

# ***WALKING WITH GOD:***

***Drawing  
Closer To  
The Father  
Everyday***



*“Draw near to God and He will draw near to you.”*  
**James 4:8 (NKJV)**

*A Twelve Week Series of Lessons  
Sunday Morning – Teen Class  
GULF SHORES CHURCH OF CHRIST  
Fall Quarter – 2008*

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# *GULF SHORES CHURCH OF CHRIST*

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Blessings

- I. **GOD IS OUR HEAVENLY FATHER - Matthew 6:9, 23:37, I John 3:1**
  - A. What are some of the blessings we receive as a result of God being our Father?
  - B. What are some of the privileges we enjoy as a result of these blessings?
  - C. What responsibilities do we have as God’s children because of these blessings?
  
- II. **JESUS CHRIST IS OUR LORD AND HIGH PRIEST - I Corinthians 8:6, Hebrews 4:14**
  - A. What are some of the blessings we receive as a result of Jesus being our High Priest?
  - B. What are some of the privileges we enjoy as a result of Jesus being our High Priest?
  - C. What responsibilities do we have as a result of Jesus being our High Priest?
  
- III. **THE HOLY SPIRIT PERSONALLY DWELLS IN US - Acts 2:38-39, I Corinthians 3:16**
  - A. What are some of the blessings we receive as a result of the H.S. dwelling in us?
  - B. What are some of the privileges we enjoy as a result of the H.S. dwelling in us?
  - C. What responsibilities do we have as a result of the H.S. dwelling in us?
  
- IV. **THE CHURCH IS OUR FAMILY - Matthew 12:46-50, I Timothy 3:15**
  - A. What are some of the blessings we receive as a result of the church being our family?
  - B. What are some of the privileges we enjoy as a result of the church being our family?
  - C. What responsibilities do we have as a result of the church being our family?
  
- V. **DRAWING CLOSER TO GOD BECAUSE OF BLESSINGS**
  - A. How can recognizing these blessings and privileges make us more faithful?
  - B. How can recognizing these blessings and privileges draw us closer to God?
  - C. What will happen to us if we refuse to recognize our responsibilities?



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Discipleship

- I. THE CLASSIFICATION OF A DISCIPLE – **Matthew 28:18-20, Luke 6:40, Romans 8:29**
  - A. What does the word “disciple” actually mean?
  - B. What is the goal of being a disciple?
  
- II. THE CHARACTER OF A DISCIPLE – **John 8:31, 13:34-35, 15:8**
  - A. How can disciples abide in the word of Christ?
  - B. How can disciples love each other?
  - C. How can disciples bear much fruit?
  
- III. THE COST OF BEING A DISCIPLE – **Matthew 6:33, 10:34-37, Luke 9:23-25, 14:26-27**
  - A. Who must come first? Why?
  - B. Is there any suffering involved with discipleship? Explain.
  
- IV. THE COMPENSATION FOR BEING A DISCIPLE – **John 14:27, 15:11, Romans 5:9**
  - A. What future blessings are we promised for being a disciple?
  - B. What present blessings are we promised for being a disciple?
  
- V. THE COMMENCEMENT OF BECOMING A DISCIPLE – **Matthew 28:18-20**
  - A. What role does baptism play in discipleship?
  - B. What should a disciple do after baptism?
  
- VI. DRAWING CLOSER TO GOD BECAUSE OF DISCIPLESHIP
  - A. How can recognizing our work as true disciples draw us closer to God?
  - B. What are the benefits of true discipleship to each believer and to the church?
  - C. What will happen to us if we refuse to practice true discipleship?



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Evangelism

- I. EVANGELISTIC CHURCHES LOVE – **John 13:34-35, I Corinthians 13, I Peter 4:8-9**
  - A. How does our love prove our submissiveness?
  - B. How does our love prove our usefulness?
  - C. How does our love prove our faithfulness?
  
- II. EVANGELISTIC CHURCHES LOOK – **Luke 15:1-7, 19:10, Galatians 6:1-2**
  - A. How important is it for us to look for opportunities?
  - B. How important is it for us to look for the lost sheep?
  - C. How important is it for us to watch and pray daily?
  
- III. EVANGELISTIC CHURCHES LISTEN – **Acts 17:11, I Cor. 3:5-7, 16:13, Colossians 4:3**
  - A. How does being watchful and praying help us to listen to God?
  - B. Who will give me the opportunities? Wisdom of words? Give the increase?
  
- IV. EVANGELISTIC CHURCHES LEARN – **Acts 17:11, II Timothy 3:16-17, I Peter 2:12**
  - A. How can we learn to reach a more receptive audience?
  - B. How can we learn what to say and how to react to people?
  
- V. EVANGELISTIC CHURCHES LIVE – **Romans 12:13, 16:16, Hebrews 13:2**
  - A. How can being evangelistic, or at least inviting people, keep us alive as a church?
  - B. How can being evangelistic prepare our hearts?
  
- VI. DRAWING CLOSER TO GOD BECAUSE OF EVANGELISM
  - A. How can recognizing our need for evangelism draw us closer to God?
  - B. What are the benefits of evangelism to each believer and to the church?



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Good Works

- I. THE PURPOSE OF GOOD WORKS – **Ephesians 2:8-10, Titus 2:11-14, 3:1, 4-8, 14**
  - A. Can we earn or buy our way into heaven? Explain.
  - B. Are we required to do good works? Explain.
  - C. If we are required to do them, but we cannot be saved because of them, why do them?
  
- II. THE PLEASURE OF GOOD WORKS – **Matthew 5:16, James 2:14-17, I Peter 2:11-12**
  - A. How can our good works bring glory to God?
  - B. How can our good works prepare unbelievers to be more receptive to the gospel?
  - C. How can our good works demonstrate the living nature of our faith?
  
- III. THE PRACTICE OF GOOD WORKS – **Galatians 6:1-2, Hebrews 3:12-13, I Peter 2:9-10**
  - A. What is the difference between spiritual works and physical works?
  - B. How can telling others of God’s grace be a good work?
  - C. How can encouraging other Christians be a good work?
  - D. What kind of good works did Jesus perform while He was on the earth?
  - E. What are some good works that we can do today?
  
- VI. DRAWING CLOSER TO GOD BECAUSE OF GOOD WORKS
  - A. Could we draw closer to God without performing good works? Explain.
  - B. Why is it so hard for us to do good works?
  - C. How can recognizing our need for good works draw us closer to God?
  - D. What are the benefits of good works to each believer and to the church?



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Knowledge

- I. WE MUST GROW – **I Corinthians 3:1-3, I Peter 2:1-3, II Peter 1:1-4**
  - A. Why do people refuse to grow and mature spiritually?
  - B. What are the dangers of not maturing or experiencing growth?
  - C. How us our lack of knowledge hindered our growth as a church?
  
- II. WE MUST GROW IN OUR RELATIONSHIP TO THE LORD – **II Peter 1:5-8**
  - A. What are the Christian graces, or virtues, and why are they required of us?
  - B. Why does Peter tell us to abound in these eight attributes?
  - C. What are the benefits of having these eight attributes?
  
- III. WE MUST GROW IN OUR RELATIONSHIP TO EACH OTHER – **II Peter 1:9-11**
  - A. How can we know that each attribute is necessary and equal to the previous?
  - B. Applying these attributes requires diligent effort. How can we do it?
  - C. Why should we attempt this transformation?
  
- IV. WE MUST GROW IN OUR RELATIONSHIP TO THE TRUTH – **II Peter 1:10-11**
  - A. How is life and godliness impacted by what I know about the truth?
  - B. How can knowing the truth keep me from experiencing spiritual amnesia?
  - C. How can knowing the truth keep me from stumbling?
  - D. How can not knowing the truth keep me from entering the kingdom?
  
- V. DRAWING CLOSER TO GOD BECAUSE OF KNOWLEDGE
  - A. How can recognizing our need for knowledge draw us closer to God?
  - B. What are the benefits of knowledge to each believer and to the church?



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Maturity

- I. WE HINDER OUR MATURITY – **I Corinthians 3:1-3, Hebrews 2:1, 5:13**
  - A. How does our lack of effort hinder our maturity?
  - B. How does not using our talents hinder our maturity?
  
- II. PEOPLE HINDER OUR MATURITY – **Matthew 13, II Corinthians 4:8-9, Galatians 6:9**
  - A. How does discouragement hinder our maturity?
  - B. Why do other people try to interfere with our maturity?
  
- III. SATAN WILL HINDER OUR MATURITY – **Matthew 13, I Peter 2:1-3, 5:8-11**
  - A. Why does Satan not want us to reach full maturity?
  - B. What will Satan do to keep us from reaching maturity?
  - C. How can we resist Satan and keep on maturing in Christ?
  
- IV. WE CAN DEVELOP MATURITY – **I Corinthians 3:1-3, 13:1-13, I Peter 2:1-3**
  - A. How can becoming active in the work of the congregation help us to mature?
  - B. How can starting programs, or working in ministries, help us to mature?
  - C. How can daily devotions and Bible study help us to mature?
  - D. How can teaching and serving help us to mature?
  - E. How can evaluating our lives regularly help us to mature?
  
- V. DRAWING CLOSER TO GOD BECAUSE OF MATURITY
  - A. How can recognizing our need for maturity draw us closer to God?
  - B. What are the benefits of maturity to each believer and to the church?





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Prayer

- I. THE PURPOSE OF PRAYER – **Matthew 6:5-15, Acts 2:42, I Thessalonians 5:17**
  - A. Why are Christians required to pray to God?
  - B. What is your goal when you offer up a prayer?
  
- II. THE PRACTICE OF PRAYER – **Matthew 6:5-6, 18:19-20, Acts 2:42**
  - A. What are the benefits of praying alone, in secret?
  - B. What are the benefits of praying with a small group?
  - C. What are the benefits of praying in a large group or with the church?
  
- III. THE PATTERN OF PRAYER – **Luke 11:1-4**
  - A. Who are some great Biblical examples of those who believed in prayer?
  - C. How much of our prayers include praise and adoration?
  - C. How much of our prayers include requests and supplication?
  
- IV. THE PEOPLE OF PRAYER – **Jeremiah 29:7, Matthew 6:11, John 17, Ephesians 6:4**
  - A. Why should we pray for ourselves and for our family?
  - B. Why should we pray for church and for the non-believers in the world?
  - C. Why should we pray for the community and for our nation?
  - D. Why should we pray for the sick, the poor, and the oppressed?
  
- V. DRAWING CLOSER TO GOD BECAUSE OF PRAYER
  - A. What are some obstacles we encounter when we pray?
  - B. How can recognizing our need for prayer draw us closer to God?
  - C. What are the benefits of prayer to each believer and to the church?



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Study

- I. BIBLE STUDY IS IMPORTANT – **Psalm 19:7-11, 119:9, John 12:48, 17:17, James 1:21**
  - A. What kind of power does the Bible possess?
  - B. How does the Bible possess the power of sanctification?
  - D. How does the Bible possess the power of preservation?
  - D. How does the Bible possess the power of salvation?
- II. BIBLE STUDY IS IMPERITIVE – **Matthew 6:33, Acts 18:24-26, Ephesians 3:3-4**
  - A. Why is it dangerous just to take the preacher at his word?
  - B. How can people say that they cannot understand the Bible?
  - C. Why do people say that they don't have time to read and study the Bible?
- III. BIBLE STUDY IS INFORMATIVE – **Acts 17:11, II Timothy 2:15, I Peter 3:15**
  - A. What are the benefits of a following a planned study?
  - B. What are the benefits of a topical study?
  - C. What are the benefits of a book-by-book study of the Bible?
- IV. BIBLE STUDY IS INCREDIBLE – **Psalm 119:10-11, II Timothy 3:16-17**
  - A. How can having a set time for Bible study benefit my Christian walk?
  - B. How can Bible study and prayer together make me stronger spiritually?
  - C. How can utilizing Bible helps allow my study to be more effective?
- V. DRAWING CLOSER TO GOD BECAUSE OF BIBLE STUDY
  - A. How can recognizing our need for Bible study draw us closer to God?
  - B. What are the benefits of Bible study to each believer and to the church?



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Temptation

- I. TEMPTATION CAN HINDER OUR CONDUCT – **Galatians 5:19-21, Ephesians 5:3-7**
  - A. Why are we tempted to do things that are specifically condemned by God?
  - B. Why are we tempted to do things that are not specifically condemned by God?
  - C. How is Satan still able to persuade us that these things are okay for a Christian?
  
- II. TEMPTATION CAN HINDER OUR CONSCIENCE – **Romans 14:23, I Timothy 3:9**
  - A. Why is it important to have a good conscience?
  - B. What will happen if we do things that violate our conscience?
  
- III. TEMPTATION CAN HINDER OUR CONTROL – **Titus 2:1-8, Hebrews 5:14**
  - A. Why should we notice the actions of mature Christians and allow that to influence us?
  - B. Why did Paul instruct the older to teach the younger Christians?
  - C. Why is self-control such an asset to every Christian, especially our leaders?
  
- IV. TEMPTATION CAN HINDER OUR CHARACTER – **I Corinthians 9:19-23, 10:31-11:1**
  - A. Why should we worry about how we look to others?
  - B. Why is it so important to set a good example for other Christians?
  - C. How can temptation lead us to even more sin?
  - D. Why is it important to ask what Jesus would do?
  
- V. DRAWING CLOSER TO GOD BECAUSE OF TEMPTATION
  - A. How can learning more about Satan and his works help us in dealing with temptation?
  - B. How can dealing with temptation draw us closer to God?
  - C. What are the benefits of temptation to each believer and to the church?



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The Church

- I. **THE CHURCH IS REAL – Matthew 16:18, Acts 2:47, Romans 16:16, I Timothy 3:15**
  - A. How do we know that the church was established?
  - B. What is the difference between the local church and the universal church?
  - C. How can we keep the church restored and real?
  - D. Why do people refuse to believe that the church is the kingdom of God?
- II. **THE CHURCH IS RESPONSIBLE – Romans 12:3-8, Ephesians 4:11-16, Hebrews 10:24-25**
  - A. Why should we join ourselves to a local church?
  - B. How should we cooperate with the leaders of the church?
  - C. What is the difference between members, teachers, ministers, deacons, and elders?
  - D. How can we contribute to the regular work of the church?
  - E. What are our responsibilities as members of the church?
- III. **THE CHURCH IS RELIABLE – John 17, I Corinthians 1:10-13, I Timothy 5:14**
  - A. Why are we told to be faithful to the church?
  - B. Why is the church required to be unified and united?
  - C. How can we seek unity as a body of believers?
  - D. What things should we do to live in a way that speaks well of the church?
- IV. **DRAWING CLOSER TO GOD BECAUSE OF THE CHURCH**
  - A. What would we do without the church? How essential is it to our growth?
  - B. How can recognizing our need for the church of Christ draw us closer to God?
  - C. What are the benefits of the church to each believer and to every congregation?



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Victory

- I. THE PROGRESSIVE NATURE OF SIN – **Isaiah 59:2, James 1:14-15, Revelation 21:8**
  - A. How are we tempted to sin? Explain.
  - B. What leads us to sin? Why?
  - C. What are the consequences of sin if we do not repent of it?
  - D. What do we know about the development of sin?
  
- II. THE POWER TO OVERCOME SIN – **Matthew 6:13, Romans 12:2, I Corinthians 10:13**
  - A. Do we have the ability to change our desires?
  - B. How can we limit our opportunities to sin?
  - C. How can we exercise self-control and perseverance?
  - D. How can we obtain forgiveness from our sins?
  
- III. THE PROVIDENCE THAT PROVIDES VICTORY – **John 3:16, Romans 8, James 4:17**
  - A. How does God play a role in our victory over sin?
  - B. How does Jesus Christ play a role in our victory over sin?
  - C. How does the Holy Spirit play a role in our victory over sin?
  - D. How does the church play a role in our victory over sin?
  
- IV. DRAWING CLOSER TO GOD BECAUSE OF VICTORY
  - A. How should we feel about being victorious over Satan and sin?
  - B. How can recognizing our need for victory draw us closer to God?
  - C. What are the benefits of our victory in Jesus to each believer and to the church?



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Worship

- I. THE ACTIVITIES OF WORSHIP – **Acts 2:40-47, 4:32-35, 20:7, I Corinthians 16:1-2**
  - A. How do the prayers in our worship make you feel?
  - B. How do the songs in our worship make you feel?
  - C. How do the sermons and scripture readings in our worship make you feel?
  - D. How does observing the Lord’s Supper in our worship make you feel?
  - E. How does collecting the offering in our worship make you feel?
  
- II. THE ATTITUDES OF WORSHIP – **John 4:24, I Corinthians 14:25, I John 3:16-19**
  - A. How can your attitude help or hinder the worship of the church?
  - B. How can thinking about the other people present help our worship?
  - C. How can you get the most out of every Bible class and worship service?
  - D. Is it possible to walk away from every assembly edified? Explain.
  
- III. THE APPROVAL OF WORSHIP – **Matthew 6:1-18, John 4:21-24, Philippians 3:3-6**
  - A. What is the purpose of our worship?
  - B. How much of our worship is meant for God?
  - C. How much of our worship is meant for the church?
  - D. Is it wrong to change our worship in order to make it more enjoyable to us? Explain.
  
- IV. DRAWING CLOSER TO GOD BECAUSE OF WORSHIP
  - A. How can our worship be more effective?
  - B. How can recognizing our need for worship draw us closer to God?
  - C. What are the benefits of worship to each believer and to the church?