



The
**AUTHENTIC
CHRISTIAN**
PODCAST

DEVOTIONAL WORKBOOK • SEASON 1



**GOSPEL
BROADCASTING
NETWORK**

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PREFACE

Welcome to “The Authentic Christian” podcast, this is Aaron, Scott and Tucker, and we're going to talk to you about a number of things that revolve around the lives of “authentic” Christians.

The purpose of this “podcast” and the accompanying workbook is to expose you to a number of things that will help build your faith. All the way from philosophical questions, like “why we exist” and the “existence of God,” to practical matters, like “addiction,” “treatment of enemies” and “loneliness,” our purpose is to help you discover God and His purpose for you in life.

We're not interested in giving you cheesy, naive answers though; we're interested to look into God's holy word, seek His guidance prayerfully and provide you with answers to some of life's biggest questions. Maybe, it is the case that you've been struggling in some of these areas that this book addresses? If so, we'd love to hear from you, talk to and with you and study the Bible in hopes that we might please God together. If you have any concerns or questions, just reach out to us at authenticchristianpodcast@gmail.com.

Thanks, everybody, for listening to, watching and interacting with “The Authentic Christian.” This material is sponsored by the Gospel Broadcasting Network, or GBN for short. You can “hop on” the “app store,” search “Gospel Broadcasting Network,” and you can download the app, and there is this show (“The Authentic Christian”) and many other great shows that you can

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watch or listen to and start learning more about the Bible, why we are here and what our purpose is. Thanks for listing and reading.

Aaron, Scott, Tucker
Gospel Broadcasting Network
March 15th, 2023

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SEASON 1

HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

Welcome to “The Authentic Christian” podcast and workbook. We're excited that you've decided to use this material to grow closer to God and develop your faith. In order to get the most out of this material, we'd like to offer a few words on how this material is designed to work.

First, the material is designed to be used in an individual, group or class setting. To begin each lesson, there is an “introductory prompt” that provides a few questions to get the mind thinking. You might ask those questions in advance, before watching the video for the particular lesson.

We recommend that you watch the videos first, before having the discussion. You'll notice that there is a “QR Code” that can be scanned with the camera application on your smartphone, or there is a “URL” which can be typed into your web browser on your computer. You can also find the videos through the GBN app. The video will provide several of the answers and reinforce the material that should also be discussed. For an individual use, a phone or tablet will be fine for showing, but in a class setting, you might put the video on a television or a projector.

It might be the case that not all of your students have access to this workbook. If not, that's okay. We've not only placed the “QR Codes” for each chapter in the workbook along the way, but we've also put all of the “QR Codes” in the back of the book so that a

teacher/guide can either tear or cut the “QR Codes” out and either tape it on a whiteboard, tack it to a bulletin board or just pass it around the table so that students can scan the code and have access both to the video and the discussion questions for the day. All of the material that you'll find in this book is linked to the website, too. If you're teaching, you might just announce to the class that the “QR Code” for the lesson for that day is available outside of the workbook also. This might be exceptionally helpful if your class has visitors or individuals that have a habit of forgetting their workbooks.

If you're using the material individually, we'd advise that you take the time to read each of the scriptures, think about the material and answer the questions from the lesson. You can go at your own pace! There is no rush! But, if you're using the material in a group or class setting, we might recommend that you have a skilled and interactive teacher or leader that might prepare ahead of time by watching the video and selecting what passages are most helpful for the particular group/class that will then be discussing the material.

If this material is being used in a class setting, it is probable that there is a time constraint (like 45 minutes?). In this case, the teacher should try to move the discussion in the way that is most profitable for the group/class. Perhaps, your class can have the post-video discussion quite quickly, but there is quite a bit of material, here. We might advise that you watch the video, which is approximately 30 minutes long, begin the discussion and then mark your place for next week

and continue the discussion from where you left off. You might even have a brief review of the discussion that was had previously when you convene the next time and don't have the video to watch for that day. Also, if there are students that were absent and weren't able to watch the video with the group, we've provided the material here in such a way that you could easily send the video link(s) to the students that were absent and try to have them watch the video lesson before coming to the class for the resumed discussion.

For both individual and group/class settings, we have provided an "answer key" in the back of the book. Several of the difficult questions have answers that are a little more substantive and "meaty," whereas some of the "easier" questions might not have as much of an answer provided. In the case where there are no objectively "right" answers, we've left the answers "blank," saying "see student answers" or "illustrations can be provided by the teacher/students."

Maybe, you'll find this workbook to be so helpful that you'll have notes that you'll want to make? We've provided enough room in the book that you can write on the pages, at the ends of the lessons and even in the back of the book so that you can mark down anything that you feel might need to be accessed quickly.

We do hope and pray that this material is of some benefit to you, your friends, neighbors, classmates and colleagues and the congregation where you attend. We've found this material to help us as we've begun our Christian walk and think that you will find it helpful, too.

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We're praying for you and hope that you'll decide to lead the life of "the authentic Christian."

LESSON 1: WHY AM I HERE?

Why do you think that we are here, existing, on planet earth? Why do you think that planet earth even exists? Who or what do you think is responsible for all that exists? Why do you think this?

QR Code:



Link: <https://gbntv.org/the-authentic-christian/the-authentic-christian-season-1-episode-1/>

Discussion Questions:

1. How does Webster's Dictionary define "faith"? And, how does the Bible's definition differ from that? Is that right or wrong (cf. Heb. 11:1)?
2. Several arguments for the existence of God exist, but what are some – at least one – of the popular alternative theories for the origin of the world/universe (cf. Psa. 14:1)?
3. The "Cosmological" Argument has also been presented as the argument of "cause-and-effect"; how does this argument suggest that God created the universe and human life (cf. Psa. 33:6; Heb. 11:3)?
4. What is the "Moral" Argument?

- a) How does God provide an objective standard of “morals”?
 - b) How does rejecting the notion of God eliminate any notion of “morals”?
 - c) What are some of the real crimes that have occurred in our world that are actually and objectively “wrong” but would not have any standard to judge them as such without God?
5. The “Teleological” Argument is the idea that “design has to have a designer”; what are some illustrations that “design” does not spring out of “chaos”?
- a) How does design, itself, in the universe suggest that God is the Creator (cf. Rom. 1:20)?
 - b) Does it appear that “man” has always had a desire to worship someone or something (cf. Acts 17:26-28)?
6. What are some final thoughts that you might have about God, His existence, how He created us and what our purpose is?

Summary:

- * According to the biblical worldview . . .
 - * Everything owes its existence to God.
 - * "Faith" in God should have support or substance.
 - * Argumentation – scientific, philosophical and revelational (through the Bible) exists in favor of God's existence.
 - * God is worthy of being worshiped because of who He is and because His moral standard is perfect.

Additional Resources:

"Surveying the Evidence" Book by Butt, Jackson and Lyons
(<https://store.apologeticspress.org/search?type=product&q=surveying+the+evidence>)

"Debate: Does the God of the Bible Exist? Dan Barker and Kyle Butt"
(<https://video.wvbs.org/video/debate-does-the-god-of-the-bible-exist-kyle-butt-dan-barker/>)

"Pillars of Faith Seminar" by Apologetics Press
(<https://video.wvbs.org/program/truth-be-told/>;
<https://video.wvbs.org/program/behold-the-lamb-of-god/>;
<https://video.wvbs.org/program/is-the-bible-from-god/>)

NOTES

LESSON 2: WHY SHOULD WE BELIEVE THE BIBLE?

Why do you believe the Bible? What are some of the facts or proofs that make you feel compelled to believe it? Or, do you have doubts about it that might need to be dispelled by solid evidence?

QR Code:



Link: <https://gbntv.org/the-authentic-christian/the-authentic-christian-season-1-episode-2/>

Discussion Questions:

1. How is “scientific foreknowledge” supportive of the claim that the Bible should be believed?
 - a) How does the Old Testament ritual of circumcision support such (cf. Gen. 17:2)? Why is the 8th day significant for performing it?
 - b) What knowledge does the Bible present about blood that could have saved the life of George Washington (cf. Lev. 17:11)?
 - c) Where might have Moses gotten the idea about which animals could be eaten safely (cf. Lev. 11:9-12)?

** It is not coincidence that Moses was trained in the ways of the Egyptians and did not include several of their medical errors in the Bible (cf. Acts 7:22).*

2. What are some of the prophecies in the Bible that show that God's men were granted "foreknowledge" in events?

a) Who is prophesied in advance by Isaiah (cf. Isa. 44:28; 45:1)?

b) What was prophesied about Jesus by the Old Testament prophet, Micah (cf. Micah 5:1,2; Mat. 2:5,6)?

** A common "cop-out" from biblical critics and skeptics is that the date of Old Testament books is questionable, but the fact that the Septuagint (the Greek translation of the Old Testament, around 250 B.C.) was written before Christ and that Micah 5:1,2 speaks of Christ's coming in detail demands divine foreknowledge.*

3. What are some other instances that show the Bible to be both historically, geographically and archaeologically accurate?

4. What degree of "sufficiency" does the Bible claim for itself (cf. 2 Pet. 1:3)? What does the Bible claim that it can make "man" (cf. 2 Tim. 3:16,17)?

Summary:

- * The Bible has several validating proofs.
- * The Bible demonstrates its divine origin by its scientific foreknowledge.
- * The Bible shows its divine origin by its prophetic ability, predicting people and events in advance.
- * The Bible claims its own authenticity, is harmonious and lacks internal contradictions, having been written by approximately 40 authors.
- * The Bible is unique in its relation to “man,” having the ability to make “man” complete and providing for the needs that humanity has.

Additional Resources:

“The Bible and Science” by Kyle Butt (<https://apologeticspress.org/video/pillars-3-the-bible-and-science-video-3667/>)

“Believe the Bible” by Rob Whitacre (<https://gladtidingspublishing.com/collections/school-of-evangelism/products/believe-the-bible-set>)

“Internal Evidence for the Inspiration of the Bible” by Scott Ingram (<http://gbntv.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Internal-Evidence-For-The-Inspiration-of-The-Bible.pdf>)

“Defending the Faith Study Bible” (<https://store.apologeticspress.org/search?type=product&q=defending+the+faith+study+bible>)

“Surveying the Evidence” by Butt, Jackson and Lyons (<https://store.apologeticspress.org/search?type=product&q=surveying+the+evidence>)

NOTES

LESSON 3: WHO IS GOD?

Where did God come from? What do you think about God's character?

QR Code:



Link: <https://gbntv.org/the-authentic-christian/the-authentic-christian-season-1-episode-3/>

Discussion Questions:

1. Where did God come from? How does His being “eternal” matter and impact this discussion?
2. What is meant by the following of God's qualities/characteristics?
 - a) “Omniscience” (Psa. 147:5; 1 John 3:20)?
 - b) “Omnipotence” (Jer. 32:17)?
 - c) “Omnipresence” (Psa. 139:7-9; Prov. 15:3; Jer. 23:24)?
3. Who are the three members of the “Godhead” (cf. Gen. 1:26,27; Mat. 28:20; 1 Cor. 12:4-6)?
4. Does it make sense, in light of the scriptures, to see only one personality in the Godhead or are there three (cf. John 14:23,25)?

5. What are some of the "roles" that the three persons in the Godhead have taken on? What role(s) has Jesus taken on (cf. Col. 1:15-18; Heb. 1:1-4)?
6. What are some of the attributes of God?
 - a) What attribute(s) of God is/are stressed in John 3:16, Romans 5:6-11 and 1 John 4:8?
 - b) What attribute(s) of God is/are stressed in Ephesians 2:1-10 and Titus 2:11-14?
 - c) What attribute(s) of God is/are stressed in Romans 3:26 and Romans 11:22?
 - d) What attribute(s) of God is/are found in Exodus 20:5 and Exodus 34:14 (cf. 2 Cor. 11:2)?

** We must be careful not to "create" a "God" out of particular, hand-selected verses. There are qualities of God that some might try to neglect that are for our benefit. Some attributes, like "jealousy," can actually be for humanity's good.*

Summary:

- * God is "eternal" and is not created.
- * God's qualities are numerous and reveal His overall character.

- * The members of the Godhead have revealed themselves in the Bible.

Additional Resources:

"The Biblical Doctrine of the Godhead" by Wayne Jackson
(<https://christiancourier.com/articles/the-biblical-doctrine-of-the-godhead>)

"What About the Terms 'Godhead' and 'Trinity'?" by Wayne Jackson
(<https://christiancourier.com/articles/what-about-the-terms-godhead-and-trinity>)

"Reason and Revelation: the Trinity" Vol. 35, No. 10, October 2015
(<https://apologeticspress.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/1510.pdf>)

"Are Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit 'God' in Nature?" by Wayne Jackson
(<https://christiancourier.com/articles/are-jesus-christ-and-the-holy-spirit-god-in-nature>)

"A Brief Study of the Angel of Jehovah" by Wayne Jackson
(<https://christiancourier.com/articles/a-brief-study-of-the-angel-of-jehovah>)

NOTES

LESSON 4: WHAT SHOULD WE DO WITH THE BIBLE?

Why should we study the Bible? What is the purpose of the Bible? How has it impacted your life? Can the Bible be misused and misunderstood?

QR Code:



Link: <https://gbntv.org/the-authentic-christian/the-authentic-christian-season-1-episode-4/>

Discussion Questions:

1. What are some of the reasons that studying the Bible is important (cf. Acts 17:11; 2 Tim. 2:15; 3:16,17; 2 Pet. 1:3)?
2. Can scripture be “wrongly divided” (cf. 2 Tim. 2:15)?
3. Is it possible that people can be “self-deceived” and read the Bible incorrectly, not actually loving God (2 Thes. 2:9; 2 Tim. 3:7)?
4. What are some of the different “types” of “books” that are in the Bible?

** There are several “Easter eggs,” callbacks, in the Bible, that call attention to Jesus, along the way.*

5. Why are “who?”, “what?”, “when?”, “where?” and “why?” good questions to ask when reading the Bible?

** “Exegesis” means “to draw/pull out”;
“Hermeneutics” is “the science of studying the scriptures.”*

6. What are some instances where developing the actual “context” of the Bible eliminates confusion? And, what are some instances where failing to develop the actual “context” of the Bible can result in confusion and a misreading of the text (cf. John 14:26; 16:12,13)?

** The Bible can rightly be considered a “book of principles”; while specific lines do not speak directly to us, the principle often applies and needs to be adjusted/adapted into our own context.*

Summary:

- * The Bible can be read both “correctly” and “incorrectly.”
- * One must apply sensible, logical “rules” of interpretation in order to read the Bible correctly.
- * Keeping the actual “context” of the Bible in mind is necessary for productive Bible reading and interpretation.

Additional Resources:

"Hearing God Speak: A Study in Biblical Interpretation" by Gary Hampton (<https://www.amazon.com/Hearing-God-Speak-Biblical-Interpretation/dp/B08MCQR7TX>)

"Revelation Through First-Century Glasses" by W.B. West (https://www.amazon.com/Revelation-Through-First-Century-Glasses-West/dp/0892254653/ref=sr_1_1?dchild=1&keywords=revelation+through+first+century+glasses&qid=1624552667&s=books&sr=1-1)

"How to Read the Bible" World Video Bible Series by Steven Lloyd (<https://video.wvbs.org/program/how-to-read-the-bible/>)

NOTES

LESSON 5: DO WE BELIEVE EVERYTHING IN THE BIBLE?

Is it important to believe all that the Bible says? What are some areas in which you think that people neglect to believe the Bible? Why might this be?

QR Code:



Link: <https://gbntv.org/the-authentic-christian/the-authentic-christian-season-1-episode-5/>

Discussion Questions:

1. What are some of the sins that humanity tends to consider exceptionally wrong? And, how does this align or differ from God's view of things (cf. Prov. 6:16-19)?
2. Does God make His expectations clear to humanity (cf. Gen. 4:1-ff.; Lev. 10:1,2; 1 Pet. 5:8)? Is God clear about "how" to do things in several cases?

** The "gospel" is from the Greek word, "euangelion." and means "good news"; it had been used in secular contexts, but Jesus brought a "good news" that was exceptional and greater (Mark 1:15).*

3. Does the Bible insist on a future, bodily resurrection and judgment (cf. John 5:28,29; 1 Thes. 4:13-18)?

- a) How does Matthew 25:31-46 speak about God's judgment and show such to be temporally (relating to length of time) equal?
 - b) What is considered to "judge" humanity in the last day (cf. John 12:48)?
 - c) Is it easy for people to "believe" God and still decide not to obey Him (cf. John 12:42,43; Heb. 5:8,9)?
 - d) How does God and His judgment make us attempt to bring every facet of life into alignment with His values (cf. 2 Cor. 10:3-5; Col. 3:4)?
4. Who needs the Bible, or is it only for Christians (cf. Acts 17:29-31; Rom. 5:12)?
5. Does the Bible teach that "works" (of a good sort) will have some bearing on God's judgment (cf. Rom. 2:6,11; 2 Cor. 5:10,11; Rev. 20:11-15)?

Summary:

- * It is important to believe everything in the Bible.
- * God prepares us for the judgment with the Bible.
- * The Bible is for everyone.

Additional Resources:

"Priene Calendar Inscription" (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Calendar_Inscription_of_Priene)

NOTES

LESSON 6: HOW IS CHRISTIANITY DIFFERENT?

How do you think that Christianity is different from other religions? What are some of the unique aspects of Christianity that you are familiar with?

QR Code:



Link: <https://gbntv.org/the-authentic-christian/the-authentic-christian-season-1-episode-6/>

Discussion Questions:

1. What does it mean to be “in a covenant”?
2. Did Jesus bring a “New Covenant” (as set over against the former, Old Testament setup [cf. Heb. 7:12])?
 - a) How was Jesus' “kingdom” of a different nature from what was expected by the Jews (cf. John 6:14,15; 18:36)?
 - b) Did the Old Testament prophets anticipate the New Covenant (cf. Jer. 31:31-34; Heb. 8:6-13; 9:15)?

** The sacrifice of Jesus is better in several ways; one does not have to go to a specific physical place and make the same kinds of sacrifices.*

3. Is Christianity different because of how the world was saved? How is Jesus a different kind of Savior from what people might have otherwise perceived a "Savior" to be (cf. John 13:1-ff.; Phil. 2:5-11)?

** Tacitus, an ancient historian of a secular nature, noted Jesus' existence and crucifixion.; Jesus did exist and out of the options of being a liar, lunatic or Lord, only being Lord is fitting with the evidence.*

4. How does Paul consider Christianity to be different (cf. 1 Cor. 15:12-19)?

Summary:

- * A "covenant" is a "pact" or an "agreement," and, in certain cases, carries the idea of "relationship."
- * God has given "covenants" to humanity throughout time; He had "covenants" with Abraham, Moses, David, the Israelites, Gentiles.
- * God's giving "covenants" to humanity climaxed in person of Jesus, who fulfills the "covenants" and invites all men into His fellowship.
- * God's entire system of religion is different from other forms of religion; He offers a new way.

Additional Resources:

"Christianity and World Religions" by Wayne Jackson (<https://christiancourier.com/articles/christianity-and-world-religions>)

“Jesus Christ – Historical Figure or Fairy-Tale Character?” by Kyle Butt (<https://apologeticspress.org/jesus-christ-historical-figure-or-fairy-tale-character-820/>)

“Can We Prove Jesus was a Real Person?” by Eric Lyons (<https://apologeticspress.org/can-we-prove-jesus-was-a-real-person-876/>)

“The Non-Crucified Non-Saviors of the World” by Dewayne Bryant (<https://apologeticspress.org/the-non-crucified-non-saviors-of-the-world-973/>)

“The Historical Christ – Fact or Fiction?” by Kyle Butt (<https://apologeticspress.org/the-historical-christ-fact-or-fiction-187/>)

NOTES

LESSON 7: WHAT IS AN "AUTHENTIC CHRISTIAN"?

What do you think it means to be "an authentic Christian"? Is there such a thing as an "inauthentic" Christian? What is the difference and why is there one?

QR Code:



Link: <https://gbntv.org/the-authentic-christian/the-authentic-christian-season-1-episode-7/>

Discussion Questions:

1. What is meant by the word "authentic"?
 - a) How might some be "inauthentic" Christians?
 - b) What makes one an "authentic" Christian?
2. Though Jesus was Jewish, how did He view and relate to the Law of Moses (cf. Mat. 5:17,18; Rom. 7:4-7; 13:9; Col. 2:14)?
3. How have some incorrectly viewed Jesus Christ as being set over against "religion" as if the two are incompatible (cf. James 1:26,27)?
4. How does the idea that any "law" or "command" from God must be "cold" or "heartless" miss the mark?

- a) What kinds of things were Jesus' enemies (such as the Pharisees) actually saying/doing incorrectly?
 - b) Did Jesus ever criticize people for trying to love God by keeping His law with good hearts?
5. Will there be individuals who claim to follow God that find out on the final day of judgment that they were not (cf. Mat. 7:21-23; 2 Cor. 5:10)?

** Any religion that is modern or new is not true; any religion that is true is not modern or new; the religion that Jesus actually brought was one that was delivered in the first-century (Jude 3).*

6. How did people like the Ethiopian nobleman (Acts 8:35-ff.), the Philippian jailer (Acts 16:31-34) or the good Samaritan (Luke 10:30-37) demonstrate "authentic" religion?
- a) How did Jesus show Himself to be "authentic," too (cf. Luke 15:2; 19:10; Acts 10:38)?
 - b) How was Paul's life reshaped into an "authentic" life for Christ (cf. 1 Tim. 1:14-16)?
7. How is Gaius an example of "authentic" Christianity (cf. 3 John)? How does he differ from Diotrophes (cf. 3 John 1,9)?

8. How does the New Testament provide a constant point of reference to let people know that God is not confusing people in a world full of confusion (cf. 1 Cor. 14:33,40; 2 Thes. 2:15)?

Summary:

- * There are both “authentic” and “inauthentic” Christians.
- * “Authentic” Christians are those who follow Jesus and reflect His influence in their lives.
- * There should be a healthy view of God which pushes us to conform our lives to the standard revealed in His word.

NOTES

LESSON 8: HOW TO BECOME A CHRISTIAN?

What do you think that a person must do in order to become a Christian? Are there multiple ways to become Christians? How does the Bible shape our view on this?

QR Code:



Link: <https://gbntv.org/the-authentic-christian/the-authentic-christian-season-1-episode-8/>

Discussion Questions:

1. How were the Bereans considered “noble” by the New Testament (cf. Acts 17:11)? What did they do, and how does this form an example for us to follow?
2. What is the first thing that a person has to have to approach God in Jesus Christ (cf. John 3:16; 8:24; 14:6; Rom. 10:17; Heb. 11:6)?
3. Is “repentance” necessary for one to become a Christian (cf. Luke 13:3,5; Acts 17:30,31)?
 - a) What does it mean “to repent” (cf. Mat. 3:8; James 4:4-8)?
 - b) Are “repentance” and “belief” separate acts (cf. Acts 2:38)?

4. Is "confession" something that comes after one's belief in Jesus Christ (cf. Mat. 10:32,33; John 12:42,43; Acts 8:37)?

** If God wanted an individual's sins to be forgiven at baptism, how else could He have "put it"?*

5. What does Paul present "baptism" as in Romans 6:1-7,17?
6. In the case of Paul, is he saved before or after baptism (cf. Acts 9:17,18; 22:16)?
- a) How does the phrase, "calling on the name of the Lord," become clearer in meaning by comparing Acts 22:16 with Acts 2:21,38 and Romans 10:13?
- b) How does one know that "calling on the name of the Lord" is not a mere prayer (cf. Acts 9:11; 22:16)?

** There is no such thing in the New Testament as a Christian who is "unbaptized."*

7. What is it that cleanses or remits sin (cf. Acts 20:28; Rev. 1:5), though acts of faith (such as baptism) are the means whereby such is contacted?

Summary:

- * One is required to have a faith in Jesus Christ that is produced by the evidences within the word of God.
- * One must come to believe in Christ, repent of past sins, confess Christ as Lord and be baptized into Jesus for the remission of past sins.
- * One is cleansed of sin by the blood of Christ, which is contacted when one physically obeys the Gospel in baptism.

Additional Resources:

"The Case for the Causal Use of 'Eis'" by Aaron Gallagher
(<http://gbntv.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/The-Case-for-The-Causal-Use-of-Eis.pdf>)

NOTES

LESSON 9: OBJECTIONS TO BAPTISM

Do you think that water baptism is necessary for one to be saved? Why do you think that certain individuals might object to the need for it?

QR Code:



Link: <https://gbntv.org/the-authentic-christian/the-authentic-christian-season-1-episode-9/>

Discussion Questions:

1. Why do you think that people might raise the instance of “the thief on the cross” (Luke 23:39-43) as an objection to the need for water baptism?
 - a) What “law” was the thief “under” or “amenable to” when he was living (cf. Heb. 9:16,17)?
 - b) Why is it important to observe that Jesus had already died and resurrected when insisting that “repentance and remission of sins” would not be preached until later (cf. Luke 24:47)?
 - c) Is Acts 2 (Pentecost), the day, at Jerusalem (Luke 24:47-49), when the death of the testator (Heb. 9:15-17) was finally inaugurating the New Covenant causing it to go into effect?

- d) Are there any differences between the salvation of the thief on the cross and individuals today?
 - e) Why is it important to observe that the thief was still under the "Old Law" (cf. Col. 2:14)? Are there others under the "Old Law" who were saved in ways different – that is, by different "mechanics" (though the overall system of grace-through-faith) – from people under the "New Covenant" of Jesus Christ (cf. Heb. 11)?
 - f) Did Jesus have power on earth to forgive sin while He was in His personal ministry on earth (cf. Mat. 9:6)?
2. How would one read Acts 2:38 if the word "for" meant "because of" instead of "in order to, towards"?
- a) Why should the word "for" ("*eis*" in the Greek text) be understood as "in order to" or "unto" (prospective) instead of "because of"? How many times does the word mean "in order to" or "unto" in the Greek New Testament?
 - b) How does Matthew 26:28 help one understand how the phrase should be understood in Acts 2:38?
 - c) Did Jesus shed His blood (per Matthew 26:28) "because" sins had already been forgiven or "so that" or "in order that" sins might be forgiven?

3. How do certain individuals sometimes attempt to read Ephesians 2:8,9 as if it is at odds with the idea of “water baptism,” which might be considered “work”?
- a) Is it possible that “belief” is a “work” in any sense (cf. John 6:29,30; 1 Thes. 1:3; 2 Thes. 1:11)?
 - b) What kind of “works” are under discussion in Ephesians 2:8,9? What kind of “works” are not?
 - c) Who wrote Ephesians? Why is it important to know how Paul understood one to be saved from sins in order to understand what Paul might or might not mean in Ephesians 2:8,9 (cf. Acts 22:16)?
 - 1) How does one know that “calling on the name of the Lord” is not a prayer (cf. Acts 2:21,38; Rom. 10:13; Acts 22:16)?
 - 2) Was Paul “saved” on the road to Damascus, before “calling on the name of the Lord”? What all had Paul done, though still lacking something to have his sins washed away (cf. Acts 9:1-16; 22:16)?

** Baptismal Regeneration is a teaching of the Catholic Church that teaches that there is power in water to forgive sins even without faith on the part of the one being baptized. This is why they baptize infants who cannot believe.*

4. In the case of Naaman, did he think that the power was with God or the water in the Jordan River (cf. 2 Kings 5)? How is baptism similar (cf. 1 Pet. 3:21)?
5. Though the Philippian jailer was told to “believe,” he still had to be taught (Acts 16:32). How did he react upon hearing the word of the Lord from Paul and Silas (cf. Acts 16:30-34)?

Summary:

- * The thief on the cross, who lived under the Old Covenant, was saved by Jesus personally on earth and died before Jesus inaugurated His “New Covenant.” His case of salvation has major differences than those who are under the “New Covenant.” This makes the thief a bad example to look to today for salvation.
- * Acts 2:38 clearly teaches (like Matthew 26:28) that both Jesus' death and water baptism are towards, to bring the result of, in order to produce the remission of sins.
- * Ephesians 2:8,9 was written by Paul, who supported the need for faithful acts of obedience towards God, had been saved through the act of water baptism (Acts 22:16) and was speaking against works of merit/earning.
- * The power behind salvation has always been from God, Christ and the Holy Spirit and not from the water, itself.

- * The Philippian jailer was baptized in the middle of the night as a result of having faith in Jesus.

Additional Resources:

“The Case for the Causal Use of ‘Eis’” by Aaron Gallagher
(<http://gbntv.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/The-Case-for-The-Causal-Use-of-Eis.pdf>)

“Objections to Baptism for the Forgiveness of Sins” by Aaron Gallagher (<http://gbntv.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Objections-to-Baptism-Document.pdf>)

“A History of the Baptism Apostasy” by Wayne Jackson (<https://christiancourier.com/articles/a-history-of-the-baptism-apostasy>)

“Do I Have to be Baptized to be Saved?” Episode 1 – Answering the Error (<https://2c93.subspla.sh/x8j595q>)

“The Preposition ‘Eis’ in Acts 2:38” by Wayne Jackson (<https://christiancourier.com/articles/the-preposition-eis-in-acts-2-38>)

“What is Baptismal Regeneration?” by Wayne Jackson (<https://christiancourier.com/articles/what-is-baptismal-regeneration>)

“8 Mistaken Ideas About Baptism” by Wayne Jackson (<https://christiancourier.com/articles/8-mistaken-ideas-about-baptism>)

“1 Corinthians 1:17 – God Sent Paul not to Baptize” by Wayne Jackson (<https://christiancourier.com/articles/1-corinthians-1-17-paul-not-sent-to-baptize>)

NOTES

LESSON 10: HOW TO SHARE JESUS AT A COFFEE SHOP

How would you try to share Jesus in a public setting with others around you? What are some different approaches that one could take to attempt such?

QR Code:



Link: <https://gbntv.org/the-authentic-christian/the-authentic-christian-season-1-episode-10/>

Discussion Questions:

1. Does the “great commission” from Jesus create a “cycle” for Christians (cf. Mat. 28:18-20)?
2. What are some of the possible reasons that we should attempt to “evangelize” to others (cf. Mat. 9:37,38; 2 Cor. 5:10,11; Heb. 9:27)?
3. What was Jesus' own personal mission (Luke 19:10)?
4. What are some of our reasons for possibly turning “the great commission” into our “great omission”?
5. How might we feel awkward in talking to people and how might we try to overcome such (1 Cor. 9:20-23)?

6. What are some cultural barriers for evangelism today, and how might we try to overcome those strategically?
7. Where did Paul decide to go upon entering cities (cf. Acts 17:1-3; 18:1-6)? How did this lead to evangelistic opportunities for Christ?
8. How can “small talk” be a skill that can work for evangelistic purposes if it is used correctly?
9. What are some methods we might use in cases where we have short exchanges with others and don't really have the opportunity for extended discussion?
10. What perspective should we possibly develop on being “turned down” when attempting to evangelize?
11. What are some ways that one can overcome “nerves” before talking to people about Christ?
12. Should we expect to have all of the answers that people might ask in evangelistic exchanges?
13. Is there a proper attitude that one should have about the gospel and gospel things?

Summary:

- * Evangelism takes strategy, wisdom, passion and love for Jesus and others.

- * Evangelism has several challenges, but these can be overcome.
- * Evangelism should seek to bring Jesus into close contact with others who have not met Him.

Additional Resources:

"Back to the Bible" Booklets (<https://gladtidingspublishing.com/collections/back-to-the-bible-bttb>)

NOTES

LESSON 11: WHAT IF YOU COULD GO BACK TO HIGH SCHOOL?

If you could go back to “high school” and give advice to your past self, what would you say? If you are in “high school,” what do you think good advice would be right now?

QR Code:



Link: <https://gbntv.org/the-authentic-christian/the-authentic-christian-season-1-episode-11/>

Discussion Questions:

1. What are some of the challenges that you might face in high school right now? How does Jesus Christ offer an alternative to some of these things in various ways?
2. How is God's character something that should drive us in our character and our relation to others (cf. Acts 10:34,35)?
3. How is the idea of “only living once” a truth that should receive our consideration (cf. Heb. 9:27; James 4:13-15)? What should this do to/for our present character?
4. How should high school's temptations be viewed from a Christian perspective (cf. Ecc. 12:13,14)?

5. What should our ultimate goal be, and how should this impact our goal in dating or searching for a spouse (cf. 1 Kings 11:1-4; 21:25)?
6. How should the idea of having children also be something that should shape our moral actions now (cf. 1 Cor. 6:18; also, see Genesis 39)?
7. Is sin full of pleasure (cf. Heb. 11:24,25)? Why is Moses' response a good example?
8. What are some of the major reasons that young people in high school decide to make poor decisions?

** If we engage in and then repent of any kind of poor lifestyle, God is still willing to forgive.*

9. How important is "pure speech" for the Christian, and how does it impact one's reputation (cf. Mat. 12:36; 15:18; Col. 4:6; James 1:26; 3:1-12)?
10. What kind of impact might you still have while in high school (cf. Eph. 5:16; Col. 4:5)?

Summary:

- * Our reputations as Christians are important.
- * Our reputation should reflect Jesus.
- * Temptations of a sexual nature, with drugs, with alcohol should be battled with and for Christ.

NOTES

LESSON 12: WHAT IS BIBLICAL LOVE?

What do you think “love” is? How is that similar or different to “biblical love”? How might culture define such in a different – even incorrect – way?

QR Code:



Link: <https://gbntv.org/the-authentic-christian/the-authentic-christian-season-1-episode-12/>

Discussion Questions:

1. How did God in Jesus express “love” in a way that is radically different than what the world might present or perceive (cf. John 14:8,9; 15:13,14; Rom. 5:6-11; 1 Cor. 13; Phil. 2:1-11)?
2. How does 1 Corinthians 13 present a new slant on “love” in many ways?
 - a) How is love “patient” (cf. 1 Tim. 1:14-16; 2:5; 2 Pet. 3:9)? And, how does this aspect remind us of and mimic God?
 - b) How is love “kind” towards others (cf. Acts 10:38)?
 - c) How is love “not envious” or “jealous”?
 - d) How does love “not parade itself” (cf. Mark 8:31; 9:31; 10:34,45)?

- e) How does love “not behave rudely”?
- f) How is love “not provoked”?
- g) How does love “not seek/think evil”?
- h) How does love “not rejoice in iniquity but in the truth” (cf. Mat. 18:15-20)?
- i) How does love “bear, believe, hope, endure”?

** The church at Corinth was overloaded with a lack of love, which led to many of the problems addressed by Paul's exhortation in 1 Corinthians 13.*

- 3. What is the best way that one can show a real, authentic “love” to one in a spiritual way?
- 4. Does our culture, today, misunderstand “love” as being “toleration” (cf. Mat. 22:29; John 15:12-17)?

Summary:

- * Real “love” is radically different from that which the world presents or envisions.
- * Jesus showed humanity what real “love” looks like.
- * Paul gave an extensive treatment of what “love” is and does.
- * Real “love” can be difficult but is truly “worth it.”

Additional Resources:

"Is it Christian to Tell Someone They are Wrong?" by Aaron
Gallagher (<https://2c93.subspla.sh/pj8gw9v>)

NOTES

LESSON 13: HOW TO DEAL WITH CRITICISM?

Do you experience much criticism? Are you able to cope with it now? How might you do better at handling criticism?

QR Code:



Link: <https://gbntv.org/the-authentic-christian/the-authentic-christian-season-1-episode-13/>

Discussion Questions:

1. Is any criticism good for us?
2. What are some good observations for us to consider if we are receiving criticism?
3. What are some of the ways that we should respond to criticism, whether justified or unjustified (cf. Prov. 15:1; 17:28; 29:11)?
4. Is "anger" a justified response, in any case, to certain criticisms (cf. John 2:12-17; Eph. 4:26)?
5. How can an inappropriate response to criticism hurt one's influence with others?

6. Is it possible that critics are possibly going through things that push them to “lash out”? How should we use our comfort from God for others (cf. 2 Cor. 1:3-11)?
 7. How was Sanballat a major critic at the rebuilding of the wall of Jerusalem? And, what did the people do as a response (cf. Neh. 4:1-ff., esp. vs. 15)?
 8. If we are Christians, should we expect criticism or persecution (cf. Luke 6:26; 2 Tim. 3:12)? And, how does James say that one should respond to it (James 1:19)?
 9. Is there a place for considering criticism from others (cf. Prov. 15:31; 27:5,6,17)?
 10. Are there people who have burdens and are constantly critical in a poor way? How should saints react and treat such people (cf. Gal. 6:1,2)?
- * Receiving criticism is similar to the experience of the prophets, Jesus and Paul (cf. Mat. 5:10-12).*
11. How should the tongue of the saint be curbed so that it does not respond inappropriately to criticism (cf. James 3:1-12; 5:7-12)?
 12. What are some practical ways to consider responding to criticism (2 Tim. 2:23-26)?

Summary:

- * Criticism from others can be good or bad.
- * Criticism should be prayerfully and thoughtfully considered.
- * We should always respond to either type of criticism in a godly manner.
- * We should be perceptive about why some might be of a more critical attitude.

NOTES

LESSON 14: HOW TO LOVE YOUR ENEMIES

Do you have any enemies? Do you struggle to treat them well or even like your friends? How do you think that Jesus would insist that we treat them?

QR Code:



Link: <https://gbntv.org/the-authentic-christian/the-authentic-christian-season-1-episode-14/>

Discussion Questions:

1. How does the teaching of the Quran (the book of Islam) differ from the teaching of Jesus (cf. Mat. 5:44,45)?
2. What are some ideas of things that we can do to treat our enemies well (cf. Mat. 7:12; Luke 6:35)?
3. What did Paul advise on treating one's fellow man rightly (cf. Rom. 12:17-21)?
4. How did Jesus respond to His enemies (cf. Luke 23:34)?
 - a) Did Jesus unconditionally "forgive" everyone or did He have the attitude of forgiveness?

- b) Did some of those who crucified Jesus repent and receive God's conditional forgiveness (cf. Luke 17:3,4; Acts 2:36-42)?
5. Who were some of the early saints that were forgiven by Christ (cf. 1 Tim. 1:14-16; 1 Cor. 6:9-11)?
6. What instruction did Jesus give in His "Sermon on the Mount" for treatment of enemies (cf. Mat. 5:44,45)?
7. What is one possible way of dealing with enemies nobly (cf. Luke 9:5)?
8. Does the preaching of the gospel naturally produce some enemies (Mat. 10:34-39; John 16:1,2)?
9. How does the judgment scene of Matthew 25:31-46 teach that our treatment of others is important to Christ?

** Jesus calls us to a higher road, a higher calling.*

10. How did Jesus tell us to live before and towards others (cf. Mat. 5:14-16; Luke 10:30-37)?

Summary:

- * Dealing with enemies can be difficult.
- * Jesus calls people to live in relation to others in a better way.

- * We should remember that Jesus died for our enemies in the same way that He did for us.
- * The gospel can naturally produce enemies, but we should try to treat those people well for the sake of the gospel and their souls, too.

Additional Resources:

"The Challenge of Agape Love" by Wayne Jackson (<https://christiancourier.com/articles/the-challenge-of-agape-love>)

NOTES

LESSON 15: ADDICTION

What do you think addiction is? Do you think that addiction is difficult to handle? What are some things that you think people can become addicted to? Are there things that are even neutral or good that can become bad if used in an abusive or excessive amount?

QR Code:



Link: <https://gbntv.org/the-authentic-christian/the-authentic-christian-season-1-episode-15/>

Discussion Questions:

1. Why do you think that addiction might be a difficult thing for people to discuss?
2. What is addiction (in a spiritual context)?

** The New Testament teaches that anyone with life can be “washed” and find forgiveness with Christ; anyone can “overcome” with Christ (cf. Ecc. 9:4, 5; 1 Cor. 6:9-11).*

3. Is it possible that weaker “drugs” could lead to a stronger and more severe drug that could lead to more catastrophic outcome?
4. Is sin pleasurable in many ways (cf. Heb. 11:24,25)?

5. Why is it extremely important that the Christian remain “sober” (cf. 1 Pet. 5:8)?
6. What are the three types of sin that might tempt us as human beings (cf. 1 John 2:15-17)?
7. Is it possible that we might have to “cut ties” with things or people in order to “pull away” from addictions (cf. 1 Cor. 15:33)?
8. What does 1 Peter 2:11 regard our “fight” with the Devil as?
9. Is there a difference between noticing the beauty in something and lusting after it (cf. Mat. 5:28-32; James 1:13-15)?
10. How does Paul advise for us to overcome certain temptations (cf. 1 Cor. 10:12-14)?

Summary:

- * Addiction is difficult to discuss because it requires humility and also might produce shame.
- * Addiction is another element in the “war for the soul” that the Devil seeks to use.
- * Addiction can be overcome with Christ.
- * We might have to sever ties with things and/or people in order to overcome addictions.

Additional Resources:

"From Gunshots & Criminal Life to Living for God in Ministry; the Return of Robby Eversole" (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2t6COLEEITQ> [YouTube only])

"The Truth About . . . Pornography" (<https://video.wvbs.org/video/the-truth-about-pornography/>)

"What Does the Bible Say About Drinking Alcohol?" (<https://subspla.sh/xw8yyty>)

"Overcoming Addictions: Alcohol, Drugs, and Pornography"
(<https://subspla.sh/xs879f5>)

"What Does the Bible Say About Drinking Alcohol: Part 2, Objections" (<https://subspla.sh/pj4p93g>)

"10 Things a Christian Can Do Now to Quit Porn for Good!"
(<https://youtu.be/GWAOffsof5w> [YouTube only])

NOTES

LESSON 16: HOW TO WALK IN THE LIGHT

What do you think that it means to “walk in the light”? Can one know that he/she has eternal life and is on the path to heaven?

QR Code:



Link: <https://gbntv.org/the-authentic-christian/the-authentic-christian-season-1-episode-16/>

Discussion Questions:

1. Is it possible for us to know that we have eternal life and are saved (cf. 1 John 5:13)?
2. Is it possible that people can be deceived and misguided about salvation while even claiming to follow Christ (cf. Mat. 7:21-23)?
3. What word/element begins each sentence in 1 John 1:6-10? Does that suggest that things are conditional?
4. What does “to walk in the light” mean, as used in the Bible in these contexts (cf. Eph. 5:6-14)?
5. What is a major difference between all human beings and Jesus (cf. 1 John 1:8; Heb. 4:15)?

* *The Gnostics, an opposing group behind the context of 1 John, thought that sins in the flesh (body) did not affect one's soul; the New Testament rejects this idea and insists that the spirit/soul is affected by one's actions in the body (cf. 1 Cor. 5:5).*

6. What does the Greek word, "*paraklete*," mean (cf. 1 John 2:1,2)? What does this mean about Jesus and His relation to us?
7. What is the scope of Jesus' being a "propitiation" for sin; that is, how many have the possibility of being redeemed by Jesus (cf. Heb. 2:9; 1 John 2:1,2)?

Summary:

- * To "walk in the light" is to decide to reflect a life like Jesus led.
- * In Jesus, we have an offering, a "propitiation," for sin.
- * The things that we do in our bodies do affect our relationship with God.

Additional Resources:

"Once Saved, Always Saved?" Episode 2 – Answering the Error
(<https://2c93.subspla.sh/ztmqfk4>)

"The Truth About . . . Staying Saved" (<https://video.wvbs.org/video/the-truth-about-staying-saved/>)

THE AUTHENTIC CHRISTIAN - SEASON 1

"Saved Without a Doubt" by Don Blackwell (<https://video.wvbs.org/video/saved-without-a-doubt/>)

NOTES

LESSON 17: IS THE CHURCH MADE OF PERFECT PEOPLE?

Are there hypocrites in the church? Can people pretend to be perfect and not be? Can some try to live a life like Christ and still be imperfect?

QR Code:



Link: <https://gbntv.org/the-authentic-christian/the-authentic-christian-season-1-episode-17/>

Discussion Questions:

1. What does the New Testament church strive to be (cf. Col. 1:13)?
2. What are some examples of people in the Bible who were people of God and still made mistakes?
3. Was Peter a hypocrite, even after being a Christian and apostle for Jesus (cf. Gal. 2:11-ff.)?

** Even church leaders make mistakes, but we should remember their humanity, recognize that they are "human," too, and work with them wisely.*

4. How does a misconception of church cause some to react towards it in ways that might be misguided?

5. Why did Jesus associate with sinners (cf. Mark 2:15-17)?
6. What is the responsibility of people who are in Christ's church (cf. Eph. 4:13)?
7. What are some of the purposes for "going to church" (cf. Heb. 10:24,25)?
 - a) How should the church work together with each other (cf. Gal. 6:1,2)?
 - b) What are some of the struggles that people "in church" might face that require others to help?
8. Are Christianity and the idea of Jesus' church inseparable (cf. Acts 2:47; Heb. 10:24,25,26-29)?

** The church is Jesus' bride; they are inseparable; one cannot love Jesus and hate His church.*

Summary:

- * The "church" is the body of Christ.
- * The "church" is full of imperfect people who identify with Jesus and should be trying to live like Him.
- * People in "the church" should not claim to be sinlessly perfect.
- * There are hypocrites in Christ's church, but that should not make us "give up" on His bride.

NOTES

LESSON 18: WHY DO WE FACE HARD TIMES?

Have you ever experienced a “difficult time”? How did you cope with such? Did you learn anything from that point in your life? How have you developed since and because of it?

QR Code:



Link: <https://gbntv.org/the-authentic-christian/the-authentic-christian-season-1-episode-18/>

Discussion Questions:

1. What was it that initially caused “hard times” for the human family (cf. Gen. 3:13-19)?
2. Why is it possible that God allows suffering?
 - a) Is it possible that we cause our own suffering in some cases?
 - b) Are there things that happen in life that are against God's “ideal” will, that is, what God ideally wishes would happen?
3. How is the Devil attacking people and how does God notice that our lives might be similar to Job or Jesus in ways (cf. 1 Pet. 5:8-10)?

4. What are some cases in the Old Testament of people who suffered for God (cf. Gen. 37-50; Job; Dan. 3)?
 - a) What were some of the things that Joseph experienced in his life that were "sufferings"?
 - b) How did Joseph consistently react to suffering?
 - c) How did Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego react to the threat and cause their suffering (cf. Dan. 3:16-18)?
 - d) How did Daniel react to the threat from his enemies (cf. Dan. 6:10)?
5. Who are some of the individuals listed in Hebrews 11 that lived "by faith" in suffering for God?
6. What are some of the "sufferings" that individuals of God experienced (cf. Heb. 11:35-ff.)?
7. How did John "suffer" for preaching truth to Herod (cf. Mark 6:14-29)?
8. What is needed from the Christian when "suffering" is difficult (cf. 1 Cor. 15:58; Gal. 6:9; Rev. 2:10)?
9. What perspective should Christians have about their lives in relation to the duration of suffering and eternity (cf. Rom. 8:17,18)?

10. What does God provide for those who are suffering (cf. 2 Cor. 1:3-11)? What are some of the things that Paul sees as “reasons” for suffering?

11. How are sufferings educational (cf. James 1:2,3)?

Summary:

- * Hard times are ultimately because of sin.
- * Hard times are not God's ideal “will” for people.
- * Hard times can develop our character and can be educational and evangelistic if we allow them to be.
- * Hard times can also bring about the recognition of the eventual comfort of God.

Additional Resources:

“Why People Suffer – Part 1” Reason and Revelation; Vol. 36, No. 1
(<https://apologeticspress.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/1601.pdf>)

“The Frailty of Life” by Don Blackwell (<https://www.facebook.com/southhavencoc/videos/663791184026843/>)

NOTES

LESSON 19: JESUS AND POLITICS

How do think that a belief in God and Jesus reshapes one's view of "politics"? Where did the idea of "government" come from?

QR Code:



Link: <https://gbntv.org/the-authentic-christian/the-authentic-christian-season-1-episode-19/>

Discussion Questions:

1. Where did "government" come from (cf. Dan. 2:21; 4:37)?
2. Is it possible that God can use other worldly governments for His purposes (Hab. 1:5,6)?
3. What is one actually resisting when he/she resists against the human government (cf. Rom. 13:1,2)?
 - a) How does Acts 5:29 shape one's understanding of this passage?
 - b) Does Romans 13:1-4 provide a general principle that is normally true?
 - c) Who is the "minister" in mind in Romans 13:4?
 - 1) What is that "minister's" task?

- 2) And, how should the saint respond to this “minister” of God when violating “the law”?
- 3) How does Jesus set up a principle that Paul follows, here (cf. Mat. 22:15-22; Rom. 13:7)?
4. What is the saint's responsibility for governmental officials (cf. 1 Tim. 2:1,2)?
5. Are there situations when civil government's ought to be resisted (cf. Acts 5:29)?

** The book of Revelation was written to tell the first-century saints that they should remain loyal to God rather than to Imperial Rome.*

6. Who was “the king” when Peter wrote that saints should “honor the king” (1 Pet. 2:17)?
 - a) What were some of the things that this “king” in Peter's day was engaged in?
 - b) How might this fact have a bearing on our modern view and treatment of our government officials, even when ungodly and disliked?
7. Of what nature was Jesus' governmental, kingdom system (cf. John 18:36)?
8. What “makes or breaks” governments (Prov. 14:34)?

9. What should probably be our primary concern in our governmental officials and leaders (cf. Prov. 6:16-19)?
10. How does the New Testament offer good principles that should guide us in our relation to governmental officials and everyone else, too (Mat. 5:44,45; 7:12; Rom. 12:17-21; Col. 4:5,6)?

Summary:

- * God is ultimately behind human governments.
- * God can use governments to do His will.
- * God expects Christians to submit to the civil government unless the government is attempting to put one at odds with God.
- * God provides us with principles that seek to create good reputations with others and create a world of peace.

Additional Resources:

"How is a Civil Ruler a Minister of God" by Wayne Jackson
(<https://christiancourier.com/articles/how-is-a-civil-ruler-a-minister-of-god>)

NOTES

LESSON 20: WHAT IF YOU ARE THE ONLY CHRISTIAN?

How would you feel if you were the only Christian in your family, in your work-space or environment? How strong do you think “peer pressure” is for many people?

QR Code:



Link: <https://gbntv.org/the-authentic-christian/the-authentic-christian-season-1-episode-20/>

Discussion Questions:

1. How should Christians remember that they should be immovable, even when evil companions attempt to influence for bad (cf. 1 Cor. 15:33,58)?
2. What are some of the ways that we should resist temptation around us (cf. Psa. 1:1; 1 Cor. 6:18)?
3. How is it that spouses can influence each other for good (cf. 1 Kings 21:25; 1 Pet. 3:1)?

** Even Jesus' own family was set against Him because of the truth (cf. Mat. 10:34-39; 12:46-50; John 7:1-5).*

4. How is it that Paul describes Christians as “smelling” to two different groups (cf. 2 Cor. 2:14-16)?

5. What kind of lifestyle are Christians called upon to live and be noticed as living after deciding to follow Christ (1 Pet. 4:1-4)?
6. Why is it the case that some do not appreciate "light" from God (cf. John 1:5; 3:19)?
7. How should Christians perceive mockery, shame or persecution for following God (cf. Mat. 5:11-16; 10:28; Acts 5:40)?

** If you are the only Christian in your environment, you might not know how you can influence others to make the change and to become Christians also.*

Summary:

- * "Peer pressure" can be difficult to cope with.
- * Resisting "peer pressure" is part of the Christian's task to be like Jesus.
- * Resisting "peer pressure" with and for good can lead to convincing others to change their lives with and for Christ, too.

NOTES

LESSON 21: PRAYER

What do you think about prayer? Do you struggle in praying to God? What are some of the ideas that you find helpful with your prayer-life?

QR Code:



Link: <https://gbntv.org/the-authentic-christian/the-authentic-christian-season-1-episode-21/>

Discussion Questions:

1. What are some of the elements in Jesus' own model prayer to God (cf. Mat. 6:9-11)?
 - a) Why is it important to observe that Jesus "talked to" His heavenly Father, and how is that similar to our physical relationships with our parents?
 - b) What are some of the elements that speak of the relation of one to other people?
2. What are some of the ways in which Jesus' antagonists were praying that He spoke against (cf. Mat. 6:5-8)?
3. What are some positive and negative elements about having long and short prayers (cf. Neh. 2:4)?

4. What are some different “postures” of prayer (cf. Gen. 24:26; 1 Kings 8:22,54; 18:42; Psa. 8:22; 1 Sam. 1:26; John 17:21; 1 Tim. 2:8)?
5. What are good times for prayer (cf. Mark 1:35)?
6. Should a person ever get to a point that he/she stops talking to God in his/her life (cf. 1 Thes. 5:17)?
7. Whose “will” should things be asked to be done according to (cf. Jam. 4:3,13-17; 1 John 5:14)?
8. Did Jesus still pray to God even though He knew all that was going to come upon Him (cf. John 18:1-4; Heb. 5:7)?
9. Does God sometimes answer prayers in ways that we do/did not expect (cf. Acts 25:11; Rom. 15:22-29)?
10. What are some of the differences between the two men that prayed in Luke 18:9-14?

Summary:

- * “Prayer” is the means whereby we talk to God, our heavenly Father.
- * Posture in prayer is not the major focus.
- * Our content in our prayer should be “biblical” and in-line with the teaching of the scriptures.
- * At times, God answers prayers in unexpected ways.

- * Our requests in prayer should be aligned with God's will.

Additional Resources:

"Should We Lift 'Holy Hands' When We Pray?" by Wayne Jackson (<https://christiancourier.com/articles/should-we-lift-holy-hands-when-we-pray>)

"7 'Laws' to Pray By" by Wayne Jackson (<https://christiancourier.com/articles/seven-laws-to-pray-by>)

"6 Reasons Why Some Prayers are Never Answered" by Wayne Jackson (<https://christiancourier.com/articles/6-reasons-why-some-prayers-are-never-answered>)

"3 Prayers of Thanksgiving" by Wayne Jackson (<https://christiancourier.com/articles/three-prayers-of-thanksgiving>)

NOTES

LESSON 22: WHAT WE ARE THANKFUL FOR

What are some things that you are thankful for? Are you especially thankful for any physical blessings and/or any spiritual blessings? Do some of those intersect with each other in any ways?

QR Code:



Link: <https://gbntv.org/the-authentic-christian/the-authentic-christian-season-1-episode-22/>

Discussion Questions:

1. Why did George Washington set up a day of “thanksgiving” in 1789?
2. Is “freedom of speech” something that Christians should appreciate for purposes of being able to share the “gospel” freely?
3. Where do all good gifts ultimately come from (James 1:17)?
4. In what areas should we “give thanks” (1 Thes. 5:18)?
5. In thinking about our physical blessings, what must we learn to be (Luke 3:14; 1 Tim. 6:6-10)?

6. What is more important than blessings of a physical nature (cf. Luke 16:19-31; 2 Cor. 4:18)?
7. Why could Paul be “content” in any place or situation (cf. Phil. 4:11,13)?
8. Is it easy for people to “take for granted” the idea that Jesus died for our sins?
9. Is having the Bible a blessing in-and-of-itself (cf. Job 23:12)?
10. How might God provide for us in ways so that we might have opportunity to provide for our families (cf. 2 Thes. 3:10)?
11. Why might a lack of physical blessings even be a good thing in some cases (cf. Prov. 30:8,9)?
12. How might our lives today compare with that of Paul's (cf. 2 Cor. 11:23-29)? Should we be thankful and content, then?

Summary:

- * God has blessed us with both physical and spiritual blessings.
- * We should learn to be content with our material things.
- * We should use our blessings to give back to God.

NOTES

LESSON 23: BEING FORGIVEN AND STAYING FORGIVEN

What is “forgiveness” from God? Why do you think that one needs forgiveness?

QR Code:



Link: <https://gbntv.org/the-authentic-christian/the-authentic-christian-season-1-episode-23/>

Discussion Questions:

1. What “separates” one from God (cf. Isa. 59:1,2)?
2. Which “sins” is one saved from (cf. Mark 16:15,16; Psa. 32:1; Rom. 4:6-9)?
3. Metaphorically, can God “throw sin behind His back” (cf. Isa. 38:17)?
4. What will God do in relation to the sins of those who have repented of them and are in “covenant” relationship with Him (Heb. 8:12)?
5. Is one “good enough” to earn salvation (cf. Eph. 2:8,9)?
6. Do we have to be forgiving in order to have forgiveness from God (cf. Mat. 6:14,15)?

* *One should be forgiving towards all, but one should not enable people in sin (cf. Luke 17:3,4).*

7. What should we try to make for men with other men but also for men towards God (cf. Mat. 5:9)?
8. Is it possible for people to “lose” their salvation (cf. Heb. 6:4-6; 10:26-29; James 5:19,20)?

Summary:

- * All can be forgiven by God.
- * Forgiveness has conditions from God.
- * We should be forgiving towards others.
- * The status of “forgiven” can be lost.

Additional Resources:

“Complete Forgiveness” by Dan Winkler (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KOEvhQ9JAJA> [YouTube only])

“Understanding Forgiveness” by Wayne Jackson (<https://christiancourier.com/articles/understanding-forgiveness>)

“The Truth About . . . Staying Saved” (<https://video.wvbs.org/video/the-truth-about-staying-saved/>)

“Saved Without a Doubt” by Don Blackwell (<https://video.wvbs.org/video/saved-without-a-doubt/>)

“Once Saved, Always Saved?” Answering the Error, Episode 2 (<https://2c93.subspla.sh/ztmqfk4>)

NOTES

LESSON 24: TWO-THOUSAND YEARS OF CHURCH HISTORY

What do you think is meant by “church history”? How many “churches” do you know of today in various communities?

QR Code:



Link: <https://gbntv.org/the-authentic-christian/the-authentic-christian-season-1-episode-24/>

Discussion Questions:

1. Was “the church” an afterthought or a “plan B” (cf. Dan. 2:44,45; Mat. 16:13-20; Eph. 3:1-13)?
2. Did “the kingdom” come in the lifetime of the apostles (cf. Mark 9:1; Acts 2:25-36)?

** The New Testament church is the New Testament kingdom of God.*

3. Did the New Testament, itself, suggest that false teachers were going to arise in the church, soon after its inception (cf. Mat. 7:15; Acts 20:25-32; 2 Cor. 11:13-15; 1 John 4:1)?

** The Gnostics claimed a “dualism,” that the spiritual realm was good but the physical was bad/wrong.*

4. What did Paul present as something that was going to come upon the New Testament church in the near future and was already present to some extent (cf. 2 Thes. 2:1-12)?

** The apostasy in the New Testament church quickly led to the creation of the Roman Catholic Church.*

5. What does the word "protestant" mean?
- a) Who popularized this "protest" against the Roman Catholic Church?
 - b) Was Luther's teaching of "justification by grace-faith" appropriate in light of the scriptures (cf. Rom. 4:2; Jam. 2:21; John 6:28,29)?
 - c) What did Luther come to say about the book of James?
 - d) What did Luther add to Romans 3:28,29 in his own Bible?

** There are different kinds of "works"; the Bible insists that "works" of faith are necessary for salvation.*

6. After several denominations "sprung" out of the protestant movement from Calvin and Luther and others, what was the later idea or goal of the "Restoration Movement"?

** If there is anything that Alexander Campbell taught that is not in the Bible, it should be rejected; if Alexander Campbell taught things that are in the Bible, then they predate him, and He could not have been responsible for their origin.*

7. Why is/was it not possible that Alexander Campbell could be responsible for starting “the church of Christ”?

Summary:

- * The New Testament church is the kingdom that the Old Testament prophets foresaw.
- * The church/kingdom came in the life of Jesus and His apostles.
- * Apostasy (falling away) from the pure pattern was always expected by the New Testament writers.
- * Several groups “fell away” from the New Testament pattern and remain “away” from it today.
- * We should try to recover the pure pattern of religion that the New Testament set forth.

Additional Resources:

“Some Lessons from Church History” by Wayne Jackson (<https://christiancourier.com/articles/some-lessons-from-church-history>)

“A History of the Baptism Apostasy” by Wayne Jackson (<https://christiancourier.com/articles/a-history-of-the-baptism-apostasy>)

"JUSTIFICATION: by Faith or Works?" by Wayne Jackson (<https://christiancourier.com/articles/justification-by-faith-or-works>)

"Justified by Faith" by Wayne Jackson (<https://christiancourier.com/articles/justified-by-faith>)

"The Restoration of First-Century Christianity" by Wayne Jackson (<https://christiancourier.com/articles/the-restoration-of-first-century-christianity>)

NOTES

LESSON 25: IDENTIFYING THE NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH

Is it possible to restore the pattern of the New Testament and only be Christians like the early saints were? What are some of the characteristics that you think help “identify” the New Testament church?

QR Code:



Link: <https://gbntv.org/the-authentic-christian/the-authentic-christian-season-1-episode-25/>

Discussion Questions:

1. Are individuals in the New Testament church faithful and “baptized” individuals (cf. Acts 2:37-42,47)?
2. What are some of the names of the New Testament church (cf. Rom. 16:16; Acts 20:28; 1 Tim. 3:15; Heb. 12:22,23)?
 - a) Do all of these “names” reflect the same institution?
 - b) Do some groups wear these same “names” but diverge from the New Testament pattern in many ways?
3. Are there “traditions” that are good and should be kept (2 Thes. 2:15; 3:6)? What are they?

4. How was the New Testament church organized?
 - a) Who were set up to lead the New Testament church initially (cf. John 15:26,27; Acts 1:26)?
 - b) Who were set up as “church leaders” for local congregations of the Lord's church by the apostles (cf. Acts 20:25-32; Eph. 4:11; 1 Tim. 3:1-7)?
 - 1) What were some of the qualifications for “elders”?
 - 2) Should there be one or multiple “elders” over a church?
 - c) Who were set up to serve along side elders (cf. Acts 6:1-8; 1 Tim. 3:8-12)?
5. What kind of worship should the New Testament church engage in (cf. John 4:23,24; Acts 2:42,46)?
 - a) What kind of music does the New Testament say that the early church used (cf. Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16)?
 - b) Why is it critical that we have God's authority for the things that we do in our “worship” before God (cf. Lev. 10:1,2; John 4:23,24)?

Summary:

- * The Lord's church is the group of people that have been called out of the world into Jesus' marvelous light.
- * The New Testament church can wear different terms/ names, each which suggests the same scriptural setup and gives glory to God.
- * The New Testament church should be arranged in its leadership in a way that reflects the New Testament pattern.
- * The New Testament church should worship in a way that is pleasing to God and has His authority.

Additional Resources:

"What is the Church of Christ" by Wayne Jackson (<https://christiancourier.com/articles/what-is-the-church-of-christ>)

"Identifying the Church of the New Testament" by Wayne Jackson (<https://christiancourier.com/articles/identifying-the-church-of-the-new-testament>)

"The Divine Pattern of Acceptable Worship – Part 1" by Wayne Jackson (<https://christiancourier.com/articles/the-divine-pattern-of-acceptable-worship-part-1>)

"The Divine Pattern of Acceptable Worship – Part 2" by Wayne Jackson (<https://christiancourier.com/articles/the-divine-pattern-of-acceptable-worship-part-2>)

"History of Instrumental Music" by William Woodson (<https://christiancourier.com/articles/history-of-instrumental-music>)

NOTES

LESSON 26: HOW WE BECAME CHRISTIANS

What does it mean to “become a Christian”? How do you think that one should become a Christian? Can anyone become one?

QR Code:



Link: <https://gbntv.org/the-authentic-christian/the-authentic-christian-season-1-episode-26/>

Discussion Questions:

1. Can anyone living make the changes necessary to become a Christian (cf. Ecc. 9:4,5; 1 Tim. 1:14-16; Heb. 9:27)?
2. What happens when one decides to follow Jesus and become a Christian (cf. Acts 3:19)?

** One's own experience in "finding Jesus" should align with the New Testament's teaching.*

3. What can the process of reading and studying the scriptures alone produce for a good and honest heart (cf. John 6:44,45; 7:17)?
4. What can a failure to read the scriptures result in about God and His expectations (cf. Hos. 4:6)?

Summary:

- * People from all sorts of backgrounds can find life in Christ.
- * There is only one road to heaven (cf. John 14:6).
- * One must “turn” to Jesus to become a follower of Him.
- * In order to follow Jesus legitimately, one must follow the New Testament's teaching on how to do such.

Additional Resources:

“Who is a Christian?” by Wayne Jackson (<https://christiancourier.com/articles/who-is-a-christian>)

“MEET TUCKER: a Conversion Story About Being Just a Christian”
(<https://2c93.subspla.sh/29dm72x>)

“Meet Megan: Original Story” (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VxUBkLI7zJc> [YouTube only])

NOTES

LESSON 27: WHAT IS THE GOOD NEWS?

What is the “good news,” the “gospel,” of Jesus Christ? Why did Jesus bring “the gospel”?

QR Code:



Link: <https://gbntv.org/the-authentic-christian/the-authentic-christian-season-1-episode-27/>

Discussion Questions:

1. Did Jesus come to preach the “gospel,” the legitimate word of the king (cf. Mark 1:1)?
2. What does the “gospel” mean for Paul in the context of 1 Corinthians 15:1-8?
3. Why did Jesus come to earth (cf. Luke 19:10; Rom. 3:23-27)?
4. What did Jesus know about His near future (cf. John 18:1-4)?
5. What were some of the things that Jesus experienced in His moments leading up to the cross (cf. Mat. 26: 31-75)?
6. Were the charges against Jesus legitimate (cf. Mat. 26:59-64)?

7. How does one “re-enact” the “gospel” of Jesus Christ (cf. Rom. 6:1-7)?

Summary:

- * The “gospel” or “good news” is the message of Jesus Christ.
- * The “gospel” must be obeyed (cf. Mark 16:15; Rom. 6:17,18).
- * The “gospel” was proven by Jesus' resurrection (cf. Rom. 1:4; 1 Cor. 15:1-4).

NOTES

ANSWER KEY

Lesson 1 – Why am I Here?

1. “Firm belief in something for which there is no proof”; the Bible uses “faith” in multiple ways, especially in a proven or substantive way; sometimes, it even refers to the “faith” system (cf. Gal. 3:26); Webster’s definition is not exhaustive enough and does not cover the biblical usage.
2. Big Bang; Cosmic Egg; Iron-Sulfur Theory
3. God is the cause; human existence and the universe is the effect.
4. An objective moral standard/law demands a moral-law Giver.
 - a. God is the objective law Giver.
 - b. Without God, there is no objective law giver, thus we would have subjectivity, thus there would be no absolute moral right and wrong.
 - c. Murder, rape, lying, stealing, etc. would be real-world examples.
5. A wrist-watch, the cardiovascular system, a laptop on a beach, etc. are illustrations that design demands a designer.
 - a. The intricate, complex things of the universe demand a Designer.
 - b. Yes.
6. See student answers.

Lesson 2 – Why Should We Believe the Bible?

1. Certain pieces of knowledge were already provided in the Bible before modern science “discovered” such.
 - a. Modern medical science did not discover that the 8th day was the ideal time for circumcision until long after; if a baby boy does not have enough vitamin K at the time of circumcision, he can bleed to death, but the 8th day is when the vitamin K levels peak, thus being the ideal time for circumcision.

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- b. Life is in the blood; George Washington was harmed by “bleeding.”
 - c. God revealed the thing.
2. See student answers.
 - a. Cyrus the Great, the Medo-Persian world ruler.
 - b. Bethlehem-Ephrathah, the birthplace of Jesus.
 3. Historically, the Bible documents the Hittite people, who have now been found; archaeological finds, such as the term “politarches” (Acts 17) vindicates Luke as an historian, since that term was previously unknown and then found in the city of Thessalonica later in finds; geographically, Luke (in Acts) consistently gets the “up” and “down” language correct because of mountainous terrain.
 4. The Bible is all-sufficient; it can make man “complete” or “perfect.”

Lesson 3 – Who is God?

1. God is eternal; He is without origin (John 4:23,24); He is independent, self-sufficient in His existence.
2.
 - a. God is all-knowing.
 - b. God is all-powerful.
 - c. God is all-present.
3. God, Jesus, Holy Spirit
4. No.
5. Messiah, High Priest, Father, Son, Comforter and etc.; Messiah (King), Prophet, Priest, Savior, etc.
6. See student answers.
 - a. Love
 - b. Gracious
 - c. Goodness and wrath
 - d. Jealous

Lesson 4 – What Should We Do With the Bible?

1. To show one's self approved; to investigate; to make perfect/complete; etc.
2. Yes.
3. Yes.
4. Poetry, narrative, prophetic, apocalyptic, history, epistolary
5. They establish the context of the book/reading.
6. 1 Corinthians 11:2-16 or Luke 23:39-43; see before; also, see student answers on both.

Lesson 5 – Do We Believe Everything in the Bible?

1. Murder, rape, stealing, etc.; God's hatred towards all sin is severe, but His character calls attention even to the most basic elements that might show a human being's differentiation from Him.
2. Yes; yes.
3. Yes.
 - a. Both the wicked and righteous experience an “eternal” reward.
 - b. God's word.
 - c. Yes, it happens frequently.
 - d. We respect or have awe towards God and recognize that our final state is based on how we respond to God.
4. Everybody needs the Bible, it is for all.
5. Yes.

Lesson 6 – How is Christianity Different?

1. In a league, pact, relationship, agreement.
2. Yes.
 - a. It was a spiritual, out-of-this-world kingdom, not focused on physical things.
 - b. Yes.
3. Yes; Jesus completely reshaped what real power or status should look like and showed humanity how we would look if we “did humanity” in a divine, noble way (cf. Gen. 1:26,27).

4. Christianity is exclusive and hinged on the resurrection of Jesus.

Lesson 7 – What is an “Authentic” Christian?

1. “Legitimate” or “real” (as opposed to “false”)
 - a. By disobeying, not really believing, etc., see student answers.
 - b. Following God in all of the ways and not being selective or restrained towards Him.
2. He “fulfilled” the Law and honored it while He was under it.
3. Some have abused “religion” and have attempted to divorce ritual or ceremony from any notion of following Christ, but ritual and ceremony are only bad when used as a replacement for the obedient and loving heart that we ought to have (cf. Psa. 40:6-8; 51:16,17; Isa. 66:1,2).
4. It assumes that God can't ask for both and assumes that “heart” and “law” are at odds with each other.
 - a. Commanding traditions, being showy, violating the law, etc., see student answers.
 - b. No.
5. Yes.
6. They sought God and tried to follow Him immediately.
 - a. He did good and helped people and submitted to God.
 - b. He turned from the “chief of sinners” to follow Christ.
7. Gaius was a faithful saint in the congregation; Diotrophes had wicked motives and loved to have the “preeminence,” which did not belong to him.
8. The New Testament teaches what should be right and formative for beliefs.

Lesson 8 – How to Become a Christian

1. They searched the scriptures daily; they studied daily; it teaches us to be engaged in the same.
2. Faith/belief, based on hearing God's revelational truth in the scriptures.
3. Yes.

- a. To turn/change.
- b. Yes.
- 4. Yes.
- 5. A death, burial and subsequent resurrection.
- 6. After
 - a. It shows that it was after Paul's vision, fasting and praying.
 - b. It was something that came after such.
- 7. The blood of Jesus

Lesson 9 – Objections to Baptism

- 1. Because it is assumed that he was not baptized, and he was going to be with Jesus in paradise.
 - a. The Old Testament, the Mosaic Law
 - b. The thief died under the Old Law system; baptism was only to the Jews at this time, and the ethnicity of the thief is unknown.
 - c. Yes.
 - d. Yes, see student answers.
 - e. The mechanics for salvation differed for those under that covenant; yes, Noah, Abraham, etc.
 - f. Yes.
- 2. "Repent and be baptized because you have already received the remission of sins"
 - a. Peter would not tell them to repent because they received the remission of sins; 1,750 times.
 - b. Both point towards the goal, accomplished by the action leading to it.
 - c. In order that sin would be handled.
- 3. It is assumed that "all works" are in view, but Paul has a specific kind of "works" (earning; merit) in mind.
 - a. Yes.
 - b. Works of earning/merit.
 - c. Paul; because Paul had been baptized in order to have his sins washed away.
 - 1) Paul had already prayed/been praying before meeting Ananias.

- 2) No; had a vision, prayed, fasted.
4. With God; baptism is a means/vehicle whereby one submits to God who saves.
5. Immediately believed, repented and was baptized.

Lesson 10 – How to Share Jesus at a Coffee Shop

1. Yes.
2. Love for souls, fear of God, anticipation of judgment, etc., see student answers.
3. Seek and save the lost
4. Fear, lack of knowledge, lack of interest, lack of time, etc., see student answers.
5. Lack of introduction, lack of commonality, etc., see student answers.
6. Lack of social interaction, age, race, etc., see student answers.
7. Synagogues; immediately placed him into contact with others who were biblically minded.
8. It can make friends quickly, strike a common chord, lead to discussion about Christ.
9. Business cards, phone number, email, tracts, etc., see student answers.
10. A positive perspective, a nonchalant perspective, etc., see student answers.
11. Pray, think about biblical examples, think about a good way to introduce oneself.
12. No.
13. Yes, positivity, passion, etc.

Lesson 11 – What if You Could Go Back to High School?

1. Drugs, alcohol, bullying, sexual temptation, peer pressure, etc., see student answers.; offers a better way of life and comfort and peace and an easier way of life in many ways because one does not have to worry about certain circumstances generated by sin.
2. It should make us respect others and love others equally.

3. We should remember that we have a limited amount of opportunities to do things with our lives for the gospel; it should shape us into better, more responsible people.
4. We should remember the eternal state and purpose of man.
5. The ultimate goal is to reach heaven and this should make us seek spouses that will help us with that goal.
6. We should remember that our choices can affect others and that we are responsible for other people in some cases.
7. Yes; Moses rejects pleasure for a life of faithful suffering for God and His people.
8. Peer pressure, loneliness, temptation, etc., see student answers.
9. Very, it reflects whether or not we are for Christ or against Him.
10. We can influence and use our time rightly.

Lesson 12 – What is Biblical Love?

1. He taught selflessness and sacrifice rather than an erotic or romantic pleasure.
2. It reshapes “love” as a difficult attribute to perfect in many ways.
* Illustrations for 2a-2i can be provided by the teacher/student.
3. By speaking the truth in love (cf. Eph. 4:15).
4. Yes, in many ways.

Lesson 13 – How to Deal with Criticism?

1. Yes.
2. Is it true? Is it from a harmful or helpful person? Etc., see student answers.
3. Patiently, gently, silently, considerately, etc., see student answers.
4. Yes.
5. It can show a poor example and reflect badly on the church.
6. Yes; we can use it to comfort others by our own experience.
7. He tried to prevent the work; they continued working.
8. Yes; slow to speak, slow to anger.
9. Yes.
10. Yes; saints should try to bear their burdens, understand and be

- patient and prayerful, see student answers.
11. It should be thoughtful, considerate, etc., see student answers.
 12. See student answers.

Lesson 14 – How to Love Your Enemies

1. The Quran calls for violence in cases, whereas Jesus calls for peace, love and even prayer for enemies.
2. Return good for evil, etc., see student answers.
3. Live peaceably, return good for evil, etc..
4. Prayed for them
 - a. He had the attitude of forgiveness (cf. Luke 17:3,4).
 - b. Yes.
5. Paul, the Corinthians, etc.
6. Love neighbor, pray for them.
7. Withdraw and flee, “shake dust off feet.”
8. Yes.
9. It shows that He takes our treatment of others personally.
10. As light and salt, loving our neighbors.

Lesson 15 – Addiction

1. See student answers, shame, embarrassment, guilt, present struggle, etc.
2. Something that affects one's sobriety/judgment, etc., see student answers.
3. Yes.
4. Yes.
5. He must make good, wise judgments for the kingdom's benefit.
6. Lust of flesh, lust of eyes, pride of life.
7. Yes.
8. War of the soul.
9. Yes.
10. Flee.

Lesson 16 – How to Walk in the Light

1. Yes.
2. Yes.
3. “If”; yes.
4. It is set over against “darkness,” meaning “to be morally good.”
5. All others have committed sin, whereas Jesus is perfect, sinless.
6. “Helper,” “Advocate”; this means that Jesus is our “helper” or “advocate” to God on our behalf.
7. It is universal, all may have the forgiveness of sins.

Lesson 17 – Is the Church Made of Perfect People?

1. Called out of darkness into His marvelous light.
2. Abraham, David, Moses, etc., see student answers.
3. Yes.
4. Some assume that Christians are supposed to be morally perfect and are too harsh in their judgment against people who make mistakes.
5. To help them.
6. To transform into “a mature man,” who is measured ultimately by the person of Jesus.
7. See student answers.
 - a. To bear each others' burdens.
 - b. Addiction, grief, loneliness, etc., see student answers.
8. Yes.

Lesson 18 – Why Do We Face Hard Times?

1. Sin
2. For educational purposes (2 Cor. 1:9; 12:7), for evangelistic purposes, etc., see student answers.
 - a. Yes.
 - b. Yes.
3. Satan attacks via sin/temptation; God notices that our suffering precedes glory.

THE AUTHENTIC CHRISTIAN - SEASON 1

4. Joseph, Daniel, Job, etc.
 - a. False accusation, imprisonment, slavery.
 - b. He trusted and obeyed God.
 - c. They obeyed God rather than Nebuchadnezzar and suffered the consequences for such.
 - d. He continued to serve God as was his practice.
5. Noah, Enoch, Abel, Moses, Abraham, etc.
6. Killed by sword, death, fire, etc.
7. He was beheaded.
8. Perseverance, endurance, faithfulness.
9. This physical life is temporal; eternity is forever, the two are incomparable.
10. Comfort; experience God's comfort, mimic Christ, comfort others, depend on God, humble self, work with others.
11. They shape us and give us new perspectives and even opportunities if we'll use them.

Lesson 19 – Jesus and Politics

1. God
2. Yes.
3. God
 - a. Following God is a higher requirement than following the civil government, which can overstep its bounds of its authority and try to violate God's wishes/commands.
 - b. Yes.
 - c. A civil governmental official of sorts.
 - 1) To enact God's justice in a way.
 - 2) Submissively, honestly, respectfully, as Christ would expect.
4. Pray for them.
5. Yes.
6. Nero Caesar
 - a. Burning Christians, placing Christians into the Colosseum for persecution, blaming saints for lighting Rome on fire, etc.
 - b. It teaches us that we should be submissive and respectful even when we don't like many things that governments do

(against us).

7. It was spiritual.
8. Righteousness.
9. Morals.
10. It teaches us how to treat others.

Lesson 20 – What if You are the Only Christian?

1. We should remember to be resolute, that our work is for Christ and God.
2. Flee, remove the possibility, etc., see student answers.
3. Spouses can reflect Christ or even influence others wickedly.
4. One is the “smell of life” and the other is the “smell of death.”
5. A morally pure and clean life that reflects Christ and not the old way of death.
6. Because it exposes evil deeds.
7. It should be an honor and a pattern that mimics that of Jesus.

Lesson 21 – Prayer

1. Addresses the father, prays for the kingdom's benefit, asks for daily provisions and blessings, etc., see student answers.
 - a. We should address the Father; we talk to our parents and they want to hear from us as children.
 - b. Forgiveness, deliverance, rejecting temptation, etc.
2. Arrogantly, for praise, with vain repetition.
3. See student answers.
4. See student answers and texts.
5. Morning, etc., see student answers.
6. No.
7. God's
8. Yes
9. Yes
10. Humility vs. pride, trust vs. self-centeredness, etc., see student answers.

Lesson 22 – What We are Thankful For

1. To be thankful for blessings, freedoms, God, etc.
2. Yes
3. God
4. All things
5. Content
6. Spiritual blessings in Christ
7. He had Christ in His life and the hope that comes with such.
8. Yes.
9. Yes
10. He gives us abilities and jobs.
11. It can keep a balanced focus on God and not self.
12. Ours are typically easier than Paul's experiences; yes.

Lesson 23 – Being Forgiven and Staying Forgiven

1. Sin
2. Past sins
3. Yes
4. Forget them, remember them no more.
5. No.
6. Yes.
7. Peace.
8. Yes.

Lesson 24 – Two-Thousand Years of Church History

1. No.
2. Yes.
3. Yes.
4. Apostasy, a grand departure from the faith.
5. "To protest against Roman Catholicism."
 - a. Martin Luther and others (e.g. John Calvin, etc.).
 - b. No.
 - c. It was uninspired.

- d. "Alone"
- 6. To restore New Testament Christianity in a pure, unadulterated form; to speak where the Bible speaks and to be silent where the Bible is silent.
- 7. The church of Christ and its teaching predated him.

Lesson 25 – Identifying the New Testament Church

- 1. Yes.
- 2. Church of Christ, church of firstborn, the way, church of God, house of God, etc.
 - a. Yes, in the scriptures, they do.
 - b. Yes.
- 3. Yes; the teachings of the New Testament, the apostles' teaching and the Old Testament teachings, when each appropriately understood.
- 4. With elders, deacons, preachers, teachers, etc.
 - a. Apostles
 - b. Elders
 - 1) See 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and student answers.
 - 2) Multiple.
 - c. Deacons
- 5. Worship "in spirit and in truth," according to the apostles' doctrine.
 - a. Acapella
 - b. We should not interject our own "take" or opinion where God has already instructed; He calls the shots.

Lesson 26 – How We Became Christians

- 1. Yes.
- 2. He/she "turns" from an old way to a new way of life.
- 3. It can save, change, etc.
- 4. Destruction, ignorance, error.

Lesson 27 – What is the Good News?

1. Yes.
2. The death, burial and resurrection of Jesus.
3. To seek and save the lost, to redeem man by grace/faith.
4. He knew the death and the suffering was upcoming.
5. See student answers.
6. No.
7. By dying to self, being buried in water and rising again to a new way of life.

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Lesson 1



Lesson 2



Lesson 3



Lesson 4



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Lesson 5



Lesson 6



Lesson 7



Lesson 8



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Lesson 9



Lesson 10



Lesson 11



Lesson 12



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Lesson 13



Lesson 14



Lesson 15



Lesson 16



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Lesson 17



Lesson 18



Lesson 19



Lesson 20



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Lesson 21



Lesson 22



Lesson 23



Lesson 24



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Lesson 25



Lesson 26



Lesson 27



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