

**©LAYING THE FOUNDATION**  
**DISCIPLE'S MANUAL**  
*(LTFDM)*

**©GROWING DEEP**  
**AND STRONG**  
*-----Series-----*

© Laying The Foundation is Module One  
of a four part intentional discipleship path  
for nurturing new and maturing believers.

By  
**David Searle and Carl Fechner**

Published by  
**Growing Deep and Strong**

■ABN: 17 130 659 764

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# Growing Deep and Strong

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**SESSION ONE**

# **A NEW LIFE**





# Growing Deep and Strong

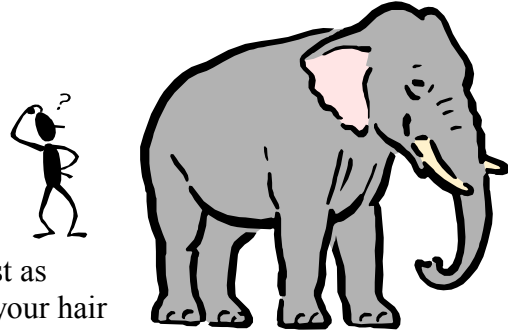
## LAYING THE FOUNDATION

### A) HOW DO YOU EAT AN ELEPHANT?

One bite at a time!

We want you to approach the ©Growing Deep and Strong Series with the same viewpoint. Pace yourselves. Your walk with God is a journey, not a destination.

©Growing Deep and Strong has been put together in a manner that will become a normal part of your lifestyle, just as eating, sleeping, relaxing, brushing your teeth or combing your hair are normal functions of everyday living.



©Laying the Foundation module is structured so that each week you will gather as a group and discuss for 20 minutes your personal study discoveries.

©Laying the Foundation module is structured in the following way: -

- ★ We will gather as a group weekly and discuss for approximately 30 minutes your Personal Discovery section.
- ★ There will be a 30-minute live presentation or video on next week's topic.
- ★ You will be required to spend on average 10 minutes per day researching that week's topic in your Personal Discovery section.
- ★ Your Personal Discovery section is laid out in easy to follow steps.
- ★ When you come together the following week your coach will sign off your Personal Discovery section.
- ★ At the conclusion of ©Laying the Foundation you will be presented with a certificate of completion.
- ★ **PLEASE NOTE:** You will need to bring your manual and Bible to each session.

### B) DISCIPLE: Definition.

A disciple is like an apprentice, who learns not only the trade, but also catches the spirit of the master craftsman. He is a learner, one who follows both the teacher and the teaching. Since we have received Jesus Christ as our Saviour and Lord, He is our teacher and we are His disciples. That is what the first Christians in the New Testament were called. We see in the passage below that as disciples of Jesus Christ, our spiritual tastes will change.

1 Peter 2:2 & 3

**... crave pure spiritual milk ... you can grow into the fullness ... Cry out for this nourishment ... a taste of the Lord's kindness.**

NLT

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# Growing Deep and Strong

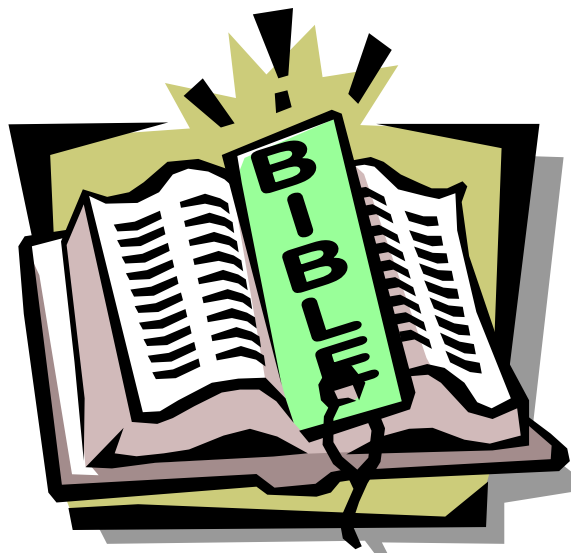
Why we should study...

## C) GOD'S WORD



### SIX REASONS.

1. As Peter has written, God's Word is just as necessary for our survival as disciples as milk is for a newborn baby. In other words, the Bible is our necessary daily spiritual food.
2. We get to know Jesus well as we read about Him, how He thought, how He lived, how he taught, how He loves people and has compassion for people.
3. The Bible is the only authority we recognize and submit to as disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ. Psalm 119:89-91, page 859 (N 782))
4. The Bible gives us practical direction for life when we are in the dark and don't know where to go. Psalm 19:7-10, page 768 (N 699) and Psalm 119:105, page 860 (N 783).
5. The only way to grow as Jesus' disciples is by reading and studying the Bible. It is our spiritual food In Matthew 4:4 Jesus said "People need more than bread for their life; they feed on every word of God". NLT.
6. The Bible is like a mirror. As we look into it, we see ourselves for who we really are. We see Jesus as our example, and we learn how we can grow and change to be more like Him. James 1:23-25, page 1896 (N 1752)



## GOD'S KINGDOM - THE KINGDOM OF LIGHT.

Just like car manufacturers produce an instruction manual for their cars, God has left us His manual, in which He tells us how we can operate most efficiently.

## A) WE CALL GOD'S MANUAL, THE BIBLE.

There are many translations. However we recommend and use the "®SPIRIT FILLED LIFE BIBLE" New King James Version. This is a Study Bible. Gifted Bible scholars have been contracted to add helpful notes to help believers gain from their wealth of experience in studying the Bible.



# Growing Deep and Strong

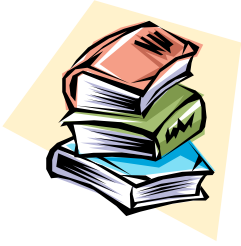
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## B) THE BOOKS OF THE BIBLE

The Bible has two main parts, the Old Testament and The New Testament.

The Old Testament consists of 39 books written by various human writers over some 1500 years.

The New Testament consists of 27 books written by various human writers over some 50 years or so.



Given that the Bible was not written from our 21st century perspective, but from different countries, in different periods of history and in different cultures, and in different languages as well, we have to understand it in the context in which it was written.

That is where the helpful notes are so useful as we study the Bible for ourselves. Truth is the same truth in every generation, but we need to understand the cultural and historical contexts, so that we can apply those truths to our lives today.

Ultimately God Himself is the...

## C) THE AUTHOR OF THE BIBLE

...as He inspired these some 40 humans to write the 66 books, even to the words they chose to use. This is seen in the fact that there is an amazing unity in the Bible cover to cover, from Genesis to Revelation, beginning to end. There is harmony, progression of thought and an absence of contradiction in these 66 books. Humanly speaking, it would have been impossible for 40 writers, living in different countries, in different cultures and in different periods of history to have composed such an amazingly unified book. The Bible is **God's Word**, which is supported by the fact that almost 4000 times words to the effect "God said ---" are used in the Bible.



**2 Timothy 3:16-17.** *All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It straightens us out and teaches us to do what is right.* NLT.

When you read these verses, you will notice that it says that **ALL** Scripture is given by inspiration of God. The Bible does not just **contain** the Word of God; it **is** the Word of God, from cover to cover.

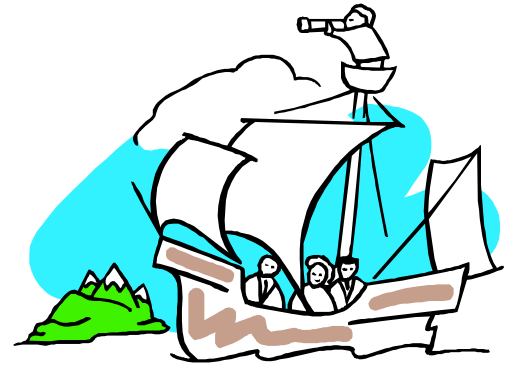
# Growing Deep and Strong

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Let's go on a journey on how to use the...

## D) "SPIRIT FILLED LIFE BIBLE".

Open your Bible to "page one" about 20 pages in from the start. One page back you will find a list of the Old Testament and New Testament books.



## E) BIBLE INDEX

### Example:

#### Books of the Old and New Testaments and Their Abbreviations

	<u>ABBREV.</u>	<u>PAGE</u>		<u>ABBREV.</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
Genesis	Gen.	1	Ecclesiastes	Eccl.	927
Exodus	Ex.	82	Song of Solomon	Song	946
Leviticus	Lev.	145	Isaiah	Is.	958
Numbers	Num.	188			



Congratulations! You found the pages and now you know how to look up each book of the Bible!



# Growing Deep and Strong



Now that you have discovered how to use the index, let's continue to explore the Bible.

## F) BOOK INTRODUCTION



Turn to the book of **John**.

That's a New Testament book, which starts on page 1571. (N 1441).

At the start of each book of the Bible you will find the following information giving a background to the book, author, setting and so on.

### THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO

## JOHN

#### AUTHOR

**E**arly church tradition attributes the Fourth Gospel to John “the beloved disciple” (13:23; 19:26; 20:2; 21:7, 20), who belonged to the “inner circle” of Jesus’ followers-----

#### DATE

**T**he same tradition that locates John in Ephesus suggests that he wrote his Gospel in the latter part of the first century-----

#### PURPOSE

**I**n a broad sense, John wrote to provide the Christians of the province of Asia (now in Asia Minor) with a fuller understanding of the life and ministry of Jesus Christ. More specifically-----

#### JOHN AND THE SYNOPTIC GOSPELS

**W**hile John most likely knew of the other three Gospel accounts, he chose not to follow their chronological sequence of events as much as a topical order. In this case -----

#### CONTENT

ohn 2–12 **J**divides the ministry of Jesus into two distinct parts: chapters 2–12 give insight into His public ministry-----

#### CHRIST REVEALED

**T**he book presents Jesus as the only begotten Son of God who became flesh-----

#### THE HOLY SPIRIT AT WORK

**U**nique to John is the designation of the Holy Spirit as “Comforter” or “Helper”-----

#### PERSONAL APPLICATION

**I**n seeking to fulfill his purpose as stated in 20:20, 31, John confronts his readers with claims -----

#### AUTHOR:

The Apostle John

#### DATE:

About A.D. 85

#### THEME:

Knowing God by believing

In Jesus Christ

#### KEY WORDS:

Believe, Bear

Witness, Life

# Growing Deep and Strong



Now let's look at some of the other features of the Spirit Filled Life Bible. There are six other features that we would like to explain to you and they are as follows.



## KINGDOM DYNAMICS



Turn to **KINGDOM DYNAMICS** on **John 3:1-5**, page 1577 (N 1447).

5 Jesus answered, “Most assuredly, I say to you, <sup>a</sup>unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.

### KINGDOM DYNAMICS

#### 3:1-5 New Birth, THE MESSAGE OF THE KINGDOM.

Upon repentance, a new order of life opens to the believer in Jesus Christ. Jesus used the figure of “new birth” to dramatically indicate three things: 1) Without New Birth, there is no life and no relationship with God (14:6). 2) In New Birth, new perspective comes as we “see the kingdom of God” (3:3), God’s Word becomes clear, and the Holy Spirit’s works and wonders are believed and experienced—faith is alive. 3) Through New Birth we are introduced—literally we “enter” (v. 5)—to a new realm, where God’s new kingdom order can be realized (2 Cor. 5:17). New Birth is more than simply being “saved.” It is a requalifying experience, opening up the possibilities of our whole being to the supernatural dimension of life and fitting us for a beginning in God’s kingdom order.

(Matt. 3:1, 2; 4:17/Matt. 13:1-52) J.W.H.

# Growing Deep and Strong



## TRUTH-IN-ACTION 4 (N 6)

Turn to John 3:3 page 1577 (N 1447).

Now let's look at **TRUTH-IN-ACTION**. See the small black box beside verse three with the number **4** (N **6**) in the box.

**4** 3 Jesus answered and said to him,  
**6** “Most assuredly, I say to you,  
<sup>a</sup>unless one is born <sup>1</sup>again, he cannot  
 see the kingdom of God.”

See section **4** (N **6**) of **TRUTH-IN-ACTION** at the end of John page 1616 (N 1484).

## TRUTH-IN-ACTION

### THROUGH JOHN

Letting the Life of the Holy Spirit Bring Faith's Works Alive in You!

#### TRUTH

#### ACTION

##### JOHN TEACHES

##### TEXT

##### JOHN INVITES

#### **4** Guidelines for Growth in the Spirit

**6** John's Gospel introduces the Holy Spirit's role in spiritual growth. The New Birth and the baptism with the Holy Spirit endow the believer with the life and gifts of the Holy Spirit, including the ability to pray in Spirit power. The Holy Spirit is our Teacher, Helper, Advocate, and Guide. He is our source of true spiritual understanding. He lifts up Jesus and builds up believers, enabling them to live the Christian life.

**3:3**

**Understand** that perceiving the kingdom of God and entering it are impossible without spiritual rebirth

**14:25, 26**

**Understand** that the Holy Spirit enables God's people to understand and live by the truth.

**16:8-11**

**Ask** the Holy Spirit to bring conviction to people's hearts. **Understand** that is one of His primary ministries.

**16:12-15**

**Understand** that knowing the truth of God's Word is made possible by the Holy Spirit

# Growing Deep and Strong

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## WORD WEALTH



Turn to **WORD WEALTH** for **John 1:5** page 1573 (N 1443).

1. In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.  
2 He was in the beginning with God.  
3 All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.  
4 In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.  
5 And <sup>a</sup>the light shines in the <sup>\*</sup>darkness, and the darkness did not <sup>1</sup>**comprehend** it.

### **WORD WEALTH**

**1:5 comprehend**, *katalambano* (kat-al-am-ban-oh); Strong's #2638: The word is capable of three interpretations: 1) To seize, lay hold of, overcome. As such, v.5 could read, "The darkness does not gain control of it." 2) To perceive, attain, lay hold of with the mind, to apprehend with moral effort. With this meaning the verse could be translated, "The darkness is unreceptive and does not understand it." 3) To quench, extinguish, snuff out the light by stifling it. "The darkness will never be able to eliminate it." Light and darkness are essentially antagonistic. The Christian's joy is in knowing that the light is not only greater than darkness but will also outlast the darkness.

# Growing Deep and Strong



## BIBLE VERSE LINKS and CROSS REFERENCES

This is what your centre column looks like at **John 1:5** (page 1573). (N 1443).

<b>5</b> <sup>a</sup> [John 3:19] <sup>1</sup> Or overcome *See WW at John 12:46	} ← SEE BELOW FOR EXPLANATION
<b>6</b> <sup>a</sup> Matt. 3:1-17 See WW at John 20:21	

## CROSS REFERENCES

<sup>a</sup> the	1 In the beginning <sup>a</sup> was the *Word, and the <sup>b</sup> Word was <sup>c</sup> with God, and the Word was <sup>d</sup> God. 2 <sup>a</sup> He was in the beginning with God. 3 <sup>a</sup> All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. 4 <sup>a</sup> In Him was *life, and <sup>b</sup> the life was the light of men. 5 And <sup>a</sup> the light shines in the *darkness, and the darkness did not <sup>1</sup> <b>comprehend</b> it.	*See WW at John 12:46  WW = WORD WEALTH  Alternative translation “overcome”
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# Growing Deep and Strong

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## FOOTNOTES

See **FOOTNOTES** at bottom of page 1573 (N 1443).

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**1:1 In the beginning:** An allusion to Gen. 1:1, with the intention of linking Jesus the Word with the God of creation. The event of Jesus' incarnation therefore had cosmic significance. **The Word** is Jesus Christ, the eternal, ultimate expression of God. In the OT God spoke the world into existence; in the Gospel God spoke His final word through the living Word, His Son. The phrase "the Word was God" attributes deity to the Word without defining all of the Godhead as "the Word."

**1:3** John declares that Jesus was the divine agent who was responsible for the entire creation.

**1:4, 5 Life** and **light** belong to John's fundamental vocabulary in describing the essence and mission of the incarnate Word.

**1:6-11** John's Gospel records various testimonies concerning Christ, showing that faith in Him is based upon evidence. The **witness** of John the Baptist, as well as the other evidence



## Congratulations!

# Growing Deep and Strong

## G) SLAVES

Romans 6:16

**... whatever you choose to obey becomes your master? ... choose sin, ... leads to death, ... choose ... God and receive His approval.**

NLT



John 8:36.

**So if the Son sets you free, you will indeed be free.**

NLT



Romans 6:17 & 18

**... Once you were slaves of sin, ... obeyed ... God ... free from sin, ..., become slaves to your new master, righteousness.**

NLT



# Growing Deep and Strong

## PERSONAL DISCOVERY



## A NEW LIFE

*(Estimated time to complete Personal Discovery, 55 minutes).*

We have found that many people who call themselves Christians are not really sure whether they have been born again or have been rescued out of the kingdom of Darkness and been transferred into God's kingdom of Light. You can be sure by praying the following prayer. Or if you have never invited Jesus Christ into your life to be your Friend and Saviour, you can pray the following prayer and ask Jesus into your life, and come into the kingdom of Light.

### You can talk to God like this.



Jesus, I recognize that there is no way I can earn forgiveness for my sins. I receive what you did for me on the cross of Calvary. I ask You to forgive all my sins and I receive You as my Lord and Saviour today. Take over my life Lord, and I will follow You as You lead. I renounce my old way of life, the kingdom of Darkness and any sinful hold it had on me. I love You, Lord Jesus and on the authority of Your Word, I believe that I am legally a member of Your family and a resident of Your Kingdom.

**Jesus, You are my Lord.**

Romans 10:9 says: -

For if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. NLT

# Growing Deep and Strong

Now that you can find the different books and verses, let's start to look at what the Bible says about your new walk with God.

## A) LEGAL TRANSACTION

In the spiritual sense a legal transaction has taken place when you asked Jesus Christ to be your Lord and Saviour.

What did Jesus say He would do when we asked Him into our lives?



Turn to **Revelation 3:20**. Page 1965 (N 1822). What does it say?  
Fill in the missing words.

Verse 20 “Behold, <sup>a</sup>I \_\_\_\_\_ at the \_\_\_\_\_ and knock. <sup>b</sup>If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, <sup>c</sup>I will \_\_\_\_\_ in to him and \_\_\_\_\_ with him, and he with Me.



★ What happened when you asked Jesus Christ to be your Lord?

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# Growing Deep and Strong

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Now let's look at some of the features of the New Spirit Filled Life Bible®.

There are **six features** that we would like to explain to you.

As you go through this week's Personal Discovery, we will introduce them to you.

They are as follows.

## 1. KINGDOM DYNAMICS

## 2. TRUTH-IN-ACTION **4** (N **4**)

## 3. WORD WEALTH

## 4. BOOK INTRODUCTION

## 5. BIBLE VERSE LINKS

## 6. FOOTNOTES

### B) BORN AGAIN



Turn to page 1577 (N1447) in the book of **John** and read **John 3:1-5**.

Fill in the missing words.

Verse 1 There was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews.

<sup>2 a</sup> This man came to Jesus by night and said

to Him, "Rabbi, we know that You are a

teacher come from God; for <sup>b</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ can

do these signs that You do unless <sup>c</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ is

with him."<sup>3</sup> Jesus answered and said to him,

"Most assuredly, I say to you, <sup>a</sup> unless one is

\_\_\_\_\_, <sup>1</sup> he cannot see the

\_\_\_\_\_ of God."<sup>4</sup> Nicodemus said to

Him, "How can a man be \_\_\_\_\_ when he is

old? Can he enter a second time into his

mother's womb and be born?"<sup>5</sup> Jesus

answered, "Most assuredly, I say to you,

<sup>a</sup> unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.



# Growing Deep and Strong

At the end of verse 5 you will find a **KINGDOM DYNAMICS**.



## **KINGDOM DYNAMICS**

is an insight and explanation by some of today's most respected Christian leaders.

Fill in the missing words as you read the **KINGDOM DYNAMICS**.

**KINGDOM DYNAMICS** 3:1-5 **New Birth**, THE MESSAGE OF THE KINGDOM. Upon repentance, a new \_\_\_\_\_ of life opens to the believer in Jesus Christ. Jesus used the figure of “\_\_\_\_\_” to dramatically indicate three things: 1) Without New Birth, there is no life and no relationship with God [14:6]. 2) In New Birth, new perspective comes as we “see the \_\_\_\_\_ of God” (3:3), God’s Word becomes clear, and the Holy Spirit’s works and wonders are believed and experienced—faith is alive. 3) Through New Birth we are introduced—literally we “\_\_\_\_\_” (v. 5)—to a *new realm*, where God’s new kingdom order can be realized (2 Cor. 5:17). New Birth is more than simply being “saved.” It is a requalifying experience, opening up the possibilities of our whole being to the \_\_\_\_\_ dimension of life and fitting us for a beginning in \_\_\_\_\_ order.

(Matt. 3: 1,2; 4:17/Matt. 13:1-52) J.W.H.

★ What did you discover in the **KINGDOM DYNAMICS** about new birth? (See last sentence).

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## **OPTIONAL READING**

If you want more information on **KINGDOM DYNAMICS**, you can turn to page ix (N xvi) (Roman numerals) at the front of your Bible.

# Growing Deep and Strong

## C) SPIRITUAL REBIRTH



### TRUTH-IN-ACTION

Let's look at **TRUTH-IN-ACTION** and discover how it can help us learn to apply the Word of God to our lives.



Turn to **John 3:3**, page 1577 (N 1447).  
Fill in the missing words.

**4** (N **6**) <sup>3</sup>Jesus answered and said to him, “**Most assuredly, I say to you, <sup>a</sup>unless one is \_\_\_\_\_, <sup>1</sup> he cannot see the kingdom of God.**”

Note the number in the black box, or in a circle. This refers to **TRUTH-IN-ACTION**.  
Go to the end of the book of John, page 1616 (N 1482) and you will find The **TRUTH-IN-ACTION** section. Fill in the missing words.

TRUTH-IN-ACTION		
THROUGH JOHN		
Letting the Life of the Holy Spirit Bring Faith's Works Alive in You!		
TRUTH		ACTION
JOHN TEACHES	TEXT	JOHN INVITES
<b>4</b> <b>Guidelines for Growth in the Spirit</b> <b>6</b> John's Gospel introduces the Holy Spirit's role in spiritual growth. The New Birth and the baptism with the Holy Spirit endow the believer with the life and gifts of the Holy Spirit, including the ability to pray in Spirit power. The Holy Spirit is our Teacher, Helper, Advocate, and Guide. He is our source of true spiritual understanding. He lifts up Jesus and builds up believers, enabling them to live the Christian life.	<b>3:3</b>	Understand that _____ the kingdom of God and _____ it are impossible without spiritual _____.



### OPTIONAL READING

If you want more information on **TRUTH-IN-ACTION**, go to page xli (N xxviii) (Roman numerals) at the front of your Bible.

# Growing Deep and Strong



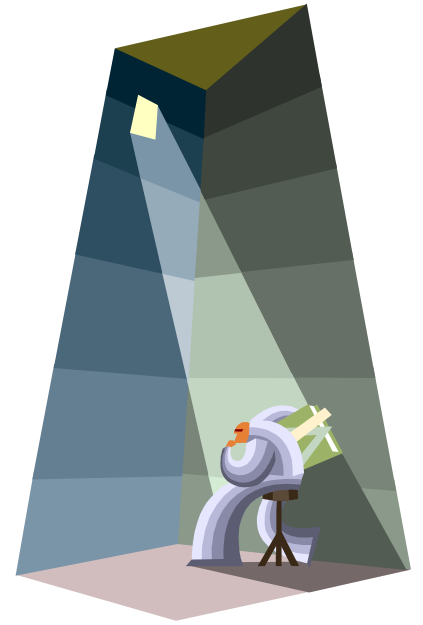
## FOOTNOTES

Let's now look at the **FOOTNOTES** and see how they can help us to understand Bible verses.



Read the **FOOTNOTES** about **John 3:3,4** at the bottom of page 1577 (N 1447) and fill in the spaces.

**3:3,4** The Greek word translated **again** can also be rendered “from \_\_\_\_\_.” Nicodemus clearly understood it in the former sense, whereas Jesus had both meanings in mind. To enter the kingdom of God, one must be born \_\_\_\_\_, not by experiencing a second biological birth, but by \_\_\_\_\_ birth from \_\_\_\_\_.



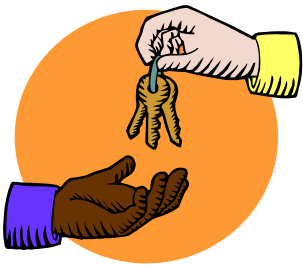
## D) GOD'S CHILDREN



Turn to **John 1:12** page 1574 (N 1444).  
Fill in the missing words.

What does the Gospel of John say?

Verse 12 But <sup>a</sup> as many as received Him, to them He \_\_\_\_\_ the <sup>1</sup>right\* to \_\_\_\_\_



\_\_\_\_\_ of God, to those who believe in His name:

<sup>13</sup>who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

★ As you worked on D) GOD'S CHILDREN, what right did asking Jesus into your life give you?

# Growing Deep and Strong



## BIBLE LINKS and CROSS REFERENCES

Note that the word **right** in verse 12 above is marked <sup>1</sup>right\*.  
Look in the centre column of your Bible on page 1574 (N 1444) under **12**.

<b>12.</b> <sup>a</sup> Gal 3:26 <sup>1</sup> authority *See WW at Mark 3:15
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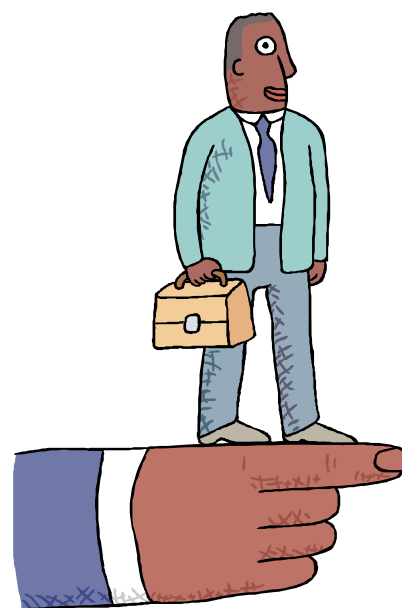
You will find the “1” indicates that the word <sup>1</sup>right\* also means <sup>1</sup>authority. So the verse could read, *But ----- He gave authority -----*.

Also, notice that there is an “<sup>a</sup>” beside “<sup>a</sup> as many”. If you look again at the centre column, you will read, “<sup>a</sup> Gal 3:26.”

What this does is give you a similar verse describing the same thought as in **John 1:12**.



Turn to **Galatians 3:26** on page 1777 (N 1635).  
Fill in the missing words.



What does the Bible say about who we are?

**1** (N **1**) Verse 26 For <sup>a</sup> you are all \_\_\_\_\_ of God through \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ Jesus

Not only John, as we have read above, but also Paul refers to the fact that **everyone** who puts their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ is a child of God, and as such, will inherit His promises, (verse 29).



# Growing Deep and Strong

Note next to the Bible verse there is a little box with a **1** (N **1**) in it.



Go to end of Galatians, page 1782 (N 1640) and you will find **TRUTH-IN-ACTION**.

Fill in the missing words.

## TRUTH-IN-ACTION THROUGH GALATIANS

Letting the Life of the Holy Spirit Bring Faith's Works Alive in You!

### TRUTH

#### GALATIANS TEACHES

**1**

**①**

**Growing in Godliness.** Godliness results from Jesus Christ living through you by the \_\_\_\_\_. It is not achieved by observing some external code. Any attempt to achieve righteousness through a list of \_\_\_\_\_ dos and don'ts is \_\_\_\_\_. God calls us to \_\_\_\_\_ others and \_\_\_\_\_ others just as Jesus did, by the power of the same Holy Spirit and in the same gracious freedom.

#### TEXT

**3:26-29**

#### GALATIANS INVITES

##### Old edition

3:26-29 \_\_\_\_\_ as if you have put on the life of Jesus Christ like clothing. Let Christ \_\_\_\_\_ freely through you.

##### New edition

13:26-29 **Let** the life of Jesus Christ \_\_\_\_\_ you as clothing. **Let Christ** \_\_\_\_\_ freely through you.



# Growing Deep and Strong

## E) NEW AUTHORITY



Turn back to **John 1:12**; page 1574 (N 1444) and you will find that the word *right\** has an asterisk beside it.



## WORD WEALTH

If you look again in the centre column on page 1574 (N 1444) under **12**, you will find, **See WW at Mark 3:15**. This indicates that there is a **WORD WEALTH** to describe the meaning of *right\** in the original language.



Turn to **Mark 3:15** page 1474 (N 1354) and read what the **WORD WEALTH** for **Mark 3:15** says.

Fill in the missing words.

**WORD WEALTH** **3:15 power, *exousia*** (ex-oo-see-ah); Strong's #1849: One of four power words (*dunamis, exousia, ischus* and *kratos*), *exousia* means the \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ to act, ability, privilege, capacity, delegated authority. Jesus had the *exousia* to forgive sin, heal sicknesses, and cast out devils. *exousia* is the right to use *dunamis* "might." Jesus gave His followers *exousia* to preach, teach, heal, and deliver (v. 15), and that \_\_\_\_\_ has never been rescinded (John 14:12). Powerless ministries become \_\_\_\_\_ upon discovering the *exousia* power resident in the name of Jesus and the blood of Jesus.



When we received Jesus as Lord and Saviour, God gave us the authority to become His children, and to use the power resident in the name of Jesus. What a privilege!

# Growing Deep and Strong



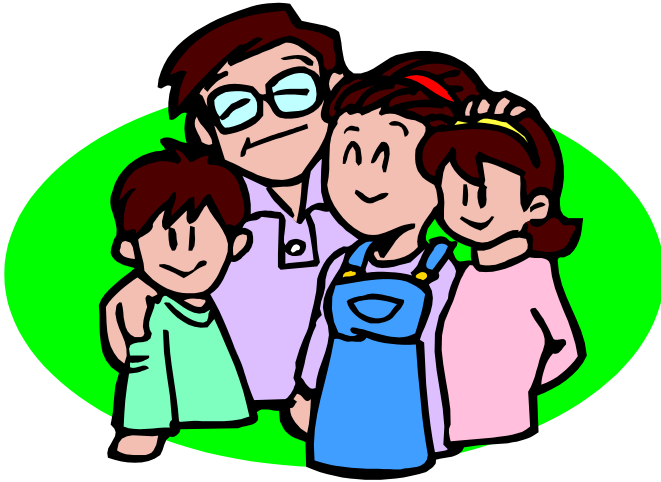
Turn to **1 John 3:1 & 2** on page 1930 (N 1786).  
Fill in the missing words.

Verse: <sup>1</sup> Behold <sup>a</sup> what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that <sup>b</sup> we should be \*called \_\_\_\_\_ of <sup>1</sup> God!

Therefore the world does not know

<sup>2</sup> us, <sup>c</sup> because it did not know Him.

<sup>2</sup> Beloved, <sup>a</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ we are  
\_\_\_\_\_ of God; and <sup>b</sup> it has not  
yet been revealed what we shall be,  
but we know that when He is  
revealed, we shall be like Him, for  
<sup>c</sup> we shall see Him as He is.



Turn to **Romans 8:14 & 15** page 1699 (N 1561).  
Fill in the missing words.

Verse <sup>14</sup> For <sup>a</sup> as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. <sup>15</sup> For

<sup>a</sup> you did not receive the spirit of bondage again <sup>b</sup> to  
\*fear, but you received the <sup>c</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_  
by whom we cry out, “<sup>d</sup> Abba<sup>1</sup>, Father.”



# Growing Deep and Strong

## A NEW RELATIONSHIP

### A) HEAVEN IS CELEBRATING YOUR NEW BIRTH.



Turn to **Luke 15:10** page 1545 (N 1418).  
Fill in the missing words.



Verse 10 “Likewise, I say to you, there is \_\_\_\_\_ in  
the presence of the angels of God over one \_\_\_\_\_ who repents.”

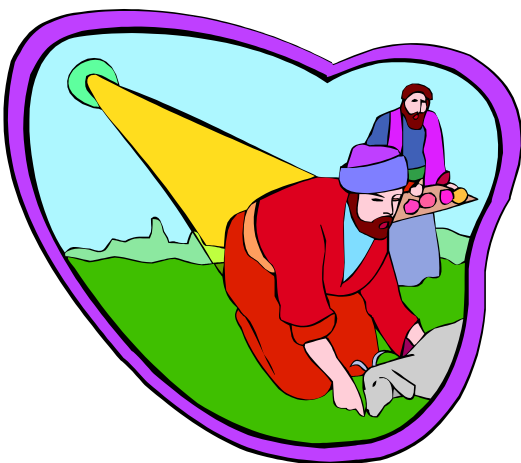
Jesus used a story to illustrate how important it was for Him that you should be born again and come into the kingdom of Light.



Now read **Luke 15:1-7** page 1545 (N 1418).  
Fill in the missing words.

Verse 1<sup>1</sup> Then <sup>a</sup> all the tax collectors and the <sup>\*</sup> sinners drew near to Him to hear Him.  
<sup>2</sup> And the Pharisees and scribes complained, saying, “This Man <sup>1</sup> receives sinners and  
<sup>a</sup> eats with them.” <sup>3</sup> So He spoke this parable to them, saying: <sup>4</sup> <sup>a</sup> “What man of you,  
having a hundred sheep, if he \_\_\_\_\_ one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in  
the wilderness, and \_\_\_\_\_ after the one which is \_\_\_\_\_ until he finds it? <sup>5</sup> “And when  
he has found *it*, he lays *it* on his shoulders, \_\_\_\_\_.” <sup>6</sup> “And when he comes

home, he calls together *his* <sup>\*</sup> friends and  
neighbors, saying to them, <sup>a</sup> ‘Rejoice with me,  
for I have \_\_\_\_\_ my sheep <sup>b</sup> which was lost!’  
<sup>7</sup> “I say to you that likewise there will be more  
\_\_\_\_\_ in heaven over one sinner who repents  
<sup>a</sup> than over ninety-nine <sup>1</sup> just persons who <sup>b</sup> need  
no repentance.



# Growing Deep and Strong



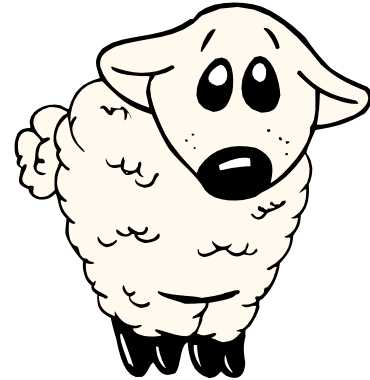
## FOOTNOTES

Let's now look at the **FOOTNOTES** and see how they can help us to understand Bible verses.



Read the **FOOTNOTES** about **Luke 15:1-10** at the bottom of page 1545 (N 1418) and fill in the spaces.

**15:1-3** The Pharisees' criticism of Jesus' open association with known \_\_\_\_\_ and social \_\_\_\_\_ occasioned three parables, which illustrate God's \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ for sinners. His attitude is sharply opposed to that of the self-righteous. **The Pharisees** correspond to the 99 sheep, the 9 coins, and the elder brother. **The tax collectors and sinners** correspond to the lost sheep, the lost coin, and the prodigal son.



**15:4-10** The **or** of v. 8 indicates that the two parables illustrate the same point. God is \_\_\_\_\_ with one \_\_\_\_\_ person and \_\_\_\_\_ in his recovery. Those who are legalistically self-righteous are not even aware of their need.

**15:5** Sheep that are lost lie down helplessly and refuse to budge.

**15:7** Jesus' table-fellowship with sinners (v. 2) is a celebration of \_\_\_\_\_, analogous to the joy a shepherd must share with his friends and neighbors on finding a lost sheep (v. 6).

Congratulations! What a champion!



With concentration and diligence you now understand six features that are unique to the Spirit Filled Life Bible.

As you continue your journey of Personal Discovery you will find these features helpful for gaining a greater understanding of God's Word.

# Growing Deep and Strong

## A NEW KINGDOM



Turn to **Colossians 1:13** page 1813 (N 1671).  
Fill in the missing words.

Verse 13 He has \_\_\_\_\_ us from <sup>a</sup> the <sup>\*</sup>power of  
<sup>\*</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ <sup>b</sup> and <sup>1</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ <sup>\*</sup>us into the  
kingdom of the Son of His love,



Read the **KINGDOM DYNAMICS 1:13 People of the Kingdom** page 1813 (N n/a).  
Fill in the sentences from there below the box.

### KINGDOM DYNAMICS

1:13 People of the Kingdom, THE MESSAGE OF THE KINGDOM. The “transference” of the believer, from under Satan’s authority to Christ’s, is described as movement into another “kingdom.” Ensuing verses describe Christ’s redemption as bringing us to a place of “completeness,” that is, of spiritual adequacy, authority, or ability to live victoriously over and above the invisible powers of darkness (vv. 14-16; 2:6-10). This becomes functionally true, as opposed to merely theoretically so, when we, 1) live and love as citizens of the heavenly kingdom (Phil. 3:20); 2) utilize this kingdom’s currency, which is of irresistible value (Acts 3:6); 3) operate as ambassadors authorized to offer kingdom peace and reconciliation to those yet unrenewed in Christ (2 Cor. 5:20); and 4) serve as the kingdom militia, girded for prayerful conflict against the dark powers controlling so much of this present world (Eph. 6:10-20). The terminology of “the kingdom” holds more than poetic pictures. It is practically applicable to all our living.

(Matt. 13/Luke 17:20, 21) J.W.H.

Fill in the following sentences from the **KINGDOM DYNAMICS** on Colossians 1:13 about living in a new kingdom.

The “\_\_\_\_\_” of the believer, from under Satan’s authority to  
\_\_\_\_\_, is described as \_\_\_\_\_ into another “\_\_\_\_\_”

# Growing Deep and Strong

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Turn to **Acts 26:15-18** page 1676 (N 1538).  
Fill in the missing words.

We read where the apostle Paul is telling king Agrippa about his conversion to Christianity. The risen Lord Jesus Christ appeared from heaven and talked to Saul whose name later became Paul. Paul was an apostle and wrote 13 of the 27 New Testament books.

Verse: 15 “So I said, ‘Who are You, Lord?’ And He said, ‘**I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting.**’ <sup>16</sup>‘**But rise and stand on your feet; for I have appeared to you for this purpose,**’ <sup>a</sup> **to make you a minister and a \*witness both of the things which you have seen and of the things which I will yet reveal to you.**’ <sup>17</sup>‘**I will**’ <sup>1</sup>**deliver you from the Jewish people, as well as from the Gentiles,**’ <sup>a</sup> **to whom I now**’ <sup>2</sup>**send you,**’ <sup>18 a</sup> **‘to \_\_\_\_\_ their eyes, in order**’ <sup>b</sup> **to \_\_\_\_\_ them from darkness to light, and from the power of \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_,**’ <sup>c</sup> **that they may receive \_\_\_\_\_ of sins and**’ <sup>d</sup> **an inheritance among those who are**’ <sup>e</sup> **sanctified**’ <sup>1</sup> **by faith in Me.’**



The three major things in verse 18 that Jesus said to Saul (Paul) were: -

1. Open their eyes.
2. Turn them from darkness to light.
3. From the power of Satan to God.



Jesus is talking about us, the Gentiles. When we ask Jesus Christ to be the Lord of our life, we turn from the kingdom of Darkness and are transferred into the kingdom of Light. Seeing that we are no longer in darkness, we can begin to see with our spiritual eyes. We are no longer under Satan’s power, but God gives us His power to live a radically different life that is full of light rather than darkness.

# Growing Deep and Strong



Turn to and read **1 Peter 2:9**, page 1910 (N 1765).  
Fill in the missing words.

Verse 9 But you *are* a \_\_\_\_\_ generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the \* praises of Him who \* \_\_\_\_\_ you out of <sup>a</sup> darkness\* into His marvelous \_\_\_\_\_;



Turn to **Ephesians 2:8**, page 1789 (N 1647).  
Fill in the missing words.

Verse 8 For by \_\_\_\_\_ you have been \_\_\_\_\_ through  
\* \_\_\_\_\_, and that not of yourselves; *it is* the \_\_\_\_\_ of God,



When it comes to our being saved, *grace* is God's part; *faith* is our part. He gives us salvation as a free gift, and even the faith to believe in Him is also a free gift. By definition, even God's grace is a gift. As a God who delights to give, He gave us the gift of salvation freely, even though we did not deserve it!

## A) LAYING THE FOUNDATION.

The purpose of ©Laying The Foundation is to take you on a journey that will assist you to grow strong in your new life in the kingdom of Light, God's kingdom.

Jesus told the disciples of the challenges that they would face as they began their new spiritual walk. This is just as relevant today as you begin your new walk in the kingdom of Light. Let's read what Jesus said.



Turn to **Mark 4:2-9 & 13-20** page 1475 (N 1355).  
Fill in the missing words.



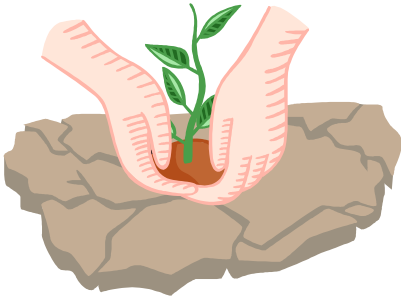
Verse 2 Then He taught them many things by parables, <sup>a</sup> and said to them in His teaching: <sup>3</sup>"Listen! Behold, a sower went out to sow. <sup>4</sup>"And it happened, as he sowed, *that some seed fell by the \_\_\_\_\_; and the \_\_\_\_\_ <sup>1</sup>of the air came and devoured it. <sup>5</sup>"Some fell on \_\_\_\_\_, where it did not have much earth; and immediately it sprang up because it had no \_\_\_\_\_ of earth. <sup>6</sup>"But when the sun was up it was \_\_\_\_\_, and because it had no root it \_\_\_\_\_ away.*



# Growing Deep and Strong

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<sup>7</sup>“And some *seed* fell among \_\_\_\_\_; and the thorns grew up and \_\_\_\_\_ it, and it yielded no <sup>1</sup>crop. <sup>8</sup>“But other *seed* fell on \_\_\_\_\_ ground and yielded a crop that sprang up, increased and produced: some thirtyfold, some sixty, and some a hundred.” <sup>9</sup> And He said <sup>1</sup>to them, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear!”



Verse <sup>13</sup> And He said to them, “Do you not understand this parable? How then will you understand all the parables?

<sup>14 a</sup> “The sower sows the \_\_\_\_\_. <sup>15</sup>“And these are the ones by the wayside where the word is sown. When they \_\_\_\_\_, Satan comes immediately and \_\_\_\_\_ away the word that was sown in their hearts. <sup>16</sup>“These likewise are the ones sown on stony ground who, when they hear the word, immediately receive it with gladness; <sup>17</sup>“and they have no \_\_\_\_\_ in themselves, and so \_\_\_\_\_ only for a time. Afterward, when tribulation or persecution arises for the word’s sake, immediately they \* \_\_\_\_\_. <sup>18</sup>“Now these are the ones sown among \_\_\_\_\_; *they are* the ones who hear the word, <sup>19</sup>“and the <sup>a</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ \*of this world, <sup>b</sup> the deceitfulness of \_\_\_\_\_, and the \_\_\_\_\_ for other things entering in \_\_\_\_\_ the word, and it becomes unfruitful <sup>20</sup>“But these are the ones sown on \_\_\_\_\_ ground, those who hear the word, <sup>1</sup>accept *it*, and bear <sup>a</sup> \_\_\_\_\_: some thirtyfold, some sixty, and some a hundred.”



Jesus used parables as He taught people. A parable is a short story, usually from human life or nature, that He intentionally used to conceal truth from those who had shut their ears to truth, and reveal truth to those who had ears to hear.

In the parable of the sower, Jesus taught His disciples that people’s hearts were like ground of different types. Jesus defined good ground as those people who hear God’s Word, accept it, so that the Word can grow and bear fruit in their lives.

What we want to do in this series is to help you cultivate the ground of your lives, so that it becomes good soil, where God’s Word can germinate and grow. That’s how your lives will bear really good fruit in God’s kingdom.

# Growing Deep and Strong

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In Jesus' parable that you have just read, what are the four types of ground that He mentions?

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★ What sort of ground would you like your life to become?

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Next session we will discover something about the kingdom of Darkness, and who rules it.

We will discover The Kingdom of Darkness.

# Growing Deep and Strong

## PERSONAL DISCOVERY REVIEW

Your coach will discuss some of these questions the next time you meet.

1. Discuss what you found out about what happened when you asked Jesus Christ into your life (Page 24).
2. Discuss what you discovered as you filled in the **KINGDOM DYNAMICS** for **John 3:1-5** (Page 26).
3. What did it tell you about “new birth”? (Page 26).
4. Discuss how to look up **TRUTH IN ACTION** (Page 27).
5. Discuss what right receiving Jesus into your life gave you as God’s children? (Page 28).
6. Discuss **FOOTNOTES**, their value and how to use. (Page 28).
7. Discuss what you discovered about your new authority as God’s child from the Word Wealth on **Mark 3:15** (Page 31).
8. Discuss how to use **BIBLE LINKS** and **CROSS REFERENCES**. (Page 29)
9. Whose child are we? What name can we call God? (Page 32).
10. What did you discover in the **KINGDOM DYNAMICS** on **Colossians 1:13** about living in a new kingdom? (Page 35).
11. What are the four types of ground Jesus mentions in His parable? (Page 39)
12. Discuss what sort of ground do you want your life to become. (Page 39).



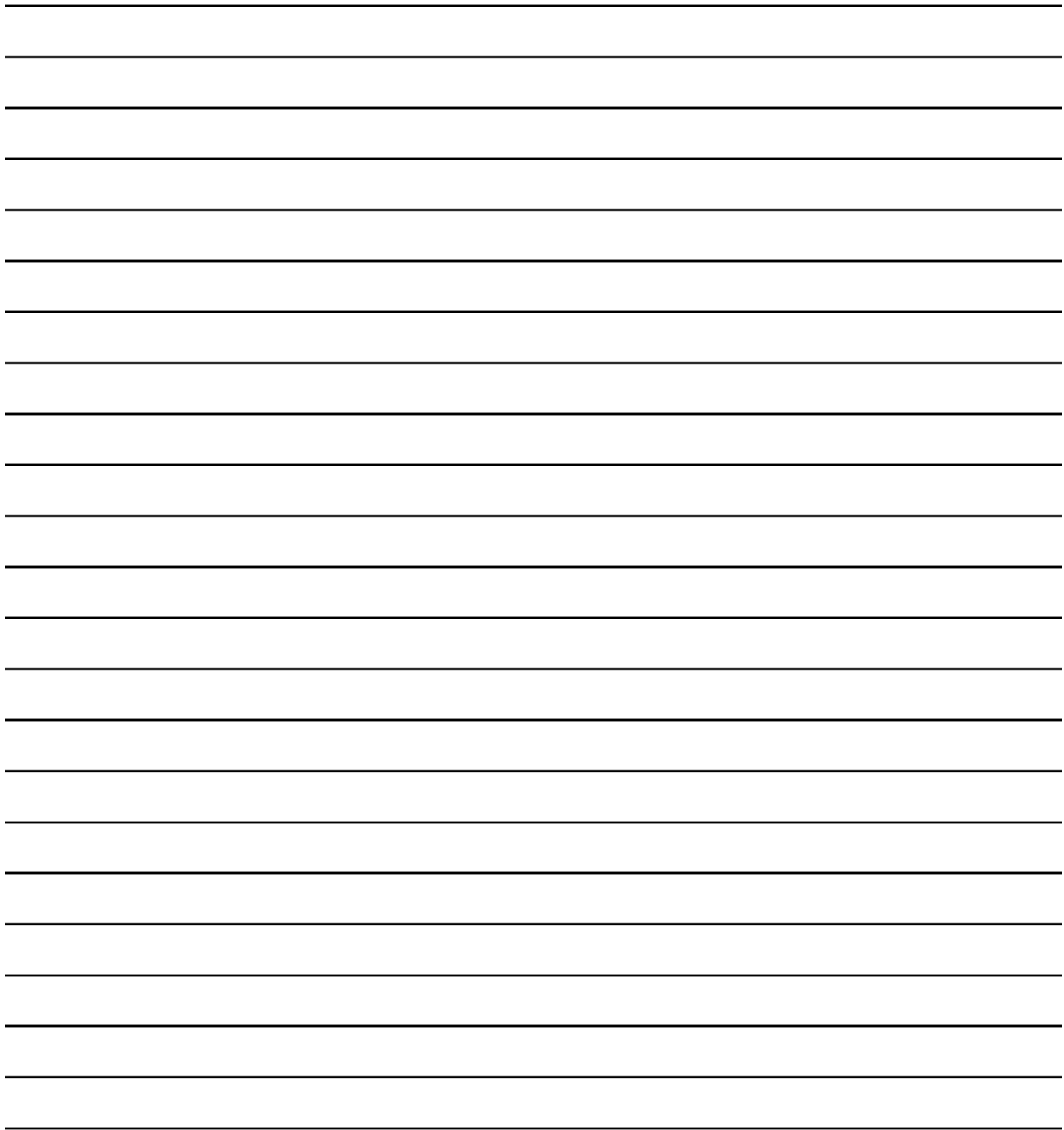
Congratulations! You have successfully completed this week’s Personal Discovery.

Coach’s Name \_\_\_\_\_

Coach’s Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_





**SESSION TWO**

**KINGDOM  
OF  
DARKNESS**



# Growing Deep and Strong

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## TWO KINGDOMS EXPLAINED

Colossians. 1:13

**He has rescued us from the one  
who rules in the darkness, ...**

NLT

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Acts 26:18

**To open their eyes ... from  
darkness to light, ... from the  
power of Satan to God. ...**

NLT

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## DARKNESS AND LIGHT ARE OPPOSITES

### A) LIGHT OVERCOMES DARKNESS

John 8:12

**... If you follow me, you won't be  
stumbling through the darkness,  
... you will have the light that leads  
to life."**

NLT

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# Growing Deep and Strong



## THE RULER OF THE KINGDOM OF DARKNESS

### A) KNOWING OUR ENEMY

John 10:10

**The thief's purpose is to steal and kill and destroy. My purpose is to give life in all its fullness.**

NLT

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## NATURE AND CHARACTER OF OUR ENEMY

**Enemy to mankind.  
Slanderer, Accuser.  
Enchanter, Deceiver.**

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**Prince of the world system.  
Adversary, the devourer,  
Murderer, liar.  
Anti-Christ.**

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# Growing Deep and Strong

## A) GOOD NEWS!

1 John 4:4

**You belong to God ... You have already won your fight ... the Spirit who lives in you is greater than the spirit who lives in the world.**

NLT

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## THE ENEMY'S SUBJECTS

### A) WHERE DID THEY COME FROM?

**Created in God's original order to do God's will.**

**Rebelled against God.**

**Cast out of heaven to the earth with Satan.**

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### B) ACTIVITIES OF DEMONS

★ Summary of their activities

John 10:10

**The thief's purpose is to steal and kill and destroy ...**

NLT

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# Growing Deep and Strong

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## C) GOOD NEWS FOR US!

Romans 14:17

**For the Kingdom of God is not a matter of what we eat or drink, but of living a life of goodness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.**

NLT

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## D) GOD'S PROTECTION

★ Stand united

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★ Protect each other

1 Peter 5:8

**Watch out for attacks from the Devil, your great enemy. He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for some victim to devour.**

NLT

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## E) PERSONAL DISCOVERY

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# Growing Deep and Strong

## PERSONAL DISCOVERY



### TWO KINGDOMS EXPLAINED

(Estimated time for disciples to complete Personal Discovery, 65 minutes).

In this Personal Discovery we want to help you understand how incredibly destructive the Kingdom of Darkness is in the world, and how destructive its effects were on our lives in the past. Then we can realise how different life is in the kingdom of Light, which we will be explaining in the following sessions. What a radical difference! From slavery to freedom, from darkness to light! We also want to help you to understand the ruler of the kingdom of Darkness so that we know something about the enemy of our souls. The good news is that we are no longer subject to his demands on us. We are now living in a different kingdom—God’s kingdom!



Turn to **Colossians 1:13**, page 1813 (N 1671).  
Fill in the missing words.



Verse 13 He has \_\_\_\_\_ us from <sup>a</sup> the <sup>\*</sup>power of  
<sup>\*</sup>darkness <sup>b</sup> and <sup>1</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ <sup>\*</sup>us into the kingdom  
of the Son of His love,

What does this verse tell us about what has happened to us?

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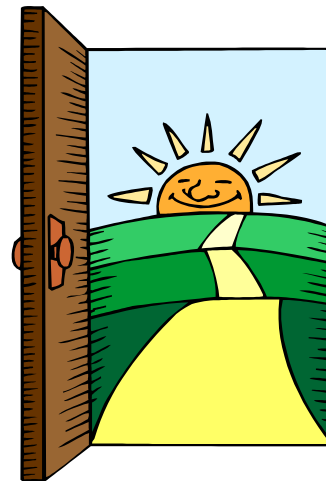
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# Growing Deep and Strong



Turn to **Acts 26:18**, page 1676 (N 1538).  
Fill in the missing words.

Verse 18 a *‘to open their eyes, in order<sup>b</sup> to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God,<sup>c</sup> that they may receive forgiveness of sins and<sup>d</sup> an inheritance among those who are<sup>e</sup> sanctified<sup>1</sup> by faith in Me.*



★ What are the three points we learnt from Acts 26:18?

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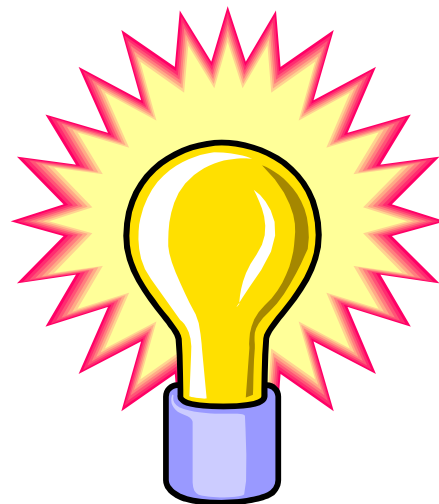
## DARKNESS AND LIGHT ARE OPPOSITES

### A) LIGHT OVERCOMES DARKNESS



#### Illustration

Imagine being in a totally pitch black room. The room is totally void of any light, yet when you reach out and turn the light switch on, in a split second the darkness is gone and the room is filled with light. This is just what happened when you when you received Jesus Christ into your life. Jesus, the light of the world, makes the darkness go instantly, and you are filled with light.



Turn to **John 8:12**, page 1589 (N 1458).  
Fill in the missing words.

What does **John 8:12** say about the light?

Verse 12 Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, <sup>a</sup> “I am the \_\_\_\_\_ of the world. He who <sup>b</sup> follows Me shall not walk in <sup>\*</sup> \_\_\_\_\_, but have the light of \_\_\_\_\_.”

# Growing Deep and Strong

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Jesus Christ is the light. As disciples of Jesus Christ we no longer walk in the darkness but in the light! There is no room for the darkness any more.



Turn to **Matthew 5:14**, page 1411 (N 1297).  
Fill in the missing words.

Verse 14 a “\_\_\_\_\_ are the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \*world. A  
city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden.



★ What did you find out when the light was turned on?

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Turn to **John 1:5** page 1573 (N1443)  
Fill in the missing words.

Verse 5 And <sup>a</sup> the light \_\_\_\_\_ in the \*darkness, and the darkness did not <sup>1</sup>  
**comprehend** it.



Did you notice the word **<sup>1</sup>comprehend** has a “1” beside it?

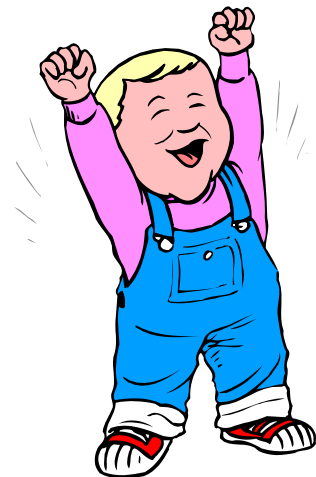
Remember that it means that the translators have given another meaning to the word, look in the centre column of your Bible and you will see:

<b>5</b> a [John 3:19] 1Or <i>overcome</i> *See WW at John 12:46
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From this we can see that **comprehend** can mean **overcome**.

The light has **overcome** the **darkness**!

That’s us, you and I! As disciples of Jesus Christ, we are now light to the world. Wherever we go, the darkness can’t hang around, because we bring light there.



# Growing Deep and Strong



Read the **WORD WEALTH** on comprehend John 1:5 page 1573 (N1443).

The word is capable of three interpretations: Fill in the missing words.

.... To seize, lay hold of, overcome. As such v.5 could read,  
“The darkness does not gain \_\_\_\_\_ of it.”

...“The darkness is \_\_\_\_\_ and does not understand it.”

... “The darkness will never be able to \_\_\_\_\_ it.”

...Light and darkness essentially are antagonistic. [They completely oppose one another] The Christian’s joy is in knowing that light is not only \_\_\_\_\_ than the darkness but will also \_\_\_\_\_ the darkness.



## THE KINGDOM OF DARKNESS

In order to know what Jesus has rescued us from, we need to have a look at the kingdom of Darkness and understand something of the ruler of that kingdom, so that he cannot keep us in the dark any longer.

### A) KNOWING OUR ENEMY

While we do not want to glorify our enemy (Satan and his demons), it is wise to know who our enemy is and to understand his tactics.



Turn to **John 10:10**, page 1593 (N 1461).  
Fill in the missing words.

In **John 10:10**, Jesus Christ sums up the two kingdoms and their roles on earth.

Verse 10 “The thief does not come except to \_\_\_\_\_, and to \_\_\_\_\_, and to \_\_\_\_\_. I have come that they may have \_\_\_\_\_, and that they may have *it* more \_\_\_\_\_.”



# Growing Deep and Strong

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The thief is Satan, the ruler of the Kingdom of Darkness. Jesus Christ sums up Satan's role with three points.

He has come:

- ★ to steal,
- ★ to kill,
- ★ to destroy.



The place where Satan rules is the earth. His target is the human race. He is at the root of the atrocities that happen in our world. Although humans make choices, his evil influence is behind most of those choices, because they are in Satan's kingdom, the Kingdom of Darkness.

Many disciples of Jesus Christ often either ignore Satan's existence and power or overemphasize it. We need to know what the Bible says about the nature and character of Satan, so that we can have balance in what we believe about our enemy.

★ What are the three things that Satan comes to do as summed up in John 10:10?

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## THE NATURE AND CHARACTER OF OUR ENEMY



A kingdom displays the nature and character of the king or ruler who rules the kingdom. That is why all over the world we see a tremendous increase of activity in the occult, spiritism and the worship of Satan.



The Bible tells us that the Kingdom of Darkness is present in the universe and particularly on the earth. It is the absolute opposite of the Kingdom of Light, God's kingdom. Satan rules the Kingdom of Darkness, and it has the same nature as its ruler. The Bible calls him *the prince of the power of the air*, and under his authority are fallen angels and demons, who also show the same nature as their ruler.

# Growing Deep and Strong

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So that we can understand what our enemy is like, let's look at some of the ways the Bible describes our enemy.

## A) ENEMY TO MANKIND



Turn to **Job 1:6 & 7**, page 710 (N 647).  
Fill in the missing words.



Verse <sup>6</sup> Now <sup>a</sup> there was a <sup>\*</sup>day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord, and <sup>1</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ also came among them. <sup>7</sup> And the Lord said to <sup>1</sup>Satan, "From where do you come?" So Satan answered the Lord and said, "From <sup>a</sup> going to and fro on the earth, and from walking back and forth on it."

The word *Satan* means to be an opponent or the enemy to all mankind.



Read the **WORD WEALTH** describing **Satan** from **Job 1:6**. Page 710. (N648).

Fill in the nine descriptive words for Satan.

**Satan, *satan*** (sah-tahn); Strong's #7854: An \_\_\_\_\_ or the \_\_\_\_\_; the \_\_\_\_\_; the \_\_\_\_\_; \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_; one who \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ whatever is good. *satan* ☐ comes from the verb which means "to be an opponent," or "to withstand." As a noun, *satan* can describe any "opponent" (2 Sam. 19:21, 22). However, when the form *ha-satan* (the Adversary) occurs, the translation is usually "Satan," not his name, but his accurate description: hateful \_\_\_\_\_. Since Satan is the Hater, he is all the more opposed to God, who is love.





# Growing Deep and Strong

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## B) PRINCE OF THE WORLD SYSTEM



Turn to **John 14:30** page 1604 (N1471).  
Fill in the missing words.

Verse 30 “I will no longer talk much with you, <sup>a</sup> for the \_\_\_\_\_ of this \_\_\_\_\_ is coming, and he has <sup>b</sup> nothing in Me.



Turn to **1 John 5:19** page 1934 (N1790).  
Fill in the missing words.

Verse 19 we know that we are of God, and <sup>a</sup> the whole \_\_\_\_\_ lies *under the* \_\_\_\_\_ of the wicked one.



Turn to **Ephesians 2:2**, page 1789 (N 1646).  
Fill in the missing words.

Verse 2 <sup>a</sup> in which you once walked according to the <sup>1</sup>course of this world, according to <sup>b</sup> the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience,

Notice this verse says that we **once** walked this way. Satan, as the prince of the power of the air, exercises power over the whole earth. But Paul goes on to say that we have been made alive together with Christ, so that we are no longer under the sway of the wicked one. That's great news!

## C) SLANDERER, ACCUSER.



Turn to **Revelation 12:10**, page 1977 (N 1832).  
Fill in the missing words.



Verse 10 Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, <sup>a</sup> “Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for the \_\_\_\_\_ of our brethren, <sup>b</sup> who \_\_\_\_\_ them before our God day and night, has been cast down.

# Growing Deep and Strong

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The “them” is us; you and I. The accuser, Satan, brings accusation against us continuously before God.

But Satan can no longer point the finger, because Jesus has taken our accusation. The Bible says there is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus; Romans 8:1 page 1698 (N1561).

## D) ADVERSARY, THE DEVOURER



Turn to **1 Peter 5:8**, page 1915 (N 1769).  
Fill in the missing words.



Verse 8 Be <sup>1</sup>sober, be <sup>2</sup>vigilant; <sup>3</sup>because your \_\_\_\_\_  
the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he  
may \_\_\_\_\_.

Satan is our **enemy**, or the one who **opposes** us. His nature is to **devour** anyone he can, so that they are no longer free, but are consumed by the Kingdom of Darkness.

### ★ Good news!



Turn to **1 John 4:4**, page 1932 (N 1788).  
Fill in the missing words.

Verse 4 You are of God, little children, and have  
overcome them, because He who is in you is  
\_\_\_\_\_ than <sup>a</sup> he who is in the world.



# Growing Deep and Strong



John is saying that the Holy Spirit, who is within us, has assured us of victory, because He is greater than Satan, a created being who has set himself in opposition to the Lord Jesus Christ.

★ What is the good news that we as disciples of Jesus Christ can rest in?

## THE SUBJECTS OF THE KINGDOM OF DARKNESS

Under his control, Satan has a great host of evil spirits. Satan and his hosts were created in God's original order to do God's will, as do the angels who continue in obedience to Him. But when Lucifer (Satan) rebelled against God, some angels rebelled with him, and were cast out of heaven to become the evil subjects of Satan in the Kingdom of Darkness. Now they hate mankind and are absolutely opposed to all that God is and what He represents.

In the Bible they are shown to have a chain of command of various ranks and authorities. They are called fallen angels, authorities, principalities, powers, rulers of darkness, wicked spirits, and demons. Satan's kingdom and rule is like an earthly dictator who rules the people and enforces his will via an army consisting of generals, majors, colonels, lieutenants, sergeants, corporals and privates.

From what we can understand in the Bible, the evil hosts under the dominion of Satan are no match in number or power for the angelic hosts obedient to God.

We as God's children need to rejoice in the fact that we are now on the winning side! Remember that the Bible says, "you are of God, little children, and you have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world." 1 John 4:4.



Turn to **Ephesians 6:12** page 1796 (N 1654).  
Fill in the missing words.

Verse 12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and \*blood,  
but against <sup>a</sup> \_\_\_\_\_, against \_\_\_\_\_,  
against <sup>b</sup> the \_\_\_\_\_ of the <sup>1</sup>darkness of this age,  
against spiritual \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ in the  
heavenly *places*.



# Growing Deep and Strong

## A) WHERE DID THEY COME FROM?



Turn to **Revelation 12:7-9**, page 1977 (N 1832).  
Fill in the missing words.

Verse <sup>7</sup> And war broke out in heaven: <sup>a</sup> Michael and his angels fought <sup>b</sup> with the dragon; and the \_\_\_\_\_ and his \_\_\_\_\_ fought, <sup>8</sup> but they <sup>1</sup> did not prevail, nor was a place found for <sup>2</sup> them in heaven any longer. <sup>9</sup> So <sup>a</sup> the great dragon was cast out, <sup>b</sup> that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, <sup>c</sup> who deceives the whole world; he was \_\_\_\_\_ to the \_\_\_\_\_, and his \_\_\_\_\_ were cast out with him.



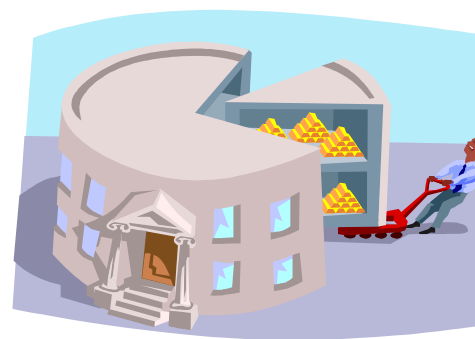
Read the **KINGDOM DYNAMICS** “Fallen Angels” from **Revelation**; page 1977 (N n/a) or from the box below.

### **KINGDOM DYNAMICS**

**12:7, 9 Fallen Angels, ANGELS.** The Scriptures reveal both good angels and evil angels. The evil entities are those angels who rebelled with Lucifer and were cast out of heaven with him. Their minds and understanding have been covered with the horrible darkness of deception—the same tactic Satan still uses to lead his victims astray. They were created in God’s original order to do His will, as those angels who continue in obedience to His throne. But these “did not keep their proper domain” (Jude 6) and are now agents of the Adversary, bound under his dark dominion and serving Satan’s rebellious enterprises. (Rev. 1:1/Heb. 1:14) M.H.

## B) ACTIVITIES OF DEMONS

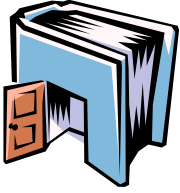
The activity of demons, or evil spirits, as servants of Satan, is best summed up in John 10:10, page 1593 (N 1461) *The thief comes to steal, to kill and to destroy*. These evil spirits attack mankind spiritually, morally, mentally, physically and emotionally.



Turn to **1 Timothy 4:1** page 1844 (N1703).  
Fill in the missing words.

Verse <sup>1</sup> Now the Spirit<sup>1</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed <sup>a</sup> to \_\_\_\_\_ spirits and \_\_\_\_\_ of demons,

# Growing Deep and Strong



## OPTIONAL READING

Read the **FOOTNOTE** on **1 Timothy 4:1**, page 1844 (N 1703).

★ **They blind the minds of unbelievers.**



Turn to **2 Corinthians 4:4**, page 1756 (N 1614).  
Fill in the missing words.

Verses 4 whose \_\_\_\_\_<sup>a</sup> the god of this \*age<sup>b</sup> has  
\_\_\_\_\_, who do not believe,<sup>c</sup> lest the light of the  
\*gospel of the glory of \*Christ,<sup>d</sup> who is the image of  
God, should shine on them.

The implication is that they seek to draw people away from the truth, to lead them astray, and defraud, them of everything good that God has for them.



Turn to **1 John 2:26**, page 1930 (N 1786).  
Fill in the missing words.

Verse 26. These things I have written to you concerning those who *try to*<sup>l</sup> \_\_\_\_\_  
you.

★ **They oppress, torment and trouble people.**



Turn to **Acts 10:38**, page 1645 (N 1511).  
Fill in the missing words.

Verse 38<sup>cc</sup> how<sup>a</sup> God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy  
Spirit and with \*power, who<sup>b</sup> went about doing good and  
\_\_\_\_\_ all who were \_\_\_\_\_ by the \_\_\_\_\_,<sup>c</sup>  
for God was with Him.



The oppression and torment of demons can take place in the body or the soul.

# Growing Deep and Strong

★ They bind people with sickness.



Turn to **Luke 13:11-13 & 16**, page 1541 (N 1415).  
Fill in the missing words.

Verse 11 and behold, there was a woman who had a spirit of \_\_\_\_\_ eighteen years, and was bent over and could in no way <sup>1</sup>raise *herself* up.

<sup>12</sup> But when Jesus saw her, He called *her* to *Him* and said to her, “**Woman, you are \_\_\_\_\_ from your <sup>a</sup> infirmity.**” <sup>13</sup> And He laid *His* hands on her, and immediately she was made straight, and glorified God.

Verse 16 “**So ought not this woman, <sup>a</sup> being a daughter of Abraham, whom \_\_\_\_\_ has \_\_\_\_\_—think of it—for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the Sabbath?**”



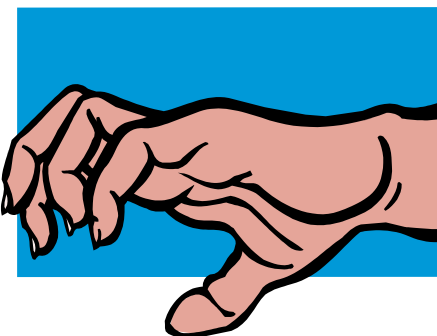
This is why the ministry of healing is so important amongst us as Christ’s disciples, so that people can be loosed from physical infirmity.

★ They pervert the word of God.



Turn to **Matthew 13:19**, page 1429 (N 1314).  
Fill in the missing words.

Verse 19 “**When anyone hears the word <sup>a</sup> of the kingdom, and does not understand *it*, then the \_\_\_\_\_ comes and <sup>\*</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ away what was \_\_\_\_\_ in his heart. This is he who received seed by the wayside.**”



Satan twisted the Word of God with Adam and Eve in the beginning, and he has continued to do that through demons influencing the minds of mankind.

# Growing Deep and Strong

★ They influence our emotions and decisions.



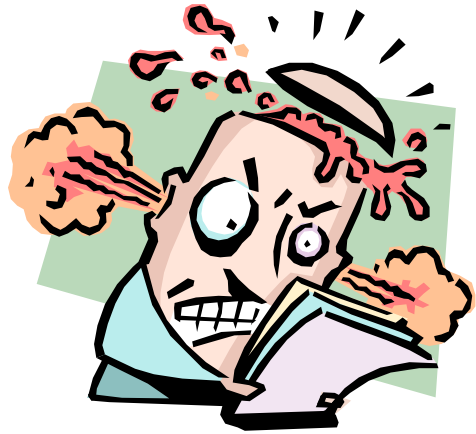
Turn to **Galatians 5:19-21**, page 1780 (N 1638).  
Fill in the missing words.

Here we read how they influence mankind.

Verse 19 Now <sup>a</sup> the works of the flesh are evident,

which are: <sup>1</sup>adultery, <sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_,  
uncleanness, lewdness, <sup>20</sup> \_\_\_\_\_, \*sorcery,  
hatred, contentions, \* \_\_\_\_\_, outbursts of  
\*wrath, \*selfish \_\_\_\_\_, dissensions,  
\*heresies, <sup>21</sup> envy, <sup>1</sup> \_\_\_\_\_, drunkenness,

revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told *you* in time past, that <sup>a</sup> those who practice such things will not \_\_\_\_\_ the kingdom of God.



Demons influence mankind through what Paul calls *the works of the flesh*.



Does this help you to understand why people occasionally seem to be doing strange things that do not make sense or logic, things that seem out of character? When you observe actions by some people that appear strange, the chances are that there is demonic influence behind these seemingly strange actions.

★ They cause division.



Turn to **Matthew 12:25 & 26** (page 1312).  
Fill in the missing words.

Verse 25. But Jesus <sup>a</sup> knew their thoughts, and

said to them: “Every kingdom \_\_\_\_\_  
against itself is brought to \_\_\_\_\_,

and every city or house \_\_\_\_\_ against \_\_\_\_\_ will not stand. <sup>26</sup> “If Satan casts out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then will his kingdom stand?



# Growing Deep and Strong

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Turn to **1 Peter 5:8**, page 1915 (N 1769).  
Fill in the missing words.

Verse 8. Be <sup>1</sup>sober, <sup>2</sup>be vigilant; <sup>3</sup>because  
your \_\_\_\_\_ the devil walks  
about like a \_\_\_\_\_ lion, seeking  
whom he may \_\_\_\_\_.



As you learnt about the activities of demons,  
how can you see that they may have been at  
work in your own life? List some areas that  
come to mind.

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## GOOD NEWS



**PHEW!** Aren't you glad that you stepped out  
of the kingdom of darkness? Aren't you glad  
that God, the ruler of the kingdom of light is  
now leading your future?





# Growing Deep and Strong



Turn to **Romans 14:17-19**, page 1711 (N 1572).  
Fill in the missing words.



Verse 17 <sup>a</sup> for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but \_\_\_\_\_ and <sup>b</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ in the Holy Spirit. <sup>18</sup> For he who serves Christ in <sup>1</sup>these things <sup>a</sup> is acceptable to God and approved by men. <sup>19</sup> <sup>a</sup> Therefore let us \_\_\_\_\_ the things, *which* make for \_\_\_\_\_ and the things by which <sup>b</sup> one may <sup>1</sup>edify another.

This is what we can look forward to as we walk in the kingdom of Light.



Turn to **Galatians 5:22 & 23**, page 1780 (N 1638).  
Fill in the missing words.

Verse 22. But <sup>a</sup> the fruit of the Spirit is <sup>a</sup> \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_,

\* \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_,

c \_\_\_\_\_, <sup>\* d</sup> \_\_\_\_\_,

23 <sup>1</sup> \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_. <sup>a</sup> Against such there is no law.



This fruit grows naturally as we allow the Holy Spirit to change us from the inside.

PRAISE THE LORD!



Next session we will look at the kingdom of Light and its Ruler.

# Growing Deep and Strong

## PERSONAL DISCOVERY REVIEW

Your coach will discuss some of these questions the next time you meet.

1. What was your personal discovery from **Colossians 1:13**? (Page 48).
2. What were the three points you discovered from **Acts 26:18**? (Page 49).
3. What did you discover when “the light was turned on”? (Page 50).
4. What are the three interpretations of “comprehend”? (Page 51).
5. From the **WORD WEALTH** describing Satan what are the nine descriptive words for Satan? (Page 53).
6. From **John 10:10** what are the three “main things that Satan comes to do”? (Page 52).
7. From **John 10:10** what did Jesus promise? (Page 51).
8. From the Bible where does Satan reside? (Page 53)
9. What is “the good news that we can rest in”? (Page 56).
10. What are the alternative **CROSS LINKED** words that the Bible says in **1 Peter 5:8**? (Page 61),
11. What are the six activities of demons that are listed in this session? (Page 61).



Congratulations! You have successfully  
completed this week's Personal Discovery.

Coach's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Coach's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_



# Growing Deep and Strong



# The “ah-ha” and “I don’t understand” page

[illegible]



**SESSION THREE**

# **KINGDOM OF LIGHT**



# Growing Deep and Strong

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## KINGDOM OF LIGHT

## KING OF THE KINGDOM OF LIGHT

### A) GOD THE RULER

Psalm 103:19

**The Lord has made the heavens  
His throne; from there He rules  
everything.**

NLT

### B) THE THREE ARE ONE

Genesis 1:1

**In the beginning, God ...**

NLT

# Growing Deep and Strong

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## C) GOD IS LIGHT

1 John 1:5

**God is light and there is no darkness in Him at all.**

NLT

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## D) GOD ENLIGHTENS MINDS

Ephesians 1:17 & 18

**... to give you spiritual wisdom and understanding ... that you might grow in your knowledge of God ...**

NLT

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## E) GOD LEADS THE RIGHT WAY

Psalms 32:8

**The Lord says, “I will guide you along the best pathway for your life. I will advise you and watch over you.**

NLT

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# Growing Deep and Strong

## NATURE OF GOD

### A) GOD IS LOVE

#### ☆ Story of the lost son

Luke 15:11-24 (part)

... “A man had two sons ... ‘I want my share ... now, instead of waiting ... father agreed to divide his wealth ... took a trip ...

NLT

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Luke 15:11-24 (part)

...wasted all his money on wild living ... money ran out ... began to starve ... no one gave him anything ... came to his senses ...

NLT

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Luke 15:11-24 (part)

...‘At home even the hired men have food ... go home to my father ... say, “Father, I have sinned against both heaven and you ...

NLT

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# Growing Deep and Strong

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Luke 15:11-24 (part)

**... no longer worthy ... father saw him coming ... love and compassion, he ran to his son, ... celebrate ... He was lost, but now he is found ...**

NLT

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## B) ETERNAL

Psalm 90:2

**... before you made the earth and the world , you are God, without beginning or end.**

NLT

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## C) UNCHANGEABLE (Immutable)

Malachi 3:6a

**I am the Lord, and I do not change.**

NLT

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# Growing Deep and Strong

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## D) ALL POWERFUL (Omnipotent)

Genesis 18:14a

**Is anything too hard for the Lord?**

NLT

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## E) ALL KNOWING (Omniscient)

Psalms 139:1, 4, 10, & 13-18

**... You made all ... of my body ...  
You saw me before I was born ...  
How precious are your thoughts  
about me ...**

NLT

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## F) GOD IS EVERYWHERE (Omnipresent)

Psalms 139:7-10

**I can never escape from your  
spirit! ... never get away from  
your presence... your hand will  
guide me ... strength will support  
me**

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# Growing Deep and Strong

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Jeremiah 23:23 & 24

**“Can anyone hide from me? ...  
Am I not everywhere?” ...**

NLT

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## G) GOD IS RIGHTEOUS AND JUST

1 John 1:9

**But if we confess our sins to him,  
he is faithful and just to forgive us  
and to cleanse us from every  
wrong.**

NLT

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# Growing Deep and Strong

## ETERNAL LIFE

Romans 6:22 & 23

**... you are free from the power of sin ... The free gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

NLT

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### A) LIFE

John 3:16

**For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.**

NLT

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# Growing Deep and Strong

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## PERSONAL DISCOVERY



### THE KINGDOM OF LIGHT

*(Estimated time to complete Personal Discovery, 75 minutes).*

Having looked at the Kingdom of Darkness in the last session, and the nature and character of its ruler, Satan, we now want to look at the Kingdom of Light and to find out something of God's nature and character as the King of the Kingdom of Light. What an incredible difference there is!

### KING OF THE KINGDOM OF LIGHT

As we noted last session when we looked at the Kingdom of Darkness, the kingdom takes on the nature and character of its ruler. It's the same in the Kingdom of Light.



Many people have very fuzzy ideas about who God is, and what He is like. Most of these ideas are anything but the truth. So we need to learn what the Bible says about God to begin to get a clear idea of Who He is and how He rules His kingdom.

Let's have a look together at some of the characteristics of God, the King of the Kingdom of Light.

# Growing Deep and Strong

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## A) GOD THE RULER

The Bible tells us that God rules the whole universe. We want to have a look at just three references to that fact.



Turn to **Psalm 103:19**, page 842 (N 765).  
Fill in the missing words.

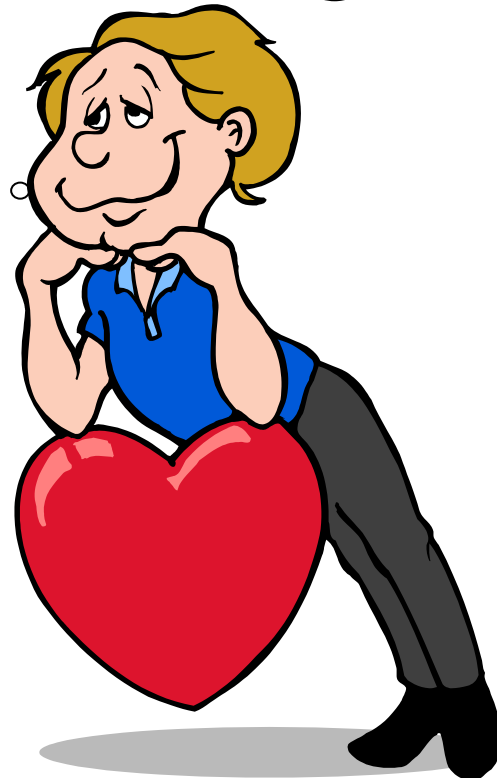
Verse 19 The Lord has established His \_\_\_\_\_ in heaven, <sup>a</sup> And His \_\_\_\_\_  
rules over all.



Turn to **Acts 7:48-50**, page 1638 (N 1503).  
Fill in the missing words.

Verse 48 “However, <sup>a</sup> the Most High does not  
dwell in \_\_\_\_\_ made with hands, as the  
prophet says: <sup>49</sup> ‘Heaven <sup>a</sup> is My \_\_\_\_\_,  
And earth is My \_\_\_\_\_. What house  
will you build for Me? Says the Lord, or what  
is the place of My rest? <sup>50</sup> Has My hand not  
<sup>a</sup> made all these things?’

When we realize how great God is, the Creator and Ruler of the whole universe, how amazing it is that He wants to own us as His children, and to relate to us as our **loving** Heavenly Father. Compare that with Satan, who is an absolute despot as the ruler of the kingdom of Darkness.



# Growing Deep and Strong

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## B) THE THREE ARE ONE

Now, doesn't that sound confusing? The three are one. The Father, Son and Holy Spirit are three, but one. While we may never understand this thought completely, we can at least get some light from the Bible, so that we can know a bit more about God, who He is, and how there can be three Persons in the one Godhead.



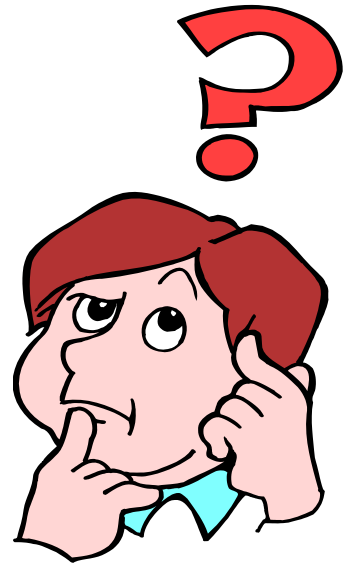
Turn to **Genesis 1:1**, page 3 (N 3).  
Read only

Verse 1 In the <sup>a</sup> beginning <sup>b</sup> God\* -----.

In the original language of the Old Testament the word for God only appears in the plural, which indicates that there is more than one person in the Godhead.



The asterisk beside **God\*** indicates a **WORD WEALTH**. If you look in the centre column, you will find that it directs you to **2 Kings 19:15**, page 558 (N 507). Turn there to read what it says about the word *God*.



★ What does '*Elohim*' mean?

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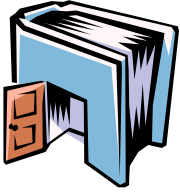
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★ What are the three distinct parts of our God? Fill in the missing words.

... God has more than one part of His being. We call those distinct parts "the \_\_\_\_\_," "the \_\_\_\_\_," and "the \_\_\_\_\_." Nevertheless, we have *one* God, not three gods.



# Growing Deep and Strong



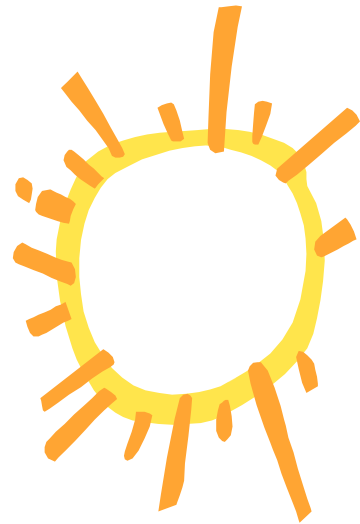
## OPTIONAL READING

1 John 5:7, page 1933 (N 1789).

## C) GOD IS LIGHT



Turn to **1 John 1:5**, page 1928 (N 1783).  
Fill in the missing words.



Verse 5. <sup>a</sup> This is the message which we have heard from Him  
and declare to you, that <sup>b</sup> God is \_\_\_\_\_ and in Him is no \_\_\_\_\_<sup>\*</sup> at all.



Check the centre column for reference to **WORD WEALTH** on **darkness**,  
in **John 12:46**.

Fill in the missing words.

### WORD WEALTH

**12:46 darkness**, *scotia* (skot-ee-ah); Strong's #4653: Darkness, gloom, evil, sin, obscurity, night, ignorance, moral depravity. The NT especially uses the word in a metaphorical sense of \_\_\_\_\_ of divine truth, man's sinful nature, total absence of light, and a lack of spiritual \_\_\_\_\_. Light equals happiness. *Scotia* equals unhappiness. *Scotia* as \_\_\_\_\_ darkness basically describes everything earthly or \_\_\_\_\_ that is at enmity with God.

You found it, without prompts! Congratulations!  
You are becoming experienced in using the Bible.



# Growing Deep and Strong

## D) GOD ENLIGHTENS MINDS



Turn to **Ephesians 1:17 & 18**, page 1788 (N 1645).  
Fill in the missing words.

Verse 17 that <sup>a</sup> the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, <sup>b</sup> may give to you the spirit of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_ of Him, <sup>18 a</sup> the \_\_\_\_\_ of your<sup>1</sup> \_\_\_\_\_<sup>\*</sup> being \_\_\_\_\_; that you may know what is <sup>b</sup> the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints,

Note that understanding<sup>\*</sup> has an asterisk beside it. Remember, it means there is a **WORD WEALTH** explanation to that particular word.



### OPTIONAL READING

Look in the centre column in the verse 18 links.  
You will find that it reads, \* see W.W. at **Mark 12:30**, page 1494 (N 1373).



Read the **FOOTNOTES** for **Ephesians 1:17 & 18** at the bottom of the page 1788 (N 1645).

★ Who is the source of wisdom and revelation?

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- Complete the following sentence from the **FOOTNOTES**.

... “**Eyes of your understanding being enlightened**” literally means that your heart may receive the brightness of \_\_\_\_\_ resulting when the \_\_\_\_\_ of God’s \_\_\_\_\_ in you is understood.

What the Holy Spirit is doing is to *transform us by the renewing of our mind*, Romans 12:2. He does that by opening our spiritual eyes, flooding them with the light of His kingdom, so that we can begin to understand spiritual truth, the great future that He has planned for us, and the incredible glory that we inherit in Him as His children.



# Growing Deep and Strong

## E) GOD LEADS THE RIGHT WAY



Turn to **Psalm 32:8**, page 780 (N 710).

Fill in the missing words.

Verse 8 I will \_\_\_\_\_ you and \_\_\_\_\_ you in the way you should go; I will \_\_\_\_\_ you with My eye.

What an exciting promise, that we have God Himself to teach us and direct the course of our life! He doesn't leave it to chance, but loves us so much that He is vitally interested and involved with how we direct our life.



## NATURE OF GOD

As we go through this section, we want to look at some of the important aspects of God's nature. We are referring to the Godhead, without distinguishing the individual Persons, as we study these characteristics of God.

## A) GOD IS LOVE



Turn to **John 3:16**, page 1578 (N 1447).

Fill in the missing words.

Verse 16 a "For God so \_\_\_\_\_ the world that He gave His only begotten <sup>b</sup> Son, that whoever <sup>\*</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ in Him should not <sup>\*</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ but have \_\_\_\_\_ life.



Read **WORD WEALTH** "loved" from **John 3:16**; page 1578 (N 1447).

Fill in the missing words.

**3:16 loved** *agapao* (ag-ah-pah-oh); Strong's #25: Unconditional love, love by choice and by an act of the will. The word denotes \_\_\_\_\_ benevolence and undefeatable \_\_\_\_\_. *Agapao* will never seek anything but the highest good for fellow mankind. *agapao* (the verb) and *agapao* (the noun) are the words for God's \_\_\_\_\_ love. It does not need a chemistry, an affinity, or a feeling. *Agapao* is a word that exclusively belongs to the Christian community. It is a love virtually unknown to writers outside the NT.

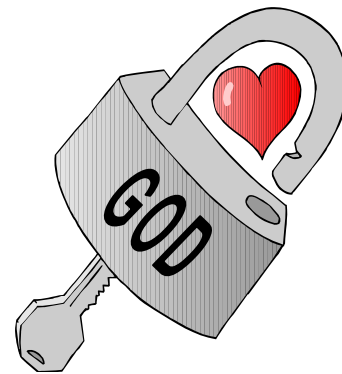
# Growing Deep and Strong

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Turn to **1 John 4:7-10**, page 1932 (N 1788).  
Fill in the missing words.

Verse 7 <sup>a</sup> Beloved, let us love one another, for <sup>\*</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ is of \_\_\_\_\_; and everyone who <sup>b</sup> loves is born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup> He who does not love does not know God, for God is love. <sup>9</sup> <sup>a</sup> In this the \_\_\_\_\_ of God was manifested toward us, that God has <sup>\*</sup> sent His only begotten <sup>a</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ into the world, that we might live through Him. <sup>10</sup> In this is love, <sup>a</sup> not that we \_\_\_\_\_ God, but that He loved us and sent His Son <sup>b</sup> *to be* the **propitiation** for our sins.



This is an incredible glimpse at the love and mercy of God! Not only did he send Jesus to show us how to live, but also He showed His love in sending Him to be the only and perfect sacrifice for our sins, so that our guilt could be put away and our relationship of love with God restored.

## ★ Story of the lost son

The story of the lost son is a remarkable window into the truth that as our heavenly Father, God is a **God of love**. He is not out to punish us for our rebellious nature and attitude toward Him. He loves us too much for that. So when we come back to Him in repentance and faith, He calls for all those in heaven to celebrate with Him that we have returned to Him, that the lost has been found, that we who were dead are alive again, that we, as children whom He dearly loves, can now enjoy a completely restored relationship with Him. What an incredible celebration must happen in heaven every time someone repents and turns to their heavenly Father in faith!



Turn to **Luke 15:11-24**, page 1545 (N 1418).  
Fill in the missing words.

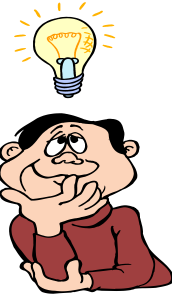
Verse 11 Then He said: “**A certain man had two sons.**  
<sup>12</sup> “**And the \_\_\_\_\_ of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the portion of goods that falls to me.’ So he divided to them <sup>a</sup> his livelihood.** <sup>13</sup> “**And not many days after, the younger son gathered all together, journeyed to a far country, and there \_\_\_\_\_ his possessions with <sup>1</sup>prodigal living.** <sup>14</sup> “**But when he had spent all, there arose a severe famine in that**



# Growing Deep and Strong

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land, and he began to be in <sup>\*</sup>want.<sup>15</sup> “Then he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country, and he sent him into his fields to feed swine.<sup>16</sup> “And he would <sup>\*</sup>gladly have filled his stomach with the <sup>l</sup> pods that the swine ate, and no one gave him *anything*.<sup>17</sup> “But when he \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger!’<sup>18</sup> ‘I will arise and go to my father, and will say to him, ‘Father, <sup>a</sup> I have sinned against heaven and before you,<sup>19</sup> “and I am no longer worthy to be <sup>\*</sup>called your son. Make me like one of your hired servants.’”<sup>20</sup> “And he arose and came to his father. But <sup>a</sup> when <sup>\*</sup> he was still a great way off, his father saw him and had <sup>\*</sup>compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and \_\_\_\_\_ him.<sup>21</sup> “And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven <sup>a</sup> and in your sight, and am no longer worthy to be called your son.’”<sup>22</sup> “But the father said to his servants, ‘<sup>1</sup>Bring out the best robe and put *it* on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on *his* feet.’<sup>23</sup> ‘And bring the fatted calf here and kill *it*, and let us eat and be merry;’<sup>24</sup> <sup>a</sup> ‘for this my son was dead and is \_\_\_\_\_ again; he was lost and is found.’ And they began to be merry.



Read the **FOOTNOTE** on Luke 15:12, page 1545 (N 1418).

★ What does the **FOOTNOTE** say about the nature of the younger son?

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Read the **FOOTNOTE** on Luke 15:18, 19, page 1545 (N 1418).

★ What are the three things that are essential in repentance?

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# Growing Deep and Strong



Read the **FOOTNOTE** on Luke 15:21, page 1545 (N 1418).

- ★ What response does the father make toward his younger son?

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Read the **FOOTNOTE** on Luke 15:22-24, page 1545 (N 1418).

- ★ What two things does genuine repentance bring about?

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- ★ Write down briefly what it means to you that God is love.

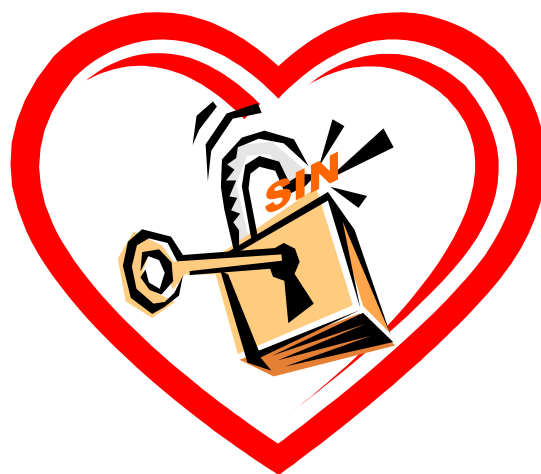
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# Growing Deep and Strong

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## B) GOD IS ETERNAL. No beginning, no end.



Turn to **Psalm 90:2**, page 832 (N 756).  
Fill in the missing words.

Verse 2. b \_\_\_\_\_ the mountains were brought forth, or ever You <sup>1</sup>had formed the earth and the world, even from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_, You *are* God.

Both the Old Testament and the New Testament show that God had no beginning and He has no end.



## C) GOD IS UNCHANGEABLE (Immutable)



Turn to **Malachi 3:6a**, page 1386 (N 1271).  
Fill in the missing words.

Verse 6 “For I *am* the Lord <sup>a</sup>, I do not \_\_\_\_\_;



Turn to **Psalm 102:27**, page 841 (N 764).  
Fill in the missing words.

Verse 27 But <sup>a</sup> You *are* the \_\_\_\_\_, And Your years will have no \_\_\_\_\_



Isn't it great that God never changes, even though we may change? He is always the same, and that is why we can rely on Him.

# Growing Deep and Strong

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## D) GOD IS ALL POWERFUL (Omnipotent)



Turn to **Genesis 18:14**, page 31 (N 28).  
Fill in the missing words.

God said this about Himself.

Verse 14 a “Is anything too \_\_\_\_\_ for the \_\_\_\_\_?” b At the appointed time I will return to you, according to the time of life, and Sarah shall have a son.”



In the society of Abraham’s time it was regarded as a curse to be barren. What makes this statement of God significant is that Abraham was 100 years old and his wife Sarah was 90 years old (Genesis 17:17). Abraham and Sarah would have long given up on having any children, yet nothing is too hard for God. In Genesis 15:5 God promises Abraham that his descendants will be like the stars too numerous to count. God kept this promise, and caused it to come to pass.



Turn to **Matthew 19:26**, page 1442 (N 1326).  
Fill in the missing words.

This is what Jesus said about God.

Verse 26 But Jesus looked at *them* and said to them,  
“With men this is \_\_\_\_\_, but <sup>a</sup> with God  
all things are \_\_\_\_\_.”

Jesus Christ, the Son of God recognizes the almighty power of God.



In these verses above we read that God is all-powerful. This is the God that we now believe in. His almighty power is now available to us as His children.



# Growing Deep and Strong

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## E) GOD IS ALL KNOWING (Omniscient)



Turn to **Psalm 139:1-4, 10 & 13-18**, page 871 (N 793).  
Fill in the missing words.

Verse 1 O Lord, You have searched me and \_\_\_\_\_ *me*.<sup>2 a</sup> You know my sitting down and my rising up; You <sup>b</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ my thought afar off. <sup>3 a</sup> You <sup>1</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ my path and my lying down, And are \_\_\_\_\_ with all my ways. <sup>4</sup> For *there is* not a word on my tongue, *But* behold, O Lord, <sup>a</sup> You know it altogether.

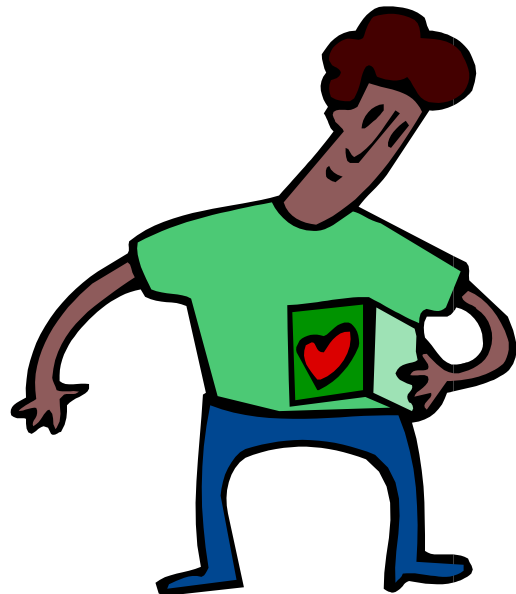
Verse 10 Even there Your hand shall lead me, And  
Your right hand shall hold me.

Verse 13 For You formed my \_\_\_\_\_ parts; You

<sup>1</sup>covered me in my mother's womb.<sup>14</sup> I will  
praise You, for<sup>1</sup> I am fearfully *and* wonderfully  
made; \*Marvelous are Your works, And *that* my  
soul knows very well. <sup>15 a</sup> My <sup>1</sup>frame was not

\_\_\_\_\_ from You, When I was made in  
secret, *And* skillfully wrought in the lowest parts  
of the earth. <sup>16</sup> Your eyes \_\_\_\_\_ my substance,

being yet \_\_\_\_\_. And in Your \_\_\_\_\_ they all were written, the days  
fashioned for me, when as *yet there were* none of them. <sup>17 a</sup> How precious also are  
Your \_\_\_\_\_ to me, O God! How great is the sum of them! <sup>18</sup> *If* I should  
count them, they would be more in number than the sand; When I awake, I am still  
with You.



### OPTIONAL READING

**Psalm 147:5**, page 877 (N 798).

# Growing Deep and Strong



Turn to **Ephesians 1:4a**, page 1787 (N 1645).  
Fill in the missing words.

Verse 4a. Just as <sup>a</sup> He \_\_\_\_\_ us in Him <sup>b</sup> before the foundation  
of the world...



God knows the end from the beginning. That is why He was able to choose us from the beginning. Isn't it tremendous that God knows everything about the universe, but also every detail about us as well? He knows us in every detail! That is why we can be confident in His great care for us.

## F) GOD IS EVERYWHERE (Omnipresent)

God is unlimited by time, space or gravity. God is above and beyond the universe; in fact, the whole universe depends upon Him for its very existence. He is everywhere present in the entire universe at the same time. The Bible says that God fills all things. There is nowhere where God is not present.

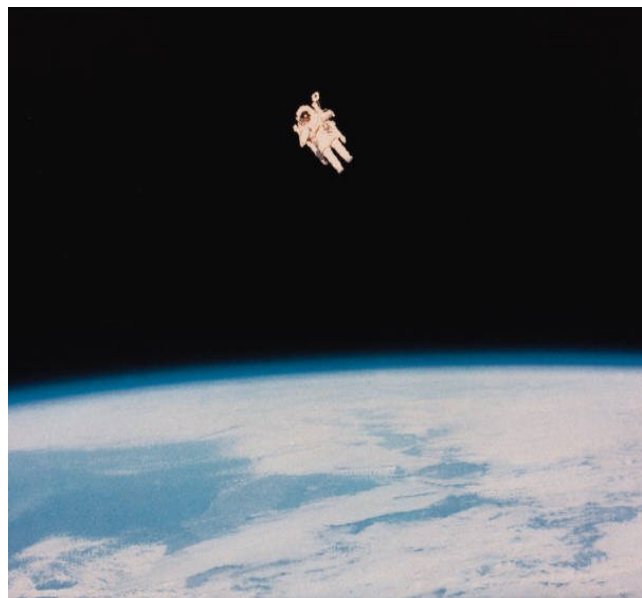
On the other hand, Satan and his demonic hosts, who are created beings, are unable to be everywhere at once.

Lets look at the Bible to confirm this.



Turn to **Psalms 139:7-10**, page 877 (N 793).  
Fill in the missing words.

Verse 7 <sup>a</sup> Where can I \_\_\_\_ from Your \*Spirit? Or  
where can I \_\_\_\_\_ from Your presence? <sup>8</sup> <sup>a</sup> If I  
ascend into heaven, You *are* there; <sup>b</sup> If I make  
my bed in <sup>1</sup>hell, behold, You *are* \_\_\_\_\_. <sup>9</sup> If I  
take the wings of the morning, *And* dwell in  
the uttermost parts of the sea, <sup>10</sup> Even there  
Your hand shall lead me, And Your right hand  
shall hold me.



## OPTIONAL READING

**Jeremiah 23:23 & 24**, page 1092 (N 992).

# Growing Deep and Strong



Wherever we are, God is there with us; there is nowhere that we can flee from the presence of God. That's why He says to His people, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." (See **Hebrews 13:5**.)



## OPTIONAL READING

**Hebrews 13:6**, page 1889 (N 1746).  
Read the **WORD WEALTH 'helper'**, page 1889 (N 1746).



Turn to **Matthew 18:20**, page 1440 (N 1324).  
Fill in the missing words.

Verse 20 "For where two or three are \_\_\_\_\_  
a together in My name, I am \_\_\_\_\_ in the  
midst of them."



What an exciting prospect, to think that when we get together, when we meet in His name, God is right there in our midst!

## G) GOD IS RIGHTEOUS AND JUST

God is a **moral** being, who has moral characteristics. Man, created in the image and likeness of God, is a moral being also. Animals are amoral, having no morality, because they were not created in God's image and likeness. We humans cannot be amoral, despite some claims that we can, because we have been created in God's likeness as moral beings. Therefore we are either immoral or moral in all that we do, never amoral.



## OPTIONAL READING

**Romans 3:23**, page 1691 (N 1553).  
**Romans 6:23**, page 1697 (N 1559).

# Growing Deep and Strong



Turn to **1 John 1:9**, page 1928 (N 1784).  
Fill in the missing words.

Verse 9. If we <sup>a</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ our sins, He is <sup>b</sup> faithful and just to \_\_\_\_\_ us *our* sins  
and to \_\_\_\_\_ us from all <sup>\*</sup>unrighteousness.

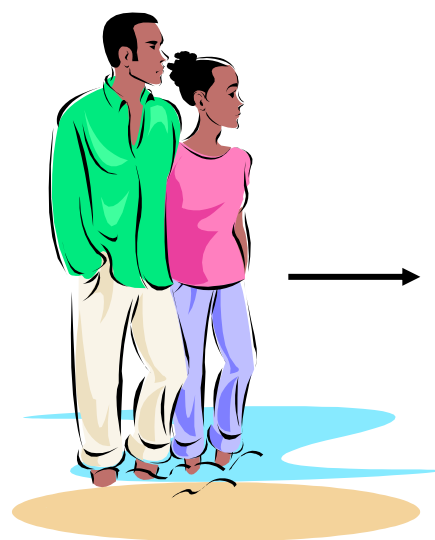


Do you remember the presentation, “©Behind the Scenes” that you saw prior to starting this course? How did it describe sin? Let’s go back and take another look at how sin was defined.

## SIN DEFINITION

It means to:

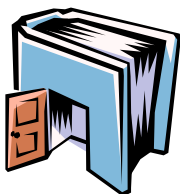
- ✗ Take the wrong course, walk away from God
- ✗ Keep missing the mark in our relationship with God
- ✗ Deeds of disobedience to divine laws
- ✗ An offence in relation to God.



Turn to **Jeremiah 17:9 & 10**, page 1083 (N 984).  
Fill in the missing words.

Verse 9 “The heart<sup>\*</sup> is \_\_\_\_\_ above all *things* and <sup>1</sup>desperately \_\_\_\_\_; who  
can know it? <sup>10</sup> I, the Lord, <sup>a</sup> search the heart, *I* test the <sup>1</sup>mind, <sup>b</sup> even to give every  
man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his doings.

The Bible tells us that we are sinners by nature. We have inherited a genetically transmitted disease, called sin. No one escapes this disease. It infects everyone, and is seen most clearly by the condition of the heart. It “has the footprints of hell all over it” says Jeremiah. That is why Jesus had to be born as a human being, the only perfect Man to have ever lived, so that as a human without sin, He could pay the price that we could not pay, so that sin could be dealt with and put away.



## OPTIONAL READING

Read the **WORD WEALTH** definition on heart<sup>\*</sup>. See **Psalms 37:4**, page 784 (N 714).

# Growing Deep and Strong

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Turn to **Psalm 103: 2-4 & 12**, page 841 (N 764).  
Fill in the missing words.

Verse 2 \*Bless the Lord, O my soul, And forget not all His benefits: <sup>3</sup> <sup>a</sup> Who

\_\_\_\_\_ all your iniquities, Who <sup>b</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ all your diseases,<sup>4</sup> Who

<sup>\*</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ your life from destruction, <sup>a</sup> Who

crowns you with lovingkindness and tender

mercies.

Verse 12 As far as the east is from the west, *So* far

has He <sup>a</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ our <sup>\*</sup> \_\_\_\_\_



from us.



Read the **WORD WEALTH** on **forgives**.

★ In your own words, write down what this and the verses we have just looked at mean to you.

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# Growing Deep and Strong

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## H) ETERNAL LIFE



Turn to **Romans 6:22 & 23**, page 1697 (N 1559).  
Fill in the missing words.

Verse 22 But now <sup>a</sup> having been set\* \_\_\_\_\_ from sin, and having become slaves of God, you have your fruit <sup>1</sup> to holiness, and the end, \_\_\_\_\_ life. <sup>23</sup> <sup>a</sup> For the wages of sin *is* death, but <sup>b</sup> the <sup>1</sup> gift\* of God *is* \_\_\_\_\_ life in Christ Jesus our Lord.



**Eternal life started from the moment you accepted Jesus Christ into your life.** You have become an eternal being who now has eternal life. You can enjoy the benefits of eternal life right here and now. And, as Jesus said, this is life in all its fullness. What a great way to live! Then, when you leave your physical body you will go and live with God in heaven forever and continue to enjoy eternal life.

When do we get eternal life? What happens then after we die physically?  
The moment we believe in Jesus, eternal life starts. We enjoy abundant life as part of eternal life here and now. It continues when we die. It doesn't stop; it just gets better.

# Growing Deep and Strong

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## I) LIGHT OF LIFE



Turn to **John 8:12**, page 1589 (N 1458).  
Fill in the missing words.

Verse 12 Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, <sup>a</sup>“**I am the \_\_\_\_\_ of the world. He who <sup>b</sup>follows Me shall not walk in \* \_\_\_\_\_, but have the light of \_\_\_\_\_.’**”



Turn to **John 3:16**, page 1578 (N 1447).  
Fill in the missing words.

Verse 16 a “**For God so \_\_\_\_\_ the world that He gave His only begotten <sup>b</sup> \_\_\_\_\_, that whoever \*believes in Him should not \* \_\_\_\_\_ but have \_\_\_\_\_ life.**”

Because God **is** life, He was able to breathe life into man when he was created. God, as the Author of life, gives that same gift to every human being since.

In contrast to the ruler of the kingdom of Darkness, Satan, who hates God and mankind with vehement hatred, and is the enemy of mankind, **God** loves us with an everlasting love. He loves us so much that He gave the best He had. He was willing to allow His Son to die on the cross for us, that we could come out of the kingdom of darkness and be reconciled with Him in the kingdom of Light. The Ruler of the kingdom of Light is love, and that that is the major characteristic of His kingdom, too.



Next time we want to look at:

Jesus, God’s Son, and why He came to this earth for us.

# Growing Deep and Strong

## PERSONAL DISCOVERY REVIEW

Your coach will discuss some of these questions the next time you meet.

1. What does ELOHIM mean? (Page 77).
2. What are the three distinct parts of God? (Page 77).
3. Who is the source of wisdom and revelation? (Page 79).
4. What does the “eyes of your understanding being enlightened” mean to you? (Page 79).
5. What does **Psalm 32:8** mean to you? (Page 80).
6. What revelation of God did you learn from the story of the lost son? (Pages 81 & 82)
7. What does the **FOOTNOTE** for **Luke 15:12** say about the nature of the younger son? Can you relate to that in your own life? How? (Page 82).
8. **FOOTNOTE** for **Luke 15:18 & 19**. What are three things essential in repentance? (Page 82).
9. **FOOTNOTE** for **Luke 15:21**. What was the father’s response? What relevance is that to God and you? (Page 83).
10. **FOOTNOTE** for **Luke 15:22-24**. What are the two things that genuine repentance brings? (Page 83).
11. What does it mean to you that “God is love”? (Page 83).
12. What does it mean to you that God is unchangeable, all powerful, all knowing and everywhere? (Pages 84-87).
13. What is your understanding on **WORD WEALTH** on “forgives”, **Psalm 103:3**? (Page 90).
14. What is your understanding of “eternal life”? (Page 91).



Congratulations! You have successfully completed this week’s Personal Discovery!

Coach’s Name \_\_\_\_\_

Coach’s Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_





# Growing Deep and Strong



# The “ah-ha!” and “I don’t understand!” page



Write down any “gold nuggets” that you have discovered that you want to share with your facilitator, or any questions about things you do not understand.

This image shows a full page of white paper with horizontal black ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page, typical of notebook or legal stationery. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the page.