

FOUNDATIONS OF INTERCESSION

Student Workbook

The Heart God

Hears

*How To Be The
Kind of Person
God Always
Hears.*

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Note: Hand out in class. The downloaded study guide is “fillable” on a smart phone, tablet or computer so that the lesson doesn’t need to be printed off unless the student prefers a printed copy.

Introduction

Read 1 Jn. 5:14-15.

i.1: What happens if God “*hears*” our prayers? _____

Read Jn. 11:41-42.

i.2: Who is the “*heart God always hears*”? _____

Reflection:

- Does God “*hear*” every prayer from every person, no matter what?

Read Zec. 7:13.

i.3: What is one reason God will not listen to some people’s prayers? _____

Read 1 Jn. 3:21-22.

i.4: What are two reasons we can pray with confidence that God will hear our prayers?

1. _____

2. _____

i.5: If our hearts condemn us when we start to pray there is one kind of prayer we must begin with.
What kind of prayer would that be?

Read 1 Pet. 3:7-8.

i.6: Why are the prayers of some men hindered? _____

Reflection:

- What if a wife treats a husband with inconsideration and disrespect?
- Might that hinder her prayers?

i.7: Why would it be a good idea to live a life of unselfish consideration for others? _____

i.8: God hears prayers based on two things:

A. 1 Jn. 3:21-22 _____

B. 1 Jn. 5:14-15 _____

Reflection:

- What are some reasons you should want to be the kind of person God always hears?

Activity:

- If a person is an “*intercessor*” what does that mean? Define the term.

Read Prov. 1:21-23 in various translations.

i.9: What are the two promises God gives to those who will turn at His correction?

1. _____

2. _____

Reflection:

- Do you love God’s corrections or do you fear them?
- Do you invite God’s corrections or run from them?
- How do you suppose God feels toward a person who asks for, invites and cherishes God’s corrections?
- Could that person be you?
- Will that person be you?

Prayer: Ask God to give you His correction. If you know anything that is now hindering your prayers, confess and renounce it.

Read Jn. 17:4.

i.10: This verse gives Jesus’ own definition of success. Write it out: _____

i.11: To be a success by this definition what would your heart motive have to be? Why would you be doing whatever you do?

i.12: What would your life work have to be? _____

i.13: On page 9 the author lists five ways to bring God glory:

1. Basic Glory is brought to God when _____

2. Added Glory is brought to God when we _____

3. Multiplied Glory is brought to God when we _____

4. Great Glory is brought to God when _____

5. Compound Interest Glory is brought to God when _____

i.14: If all five ways are combined what kind of glory is brought to God? _____

i.15: The desire to bring God Massive Glory is actually a call to _____ .

Reflection:

- Is that desire stirring in your heart and soul?
- If not, would you like God to change your heart?

Chapter 1: The Importance of Soul Winning

From page 11, top of page

1.1: What are three areas of ministry every Christian is called to?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Read or refer to Matt. Chapter 13.

1.2: What would happen to good ground if it was prepared for seed but left unsown for a few years?
What would grow?

1.3: If children are not taught about Jesus when they are young and in the “*good ground*” stage what will happen to their hearts?

From page 13

1.4: The author believes that soulwinning is a _____ for living a life of
intercession because it takes _____ to be a good intercessor.

Reflection:

- Why is it often easier to feel love for a lost sinner than for a disobedient Christian?

1.5: You don’t just do intercession. You must _____ an intercessor.

From Page 14

1.6: Divisive Christians are rarely _____.

1.7: Divisive Christians are definitely not _____.

Reflection:

- What could you do to identify yourself as someone who cares about lost souls?

Read Matt. 28:19-20.

1.8: What is our goal in life supposed to be? _____

Reflection:

- Are you moving toward that goal or away from it?

From Page 18

1.9: An “*inversion*” occurs when something else becomes the goal of our lives other than _____

Reflection:

- What are we doing collectively to influence others to fall in love with Jesus?
- What am I doing individually to influence others to come to Christ?

1.10: When people are in an “*inversion*” they feel they are becoming more spiritual but are actually becoming _____ spiritual.

Reflection: From Page 19

- Describe some ways a group of Christians could show God’s love to lost people.
- Does your church currently have any kind of service evangelism?
- Would you be willing to be involved in some kind of service evangelism?
- Does your pastor know you are willing?

1.11: The lost are usually _____ to receive service evangelism.

1.12: The risk of rejection for service evangelism is very _____ .

1.13: Service Evangelism opens the _____ of a sinner before we try to open their minds.

Read Matt. 5:15-16.

1.14: Who is the biggest fan of service evangelism? _____

Reflection:

- Do you think we could be more intentional when it comes to obeying the words of Jesus in Matt. 5:15-16?

Read Jn. 13:12-17.

1.15: If we practice serving others what did Jesus say would happen to us? _____

From Page 21, last paragraph

1.16: We have a _____ to share and spread the Gospel.

1.17: An _____ person gets much better results in prayer than a _____ person.

Prayer: Pray that God will refocus your life on His goal. Ask God for ideas for service evangelism. Make a new commitment to bring others to Jesus.

Chapter 2: The Prayer Wedge

2.1: God spoke to the author, “*Pray for your pastor or you are going to lose him.*” What are some ways a pastor could be lost to a church?

From Page 22

2.2: Pastors carry _____ burdens.

Reflection:

- Did God intend for pastors to carry a huge burden alone?

Read 1 Tim. 2:8.

2.3: How many hands does God want lifted up under the responsibility to take the Gospel to the whole world?

Read Eph. 6:18-19.

2.4: What were the two things Paul specifically asked people to pray for in regard to helping his own ministry?

Read Eph. 6:18-19.

2.5: Intercessors need to be _____ to the needs of others.

Read 1 Thes. 2:18.

2.6: What was Satan able to do to the great Apostle Paul? _____

Read 1 Thes. 2:18.

2.7: If Paul was so godly and anointed then why was Satan able to prevent Paul from coming back to minister to the Thessalonians in person?

Read Philem. 22.

2.8: You minister is _____ you will be _____ for him or her.

From page 25-26

Referring to the Prayer Wedge Illustration...(see next question)

Read 2 Cor. 5:14.

2.9: What compels a godly minister against Satanic barricades? _____

Reflection:

- Why would it be much better for a whole group of people to unite together and all be compelled by God's love?

2.10: Why does Satan want Christians to fuss and fight and become divided? _____

Read Rom. 16:20.

2.11: Paul speaks of God crushing Satan beneath your feet. Was he talking to whom? (circle one)

A. A group of people?

B. Just one individual?

Read Acts 12:1-20.

2.12: The Bible doesn't say prayer was made for _____ .

2.13: James was one of three men who were with Christ on the Mount of Transfiguration. What do we call a small group of top leaders?

Read Acts 12:5.

2.14: Why was Peter delivered from death at this time? _____

Read 2 Thes. 3:1-2.

2.15: What did Paul ask the Thessalonian Christians to specifically pray for? _____

From page 28

2.16: What were the three layers of the prayer shield that could and should be around your church?

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

2.17: If we could see in the spiritual realm what would it look like when the prayer shield drops?

Reflection:

- What do you suppose the prayer shield around your church looks like?
- Is it all it could be?
- Is it all it should be?

From page 29

2.18: _____ to authority is a foundation stone in a life of prayer.

2.19: The best way to show honor to an authority figure is to _____ for them.

From page 25, last paragraph

2.20: Some spiritual leaders get shot in the back, so to speak, by their own troops. What three things are like the deadly bullets of “friendly fire”?

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Prayer: Why not pray for your pastor right now? How about praying for the President of your country?

Chapter 3: FORGIVE BEFORE THEY ASK

From pages 30-31

3.1: What shows on your face when you refuse to forgive? _____

3.2: You can't _____ bitterness if it is showing on your face.

3.3: Many people are like _____. They aren't going to return to make things right, apologize and ask forgiveness. They just fly on as if everything is okay.

Read Mk. 11:25.

3.4: Do people have to ask forgiveness before we can forgive them? _____

Read Lk. 23:34.

3.5: Was anyone asking for forgiveness when Jesus asked the Father to forgive them? _____

Reflection:

- Are you waiting and hoping that someone will admit they were wrong before you forgive them?
- What will happen if they are like that seagull?

Read Prov. 15:15.

3.6: What kind of heart has a continual feast? _____

Reflection:

- How can you be cheerful if you are bitter?
- What would actually be feasting on you?
- Could you do something to become cheerful again even if they don't ask for forgiveness?

Read Heb. 12:15.

3.7: If you get bitter and stay bitter what have you missed? _____

3.8: A bitter root won't just hurt you. What will it do to others? _____

Reflection:

- If a root of bitterness grows in your life who would be the people it would most likely spread to and defile?
- Can you find three ways that bitterness is similar to a sliver under your skin?
- What do bitter people end up doing to other people?

Read 1 Cor. 13:5.

- In your opinion, do most people keep a record of wrongs?
- Do you need to clean out your mental files and throw out the records of wrongs?
- Who are you keeping the biggest "*file*" on?
- We often have to choose between really loving someone and keeping a record of their wrongs. It can be a hard choice. But which choice would end up being easier on us?

From pages 35-36

- Sometimes in life it's as if we have been dragged through a cactus of offense and the cactus spines have been driven deep into us. Do you relate to that?
- Are the wounds fresh or old or both?
- What would your Heavenly Father like to do?
- Why is it best to let your Father deal with it immediately?

Prayer: Talk to your Heavenly Father about this and ask for His help. Someone in your class may be in worse shape than you. Perhaps you can pray with and for them.

Read 1 Cor. 14:12-13.

3.9: How fast did the Apostle Paul deal with offenses and injustices? _____

Reflection:

- If we do what Paul did and immediately bless those who curse us might we be shielded from the thorns of bitterness so that they don't even go into us in the first place?
- How often are you using the "*shield of blessing*"?
- Could you use a big improvement in this area?
- Are you...(circle one)

A. Quick to forgive?

B. Slow to forgive?

C. Refusing to forgive?

D. Just waiting for the "*bird*" to come back and make it right, then you'll forgive?

From pages 38-39

3.10: The author wiped the bitterness off his face but it turned into what in his hand? _____

3.11: How did he get it out of his hand? _____

3.12: We can't work for God with both hands if we are holding on to what? _____

From page 39

3.13: Why do you not need to worry about what others think of you? _____

Read Ps. 119:23.

3.14: What did the Psalmist not concentrate on? _____

3.15: What did he concentrate on? _____

From page 40

3.16: Never agree with a spirit of _____ .

3.17: Concentrate on what you _____ of others, not on what others _____ of you.

Reflection:

- What would be some good things to think about others even if they are far from being perfect?
- Do you get upset and shook up if you find out someone is saying bad things about you or thinking evil of you?
- Do you allow that to make you feel less valuable and good?

Activity:

- Say, *"I'm a good person if I love them, not if they love me. I'll keep praying loving prayers for them. They'll never be able to escape the effect of my loving prayers."*

Prayer: Ask God to help you be free from self-pity. Ask God to make you aware of when it's trying to get back into your life. Pray a loving prayer for those who have rejected you. Perhaps someone in your class or group is badly damaged from rejection. Pray for and with them.

Chapter 4: How To Be A People Perfector

From pages 41-42

4.1: An intercessor _____ differently than a person who gossips.

Read Rev. 12:10.

4.2: When Satan sees a fault in someone what does he do? _____

Read Lk. 22:31-32.

4.3: When Jesus saw Simon Peter's cowardly streak what did he do? _____

Reflection:

- In your opinion, are most Christians more likely to join Satan in accusing people or more likely to join Jesus in interceding for people?
- Do you most often join Christ in interceding or most often join Satan in accusing?
- Could you use a little improvement, some improvement or a lot of improvement in this area?

From page 44

4.4: When intercessors see faults in other Christians they do what? _____

4.5: What does a critical person see? _____

4.6: What does an intercessor see? _____

Read Phil. 1:9-11.

4.7: Name several character qualities Paul prayed into the Philippians? _____

From page 45

4.8: Just because you know what is wrong with someone doesn't mean you are _____ .

4.9: It's what you _____ about it that proves you are spiritual.

4.10: Intercessors must train themselves to react like _____ when they notice faults in other believers.

4.11: If you know a person's fault what should you be able to figure out? _____

From page 48

4.12: How do some Christians unwittingly practice a form of witchcraft? _____

From page 48

4.13: A demon would rather work evil for a _____ than work evil for a _____ .

4.14: We need to pray _____ people rather than _____ people.

4.15: When you pray for others you are actually _____ yourself.

4.16: If you condemn and criticize you are actually _____ yourself.

Read Matt. 7:1-2.

4.17: What will happen to judgmental Christians? _____

4.18: How? _____

Read Ps. 109:17-18.

4.19: What we say about others will _____ our lives!

Reflection:

- How would you define a “*loving prayer*”?

4.20: If you pray loving prayers for people you will sense what and who? _____

Read Phil. 4:8.

4.21: Intercessors must control their _____ .

Read Prov. 17:9.

4.22: What must we do to promote love? _____

4.23: Who and what separate close friends? _____

Read Prov. 10:12.

4.24: What does love do in regard to wrongs? _____

4.25: What does hatred do? _____

From page 50

4.26: Intercessors don't look at faults. Instead they focus on the _____

_____ they are praying into peoples lives.

Reflection:

- Why will you need a lot of help from God to be a sweet spirited “*people perfecter*” instead of a “*flaw inspector*”?

Read Gen. 9:20-27.

4.27: Who gossiped about Noah's faults? _____

4.28: Who covered Noah? _____

4.29: Who was blessed? _____

4.30: Who was cursed? _____

Note: *Canaan was Ham's oldest son or firstborn. Canaan's descendants became the people of Sodom and Gomorrah and all the other nations Israel dispossessed. They were all noted for being "perverse."*

Reflection:

- Do you suppose that God views gossiping about other people's flaws while failing to pray for them as perverse behavior that could grow into additional ways of perversion and affect coming generations?

Read Gal. 5:15 and Lk. 10:19.

4.31: The only thing that can stop the church is the _____ .

Read 2 Cor. 13:9 in as many translations as possible.

4.32: Our prayer is for your what ?

From Page 52

4.33: When the author writes about being involved in fierce theological arguments in his Bible School days what did the converted hippy exclaim?

Reflection: Read 1 Cor. 13:2.

- Why would loving each other be better than having all the answers and being argumentative?

From pages 52-53

4.34: What happened to the kitten that had an immunity to distemper? _____

4.35: How did the kitten get that immunity? _____

Note: *We can pass spiritual immunities on to our disciples (spiritual kittens) only if we have the immunity.*

From page 54

4.36: You can pick up a spiritual immunity by memorizing and practicing what particular kind of Bible verses?

Read Prov. 11:17 (A sample sweet spirit verse).

4.37 : A person's kindness does what?

Prayer: This is one of the most difficult chapters to obey and we can know these truths for decades yet fail to practice them. We need constant help from the Holy Spirit. Will you sincerely ask God to fill you with love so that you'll be a true intercessor and not a critical judgmental person?

Chapter 5: Learning The Secret of Possessive Love

From pages 55-56

5.1: Why didn't the author love the man who was critical of his sermon? _____

5.2: Why did the author's wife love Donnie and Ronnie—the wild hyperactive red haired four year old identical twins when the pastor and the church board of deacons said to stop bringing them?

Read Jn. 17:10.

5.3: How many people who belong to the Father also belong to Jesus? _____

Reflection:

- Since as a Christian you are a "*joint heir with Christ*" how many who belong to the Father and to Jesus also belong to you?

Read 2 Cor. 11:2 .

5.4: What kind of jealousy did Paul feel for the Corinthians? _____

Read Gal. 4:19.

5.5: What did Paul call the Galatian Christians who were going into false doctrine? _____

5.6: Because Paul viewed the Galatians as his own children what was he willing to do for them?

Read 1 Pet. 1:22.

5.7: What kind of love should we have for each other? _____

Reflection:

- This kind of "*possessive love*" or "*godly jealousy*" isn't the worldly controlling kind. It's the kind that does something extra that others would not do.
- Do you see why worldly possessive love is just controlling and bad but godly jealousy or

godly possessive love is rare and beautiful?

- We justify inaction and lack of prayer because we say about people “*They aren’t mine. They are not my own and not my responsibility.*”
- Has anyone prayed for you with a godly jealousy that would not give up?
- Have you ever refused to give up on someone but instead prayed them through to victory?
- Would you like to feel what Jesus feels for all His people?

Prayer: Ask for Jesus to fill you with His love for His people. Do your best to surrender apathy, spiritual laziness, disinterest and all forms of selfishness that just do not care what happens to others.

Chapter 6: Surgical Love

From page 59, top of page

6.1: When a person is viewing another person from a critical viewpoint it’s actually whose point of view?

6.2: What two kinds of sin are so serious that they must be confronted rather than covered?

1. _____
2. _____

6.3: What two things do we do to get into Christ? We must _____ and we must _____.

6.4: What two things do people do to get out of a relationship with Christ?

1. (Hint: What’s the opposite of repentance?) _____
2. (Hint: What’s the opposite of believing Jesus is Lord?) _____

Reflection:

- Surgical love operates to get out the cancer of rebellion and idolatry.
- Can you think of Biblical examples where a prophet strongly rebuked sin?
- Can you think of New Testament examples where a godly person had to strongly confront sin in others?

Read Col. 1:21-23.

6.5: Those who are not rebelling or in idolatry are still imperfect. Their obedience is imperfect obedience, but it is covered by the Blood of Christ. It’s covered so completely that God sees us three ways through the blood of Jesus, as long as we desire to obey and please Him. What are these three ways?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Note: *If it's a flaw or fault, or imperfect obedience we are to cover it with loving prayer. If the person has strayed into rebellion or idolatry we are to confront and expose it to bring them to repentance.*

Read Matt. 7:4-5.

6.6: Why would it be hard for a judgmental person to know whether to use covering love or surgical love?

Read or refer to Rev. 2-3.

"Sweet Spirited" John the Apostle is used to strongly rebuke several churches.

6.7: Why would God only entrust the sweetest most loving person with the assignment to perform spiritual surgery to get out the cancer of rebellion or idolatry?

Read James 1:20.

6.8: What is human anger incapable of doing? _____

Reflection:

- Why must we never perform spiritual surgery on a patient in a spirit of human anger?
- What would we do to the patient?

Read Matt. 5:21-22.

6.9: Jesus connects the sin of anger with the sin of _____ because they both have the _____ in them.

Reflection:

- Are you really angry at someone right now?
- Do you want to hurt them or help them? Kill them or cure them?
- If you detect the "*kill motivation*" would you talk to God about it and ask for His help?

Prayer: Ask God to replace the human anger with compassionate love so that if you need to confront someone you can achieve the cure by God's grace and avoid making the problem worse with human anger. Ask God to keep you from ever spiritually "*killing*" the patient.

Chapter 7: The Results of This Life

Read Prov. 15:13 and Prov. 15:15.

7.1: When we walk in love as intercessors life takes on a new brightness. We experience the benefits promised in the above verses. What are they?

Reflection:

- What does God mean when He says a cheerful heart has a continual feast?
- How would you describe a feast of the heart?

Read 1 Thes. 5:16-17 and 1 Cor. 2:16.

7.2: If we keep our spirits free from the contamination of bitterness, self-pity, critical judgment and other negative emotions what begins to happen?

Reflection:

- Have you ever been trying to communicate with someone but there was some kind of noise making it hard for them to hear? Give some examples.

Note: *Bitterness, anger, hate, self-pity, critical thoughts, envy, jealousy and all the negative emotions create spiritual static on your communication line to God.*

Read 1 Kings 19:12.

7.3: Did God shout when He spoke to Elijah? What volume level did God use? _____

Reflection:

- Why do sweet spirited people hear from God more easily than others?

From page 65

7.4: The author shares how God communicated to him over the noise of a lawnmower. Under the heading “*Hearing From God*” he states three conditions of the heart that enhance our spiritual hearing ability. What are they?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

From page 66

7.5: If you live the life of an intercessor you’ll have good spiritual ears and good spiritual _____ .

Reflection: From page 66, read the parable of the lion and the mouse.

- What is the take away lesson from that story?

7.6: A leader needs to see _____ in people that they themselves do not see.

Read 1 Sam. 22:2.

7.7: Describe the three kinds of followers David started out with.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Read 2 Sam. 23:8-39.

7.8: How many mighty men capable of doing feats like Samson did David end up with? _____

Reflection:

- Why would it be especially advantageous for a leader to be able to see potential in people?

From page 68

7.9: Problems are just _____ an intercessor.

7.10: Problems convert to what for intercessors? _____

Chapter 8: Turning Problems Into Blessings

Read Jn. 1:16 NLT and in as many other translations as possible. Also read Rom. 8:28 and Ps. 34:19.

8.1: God's ideal is for you to have bumper to bumper blessings with no room for unconverted

_____ .

Many "*blessings*" come in raw material form and look and feel like problems. They must be converted into blessings.

8.2: A problem + _____ = A Miracle! (or Blessing)

Reflection: Look at Rom. 8:28 and Ps 34:19 again.

- What kind of people experience problems turning into blessings?

From page 69

8.3: The author states four things that will keep a problem as a problem. Please list them:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

8.4: What are the opposite four character qualities?

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

Reflection:

- Why would a forgiving person who prays for others be more likely to see their own problems convert to blessings as opposed to someone who is bitter and critical?

Read Josh. 3:15.

8.5: What was the big external problem Joshua encountered as soon as he started leading Israel?

Read Josh. 3:5.

8.6: What did God tell the people to do before He did the big miracle? _____

Read Josh. 3:7, Josh. 3:16.

8.7: In what ways was this problem turned into a blessing, especially for Joshua? _____

Read or refer to Acts 27.

8.8: How did God make the storm at sea and the shipwreck work out for Paul's good? _____

Read Acts 28:1-6.

8.9: How did God make a deadly snakebite work out for Paul's good? _____

Read Acts 28:7-10.

8.10: The father of the chief official of the Island of Malta had a fever and dysentery. That must have been highly contagious. In what ways did God make that problem work out for Paul's good?

Read Phil. 1:12-14.

8.11: In what two ways did God cause the problem of Paul's chains of imprisonment to work out for good?

1. _____
2. _____

Reflection:

- Can you think of a third way that Paul's imprisonment worked out for his good?

From page 74 (read carefully)

8.12: Problems are not _____ unless they are converted.

8.13: What are problems, actually? *Hint: They are raw material for a* _____ .

8.14: As people of faith who want to see God glorified we should never leave problems

_____ .

Read Heb. 4:9.

8.15: Jesus is the source of what? _____

Read Ps. 34:19.

8.16: God is not the source of the what? _____

8.17: God is the source of what? _____

Read Deut. 28:1-14.

8.18: When we love and obey God our enemies may rise up against us from one direction but in how many directions will they flee?

Reflection:

- What is the difference between being "*trial conscious*" and "*blessing conscious*"?
- *Hint: It has to do with what you expect.*

Read Gal. 3:13-14.

8.19: We are redeemed in Christ so we can be _____ with the blessings of who/what?

From page 76

8.20: We must put our faith in what? _____

Read Rom. 10:17.

8.21: How does faith come? _____

Reflection:

- We should do everything we can to get rid of the things that are the opposite of faith and trust in God. What are those things?
- Why do so many of our problems stay problems?
- Why do we often fail to get them converted to blessings and miracles?

Read Matt. 23:26.

8.22: Before we ask God to help us clean up the external problems in our lives we should ask Him to help us clean up the _____ problems in our lives.

Reflection:

- If faith is “*out of order*” because we are trying to get external problems to convert without first cleaning the inside of our hearts and minds (cups and dishes) what happens?
- *Hint: The answer starts with Z and rhymes with toe and flow.*

Read Jn. 14:15.

8.23: If we love God we will _____ God.

Read Jn. 2:7-10.

8.24: Did this command make sense to the natural mind? _____

Reflection:

- God probably has some plan to turn your problem into a miracle.
- Do you agree?
- Will you ask Him to reveal it to you?

Please look at the drawing on page 80.

- Have you ever rejoiced over some good thing that happened and then said, “*I can’t believe it!*”?
- Have you ever grumbled about a problem and said, “*That figures!*”

8.25: What should believers say when something good happens? _____

8.26: What should believers say if something bad happens? _____

From pages 79-80

8.27: When the fog wouldn't lift the author believed it would somehow work out for good. Please list the six different ways it turned out for good.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

Read Matt. 14:14-16.

8.28: What was the problem? _____

8.29: What did the disciples ask Jesus to do with the problem? _____

8.30: What did Jesus want to do with the problem? _____

Reflection:

- Do we often act like the disciples and pray that God will make our problems just go away instead of praying that God will convert them to blessings and miracles for His glory?
- At this present time in your life have you been asking God to make some problem "go away?"

From page 81

8.31: What kind of a problem is a drunk neighbor with a chain saw? Is it an internal problem or an external problem?

8.32: How did God turn that problem into a blessing for the author? _____

From page 81, bottom of the page

Remember that Joshua said to the people, "Sanctify yourselves for tomorrow the Lord will do wonders among you," (Josh. 3:5 NKJV).

8.33: If you have been living in doubt, unbelief, grumbling, complaining and self-pity what should you do so that the Lord can work wonders for you and turn your problems into blessings?

8.34: If you have been disobedient you should _____ and start obeying.

8.35: If you have been bitter you should _____ .

8.36: If you have been critical you should do what? _____

8.37: Then God will give you the _____ that if followed will lead to what?

From page 83

8.38: What kind of problem is more dangerous? (circle one)

A. External problem like a hurricane, shipwreck or snakebite?

B. An internal problem like hate, unforgiveness, stubborn rebellion, lust, greed?

Reflection:

- What kind of problems are Christians usually more alarmed about: internal problems or external problems?
 - Why should we be more concerned with internal problems than with external ones? (There are many reasons, but list a few.)
-
-
-

Prayer: Read James 5:16 and then pray for each other.

This is another example that shows we should get rid of internal problems first before we ask God to deal with physical problems.

- Would you like someone to pray with you about a persistent internal problem?
- If that's all fixed up with God's help would you like someone to pray with you so that an external problem converts to a blessing?

Chapter 9: Beware of Internal Problems

From page 83

9.1: What kind of problem is more dangerous, an internal problem or an external problem?

9.2: The author learned a great lesson of life and of faith when God spoke to him about being afraid of the devil...

“Never be afraid of the devil if he’s _____ of you. Only be afraid of the devil if you let him in on the _____, a little bit at a time. Then be _____ of the devil.”

9.3: External problems won’t convert to blessings if we hold on to our _____ problems.

9.4: If we hold on to our internal problems then external problems will _____ to pieces.

From page 84

9.5: List the four areas of internal problems God warned the author about.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Read or refer to Judges 4 and refer to the entire book of Judges.

9.6: When an external problem oppressed Israel year after year, in every case, it was because they had allowed two kinds of internal problems to develop in their hearts. What are those two kinds of very serious internal problems?

1. _____
2. _____

9.7: What always happened when they repented and got rid of their internal problems? God always gave them two things:

1. _____
2. _____

Read Prov. 1:23 in various translations.

9.8: If we turn at God’s reproof what two things will He do for us?

1. _____
2. _____

Read Prov. 28:13.

9.9: What do we find if we confess our sins and renounce them? _____

Read Prov. 28:13.

9.10: What happens if we conceal our sins? _____

Read Prov. 3:11-12.

9.11: Who does the Lord discipline and correct? _____

Read Prov. 6:23.

9.12: The corrections of discipline are what? _____

Read Ecc. 7:5.

9.13: What would worldly people prefer to hear? _____

9.14: What would a humble person prefer to hear? _____

Note: *We do two things to get into Christ. We repent and believe, meaning, we believe Jesus is God in human form, the Lord.*

9.15: What are the two things that are the opposite of repenting and believing?

1. _____

2. _____

Read Matt. 7:21-23.

9.16: If people who believe Jesus is Lord and who call him Lord die in rebellious willful sin without repenting what did Jesus say would happen to them?

Read Acts 19:13-16.

9.17: Many will say that the crowd of preachers in hell that Jesus referred to in Matt. 7:21-23 never actually knew the Lord. But if that was the case, how did they have authority to drive out demons when the unbelievers couldn't do it?

Note: *The author believes that the preachers in hell once knew the Lord but grew hard in heart, fell into sin, and let it harden into rebellion or idolatry. They died without repenting and so God completely forgot that He ever knew them. He forgot the great revivals they had, the churches they built, the miracles they were used to do. This doesn't need to terrify us, but rather should give us a reverential fear of God so that we don't start allowing various sins to become habitual in our lives as if obedience to God doesn't matter.*

Read Ezek. 3:20-21.

9.18: When righteous people sin willfully and know it, yet refuse to repent and die in that condition, will God remember all the righteous things they did?

Read 1 Cor. 9:27.

9.19: Paul never forgot this. He made sure his spirit man ruled over his what? _____

Read Ezek. 16-21.

9.20: God is either going to forget your _____ or forget your _____. As

long as you do not die in rebellion or idolatry God will forget all your _____.

Note: Read Col 1:21-23.

No one obeys perfectly but imperfect obedience is very different from willful rebellion. Those who want to obey, who love the Lord and are trying to please Him don't do it perfectly. But they can be sure of their salvation because God has them covered in the blood of Jesus as long as they don't move from the hope held out in the gospel. They could move. You could move, but you don't want to, right?

Refer to Col. 1:21-23.

9.21: Write out the three ways God sees true believers through the blood of Christ:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Note: *We can truly say, "God has me covered. I'm safe in my salvation. I'm secure. I will not move from the hope held out in the gospel. He sees me as if I'm already perfected. I look holy in His sight, without a blemish and free from accusations from the devil! Thank God for the blood of Jesus!*

Read Col. 1:27.

9.22: The hope we must not move away from is stated in this verse. What is it? _____

Note: *The author tells people that salvation is defined as "power to become Christ-like." This is from Jn. 1:12. The word for "sons" of God is the Greek word for adult sons. This means salvation is power to grow up into Christ. People get confused when they think salvation is a free ticket to heaven. Many want to go to heaven but have rejected the idea of being made like Christ. They do not want to be like Christ and forgive or do God's will. But they believe mentally in Jesus and want to go to heaven. They willfully lay aside the gift of salvation, which is power to become like Jesus and instead hang onto an artificial "free ticket to heaven." They have rejected the purpose of salvation (to make them like Christ) but think they are still holding on to salvation itself! If we hold onto the purpose of salvation we'll be holding on to salvation itself and will surely end up living with God forever.*

If you want to make sure you are holding onto your salvation then keep on embracing the purpose of it. Keep on desiring to be conformed to the image of Jesus. That way

you'll never move from the hope held out in the gospel, which is Christ in you — the hope of glory!

9:23: The blood of Jesus covers imperfect _____ but does not cover willful _____.

Note: *If you understand this you will live securely in your salvation without ever changing the grace of God into some license for sin.*

Reflection:

- Those who pervert God's grace into a license for immorality believe that you can live any old way, sin as much as you want to, never change, never repent and still go to heaven. Let's be secure in our salvation but never try to abuse it and misuse God's grace.
- Can you agree with that?

Read Jn. 15:1-7.

9.24: Jesus said we must _____ in Him. That means we always have a choice, a free will.

Read Jn. 15:6.

9.25: What happens to branches, people, who do not remain in Jesus? _____

Read Deut. 17:14-20.

9.26: What did God say a king of Israel must not do? _____

Read 1 Kings 10:26-29 and 1 Kings 11:3.

9.27: Did Solomon pay any attention to God's special commandments for a king? _____

Read 1 Kings 11:4.

9.28: What happened to his heart? _____

9.29: King Solomon, who wrote three books of the Bible, went into both _____ and _____.

Read 1 Kings 11:14 and 1 Kings 11:23.

9.30: God doesn't normally raise up _____ against His own children.

9.31: These problems that wouldn't convert to blessings, but remained problems were a sign from God to Solomon that his very soul was in danger! God was being faithful to _____.

Read Col. 1:21-23.

9.32: What is the big if we all have to remember? We're holy in God's sight if—what? _____

Read Col. 1:27 and Rom. 8:29.

9.33: We hold onto the hope of the Gospel when we love the idea of being _____
_____ to the image of Jesus!

Read Jn. 3:20-21.

9.34: If we'll come to the light God will always keep us under the _____ of Jesus.

Read Jn. 8:29.

9.35: There is safety in having a heart that wants to _____ God.

Read Prov. 4:23.

9.36: What should we guard with all diligence? _____

Read Prov. 26:3 and Prov. 9:8-9.

9.37: God's main method of correction for His own is _____. He doesn't
want to have to use His _____ of correction.

Read 1 Tim. 1:18-19.

9.38: People who shipwrecked their faith did not hold on to two things. What were they?

1. _____

2. _____

9.39: If we held onto our faith that Christ is Lord we would not go into idolatry. If we held onto a good
conscience we would never go into _____.

From pages 91-94

9.40: In the shipwreck of faith, is the stubborn rebellious person the only one who is endangered?

Reflection:

- Why would the shipwreck of a person's faith, especially if they were a person of some authority and influence, be a danger to others?

Read Matt. 15:14.

9.41: What happens to those who follow a willfully rebellious or idolatrous person? _____

Note: *The higher our position of authority the more careful we must be lest others follow us into error.*

Reflection:

- Can you think of some Biblical examples where someone led others into idolatry or rebellion?

Read Gal. 4:19.

9.42: When the Galatian Christians were going back to the Law and attempting to earn their salvation which would cause them to “*fall away from grace*” as Paul put it, what did Paul do?

Prayer: Pray that God will always keep you for His very own. Tell God, “*I want to be kept.*” Ask God to give you more love than ever. Invite the coaching of the Holy Spirit. Thank God that your sins are forgiven and that Christ has you covered by His blood. Thank God that He is conforming you to the image of Christ. Tell God, “*I like that idea! I want to be like Jesus.*”

Chapter 10: Discernment Versus Pride

Read Ps. 36:1-4.

10.1: If we flatter ourselves or receive flattery from others so that we become prideful we won't be able to _____ our sins and we won't be able to _____ sin.

Read Prov. 16:18.

10.2: What is one reason so many people who were godly fell into sin? _____

From page 97

10.3: When pride comes what leaves? _____

Read Jer. 9:6.

10.4: When pride comes in what rides in on its back? _____

From page 98

10.5: Why is discernment such a wonderful thing? _____

Remember Samson? (Book of Judges, Chapters 13:1 through 16:31)

10.6: The praise of men is like the woman who subdued Samson. What was her name? _____

10.7: The praise of men seems similarly loving, warm, cuddly but it's out to do what? _____

Read Prov. 29:5.

10.8: The person who flatters others is doing what to them? _____

Read Jn. 5:41.

10.9: What does Jesus not accept? _____

Read Jn. 17:4.

10.10: Jesus always wants to glorify or bring glory to who? _____

Read Matt. 23:5.

10.11: Jesus strongly rebuked the Pharisees for their evil heart motivation. What was it? _____

Read or refer to Matt. 6:1-18.

10.12: Jesus told us to do three things in secret so that we wouldn't be tempted by the praise of men. What are those three things?

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

From pages 101-103

10.13: We should want to _____ others but never _____ others.

Reflection: Read Mk. 12:17.

- What is the difference between encouragement of others, which God wants us to do, and flattering others, which God forbids us to do?

10.14: Never give the _____ to people but only to God. It belongs only to Him.

From page 103

10.15: What did Katherine Kulhman say over and over in her great healing rallies? _____

From page 104

10.16: The author relates how God spoke to him, "*When you win the crown don't bow down and worship your image in it.*" If we take the glory for our achievement instead of giving the glory to God then our achievement can become an _____ of self worship.

Read 1 Tim. 3:1,6.

10.17: An overseer who becomes conceited and fails to repent of pride and self idolatry will share the same fate as who?

Note: *The author calls scriptures such as 1 Tim. 3:1,6 Matt. 23:5 and Prov. 29:5 “Pride Busters.”*

Reflection:

- Why would it be a good idea to memorize a lot of “*Pride Buster*” scriptures?

Read Isa. 42:8.

10.18: What does God keep just for Himself? _____

Reflection: Read Rev. 4:11 and Rev. 5:9.

- Why won’t God give His glory to any other being?

Read Matt. 10:19-20.

10.19: Who is the really great preacher, teacher and excellent speaker? _____

From page 107

10.20: What is the key word in being a great achiever? _____

From page 107

10.21: Write out the seven steps of the Cycle of Success:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____

10.22: From God’s viewpoint, no man or woman is a _____ but we can all cycle in _____ with God. God is the only true _____.

10.23: Many people start thinking, “*I have succeeded. Therefore, I am a success.*” God cautioned the author to avoid that kind of thinking. Why?

Reflection:

- It would be better to say, “*God has given me successes but I could fail badly if I don’t keep following Him carefully so that I can cycle in success with Him.*” Why?

10.24: How many kings in the Bible broke the cycle of success? _____

Read Ps. 127:11 (Another Pride Buster Scripture).

10.25: It is what God does through us that _____.

Read 2 Sam. 5:17-22.

10.26: How many cycles of success does David go through in this portion of Scripture? _____

Reflection:

- Go verse by verse and talk about each step in the cycle of success.
- What verse shows that he started a new cycle after one had ended?

Read 2 Chron. 32:24-26.

All of the kings in the Bible broke the cycle of success but some got back in it.

10.27: What step in the cycle of success did Hezekiah fail to do? _____

10.28: How did King Hezekiah get back in the Cycle of Success? _____

10.29: After your big achievement you must do two things. What are they?

1. _____

2. _____

Prayer: Express to God your total dependency upon Him. Give Him the glory and the praise for whatever He has used you to do in the past. Tell Him you’d like to hear from Him again and do whatever He wants. If you are weary in obeying and need to persist then ask for more strength so that the achievement can be done in His power.

Chapter 11: The Test Of Tears

From page 110 and 1 Cor. 13:2

11.1: If your knowledge increases but love doesn't increase you will likely get out of _____.

Read Gal. 5:6.

11.2: What is the only thing that counts? _____

Read Phil. 1:9-11.

11.3 If you wanted to pray correction into someone's life what is the one thing that would tend to correct everything?

Read 1 Jn. 2:1.

11.4: How does Jesus act in regard to His own—as a prosecutor or as a defense attorney? _____

Read Matt. 7:1-2.

11.5: What will happen to us if we act like the judge of other believers and people? _____

11.6: To what measure or extreme will we be judged? _____

Reflection: Read of refer to the Book of Jonah.

- What did Jonah want God to do to the people of Nineveh?

Read Jer. 9:1, Jer. 13:17, Jer. 14:17 and Lam. 2:11.

- Jeremiah warned of coming destruction but when it came was he happy about it?
- When you see a relative or church member falling into bad sin do you weep for them?

11.7: The Test of Tears tests us to see how much _____ we have.

Reflection:

- If we are just angry over people's sins and we do not or cannot weep for them how spiritual are we, really?
- Would you agree with the author that we often *flunk* the Test of Tears and act a lot more like Jonah than Jeremiah?

Read Acts 20:19 and Verse 31

11.8: When Paul warned people, did he do it in an angry judgmental way? _____

Read 2 Cor. 2:4.

11.9: When Paul had to write a strong letter of correction to the Corinthian believers, did he write it in human anger?

Read Phil. 3:18-19.

11.10: When Paul even talked about people who were enemies of the cross of Christ did he talk about them in an angry scornful way?

Refer again to Phil. 3:18-19.

11.11: What did Paul do for the enemies of the Cross of Christ? _____

Reflection:

- It's easy to think of a politician or some obnoxious news caster and just wish God would make them shut up! We often would not care if God whacked them right out of this life if only God would silence their voices. We feel we are right and they are so very wrong. But before we get to feeling too exalted in our spirituality, we should take the Test of Tears. That will remind us immediately that we have a lot of room for spiritual improvement ourselves.
- Have you ever wept for anyone as you prayed for them?
- Many people are like vultures, just waiting for God to whack someone they don't like.
- Do we need more angry judgmental people who condemn others or do we have enough already?

Prayer: Tell God you are willing to let Him plug you into His grief over souls erring to eternal destruction. Admit to God that you need way more compassion and ask for it.

Read 1 Jn. 5:16.

11.12: What is the opposite of being a spiritual vulture? _____

11.13: Instead of asking God to whack erring sinners we should ask God to give them _____.

Note: *If you are wondering what would constitute a "sin unto death" (see 1 Jn. 5:16) you can refer to Heb. 6:4-6. This could only be done by a mature believer who knew full well that they were permanently rejecting Jesus. So it's very rare but occasionally it happens. Falling away doesn't mean to fall into immorality. It means to reject Jesus as Lord. It would be of no use to pray for them or weep for them in such rare cases. This could never happen accidentally. If any Christian is afraid that they may have sinned unto death then they haven't! Again, it cannot be done accidentally. Those who do sin unto death do not care. They have no concern.*

Chapter 12: So That Nothing Will Hinder Your Prayers

Read 1 Pet. 3:7-8.

12.1: If a man is mean to his wife how will that affect his prayers? _____

12.2: The more inconsiderate and disrespectful a person is to their mate the _____ their prayers will be hindered.

From page 115

12.3: Love in the home is a _____ for a life of effective prayer.

Read or refer to the story of Jephthah in Judges 11.

12.4: For victory on God's battlefield under God's anointing Jephthah sacrificed his _____.

Reflection:

- What do you suppose this terrible unbiblical vow did to his marriage and to the mental health of his wife?

Read Judg. 12:7.

12.5: How many years after sacrificing his daughter did Jephthah live? _____

Reflection:

- What do you suppose Jephthah died of?

Note: *This is what the author calls "The sickest story in the Bible!"*

From page 117

12.6: When the author asked God why he put such a story in the Bible what did God say? _____

Reflection:

- Lots of people do something similar to Jephthah in order to gain success in their careers, in their businesses, or even in ministry. How is that so?

From page 117

12.7: The Pyramid of Priorities is about rightly dividing our _____ among the different priority areas of life.

12.8: What should your #1 priority be? _____

12.9: What should your #2 priority be? _____

12.10: Why isn't our family our #2 priority? _____

12.11: List the other priority areas and number up...

Priority #7 _____

Priority #6 _____

Priority #5 _____

Priority #4 _____

Priority #3 _____

Read Matt. 28:18-20.

12.12: What should be the focus of all of our priorities, of our lives? _____

Read Col. 3:15.

The word "rule" in the original Greek could be translated "umpire." A baseball umpire would rule if a ball is in bounds or out of bounds.

12.13: The _____ of God acts like an inner umpire.

12.14: If you are spending too much time at work the peace of God in your heart will _____ and you won't feel peaceful.

12.15: If the peace of God in your heart lifts that's a sign you need to switch to a different _____.

Reflection:

- Why would we need to depend upon the inner Peace of God ruling what is in bounds or out of bounds?
- Why couldn't we just plan out a weekly schedule of who and what gets this or that amount of time and stick to that?

12.16: Only _____ can guide you into the just right division of your time for each different day and night.

Reflection:

- Why is that true?

12.17: If we are constantly trying to please people instead of trying to please God what is going to happen to us?

12.18: Why would the person who follows God's inner leading of the Spirit be a lot happier than someone who is trying to please people with completely different views of what is important and what should be done *right now*?

12.19: The inner peace of God will help you _____ from one priority area to another without grinding your mental and emotional _____.

Note: *A trucker has to shift gears, a lot!*

Read 1 Pet. 3:7-8.

12.20: If a husband doesn't spend any time with his wife he isn't treating her with what? _____

Read Eph. 4:29.

12.21: We can say "*I love you*" by what we _____.

From page 119

12.22: Angry words erode _____.

Read or refer to Gen. 21.

It's the story of Sarah commanding Abraham to "Get rid of that slave woman's son!" (Verse 10)

Reflection:

- The matter distressed Abraham greatly because the boy was his son!
- Did he yell at Sarah? Did he fly into a rage? Did he tell her she was selfish or evil?

12.23: Abraham kept his _____ shut and went for a _____ walk. God spoke to him and told him what to do.

Reflection:

- What happens when we are greatly distressed and we have neglected our relationship with God so that we can't hear or find His direction when we need it?

Read Phil. 2:1-2.

12.24: We want to be like minded with who? _____

Note: *That's because He's always going about to encourage someone, comfort someone, show interest in someone, show tenderness to someone or use His power to help someone (compassion).*

Read Phil. 2:1-2.

12.25: What five things does Jesus supply in a relationship?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

12.26: Compassion is _____ using its _____ to help someone.

Read Phil. 2:4.

12.27: Fellowship is _____ together pursuing the same _____.

Reflection:

- What would be some ways we could encourage someone?
- Since people are different what comforts the husband might not comfort the wife.
- Why is it a good idea to ask our mate what we could do to be a special comfort to them?

Read 1 Jn. 4:19.

12.28: What is the Law of First Love? _____

Reflection:

- How could we apply the law of first love in our relationships?

Note: *The DVD goes into more detail on the subject of tenderness than the book. In the DVD the author shares that the first way to be tender is to not force your will or decisions upon someone else. That's not tender.*

12.29: The second way to show tenderness is to treat _____ as _____ to put value on our loved ones.

12.30: The third way to show tenderness is to have “scenic trip” _____ were we talk in an _____ way for the purpose of _____ rather than for the purpose of solving problems.

From the DVD

12.31: What was the author doing when a fiery tangible anointing from God came into his hands and feet?

Note: *The author typically helps his wife by folding towels, doing dishes, and cleaning the kitchen floor.*

Reflection:

- Since the most powerful anointing of the author's life came while he was doing laundry for the family, do you think that says something about what God thinks is important and what God will bless?

Note: From page 126

Mark 2 tells of the men who carried their paralyzed friend up on a roof top, tore off the roof tiles and lowered him down before Jesus. They probably didn't do that perfectly. But they got him down in front of Jesus.

Read Mk. 2:5.

12.32: Their actions showed Jesus their _____, then Jesus did what they could not do.

12.33: If you will do your best to say I love you in seven ways, you won't do it perfectly, but your efforts will show your faith. Then what will God do?

Reflection:

- Say I love you with your time. Say I love you by what you don't say.
- Say I love you by planting five miracle seeds of encouragement, comfort, fellowship, tenderness and compassion.

Prayer: Ask God to plant this message deep into your heart so that you think of it every day. Ask God to help you be very sensitive to His inner leading of peace. Ask God to help you control your tongue and keep it from speaking condemning words that erode relationships. Ask God to give you ideas as to how to supply the five important emotional needs to your family first and then to others around the world.

Chapter 13: Try Hard To Be Reconciled

From page 127

13.1: A life of effective prayer is built upon _____.

13.2: A simple way to promote reconciliation is to say I am _____. I was _____.

Reflection:

- Remember the Seagull illustration in Chapter 3?
- What does the author mean when he says, "*Sometimes we are the bird!*"
- If we do wrong to someone God wants us to go back and make it right.
- Why does it take more spirituality to say "*I was wrong, please forgive me,*" than to say, "*I forgive you*"?

From page 127

13.3: To get blessings from giving, fasting or praying there must be blessings in the _____
_____.

Reflection:

- How many rooms in your house have faucets?
- Do you know where the master shut off valve is for the water in your home?

13.4: Who controls the master valve that either opens the flow of blessings or shuts off the flow of blessings?

13.5: You and I only control the _____ of prayer, fasting and giving.

13.6: However, our reconciliation or lack of it determines what God does with the _____ valve of blessings.

Read 2 Sam. 21.

13.7: Why did God shut off the master valve of blessing for Israel during David's reign? _____

13.8: The unreconciled past was affecting the _____.

Read 2 Sam. 21:3.

13.9: David seemed to know that in order to get God to bless Israel with rain he'd have to first get the blessings of who?

Note: *Many Christians think they don't need to be blessed by the people they have wronged. They assume they can walk on, leave conflict unresolved, never say they are sorry, never make it right and still have God's blessing. They waste their lives trying to get God's blessing when all the time they need to be seeking the blessing of those they have wronged.*

Reflection:

- Do you think most Christians and sinners alike are ignorant of these facts?

Read Ps. 84:11.

13.10: Does God withhold blessings when are not walking uprightly? _____

Reflection: Read Matt. 5:23.

- What would be a modern way to apply this verse since we don't have an Old Testament altar to lay the gift beside?
- Why does the author believe this is the most neglected command of Christ?

Read Isa. 58:1-6.

13.11: Why was God refusing to answer their prayers even though they were fasting? _____

Read Mal. 2:13-16.

13.12: This man was flooding God's altar with tears. Yet he could not get God to answer his prayer. Why?

Note: *Many people have suffered divorce, some more than once. They can't go back and remarry the people they divorced.*

13.13: But they could go back and admit where they were _____ and ask for _____.

From page 130

13.14: Breaking faith is like breaking an electrical _____. It turns off a spiritual _____.

Read Jn. 13:35.

13.15: How will all men know we are disciples of Jesus? _____

Read Ps. 133:1-3.

13.16: Loving unity brings what? _____

13.17: God bestows His blessings where brethren are _____ each other.

Go back to 2 Sam. 21.

13.18: The seven male descendants of King Saul who were put to death had never repented for what?

Read Lev. 26:40-42.

13.19: If we know the sins of our fathers we should do what? _____

Reflection: Read Lev. 26:40-42.

- It says they should “pay” for the sins of the fathers. This is talking about making it right in some way, making some form of restitution.

Read 2 Sam. 21 and from pages 132-133.

13.20: Why did David “dig up the past”? _____

13.21: People often say, “*It’s in the past. Just leave it alone. It’s better not to dig it up.*” But that’s only true if the past has been properly _____.

Reflection:

- We might need to do like David did: he dug up the past, he made it right, and then he reburied it.
- Do you think a lot of people just bury the past when it was never properly reconciled and then wonder why the rains of blessings don’t fall?

13.22: It takes _____ and _____ to make it right.

Read 2 Sam. 21:14.

13.23: When did God answer prayer again for the land so that rain would come? _____

Reflection:

- Wouldn’t it be wonderful if God helped us all find the right way to say, “*I was wrong. I am truly sorry. Will you forgive me?*”

From page 134 and Lev. 26:40-42

13.24: King Saul wasn’t David’s ancestor. He was his _____.

13.25: We should seek to reconcile the past wrongs done by who? _____

13.26: We should especially concentrate of seeking to reconcile when we ourselves have done what?

Reflection: Read Lk. 12:58.

- What kind of effort did Jesus say we should put into reconciliation?

Read James 3:2.

13.27: James doesn’t think you are so spiritual. He thinks you _____ in many ways. If that’s true, then shouldn’t you say “*I’m sorry*” more often?

Read Matt. 18:15-20.

13.28: We must also seek to reconcile with those who have _____ us.

Reflection:

- Did you notice that Jesus tied answered prayer to the subject of reconciliation?

Read Mk. 11:22-25.

13.29: In these verses Jesus connects the subject of faith and getting answered prayers with what?

Read Matt. 18:15.

13.30: If someone has wronged you, what should you do as a first step in trying to reconcile? _____

Reflection:

- Who should you not go to and talk about it?

Read Matt. 18:16.

13.31: If the first attempt to reconcile doesn't work out, what should you do? _____

Read Matt. 18:17.

13.32: And if the second attempt at reconciliation doesn't work what should you do? _____

Reflection:

- Why should you feel sorry for the person who wronged you but won't admit it?
- Why should you avoid PLOM disease? (Poor Little Ol' Me)

13.33: If after three ways of trying to reconcile and you have told it to the church you will know you have done your part to restore the person to a place where God could bless them again. But if they won't soften at all and remain obstinate then you must do what?

Read Tit. 3:10.

13.34: How many times should we warn a divisive person? _____

13.35: We make reconciliation doubly hard if we _____ the
person who _____ us.

Read 1 Pet. 3:9.

13.36: If you repay evil with evil what won't you get? _____

13.37: We keep it simple when we refuse to _____ those who have wronged or hurt us.

13.38: By refusing to harm them back we avoid an internal problem and we only have an _____ problem to deal with. Plus we don't have to apologize, repent and ask forgiveness. We only need to forgive them and help them come back to a place of blessing.

Reflection:

- Do you think many people complicate things because they almost immediately strike back at those who hurt them?

Read 2 Cor. 5:19.

13.39: What kind of a ministry do we have? _____

Read Col. 1:21-23.

13.40: What did Christ do for us? He _____ us by the death of His physical body and resurrection.

Reflection: Read Lk. 12:58.

- Will you try hard to reconcile with others?

Read Rom. 12:18.

13.41: It takes two to reconcile. We can only do what? _____

Read Matt. 5:9 and James 3:18.

13.42: A person who works to help other people reconcile with each other is called a _____.

13.43: From these verses what great things happen to those who help others reconcile? _____

Read 1 Jn. 3:21-23.

13.44: Prayer without a _____ heart is like faith without corresponding action.

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13.45: The desire to bring God *massive glory* is actually a what? _____

May you always walk in love with the help of the Holy Spirit so that you can be the kind of heart God always hears!