

# BIBLE STUDY for NEW BELIEVERS

Dear New Believer,

Welcome to the family of God! We hope this Bible study will give you assurance of your salvation and introduce you to the basics of the Christian faith. Try to do a little each day, if you can, completing the work sheets as you finish each section. Doing them will help you to remember what you've read and to apply it to your life. Be sure to look up and read all of the Bible verses that are listed in the study. Writing down your favorite verse at the end of each section will provide a handy reference for you in the future.

If you have any questions or comments as you are doing the study, please feel free to email us at [streetlight@embarqmail.com](mailto:streetlight@embarqmail.com). We'd love to hear from you!

## Preface to the New Believers Study

You have just made a profession of faith in Jesus Christ. This could have been only an emotional experience of the moment or only a rational acknowledgment of Christ as you heard a message about how to become a Christian.

Or it could have been God convicting you of your sin and drawing you to Himself through this experience. If you have been truly "saved", it will be the result of a true conviction of sin in your life by the Holy Spirit – this produces real change. Has God done such a work in your heart that you now love the God you previously hated and now hate the sins you once loved? A child of God will have a new heart given to him by God and will be indwelt by the Holy Spirit.

A person is not truly "saved from hell" unless he has both repented (repentance is a "change of mind/heart" – we have been living for ourselves but now we want to live for God's purposes for our lives) and placed his or her faith in Christ alone. We then will start to "live" for God and not ourselves. Do you see yourself as a sinner who has broken all of the Ten Commandments? The Ten Commandments were given to expose our evil hearts and show us that we are sinners in view of a Holy God? We are liars, idolaters, thieves, coveters, adulterers and parent-dishonoring at heart.

God is so holy that Habakkuk cried out to God, "Your eyes are too pure to look on sin. You cannot tolerate wrong." (Habakkuk 1:13) Revelation 21:8 says that "But the cowardly, the

unbelieving, the vile, the murderers, the sexually immoral, those who practice magic arts, the idolaters and all liars – their place will be in the fiery lake of burning sulfur. This is the second death.” We are under God’s wrath as unrepentant mankind, as He detests liars and the proud of heart and every sin that opposes Him.

Is your heart broken over your sin? Do you hate the sins that have kept you captive and in bondage? Do you see God as the Creator of the Universe, holy, righteous, pure and a God of justice? These are wonderful signs that God is working in your heart.

If you have truly repented and believed in Christ as your only salvation and your only hope, then the Gospel, which is the “Good News,” applies to your life. This Gospel is that there is a living God who sent His Son, Jesus Christ (fully God and fully man) in the flesh, Who died for our sins at an unspeakable cost, and then rose from the dead to conquer sin and death. Jesus took God’s wrath upon Himself, so that we would not have to pay for our anarchy, sin and rebellion, by bearing God’s wrath for all eternity in Hell. And lastly, the Gospel includes our faith/trust in Jesus and in His death for us that reconciled us to God. The resurrection of Christ shows that death has been defeated in our lives and that we now have power over sin and Satan in our lives.

Jesus describes four different situations describing a person who heard the Word of God, the Gospel. Depending upon the “soil” or “condition” of your heart, you may find yourselves in one of the below conditions as written in Matthew 13:1-23. They are:

1. seed that fell upon the path where the evil one comes and snatches away the Word of God sown in his heart
2. seed that falls on rocky soil, but has no root, and lasts only a short time
3. seed that falls among the thorns, but worries and the deceitfulness of wealth choke it out, making it unfruitful
4. seed that falls on good soil and is understood, producing a crop yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown

Only time can tell if you have been truly “converted” and are God’s child. As you can see from the above parable, only the fourth “soil” or “heart” produced fruit. II Corinthians 13:5 says to “examine yourselves to see whether you are in the faith; test yourselves.” The entire book of I John includes six “born of God” tests and ends with I John 5:13, the assurance of faith, if we pass those tests. I John 2:4 uses very hard language as follows: “The man who says, ‘I know him,’ but does not do what He commands is a liar, and the truth is not in him.” We should be diligent in guarding our hearts to follow these commands.

In conclusion, when the holy and awesome God of the Holy Bible comes into our lives, there is a marked change – there *will* be fruit and our lives will be marked by continual repentance from sin. We are not talking about “perfection,” but a lifestyle that seeks to honor God the Father and to live for Him. II Corinthians 5:17 says, “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come.”

# Lesson 1

## BECOMING A BORN AGAIN CHRISTIAN

### A Quick Review

You have heard the gospel (also referred to as “the good news”). You learned that, without exception, every man and every woman is sinful:

“There is no one righteous, not even one . . . there is no one who understands,  
no one who seeks God. All have turned away,  
They have together become worthless; There is no one who does good,  
Not even one.” Romans 3:10-12 New Testament (N.T.)

Because of our sins (iniquities is another word for sin), we were cut off from God:

“But your iniquities have separated you from your God;  
your sins have hidden His face from you, so that He will not hear.”  
Isaiah 59:2 Old Testament (O.T.)

The punishment for our sin (besides this separation) is death. Just as we earn wages from working, we also “earn” the “wages of death” from our lives of sin and rebellion against God.

“For the wages of sin is death.” Romans 6:23 (N.T.)

But . . . Jesus Christ took our punishment when He died on the cross:

“Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures . . .” I Corinthians 15:3 (N.T.)

Through Him and Him alone, your sins are forgiven, and you now have eternal life:

“For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son,  
that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life . . .  
Whoever believes in Him is not condemned . . .” John 3:16-18 (N.T.)

What did you have to do? You had to accept the fact that you are sinful, be sorry for your sin and want to turn from what you now know is wrong in God’s eyes (repent). When God grants you repentance, you’ll hate your sins and want to turn from them. “. . .everyone who confesses the name of the Lord must turn away from wickedness” (II Timothy 2:19 N.T.) Then, you needed to believe that your sins were forgiven because of Christ’s sacrifice on the cross *alone* – not because of your good works, church attendance or prayer to some other intermediary. *Read Ephesians 2:8-9*

When you did these things, you were “born again” in a spiritual sense, because you had been dead spiritually (separated from God) before Christ came into your life. Twice, in the Bible, Jesus said that we must be born again (spiritually), meaning to receive Christ and to be reconciled to God:

- “I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again.”  
John 3:3 (N.T.)
- “You should not be surprised at my saying, ‘You must be born again.’” John 3:7  
(N.T.)

You are now a child of God, part of His family! *Read John 1:12*

*Circle your favorite scripture from this section and write it out here.*

### **A New Life**

Just as a human baby faces a new and different world, so will you as you turn control of your life over to the Lord and begin your walk as a Christian. The Bible describes it this way:

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!” II Corinthians 5:17 (N.T.)

No matter what you did in the past, it is *completely* forgiven. Your sins are no longer even remembered by God, and He has removed them from you as far as the east is from the west (and that is infinity!). That means He doesn’t want *you* to think about them any more either. *Read Psalm 103:12 (O.T.)*

Because of Christ’s sacrifice on the cross, you are washed clean – “though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be white as snow” (Isaiah 1:18 O.T. ). In God’s sight, you are now holy, without blemish and free from accusation. *Read Colossians 1:22-23 (N.T.)*

“Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus . . . ”  
Romans 8:1 (N.T.)

*Circle your favorite scripture from this section and write it out here.*

### **Knowing What You Have as a Christian**

Now, as a “new creation” with a new beginning, you will need to leave those old sins behind and walk in obedience to what you see in God’s Word, the Bible (i.e. repent). The good news is that you don’t have to do this by yourself. Besides the assurance of complete forgiveness, you now have God’s help in overcoming your sins, as you confess them. You may not have been able to change in your own strength, but with God’s power, you *will*. *Read I John 1:9 (N.T.)* He even goes so far as to give you the desire to do the right thing. *Read Philippians 2:12-13 (N.T.)*

You also have the assurance that you will go to heaven when you die. You don’t have to wonder whether or hope that you will – you can *know* you will. *Read I John 5:13 (N.T.)*

Guidance is something else God promises His children who look to Him (*Read Proverbs 3:5-6 O.T.*), as are peace (*Read Isaiah 26:3 O.T.*) and joy (*Read Nehemiah 8:10 O.T.*).

*Circle your favorite scripture from this section and write it out here.*

# WORK SHEET

## A Quick Review

1. What separated you from God? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What is the punishment for sin? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Who took that punishment for you and how? \_\_\_\_\_
4. What did you do to become "born again"? \_\_\_\_\_
5. Write down the time and place you did this: \_\_\_\_\_

## A New Life

1. Are you forgiven for all your sins of the past, no matter how horrible they were? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Does God remember them? \_\_\_\_\_ Does He want you to remember them (refer to Psalm 103:12 O.T.)? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Your slate is clean! How does God look at you now (refer to Colossians 1:22-23 N.T.)? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Can anyone condemn you now, or should you condemn yourself (refer to Romans 8:1 N.T.)? \_\_\_\_\_

## Knowing What You Have as a Christian

1. What do you need to do as a "new creation" with a new beginning? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Must you do this alone? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What must you do to have God's help in overcoming your ongoing sins (refer to I John 1:9 N.T.)? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Can you know for *sure* that you will go to heaven (refer to I John 5:13 N.T.)? \_\_\_\_\_
5. What else is the Christian (you) promised besides forgiveness of sin, help in overcoming it and eternal life? \_\_\_\_\_
6. Which things do you need most right now? \_\_\_\_\_

## Lesson 2 KNOWING GOD

### What is God Really Like?

Now that you are a child of God, you will want to get to know your Father better. Man's chief purpose in life is to know God, worship Him, and have a relationship with Him. This is why you were created. Also, the more you learn about God and how good, loving, wise and powerful He is, the more you will be able to trust Him completely with your life.

First, God is awesome! There is a popular song that goes, "Our God is an awesome God, He reigns from heaven above, with wisdom, power and love, our God is an awesome God."

God's power has *no* limits; everything is possible, and nothing is too hard for Him. He has always existed and always will. The first line in the first book of the Bible, Genesis (O.T.) is, "In the beginning, God . . ." In the fifth book, Deuteronomy (O.T.), God tells us that He lives forever.

God created the whole universe – the earth and everything in it (animals, fish, birds), the sky and the seas, the sun and the moon and the stars. Psalm 147:4 (O.T.) says He even calls each star by name! *Read the first chapter of Genesis.*

He created you in His image. *Read the second chapter of Genesis.* He also sustains your life. Acts 17:28 (N.T.) says, "For in Him, we live and move and have our being."

God knows and understands everything. He even knew you before you were born. He saw you when you were in your mother's womb and knit you together there. *Read Psalm 139:13-15.*

God is present everywhere. Jeremiah 23:24 (O.T.) says He fills heaven and earth. You can't see Him because He is spirit, but He is with you at all times wherever you are. You can never hide from God. *Read Psalm 139:1-12.*

He is perfect, and everything He does is right. God never makes a mistake. He is also completely just and fair. *Read Deuteronomy 32:4.*

Some people think that it is unjust that anyone has to go to hell, and that it is unfair that good people have bad things happen to them, while wicked people sometimes seem to prosper and get off without punishment.

God *invented* justice. In fact righteousness and justice are the foundation of His throne. *Read Psalm 89:14.* We would not even have a concept of justice if it were not for Him.

However, God gave us free will, bestowing upon us the power to choose to do right or wrong, good or evil. Sometimes we suffer because of someone else's choices (the abused child of an alcoholic parent, for example) . . . sometimes because of our own choices (getting pregnant out of wedlock, for example) . . . sometimes because of our imperfect, fallen world (poverty and crime, for example).

There is much in this world that we can't understand, but we shouldn't think that strange. If we could, we'd be on an equal footing with God, and we aren't. As Isaiah 55:8-9 (O.T.) says, "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways," declares the LORD, "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways and My thoughts your thoughts."

You can always trust that God will do what is just and right, even if it doesn't look that way in your eyes. The fault is never with God; it is with our understanding.

*Circle your favorite scripture from this section and write it out here.*

### **How Does God Relate to You, His Child?**

If you have (or had) a human father who is not loving, it will be important for you not to let that distort your view of your spiritual Father, God.

God is the perfect Father. He is always loving, patient, forgiving, wise, merciful, gracious, faithful and utterly dependable. And He is always available to you, any time of the day or night. Psalm 121:3-4 (O.T.) says, “. . . He who watches over you will not slumber. . . He will neither slumber nor sleep.”

He knows everything about you – what you will say before you say it, when you sit down and when you stand up, when you go out and when you lie down – and He is *always* thinking about you and loving you. He even knows the number of hairs on your head! *Read Psalm 139:1-4 and 17-18 and Matthew 10:30 (N.T.).*

He wants your relationship with Him to be intimate, too. The Aramaic (an early language of the Christian church) for Father is “Abba,” which is comparable to our “Daddy” today.

God is also your Provider Who promises to supply all your needs (*Read Philippians 4:19 N.T.*) and your Shepherd Who promises to lead and guide you (*Read Psalm 23:1-3*). He is your Healer Who promises to heal you spiritually (*Read Isaiah 53:5 O.T.*), emotionally (*Read Isaiah 61:1*) and physically (*Read Psalm 103:3*), your Comforter Who promises to comfort you (*Read Isaiah 66:13*) and your Chastener, who promises to discipline you for your own good because He loves you (*Read Hebrews 12:5-11 N.T.*).

He is your Teacher and Lord (*Read John 13:13 N.T.*).

*Circle your favorite scripture from this section and write it out here.*

# WORK SHEET

## What is God Really Like?

1. Why were you created? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Are there any limits to God's power? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Can He ever make a mistake or be unjust (refer to Deuteronomy 32:4 O.T. and Psalm 89:14 O.T.)? Why? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Why is there suffering in the world? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. When there is something you don't understand, what's a good verse to turn to? \_\_\_\_\_

## How Does God Relate to You, His Child?

1. God is the perfect Father. Name some of His characteristics: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. He knows you intimately and wants you to know Him, too. What is the Aramaic word for Father (comparable to Daddy) that reflects this close relationship? \_\_\_\_\_
3. List some of the ways God relates to you, such as being your Provider: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Which ways or ways do you most need right now? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Lesson 3

### YOUR PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH THE LORD

#### How Can We Communicate with God?

##### **The Bible**

The main way God speaks to His children is through the Bible, which is also referred to as The Word, God's Word or The Holy Scriptures. Unlike any other holy book, the Bible has over 2000 prophecies (a prophecy is when God predicts in advance what will happen) that all came true! Only God can know the future so perfectly. Also, there has *never* been any archaeological evidence that disproved anything in the Bible, while there is much archaeological evidence to confirm the Scriptures.

Some people say the Bible can't be true, because it is written by men, and men make mistakes. They don't realize that God, by His Holy Spirit, guided these men (who were yielded to His will) in everything they wrote. II Timothy 3:16 (N.T.) describes it this way: "All Scripture is God-breathed." So when you are reading anywhere in the Bible, you can trust that God is speaking to you directly through the written word.

Others say the Bible was written such a long time ago, it can't be relevant to our lives today. It's true that the Bible was written centuries ago, but its message is as up-to-date and relevant as if it were written today. Hebrews 4:12 (N.T.) says that "The Word of God is living and active." Man's nature hasn't changed over all those years, and the verse goes on to say that The Word "judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart."



Another unfounded criticism of the Bible is that there are so many different interpretations – who is to know what’s right? That is a cop out, usually by people who have never even read the Bible. The message of the Bible is quite clear and, as you read, the Holy Spirit as your Teacher will help you understand it. You will find that certain verses will show you what you are doing wrong and how to do what is right. II Timothy 3:16 describes it this way: “All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness.”

You will want to set aside a block of time (preferably first thing in the morning) each day for reading your Bible. This is called a “quiet time” and is the whole *key* to having an intimate relationship with the Lord. You can start with Matthew, the first book of the New Testament and read to the end. Then go back to the first book of the Bible, Genesis, and read through the Old Testament, always underlining verses that have special meaning to you as you go. Or you can work on a Bible study (like this).

There is no better way to come to know the Lord and to grow in your faith than to read your Bible daily. Romans 10:17 (N.T.) says that faith comes from hearing the Bible’s message. Positive changes will also come about as you read God’s Word. As Romans 12:2 says, you “will be transformed by the renewing of your mind.” Time spent reading the Bible is always a good investment, because God’s Word never returns void. It should be your TOP PRIORITY every day. *Read Isaiah 55:10-11 (O.T.)*

And be sure to obey what you read! *Read James 1:22-25 (N.T.)*

You will also want to start memorizing verses that have special meaning to you. You could start with any in this study you have written out as your favorite scripture verse.

### **Prayer**

Prayer is important in your relationship with God for two reasons: you can both speak to God and hear Him speak to you through prayer. Prayer is simply talking with God and listening to Him talk to you. Unlike a man or woman, He is *always* interested in everything you have to say and is always listening, any time of the day or night. Psalm 4:3 (O.T.) says, “the LORD will hear when I call to Him.”

You will want to talk with the Lord in prayer every day. Ideally, this is done during your daily quiet time when you read your Bible, though it could be at a separate time. You will also want to get in the habit of praying informally all throughout the day, as you go about your activities, and at night, when you lie on your bed. The way to have a meaningful relationship with a friend or spouse is by spending time together and communicating with each other. It’s the same with God!

You can pray alone and with others. The Bible encourages two or more believers to pray together, promising that His Presence will be with them. *Read Matthew 18:19-20 (N.T.)*

You don’t need to use special words like “Thee” or “Thou” when you pray. Just talk to the Lord as you would to a friend. Some people find it helpful to write their prayers in a journal form or as letters to the Lord in a notebook. The psalmist tells us, “pour out your hearts to Him” (*Psalm 62:8*). In other words, tell God everything that is on your heart, both good and bad. He cares, and He can handle anything you want to tell Him.

Besides always listening, God always answers prayer. There is power through prayer for your life and the lives of others. That doesn’t mean that you’ll always get the answer you want, though. In fact, sometimes God says “No” or “Wait,” or He answers in a different way you hadn’t expected.

Remember, He sees the big picture and knows what is best. He answers according to *His* will, not our will, and we can trust that His answer will be in our best interests. *Read I John 5:14-15(N.T.).*

Be sure to listen to Him, too. God will sometimes speak to you in a still, small voice, as He did to Elijah. *Read I Kings 19:12(O.T.).* Other times, He will speak to you through His Word, through something someone else says to you or through circumstances of life. The main thing is that you are ready to listen and obey. *Read John 10:27(N.T.).*

There is great benefit in reading the Bible and praying regularly. *Read Psalm 1:1-3 and Proverbs 8:34(O.T.).* The word “blessed” means happy. You will also experience peace (*Read Psalm 119:165*) and joy (*Read Psalm 16:11*).

*Circle your favorite scripture from this section and write it out here.*

### **Trials in Your Life as Christians**

Some people think that if they become Christians, their lives will be free of all problems and heartaches. This is not true. Trials come to every man, whether he is a believer or unbeliever. The book of Job says, “Yet man is born to trouble as surely as sparks fly upward (Job 5:7 O.T.). I Peter 4:12 says, “Dear friends, do not be surprised at the painful trial you are suffering, as though something strange were happening to you.”

The difference for you as a believer, though, is that with Christ’s help, you can be “more than a conqueror” in the midst of your troubles. While unbelievers often turn to alcohol or drugs or sex or unhealthy relationships to cope, you can turn to God and actually be victorious in the midst of your trials. *Read Romans 8:35-39 (N.T.).*

Because God is in control of your life, nothing can come to you without His permission. A well known passage in the New Testament is Romans 8:28-29. Read that for insight into how trials in your life can actually (no kidding!) be good for you, making you more Christlike and deepening your relationship with the Lord.

The ultimate goal of the Christian life is dying to our own independent, selfish way of living life. In Luke 9:23-24, Jesus says “If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily, and follow me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will save it.” This path leads to true freedom, love, joy and peace!

Don’t be surprised if your Christian beliefs bring persecution from time to time. In fact, Paul warns us in his second letter to Timothy 3:12 that “everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted.” In many countries of the world, that persecution comes in the form of torture, imprisonment and death. In our country, it may come in the form of mockery or hostility and rejection from some of your friends, relatives and acquaintances.

*Circle your favorite scripture from this section and write it out here.*

## WORK SHEET

### How Can We Communicate with God?

#### The Bible

1. What is the main way God speaks to His children (us)? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Why can you trust that the Bible is true, even though it was written by men? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Why is the Bible relevant today even though it was written centuries ago? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Who helps you to understand the Bible? \_\_\_\_\_
5. What is the key to having an intimate relationship with the Lord? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. What are some results of regular Bible reading? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

#### Prayer

1. What is prayer? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Why is it important to pray daily? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. God always answers prayer. What verse should we keep in mind when the answer isn't what we want? \_\_\_\_\_
4. What are some ways God speaks to us? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. What are some benefits of regular Bible reading and prayer? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Trials in Your Life as a Christian

1. Does becoming a Christian guarantee you a problem-free life? \_\_\_\_\_  
Why or why not? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  2. What advantage do you have over the unbeliever in coping with your trials? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  3. Can anything touch you without God allowing it? \_\_\_\_\_
  4. In what way can trials be good for you (refer to Romans 8:29 N.T.)? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  5. What is the ultimate goal of the Christian life? \_\_\_\_\_
  6. What kind of persecution can you expect for your faith? \_\_\_\_\_
-

## Lesson 4

### LIVING THE CHRISTIAN LIFE

#### **Your Relationship with Other Christians**

One of the first things you will want to do is find a good Bible-believing church where Christ is preached and start attending regularly and getting involved. Just as you need your natural human family for love, support, help, comfort and encouragement, you also need your spiritual family. Other believers are your brothers and sisters in the Lord and will help you in your Christian walk. Those who have the special roles of pastor, teacher and counselor will play an especially important part in your growth as a Christian.

Hebrews 3:13 and 10:24-25 (N.T.) urges Christians to meet together regularly, to “encourage one another daily,” and to “spur one another on toward love and good deeds.” *Read Colossians 3:13-16 (N.T.).* It will also give you a good idea of how Christians are to relate to each other.

You will also want to talk to your pastor about being baptized. Baptism is a very tangible picture of leaving behind the old life and beginning the new one in Christ. We see Jesus setting the example for us in Matthew 3:13-15.

*Circle your favorite scripture from this section and write it out here.*

#### **Serving God**

When something good happens to you, the first thing you usually want to do is share it with a friend or a member of your family, right? Well, becoming a born again Christian is the best thing that could ever happen to you or to anyone, so you’ll want to share it with your friends and family. Don’t ever be ashamed of Christ or your faith in Him. *Read Luke 9:26 (N.T.).*

Be sensitive to the other person, though, and don’t push or badger. Reactions will be varied – gladness, hostility, interest, mockery. The unbeliever often regards the things of the Spirit as foolishness because he can’t understand them - they are spiritually discerned. *Read I Corinthians 2:14 (N.T.)* Also, sometimes the unbeliever feels threatened by some of the high moral standards of Christianity and responds in a hostile or mocking manner.

The apostle Paul in the New Testament warns us not to quarrel, but to be kind and gently instruct the unbeliever (*Read II Timothy 2:23-26 N.T.*). One of the best ways of “witnessing” (as sharing your faith is called) will be to live a life above reproach before your family and friends. *Read Matthew 5:13-16 (N.T.).* Realize that Christ warns us to count the cost in becoming His follower. This “cost” sometimes involves changed or even lost relationships.

God has given you unique talents, abilities and also at least one spiritual gift. To discover your gift or gifts, read *Romans 12:6-8 (N.T.)* and *I Corinthians 12:4-11 and 28-31 (N.T.)*. Be sure to give generously and willingly. *Read II Corinthians 9:6-11 (N.T.).*

Love is “the bottom line” in the Christian life – God’s love, that is, also known as “agape love.” For a description of God’s love and its importance, *read I Corinthians 13 (N.T.), the “love chapter”*. God’s love will motivate you to do good to others – to carry out the good works God has prepared in advance for you alone to do (*Read Ephesians 2:10 N.T.*).

*Circle your favorite scripture from this section and write it out here.*

## **WORK SHEET**

### **Your Relationship with Other Christians**

1. Why is it important to get involved in a Bible-believing church? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. How are Christians to relate to each other? (refer to Hebrews 3:13 and 10:24-25 and Colossians 3:13-16, all N.T.) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. What does baptism signify? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### **Serving God**

1. What is the best thing that can ever happen to anyone? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. What attitude should you have in sharing your faith? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. What do you think your spiritual gifts are (refer to Romans 12:6-8 N.T., I Corinthians 12:4-11 and 28-31 N.T.) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. What is the "bottom line" in the Christian life? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_