

LESSON ONE

BETHEL

Biblical



Bible Foundations Class
pre-study

BIBLE FOUNDATIONS COURSE

1. SALVATION AND THE WORD OF GOD

A few important issues discussed are: What is sin? God has made a way of salvation. How can mankind be saved? Justification by faith in His sacrifice. What studying the Bible will do for us.

2. THE NEW LIFE AND WITNESSING

How does God expect a Christian to walk and live? What are the basic beliefs and practices of the Christian faith? The principles of a victorious life are discussed. What, why, and how to witness.

3. BAPTISMS AND THE GODHEAD

The importance and the meaning of water baptism to the life of a Christian is studied. The relationship of the Trinity — God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit — to each other is also covered.

4. BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT

Learning how to use a concordance begins here and continues over the next few lessons. The manifestation in the baptism in the Holy Spirit, with speaking in tongues, and its relevance and importance to a Christian today. The Holy Spirit's ministries to mankind are covered.

5. PHYSICAL HEALING

We will search out in scripture the cause of sickness and death and God's plan for divine health. When and why God is hindered from healing is examined, along with how to receive healing from God.

6. PRAISE AND PRAYER

We must develop a heart that chooses to sacrifice praise, worship and thanksgiving in all circumstances unto our Great God. Effective prayer and ways of overcoming hindrances to prayer are studied.

7. PROSPERITY VERSUS THE DANGERS OF COVETOUSNESS

God's provision, the principle of prosperity, returning to God first through tithes and offerings, and the mentality of stewardship are examined. The dangers of prosperity and success are also explored.

8. THE VICTORIOUS CHRISTIAN HOME

Biblical principles for a victorious Christian home are taught, along with ways to overcome the obstacles that every home faces. Love, submission, children, and spiritual warfare are also studied.

9. THE NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH AND COMMUNION

The New Testament church is explored as to: 1) the necessity for fellowship and communion; 2) church organization and leadership; 3) the Holy Spirit as Lord in the church; 4) unity and gifts in the church; and 5) the body ministry that everyone has a part in.

10. THE BLESSED HOPE — THE RAPTURE

Christ is coming soon for His bride – the Church. The approach of this class is to discuss these Rapture concepts: 1) What? 2) How? 3) Why? 4) When? 5) and most important, for Whom?

11. END-TIME EVENTS

Important end-time events are discussed, along with their timing. The Dispensation Chart, the Judgment Seat of Christ and the Marriage Supper of the Lamb, the anti-Christ and events in the Tribulation, Armageddon, the Revelation – 2nd Coming of Christ, the Millennium, the final White Throne Judgment, the New Jerusalem, and the new heavens and earth are briefly examined.

12. ISRAEL AND OUR JEWISH ROOTS

Brief discussion concerning why God chose the Jews; whose land it is; the scattering and regathering of Israel; God's everlasting love and covenant to Israel; the Church's proper relationship as debtors and fellow citizens of the Commonwealth of Israel; and what scriptural actions the church should be taking concerning Israel and the Jewish people.

II Tim. 2:15 - "Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

We are pleased to again present this class to those who are hungry to learn some of Christianity's most important principles and doctrines. We will begin with basic concepts on salvation and will work our way up to and end with three studies on end-time prophecy. Guided self-study sheets (taking 1-2 hours a week) will be required of participants before each 1½-hour teacher presentation. We hope you will all join us in this endeavor of greater discipleship.

We want to recognize and thank several people for the development of the format and questions for this class:

The original formatting and general idea for the course came from Derek Prince's *Self-Study Bible Course* [P.O. Box 19501, Charlotte, NC 28219, contactus@derekprince.org]. Derek Prince was one of the last century's most recognized teachers and was the author of over a dozen books.

George Latham gleaned ideas from the format and questions used by Prince, and created all new introductory statements. Several of the course topics such as the Christian Home, the End Times, and Israel were totally developed by Pastor Latham. He was one of the founding administrators and teachers of a Denver area layman's two-year Bible College.

Many of Pastor Bob Hooley's prophecy books will be referred to in several of the latter classes on end time events and Israel. He was the head pastor of the above-mentioned Bible College; without his support as head pastor, this Foundations Class would probably never have occurred. He is the author of almost two dozen books and booklets and has been successfully pasturing for half a century.

Chuck Mummert is the present teacher of the Foundations Class. He helped to create most of the third year elective classes at the above-mentioned Bible College and has again reworked and added to some of the Foundations classes. He has taught in private and public junior and senior high schools for over a third of a century and has earned many teaching awards such as Who's Who Among America's Teachers.

BIBLE FOUNDATIONS LESSON NO. 1

SALVATION REVEALED IN THE BIBLE

Mankind has searched for many ways to find peace and contentment in his heart, but only God can completely fill the emptiness. Sin, which is rebellion against God, separates us from Him, but Christ came into the world to take away our sins by shedding His blood on the Cross as a sacrifice in our behalf, that we might be forgiven and receive the gift of eternal life. God the Father accepted His Son's shed blood as a full atonement for our sins, and Christ now sits at the right hand of God to make intercession for us (1 Tim. 2:5). When we accept Jesus Christ into our heart as our personal Savior, we have peace and contentment and a right relationship with God.

In order to receive God's forgiveness for our sins, we must repent (Luke 13:3). The moment we repent and are truly sorry for our sins, we are released from guilt, and true faith comes into our life. Although the Bible was written by many authors, the clear message of God's redemption is woven throughout, and this message has spoken to men's hearts in every generation. The Bible teaches us doctrine, that we might know the truth, and it will reprove and correct us as we yield ourselves in obedience to it. The Word of the Lord will cleanse us, sanctify us, build us up and make us partakers of God's divine nature. It is the only Book that offers eternal life to all who receive its truth into their hearts, and it is the only source of history foretold in advance. The Bible reveals Jesus Christ as being the living Word, for we read in John 1:1, 14, "In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God, and the Word was God...And the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us..."

MEMORY VERSE: 2 Timothy 3:16-17

GOD'S ROAD OF SALVATION (found in the Book of Romans)

1. How many are righteous before God on their own'? (**Rom. 3:10, 12**)
2. How many have sinned? (**Rom. 3:10, 12, 23**)
3. Can good works or keeping the law save you? (**Rom. 3:20**)
4. God commended His love toward us: (a) When? (b) How? (**Rom. 5:8**)
(a) (b)
5. Why is death passed upon all men? (**Rom. 5:12**)
6. By what are we justified (made righteous in the sight of God)? (**Rom. 5:8-10**)
7. What are: (a) The wages of sin? (b) The gift of God? (**Rom. 6:23**)
(a) (b)
8. What are two of the things we must do to be saved? (**Rom. 10:9-10**)
(a) (b)
9. Who can be saved? (**Rom. 10:13**)
10. Word Search: What key word or concept having to do with salvation is found 6 times (in every verse) in **Rom. 5:15-18**?

Lesson #1 (cont.)

GOD'S PROVISION FOR SIN

11. What cleanses us from all sin? (**1 John 1:7**)

What must we do? (**1 John 1:9**)

12. What can the blood of Christ do for us? (**Heb. 9:14**)

13. By what do we have boldness to enter into the presence (holiest) of God? (**Heb. 10:19**)

14. Who is the 'only way' to God the Father? (**John 14:6, Acts 4:12, 1 Tim. 2:5**)

15. Will most people accept God's way or gate of salvation? (**Matt. 7:13-14**)

16. What cannot save us? (**Titus 3:5- 6**)

17. What are we saved by? (**Eph. 2:8-9**)

Through _____, not of _____.

GOD'S WORD

18. The living Word (Jesus) does what to men? (**John 12:32**)

19. Why aren't our thoughts and ways good enough? (**Isa. 55:8- 9**)

20. Every word of God is _____ . (**Prov. 30:5**)

21. Is the Word of God bound (limited)? (**2 Tim. 2:9**)

22. How is God's love made perfect in our lives? (**1 John 2:5**)

23. What is the Word of God able to do? (**Heb. 4:12**)

24. What did the psalmist do that he might not sin against God? (**Ps. 119:11**)

25. What four things can the Word of God do for a Christian? (**2 Tim. 3:16**)

26. Why should a Christian study God's Word? (**2 Tim. 2:15**)

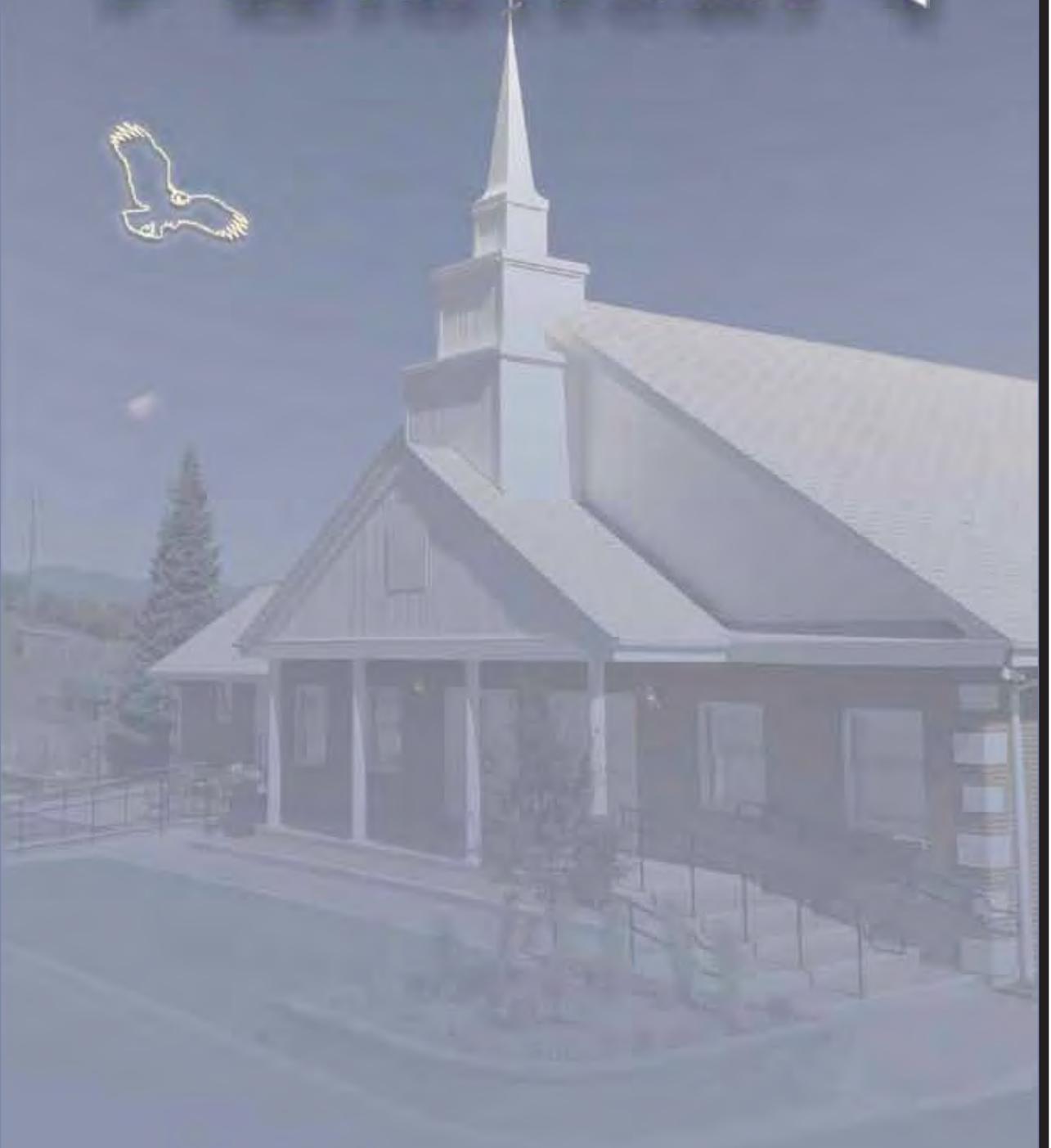
27. What will a person who rejects Christ be judged by in the last days? (**John 12:47-48**)

28. How long will the Word of God live? (**1 Pet. 1:23, 25; Isa. 40:8**)

FOUNDATIONS

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Class Handouts

"Roman Road" to Salvation

Romans	Concept	Other Key Verses
1:21	Glory, Mind, Heart to God	Rev. 4:10-11
3:23	All Have Sinned	Isaiah 59:1, 64:6 & 1:18
3:10	None Righteous	I John 1:8 & Jer. 17:9-10
3:12	God Made The Way Universal	Prov. 14:12, John 14:6 John 3:17, 8:24, Acts 4:12 I Tim. 2:5, Matt. 7:13-14
3:20 4:13	The Law and Works vs. Faith & Grace	Eph. 2:8-10
5:1, 2, 9	The Blood Sacrifice Needed	I Pet. 2:22, 24 & 3:18, Heb. 9:12, 22 & 10:19 Lev. 17:11
5:8,	God's Love Born Again Converted	I John 4:10, John 3:16, John 3:3 Matt. 18:3-4
5:15-18	The Gift The Lamb of God	John 1:29, Isaiah 53:7 Rev. 5:6, 8, 12, 13
6:23	Yield to the Gift Eternal Life	Romans 6:13, 16, 19
10:9, 10, 13	Believe & Ask Confess & Call	Matt. 10:32-33 I John 1:9 John 1:12

Now you've taken the first step!

Do we stop here?

What's Next?

From: David Curry **D.C.**
Open Doors USA
PO Box 27001
Santa Ana, CA 92799

Date: March 17, 2014

Re: Believers Risking Their Lives for God's Word in Closed Countries

What I'm sharing with you is highly confidential.

While I've changed only some of the details, I want you to know what risks some undercover believers are taking just to have a copy of God's Word.

The first place I want to take you to is a country I cannot disclose for security reasons. In most recent years, oftentimes the *only* way we can deliver Bibles into this country is through digital media.

Not long ago we received reports about a believer I'll call Min-jae* who goes to incredible lengths *every month* to get and distribute digital versions of God's Word.

We were told that Min-jae's secret house church had no copies of God's Word because his home had been raided one day during their weekly worship meeting.

The government agents burned the only two Bibles his church had.

While the church members had scattered, Min-jae knew he could start up the house church in a different location again—if only he had a Bible. And because Min-jae was connected with one of our co-workers, he was able to get a new Bible for his church.

But his heart for his people and their hunger for God's Word weighs heavy on his heart. So he continues to smuggle Bibles every month in a very clandestine way. Here's how he does it.

On the appointed day, Min-jae walks toward his meeting point. This month, it's the main city park where his contact tells him to find the bench with two notches on the right side.

Min-jae tries to blend in as he walks. He hopes no one notices his disguise of thick glasses and a baseball cap pulled low. But government authorities could be anyone dressed in plain clothes, and to them everyone is suspect.

Finally, Min-jae sees the two notches on a bench near the large fountain.

He sits down and quickly pulls out a pad of paper and a pen from his backpack. He is now a "writer." And with God's strength, he plays the

(over, please)

part of someone inspired to write about the surrounding nature.

As instructed, after 10 minutes Min-jae slowly slides his left hand underneath the wooden bench. The lumber scratches his fingers as he searches. Finally, he finds it:

A digital memory card taped to the bottom of the bench.

It's small enough for him to quickly stow it in his left coat pocket. But it's big enough to hold hundreds of Bibles and Christian books in digital files that Min-jae can share with other believers.

Inside, he leaps for joy. But outwardly, he must keep his cover and sit on the park bench for another 20 minutes before leaving.

Every month Min-jae repeats a similar operation--always in a different location--just to help other believers in his country have God's Word. He never knows when he'll be caught.

IRAN

In Iran, believers like Min-jae are also doing whatever it takes to get God's Word. But Zari* risks her life each and every night.

Zari works long hours every day in a gift shop, and then she comes home for a family meal and goes to bed. At least that's what her Muslim extremist father believes. But sometime after midnight, Zari slips out to study God's Word.

She doesn't walk on the main streets, though. Zari takes a shortcut and asks God to keep her from tripping on the jagged terrain and help her not make any noise. Her father will disown her--even kill her--for professing faith in Jesus.

Once she arrives at the secret location, Zari knocks only once at the door farthest from the street lamp. Then she crouches behind the brush until someone cracks open the door.

"Peace," Zari whispers in Farsi. "Peace to you," is the code word response. Zari darts inside the home.

Three other women and two men have also made it safely to training that night. And for the next two hours, one of our ministry contacts leads this small group through a study of the Bible and a secret discipleship course to help them grow in their faith.

God's Word is precious to believers like Zari and Min-jae.

They're doing whatever it takes to get, distribute and be trained in God's Word. And we must help them.

We must continue providing Bibles and training to all believers who are risking their lives for God's Word in closed countries. They know it's the very power of God in their lives that gives them the courage and strength to stand firm against the onslaught of the evil one.

* Representative names used to protect identity.

THE WORD OF GOD

1. **Isa. 55:1-2, 8-9, 11** – True Fulfillment. Higher than our thoughts; will not return void.
2. **Heb. 4:12** – Quick, powerful, sharper than any 2 edged sword. Piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit. Discerner of thoughts and intents of heart.
3. **I. Cor. 2:14** – Natural man receiveth not things of God; they are spiritually discerned. Why Jesus spoke in PARABLES.
4. **II Peter 1:20-21** – Word, not by will of man, but holy men moved by the Holy Spirit.

II Tim. 3:16 – *“All scripture is given by inspiration of God and is profitable for (1) doctrine, (2) for reproof (conviction, rebuke), (3) for correction, (4) for instruction in righteousness.”*
5. **II Tim. 2:15** – *“Study to shew thyself approved unto God a workman ... rightly dividing the word of God.”*
6. **Job 23:12** – Job esteemed God’s Word more than food.
7. **Rom. 15:4** – Written for our learning... and comfort and hope.
8. **Prov. 4:20-22** – Word provides life and health.
9. **Eph. 6:17** – Our offensive and defensive weapon.
10. **Matt. 4:4-10** – Jesus answered each temptation of the devil with the Word *“It is written.”* Without the Word how can we overcome temptation?
11. **I. John 2:14** – Because the Word abideth in them they were (1) strong; (2) overcame the wicked one.
12. **Ps. 119:all** but KEYS vs. 105 our light; 130 gives understanding; vs. 133 orders our steps; vs. 165 gives peace

Vs. 11 MEMORIZE, hide it in our hearts.
13. **Matt 6:33** – *“Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness and all these things shall be added unto you.”*
14. **Matt. 22:37-40** – *“Love the Lord thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul and with all thy mind.”*
15. **Matt. 11:28-30** – *“Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn of me... and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”* Be yoked to Christ, not unbelievers. (**II Cor. 6:14-18**) and dwell and walk with him.

- 16. Matt. 22:29** – *“And Jesus answered and said unto them (the Sadducees), ‘Ye do err, not knowing the Scriptures, nor the power of God.’”*
- 17. John 5:39** – *“Search the Scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.”*
- 18. Acts 17:11** – (Talking about the Bereans) *“These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the Word with all readiness of mind, and searched the Scriptures daily, whether those things were so.”*
- 19. Deut. 11:18a & 19** – *“Therefore shall ye lay up these words in your heart and in your soul...and ye shall teach them to your children, speaking of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.”*

