

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### ***Christian Leadership***

*How to positively influence the attitudes and actions of others for Jesus Christ*

Welcome to Christian Library International's Christian Leadership Study! We pray God will draw you close in love and equip you mightily for every good work. This study is freely given and monitored in the name of Jesus Christ. Your only cost will be the stamp necessary to return your completed lesson.

When you finish each lesson, return it to CLI for comments and encouragement from one of our "Letter Ministers". The completed lesson, along with a new lesson will be mailed to you within 1-2 weeks.

Since this course is offered to men and women, we will use the pronoun "he" when referring to both. The term man/men is also inclusive (includes) of the whole human race. The Bible, similarly, is written for every person. God's commandments, promises, and warnings are applicable for spiritual health and vitality (strength, energy) for everyone.

God be with you now and forevermore!

*Kathleen Skaar*

Kathleen Skaar  
Executive Director

#### **Lesson 1: Building a Leadership Model (Day One) Defining Leadership**

Words are interesting concepts. If I were to say banana and you understood English, most likely you would imagine a yellow thick-skinned fruit. Other words that denote abstract ideas are harder to grasp. Indeed sometimes we have heard words so many times that we think we understand what they mean, but in fact we are misinformed. As Christians, it is beneficial to study the real or varied meanings of the words that define our faith.

Even the name Christian may have different meanings for different people. For example, a Christian may be defined as one who goes to church on Sunday or as one who reads the Bible. The Christian may be labeled for what he does rather than for Whom he serves.

Believers in Christ were first called Christians in Antioch (Acts 11:26). "The Greek *Christianos* originally applied to the slaves belonging to a great household. It came to denote the adherents

## Lesson 1

of an individual or party.”<sup>1</sup> Christians are the servants or slaves who belong to the great household of God through Jesus Christ. Thus a Christian is one who is totally committed to Christ. When you live up to the true definition of that name, others will know that you are a follower of Jesus and God will be honored. Your behavior, works, and attitudes will always point to the One you are serving rather than to yourself.

*However, if you suffer as a Christian, do not be ashamed, but praise God that you bear that name.* 1 Peter 4:16

1. In 1 Peter 4:16 why do you think Peter says that if you suffer as a Christian, praise God?

---

---

Christ suffered death on the cross so that man could have his sins forgiven. As a follower of Christ, the Christian may be called to suffer for upholding His name. The Christian is blessed to follow in his Master’s footsteps even in painful trials and persecutions when aligned (united) with God’s will.

The title of our study is Christian Leadership. Let’s see how these two terms work together. Leadership means being a leader - someone who leads. Leading is a concept that may bring up a variety of images. Let’s look at some of the definitions from Microsoft Bookshelf (1996-97 Edition):

**lead** (lēd) *verb*

**led** (lēd) **lead-ing, leads** *verb, transitive*

1. To show the way to by going in advance.
2. To guide or direct in a course: *lead a horse by the halter.*
3. **a.** To serve as a route for; take: *The path led them to a cemetery.* **b.** To be a channel or conduit for (water or electricity, for example).
4. To guide the behavior or opinion of; induce: *led us to believe otherwise.*
5. **a.** To direct the performance or activities of: *lead an orchestra.* **b.** To inspire the conduct of: *led the nation in its crisis.*
6. To play a principal or guiding role in: *lead a discussion; led the antiwar movement.*
7. **a.** To go or be at the head of: *The queen led the procession. My name led the list.* **b.** To be ahead of: *led the runner-up by three strides.* **c.** To be foremost in or among: *led the field in nuclear research; led her teammates in free throws.*

In a real sense all of these definitions apply to Jesus, the preeminent (most excellent) Leader. He showed the way by going in advance; He was born of a woman and lived on the earth. He is the firstborn among many brothers (Romans 8:29). He guides and directs the Christian in the right course. He is the path of life. He is the way or channel to God. He guides us in all truth that affects our behavior and opinions. He directs our works and activities. He inspires us to be pure and holy. He is the Principal and the Guide in our life. He leads and is at the head of everything. (Hebrews 2:8) He is foremost in and among all men and all angels (Revelation 3:14)

---

<sup>1</sup> Holman Bible Dictionary, Trent, Butler, Editor, Homan Bible Publishers, Nashville TN, 1991. pg. 252.

## Lesson 1

The Christian has the great privilege of following the Son of God, the utmost (greatest) Leader. In leading others, the Christian gets his instructions from Jesus. The Christian leads in obedience.

2. Review the ways Jesus leads above. Are there any ways above that Jesus is not leading your life? Explain. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

The goal of this study is to build up Christian leaders. Christian Leadership is heading up, leading, guiding, and going out in front for the cause of Jesus Christ and the Kingdom of God. Being a leader is an active call upon your life. It is not for the weak or mediocre. The true leader will not be spit out of Jesus' mouth (Revelation 3:16). But neither will the true leader be proud or boastful (James 4:6). It is a high calling that demands a high level of commitment. Let the "heavenly boot camp" begin!

\*\*\*\*\*

### **Personal Application:**

#### **Pray the following prayer in sincerity:**

Lord Jesus,

You are an excellent Leader. Everything that You do is for the good of all people. How You love God's creation and how You love me. Your ways are far superior to my ways and I long to follow You completely. I pray that You lead me in every area of my life. I ask that nothing or no one in my life is free from Your leadership. Make me a leader totally identified with You, my Lord. May I lead with a pure heart giving all the glory to our Triune God. Amen.

\*\*\*\*\*

### **Lesson 1: Building a Leadership Model (Day Two) The Model**

Building a house, computer system, or any other involved structure generally doesn't happen overnight. It takes time to develop and implement the plan. You'll need the right instructions from the beginning. For example, if you want to build a house you wouldn't copy a car model. If you were making Lasagna for dinner, you wouldn't be following the instructions for a chocolate cake. In other words, whatever it is you want to make or build, you must start with the right design or plan in accordance with the proper model.

In the very same way, Christians generally do not become effective leaders overnight. It takes time to develop and implement the plan of leadership. Christians certainly need the right instructions from the beginning.

*I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you.<sup>16</sup> I tell you the truth, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him.*

John 13:15-16

1. Who is the proper model for building a Christian leader? \_\_\_\_\_

## Lesson 1

*All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,<sup>17</sup> so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.*

2 Timothy 3:16-17

2. Where do you find the instructions for following the Model? \_\_\_\_\_

Yes, Jesus is the Model and the Bible is the blueprint.<sup>2</sup> This is the beginning of leadership training and study. The Christian starts to build his skills by following the Model and studying His words.

3. Do you think there are many Christians today following the wrong model? If so, what model are they following? What is the result, i.e. whom do they resemble?

---

---

---

Everyone who is a Christian is a leader. You are either leading people to Christ or away from Christ. There is no middle ground. Now, some people have a special anointing or gift for leadership from the Holy Spirit (Romans 12:8) just like some have a special anointing or gift from the Holy Spirit to evangelize (2 Timothy 4:5). There are different gifts from the Holy Spirit to glorify God. But we are not talking about spiritual gifts right now. We are talking about what every Christian is called to do as a follower of Christ.

What if you met a nonbeliever who started asking you spiritual questions? Would you say, for example, I'm not an evangelist so that is not my job? Or can you imagine meeting someone who had a terrible disease and thinking let someone else encourage this person, after all I don't have the gift of encouragement? Of course the believer is called to witness, encourage, and obey the Lord's commands because he loves Him. Leadership is no different. Leading is something that all Christians do within the parameters (boundaries) that God gives them.

We have the perfect leadership Model. Our goal is to become like Jesus. Jesus was the most excellent of men. How can we follow in His steps and be a leader of excellence? This is a big order. However, we have a big God!

*And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit. 2 Corinthians 3:18*

---

<sup>2</sup> **blue-print** (blōō'prīnt') *noun*

1. A photographic reproduction, as of architectural plans or technical drawings, rendered as white lines on a blue background. Also called *cyanotype*.
2. A detailed plan of action. (from Microsoft Bookshelf 1996-97 edition)

4. Who gives us help in becoming like Jesus? \_\_\_\_\_

The Holy Spirit helps us become like Jesus. We are being transformed or changed into His likeness throughout our lives. The Spirit helps us to become leaders like Jesus.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Personal Application:**

Ask God to speak to you personally through the following verses about Jesus.

*A bruised reed he will not break, and a smoldering wick he will not snuff out, till he leads justice to victory.<sup>21</sup> In his name the nations will put their hope."<sup>22</sup> Then they brought him a demon-possessed man who was blind and mute, and Jesus healed him, so that he could both talk and see. Matthew 12:20-22*

What did God say or impress upon you? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Please share if you could not and have never felt communication with God through His Spirit.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Lesson 1: Building a Leadership Model (Day Three) The Chief Cornerstone**

Have you ever built anything? Perhaps you have been on a construction team and helped build a house or you might remember building something with your toys when you were a child. In order to build, one must take individual parts and place them together in a systematic way. The outcome will be a product or form that is far more useful than its individual parts. Not to say that the individual parts cannot be useful for other purposes but compare a concrete block with a completed house, a single thread with a shirt, or an aluminum panel with a plane.

After you have your model or plan, the individual parts must be selected carefully. They must be compatible for the project. In other words, you must use the materials that the blueprint calls for if you want the final product to look like the model. Would you want to lead a team attempting to build an airplane with concrete blocks? Of course not! You would want to lead a team that was going to do something useful and make a difference. A plane that could not get off the ground would not be very beneficial. Of course you could make a restaurant in the shape of a plane, but then you would have a restaurant that looked like a plane and not a flying machine!

It is not only important to build with the correct parts but also to use quality materials. Quality materials will hold up and function appropriately. The finished project will last and provide safe usage for those using it.

## Lesson 1

1. What happens if you begin your project with faulty or defective materials? Do you have a real life story to share of a project that was built with defective materials? What happened?

---

---

---

---

Without choosing your building materials properly, you would not only be wasting your time and but also those following in your leadership. Your product would be just as defective (flawed) as the materials that you used. Consider for a moment also that Christian leadership is about everlasting benefits. You are leading others forward, toward God.

2. What would you do if you discovered your building materials were of inferior quality?

---

---

Leading and building have a lot in common. Leadership is gathering individuals with different perspectives (viewpoints) and putting them together in a way that births a greater purpose, a greater good. Like using the proper materials in a building project, the individuals must be appropriate for the job. For example, if a group of Christians were gathering for a worship service, you would not ask a nonbeliever to give his personal testimony i.e.how he came to know the Lord. (\*Surely, someone in this fine group of Christians has already shared the gospel with this nonbeliever!)

3. Why wouldn't you ask a follower of a non-Christian religion to pray for you or to lead a group in prayer? What might happen?

---

---

They simply are not talking to the one, true, living God. God the Father is only approached through God the Son. God forbids idols or false gods in the life of His people (Exodus 20:3-4).

Building is used as a metaphor (symbolic comparison) in various parables (stories) in the Bible. Jesus was skilled at using everyday occurrences in the lives of the people to illustrate a spiritual truth. His parables were entertaining yet extremely meaningful.

*I will show you what he is like who comes to me and hears my words and puts them into practice.<sup>48</sup> He is like a man building a house, who dug down deep and laid the foundation on rock. When a flood came, the torrent struck that house but could not shake it, because it was well built.<sup>49</sup> But the one who hears my words and does not put them into practice is like a man who built a house*

## Lesson 1

*on the ground without a foundation. The moment the torrent struck that house, it collapsed and its destruction was complete." Luke 6:47-49*

4. According to Jesus in Luke 6:47-48, what is a person like who hears His words and puts them into practice? \_\_\_\_\_

When the flood came what happened? \_\_\_\_\_

5. What do you think the flood represents in this parable? \_\_\_\_\_

6. In Luke 6:49, what is a person like who hears His words but does **not** put them into practice?

\_\_\_\_\_

What happens when the flood or torrent strikes? \_\_\_\_\_

In biblical times, people would search for a good strong cornerstone for a foundation for their house or building. The cornerstone was a stone that was laid at the corner of two walls to strengthen and bind them together. The cornerstone is used in the bible as a symbol for strong leaders.

*So this is what the Sovereign LORD says: "See, I lay a stone in Zion, a tested stone, a precious cornerstone for a sure foundation; the one who trusts will never be dismayed. Isaiah 28:16<sup>3</sup>*

7. In Isaiah 28:16, what are the two adjectives used in describing the cornerstone?

What kind of foundation?

A \_\_\_\_\_ stone and a \_\_\_\_\_ cornerstone for a \_\_\_\_\_ foundation.

Sure is an adjective that the Oxford Dictionary defines as reliable, secure, and unyielding. It is having sufficient reason for one's beliefs. Free from doubt. Thus, any other kind of cornerstone would be unreliable, insecure, and failing. A faulty cornerstone would give one reason for unbelief and doubt. A leader of excellence starts with the right cornerstone.

*Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household,<sup>20</sup> built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone.<sup>21</sup> In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord.<sup>22</sup> And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit. Ephesians 2:19-22*

8. In Ephesians 2:19-22, who is the Chief Cornerstone? \_\_\_\_\_

<sup>3</sup> All Scripture is from The NIV Study Bible, 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition, Kenneth Barker, General Editor, Zondervan Publishing House, Grand Rapids, MI, 1995.

## Lesson 1

Not only is Jesus our Model, He is the Chief building material. He most assuredly is our all-in-all. In other words, we see Jesus (Model) through the Bible (Blueprint) and we understand the plan. However, to begin building we need a sure foundation that we can trust. In order to become a Christian leader, a person must trust Jesus as Lord and Savior.

**9.** As a Christian leader, what is the goal of your building project (purposefully bringing individuals together) according to Ephesians 2:19-22?

---

The Christian leader's goal is to become and help others become a holy dwelling place for the Holy Spirit. Like the temple in the Old Testament, we are to be a living place of worship (adoration, devotion). Christian leaders glorify God and lead others to glorify God also. The tasks, the team members, and the activities may all be different but the end result is the same: Glorify God.

Glorify means to give glory, praise, and honor. The Hebrew<sup>4</sup> word for glory is *kabod*. It means abundance, weight, burden, and honor. It is used in various ways in the Bible but when it refers to God it means recognizing His importance (heavy weight) and majesty. Glorifying God is recognizing God's holy character, His goodness and tremendous worth. God is preeminent. He is the most excellent, the greatest, and unsurpassed Supreme Being.

The Christian leader must begin building with our Chief and Precious (great value) Cornerstone. You are taking these lessons because you have professed faith (belief, trust) in Jesus Christ; however, if you are unsure of your relationship with God read Genesis 1:27, 3:1-17, Romans 3:23, 5:8, 6:23, and 10:9.

**10.** Jesus is the Cornerstone from which we build our lives as a holy temple to the glory of God. If you have questions about your salvation or relationship with God, please write them clearly for your "Letter Minister" to give guidance.

---

---

---

*For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ. If any man builds on this foundation using gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay or straw, his work will be shown for what it is, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the quality of each man's work. If what he has built survives, he will receive his reward. 1 Corinthians 3:11-14*

---

<sup>4</sup> The Old Testament was originally written in the Hebrew language and the New Testament in Greek.

## Lesson 1

\*\*\*\*\*

### **Personal Application:**

Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to bring to mind any wrong foundation or building block in your own life? Confess (agree with God that you sinned) and repent (turn away from) from your wrongdoing.

Ask God to help you build your life on Jesus Christ and no other. Pray that all you build from this day forward will survive for His glory and not your own. Thank God for answering your prayer. Thank God for all that He has done in your life and all that He has planned for you. He is a good God and wants the very best for you. Believe!

\*\*\*\*\*

### **Lesson 1: Building a Leadership Model (Day Four) The Trinity**

In looking to Jesus, our Model and Cornerstone, we must look to Him correctly. Jesus was born fully man and fully God. He is God the Son and is one with God the Father and God the Holy Spirit. How can you explain this divine unity? The explanation is difficult because it is a divine mystery.

A divine mystery is something that our human minds cannot fully understand about God. The Trinity is one of the most important and well-known divine mysteries. The word trinity is not found in the Bible but simply means “tri-unity” or “three persons in one.” The name Trinity as referring to God was first used in the book *Against Praxeas* by “Church Father”<sup>5</sup> Tertullian (160-225 AD).

Tertullian used the term to describe the relationship of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. This name came to be because Bible scholars were reflecting critically on the pattern of divine activity portrayed and revealed in Scripture. As they studied and meditated on God’s Word, they came to agree on the doctrine of the Trinity. Church doctrine is a written body of teachings that has been set forth and accepted by the theologians (who study God, religion) and the church body.<sup>6</sup>

---

<sup>5</sup> The **Church Fathers** or **Fathers of the Church** are the early and influential theologians and writers in the Christian church particularly those of the first five centuries of Christian history. The term is used of writers and teachers of the Church, not necessarily saints. It is generally not meant to include the New Testament authors, though in the early Church some writings of Church Fathers were considered canonical. Those fathers who wrote in Latin are called the Latin (Church) Fathers, and those who wrote in Greek the Greek (Church) Fathers. Famous Latin Fathers include the Montanist Tertullian, St. Augustine of Hippo, St. Ambrose of Milan, and St. Jerome ; famous Greek Fathers include St. Irenaeus of Lyons (whose work has survived only in Latin translation), Clement of Alexandria , the Heterodox Origen , St. Athanasius of Alexandria , St. John Chrysostom , and the Three Cappadocian Fathers. (Source: Wikipedia free encyclopedia.)

<sup>6</sup> Church doctrine can fluctuate somewhat among Catholic and Protestant denominations. Indeed even among Protestant denominations there are differences of how Scripture is interpreted. However, there are certain tenets of the faith that must be in place for a particular congregation or group of people to be called Christian. The Trinity is one such doctrine and some others include the Fall of Adam and Eve, the Virgin birth of Jesus, Jesus being fully God and fully human, His death on the cross to pay for man’s sins and resurrection from the dead.

Lesson 1

The doctrine of the Trinity states there is one God who exists eternally in three distinct persons, God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. Father, Son, and Spirit are of one and the same divine essence. In other words, each member of the Trinity is fully God and fully one with each other. (Person is another term coined by Tertullian to help in understanding the God of the Bible.)

1. Why do you think we bring up the Trinity in our study of leadership? \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

Following God the Son means that a leader is also following God the Father and God the Spirit. Therefore, our Leadership Model must include the Triune God. In order to know and relate to God properly, a leader must understand the Trinity as much as is humanly possible. A leader will rely on the Triune God in all that he or she does each day.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Personal Application:**

Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to guide you and then read and meditate on the following verses: John 1:1-2, 3:16, 10:30, 14:16-17, 17:21, 20:28, Matthew 16:15-17, 28:19, 1 Peter 1:2, Nehemiah 9:20, Isaiah 48:16, Zechariah 4:6 and Joel 2:28-29.

2. What was one thing that you learned from reading these verses? \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

3. What was one thing that God revealed to you about Himself? \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

4. List any questions that you have after reading these verses \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

\*\*\*\*\*

We cannot relate to our Model Jesus Christ without relating to His whole essence. To know Jesus is know the Father and the Holy Spirit. They are one with an eternal relationship. They always were and always will be.

## Lesson 1

*In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.*  
Genesis 1:1-2

*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.* John 1:1-3

5. In the beginning who created the heavens and the earth? \_\_\_\_\_

The Old Testament was originally written in Hebrew. It has been translated into many languages including many versions in English. Sometimes a language has certain nuances or grammatical differences that are hard to translate. For example, the Hebrew word in Genesis 1:1-2 that we translate God is *Elohim*. This is a masculine, plural noun. Although the word is used to express the plural of majesty<sup>7</sup>, it is also a marker for the existence of the Trinity working together in the beginning of earth's existence.

6. Who was with God the Father at creation according to Genesis 1:2 and John 1:1-3?

\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

The New Testament was originally written in Greek. The apostle John chose his "words" very carefully. The word *logos* is translated "word" in our Bible. *Logos* means 'something said,' such as a word or a saying.<sup>8</sup> In the beginning God created the world by speaking it into existence.

*And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light.* Genesis 1:3

7. According to Genesis 1:3, when God said "Let there be light" what happened? \_\_\_\_\_

Some scholars have stated that John used the Greek word *logos* to refer to the Greek's idea that the world had some controlling principle. That is, they would understand the word as the concept of a god or a creating force in their own language. Both definitions would be appropriate and make sense to the Jew and the Greek. Both these groups of people would have the opportunity to read or hear John's letter.

God also communicates and manifests (makes known clearly) Himself through His word. The Bible is also known as the Word and has many illustrations of God telling the prophets to write down what He is saying.

*Go now, write it on a tablet for them, inscribe it on a scroll, that for the days to come it may be an everlasting witness.* Isaiah 30:8

<sup>7</sup> In ancient times a king or ruler was referred to in the plural as a form of respect.

<sup>8</sup> BibleWorks 6, BibleWorks, 2003.

## Lesson 1

8. According to Isaiah 30:8, how long will God's Word be a witness (gives evidence, testifies)?

---

Jesus is our everlasting Witness! Jesus is the Word. He is our Model, Blueprint and Cornerstone. Our life and leadership are deeply united in Christ.

Jesus is God! He became flesh and communicated clearly that He was the Son of God who came to give us light and life. He reveals and communicates the character of God.

*The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. John 1:14*

*In him was life, and that life was the light of men. John 1:4*

*He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and his name is the Word of God. Revelation 19:13*

### **Lesson 1: Building a Leadership Model** (Day Five) The Triune Relationship

In order to follow our Leader and lead like Him, we must understand the interrelatedness of the Father, Jesus, and Spirit. Are they jealous of one another? Do they ever get angry at each other? Do they make fun of the other Person? Do they ever belittle or make fun of the other one? I'm sure you answered all these questions an emphatic (forceful): NO!

1. How do *you* think they feel about each other? \_\_\_\_\_

---

As we have seen, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit have been together a very long time. Benjamin Franklin's proverb that fish and company stink after three days may apply to human relationships but certainly not to the Divine. They work together as a team and never tire of each other.

*While he was still speaking, a bright cloud enveloped them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!" Matthew 17:5*

*And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased." Matthew 3:17*

2. How does God the Father introduce Jesus in Matthew 3:17 and 17:5?

---

*but the world must learn that I love the Father and that I do exactly what my Father has commanded me. "Come now; let us leave." John 14:31*

Lesson 1

3. What does Jesus do in John 14:31 to show that He loves the Father?

---

*But whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit will never be forgiven; he is guilty of an eternal sin." Mark 3:29*

4. From Mark 3:29, how do you think God the Father and God the Son feel about God the Spirit?

---

*"Here is my servant whom I have chosen, the one I love, in whom I delight; I will put my Spirit on him, and he will proclaim justice to the nations. " Matthew 12:18*

*He will bring glory to me by taking from what is mine and making it known to you. All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will take from what is mine and make it known to you. John 16:14*

5. Meditate on the above verses and list some of the relational characteristics (ways they get along) of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit? \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

---

The Triune God is devoted to one another. They love and delight in each other. They are generous with each other and want honor for each other. Now what is so amazing is that God wants the same for you and me. Read Jesus' prayer to God the Father.

*"My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message,<sup>21</sup> that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me.<sup>22</sup> I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one:<sup>23</sup> I in them and you in me. May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.<sup>24</sup> "Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am, and to see my glory, the glory you have given me because you loved me before the creation of the world. John 17:20-24*

6. According to John 17:20, who is Jesus praying for? \_\_\_\_\_

7. In verse 21, what is Jesus asking the Father? \_\_\_\_\_

8. In verse 22, Jesus asks that the believers may be \_\_\_\_\_ as we are \_\_\_\_\_.

9. In verse 23, Jesus asks that believers be brought to complete unity to whom? \_\_\_\_\_.

Lesson 1

10. In verse 24, Jesus asks the Father that believers will be with\_\_\_\_\_.

Just think, Jesus wants us to be one with God the Father and God the Spirit! Just as they love and delight in each other, God wants us to have the same relationship. You, dearly beloved Christian, will never be alone again. You will always be with Someone who cares and delights in you intensely and persistently! He will give you the strength, wisdom and love to lead for Jesus!

\*\*\*\*\*

**Personal Application:**

Memorize Matthew 22:36-40 recognizing the commandment includes Father, Son and Holy Spirit as our Triune God. If you have memorized it in the past, review and meditate on it.

**Leadership depends on knowing and living by this commandment.**

*"Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?"<sup>37</sup> Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind."<sup>38</sup> This is the first and greatest commandment.<sup>39</sup> And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'<sup>40</sup> All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments." Matthew 22:36-40*

Considering the love relationship between the Father, Son, and Spirit, how do you think God expects us to act toward God and one another?

---

---

---

\*\*\*\*\*

**Next - Lesson 2: Triple Love Poured Out – The Triune God’s personal love for you**

Rev 7-2010