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Christianity For Today
Living a Christian Life in Today's World
A Life Changing Six Week Study Program
Participant Workbook

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Participant Workbook

This course is a six week series of instructional sessions intended to assist the participant whether they are a devout or novice Christian or even someone who is angry at the Church, or God, in short anyone who wishes to find answers concerning Christianity.

Anyone can take the course, whether affiliated with a church or not, it doesn't matter. The course is designed primarily for people who have questions concerning Christianity, non-churchgoers and those who have recently become Christians.

All parts of *Christianity For Today* is a wonderful life changing experience for all who participate, bar none. It answers and clarifies the basics of our Christian faith and puts us on firm ground as we travel on our journey with the Lord. Some even yell at God if that's what it takes to clear the air we encourage it. we ask for a complete commitment to attend each week, if at all possible.

Please take notes during the talks. IT is vital for each participant to do so. Each night you will move into your group and discuss what you have written concerning your questions and thoughts. No one will laugh or argue with you to prove a point, *it is forbidden*.

The six, two and a half hour sessions are:

Session One: *Is Christianity Really Relevant Today or Just Some Club?*

What is so Special About Jesus?

Session Two: *Why Read the Bible? What's Faith Got to do With It?*

What's the Big Deal About Praying?

Session Three: *Does God Really Hear Me and Why? How Can I know God Cares About Me? Does God Really Guide Me and How Do I Know?*

Session Four: *What is the Holy Spirit? What are the Gifts of Holy Spirit? Come on Does God Really Heal?*

Session Five: *How can I Change, I've Lost Hope? So What's Next?*

Session Six: *How Can I Spread the Good News to Others? What's Right and What's Wrong with the Church Today?*

With those important topics in mind and knowing that we are all short of time we must become more disciplined in our use of the time we do have. As mentioned before we propose each evening to start promptly at 6:30 with an excellent dinner, followed by a plain language talk at 7:00 (20 Min). Each talk is geared to promote discussion in the small groups. After the talk, 7:30, coffee should be available to continue a relaxed atmosphere in group settings. The group discussions, usually involving 8-12 people, end promptly at 9:00. Child care is available each night. This course normally is run by lay people just like you, no clergy allowed except on the edge. No intimidation, we're just regular folks and know how it feels to have doubts and fears

about God and the church. There are trained leaders in each group, but only to guide and help participants stay on a track. Basically each group chooses what is discussed.

The clean up detail ideally will fall on a different team each night, should numbers allow, and all are expected to take their turn. It's part of the learning experience. We all have to pitch in if Christianity is to be relevant in today's world. We believe it is relevant and hope you will see the same and work beside us as we strive to do better things for the people of our community.

It's a great way to get a good meal and join in on some highly spirited conversation concerning Christianity. *We want to stress that the course is non-denominational and no one will try to force you to speak or become anything different than you want to be.* You are free to just listen if that's what you want to do. But, if you ask a question, your peers will do the answering. Leaders will only help and insure a strict rule of anything said in the room is private and can not be shared about or disclosed to anyone, period.

Session One: Is Christianity Really Relevant Today or Just Some Club and What is so Special About Jesus?

NOTES

**ARE YOU
ANGRY AT GOD,
OR JUST
CURIOUS
ABOUT WHAT
IT'S ALL
ABOUT??**

**Christianity
Is Vitally
Important
Today!**

**You Can Yell at
God; But
It is Forbidden
to Laugh at
Someone's
Question.**

**Until we find a true
relationship with
God through Jesus
we will never find
complete answers
to questions that
matter to us, nor
find true meaning
for much of
anything.**

**Church is Not
a Building,
It Is the
People**

**JESUS' TEACHINGS
ARE CONSIDERED
THE GREATEST
WORDS THE
WORLD HAS EVER
KNOWN**

**What Would
a Total
Absence of
God Be
Like?**

*“Because you
have seen Me, you
have believed:
blessed are those
who have not seen
and yet believe.”
(John 20:29)*

Read:
*The Case
For Christ*
by
Lee Strobel

*No Man Can
Serve Two
Masters*

80% Of
Americans
Profess To Be
Christians

**Give Him a
chance.
You have
nothing to
lose and
everything
to gain.**

**Session Two: *Why Read the Bible? What's Faith Got to do With It?*
*What's the Big Deal About Praying?***

NOTES

**CHRISTIANITY
Ought to
be a Verb**

**Some People
Don't Want a
Rule Book**

**The Bible is
Alive!**

**WHY
Should I
Read the
Bible?**

**THE BIBLE IS A
LIBRARY NOT
JUST A BOOK**

**What's Faith
Got To Do
With It?**

**Read Each Book
In The Bible
Separately**

**START WITH
A REALISTIC
GOAL**

**Don't Give Up If
You Get Confused**

**Don't Say
I am
Finished**

**Ask God to
Speak to You
Through what
You Are
Reading**

**WHY WOULD
PEOPLE ALL OVER
THE WORLD RISK
THEIR LIFE TO
POSSESS A BIBLE?**

**Make A
Daily
Journal**

**Stand Firm
On God's
Word!**

**HOW EFFECTIVE
ARE YOU AT
COMMUNICATION?**

***What's the Big
Deal About
Praying?***

**It's a Two-way
Communication**

**Through Prayer
You can
Effect the
Entire Creation**

**Don't Do
All the
Talking...
Listen!**

**90% of
Americans
Profess
to Pray**

**Keep
It
Simple**

**GOD NEVER STOPS
US FROM ENTERING
INTO HIS CHAMBER.
HE IS ALWAYS
READY TO
HEAR**

**PRAYER IS
GOD'S
SECOND
GREATEST
GIFT!**

**PUT GOD FIRST IN
EVERYTHING IN
YOUR LIFE,
EVERYTHING
ELSE WILL FALL
INTO PLACE**

**ADORATION
CONFESSION
THANKSGIVING
INTERCESSION
PETITION**

**IF YOU
NEED TO,
CRY!**

Review the Problem
Tell Him Your Bitterness
Confess You Need Him
Ask for His Help!
Remember Who You Are!

Session Three: *Does God Really Hear Me and Why? How Can I know God Cares About Me? Does God Really Guide Me and How Do I Know?*

NOTES:

**GOD WILL
NOT BE
MOCKED**

**4 Keys:
God Has A Plan
Put God First
Yield to God**

*Does God
Really Have
a Plan For
My Life?*

**YOU Must
Take The
First Step**

*Does God
Really Care
About Me?*

**Does God
Really
Hear Me?**

**DO YOU
HEAR GOD?**

**God has
patience
with you!**

**Know The
Character
of God!**

***HOW DOES
GOD GUIDE
US!??***

**Don't Let
Disobedience
Separate You From
YOUR God!**

**Be Careful
About
Open Doors**

**We Must Train
Ourselves In
His Ways**

**Do Not Allow
Your Will to
Over Ride
His Will**

***FAITH IS
TAKING
THAT FIRST
STEP!***

***Who Is
Holy Spirit?***

***What Does Holy
Spirit Do?***

**Do Not Be
As The
Horse or
Mule**

**When You Seek
Guidance Listen
For His Side**

**Receive
YOUR Full
Inheritance**

**Seek
God's
Will**

**Yes Bad Things
Still Happen To
Good People.**

**In The
Old Testament
Holy Spirit
Fell On
Specific People
For
Specific
Purposes**

**What Are Gifts
of Holy Spirit?**

***SPIRITUAL
GIFTS ARE
GOD'S
PERFECT ORDER***

**Allow Holy
Spirit To Be
Your helper**

**Why Do We
Even Have
Such Gifts?**

***No Spiritual Gift
Should Edify a
Person, Only God***

**Do Not Seek
The Gifts For
Wrong Motives**

**GIFTS
TO THE
WHOLE
CHURCH**

***God Will Not
Lead You Into
Anything
Contrary To
Scripture***

**He Bless Us
That We May
Bless Others In
Like Manner**

**DOES GOD
HEAL TODAY?**

**WHY DOES GOD
HEAL SOME AND
NOT OTHERS?**

**EXPECT A
MIRACLE!**

**The Greek Word
For Save Also
Means Heal!**

True Inner
Healing Only
Comes From
God

**If You Feel
Condemned
Look to Where it
is Coming From**

**DO NOT BE
DECEIVED!**

**Do His Will,
Not Yours, Only
Then Will You
Receive All The
Blessing He has
Reserved For You!**

**He Died On
The Cross
For Us All!**

Session Five: *How can I Change, I've Lost Hope? So What's Next?*

NOTES:

**How Can I
Change?**

**Courage From
Faith Brings
Truth and Life**

**Allow
Holy
Spirit
To Help!**

*Where Is Your
Place In The
Vineyards?*

**Your Attitude
Should Be From
Gratitude!**

**Be Grateful No
Matter The
Circumstances**

*As A Loving
Servant
Trust God*

**What Are
Your
Priorities?**

**Temptation
Is Not Sin,
Acting On It Is!**

So What's Next?

**The Good
News Is
God Has
Rescued Us!**

*In Jesus
We Are
No Longer
Condemned!*

*Satan Trembles
When He Sees
The Weakest
Christian On
His Knees!*

**Be
Transformed!**

Seek Him First

**Set Aside
Time For Him!**

**He Will Not
Leave You
Alone!**

Session Six: How Can I Spread the Good News to Others? What's Right and What's Wrong with the Church Today?

NOTES:

**The Truth Is
Someone
First Witnessed
To You!**

***Just Be Willing
To Spread Seeds***

***Simply Be A
Willing Guide***

**Join
The
Club!**

**It's A
Good Deal!**

**Psst,
PASS
IT**

*How Can I Spread
The Good News
To Others?*

*He WILL Give
You The Words*

**What Good Is
What You Believe
If It Does Not
Make A Difference?**

**Play The
Part He
Gives Us,
Be A Light!**

**Listen With All
Gentleness While
Ministering To The
Needs Of Others**

1 + 1 = Many!

*See Yourself
As Others Do*

Be God's
Emissary!

**Tell How
You Have
Changed**

**God Is The
Same Today
As He Was
Yesterday!**

**What Difference
Would It Make In
Your Life If You
Knew Jesus Was
Coming Back
Tomorrow?**