



DISCIPLE



A DISCIPLE IS...

A Disciple of Jesus is **loved**, **called**, and **saved** by Jesus. Because of Jesus' love and lordship, a disciple loves Jesus, bears spiritual fruit for Him, and makes other disciples of Jesus. Disciples do these things together with other disciples as God's people, His church.

John 15:8 - *By this my Father is glorified, that you **bear much fruit** and so **prove to be my disciples**.*

HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

The lessons in this book will guide you through the basics of life as a Disciple of Jesus. Gather with other disciples to study the Bible's teaching on following Jesus.

Each lesson teaches a basic part of being Jesus' disciple. The lessons follow a 3-part pattern:

1. **Light and Fellowship:** Walking in the light means revealing what's in our hearts to one another. That openness brings us together in fellowship. During this time we walk in the light by confessing sin, sharing struggles, and looking back at how God is at work in our lives.
2. **Word and Spirit:** The Word of God, the Bible, and the Spirit of God are the main ways that we grow together as disciples. During this time we learn from God's Word by the power of the Spirit.
3. **Abide and Obey:** A Disciple loves and obeys Jesus. During this time of the lesson we discuss how we can abide in Jesus by obeying what we have learned from God's Word.

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REPENT AND BELIEVE THE GOSPEL

Light & Fellowship(Look Back)

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. - 1 John 1:7

Let's walk in the Light together (Lead by example):

Is there any sin or struggle you need to bring in the light?

Any ways we can pray for one another?

Last time we met we talked through the Gospel, the story of Jesus.

What did God do in your life from that teaching?

Who did you tell Jesus' story to since we last met?

Word & Spirit (Look Up)

'For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart - Hebrews 4:12

Let's pray for the Spirit's help as we study the Word.

Luke 19:1-10 Read the passage twice.

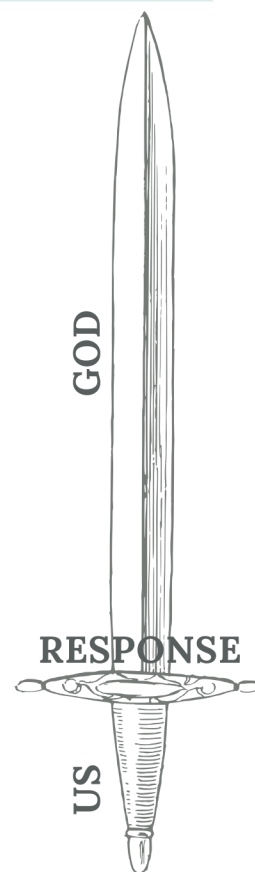
Have someone tell the story in their own words.

Look at the sword and answer the following questions.

1. What does this passage say about GOD?
2. What does this passage say about US?
3. How is the spirit leading me to respond to this passage?

Important truths -

- Jesus came to seek and save the lost.
- Jesus loves all people, no matter who they are or what they have done.
- Zacchaeus repented (turned from his sin) and followed Jesus.
- Repentance is to turn our hearts away from sin, and to put all of our trust in Jesus.



- We are saved by Grace through faith as a gift from Him. We are not saved by good works we do: Eph. 2:8-9
- If we confess the Jesus is Lord and believe in our hearts that God raised Him from the dead, we will be saved. **Rom. 10:9-10**
- Believing in Jesus and repenting of sin gives us a new life in Jesus.

Abide & Obey (Look Forward)

If you believe in Jesus from your heart and confess Him as your Lord and Savior, then you are saved. Let's read **Matthew 28:18-20** together.

This is the last thing Jesus said to his followers before going back to heaven, and they are important words for us to know and obey.

- **“Authority”** – Do you know what the word “authority” means? [Allow others to respond]. It means that Jesus is in control of all things, he rules all things, and that he is supreme. Are you willing to give Jesus all authority of your life?
- **“Disciple”** – Do you know what it means to be a “disciple?” [Allow others to respond]. A disciple is a student or follower of a teacher. He learns from the teacher, grows to be like him/her, and goes to tell others about the teacher. Are you willing to be a disciple of Jesus?
- **“Baptism”** – Do you know what it means to be “baptised?” [Allow others to respond] Baptism is a sign of our new life in Jesus. It shows to others who are watching what Jesus has done for us when he saved us from our sin. Baptism shows that we have died to our old, sinful way of life and are live a new life in Jesus. Are you willing to obey Jesus and be baptised soon?
- **“Obey/Observe”** – In order for us to know Jesus, have a relationship with him, and obey him, we must know and obey the holy scriptures that He gave us, the Bible. Are you willing to meet with me and others to study the Bible, so that together we can love and obey Jesus?
- **“I am with you always”** – Jesus promises that he will be with his followers to the end of time. He will never leave you or abandon you. How does this make you feel?

If you say **YES** to all these things, then you are ready to turn your heart and believe in Jesus for salvation. You can pray to Jesus to confess your love for Him. You should plan to continue through this Disciple teaching with others.

If you cannot affirm these 5 points, then set a time and place to meet up to start the Reflections study.

RECEIVE THE HOLY SPIRIT

Light & Fellowship(Look Back)

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. - 1 John 1:7

Let's walk in the Light together (Lead by example):

Is there any sin or struggle you need to bring in the light?

Any ways we can pray for one another?

What did we discuss last meeting? Do you remember the story?

What did God do in your life from that teaching?

Who did you tell Jesus' story to since we last met?

Word & Spirit (Look Up)

'For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart - Hebrews 4:12

Let's pray for the Spirit's help as we study the Word.

John 14:15-30 Read the passage twice.

Have someone tell the story in their own words.

Look at the sword and answer the following questions.

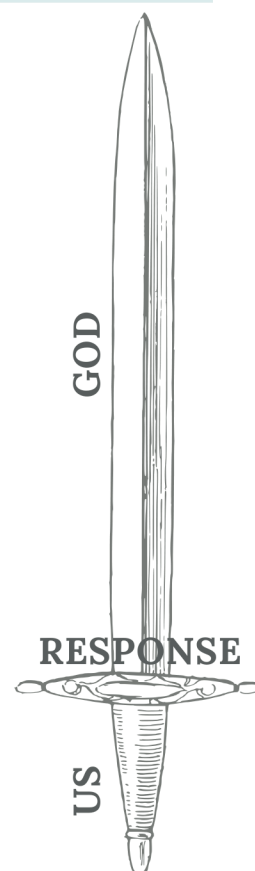
1. What does this passage say about GOD?
2. What does this passage say about US?
3. How is the spirit leading me to respond to this passage?

Important truths -

- The Spirit lives inside of us forever, and through the Spirit the Father and Son come to live with us.
- The Spirit is our Helper who gives us power to live for Jesus.
- The Spirit teaches us Jesus' Words.
- We receive the Spirit when we believe in Jesus and are born again.

Eph. 1:13

- The Spirit produces spiritual fruit in our lives, the Fruit of the Spirit: **Gal. 5:22-23**
- The Spirit gives us gifts to build up the church and to serve Jesus.



BE BAPTISED

Light & Fellowship(Look Back)

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. - 1 John 1:7

Let's walk in the Light together (Lead by example):

Is there any sin or struggle you need to bring in the light?

Any ways we can pray for one another?

What did we discuss last meeting? Do you remember the story?

What did God do in your life from that teaching?

Who did you tell Jesus' story to since we last met?

Word & Spirit (Look Up)

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Let's pray for the Spirit's help as we study the Word.

Acts 8:26-40 Read the passage twice.

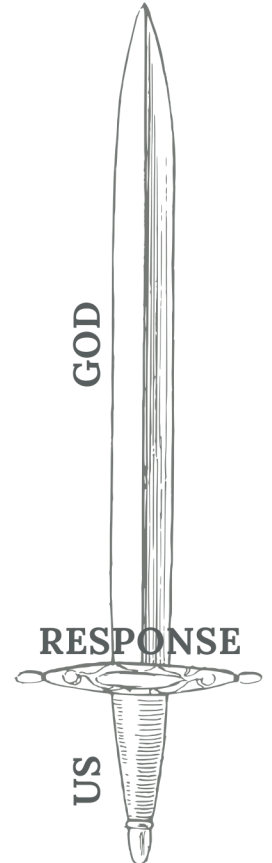
Have someone tell the story in their own words.

Look at the sword and answer the following questions.

1. What does this passage say about GOD?
2. What does this passage say about US?
3. How is the spirit leading me to respond to this passage?

Important truths -

- Just like the Philippian Jailer, when someone chooses to follow Jesus, they should immediately take baptism.
- Followers of Jesus take baptism out of obedience to Jesus.
- Baptism is a public testimony of faith in Jesus Christ.
- Baptism is a symbol of the death, burial and resurrection of Christ.
- Baptism shows others that we have died to sin and have been raised with Christ to walk in a new life. **Rom. 6:1-6**



ABIDE IN JESUS' LOVE

Light & Fellowship(Look Back)

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. - 1 John 1:7

Let's walk in the Light together (Lead by example):

Is there any sin or struggle you need to bring in the light?

Any ways we can pray for one another?

What did we discuss last meeting? Do you remember the story?

What did God do in your life from that teaching?

Who did you tell Jesus' story to since we last met?

Word & Spirit (Look Up)

'For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart - Hebrews 4:12

Let's pray for the Spirit's help as we study the Word.

John 15:1-17, focusing on v. 9. Read the passage twice.

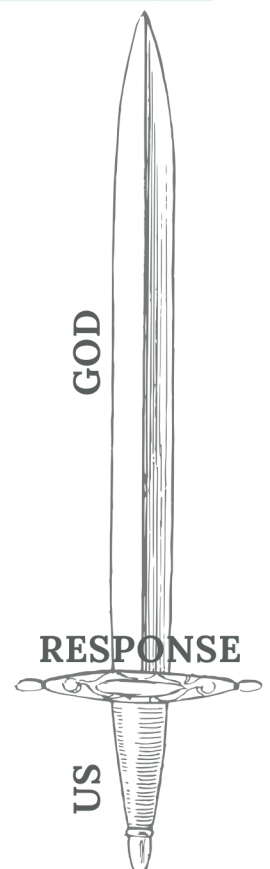
Have someone tell the story in their own words.

Look at the sword and answer the following questions.

1. What does this passage say about GOD?
2. What does this passage say about US?
3. How is the spirit leading me to respond to this passage?

Important truths -

- Abiding means being with Jesus constantly.
- Without abiding in Christ, we cannot bear good fruit.
- Jesus showed His love by laying down His life for us.
- Jesus calls us His friends.
- We did not choose Him, but He chose us and loves us.
- We did not earn His love, He freely gives it to us.
- Nothing can separate us from God's love for us in Jesus. **Rom. 8:38-39**
- Followers of Jesus should show love to one another.



Abide & Obey (Look Forward)

If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love... - **John 15:10**

How will you specifically obey this lesson?

(Lead through the specific application of the lesson—will be asked next week).

Who will you tell before our next meeting?

Let's pray that the Holy Spirit will help us to keep walking in the things we've learned.

NOTES

ABIDE IN JESUS' WORDS

Light & Fellowship(Look Back)

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. - 1 John 1:7

Let's walk in the Light together (Lead by example):

Is there any sin or struggle you need to bring in the light?

Any ways we can pray for one another?

What did we discuss last meeting? Do you remember the story?

What did God do in your life from that teaching?

Who did you tell Jesus' story to since we last met?

Word & Spirit (Look Up)

'For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart - Hebrews 4:12

Let's pray for the Spirit's help as we study the Word.

John 15:1-11, focusing on v. 7 and 2 Tim. 3:14-17. Read the passages twice.

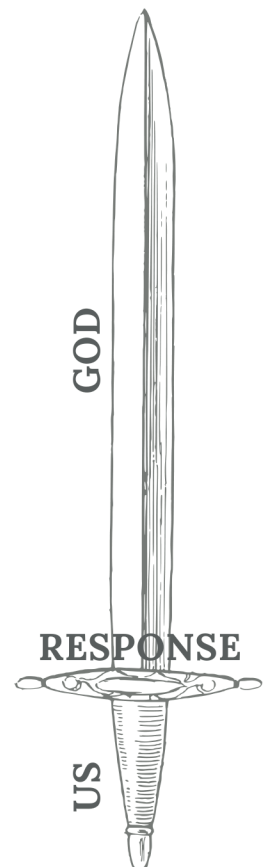
Have someone tell the story in their own words.

Look at the sword and answer the following questions.

1. What does this passage say about GOD?
2. What does this passage say about US?
3. How is the spirit leading me to respond to this passage?

Important truths -

- Without abiding in Christ, we cannot bear good fruit.
- Those who abide in Christ will bear much fruit.
- God's Words--the Bible--should abide in us.
- Abiding in His word is how we get to know God and how His Spirit works in us.
- His Word will abide in us when we read, study, and memorize the Bible.



Abide & Obey (Look Forward)

If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love... - John 15:10

How will you specifically obey this lesson?

(Lead through the specific application of the lesson—will be asked next week).

Who will you tell before our next meeting?

Let's pray that the Holy Spirit will help us to keep walking in the things we've learned.

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ABIDE IN JESUS THROUGH PRAYER

Light & Fellowship(Look Back)

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. - 1 John 1:7

Let's walk in the Light together (Lead by example):

Is there any sin or struggle you need to bring in the light?

Any ways we can pray for one another?

What did we discuss last meeting? Do you remember the story?

What did God do in your life from that teaching?

Who did you tell Jesus' story to since we last met?

Word & Spirit (Look Up)

'For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart - Hebrews 4:12

Let's pray for the Spirit's help as we study the Word.

John 15:1-11, v. 7 Read the passage twice.

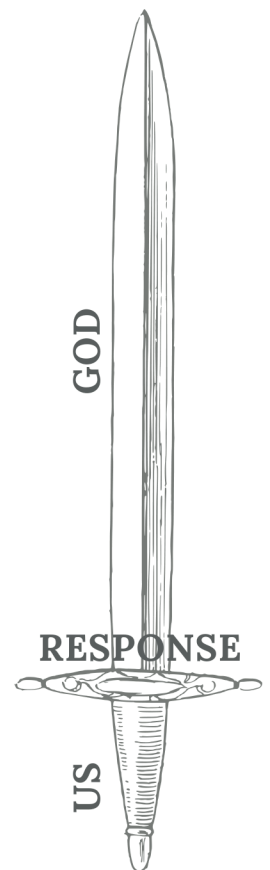
Have someone tell the story in their own words.

Look at the sword and answer the following questions.

1. What does this passage say about GOD?
2. What does this passage say about US?
3. How is the spirit leading me to respond to this passage?

Important truths -

- Without abiding in Christ, we cannot bear good fruit.
- Those who abide in Christ will bear much fruit.
- Prayer is talking with God--speaking and listening to Him.
- When we abide in Him, we ask Him for whatever we want through prayer.
- Prayer is how we ask for God's will to be done and is the source of power to transform our hearts.



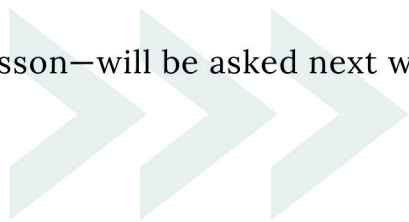
Abide & Obey (Look Forward)

If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love... - **John 15:10**

How will you specifically obey this lesson?
(Lead through the specific application of the lesson—will be asked next week).

Who will you tell before our next meeting?

Let's pray that the Holy Spirit will help us to keep walking in the things we've learned.



NOTES







ABIDE IN JESUS THROUGH OBEDIENCE

Light & Fellowship(Look Back)

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. - 1 John 1:7

Let's walk in the Light together (Lead by example):

Is there any sin or struggle you need to bring in the light?

Any ways we can pray for one another?

What did we discuss last meeting? Do you remember the story?

What did God do in your life from that teaching?

Who did you tell Jesus' story to since we last met?

Word & Spirit (Look Up)

'For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart - Hebrews 4:12

Let's pray for the Spirit's help as we study the Word.

John 15:1-11, v. 10 Read the passage twice.

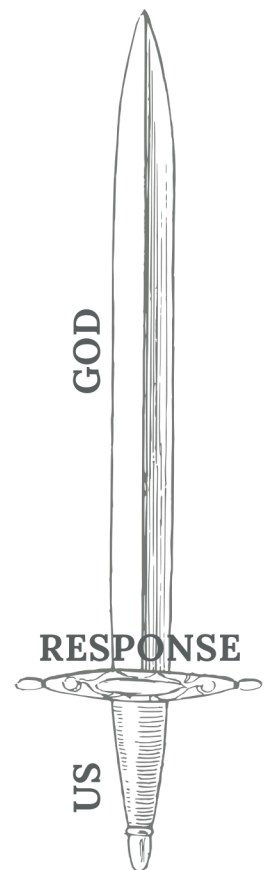
Have someone tell the story in their own words.

Look at the sword and answer the following questions.

1. What does this passage say about GOD?
2. What does this passage say about US?
3. How is the spirit leading me to respond to this passage?

Important truths -

- Without abiding in Christ, we cannot bear good fruit.
- Those who abide in Christ will bear much fruit.
- It is out of love for God that we keep His commandments.
- His love transforms us and produces joyful obedience.
- Our obedience does not earn God's love, it is the result of His love for us.



ABIDE IN JESUS BY WALKING IN THE LIGHT

Light & Fellowship(Look Back)

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. - 1 John 1:7

Let's walk in the Light together (Lead by example):

Is there any sin or struggle you need to bring in the light?

Any ways we can pray for one another?

What did we discuss last meeting? Do you remember the story?

What did God do in your life from that teaching?

Who did you tell Jesus' story to since we last met?

Word & Spirit (Look Up)

'For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart - Hebrews 4:12

Let's pray for the Spirit's help as we study the Word.

1 John 1:3-10 Read the passage twice.

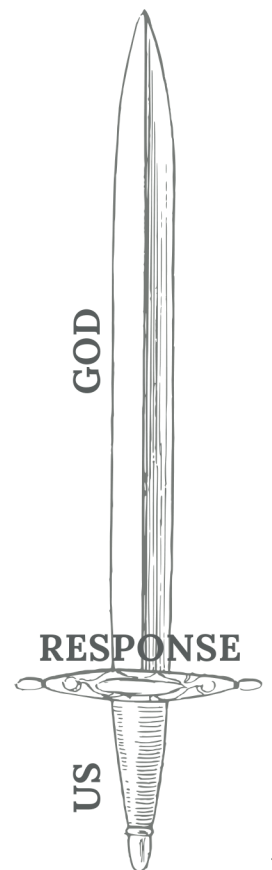
Have someone tell the story in their own words.

Look at the sword and answer the following questions.

1. What does this passage say about GOD?
2. What does this passage say about US?
3. How is the spirit leading me to respond to this passage?

Important truths -

- Without abiding in Christ, we cannot bear good fruit.
- Those who abide in Christ will bear much fruit.
- Jesus wants our joy to be complete in Him.
- Walking in the light is the way that we maintain our fellowship with the Father and others.
- We walk in the light by continually confessing our sins.
- As long as we keep things in the dark, we will be kept from full communion with Him.



ENDURE SUFFERING

Light & Fellowship(Look Back)

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. - 1 John 1:7

Let's walk in the Light together (Lead by example):

Is there any sin or struggle you need to bring in the light?

Any ways we can pray for one another?

What did we discuss last meeting? Do you remember the story?

What did God do in your life from that teaching?

Who did you tell Jesus' story to since we last met?

Word & Spirit (Look Up)

'For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart - Hebrews 4:12

Let's pray for the Spirit's help as we study the Word.

Acts 4:18-31 Read the passage twice.

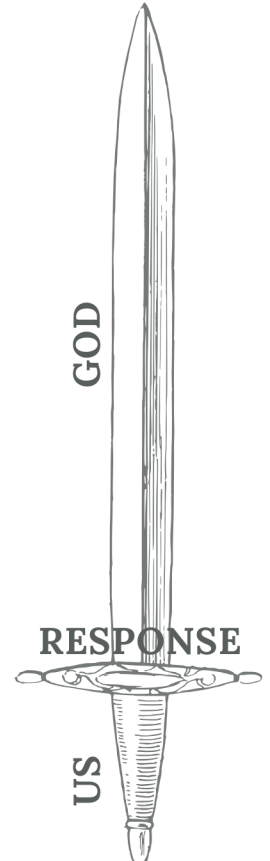
Have someone tell the story in their own words.

Look at the sword and answer the following questions.

1. What does this passage say about GOD?
2. What does this passage say about US?
3. How is the spirit leading me to respond to this passage?

Important truths -

- When we are persecuted, Jesus says that we will receive an eternal reward.
- Persecution will come to all who follow Jesus.
- Just as Peter and John did, we must obey God instead of man when persecution comes.
- God is with us when persecution comes.
- We should pray for boldness.



BE THE CHURCH

Light & Fellowship(Look Back)

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. - 1 John 1:7

Let's walk in the Light together (Lead by example):

Is there any sin or struggle you need to bring in the light?

Any ways we can pray for one another?

What did we discuss last meeting? Do you remember the story?

What did God do in your life from that teaching?

Who did you tell Jesus' story to since we last met?

Word & Spirit (Look Up)

'For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart - Hebrews 4:12

Let's pray for the Spirit's help as we study the Word.

Acts 2:36-47 Read the passage twice.

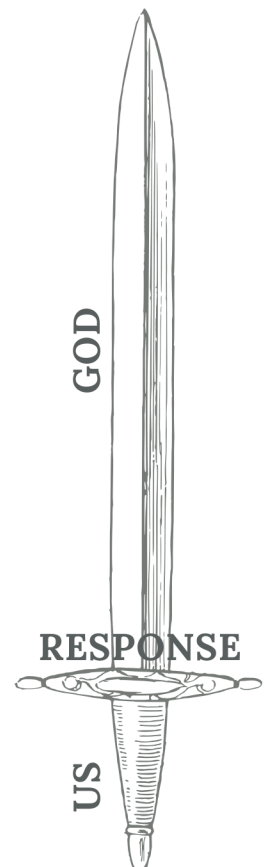
Have someone tell the story in their own words.

Look at the sword and answer the following questions.

1. What does this passage say about GOD?
2. What does this passage say about US?
3. How is the spirit leading me to respond to this passage?

Important truths -

- The Church is made up of those who repent, believe in Jesus and take baptism.
- The Church is the family of God--we are brothers and sisters in Christ.
- As the Church, we learn from God's Word, pray, take the Lord's Supper, love and serve one another and praise Jesus.
- If we will do like the first Church did, then we will grow and many more will be added to God's Kingdom.



Abide & Obey (Look Forward)

If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love... - John 15:10

How will you specifically obey this lesson?
(Lead through the specific application of the lesson—will be asked next week).

Who will you tell before our next meeting?

Let's pray that the Holy Spirit will help us to keep walking in the things we've learned.

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MAKE DISCIPLES

Light & Fellowship(Look Back)

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. - 1 John 1:7

Let's walk in the Light together (Lead by example):

Is there any sin or struggle you need to bring in the light?

Any ways we can pray for one another?

What did we discuss last meeting? Do you remember the story?

What did God do in your life from that teaching?

Who did you tell Jesus' story to since we last met?

Word & Spirit (Look Up)

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Let's pray for the Spirit's help as we study the Word.

Matt 28:18-20 & Acts 11:19-26 Read the passage twice.

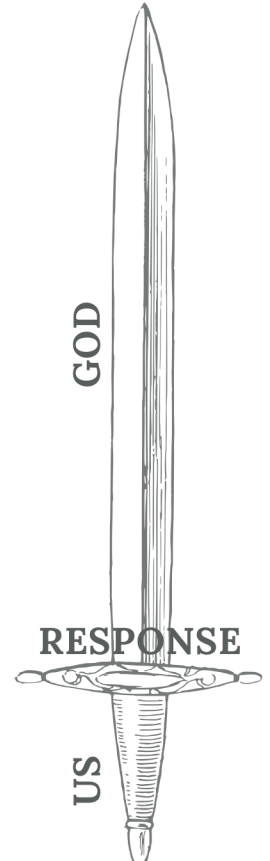
Have someone tell the story in their own words.

Look at the sword and answer the following questions.

1. What does this passage say about GOD?
2. What does this passage say about US?
3. How is the spirit leading me to respond to this passage?

Important truths -

- Jesus commands all who follow Him to go, make disciples and baptize.
- We make disciples by spreading the Gospel, calling people to believe in Him, and teaching them to obey.
- All believers are called to speak the Gospel to others, just like these normal believers did in Antioch.
- When we are bold to preach the Gospel, many people could be added to the Lord.



Abide & Obey (Look Forward)

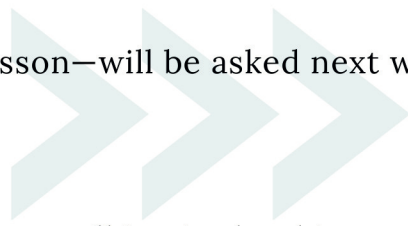
If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love... - John 15:10

How will you specifically obey this lesson?

(Lead through the specific application of the lesson—will be asked next week).

Who will you tell before our next meeting?

Let’s pray that the Holy Spirit will help us to keep walking in the things we’ve learned.



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GIVE GENEROUSLY

Light & Fellowship(Look Back)

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. - 1 John 1:7

Let's walk in the Light together (Lead by example):

Is there any sin or struggle you need to bring in the light?

Any ways we can pray for one another?

What did we discuss last meeting? Do you remember the story?

What did God do in your life from that teaching?

Who did you tell Jesus' story to since we last met?

Word & Spirit (Look Up)

'For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart - Hebrews 4:12

Let's pray for the Spirit's help as we study the Word.

Acts 4:32-37 Read the passage twice.

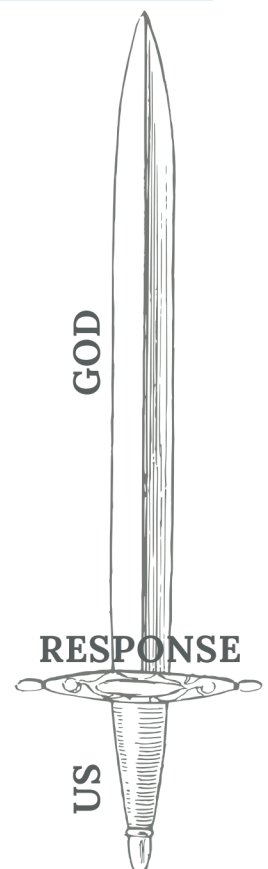
Have someone tell the story in their own words.

Look at the sword and answer the following questions.

1. What does this passage say about GOD?
2. What does this passage say about US?
3. How is the spirit leading me to respond to this passage?

Important truths -

- Jesus gives us everything we need: **2 Cor. 9:10-11**
- It is more of a blessing when we give to those who are in need, than when we receive.
- The Church came together and used what had been given to help one another.
- There was no one needy among them.
- The people of the Church shared all of the things that they had.



Abide & Obey (Look Forward)

If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love... - **John 15:10**

How will you specifically obey this lesson?

(Lead through the specific application of the lesson—will be asked next week).

Who will you tell before our next meeting?

Let's pray that the Holy Spirit will help us to keep walking in the things we've learned.

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STAY AWAKE FOR HIS RETURN

Light & Fellowship(Look Back)

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. - 1 John 1:7

Let's walk in the Light together (Lead by example):

Is there any sin or struggle you need to bring in the light?

Any ways we can pray for one another?

What did we discuss last meeting? Do you remember the story?

What did God do in your life from that teaching?

Who did you tell Jesus' story to since we last met?

Word & Spirit (Look Up)

'For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart - Hebrews 4:12

Let's pray for the Spirit's help as we study the Word.

Mark 13:24-37 Read the passage twice.

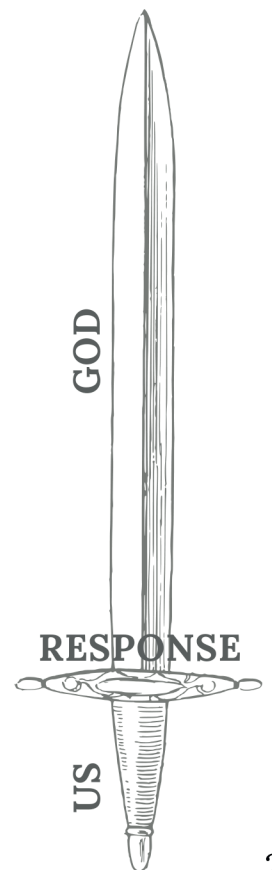
Have someone tell the story in their own words.

Look at the sword and answer the following questions.

1. What does this passage say about GOD?
2. What does this passage say about US?
3. How is the spirit leading me to respond to this passage?

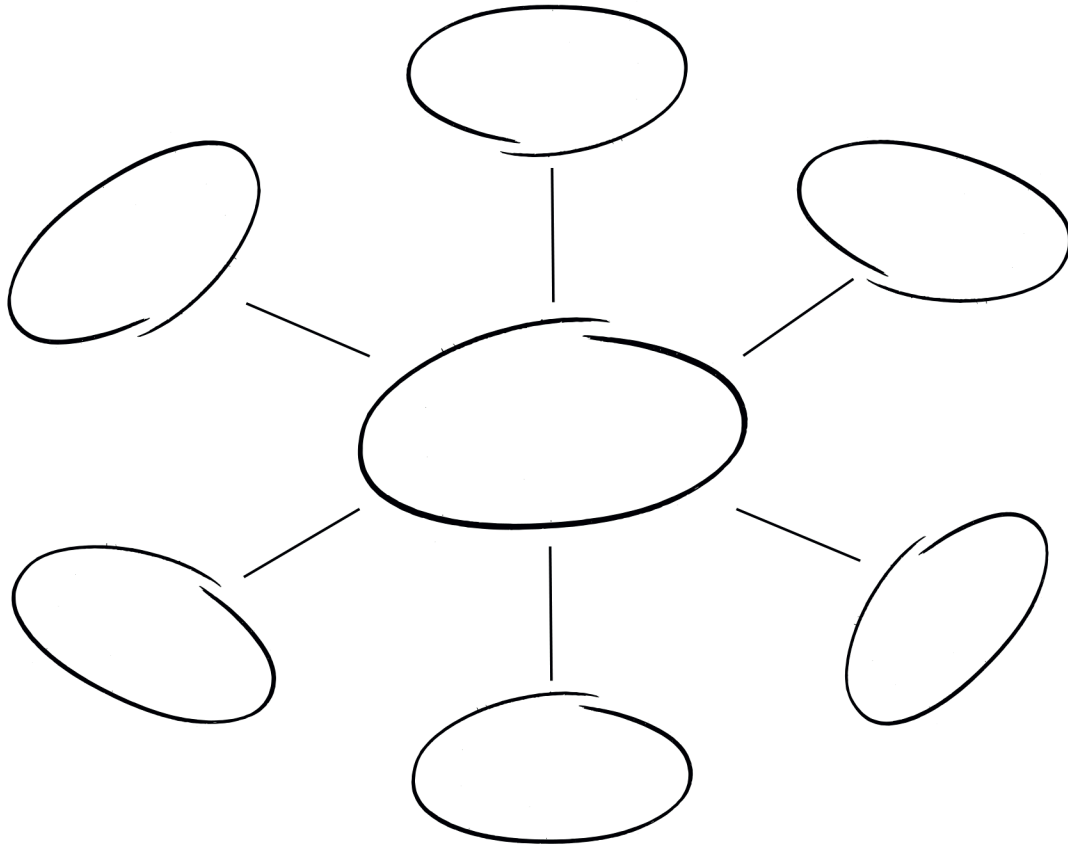
Important truths -

- Jesus will come again with great power and glory.
- When He comes He will gather His people to Himself.
- Only the Father knows when Jesus will return.
- We should be ready--stay awake--for Jesus' return.
- Those who do not know God and do not obey the Gospel will suffer God's vengeance when Jesus returns. **2 Thess. 1:8**



WHO SHOULD I TELL?

OIKOS MAP



The word "Oikos" is a word with Greek origin that simply means household or family. This map is meant to capture the people that are close to you but far from God. This is a helpful tool to remind yourself who you can be praying for or sharing the gospel with. You can redraw this Oikos map and fill it in as a step of faith each week.

WHAT DO I SAY?

Your 15 Second Testimony

This is the short version of your testimony to help you share with people with that you may not have time to share your entire testimony with. Here's an example of how you can use your testimony to share about Jesus with people you meet.

"We've seen that many young people in the city are struggling with (Shame/Anxiety/Fear/Loneliness.), how does that affect you and your friends?" (Allow them to answer, then share your 15 second testimony)

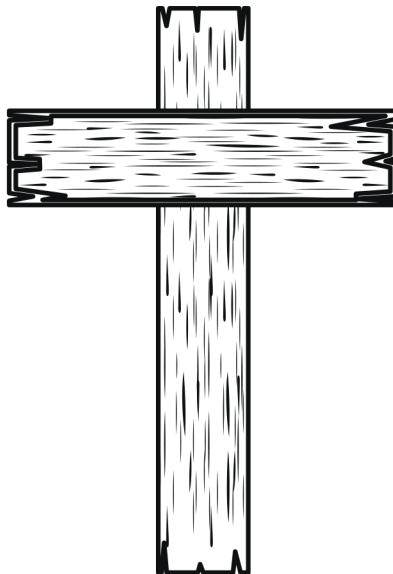
Part 1: Fill into the spaces below 2 words that describe how you felt about your life before you encountered Jesus. Example: *purposeless, lonely, unloved*

Part 2: Describe in 2 words what Jesus did for you. Example: *loved, saved, forgave, accepted*

Part 3: Describe in 2 words how you feel since you started following Jesus.

Example: *Loved, Forgiven, created with a purpose, never alone*

There was a
time in my life
when I felt



Now I know
that I am

1

3

Someone told me about Jesus,
and how he

2

WHAT DO I SAY? (PART 2)

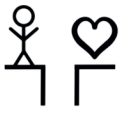
The Gospel



In the Beginning **God created everything** that exists. He created **people and had a perfect relationship** with them. They loved God from their hearts and He loved and cared for them.



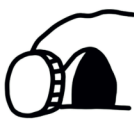
But **people did what God told them not to do**--This is called sin. Sin happens when we turn our hearts away from God. Sin causes us to feel shame and **hide our hearts from God and from others**. When **sin entered the world**, death came with it. Now death has spread to all people because all people have sinned.



Because of our sin, **all people are separated from the God who loves them**. God is Holy, and He is angry toward sin. Because of our shame, we hide from God. We are sinners, and there is nothing we can do to restore our relationship with God.



But God loves people and He sees us even in our sin. He sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to show God's love by dying for us on the cross. On the cross **Jesus died in our place, taking our punishment for sin**. He took all of God's anger toward sin on Himself, and He freed us from guilt and shame for our sin.



Three days after dying on the cross, **Jesus rose from the dead**, proving that He was the Son of God and that He has power over sin and death. He appeared to His followers after rising from the dead and He is alive right now.



Now, because of what Jesus did, **we as sinful people have a way to get back to God's love**. If we turn our hearts away from our sinful desires and trust in Jesus as our Savior and Lord, we will be saved and restored to God.



So, hearing all of this, would you say that your heart is turned toward this God or is it turned away from Him? What do you think you should do?

If you are ready to turn your heart to Him in faith, then you are ready to be a disciple. A disciple is someone who loves, follows, and obeys His Lord.

Are you ready to be His disciple? [Go to Lesson 1]

WHAT IS BAPTISM?

1. What is baptism?

- a. A way to identify with Jesus in His death, burial & resurrection. Going under the water symbolizes death and burial to our old way of life; rising up from it proclaims new life with Him as Lord & Savior. (**Rom. 6:1-12**)
- b. It is the 1st evidence of Jesus being Lord (owner) of your life (**I John 5:1-3, John 14:15**) & should be followed by “putting off” old faith, habits & sin. (**2 Cor. 5:17**)

2. What is baptism NOT?

- a. Baptism does not save (**Eph. 2:8-9, 1 Cor. 1:17, 1 Pet. 3:21**). It is 1st step in following Jesus as Lord (**Luke 6:46-49**).

Examples:

- Thief on cross – saved, not baptised (**Luke 23:39-43**)
 - Simon the magician – baptised, not saved (**Acts 8:12-24**)
- b. Baptism is not for infants & takes place only after someone is saved (**Acts 2:41**).
 - c. Baptism doesn't give you the Holy Spirit; salvation by faith does (**Acts 10:44-48, 1 Cor. 1:17, Acts 19:1-5**).

3. Why baptise?

- a. Jesus commanded us to (**Matt. 28:19-20**) & He began His ministry by being baptised (**Matt. 3:15**).
- b. Baptism unites us into the fellowship of the Church (**Acts 2:41-42, Eph. 4:4-7**).

4. Who can baptise?

- Any disciple of Christ (**John 4:1-2, Matt. 28:19-20, 1 Cor. 1:10-17, Acts 2:41-42**); preferably the one who led them to faith. Jesus baptised in the beginning (**John 3:22**) but quickly gave responsibility to His disciples (**John 4:1-2**).

5. How do we baptise?

- By immersion. (**Mark 1:9-11, Acts 8:38-39**)

6. When do we baptise?

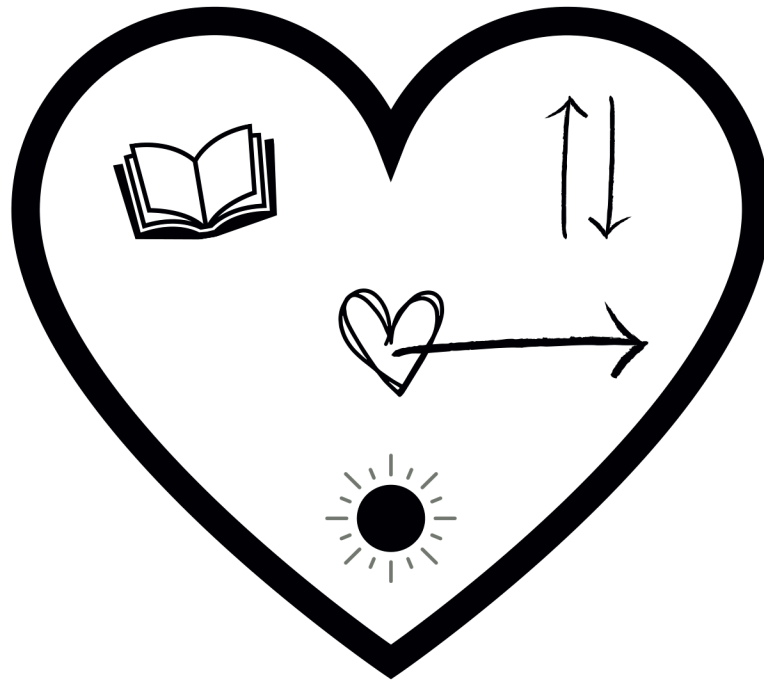
- Immediately after someone is saved. We should not judge if people are ready. Baptism is linked to salvation, not sanctification (growth).

10 Examples of immediate baptism from the Bible

1. **Acts 2:41** 3000 baptised in one day after confession of faith
2. **Acts 8:6-13** Samaritans, former demon possessed/sick/ sorcerers
3. **Acts 8:36-38** Ethiopian eunuch while traveling on road
4. **Acts 9:18-19** Saul (arrested and murdered believers)
5. **Acts 10:47-48** Gentiles, Peter commanded the Jews not to wait
6. **Acts 16:13-15** Women by riverside
7. **Acts 16:33** Roman jailer
8. **Acts 18:8** Ruler of synagogue
9. **Acts 19:1-5** John's baptism not enough
10. **Acts 22:14-17** "Why are you waiting?" (Ananias speaking to Saul)

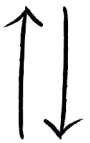
NOTES

HOW DO I ABIDE IN JESUS?



Abide in God's word - John 15:7

Abiding in His word is how we know what He wants and how His character grows in us.



Abide in prayer - John 15:7

Prayer is how we ask for His will to be done and is the source of power in us to transform our hearts.



Abide in His love - John 15:9

Abiding in His love is how we re-preach the gospel to our selves daily.



Abide in obeying - John 15:12

His love transforms us and produces joyful obedience.



Abide in walking in the light - 1 John 1:5-10

Walking in the light is the way that we maintain our fellowship with the Father and others. We can do this by continually confessing our sins. As long as we are in the darkness, we will be kept from full communion with Him.

HOW DO I STUDY THE BIBLE?

*'For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart - **Hebrews 4:12***

In both **Heb. 4:12** and **Eph. 6:17** the Word of God is pictured as a sword. Just as a sword is a tool, meant to be used, so the Word of God is meant to be understood and applied in our lives by the power of the Holy Spirit. The Bible study method presented below is built upon the concept of the Word as the Sword of the Spirit. This simple method is designed to help believers read, understand, apply, and teach the Word of God.

Step 1: Choose a passage or story to study.

This could be a chapter, a few verses, or even one verse.

Once we have chosen the passage, we ask the question: “What does the passage say?” This question gets at basic comprehension. We want to make sure that the readers or hearers have understood the passage.

Step 2: Ask the question “What does this passage teach about God?”

This question is represented by blade of the sword:

Given the great importance of the question, the arrow is larger than the others. Also, the upward direction reminds us that the question is directed toward God.

Step 3: Ask “What does this passage teach about Us?”

This question is represented by the handle of the sword. The downward arrow points toward the wielder reminding us that the question is directed toward us.

Step 4: Ask yourself, “How is the spirit leading me to respond to this passage?”

This is the question of application. Swords are meant to be used. The same applies when we read the Word. The Spirit wields the Word in our lives to change our hearts. It may be that the passage reveals a sin for us to confess, a command to obey, a praise to give to God, or a prayer to pray. The main thrust is to be obedient to the Word of God.

We now have a basic tool with which we can study and apply all that Jesus commanded us.