Christian Workers
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Christian Life Series

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How to Study the Bible
Your Helpful Friend
Christian Worship

Christian Workers
Marriage and the Home
God’s Design—Your Choice
John’s Gospel
We Believe
What Churches Do
The Teaching Ministry
The Christian in His Community
When you accepted Jesus Christ as your Savior, you became a part of His church—the people He has called out of the world to be His own. Have you wanted to know what God’s design is for the church? How God will equip you to serve Him in the church?

I want to help you find the answers to these questions. I want to study with you what the Bible teaches about God’s plan for the church. I want to help you find out what kinds of ministry gifts there are. I want to help you discover how you can become a worker for the Lord.

This course tells how God has organized the church according to His plan and purpose. It explains why there are different types of workers in the church. It describes the kind of person a Christian worker should be. And it gives practical suggestions you can follow in finding and developing your own gifts. It will help you understand how you can work with the leaders in your church and minister to those around you.
THE CHRISTIAN LIFE SERIES

*Christian Workers* is one of 18 courses in this practical discipleship program for new believers. The Christian Life Series is a study to help students grow in their relationship with Christ, interact with the Word of God, and better understand God’s purposes for their life.

Students will study basic Christian topics under six reoccurring themes. The courses are conversational in style and easy to read. The following chart illustrates how the units of study are organized for the Christian Life Series.

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Before You Begin

How to Use this Book

This book is divided into lessons instead of chapters. Each lesson begins with two important pages. After the lesson number are the title and a short introduction to the lesson. On the next page is the outline or The Plan for the lesson. It is a list of what you can expect to study in the lesson.

Next are lesson goals. The Goals are guidelines for what you should be able to do after studying the lesson. Read them carefully; they will help you focus on the most important points in the lesson.

To help you achieve your goals, each lesson has questions and activities. The subheading Application signals you to answer questions on the material learned. Do not skip over this part. Writing out the answers will help you apply what you have learned. Most of the questions can be answered right in your book. If there is not enough room to write your answers in the book, write them in a notebook or journal that you can use to review the lessons later.

After answering a question, check the answer at the end of the lesson in the section marked Check Your Answers. Do not look ahead at the answers until you have written your own answer. This will help you remember what you study much better. Correct those you did not answer correctly. The answers are in a jumbled order so that you will not easily see the answer to the next question.
How to Answer Study Questions

This course uses many different kinds of questions. Below are samples of the three most common types and how to answer them.

**MULTIPLE-CHOICE**

A multiple-choice question asks you to choose an answer from the ones that are given.

*Example*

1. The Bible has a total of
   a) 100 books.
   b) 66 books.
   c) 27 books.

   The correct answer is **b) 66 books**.

   In your study guide, make a circle around **b)** as shown here:

   1. The Bible has a total of
      a) 100 books.
      b) 66 books.
      c) 27 books.
      d) 2 books.

**TRUE-FALSE**

A true-false question or item asks you to choose which of several statements are TRUE.

*Example*

2. Which statements below are TRUE?
   a) The Bible has a total of 120 books.
   b) The Bible is a message for believers today.
   c) All of the Bible authors wrote in the Hebrew language.
   d) The Holy Spirit inspired the writers of the Bible.
Statements b) and d) are true. You would make a circle around these two letters to show your choices, as you see above.

**Matching**

A matching question or item asks you to match things that go together, such as names with descriptions, or Bible books with their authors.

**Example**

3 Write the number for the leader’s name in front of each phrase that describes something he did.

...a) Received the Law at Mt. Sinai 1) Moses

b) Led the Israelites across the Jordan 2) Joshua

c) Marched around Jericho

d) Lived in Pharaoh’s court

Phrases a) and d) refer to Moses, and phrases b) and c) refer to Joshua. You would write 1 beside a) and d), and 2 beside b) and c), as you see above.

**Suggestions for Studying**

1. Set aside quiet and regular times for your study. It will be easier to concentrate if study is part of your daily habits.

2. Pray as you begin each study session. With an open Bible, the Holy Spirit, and this course, you are in the classroom of the Holy Spirit. Ask the Lord to help you understand the lesson and apply it to your life.

3. Carefully read the lesson introduction, the lesson plan, and the goals.

4. Begin to carefully read the lesson. Look up Bible references and take any notes that may be helpful. The Bible verses reinforce important points in the lesson.

5. Answer the study questions in the spaces provided. Use your notebook or journal when necessary.
6. Think about what you have learned and look for ways to apply it in discussion with family and friends, in a Bible study, or other opportunity.

7. Take your time. No bell will ring to force you to move on to new material.

Unit Evaluations

At the end of this course, you will find the Unit Evaluations. Questions and Answer Sheets are clearly marked for each unit. Carefully follow the directions given. You should complete and send your answer sheets to your instructor for corrections. If you are not studying with a Global University office you will still benefit by completing the Unit Evaluations.

Ways to Study this Course

This course has been written so that you can study it by yourself. We like to say that the teacher is in the book. However, you may also study this course in various group settings such as mid-week Bible studies, learning centers, home groups, and youth programs. This course can be used as a correspondence or resource tool for prison ministries as well as special ethnic or other community outreach programs. You will find both the content and study methods excellent for these purposes.

If you study this course by yourself, all of your work can be completed by mail. Be sure to use the address of your Global University office. If you are studying in a group or through a Discipleship Training Center, be sure to follow any additional instructions that your instructor may give.

In addition, your church may partner with Global University to open a Discipleship Training Center. Visit us online at www.globaluniversity.edu for more information and start-up helps.
Certificate

Unit or individual certificates are available to students upon successful completion of our courses. For instance, if you are studying through a National Office or Discipleship Training Center, you may receive a certificate from your Global University instructor. If you are studying on your own, you may mail your completed Unit Evaluation Answer Sheets to your local office. National Offices and Discipleship Training Centers may order certificates through the International Office or through Gospel Publishing House in the USA.

Additional Helps

The School for Evangelism and Discipleship (SED) Catalog, Discipleship Training Center Manual, the Study Center Agreement Form, and the SED Order Form are available online for print downloads. Other materials available for this course include supplemental audiocassettes.

Visit us at www.globaluniversity.edu

About the Author

Marian Brandt, a graduate of North Central Bible College, Minneapolis, Minnesota, wrote Sunday school literature for the General Council of the Assemblies of God, Springfield, Missouri. She also conducted Sunday school seminars.
Lessons

1  God’s Family of Workers
2  Workers in the First Church
3  God’s Design for Workers
4  I Can Be A Worker
5  Being A Worker
Kim, a man who has been a Christian for only a few months, is delighted with the beautiful truths he is finding in his study of God’s Word. He reads of the ways God spoke to the world and discovers an interesting pattern woven throughout the Bible.

As he reads his Bible, he sees that God has always had a family, and that this family has carried out His work in the world. He reads about the prophets who lived in Old Testament times and the disciples and apostles of the early church in New Testament times. He notices how these men and women have told God’s message to others.

Kim finds himself praying, “Lord, how can I be a part of Your work?” This prayer has become the cry of his heart as he sees the needs of the world around him. Is this prayer the cry of your heart? As you study this first lesson you will begin to discover what God’s plan for you is and how you can be a part of His work today.
The Plan

A. God Has Family
B. God’s Plan for His Family

The Goals

1. Discuss the development of God’s family.
2. State three things God plans for His family.

A. GOD HAS FAMILY

Goal 1. Discuss the development of God’s family.

God’s Family in the Old Testament

The book of Genesis records that God created man and woman, making them like himself, and He was pleased with what He had created (Genesis 1:27, 31).

Though God created all creatures, only humans were able to fellowship with the Creator. God wanted to share himself with humanity. He wanted a family.

But fellowship with the Creator was soon broken because of Adam and Eve’s sin (Genesis 3:1–24). Yet, God continued to have a family, and throughout history He continued to fellowship with those who obeyed Him.

In Genesis 4:26 we read that people began using the Lord’s holy name in worship. The story of Noah indicates clearly that God had a family at that time. “Noah did everything just as God commanded him” (Genesis 6:22). Already God had men to do His work.

Beginning with Abraham, we have a complete record of a family, which became the Jewish nation—God’s special people. They were people with a God-given mission. This Jewish nation was called Israel. Among its leaders were Moses, who led the children of Israel out of Egypt; David, a mighty king; the prophets, who spoke God’s message to the people; and
many others. We can follow the history of God’s special people throughout the Old Testament. Many of them obeyed God and did His work.

Application

1 Write the number of the person (right side) in front of each phrase that tells something about him (left side).

... a He was a mighty king of Israel. 1) Abraham
... b He led Israel out of Egypt. 2) Moses
... c The record of the Jewish nation begins with him. 3) David

Check your answers with those at the end of this lesson.

God’s Family in the New Testament

When Jesus, God’s Son, came to earth, He brought comfort and help, healing and forgiveness. But He also had a greater work to do that only He could do. He gave His blood as the perfect sacrifice for sin. The animal sacrifices that God commanded in the Old Testament had all pointed to Christ. After Jesus gave himself, animal sacrifices were no longer needed.

Jesus’ death was in the will of God, as Jesus had come to do the will of His Father. Jesus said, “‘My food, . . . is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work’” (John 4:34). Pleased with His Son’s work, God raised Jesus from the dead. And after Jesus spent forty days with His disciples, He returned to heaven (Acts 1:3–9).

What were Jesus’ followers to do when their leader was gone? He had told them before He went away. They were to go into all the world and preach the gospel (Acts 1:8).

In the book of Acts we read about men and women who worked for Jesus after He returned to heaven. Some of these
people had been His followers while He was on earth. Two of them, Peter and John, were on their way to pray in the temple when they met a beggar who had been crippled from birth. Having no money to give the beggar, Peter said, “Silver or gold I do not have, but what I have I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk” (v. 6). Peter took the crippled man by the hand and helped him up. The man went away walking and leaping and praising God (Acts 3:1–10). Jesus’ work continued through Peter and John, as many people became Christians and the church grew.

Another special worker we read about in the book of Acts was the apostle Paul. Before he understood the message of Christ he persecuted Christians. But after a personal encounter with Jesus, Paul became one of the church’s most faithful workers. He starting churches in many countries.

**Application**

2 (Fill in the blank.) Once a persecutor of Christians, . . . . . . . later believed in Jesus.

a) John.

b) Paul.

c) Peter.

**God’s Family Today**

The work of Jesus continues today—more than 2000 years after Jesus returned to heaven. Before Jesus left the earth, He commanded His disciples to “go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation” (Mark 16:15). Jesus’ command is to Christians of every generation. The words of Jesus are for us now.

As the message of God’s salvation through Jesus Christ is received and believed, the family of God continues to grow. Godly men and women from Old Testament times, believers from the first church, and believers today are all God’s children and part of His continuing family.
God speaks to the world through His family. Jesus is in heaven, but His work on earth will continue through us. The message of life, the message of salvation through faith in God’s Son will always be told, for that is the work of Christians.

**Application**

3  The Bible verse that tells us what Jesus’ command is for us today is
   a) Genesis 6:22.
   b) Mark 16:15.

4  Circle the letter in front of each true statement.
   b) God’s family includes people who lived before Jesus came to earth.
   c) Believers in Jesus today are part of God’s family.
   d) It was not possible for people who lived when Moses did to be members of God’s family.

**B. GOD’S PLAN FOR HIS FAMILY**

**Goal 2.** State three things God plans for His family.

We know God has a family and has had one since the creation of Adam. Now let us think about His hopes and plans for His family.

**To Be Like His Son**

Would it surprise you to know that God is looking for His image in His children? Romans 8:29 says, “Those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his Son.” Nothing pleases a father more than to see his image in his children. God wants our lives and our desires to be like His. We should seek to be righteous and holy even as He is righteous and holy. Then we will be like His Son. Unless we are
like His Son we will not be able to continue His Son’s work on the earth.

There was once a missionary who went into a new country to preach the gospel. He thought no one had ever been there before to testify of Jesus. When the missionary told of Jesus’s awesome personality and works, the people replied, “Oh, Jesus has been here. We have seen Him.” The missionary knew it could not be true, but as the people talked he understood. Another missionary had been there years before. He was so much like Jesus that the people thought they had seen Jesus!

We must be like God’s Son if we are to continue His work. We must walk with Him. Talk with Him. Read and obey His Word. Seek to know His will and do it. Then, we will become like Him.

**Application**

5 When we say that God wants to find His image in us we mean that we are to be like Him in

a) physical appearance.

b) character.

c) outward features.

**To Carry the Gospel**

We have Jesus’ command to take the gospel into the whole world. What does this mean? First of all, there must be workers willing to go. Then there must be workers to pray for them as they go. And there must be workers who support them financially so they can go and preach. Bibles and teaching materials are needed in gospel work.

When churches are started, many people are needed to teach, to pray, to minister to the sick, and to comfort those who sorrow. Some will be needed to build the church building, and some to clean it. There is a place for every person who will
work. All Christians should be willing to work unto God’s glory.

To Spend Eternity With Him

At the end of the day parents welcome their children home. Even when the children are older and live away from home, still parents want to see them and be together with them.

Jesus said, “‘In my Father’s house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you’” (John 14:2). God is looking forward to the time when His family will return home. He knows that the time is coming, so He has prepared and planned for an eternal family reunion.

At that celebration, the Father will issue rewards. Jesus says that there will be a special reward for those who have suffered for His name: “‘Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven’” (Matthew 5:12).

Application

6 Suppose you wanted to tell a friend about God’s plans for His family. Write below the three things you would share and a Bible reference for each one.

a) ............................................................

b) ............................................................

c) ............................................................
Check Your Answers

The answers to your study exercises are not given in the usual order, so that you will not easily see the answer to your next question ahead of time.

4  a) False  
   b) True  
   c) True  
   d) False  

1  a) 3) David  
   b) 2) Moses  
   c) 1) Abraham  

5  b) character.  

2  b) Paul.  

6  Your answer should include the following, in any order:  
   a) To be like His Son, Romans 8:29.  
   b) To carry the gospel, Mark 16:15.  
   c) To spend eternity with Him, John 14:2.  

3  b) Mark 16:15.
As Kim learned what it meant for him to be a member of God’s family, he began to understand what God’s plan for him included. His desire to be part of God’s work continued to grow, but he realized that there were many other believers too.

Kim started to study the church in the book of Acts more carefully. What was it that brought those first believers together? he wondered. What kind of people were they? What happened when they met with each other?

As he found the answers to these questions, he discovered why it was important for him to meet and work with other believers. He saw God’s purpose for the church.

As you study this second lesson, I hope that you will make the same discoveries.
The Plan

A. The First Church

B. The Church Today

The Goals

1. Identify why the first believers met together.

2. Show similarities between the first church and today’s church.

A. The First Church

Goal 1. Identify why the first believers met together.

The first church comprised ordinary people who had needs, problems, fears, and burdens. Though these ordinary people had received Christ as their Savior, they were imperfect. For instance, Peter was a believer, who in one pressure-packed instance denied knowing the Lord (Mark 14:66–72). Thomas also was a believer, yet he doubted that Jesus had risen from the grave (John 20:24–25).

From the day that John the Baptist announced, “‘Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world’” (John 1:29), many people followed Jesus. But just as quickly, He had enemies. His teachings did not always agree with the teachings of the rulers and priests. From the beginning they planned to do away with Him. The same people who ill-treated Jesus also mistreated His followers.

In Acts 9:1–2, we read that before he believed in Jesus, Saul (later called Paul) received permission from the priest to destroy the Christians. Why did Christians meet if they knew they might be imprisoned or beaten? They met because they needed each other.
Application

1  Suppose a friend tells you that he cannot be a believer because he has many doubts. What verses would be best to share with him to encourage him?
   a) Mark 14:66–72
   b) John 20:24–25
   c) Acts 9:1–2

   In Acts 12 Peter had been put in prison for preaching. After he was set free by an angel, he found the believers together praying for him.

   The need for teaching often brought the believers together. Aquila and Priscilla, for example, took Apollos to their home so they could explain the way of God to him more correctly (Acts 18:26). Paul told the believers in Colosse to teach and instruct each other (Colossians 3:16). And there were times that believers needed to be together to make decisions, as seen in Acts 6:1–6. These examples show that needs brought the believers together.

Application

2  Aquila and Priscilla met with Apollos to
   a) listen to him preach.
   b) explain God’s way to him.
   c) make decisions.

   It is rare for members of a family to refuse to help each other. When some of the widows in the church thought they were not receiving what was due them, the disciples found a way to take care of their need (Acts 6:1–6). Dorcas sewed clothes for the needy widows (Acts 9:39), and others shared their hospitality (Acts 16:15). The church consisted of believers who helped others.
Paul was one of the best-known apostles of the church. When he had material need, the church at Philippi shared with him, and Paul thanked them for it (Philippians 4:14–16). These people were ordinary believers who reached out to help. But what awesome ministry they had to Paul!

Paul told the Corinthians that God comforted them in their sorrows, so they could do the same for someone else (2 Corinthians 1:4). This was another way the believers helped each other. The book of Acts records that the believers taught, encouraged, and comforted one another. The church was full of workers who met people’s needs. Thus was the church strengthened.

**Application**

3 Match each Bible verse describing the first church (left side) to the phrase that tells why the believers met (right side).

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<tr>
<td>a</td>
<td>Acts 6:2–6</td>
<td>1) To pray for each other</td>
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<tr>
<td>b</td>
<td>Acts 11:22–23</td>
<td>2) To learn about God</td>
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<td>c</td>
<td>Acts 11:29–30</td>
<td>3) To meet material needs</td>
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<tr>
<td>d</td>
<td>Acts 12:5, 12</td>
<td>4) To comfort and encourage one another</td>
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<td>e</td>
<td>Acts 14:22</td>
<td>5) To choose people for a certain work</td>
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<tr>
<td>f</td>
<td>Acts 18:26</td>
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We can see from our study that the members of the first church worked together. When someone was in need, the believers prayed, sent food, provided clothing, or gave comfort. If someone did not understand God’s way, the believers taught him. If someone failed in some way, the believers helped him to follow the Lord.

There was cooperation and caring. At one time the believers shared their goods so that everyone had enough (Acts 4:32–35). When there were dangers, they protected one another (Acts 9:29–30). The ministry of the body of Christ in the first church was to help each other and anyone who was in need.
B. THE CHURCH TODAY

Goal 2. Show similarities between the first church and today’s church.

We use the word church to mean the assembly or gathering of those whom God has called out of the world to belong to Him. Because the church is not a building but the people who gather together, you are a part of the church if you believe on Jesus, even though there may not be a special building for you to worship in.

The church includes people from every race. We may be of different language groups, but we are one body. God wants the world to see Jesus through His church. It is to be a continuation of the work of His Son on the earth. Believers are to bring the message of life and healing to the nations. This is God’s purpose for the church today.

People’s needs do not change. Thus the ministry of the church is much the same today as it was at the beginning. We know that all need to be saved, so the church preaches Christ as the one who forgives sin. Believers need God’s power in their lives, so they are urged to be filled with the Holy Spirit. There is need for encouragement and comfort, so the church offers times for sharing and fellowship. Many people need healing, guidance, or advice. Pastors and leaders are appointed by God to aid in these ways.

Application

4 (Choose the correct response.) The most important reason why believers should gather together is to
a) pray for people in prison.
b) be like the first church.
c) minister to each other’s needs.
d) meet people from other races.
We can gain strength when we are with the church body. This strength will help us overcome Satan, our enemy, who tries to discourage us and tempt us to sin. When we gather with our brothers and sisters, we are helped as the Word is preached and as we sing and pray together. Do not try to live without the help of the church. It is there to minister to our needs. In the church truth is explained and people pray together. It is a place where believers serve one another in the love of Christ, where burdens are shared and sins confessed (James 5:16).

Not every meeting is alike. First Corinthians 14:26 reads, “When you come together, everyone has a hymn, or a word of instruction, a revelation, a tongue or an interpretation. All of these must be done for the strengthening of the church.” If each one has something to say or do, who should lead? Ephesians 4:11–16 shows that God has given gifts to the church. These gifts include leaders. In almost every church a pastor or other leader leads the service. An evangelist or teacher is also God’s gift to the church. No one works alone. “We are God’s fellow workers; you are God’s field, God’s building” (1 Corinthians 3:9).

**Application**

5 The following things were true of the church in the book of Acts. Which of these should also be true in the church today?

a) Began in Jerusalem and was led by the apostles Peter, John, Paul, and others

b) Gathered together for teaching and prayer

c) Was persecuted by the apostle Paul before he believed in Jesus

d) Prayed that the apostle Peter would be freed from prison

e) Shared their goods and possessions with those who had needs
6 Are you part of a certain church? If so, answer the following questions:

a) What needs of yours are being met by the leaders and other believers?

b) What needs of the other believers are you helping to meet?

c) What needs of yours and of other believers still need to be met?
Check Your Answers

4  c) minister to each other’s needs.

1  b) John 20:2–25. These verses show that it is possible for a believer to have doubts. Later on, Thomas’ doubts were replaced by belief (John 20:26–28).

5  b) Gathered together for teaching and prayer.
   e) Shared their goods and possessions with those who had needs.

2  b) explain God’s way to him.

6  Your answer. Did you list some needs that need to be met? As you continue studying this course, pray that God will help you see if there are any of those needs you can help meet.

3  a  5) To choose people for a certain work
    b  4) To comfort and encourage one another
    c  3) To meet material needs
    d  1) To pray for each other
    e  4) To comfort and encourage one another
    f  2) To learn about God
Kim saw that there were many kinds of needs that brought believers together—needs for teaching, for encouragement, for material help, for guidance, for strength. But Kim wanted to know more about what the church should be like so that it could actually meet those needs. He wanted to know how its different parts should work together.

As Kim continued to study his Bible, he found several pictures or illustrations of the church. Each one helped him to understand better God’s purpose and design for it. He also discovered that people who were members of the church had ministries—special abilities to help each other. When the members of the church used their abilities, the church was able to fulfill God’s purpose. Kim was amazed to find out how many of these abilities there were!

You are about to discover more about God’s purpose for the church and the ministries of its members. May the truths you learn in this lesson inspire you to be part of God’s purpose and fit into His design for the church.
The Plan

A. Images of the Church’s Function
B. The Body at Work

The Goals

1. Describe the church by using three illustrations.
2. Differentiate between the work of Christ as head of the body and of believers as members of the body.

A. Images of the Church’s Function

Goal 1. Describe the church by using three illustrations.

A Bride

As believers in Jesus Christ, we unite to worship God, to encourage one another, and to make Christ known to others. By working together, we accomplish more for His Kingdom. The New Testament gives several illustrations of the church. We will look at three of these: a bride, a building, and a human body.

The apostle Paul used the image of a bride to help the Corinthian believers understand their relationship to the Lord Jesus Christ. Paul wrote, “I am jealous for you with a godly jealousy. I promised you to one husband, to Christ, so that I might present you as a pure virgin” (2 Corinthians 11:2).

Revelation uses this same figure of speech to describe the wedding of the Lamb (Christ) and the bride (church). “Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory! For the wedding of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready” (Revelation 19:7–8).

An angel of the Lord spoke to John, the writer of the book of Revelation, saying, “‘Come, I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb’” (Revelation 21:9). The church is
described as the bride of Christ to help us understand our close relationship to Christ.

A Building

Just as the apostle Paul compared the church to a bride, so another Bible writer compared it to a building. Stones were a common building material in Israel, so it was natural for Peter to think of stones when he wanted to tell us about a building. In 1 Peter 2:4–5, he urges us to be built into a spiritual temple of living stones. Notice that there is only one building but many stones, just as there are many believers but only one church.

First Corinthians 3:9 also notes that we are God’s building. We become a dwelling place for God. He lives in each of us as believers, but it is also important to realize that all believers together make a spiritual building where God dwells.

A Body

A third picture of the church compares it to a human body (Ephesians 1:23; Romans 12:4–5). The body of Christ is not just a group of Christians gathered in one place. Its members are like different parts of the body that work together. Though they are different from each other, there is unity of purpose and oneness of heart. So the body does not express the idea of just one member; it presents itself as a complete unit. Christ’s body, the church, is made up of many members that form one body that works together.

Application

1 Circle the letter in front of each Bible verse that compares the church to a building.
   a) Romans 12:4–5
   b) 1 Corinthians 3:9
   c) 1 Corinthians 10:17
   d) Ephesians 1:23
   e) 1 Peter 2:4–5
Each of the three pictures of the church shows a special truth about it. Match each picture (right side) to the truth you think it emphasizes the most (left side).

a  God’s dwelling place   1) Bride
b  Parts working together  2) Building
c  Closeness to Christ   3) Body

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**B. THE BODY AT WORK**

**Goal 2.** Differentiate between the work of Christ as head of the body and of believers as members of the body.

One of the great wonders of God’s creation is the human body, which has the ability to heal itself and to recover after illness or accident. The body of Christ, the church, has this ability too. When problems come, it has a way of healing itself through the Holy Spirit. This healing ability functions best if every part is present and working. God wants the church to be a healthy body that has no parts missing. Consider how the body of Christ works.

**Christ Is the Head**

In the Bible, the example of the human body is used to show the way believers work together with Christ. The human body without a head is useless. The head of the church is Jesus Christ.

In a human body, the head directs the body and causes all the parts to function as one unit. The head controls the activities of the body. When something is needed in the body, the head is aware of this. In the same way it is the work of Christ, the head, to direct the different parts of the body so that they work together and help each other.

A brother may be suffering and in need of help. As the head, Christ tells another member of the body to pray for the sick
member. When a teacher is preparing to give a Bible study, he prays and Christ gives guidance. Thoughts come to his mind to help him teach. This is the work of Christ as the head.

Sometimes Christ gives directions, but we disobey. When that happens the work of the church is hindered. The story is told of a woman who was impressed by the Holy Spirit to give money to a poor family. She planned to obey but was always busy with her work. Three days went by before she gave the family the money. The mother cried, “Oh thank you, thank you. We have been without food for three days and now God has answered our prayers.”

As the head, Christ gives gifts to His church to provide it with all it needs to do its work. Before Jesus returned to heaven, He promised to send the Holy Spirit. On the Day of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit was given (Acts 1–2). God wants each of us as members of the church to receive the gift of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:38–39). The church must cooperate with Christ. When we as members of the church pray, the Holy Spirit helps us understand what Christ wants us to accomplish.

**Application**

3 The relationship of Christ to the church is compared to that of the human body to show that

a) the church must be directed by Christ.

b) each member of the body has a different function.

c) the human body is useless without a head.

**Believers Are the Body**

Through His body, Christ continues His work in the world. God has given different gifts and ministries to the members of the body so that this work can be done. These gifts and ministries also keep the body strong and help it fight against evil. As each member, filled with the Holy Spirit, allows the life of Christ to flow through him or her, the church is strengthened.
Let us study these gifts and ministries, which are mentioned in Ephesians 4:11, Romans 12:6–8, and 1 Corinthians 12:8–10. Read each of these passages and pay careful attention to the following explanations:

1. An apostle is sent to start new churches.
3. An evangelist goes from place to place preaching the gospel.
4. A pastor guides the church as a shepherd guides his sheep.
5. A teacher explains the Word of God.
6. One who exhorts calls people near to God and to His purpose.
7. Serving means giving relief and assistance.
8. Sharing is giving, whether money, time, or talents, to spread the gospel.
9. One who has authority wisely governs those under him.
10. One who shows kindness gives practical help to the needy.
11. A divine message of wisdom gives advice or helpful words.
12. Knowledge is the use of information and facts for a particular need as God directs.
13. Faith is believing God in a special way.
14. Power to heal is the ability to pray effectively for the sick.
15. Power to work miracles is special ability to do things that overcome the laws of nature.
16. One who speaks God’s prophetic message builds up, comforts, or encourages others.
17. Ability to tell the difference between gifts that come from the Spirit and those that do not is that of knowing whether or not the Spirit of God is present.
18. The ability to speak in strange tongues is the power to say things by the Spirit in a language unknown to the speaker.

19. The ability to explain what is said is the power to give the meaning of words spoken in an unknown language.

When these gifts are active among the believers, the body is blessed and strengthened, and God’s work is done.

**Application**

4 Match each need (left side) to the gift or ministry that would best help meet the need (right side). Write the number of the gift in front of each need it could meet.

. . . a Sara feels discouraged. 1) Teaching
 . . . b Jim is very sick. 2) Encouragement
 . . . c Robert does not understand the Bible. 3) Power to heal
 . . . d Larry’s family needs clothing. 4) Showing kindness
 . . . e Susan wants to learn about spiritual gifts.
Check Your Answers

3  a) the church must be directed by Christ.

1  b) 1 Corinthians 3:9.
   e) 1 Peter 2:4–5.

4  a  2) Encouragement.
   b  3) Power to heal.
   c  1) Teaching.
   d  4) Showing kindness.
   e  1) Teaching.

2  a  2) Building
   b  3) Body
   c  1) Bride
Kim now understands more about the church and the ministries God has given to its members. As he examines the church, he notices that not everyone has the same ministry. There are those who preach and teach, those who give messages of wisdom and knowledge, and those who serve and share.

There are many different ways Kim could help his brothers and sisters in the Lord, but there are more things he would like to know. For instance, he is curious about how to work for God, and he would like to know how to discover and receive the ministry gifts God has for him.

Perhaps you have been wondering about these very same things! It may be that you have been a believer for a while but have thought that there was nothing special for you to do. God does have a ministry for you. First Corinthians 12:7 assures us that “to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good.” May the truths in this lesson show you how to discover your special ministry in the body of Christ.
The Plan

A. Special Help for Workers
B. Gifts for Workers
C. A Gift for You

The Goals

1. Identify the Christian worker’s source of help.
2. State how God commissions a person to work for Him.
3. Describe God’s part in giving us ministry gifts.

A. SPECIAL HELP FOR WORKERS

Goal 1. Identify the Christian worker’s source of help.

A Great Task

Jesus commanded, “‘Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you’” (Matthew 28:19–20.) This is our task—to make disciples and teach them.

Most of the world is not saved, so Christian workers have a duty to help the masses hear the gospel. We cannot neglect this. Jesus left the command for His followers to obey. This is a great task for which we need God’s special help.

We Have an Enemy

Alone we cannot overcome our enemy. Our enemy is Satan, who wants to see God’s work fail. If the Christian worker fails, God’s work suffers.

Do you remember the story of Samson in Judges 16? Samson was set apart for a special work for God. But for a moment he became careless about God’s call. Samson then lost God’s presence and was powerless to overcome his enemies.
We Have God’s Power

Because the task is great and the enemy strong, God gives us special help to work for Him. Jesus equipped His disciples with power to be witnesses for Him (Acts 1:8), and we have the same power of the Holy Spirit today.

God wants the world to be saved, so He has given the Holy Spirit to help us execute the Father’s will on the earth. God furnishes the power, and we work for Him using His power.

Application

1. We read about the power God gives us to do His work in
   a) Matthew 28:19.
   b) Mark 16:15.
   c) Acts 1:8.

2. The Christian worker’s source of special help is
   a) power received from the Holy Spirit.
   b) deep desire he has to serve the Lord.
   c) work for which he has been set apart.

B. Gifts for Workers

Goal 2. State how God commissions a person to work for Him.

God is all-knowing. He sees the work and the worker. In His wisdom He is able to select the right one for the right place. So He calls us to work for Him.

Sometimes the call comes while we are reading the Bible. The Holy Spirit can use the inspired Word of God to speak to us. It becomes a call to service in our hearts. Or God can put a burden on our hearts as we pray. We might become interested in a place that needs the gospel. As we work to help take the gospel there, we sense in our hearts that God wants us to become workers in that place.
The call may also come as believers are seeking the Lord. In Acts 13:2, the Holy Spirit instructed the church at Antioch: “‘Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.’”

God does not call everyone to do the same work. For example, God may call a businessman to be a witness for Christ in the way he operates his business. A woman may work at home and be a godly witness in her community, praying for those who preach and teach the Word and witnessing to her neighbors. No one is left out of God’s call. Just as people are different from one another, the calls are different. God needs you as a Christian worker. When you sense the Spirit speaking to your heart, pay attention.

**Application**

3 Suppose a friend were to ask how God calls people to work for Him. In your notebook, list at least three ways God does this.

**God Equips**

When a person feels God’s call, he or she will be able to obey that call because God gives ministry gifts to His workers. We studied these gifts in Lesson 3.

The first gift, the Holy Spirit, was given on the Day of Pentecost. We may be able to do many things, but to do a spiritual work we need the Holy Spirit’s help. A gift, of course, is not something we earn by our own efforts. A gift is given because someone has a need. God gives gifts to Christian workers because they have need of them. Paul writes, “To each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it” (Ephesians 4:7).
Application

4  God equips workers to do His work by
   a) putting a burden on their hearts.
   b) calling them to work for Him.
   c) giving them the ministry gifts they need.

C. A Gift for You

Goal 3. Describe God’s part in giving us ministry gifts.

God Chooses Our Gifts

   We have already said that God chooses the right person for
   the right job. This indicates several things:

   1. God knows what work we are to do.
   2. God knows what gifts we need.
   3. God will give those gifts to us.

   Suppose a certain church in your town needs a pastor. God
   knows this need. In a nearby town a believer named Edward is
   praying about the work he should do. He knows about the need
   of that church and feels that God wants him to offer himself
   to be its pastor. How would God help Edward do the work of
   pastoring? God would give him ministry gifts as he needs them,
   but Edward should also do what he can to prepare for his work
   and develop his gifts. Perhaps there is a Bible school where he
   can go to receive training. Or perhaps he can study by sending
   for Bible lessons through the mail.

   And so it is with us. God calls us to work for Him and
   chooses the gifts we need. The gifts fit both the work and the
   worker. God knows what gifts are important in our work. He
   knows what gifts fit us. He chooses better than we can, so we
   can trust Him to make the right choice. When He gives us a
   gift, it will be just what we need to do the work He has called
   us to do.
God Uses Our Gifts

God gives us special abilities to serve Him. God can also use any skill or talent that we dedicate to Him. For example, suppose a man who can paint pictures accepts Christ. If this man gives his talent to God, God can use it to bring a blessing to the church. The man could paint a picture to hang in the church. He could paint pictures to help his Sunday School teacher teach the lesson. In this way his talent could become a gift to the church.

Whatever your gifts or talents are, God can use them. In Romans 16:1–2 is mention of Phoebe, a servant of the church. We do not know what she did. But God must have used her life because the apostle Paul says that “she has been a great help to many people, including me” (Romans 16:2). No matter what gifts a Christian worker has, God can use them to bless and minister to others.

Application

5 Circle the letter in front of each TRUE statement.

a) Because we know what work needs to be done for God, it is our part to choose the gifts we need.

b) Since God decides which work to call us to, He also chooses which gifts to give us.

c) God will give a believer as many gifts as he needs to do the work to which He has called him.

d) Because God gives us gifts to serve Him, we do not need to prepare ourselves.

Receiving Your Gift

Paul wrote to the Christians in Rome that a part of worship is to offer ourselves to God (Romans 12:1). In the Old Testament sacrificial offerings, animals were set apart for use in worship. In a more figurative way, Christians give themselves over to God’s service. The Christian must first offer himself to God before he can receive gifts from Him.
Think about the gifts as you study the New Testament. Become acquainted with the way they were used and how they built up the body. Notice the gifts as they are used in your church. Think about how the gifts would help you as a Christian worker.

The reason why you want to receive gifts is important too. No gift is given to make a person great. It is wrong to desire a gift so that people will think you are spiritual. Pray about your work. Desire the gifts that give you power to minister and help others. Start with the gifts you feel drawn to. Think about the gifts that the Holy Spirit brings to your attention. Do not forget that God gives the gift (1 Corinthians 12:28, Ephesians 4:11). Pray for and desire the gifts, but leave the choice with God.

**Application**

6 Suppose a friend asks what he can do to receive ministry gifts from the Lord. In your notebook, list three things you could tell him to do.
Check Your Answers

4  c) giving them the ministry gifts they need.

1  c) Acts 1:8.

2  a) power received from the Holy Spirit.

5  b) and c) are true

3  Your answer should include these ideas (in any order): through the Word of God; through a burden placed on our hearts when we pray; and through the Spirit’s speaking to our hearts.

6  Your answer should include these ideas (in any order): offer himself in complete dedication to God; study the gifts and observe how they are used; and desire the gifts and pray that he might receive them.
Kim is rejoicing. As he has studied the Bible and spent time praying and seeking the Lord, the Holy Spirit has been showing him how he can minister to others.

He was asked to go to the home of a sick man and pray for him. As he prayed he felt the precious anointing and presence of the Holy Spirit. A week later he prayed for a child who had a fever. The child was healed. One Sunday he went with another believer who goes each week to preach in a nearby town. He led the believers in singing and sharing with each other what God had done for them. He also taught a class of boys.

Kim is excited as he thinks how God gives everyone gifts for his work. Now that Kim has learned that he can be a worker, he wants to know more about just what kind of worker he should be and how he should develop his gifts.

Perhaps you, too, would like to know more about these things. As you study this lesson, see what the Bible says about being a Christian worker. And you will find out more about how to develop your ministry gifts.
The Plan

A. Follow Christ’s Example
B. Develop Your Gifts

The Goals

1. Describe the qualities of a Christian worker.
2. State several ways to develop your ministry gifts.

A. FOLLOW CHRIST’S EXAMPLE

Goal 1. Describe the qualities of a Christian worker.

Be a Servant

What kind of person was Jesus when He lived on the earth? The Bible shows Him as a man who cared much for people and their needs. He was unselfish.

In Matthew 14:13–14, we read that Jesus was grieved when He heard that John the Baptist had died. Jesus wanted to be alone, but the people followed Him. Did He reject them when they found Him? No. He empathized with the people and met their needs. He did the will of His Father even though He was sad and perhaps weary. In the same way, the Christian worker will not always be able to do what he wants to do. He is the servant of the Lord; a servant does what his master wants.

In John 13:1–17, Jesus served His disciples by washing their feet. He said, “‘I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another’s feet’” (v. 14). To be successful Christian workers we must emulate Jesus: “‘Just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many’” (Matthew 20:28).
Application

1 Read John 13:1–17. In your notebook, write one or two sentences telling what lesson Jesus was trying to point out to His disciples in verse 16.

Have the Fruit of the Spirit

When we follow the example of Christ, His qualities are seen in us. The Bible refers to these qualities as fruit. The person who is filled with the Holy Spirit has a responsibility to make sure that the fruit of the Spirit is seen in his or her life.

God not only gives gifts for ministry but also gives us power to control ourselves so that we are effective witnesses. People can be helped by our gifts but hindered by our personalities. We must be careful not to let pride or any other vice disqualify us.

For this study we are going to consider the fruit of the Spirit found in Romans 12:9–21. This portion has been chosen to help you understand more about working for the Lord. It shows what the person who ministers must be like. You can help yourself as a worker by studying the list, praying about your own life, and asking for the Holy Spirit’s help. Do not be discouraged. No worker is perfect, but we can become like Christ as we love and serve Him.
The Christian worker should . . .

- have love that is honest.
- hate what is wrong.
- hold on to what is good.
- love other believers.
- show honor and respect.
- not be lazy.
- be earnest in spirit.
- serve the Lord.
- be joyful.
- be patient in trouble.
- pray always.
- share what he has.
- open his home to the needy.
- bless those who persecute the believers.
- weep with those who weep.
- have equal concern for all.
- not be proud or arrogant.
- accept humble tasks.
- not repay wrong with wrong.
- try to do what is right before all people.
- try to live in peace with everyone.
- feed his enemy.
- overcome evil with good.
Application

2 Read the Bible verses below. Then match each of them (left side) to the quality of which it is the best example (right side).

\[ \begin{align*}
\text{a} & \quad \text{John 11:32–36} & 1) & \text{Be patient in trouble} \\
\text{b} & \quad \text{Acts 16:22–25} & 2) & \text{Share what he has} \\
\text{c} & \quad \text{Philippians 4:14–16} & 3) & \text{Weep with those who weep} \\
\text{d} & \quad \text{Revelation 1:9} & & \\
\end{align*} \]

3 Are the qualities given in the above list a part of your life? Underline each one that is.

B. Develop Your Gifts

Goal 2. State several ways to develop your ministry gifts.

We may not always know every gift that God gives us, but we can be aware of God’s leading. We already know that our gift will be right for us. Anyone does better work when he feels he can do it well. Know, too, that God can give us a gift that has nothing to do with our natural talents. What kinds of ministries are possible for us?

Discover Your Gifts

The Holy Spirit can make even timid people to be bold. Yield your life and talents to God, and you will enjoy ministry. Do not be afraid to try new kinds of work, especially as you feel God drawing you to those things. Do not force yourself into doing things, but allow the Spirit to direct you.

You may receive a word from an elder or a leader in the church, which may help you know what your ministry is. Often those who have served the Lord in leadership can sense ministry gifts in others. Whether you receive a definite gift or feel the urging of the Spirit as you serve God, know that you do have a ministry and there is help for you in using that ministry.
Application

4 In discovering your gifts it is best to
a) concentrate on doing things you already know how to do.
b) try doing anything you have not done before.
c) try doing things you feel the Spirit directing you to do.

Appreciate Your Gifts

Your ministry is God’s gift to you. Always honor it. This does not mean for you to be proud. To be proud is to think too much of yourself. To honor your gift is to realize that God gave it to you and to give the glory to God for it.

People who work in the church often get praise from those with whom they work. Praise is encouraging, but we must be careful not to take the glory for our ministry. We must honor God, and Him only, with our gifts (1 Corinthians 4:7).

Use Your Gifts

Romans 12:6 teaches that we should use whatever faith we have in manifesting our gift. If that gift is to speak out the message from God, then we should do just that. It would seem that we are being told to find our ministry or gift and then use it.

Already we have seen that there are two ways to develop our ministry once we have discovered what it is. We exercise our faith and we study. What shall we study? Think of your gift. If you are a minister of God’s Word, your first responsibility would be to know what it says. This knowledge would come by prayerfully reading and studying it.

Application

5 According to 1 Corinthians 4:7,
a) all gifts are the same.
b) our gifts come from God.
c) we can earn God’s gifts.
The Spirit of God is your helper (John 16:13). Ask Him to teach you what the Word really means so you will teach truth. You may use books about the Bible as well, but remember that not all books written about the Bible give the truth. If a book does not teach the same truth as the Bible, do not use it.

Any work in the church is to be a spiritual ministry. Remember that the first deacons were men full of the Holy Spirit even though their work was to take care of the money that was given to the widows. It is desirable that every worker be filled with the Holy Spirit.

So these are the ways you can develop your gifts: exercise faith, study, pray, and use your gifts. This is what Paul meant when he said that you should teach, if teaching is your gift. You should serve, if serving is your gift. And you should give, if giving is your gift (Romans 12:6–8). Use your gift, else the body will suffer. Exercising your gift will require your time and energy, but it will bless the entire body and make you stronger.

The apostle Paul wrote to Timothy encouraging him to use his gift: “I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you” (2 Timothy 1:6). We, too, must keep our gifts alive!
Application

6 Match each description (left side) to the step in developing gifts of which it is an example (right side).

... a Mabel has the ability to show kindness to others. So she looks for needy people and finds practical ways of helping them. 1) Discover 2) Appreciate 3) Use

... b Arthur is interested in teaching the Bible though he has never taught. So he prepares himself and tries teaching a class in his church.

... c Jane praises and thanks the Lord that she is able to encourage others in their walk with the Lord.

... d Donald has the gift of sharing. So he often shares with those who need the kind of help he can give.

Now that you have completed the first unit, you are ready to answer the questions in your student report for UNIT ONE. Review the previous lessons, then follow the instructions in your student report. Send your answer sheet to the address given on the copyright page of your study guide.
Check Your Answers

5  b) our gifts come from God.

1  Your answer should say something like this: He was trying to point out that just as no disciple or slave is greater than his teacher or master, they as His disciples were not greater than He. Therefore they should follow His example. (Your answer may be different, but the idea should be the same.)

2  a 3) Weep with those who weep
   b 1) Be patient in trouble
   c 2) Share what he has
   d 1) Be patient in trouble

6  a 3) Use
   b 1) Discover
   c 2) Appreciate
   d 3) Use

3  I hope you were able to underline several of them. Pray that God will help you to begin practicing the others.

4  c) try doing those things you feel the Spirit directing you to do.
Lessons

6  Teamwork
7  Working in Love
8  Working With Leaders
9  Finishing With Joy
Kim has continued to teach his class of boys. One Sunday on his way home after teaching his class he met his friend John. John noticed that Kim looked discouraged.

“How is it, Kim?” John asked.

“How is it, Kim?” John asked. “Not so good today,” replied Kim. “Only four boys came. Maybe I am not the right one to teach the class.”

“But Kim,” John said, “don’t give up. God’s Word is like a seed. If you keep planting it, there will be a harvest. Give it time. Water it with prayer and God will give the harvest.”

Kim smiled. “You came just at the right time, John. Thanks. You have been such an encouragement! I need to depend more on God.”

It was John’s turn to smile. He had felt for some time that God had given him the ministry of encouragement.

To hear Kim say what he did made him more certain. He was glad he could encourage Kim.

In this lesson we will learn why God gives different abilities to different people.
The Plan

A. Our Relationships
B. Our Work Together
C. Our Attitudes

The Goals

1. Describe the relationships Christian workers should have with each other.
2. State why believers should work together.
3. Show what attitudes workers should have towards themselves and others.

A. Our Relationships

Goal 1. Describe the relationships Christian workers should have with each other.

A newborn baby needs the feeling of being close to his mother and those who love him. The same is true for the church family. When a newcomer enters our church, he or she should feel appreciated and cherished.

A family is the place where children grow and develop. The same is true in the family of believers, because believers develop when they are with other believers. It does not require a large group for this to happen. Matthew 18:20 tells us that when two or three are gathered, Jesus meets with them there. Where could a Christian worker get more help for ministry than to be with Jesus and His workers?

In the first church, believers made a practice of coming together often. They joined together in fellowship and shared each other’s needs. They came from an unfriendly world and met for encouragement, then went out to witness and work.

Besides being members of the same family, workers in the body are partners. Partners share the same interests and
the same burdens. First Corinthians 3:9 indicates that we are partners working together for God.

Think of yourself as a partner with those in your church. You all share the same goal and work. To carry out that work, each person must cooperate. Each person is useful when he or she works together with the others. But for us to cooperate we need to have the right attitude. A pastor may have talents and be called by God, but if he cannot control his spirit he will fail as a leader.

God does not expect all to be able to do the same things. He does expect us to have the right spirit—the spirit of Christ.

**Application**

1. To cooperate a person must
   a) work with others.
   b) have many talents.
   c) do his work alone.

2. Match each example (left side) to the kind of relationship it represents (right side).

   . . . a Arthur and Bob work together in witnessing in their neighborhood.  1) Members of a family
   . . . b As Bill meets with other believers, he grows as a Christian  2) Partners in a task
   . . . c Jane feels loved and wanted by her brothers and sisters in the Lord.
   . . . d Philip and Fred pray together about starting a Bible class for young people.
B. OUR WORK TOGETHER

Goal 2. State why believers should work together.

If someone were to tie your wrists with a thin cord, you could give one jerk and snap the string. If there were more strings, however, it would not be so easy to break them. In the same way believers can do things together that they cannot do alone. The body is unbreakable when all work together.

In the Old Testament we read that Nehemiah wanted to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem. He knew before he started that there would be enemies and that he could never succeed alone. Many different people worked—priests, a goldsmith, rulers, merchants, and even one who made perfume. A great work was done that could not have been done by one person. With the help of all the other Jews, the walls were rebuilt (Nehemiah 3).

As recorded in the New Testament, Jesus chose twelve disciples to be with Him (Mark 3:13–15). He also sent them out to minister two by two (Mark 6:7). We also read that in the first church the Holy Spirit directed certain people to work together (Acts 13:2).

This is God’s plan for the body. The work that cannot be done by one person can be done when many people work together. The pastor or the evangelist could not preach to all the world. Every believer must help carry the message of Jesus to others. Everyone has a place in building God’s kingdom; no one is left out. Some preach, some teach, some sing, all pray, and the work goes on. This is working together.

Application

3 Believers should work together because
a) the Holy Spirit guides and directs believers.
b) some tasks can be done only if believers work together.
c) those who work for the Lord have great joy and happiness.
C. Our Attitudes

Goal 3. Show what attitudes workers should have towards themselves and others.

A saying in South America goes like this: One hand washes the other. First Corinthians 12:14–26 teaches a similar idea.

Application

4 Read 1 Corinthians 12:14–26, and answer the following questions:
   a) How many parts are mentioned?
   b) What can each part not say about itself?
   c) What can each part not say about another part?

In the verses above the apostle Paul is teaching about the body. Let us apply his teaching to workers in the church. One “part” might be a teacher. In the same church, another “part” might be a brother who greets people as they come into the church to worship. The one who greets people might think his work is not important to the church. Paul would say to him, “That does not keep you from being part of the church. Who would greet visitors at the door if you did not? The teacher has to be with his class. He cannot be at the door. The body needs you.”

God has set each one in the church. He made one to teach and another to lift burdens and make people feel welcome. He has set other kinds of workers in the church too. The church needs all of us. As you think about your work in the church and the work of the other believers, embrace Paul’s attitude and teaching.

Ephesians 5:29–30 says, “No one ever hated his own body, but he feeds and cares for it, just as Christ does the church—for we are members of his body.” The message is plain. No one hates his own body or any part of it. Neither should members in the church hate each other, for all are part of the same body.
Each of us should serve where God places us. If we have to be in the important place before we will do our work, God cannot use us. If we are willing to let God use anyone and place them as He sees fit, then we will see the church grow.

We should support one another by praying, sharing burdens, helping, loving, being concerned, being faithful to meet together, and giving thanks to God for one another. How wonderful is the ministry of the Christian worker!

**Application**

5 Suppose your friends do not understand what it means for workers to be part of the body. What they say is given below. Match each thing they say to the Bible reference that will help correct it.

1) 1 Corinthians 12:15
2) 1 Corinthians 12:18
3) 1 Corinthians 12:19
4) 1 Corinthians 12:21

. . . a I’ll work in the church if I can have the position I choose.

. . . b Pastors are the only workers the church needs.

. . . c Since I have the gift of prophecy, I don’t need to learn from those who are teachers.

. . . d I am not needed in the body because I am not an apostle or prophet.

. . . e Because I do not have the gift of teaching, I am not part of the body.
Check Your Answers

3  b) some tasks can be done only if believers work together. (Choices a) and b) are true, but don’t give the reason.)

1  a) work with others.

4  a) Four: foot, hand, ear, eye. (Five if you count the sense of smell, verse 17, to be the nose.)  
   b) “I am not part of the body.”  
   c) “I don’t need you.”

2  a  2) Partners in a task  
   b  1) Members of a family  
   c  1) Members of a family  
   d  2) Partners in a task

5  a  2) 1 Corinthians 12:18  
   b  3) 1 Corinthians 12:19  
   c  4) 1 Corinthians 12:21  
   d  1) 1 Corinthians 12:15  
   e  1) 1 Corinthians 12:15
Though there were several boys in Kim’s Bible class he was having trouble teaching. He carefully prepared lessons for his students and taught as well as he could. He thought of interesting things for them to do as part of their learning, but there were times when they did not pay attention. Often the boys said things that were disrespectful. This disturbed Kim. Yet he knew that the Lord had guided him to this ministry.

One day during the week Kim was reading his Bible and thinking about his class of boys. As he read John 13 he noticed that Jesus washed His disciples’ feet. Then in verse 34 he read the new commandment that Jesus gave to His disciples: they were to love each other as Jesus had loved them. Though Kim had read these verses before, now he saw them in a new way. He realized that there was more to working for the Lord than just using his ministry gift. He must learn to love those he helped and worked with, and that included the boys in his class.

As you study this lesson, you will learn more about the kind of love you need to have as a Christian worker. You will learn about where it comes from and what impact it can have in your life.
The Plan

A. Love Is From God
B. Love Is Needed
C. Love Brings Results

The Goals

1. Describe the love a Christian worker should have.
2. State why Christian workers need to show love.
3. Demonstrate God’s love to others.

A. LOVE IS FROM GOD

Goal 1. Describe the love a Christian worker should have.

When we read the Bible we do not need to search long to find that God has shown His love to us. John writes, “This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins” (1 John 4:10).

There is no love greater than God’s love. The Father loves us so much that He gave His Son. The Son loved so much that He gave His life. Jesus died for His friends and His enemies. Can any love be greater? Paul writes, “God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us” (Romans 5:8).

In Luke 15:11–24 is the story Jesus told of a young man who left home and wasted his life and money. At home his father waited patiently for the son to return. On the day the son came home, the expectant father saw his son from afar. Overjoyed, he threw his arms around his son and rejoiced, for his wayward son was home at last.

Why did Jesus tell this story? He wanted us to know how God feels about everyone. God does not love only the pretty ones or the clean ones or those who have tried to be good. His
love is far greater than human love. God is love, and He loves all people—from all races, cultures, and social groups.

A story is told of a pastor who discriminated against people who attended his church. He could not embrace the way they dressed. Though he welcomed them into the church, he did not really love them because they were so different.

One day while the pastor was in prayer, the Holy Spirit said to him: “John, you do not love these young people. You only love those who think like you. You only love those who are like yourself.”

This surprised the pastor. He knelt in prayer for a long time. He did not want to admit his sin. Over time, he allowed God to change his heart as he began to welcome the youth. He taught them God’s Word, and they brought their friends. God’s love reached them because the pastor allowed God to change his heart and love them through him.

**Application**

1. In one or two sentences in your notebook, tell what aspect of love is most clearly shown by each of the following:
   a) Jesus as described in Romans 5:8
   b) The father in Luke 15:11–24
   c) The pastor in the above scenario

2. In your notebook, answer the following questions:
   a) Who are my enemies that I need to love?
   b) Who are the people different from me that I need to love?
   c) Who are the people who have wasted their lives in sin that I need to love?

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**B. Love Is Needed**

**Goal 2.** State why Christian workers need to show love.

God has given Christians a great responsibility. Matthew 5 states, “‘You are the salt of the earth. . . . You are the light of
the world . . . let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven” (vv. 13–14, 16).

Unless the lives of Christian workers are different from those of the unsaved, how will the world see Jesus? When people see your light they will be drawn to Jesus, the Light of the world. When they see your love they will be drawn to God, who is love. When they see the good things you do, they will know that God is in you and they will praise Him (Matthew 5:16).

It will not always be easy to be like God. When Jesus was here on earth, it was not easy for Him. Your love will be tested. You will not always feel like going the second mile. But if you do, you will be showing the Father’s love.

Our ministry will change people’s lives when we are changed by the Holy Spirit. True love will act. We will be drawn to those who have need when we are ready to minister to their needs. Love flows into the area of need. John sums it up: “Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth” (1 John 3:18).

Application

3 Which statements give the most important reasons why Christians workers need to show love?
   a) It is very difficult to love everyone.
   b) A Christian worker’s love will be tested.
   c) True love will draw people to God.

C. Love Brings Results

Goal 3. Demonstrate God’s love to others.

If Christ is in us, His love is in us. He lives in our actions and will be in us as we allow Him to express himself. God’s love reaches where your love alone will not go. Since God
loved us when we were still sinners, God’s love in us will love sinners. Because God loved His enemies, God’s love in us will love our enemies. And since God loved those who rejected Him (Luke 23:34), God’s love in us will love those who mistreat us (Matthew 5:11–12).

Therefore, it is possible to love everyone only as we let God’s love work through us to them. This love is for you. It will do many things that your own love will not do.

**Application**

4 We especially need God’s love to be able to love those who
a) love us.
b) are sinners.
c) are our enemies.
d) hate us.
e) are kind to us.
f) reject us.
g) understand us.
h) mistreat us.

What a wonderful gift the Holy Spirit is to us! The Holy Spirit does not just come upon you once. The Spirit abides with you. Jesus said, “I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever” (John 14:16).

While the Spirit lives in you, He works to produce the fruit of the Spirit in you. This fruit is not any natural goodness that a person might have. Read Galatians 5:19–21 and see what the natural person is like. How opposite is the product that the Holy Spirit grows in the believer!
Application

5 Read Galatians 5:22–23 and 1 Corinthians 13:4–7, and answer the following questions in your notebook:

a) Which Scripture names a total of nine qualities that the Spirit produces?

b) Which Scripture describes at least fifteen ways in which love acts?

Do you see that in 1 Corinthians 13:4–7 we are told how love shows each of the qualities named in Galatians 5:22–23? How important it is for a Christian worker to show God’s love. As we read in 1 Corinthians 13:2, “If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing.”

When God made the world He made everything to produce after its kind (Genesis 1). This is true with the Holy Spirit’s work in us too. Producing after His kind, He makes it possible for us to love.

Application

6 According to 1 Corinthians 13:2 the ministry gifts are

a) useless without love.

b) unrelated to love.

c) not important.

7 Circle the letter in front of each TRUE statement.

a) The ministry gifts are listed in Galatians 5:22–23.

b) If we try hard, our goodness will make us love as God loves.

c) It is the Holy Spirit’s work in us that makes it possible for us to love as God loves.
Check Your Answers

4  b) are sinners.
   c) are our enemies.
   d) hate us.
   f) reject us.
   h) mistreat us.

1 a) Love for those who were still sinners
    b) Love for one who had wasted what was given to him
    c) Love for those who were different from him (You may not have used these exact words. But the ideas you have should be similar.)

5 a) Galatians 5:22–23
    b) 1 Corinthians 13:4–7

2 Your answer. I hope you will ask the Lord to help you love each person you have named.

6 a) useless without love.

3 c) True love will draw people to God.

7 a) False
    b) False
    c) True
Kim had been a member of his church now for more than a year. He had learned so much! He thought of the leaders in the church who had helped him, those who had encouraged him to develop and use his gifts, those who had taught him God’s Word, and those who had led him in singing praises and worshipping God along with the other believers. What good examples they were of workers for the Lord!

As he pondered these accomplishments, he wanted to know more about the kinds of leaders there were in the church. He wanted to know God’s purpose for each one and wanted to know his responsibilities towards his leaders. They had given so much of themselves to him.

This lesson will help you discover more about why the church needs leaders. It will help you understand what kinds of leaders there are and how you can work with them to fulfill God’s purposes for the church.
The Plan

A. The Leader’s Work
B. Our Responsibility
C. The Benefits Received

The Goals

1. Identify examples of the kinds of work leaders do.
2. Discuss our responsibilities to our church leaders.
3. Identify the results of believers working with their leaders.

A. The Leader’s Work

Goal 1. Identify examples of the kinds of work leaders do.

Where there is work to be done there needs to be a leader, so God has appointed some in the church to be leaders (Ephesians 4:11). The duty of a leader is to see that the work continues. He or she works together with members of the congregation to see that tasks are accomplished and goals are met. It is a great responsibility to be a leader in the church as leaders will have to give God an account of their service (Hebrews 13:17).

The Pastor

Under God, the leader of a church is the pastor. The pastor leads, feeds, teaches, and watches.

Leading. The pastor leads by example. Paul instructs, “Set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity” (1 Timothy 4:12). One of the best ways to learn is to watch someone who knows how to do something. It is very important that the pastor live and work right. An entire church could be led astray if the pastor is not a good example.

Feeding. The pastor spends time in prayer and Bible study to prepare spiritual food the church needs. From God’s Word he feeds mature believers and new believers. He must preach all
the truths of the Bible; he cannot preach just what people want to hear, for some do not want to hear the truth.

**Application**

1. The verse that tells us a leader will have to give account of his or her service is
   - **a)** Ephesians 3:11.
   - **b)** 1 Timothy 4:12.
   - **c)** Hebrews 13:17.

   **Teaching.** In 2 Timothy 2:24 we read that one who is the Lord’s servant must be “be kind to everyone, able to teach, not resentful.” When a pastor teaches, he or she explains truth to the hearers and makes plain what God is saying in His Word. Those who are taught can teach others and be workers with the pastor (2 Timothy 2:2). Teaching is a great responsibility (James 3:1).

   **Watching.** The work of a pastor is often compared to the work of a shepherd. A good shepherd is concerned about every sheep, but a hired man runs when there is danger. In the same way the pastor who is working only for his pay will not care what happens to the church. The pastor who is like a good shepherd, however, watches so that nothing destroys the believers.

**Application**

2. Match each sentence (left side) to the pastor’s duty (right side).

   - **. . . a)** Guide people in carrying out their ministries  
     - **1)** Lead
   - **. . . b)** Tell all the truths of God’s Word  
     - **2)** Feed
   - **. . . c)** Be sure that nothing destroys the church  
     - **3)** Teach
   - **. . . d)** Help others understand the truths in the Bible  
   - **. . . e)** Live well in front of the believers  
   - **. . . f)** Explain what the truths of the Bible mean  
     - **4)** Watch
Elders and Deacons

The Bible also speaks of elders and deacons as being leaders in the church. In the first church, the elders ministered the Word and the deacons served the needs of the church. Today, elders help the pastor. Some are more like exhorters. James 5:14 teaches that the sick should call the elders of the church to pray for them. Elders should be mature, spiritual leaders.

The work of the deacons may be different from that of elders, but they, too, are the pastor’s helpers. They may be responsible for the church building or for helping needy people in the body. The work is different in each church, so people with many kinds of abilities are needed. A deacon may have much natural ability. It is his willingness to serve and God’s anointing on his life that make his ministry valuable to the church.

Application

Circle the letter of each TRUE statement.

a) To be useful to the church, a deacon needs more than ability.

b) All of the leaders in a church need the ability to do the same kinds of things.

c) It is important for deacons and elders to be spiritual persons.

B. Our Responsibility

Goal 2. Discuss our responsibilities to our church leaders.

There are four ways we are responsible to our leaders:

1. Obey the Word they preach.
2. Honor them.
3. Support them.
4. Work with them.

*Obey the Word they preach.* The pastor has the sacred work of preaching God’s Word. As members of the church, we are to receive it into our hearts and obey it (Romans 6:17, 1 Peter
The Word benefits us only as we receive it, believe it, and obey it (James 1:22–25).

**Honor them.** The Bible teaches us to honor our leaders. First Thessalonians 5:12–13 says, “Respect those who work hard among you, who are over you in the Lord and who admonish you. Hold them in the highest regard in love because of their work.”

One way to honor pastors or leaders is to refuse to find fault with them. If there is a problem which concerns a leader, our duty is to go to him or her directly. We are not to turn against the leader or speak evil of him or her. Remember that the leaders are appointed by God and are God’s gift to the church. We honor God when we honor our leaders.

**Support them.** One way to support our leaders is to pray for them. They need God’s help against Satan’s power and to preach effectively. Another way to support them is by giving our money and gifts. This is God’s way of providing for His workers. In the Old Testament, the men serving in the temple (who were called Levites) were supported by all of God’s people sharing in providing their wages (Numbers 18:21, Deuteronomy 18:1–5).

**Application**

4 One Scripture that has to do with respecting our leaders is
a) Numbers 18:21.
 b) Romans 6:17.
 c) 1 Thessalonians 5:12–13.

We also support our leaders by faithfully going to church. When a pastor labors to preach the Word, to pray and minister, he or she depends on the church body’s support. Hebrews 10:25 tells us to keep up the practice of gathering together: “Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing,
but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.”

Work with them. We are responsible to follow the orders of our leaders and obey them (Hebrews 13:17). When we do this, God’s work continues successfully. We must not be like the Israelites, who complained against their leaders Moses and Aaron (Numbers 14:1–4). Instead, we should be like the people who followed Joshua’s orders and won great victories (Joshua 6:1–21; 8:1–23).

Application

5 Match the responsibility (right side) to each description that gives a good example of it (left side).

. . . a Charles spends time each day praying for his pastor. 1) Obey the Word they preach
. . . b Jane follows her pastor’s directions in deciding what to teach her Bible class for children. 2) Honor them
. . . c Ted speaks of his pastor with respect. 3) Support them
. . . d Andy tries to live by the messages his pastor preaches from the Bible. 4) Work with them
. . . e Bob and his family give of their money to help pay their pastor’s salary.


C. The Benefits Received

Goal 3. Identify the results of believers working with their leaders.

God Is Glorified

When God’s people work together with their leaders, God is glorified. The unity of the body that comes when everyone is in harmony is a testimony to the world that Jesus was sent from God (John 17:21). In Psalm 133 God commands His blessing to come upon those who are living in unity. It is a mark of godliness when people live and work together without strife and division. When God is in control, there is peace and harmony—and God is glorified.

The Church Is Built Up

Unity among believers makes it possible for God’s will to be done in the body. It takes the entire church working together to do what needs to be done. Ephesians 4:16 reads, “The whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.” Each member of the body of Christ must share his or her ministry with the whole. When Christ is in control, “the whole body, supported and held together by its ligaments and sinews, grows as God causes it to grow” (Colossians 2:19).

The Workers Are Strengthened

The ability to work in harmony with the body is a sign of meekness. A person who is meek does not get angry quickly, is patient, and submits to others. This meekness is a sign of strength, not weakness, because a believer who can work with leaders becomes stronger. God gave leaders to the church in order to make the church strong and prepare each member for his or her work (Ephesians 4:11–12).

The workers who are the greatest blessing to the church are those who submit first to God, then to their leaders, and then to
one another. When workers in the church do this, they become the kind of mature people described in Ephesians 4:13–14.

**Application**

6 Which Scripture says that unity among believers shows the world that Jesus came from God?

a) John 17:21  
b) Ephesians 4:11–12  
c) Ephesians 4:13–14  
d) Colossians 2:19
Check Your Answers

4  c)  1 Thessalonians 5:12–13.

1  c)  Hebrews 13:17

5  a)  3)  Support them.
   b)  4)  Work with them.
   c)  2)  Honor them.
   d)  1)  Obey the Word they preach.
   e)  3)  Support them.

2  a)  1)  Lead
   b)  2)  Feed
   c)  4)  Watch
   d)  3)  Teach
   e)  1)  Lead
   f)  3)  Teach

6  a)  John 17:21.

3  a)  True
   b)  False
   c)  True
The church was crowded. It was harvest time. Everyone was bringing the tithes and offerings from their crops to the church. There was rejoicing as the people sang praises to God.

Kim thanked God for the many blessings he had received. Only a few years before he had not even been saved. Now his whole family was a part of the body of believers. And God was using him in the work of the church, too, as he yielded to the Holy Spirit. He had prayed for the sick, taught God’s Word, and learned how to work with the leaders in his church.

As Kim listened to the singing he thought of another harvest-time—that time when his work would be done and he would meet Jesus face to face. What will that day be like?

Perhaps you also have asked yourself what the future will be for the Christian worker. This lesson will help answer that question. Let the truths it presents inspire you in your work for the Lord and fill your heart with joy.
The Plan

A. The Work Finished
B. The Joy Experienced

The Goals

1. Describe the work of Christians.
2. Identify rewards that faithful Christian workers will receive.

A. THE WORK FINISHED

Goal 1. Describe the work of Christians.

The Race Run

The New Testament compares the life of a Christian worker to a race that is run by an athlete. The apostle Paul writes, “I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus” (Philippians 3:14). In the Christian race, every faithful runner can be a winner! Jesus declared, “Behold, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to everyone according to what he has done” (Revelation 22:12). What joy awaits the Christian worker!

To finish your race you must overcome tests and temptations. Your plans may not always succeed, but through the power of the Holy Spirit you can face each situation and be victorious. Matthew records, “He who stands firm to the end will be saved” (Matthew 24:13). Therefore, believers are urged to live and work so we can say with the apostle Paul, “I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith” (2 Timothy 4:7).

The Task Completed

The New Testament also compares the ministry of a Christian worker to a task that needs to be completed. Jesus realized that He had an important work to finish. Realizing the urgency of the task, Jesus said, “As long as it is day, we must
do the work of him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work” (John 9:4). When His work was done, Jesus said to His Father, “‘I have brought you glory on earth by completing the work you gave me to do’” (John 17:4).

Jesus described our task in Matthew 28:19–20. One day our opportunities to be workers for the Lord will be gone. But each Christian worker can have the satisfaction of knowing that the task God has given him or her can and must be completed.

Application

1 In your notebook, complete the following sentence in your own words: The Bible’s comparison of the Christian life or work to a race that is run by an athlete teaches me that . . .

The Harvest Gathered

The New Testament says that the work of a Christian is like that of gathering in a harvest (Matthew 9:37–38). Harvest speaks of seed sown, of a crop ripened, of the fruit gathered. Harvest-time is always a season of great joy. There will be joy in heaven, too, at that final harvest-time. The joy of that harvest will come when the Christian workers see the multitudes who have eternal life, because the members of the body of Christ worked together to show them the love of Christ. As a worker for God, you will share in that joy. You will see the fruit of your labors—those who have believed in Jesus, the sick who were healed, the ones who were encouraged. What a wonderful time it will be!

Application

2 The Scripture that speaks of the Christian life as a race run is
   c) Philippians 3:14.
   d) Revelation 22:12.
3 In your notebook, list three comparisons to describe the work of a Christian and at least one Bible reference for each one.

4 Match each description of the work of a Christian (right side) to what it teaches us (left side).

... a Complete the work or job that was given
1) Race that is won
2) Task that is finished
3) Harvest that is gathered

... b Faithfully finish the course and reach the goal

... c Share in the joy of seeing the people who have believed in Christ

B. THE JOY EXPERIENCED

Goal 2. Identify rewards that faithful Christian workers will receive.

There is a payday for the hired worker. God has given us the privilege of working for Him, and He has set a time in His future plan to bring all Christian workers together. Each person will be rewarded according to his or her work (1 Corinthians 3:8; 2 Corinthians 5:10).

There will be different kinds of rewards. First, those who are faithful will be welcomed by the Lord himself, who will say, “Well done, good and faithful servant!” (Matthew 25:21). This approval from the Master will be precious beyond anything we can imagine.

Then, too, we will receive all that God has promised us—our inheritance. In Romans 8:17, Paul reminds “if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.”
Another reward will be the joy of seeing the people we have helped spiritually. The apostle Paul looked forward to this joy: “For what is our hope, our joy, or the crown in which we will glory in the presence of our Lord Jesus when he comes?” (1 Thessalonians 2:19).

The Bible also speaks of workers receiving crowns. During the times the New Testament was written, the crown that a winning athlete received was just a wreath of flowers or vines. It did not last long, but it was still very precious; he had worked long and hard to gain it. In 1 Corinthians 9:25 we read that our crown, unlike one of flowers or vines, will last forever. It will be a glorious crown (1 Peter 5:4).

But the best reward of all will be to experience the full joy of being in the Lord’s presence forever (1 Thessalonians 4:17). This joy will never end!

**Application**

5 Suppose you wanted to tell a friend about the rewards a Christian worker will receive. In your notebook, write down five of those rewards and a Bible reference for each one.

Be a faithful Christian worker. Remember these words that Paul wrote to the workers in the first church; they are as true today as they were then: “Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain” (1 Corinthians 15:58).

You have finished studying *Christian Workers*. May the Lord bless as you serve in the church and use the gifts God gives you to bless and strengthen the body. As you continue to work more with other believers, review some of the lessons to remind yourself of the ministry gifts God has given or the duties of leaders. Never forget that the body of believers is Christ’s church. He is the one who will build a strong body and help you as a Christian worker.
Now that you have completed the second unit, you are ready to answer the questions in your student report for Unit Two. Review the previous lessons, then follow the instructions in your student report. Send your answer sheet to the address given on the copyright page of your study guide and ask about another course of study.
Check Your Answers

3 Your answer should include the following ideas (in any order) and at least one Scripture reference for each:

It is like running a race; Philippians 3:14.

It is like finishing a job or task; John 9:4; 17:4.

It is like gathering in a harvest; Matthew 9:37–38.

1 The Bible’s comparison of the Christian life or work to a race that is run by an athlete teaches that there is a goal the Christian worker must reach. He must move toward that goal and allow nothing to distract him. (You may have written another lesson the comparison teaches you.)

4 a 2) Task that is finished
   b 1) Race that is won
   c 3) Harvest that is gathered

2 c) Philippians 3:14.

5 Your answer should include the following (in any order):

The approval of our Master, Matthew 25:21; an inheritance, Romans 8:17; the joy of seeing those we have helped, 1 Thessalonians 2:19; a crown, 1 Corinthians 9:25 or 1 Peter 5:4; joy of being in God’s presence forever, 1 Thessalonians 4:17
UNIT ONE ANSWER SHEET

Please fill in the blanks below:

Name

Student Number

(Leave blank if you don’t know your number.)

Mailing Address


Country

Directions

When you have completed your study of each unit, fill out the Unit Evaluation answer sheet for that unit. Read each question carefully. There is one best answer for each question. Blacken the space for the answer you have chosen. Be sure the number beside the spaces on the answer sheet is the same as the number of the question you are answering.

Example

1. To be born again means to
   a) be young in age.
   b) accept Jesus as Savior.
   c) start a new year.

   The correct answer is b) accept Jesus as Savior, so you would blacken space B like this:

   1. A B C D

   Turn page over when you are ready to begin.
## Unit One Answer Sheet

Carefully blacken the correct space for each numbered item.

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| 2 | A | B | C | D |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 3 | A | B | C | D |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 4 | A | B | C | D |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 5 | A | B | C | D |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 6 | A | B | C | D |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 7 | A | B | C | D |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 8 | A | B | C | D |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 9 | A | B | C | D |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|10| A | B | C | D |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |

This is the end of the requirements for Unit One. For grading, return your Unit One Answer Sheet to your instructor or office in your area. Continue your study in Unit Two.

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**For GU Office Use Only**

Date ....................................

Score ....................................
UNIT ONE EVALUATION

1. The first man with whom God had fellowship was
   a) Adam.
   b) Noah.
   c) Abraham.

2. Jesus gave the work of preaching the gospel to
   a) the angels in heaven.
   b) the Old Testament saints.
   c) all believers in Him.

3. The needs believers have today and the needs believers had in the first church are
   a) not alike.
   b) similar.
   c) unusual.

4. God wants us to be like His Son because God
   a) prefers uniformity in His children.
   b) knows this is the only way we can continue Christ’s work.
   c) wants us to be different from the Old Testament saints.

5. According to Acts 9:39, Dorcas met the need other believers had for
   a) clothing.
   b) teaching.
   c) healing.

6. When believers gather for worship
   a) no leadership is necessary.
   b) they receive help from each other.
   c) every meeting should be the same.

7. The first church and the church of today are alike in that both
   a) minister to people’s needs which remain the same.
   b) emphasize that buildings are unnecessary for worship.
   c) stress the importance of church membership.
8 Three New Testament illustrations of the church are bride, a building, and a
   a) rock.
   b) circle.
   c) body.

9 Which picture of the church emphasizes that Christ controls or directs its activities?
   a) A building
   b) A bride
   c) A body

10 Which ministry would be most helpful to a person who needs to understand what the Bible says?
   a) Teaching
   b) Authority
   c) Power to heal

11 The story of Samson in Judges 15 teaches that as Christian workers we must
   a) fight against people who are our enemies.
   b) wear a special outward sign such as long hair.
   c) have God’s strength in order to resist Satan.

12 The Christian worker’s source of special help is
   a) wisdom from Christian literature.
   b) the power of the Holy Spirit.
   c) the support of fellow workers.

13 God can call us to work for Him
   a) as we pray.
   b) only in church.
   c) only through our pastor.

14 God gives workers gifts because
   a) He values workers more than non-workers.
   b) they deserve them.
   c) they have need of them.
15 God chooses our gifts because He
   a) wants us to earn them.
   b) knows the work we are to do.
   c) gives gifts only to certain people.

16 When God gives us a gift, it will fit
   a) both the work and the worker.
   b) us but not necessarily what we do.
   c) any work we care to do.

17 In receiving gifts from God it is important to
   a) offer ourselves to God first.
   b) desire gifts to become important.
   c) not want any of the gifts.

18 People can be helped by our gifts but hindered by
   a) God’s message to them.
   b) the kind of person we are.
   c) the need for God to help them.

19 To use our gifts means to
   a) do what we have been given the ability to do.
   b) appreciate them and give God the glory for them.
   c) realize that our gifts make us important.

20 God has given gifts to the church in order to
   a) give believers something to work for.
   b) meet the needs the members have.
   c) show which people are most important.
CL5250 Christian Workers

UNIT TWO ANSWER SHEET

Please fill in the blanks below:

Name . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .

Student Number . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .

(Leave blank if you don’t know your number.)

Mailing Address . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .

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Country . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .

Directions

When you have completed your study of each unit, fill out the Unit Evaluation answer sheet for that unit. Read each question carefully. There is one best answer for each question. Blacken the space for the answer you have chosen. Be sure the number beside the spaces on the answer sheet is the same as the number of the question you are answering.

Example

1 To be born again means to
a) be young in age.
b) accept Jesus as Savior.
c) start a new year.

The correct answer is b) accept Jesus as Savior, so you would blacken space B like this:

1. [Choice A] [Choice B] [Choice C] [Choice D]

Turn page over when you are ready to begin.
UNIT TWO ANSWER SHEET

Carefully blacken the correct space for each numbered item.

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This is the end of the requirements for Unit Two. For grading, return your Unit Two Answer Sheet to your instructor or office in your area.
UNIT TWO EVALUATION

1. For believers to work together, each one needs to have the
   a) correct ability.
   b) right attitude.
   c) same gifts.

2. For us to cooperate with other workers, we need to have the right
   a) job.
   b) partner.
   c) attitude.

3. The story of Nehemiah in the Old Testament teaches us that
   a) only Jews can work for God.
   b) city walls should be rebuilt.
   c) believers need to work together.

4. Believers should work together because this is God’s plan for the
   a) Bride of Christ.
   b) Body of Christ.
   c) Bread of Life.

5. The church is like a human body in that
   a) it has the same number of parts.
   b) the beautiful parts are the most necessary.
   c) each part is needed by each other part.

6. We will see the church grow if we
   a) are willing to let God use us where He wills.
   b) do not have to work with uncooperative people.
   c) do what we most enjoy doing.

7. If we are to be like the father Jesus told about in Luke 15:11–24, we must love those who have
   a) wasted their lives in sin.
   b) followed a good plan of living.
   c) used their money wisely.
8 Jesus told the story of the father waiting for his son who had wasted his life and money to illustrate
   a) the penalty for sin.
   b) the importance of stewardship.
   c) God’s love for everyone.

9 Our ministry will change people’s lives when we
   a) are changed by the Holy Spirit.
   b) do good deeds.
   c) attend church.

10 The world will see Jesus in us when
    a) our actions are different from our words.
    b) we get to heaven.
    c) God’s love flows through us.

11 It is possible for us to have God’s love in us because
    a) it comes from our natural goodness.
    b) the Holy Spirit will produce it.
    c) we know that we need it.

12 For a Christian to have a useful ministry it is necessary for
    him or her to have
   a) all the gifts.
   b) real love.
   c) full knowledge.

13 When the Bible says that a pastor is like a shepherd it means
    that he or she is the
   a) one responsible to lead and guide.
   b) most important person in the church.
   c) person with all the gifts that are needed.

14 The duty of a leader is to
   a) get the job done no matter what.
   b) see that the work continues and is accomplished.
   c) exhort everyone to work harder.
15 According to 1 Thessalonians 5:12–13 we are to honor our leaders especially because they
   a) make good decisions.
   b) have all knowledge.
   c) do God’s work.

16 God’s usual way of providing for the leaders in the church is for them to
   a) be paid through money given by the people.
   b) earn money working somewhere besides the church.
   c) live on whatever they are able to gather together.

17 The workers who are the greatest blessing to the church are those who are
   a) talented.
   b) submitted.
   c) hard workers.

18 The Bible compares the Christian worker to an athlete who runs a race because
   a) a goal must be reached.
   b) the fastest runner wins.
   c) only strong people can run.

19 In working for the Lord it is important to remember that
   a) nothing we do for Him is ever useless or unimportant.
   b) the number of talents we have will determine our reward.
   c) those who are sincere should not expect a reward.

20 God will reward each worker according to his or her
   a) talents.
   b) creativity.
   c) work.
**Final Words**

Dear Student,

We hope this study has made you think about your relationship with God. After studying the lessons and answering all the questions, have you wondered, “Am I really a Christian? Do I know God? Is He real in my life?” We want to give you the opportunity now to have a relationship with God.

We have all done wrong things. We have hurt ourselves and others. The Bible calls that sin and we are all guilty: “All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God” (Romans 3:23). Our sin keeps us from knowing God as a loving Father. But God loves us in spite of our sin. He loves us so much He sent His Son to die for us. “God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life” (John 3:16). When He died, Jesus took the punishment we deserved for our sins.

Do you want to make sure Jesus is your Savior? It is really so simple:

- Admit that you are a needy sinner separated from God, and ask Him to forgive you.
- Believe in Jesus with all your heart, and let Him know you accept Him as your Savior.

You can talk to God in your own words by saying a prayer like this:

> Dear Jesus, I know I am a sinner. Please forgive me. I believe You are the eternal Son of God. Thank You for dying on the cross for my sins. Come into my life. Make yourself real in my life. Be Lord of my life today. Thank You for saving me.

If you prayed this prayer and meant it with all your heart, your sins are forgiven and you have eternal life. Jesus is Lord of your life. The Bible says, “If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness” (1 John 1:9).
Welcome to the family of God. We want to rejoice with you, so please write and tell us what God has done in your life. Blessings to you!

Name .................................................

Do you have a friend who needs to know more about Jesus?

Send us your friend’s name and address for answers to the great questions of life.

Name .................................................

Address .................................................
WOULD YOU LIKE TO...

BE A WORKER FOR THE LORD?
DISCOVER YOUR MINISTRY GIFTS?
EFFECTIVELY MINISTER TO OTHERS?

The maturing of Christians in their gifts and talents is the author’s emphasis. Drawing examples from the Word of God, the student will understand how God worked in the past and how He desires to work in our day. Careful guidelines provide a balance between individual talents and the need for God’s grace. The course *Christian Workers* is for everyone who desires to serve the Lord in the local church.

The Christian Life series comprises 18 courses divided into three units of six courses each.

*Christian Workers* is Course 5 in Unit 2.