the virtual church also do carry large overheads, over and above constantly striving to improve the cyber platform; giving our members and visitors the best we can.

11.7.0 CONCLUSION

This class is centered on the understanding of The Ministry of Gospel Addicts which is the ministry that God gave to us through the President & Founder of the ministry, Evangelist (Pst.) Rudi Ferreira. This class also teaches the vision of the ministry and our statement of faith. Furthermore; this class explains the impact the cyber platform can generate through the ministry; and its reach globally. Also in this class, we took a look at our ministry arms and what it takes to run an online ministry.

CLASS 12 112 EVAGELIZING YOUR WORLD

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 neighborhoods. Many are unable to adjust to the structures of the urban cities. This often times results in a phenomenal called "Spiritual burnouts". To be successfully and meaningfully involved in urban evangelism, you must understand the problems and structures of the cities.

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 to choose what they want. This is why door-to-door evangelism is not effective in urban areas.

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.

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 taken 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 a 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."

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. The Amplified Bible says, "But you shall receive power (ability, efficiency and might) when the Holy Spirit has come upon This lets us know that we receive the divine enablement, 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. To be an effective missionary or minister you have to understand the problems confronting your members. Some of these problems amongst others include social commitments, occult involvement, cultural bias, health, and financial difficulties, 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.

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 an 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 member of the body of Christ 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. Although our work is in a war zone, we are not partakers or soldiers in this war; we are the ones who rescue people through the administration of the message of salvation. Many are not effective in soul winning, because the world; and a large part of the church has indoctrinated them to stand as soldiers for Christ – having Christians focused on the surroundings instead of the purpose.

Prayer is a personal connection with God and it is inspiring, powerful, energizing, dynamic and revitalizing. It gives you divine insights in rendering a service or help to the lost. You develop a personal relationship with God through prayers. Types of prayer from 1Timothy 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.

The 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 soul-winning comes through strong intercession.

The role of prayer in soul-winning:

Soul-winning 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 souls is the primary an 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. However, even though satan fights for his souls, it is angels who through our prayers are the soldiers in all this – angels are sent on our request!

12.9 HOW PRAYER HELPS IN SOUL WINNING

Prayer makes the soul-winner sensitive. Prayer gets the new born babes in Christ to be rooted and subsequently grounded in Christ. It moves God to send labourers into the harvest field. Matthew 9:37-38; It removes the veil shielding from the sinner to recognize 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 every Christian has a role to fulfill in evangelizing their world. To be effective in soul winning, one has to be operated according to the guidelines as taught in this class. The responsibilities of the Christian leader were highlighted and the importance of prayer to soul winning was also discussed.

CLASS 13 113 THE PASTORAL CARE DEPARTMENT

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.

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 various groups and platforms.

b. Feeding

Giving spiritual food (the Word of God) to individuals, which is achieved through our various teachings, ministry books, and social media platforms.

c. Leading

Directing individuals by the Word of God.

d. Guarding

Protecting the brethren through spiritual leadership and God's Word.

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 leaders 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, through the various platforms within the ministry. It ensures the growth and development of these organs with the aim of achieving their set goals for the total benefit of the church.

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. The PCF in the Virtual Church are the Admin leaders of various social media fellowship groups.

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. Encourage members on your platform to participate in group fellowships (and also take time out to follow up with individuals outside the group's activity). Encourage all your members to engage in cyber soul winning, as well as reaching their area for Christ. Also encourage every member to visit and share online teachings as often as possible.

13.6 WAYS TO MAKE YOUR PCF AN ULTIMATE PLACE FOR EXCITING SPIRITUAL GROWTH

a Be Available

Your being available creates an environment for growth and productivity.

b Have a Vision

Get interested in the way your group interacts and are organized, be involved in the group discussions by inviting people to the group, preparing yourself by praying.

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.

d. Be Punctual

You are required to always be punctual for your group activities, 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 group activities are vital by always

being punctual, they would follow.

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.

f. Be enthusiastic

Get enthusiastic about what God is doing in your PCF and show your enthusiasm for it will rub off on others (note: Positive responses keep things interesting).

g. Be mature

Study the Word of God with understanding, showing yourself mature in the things of God. This will help newer members to latch onto a spirit of self-discipline.

Note: Some folks might not have good understanding as there might be a diversity in languages on your group. Be clear and don't drift from topical discussion; this will avoid confusion and unnecessary conflict as members are all at different spiritual levels

Each PCF or Fellowship Group has a leader (admin); and they are responsible balance, discipline, insightful and inspiring teachings and discussions, as well as a leader who is available in solving problems, giving guidance and motivating the members of their group.

Conclusion:

Each member of the fellowship groups and the virtual church has a responsibility to participate in the ministry groups and functions; primarily to win souls; and also to help disciple new souls in the Word of God. With a win-train-send mentality, we equip men and women alike to become leaders in the ministry; expanding our reach world wide and imparting spiritual truth into the lives of those we come in contact with.

------ COMPLETE -----

On completion of your studies of the Foundation School Manual you are to send us an email requesting your exam. You will be given a date and time by which your answers must be submitted back to us via email. If you fail to submit your exam answers on the given date and time, you will be required to rewrite a different exam. This is simply to ensure every member of the Foundation School has obtained a good understanding of the ministry's foundational teachings. The exam is an open book exam!

Please note: Exam papers will be emailed to you on Friday, the 1st of April 2016. You will be given till 22h00 (GTM) to complete and send back your completed exam paper. In order to ensure you receive your exam paper, please make your \$7(USA) payment before the 25th of March 2016; and send your proof of payment to gospeladdicts@gmail.com with your full names as reference + send us an I.D size photo of yourself [please be sure all required items is send by 25/03/16].

Payments to be made to:

Bank: Capitec Bank (SA)
Acc.Holder: Rudi Ferreira
Acc.Number: 137 834 8433
Acc.Type: Savings
Branch Code: 47 001 0

Upon a successful evaluation of your exam (with a passing rate of 70%) which can be easily obtained, you will receive a Graduation Certificate of Successful Completion of the Foundation School of Gospel Addicts Global. You certificate will be emailed to you on Tuesday, the 12th of April 2016. This certificate will be recognized globally by the ministry and is a vital part of forming the bases of every level in ministry.

We which you all the best and can't wait to celebrate your success with you!

Stay blessed!

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