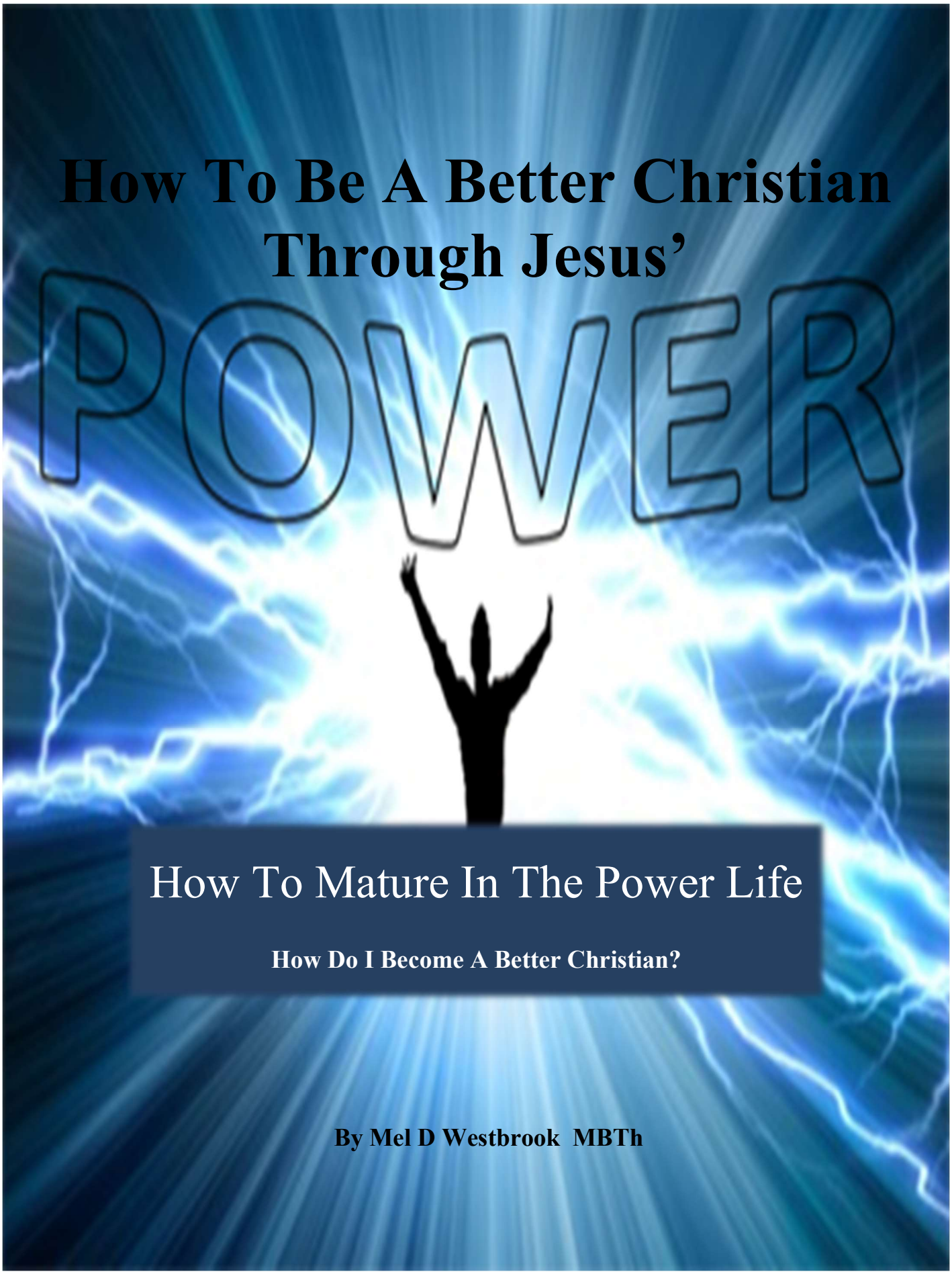
How To Be A Better Christian Through Jesus'



How To Mature In The Power Life

How Do I Become A Better Christian?

By Mel D Westbrook MBTh

Welcome To "Instruction For The Power Life"

Power To Be Eloquent
1 Cor 13:1 (NIV) If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. Christianity isn't about being able to convince people of your point of view. The power to manipulate people is satanic. It is God's will that you and everyone else have a God-given free will. You are looking at the power to help people see how great Jesus is and how great Christianity is.

Power To Be Wise
1 Cor 13:2 (NIV) 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. Christianity isn't about the power to impress people with your power. Prophecy is the power to know things about people that you couldn't possibly know. But, Jesus would give you that information so you could help them be healed rather than be impressed. Faith is the channel through which God's power flows. But, Jesus wants you to yield to His power so you can bring healing, blessings, and miracles into the lives of hurting people.

Power To Make Sacrifices
1 Cor 13:3 (NIV) If I give all I possess to the poor and surrender my body to the flames, but have not love, I gain nothing. This is a hard one to grasp! This looks so loving and serving; but, it is all done just to impress people with how loving and self-sacrificing you are. Jesus is giving you the power to really care about hurting people. It is the power to feel the suffering, confusion, desperation, and pain others are going through. It is the power to love them with a compassion that leads them into getting those things Jesus has for them.

Power To Win
Eph 6:10 (NIV) Finally, be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power. Christianity is about you learning how to win in life and *then* take every victory and breakthrough you get and share the procedures with others. Jesus will be teaching you power-techniques that are sharable with all your loved ones and friends. You will be getting power-truths that set you free and can be taught to others so they can know how to be free. Christianity is all about power; but, it is all about love-power that heals and blesses you and as many as will be open to Jesus.

Power Of Protection
Eph 6:11 (NIV) Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. Christianity is you experiencing Jesus' love and protection over your life. He surrounds you with Himself as your **full armor of God.** Then He helps you stand in front of the new and untrained Christians, so you can protect them while they learn how to get the power of protection on themselves. You will have the power to help them fight their battles. You will be able to keep them on tract with the truths of the Bible. You will help them see traps of their body, the world, and the devil. You and they will experience great protective power.

Going From Power Introduction To Power Instruction
Jesus wants to teach you how to yield to His *power*. In **"The Power Studies"** books, Jesus exposes you to His power through the **"Introduction Into The Power"** book. That is in the hope that you will be convinced that He and His power are what you need. He deals with **"Why Become A Christian?"**, **"How Would I Become A Christian?"**, and **"How Do I Become A Christian Now?"** Now that you are a Christian, you are ready to start living on the basis of Jesus' power.

In this study and prayer book, Jesus will help you look at four issues. First, He will help you learn the steps into *getting* His power flowing in and through your life. In the second issue, He will deal with those things that have been resisting you from being successful in life by *keeping* that power flowing. In the third one, He will help you *live* that power by letting Him live His life through you. And, in the fourth one, He will show you how, through *maturing* you will be able to experience miracles, supernatural manifestations, and gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Instructions For The Power-Life
Here are the names of the four studies: The first one is, **"How Do I *Get* The Power Life?"** The second one is, **"How Do I *Keep* The Power Life?"** The third one is, **"How Do I *Live* The Power Life?"** and the fourth one is, **"How Do I *Mature* In The Power Life?"** Through these four subjects, Jesus will give you the step-by-step instructions from the Bible for *how* to *get, keep, live,* and *mature* in His power-life.

Truth Produces Results
There are a lot of "theories" about how to get, keep, live, and mature in the power-life. The important thing isn't a matter of thinking or believing that you have taken the right steps, the important issue is *making sure* you *have* taken the right steps. One of the main things about going with Jesus and His Bible is, His principles, truths, and words bring results.

If you aren't getting the results you should be getting, then you may need to allow Jesus to use these studies to help you make sure you have been born again; you need Him to help you make sure you are following a day-by-day walk with Him; and, you need Him to help you make sure you are working on your future with Him. If you find yourself struggling with having the power to *do* what you know you should be doing, then it is important to make sure that Jesus' Biblical steps have been fulfilled. Take a quick look at Jesus' purpose for these four courses.

Jesus' Four Power-Life Instruction Studies

1. "How Do I Get The Power Life?"

Taking Steps Into An Experience

John 3:3 (NIV) In reply Jesus declared, "I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again." This is a very important study; Jesus not only uses it to deal with the instructions for *how* to get His power in your life, He uses it to take you step by step into actually *getting* that power. Many people have been given training on Christianity; but, they haven't been given the steps into *experiencing* a new *birth* into salvation that produces Christianity. We can all learn how to "act" like a Christian; we can even learn how to talk "like" a Christian; but, acting like and talking like a Christian doesn't make us a Christian; only Jesus and His power can do that.

It Happens At An Exact Moment

John 3:5-6 (NIV) Jesus answered, "I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit. Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. Jesus, in the first two sections of the **"Introduction Into The Power"** book, introduced you into information "about" Christianity; that made you knowledgeable and informed; but, it didn't make you transformed. You met Nicodemus, as Jesus explained being born again in the **"Why Become A Christian?"** section. Nicodemus was *very* knowledgeable *about* God and the things of God; but, Jesus knew he had not yet been *born* again.

The thing everyone must realize is, only those who have taken the steps with Jesus into the new birth *experience*, get born into God's family, get the new life, and get Jesus' power to live life. Being born again is an experience that Jesus gives; it happens in a moment of time, *not* over a long period of training; it is an actual, supernatural, spiritual *birth*. It's like a human birth.

GETTING An Actual Spiritual Birth

Rom 8:15 (NIV) For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by Him we cry, "Abba, Father." Just like there is a moment when a baby is born into this world, there is an exact second when a person is *born again* into the family of God. Jesus will use this study to take you right up to and through the *moment* when you were *born* as a child in the family of God. If you have never experienced a moment where Jesus, through the Holy Spirit, told you that you *are* a child of God, then you need to take a look at this study.

Confirmation Of A Successful Birth

Rom 8:16 (NIV) The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. This is the same Holy Spirit that spoke to your conscience for most of your life. He is now also speaking to your spirit in Spirit-to-spirit communication. He is helping you *know* your prayers for salvation worked. He is telling you that you *are* God's child, a member of His family, and a citizen of His eternal Kingdom. Listen carefully to His assurances in your heart. They help you *feel* His confirmation that Jesus *did* do what He said He would do, when you prayed His prayer.

2. "How Do I Keep The Power Life?"

Power Resistors

Gal 5:19-21 (NIV) The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery (excessive indulgence in sensual pleasures); idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that <u>those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God</u>.

Just like there are diseases and dangers that try to kill you as a human, there are spiritual diseases and dangers that try to destroy the power Jesus gave you when you were born again. There are three major areas where you can be attacked and damaged in your power source. If you react in the wrong way to these attacks, it will hurt you. However, Jesus wants to give you one reaction to all the events of life; He and it will help you *keep* the power flowing in and through you.

Power Reactions

2 Tim 2:15 (AKJV) Study to show yourself approved to God, <u>a workman that needs not to be ashamed</u>, rightly dividing the word of truth. Jesus will be using this study to help you be aware of *all* the pitfalls and traps that *will* come your way. And, He will teach you how to have the right power-reaction to them. If you know *ahead of time* exactly what to expect from life, then you can be ready to win over those issues. The three possible "reactions" Jesus will be showing you in this study have to do with *understanding*, *receptivity*, and *distraction*. You need to know what to do when these three issues come your way.

After you have adequate time to experience what being born again can do for you, you can then decide if you are willing to be *receptive* spending eternity with Him. You have a God-given free will that allows you to decide whether you will allow your body's cravings, the world's enticements, or Satan's temptations to *distract* you and you not *keep* this power through Jesus' salvation.

Power Rejection

2 Tim 3:16-17 (NIV) All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

Three areas of pressure will be coming against you from your body's drives, the world's advertisements and social pressure, and the devil's temptations. They will be pressures, temptations and invitations to "trade" the power you have received through Jesus' salvation. You will be tempted to go back to things of sin in this world. These pressures, invitations, and temptations will be traps that pull you back into your old life of powerlessness. Jesus will help you be able to resist these temptations and *react* by using His *fourth reaction*. He will help you win by letting you *know* what the Bible says, *understand* His principles, be *wise* through His thoughts in your mind, and *powerful* through Him. He will teach you about *three reactions* that will cheat you out of His provisions.

Power Success
Gal 5:22-23 (NIV) But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. <u>Against such things there is no law</u>.

The *fourth reaction*, Jesus will teach you, is a process of defeating your old life, the world, and the devil. Through *understanding* the Bible and its principles, being *receptive* to a whole new and powerful way of life, and not allowing your old life, the world, and the devil to *distract* you. You will be empowered to keep from being lured back into slavery to extreme pleasure, addictions, habits, and lifestyles that hurt you and those around you. And, not only that, you will discover a power-life that offers happiness, joy, and excitement. Jesus will teach you how to have money, possessions, positions, popularity, prestige, power, pleasure, and accomplishments without using the world and the devil's systems.

Jesus is going to teach you how to be *very* successful in life without having to use sinful, wrong, bad, or evil ways of treating yourself or others. He will teach you how to develop win/win situations for everyone involved with you. His principles develop friendships that last.

3. "How Do I Live The Power Life?"

Taking Advantage Of Learning
Mat 28:19-20 (NIV) Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <u>and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you</u>. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." A lot of what we do is study to *learn* things; and, that is important. But, stopping at getting information just so you can know and repeat it isn't Jesus' plan for your life. He wants you to learn all about what is available to you and then for you to learn how to use it to empower your life. Jesus wants to use this study to assist you in *living* the power-life.

Following The Instructions
Luke 6:46-48 (NIV) Why do you call Me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I say? I will show you what he is like who comes to Me and hears My words and puts them into practice. He is like a man building a house, who dug down deep and laid the foundation on rock. When a flood came, the torrent struck that house but could not shake it, because it was well built.

Getting the power-life isn't the same as using it; fact is, you already have Jesus' power. But, that doesn't mean you know how to put it into practice. You can even do what it takes to *keep* the power and still not use it. What would cause you to *get* and *keep* the power of being born again through salvation and not use it? One reason would be that you lack the knowledge of how to use it.

Suppose you buy a device that requires a lot of instructions for how to set it up for use. If you don't read the instructions, you will have to use trial-and-error methods to see if you can get it to work. Jesus will teach you how to start using and living the power-life without the disappointment and stress of trying and failing.

Having Power To Resist Temptation

James 4:7 (NIV) Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. One of the main tricks of the world and the devil is to bait or lure you into coming back into their control. They use types of pleasure that have hooks in them that dishonor your God-given free will. The hook consists of such extreme pleasure that you find yourself feeling compelled to experience it as much as is possible. Before you know it, you are dominated by it. It starts to do damage to you and those around you. It erodes your attitudes and character, your relationships, your emotions, your finances, your physical condition, and your spiritual relationship with Jesus.

Having Power To Yield To Jesus

Rev 3:20 (NIV) Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with Me. Jesus doesn't offer anything that drives you, lures you, baits you, addicts you, or dishonors your God-given free will. He explains what His relationship with you would be like, helps you understand what He is offering and providing, and then lets you try it out. If at any time *you want* to discontinue the relationship, there is no contract, no restraints, no overwhelming pleasures, and no power exerted on you that keeps you from going back to the world; there is extreme freedom in Jesus. In this study, Jesus will help you live a life of complete freedom.

4. "How Do I Mature In The Power Life?"

Taking Advantage Of Jesus' Life

Phil 3:13-14 (NIV) Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

Living the same way, day after day, is taking advantage of Jesus' power-life; but, it isn't growing and maturing in it. If you get it, keep it, live it, and then stop there, you will have freedom from the things the devil and the world are trying to trap you in; BUT, you won't get the benefits of what Jesus wants you to have. Freedom from bad things is wonderful; but, freedom to advance into the blessings, miracles, and gifts of God will still be missing. Letting Jesus remove all those wrong, bad, and evil things that have been hurting you is wonderful. But, letting Jesus fill you with right, good, and righteous things is awesome!

Growing Up

Eph 4:14 (NIV) Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of men in their deceitful scheming. In Christianity, there are people who can teach you all about many things in the Bible. But, if you were to go be around them for a while, you will soon see they don't live a lot of those things they teach. Christianity isn't a bunch of rituals, exercises, philosophies, and cliches; it is life transforming.

Jesus wants to work on your attitudes and character. He wants to help you with your relationships with yourself, other people, and Him. Then, as you get breakthroughs in various spiritual issues, He wants you to share those breakthroughs with those around you. He wants to *give* you blessings; and, He wants you to *be* a blessing to others. Plus, He wants you to be able to lead others into receiving blessings directly from Him.

Moving Into The Blessings

Gal 2:20 (NIV) I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, <u>I live by faith in the Son of God</u>, Who loved me and gave Himself for me.

Jesus has so much more to offer you than just setting you free from the pain, the struggles, the addictions, and the temptations. He has blessings, miracles, supernatural manifestations, and spiritual gifts. As He works on your attitudes and character, you become much more trustworthy with the great things of God. You learn that the power and the abilities of God remain in Jesus. Rather than you just trying to become a better Christian, you learn how to become a yielded Christian. You start allowing Jesus to live His life through you. You allow Him to flow in you and through you to others.

Textbook Chapter One
How To Mature In The Power Life

Getting Used To Being A Christian, God's Child, And A Kingdom Citizen

Power Makes The Difference

What Was Your First Step In Being Born Again? You Had To WANT it.
Learning HOW to get the power to do the things you need to do to win at life is very important. But, you won't be willing to learn "How To GET The Power Life," if you don't know WHY you need it. Power principles are what Jesus is all about. But, Jesus had to help you believe that being born again was something you needed and wanted. So, He took you through the first part of "The Power Courses." It started you out with "The Power Introduction" Courses. There Jesus taught you: "The Importance Of The Power Life," "The Importance Of Eternal Life," and "From Power Life To Eternal Life." His objective was to help you WANT to be born again.

What Was Your Second Step In Being Born Again? You Had To KNOW HOW.
Since Jesus helped you WANT to be born again, He is now taking you through the second part of "The Power Courses" called, "The Power Instruction" courses. There He taught you: "HOW To GET The Power Life;" in that study, you actually experienced a new birth. You "did what it took" to be empowered by Jesus to be born into God's family and made a citizen of His Kingdom. He taught you how to use confessing with your mouth and believing with your heart to "breath" spiritual breath. His objective was to help you make it successfully into a life in God's Spirit.

What Was Your First Step After Being Born Again? You Had Stay Alive.
Just like a new BORN baby, you had to be kept alive. So, Jesus took you into "How To KEEP The Power Life" for training and care. He taught you how to KEEP using the process of confessing with your mouth and believing with your heart to keep "breathing" spiritual breath. He also taught you how to start studying; this taught you how to EAT spiritual principles. His objective was and is to help you stay successful in your life in God's Spirit.

What Was Your Second Step After Being Born Again? You Had To Take Advantage Of It.
A baby has to not only be kept alive, they need to grow physically, mentally, and in experiences. As a born again child of God, you need to not only be kept alive, you need to grow spiritually. You need to learn how to use all the things you get as a new child of God. To get you started out in the right direction, Jesus trained you through the course: "How To LIVE The Power Life." You weren't born again just so you could exist; there is a supernatural life that empowers you to do supernatural things. His objective was and is to help you grow in your skills as a child of God.

What Was Your Third Step After Being Born Again? You Had To Mature.
Jesus wants you to be able to take advantage of all the provisions of your heavenly Father. This will happen as He takes you through: "How To Mature In The Power Life." As you can see, Jesus is taking you through progressive-training courses on subjects that you need for your present and future. Progressive-training courses increase in depth and advancement like curriculum for grades in a school. Your new spirit needs spiritual food; it needs spiritual exercise.

Through "How To Mature In The Power Life," Jesus helps you learn how to have relationships with those who haven't been born again; He helps you have relationships with people who are going through things similar to you; and He helps you have relationships with those who are more advanced spiritually than you are. Even though you are now a child of God, you still need to continue having business relationships, family relationships, friendships, and other types of personal relationships; but, Jesus wants to show you HOW to have those relationships. He has prepared training and prayers for you so those relationships will be right, good, and righteous. His objective is to help you grow into a mature, adult child of God.

Relationships

Looking At The Areas God Cares About
A relationship with yourself, other people, the world system around you, your body, and Satan are all covered in the Bible. God doesn't get involved very much in things like math, physics, grammar, agricultural training, technology, financial training and a lot of other spiritually NEUTRAL subjects. However, it MATTERS to God how we USE all of these things to INTERACT with ourselves, others, the world system, our body, Satan, and Jesus.

God REALLY Cares About These Principles
We learn how to USE THINGS and LOVE PEOPLE, rather than LOVING THINGS and USING PEOPLE. Through Jesus we get benefits, blessings, rewards, and successes that come from how we USE THINGS such as education, money, possessions, positions, popularity, prestige, power, pleasure, and accomplishments. Without Jesus we get discipline, punishment, failure, disappointment, pain, and suffering that come from how we USE, ABUSE, and MISHANDLE PEOPLE through education, money, possessions, positions, popularity, prestige, power, pleasure, and accomplishments.

You Need Jesus' Training And Power
Things in Christianity work very different from what you are used to. The way your body works, the way you interact with yourself, others, and the world around you are all approached in a tremendously different way. The things you routinely did with no problem will now not work like they did before. You were trained by the world, Satan, and your body to do everything yourself. BUT, you were limited by human power, skills, talents, and ingenuity.

Jesus' Training And Power Makes The Difference

Life with Jesus or without Him is like the difference between you doing everything with your body, or, you using various tools, machines, and electronic devices to do them. Just think how limited you would be if you didn't have any tools, machines, or electronic devices to aid you in completing your daily tasks. Look around you for a while and see how many hand tools, machines, and electronic devices you use during your day. That is the way life is without Jesus and all His provisions available to you. Just like you had to learn how to use all those tools, machines, and electronic devices, so you will have to learn how to cooperate with Jesus and all His provisions; that is why we ALL have to study the Bible.

Six Things You Need To Mature As A Child Of God

The Six Biblical Principles

1. DESIRE: You are going to have to WANT to go beyond just doing everything yourself. You will have to see the benefits of moving from the limited world of the natural realm into the incredible power and potential of Jesus' realm.

2. STUDY: You MOSTLY only know what the world, your body, and the devil have taught you. If it hadn't been for the Holy Spirit speaking to your conscience for most of your life, you wouldn't even know the difference between right and wrong. You are NOW coming into a way of life that you have VERY little knowledge, understanding, or experience with. If you try to live your new life the way you have always done things, you will fail. You must be willing to study and learn a whole new way of living your life.

3. PRAY: You have learned how to ask for things from other people; and, you have learned how to look to yourself for being able to accomplish things. But, you now have to learn how to look to Jesus for all those same things. At first you won't see the need for praying and asking God to help you with things you have always taken care of yourself. But, without this communication of prayer between you and your heavenly Father, you will be at the wrong place, doing the wrong thing, at the wrong time. You NEED to be connected to God's knowledge, foreknowledge of the future, understanding, and wisdom. Only through Him will you BE SURE you will only get good things.

4. BELIEVE: You will have to learn to trust, believe in, rely on, and put your dependency on God. You have learned to believe in yourself, in certain other people, in physical procedures and techniques, in principles, in concepts, in philosophies, and in training from the world. You now have to learn how to believe that your heavenly Father is totally trustworthy. When you know you CAN get something, accomplish something, or take care of something by using your own physical abilities, training, and procedures, it is hard not to just go ahead and get it done. But, if you really trust and believe in Jesus, you will wait for Him to guide you in what, when, how, where, who, and why.

5. LOVE: You have yourself at the top of your list of priorities. Now, you are being led into caring JUST AS MUCH about others. You may try to care about others; but, if your needs are in some way interfered with by other's needs, your needs trump their needs. You must learn how to wait on Jesus to show you how to establish win/win situations, solutions, and procedures in ALL your decisions and activities.

6. FAITH-ACTION: You will learn how to get faith from Jesus so you can know WHEN you have the answer to your prayers. He will speak faith into you so you can KNOW that you are trained, empowered, and qualified to accomplish various feats of life. But, just because you know you have the power, the training, and the equipment to do something, doesn't mean you are using it. Faith-action is a way of living life in cooperation with Jesus. You and He will be taking faith-action so you can live on the basis of the fact that you have everything you need to accomplish a certain thing in life.

These six things will be GRADUALLY installed in your life so you will be able to accomplish things far beyond anything you were able to do without Jesus. Just keep in mind how limited you would be without tools, machines, and electronic devices. Ask Jesus to help you see how limited you are without Him and all His provisions, principles, and power.

You Experience Three Major Provisions Of God By Living In Cooperation With Jesus:

Your Circumstances Will Supernaturally WORK OUT For Your Good
Rom 8:28 (NIV) And we know that in all things God works for the GOOD of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose.

Your Needs Will Be Supernaturally Met
Phil 4:19 (NIV) And my God will meet all your needs according to His glorious RICHES in Christ Jesus.

Your Abilities Will Be Supernaturally Enhanced
Phil 4:13 (NIV) I can do EVERYTHING through Him (Jesus) Who gives me strength.

Workbook Chapter One
How To Mature In The Power Life

Getting Used To Being A Christian, God's Child, And A Kingdom Citizen

Power Makes The Difference

First, You Had To WANT To Be Born Again

Jesus, let me take advantage of the purpose of HELP eMagazine. Since the word HELP in HELP eMagazine stands for **H**elping **E**veryone **L**ive **P**owerfully, let it apply to me. Help me learn HOW to get the POWER to do the things I need to do to win at life. Let me be willing to learn "How To GET The Power Life," by You helping me know WHY I need it. Since, power principles are what HELP eMagazine is all about, You had to help me believe that being born again was something I needed and wanted. So, You took me through the first part of "The Power Courses." The first part of "The Power Courses" started me out with "The Power INTRODUCTION" Courses. There You taught me: "The Importance Of The Power Life," "The Importance Of Eternal Life," and "From Power Life To Eternal Life." Thank You for helping me cooperate with Your objective to help me WANT to be born again.

Second, You Had To KNOW HOW To Be Born Again

Jesus, since You helped me WANT to be born again, You are now taking me through the second part of "The Power Courses." The second part of "The Power Courses" is called, "The Power INSTRUCTION" Courses. There You taught me: "HOW To GET The Power Life;" in that study, I actually EXPERIENCED a new birth. You helped me "do what it took" to be empowered by You to be born into God's family and made a citizen of His Kingdom. Thank You for teaching me how to use confessing with my mouth and believing with my heart to "breath" spiritual breath. Thank You for helping me cooperate with Your objective to help me make it successfully into a life in God's Spirit.

Third, You Had To KNOW HOW To Stay Alive

Jesus, just like a new BORN baby, I had to be kept alive. So, You took me into "How To KEEP The Power Life" for training and care. Thank You for teaching me how to KEEP using the process of confessing with my mouth and believing with my heart to keep "breathing" spiritual breath. Thank You for teaching me how to start studying; this taught me how to EAT spiritual principles. Thank You for helping me cooperate with Your objective to help me stay successful in my life in God's Spirit.

Fourth, You Had To KNOW HOW To Take Advantage Of The New Birth

Jesus, just like a baby has to not only be kept alive, they need to grow physically, mentally, and in experiences. As a born again child of God, help me not only be kept alive, empower me to grow spiritually. Help me learn how to use all the things I get as a new child of God. To get me started out in the right direction, thank You for taking me through the course: "How To LIVE The Power Life." I wasn't born again just so I can exist; teach me about and give me a supernatural life that empowers me to do supernatural things. Thank You for empowering me cooperate with Your objective to help me grow in my skills as a child of God.

Fifth, You Have To Know HOW To LIVE Successfully

Jesus, You want me to be able to take advantage of all the provisions of my heavenly Father. Show me that this will happen as He takes me through: "How To Mature In The Power Life." Help me see that You are taking me through progressive-training courses on subjects that I need for my present and future. Show me that progressive-training courses increase in depth and advancement like curriculum for grades in a school. Help me understand that my new spirit needs spiritual food and it needs spiritual exercise.

Through "How To Mature In The Power Life," help me learn how to have relationships with those who haven't been born again; help me have relationships with people who are going through things similar to me; and help me have relationships with those who are more advanced spiritually than I am.

Teach me that even though I am now a child of God, I still need to continue having business relationships, family relationships, friendships, and other types of personal relationships; but, make it clear to me that You want to show me HOW to have these relationships. Thank You for preparing training and prayers for me so those relationships will be right, good, and righteous. Help me cooperate with Your objective to teach me and empower me to grow into a mature, adult child of God.

Relationships

Looking At The Areas God Cares About

Jesus, teach me that a relationship with You, myself, other people, the world system around me, my body, and Satan are all covered in the Bible. Show me that God doesn't get involved very much in things like math, physics, grammar, agricultural training, technology, financial training and a lot of other spiritually NEUTRAL subjects. However, show me that it MATTERS to Him how I USE all of these things to INTERACT with You, myself, others, the world system, my body, and Satan.

God REALLY Cares About These Principles

Jesus, teach me how to USE THINGS and LOVE PEOPLE, rather than LOVING THINGS and USING PEOPLE. Help me understand that through You I get benefits, blessings, rewards, and successes that come from how I USE THINGS such as education, money, possessions, positions, popularity, prestige, power, pleasure, and accomplishments. Help me also understand that without You I get discipline, punishment, failure, disappointment, pain, and suffering that come from how I USE, ABUSE, and MISHANDLE PEOPLE through education, money, possessions, positions, popularity, prestige, power, pleasure, and accomplishments. Change how I feel about these things.

You Need Jesus' Training And Power

Jesus, help me realize that things in Christianity work very different from what I am used to. The way my body works, the way I interact with You, myself, others, and the world around me are all approached in a tremendously different way. Teach me that the things I routinely did with no problem will now not work like they did before. Since I was trained by the world, Satan, and my body to do everything myself, show me that I was limited by human power, skills, talents, and ingenuity.

Jesus' Training And Power Makes The Difference

Jesus, teach me that life with You or without You is like the difference between me doing everything with my body, or, me using various tools, machines, and electronic devices to do them. Help me think how limited I would be if I didn't have any tools, machines, or electronic devices to aid me in completing my daily tasks. Help me look around me for a while and see how many hand tools, machines, and electronic devices I use during my day. Show me that, that is the way life is without You and all Your provisions available to me. Also teach me that just like I had to learn how to use all those tools, machines, and electronic devices, so I will have to learn how to cooperate with You and all Your provisions; that is why I must study the Bible.

Six Things You Need
To Mature As A Child Of God

The Six Biblical Principles

1. DESIRE: Jesus, empower me to WANT to go beyond just doing everything myself. Help me see the benefits of moving from the limited world of the natural realm into the incredible power and potential of Your realm.

2. STUDY: Jesus, since I MOSTLY only know what the world, my body, and the devil have taught me, I need Your help. If it hadn't been for the Holy Spirit speaking to my conscience for most of my life, I wouldn't even know the difference between right and wrong. NOW that I am coming into a way of life that I have VERY little knowledge, understanding, or experience with, I have a lot to learn. Teach me that if I try to live my new life the way I have always done things, I will fail. Help me be willing to study and learn a whole new way of living my life.

3. PRAY: Jesus, I have learned how to ask for things from other people; and, I have learned how to look to myself for being able to accomplish things. But, now I have to learn how to look to You for all those same things. At first I won't see the need for praying and asking You to help me with things I have always taken care of myself. But, teach me that without this communication of prayer between me and my heavenly Father, I will be at the wrong place, doing the wrong thing, at the wrong time.

   Help me see that I NEED to be connected to God's knowledge, foreknowledge of the future, understanding, and wisdom. Show me that only through Him will I BE SURE I will only get good things.

4. BELIEVE: Jesus, help me learn to trust, believe in, rely on, and put my dependency on God. I have learned to believe in myself, in certain other people, in physical procedures and techniques, in principles, in concepts, in philosophies, and in training from the world. Teach me how to believe that my heavenly Father is totally trustworthy. When I know I CAN get something, accomplish something, or take care of something by using my own physical abilities, training, and procedures, it is hard not to just go ahead and get it done. But, if I really trust and believe in You, I will wait for You to guide me in what, when, how, where, who, and why; help me do that.

5. LOVE: Jesus, I have myself at the top of my list of priorities. Lead me into caring JUST AS MUCH about others. I may try to care about others; but, if my needs are in some way interfered with by other's needs, my needs trump their needs. Teach me how to wait on You to show me how to establish win/win situations, solutions, and procedures in ALL my decisions and activities.

6. FAITH-ACTION: Jesus, help me learn how to get faith from You so I can know WHEN I have the answer to my prayers. Speak faith into me so I can KNOW that I am trained, empowered, and qualified to accomplish various feats of life. Teach me that just because I know I have the power, the training, and the equipment to do something, doesn't mean I am using it. Show me that faith-action is a way of living life in cooperation with You. You and I will be taking faith-action so I can live on the basis of the fact that I have everything I need to accomplish a certain thing in life.

Help these six things to be GRADUALLY installed in my life so I will be able to accomplish things far beyond anything I was able to do without You. Help me keep in mind how limited I would be without tools, machines, and electronic devices. I ask You to help me see how limited I am without You and all Your provisions, principles, and power.

You Experience Three Major Provisions Of God By Living In Cooperation With Jesus:

Your Circumstances Will Supernaturally WORK OUT For Your Good
Jesus, I believe in my heart and am now confessing with my mouth that I **know that in all things God works for** my **GOOD** because I am one **of those who love Him,** and I am one of those who has **been called according to His purpose (Rom 8:28).**

Your Needs Will Be Supernaturally Met
Jesus, I believe in my hearth and am now confessing with my mouth that **my God will meet all** my **needs according to His glorious RICHES in** You, my **Christ Jesus (Phil 4:19).**

Your Abilities Will Be Supernaturally Enhanced
Jesus, I believe in my hearth and am now confessing with my mouth that **I can do EVERYTHING through** You **Who gives me strength (Phil 4:13).**

Textbook Chapter Two
How To Mature In The Power Life

Why Am I Here?

Preparing For The Future

Forever isn't just a long time; it is a never ending way of life. When you look back on time and your life, you will see that life here isn't nearly as important as your eternal existence. **Rom 8:18 (NIV) I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.** People who waste their time all during the growing up period pay a price. It costs them for not being willing to "do what it takes" to develop a career, study and learn all those things they are going to need to be successful in life. But, it isn't until they move forward in life that they realize that just coasting, having fun, and wasting time hurt them.

Winning In Time And Eternity

Studying and applying yourself for a career has value; but, Jesus has information and training that is MUCH more important than that. Most training works on your abilities to accomplish things on this planet and have almost nothing to do with your eternity. Jesus has a way for you to be successful in this life and be tremendously prepared for eternity. Jesus used a spiritual illustration to help us see how this life effects our eternal life. **Luke 19:17 (NIV) "'Well done, my good servant!' his master replied. 'Because you have been trustworthy in a very small matter, take charge of ten cities.'** Because this servant had properly applied himself in his first assignment, he was elevated to a whole new opportunity in his second assignment. He was successful in his first assignment and it made him successful in his second.

An Adult Child Of God

Getting Spiritual Growth

It is possible for you to appear to be successful in life and actually be a total failure. You have to decide whether you are going to accept the world's definition of success or God's definition. Two people can have money, possessions, positions, popularity, prestige, power, pleasure, and accomplishments. But, one can be extremely successful according to God and the other be a total failure. One will be successful in this world and in eternity and the other will have failed in both worlds. One person will love things and use people; the other one will love people and use things.

God Works On Relationships

You can be the most intelligent, trained, informed, and skilled person in the world; but, as far as God is concerned, your people skills will decide your eternal destiny. God deals with who you are in your character and attitudes more than anything else. Most training is about you being able to succeed at getting money, possessions, positions, prestige, popularity, power, pleasure, and accomplishments. God's training is about how and why you got all those things. He deals with you and how you treat yourself, other people, and His plan. **Mat 6:33 (NIV) But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these THINGS will be given to you as well.**

Learning How To Treat People
Jesus will be taking you into further training so as to make you an expert on how to treat yourself, other people, and God. The reason you will be extremely successful will be because you only use win/win systems for all who are involved. You will treat yourself and everyone else with love, compassion, care, and respect. People will be involved with you because they like you, respect you, and appreciate who you are. You won't ACT like a nice person; you will BE a nice person. You will be real, honest, filled with integrity, and trustworthy.

Working On You Being A True Success
Jesus will be taking you into studies that will help you connect to all God's knowledge, foreknowledge of the future, understanding of life and how it all works, wisdom for how to apply all of His supernatural knowledge to you life and the lives of others, and to be empowered to fulfill some of the greatest things known to man. You will learn how to live your life with Jesus so together you will have and be able to share all God's truths with others. Your accomplishments will be an incredible blessing to you and to large quantities of people. It will be unlimited as to what all you will be able to accomplish in eliminating the suffering of hurting people. You successes will be manifest in meeting the needs you yourself and all these people in a powerful way.

"Doing What It Takes"

A Better You Brings Greater Life-Success
What do you need to happen to you so you can reach your full potential in life? You need training that helps YOU reach YOUR full potential. That sounds like you are being trained so you can reach your greatest accomplishments in money, possessions, positions, power, popularity, prestige, and pleasure. But these are products that MUST come out of a person with great attitudes and character. The reason you USE these THINGS to love, care for, and help people is because you are being helped to have the Jesus-philosophy of life. When you get to the end of your life you will have a lot of TRUE friends. YOUR friends, family, and associates will be people you can count on because they love and respect you for who you are. They won't just stick with you for as long as they can get what they want and need out of you.

You Are More Important Than Things
The moment you set your goals to be money, possessions, positions, power, popularity, prestige, and pleasure and accomplishments, is the moment you put yourself in a subservient place; YOU become the slave of these goals. You felt you were doing them to make YOU happy; but, your goals put your focus on things rather than you. When you joined Jesus, you became one of the most important things in all the world. You and the people around you become MUCH more important than all the things in all of the world. Here is how Jesus said it: **Mat 16:26 (NIV) What good will it be for a man if he gains the whole world, yet forfeits his soul? Or what can a man give in exchange for his soul?**

You Need The Power

Once you have gone through the power courses and have Jesus' power to do all those things it takes to win at life and eternity, you are ready to let Him show you how to take advantage of that power. It will be like getting connected to the electric company in your area. Once you have electricity in your home, there are a lot of things you can connect up to it. Once you have Jesus' power available to your life, there may be a lot of things you try to connect up to it. Jesus wants you to hook YOURSELF up to His power. He wants to first help you become the person you need to be so you can do what you need to do.

Being Trained By Jesus

What Do You Need?

Once you get connected to Jesus' power, there are a lot of things you can do because of it. There are eight major things you need to be trained in.

1. PRAYER: You need to learn how grow in your ability to talk to God.

2. RESOURCES: You need to learn how have and use special material that are available to you so you can accomplish all the assignments you face in life.

3. STRATEGY: You need to learn how establish and start implementing a life-plan and strategy.

4. SUBMISSION: You need to learn how to bring your emotions, your body, your attitudes, your will-power, your mind, your choices, and you life under the control of Jesus so you won't fail during tough times.

5. RESISTANCE: You need to learn how to resist all those things that try to keep you from succeeding in life.

6. PURIFICATION: You need to learn how to get all the contaminants out of your life.

7. PREVENTION: You need to learn how to avoid issues before they even happen in the first place.

8. PROTECTION: You need to learn how to protect the people around you until they get trained by Jesus like you are.

Now, let Jesus take you over these things you need for your life so you can more fully understand where He is taking you.

Workbook Chapter Two
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Winning In Time And Eternity

Jesus, teach me that studying and applying myself for a career has value; but, You have information and training that is MUCH more important than that. Help me see that most training works on my abilities to accomplish things on this planet and have almost nothing to do with my eternity. Teach me that you have a way for me to be successful in this life and be tremendously prepared for eternity.

Jesus, you used a spiritual illustration to help me see how this life effects my eternal life; help me apply it. **Luke 19:17 (NIV) "'Well done, my good servant!' his master replied. 'Because you have been trustworthy in a very small matter, take charge of ten cities.'** Teach me that because this servant had properly applied himself in his first assignment, he was elevated to a whole new opportunity in his second assignment. Make it clear to me that he was successful in his first assignment and it MADE him successful in his second. Help me apply this principle to my life so I can be successful in eternity.

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Jesus, show me that it is possible for me to appear to be successful in life and actually be a total failure. Help me decide to NOT accept the world's definition of success, but to accept God's definition. Teach me that two people can have money, possessions, positions, popularity, prestige, power, pleasure, and accomplishments. But, one can be extremely successful according to God and the other can be a total failure. One will be successful in this world and in eternity and the other will have failed in both worlds. Help me NOT be a person who loves things and uses people; help me be one who loves people and uses things.

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8. PROTECTION: Help me learn how to protect the people around me until they get trained by You like I am.

Now, explain those things I need for my life so I can more fully understand where You are taking me.

Textbook Chapter Three
How To Mature In The Power Life

THE PRAYER COURSES

Developing Prayer Methods:

Prayer is a VITAL part of our Christian life; it is our invitation to God asking Him to do something in our life. It is a time of fellowship with God where we spend time finding out what He wants for our life. It is also a time where we express praise, thanksgiving, worship, and appreciation for all the wonderful things God has done for us. Even as a Christian, if we don't pray and invite God into those areas of our need, He won't get involved. Even though we are His child, if we don't spend time asking Him for His guidance, we will wander around in life without His knowledge, foreknowledge of the future, understanding, and wisdom. If we don't take out time to express our appreciation for all the awesome things He has already done for us, He will stop helping us with our present and future.

Things Are Different With God

In the world, with your body, and with Satan you were pushed, driven, lured, tempted, required, and made to do certain things, if you wanted to survive. Here is how your relationship with God works: **Rev 3:20 (NIV) Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice <u>and opens the door</u>, I will come in and eat with him, and he with Me.** The world, your body, and Satan try to break the door down. If they can't do that, they will bang on it, yell through it, try to tempt you into opening it, and try to make you think they can hurt you if you don't open it. NOW, you are having to learn the gentle, loving, honoring, and gracious attitudes and treatment of God.

This Is What You Had To Do Before

James 4:1 (NIV) What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your desires that battle within you? You are used to having to fight for your rights; you are used to having to claw your way to the top; you are used to having to beat the competition; you are used to having to make sure you were heard; you were used to having to make sure you were respected, appreciated, and wanted; and, you were used to having to make sure you were good enough to be needed by those around you, BUT, NOT ANYMORE!

This Doesn't Work In God's World

James 4:2a (NIV) You want something but don't get it. You kill and covet, but you cannot have what you want. You quarrel and fight. We all come into Christianity, God's world, and our new life with our old training, experiences, and rules. We learned how to get our way; we learned how to win; we learned how to get ahead; we learned how to treat people; we learned how to get ourselves ready for life; and we learned how to have SELF-confidence, SELF-esteem, and SELF-centered attitudes.

This Works In God's World

James 4:2b (NIV) You do not have, because you do not ask God. Why don't some Christians grow, mature, succeed, and win at life? The major reason most Christians live a frustrating, confusing, discouraging, and defeated life is because they don't know how to pray. Jesus said in **Matthew 7:11 (NIV): If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts <u>to those who ask Him</u>!** We have a lot to learn and a lot to UNLEARN.

Where Are We Going From Here?

Your next area of study is in the "Prayer Courses." But, before you start that study, Jesus needs to help you take a look at all you will be studying in all the rest of the courses. The first major need you have is to learn how to talk to your heavenly Father. You don't want to **not have, because you do not ask God.** In this series, Jesus will teach you how to pray about four major issues. He will be taking **"The Lord's Prayer"** and teaching you how to use it to go on beyond being born again. He will teach you how to use it as a new Christian. He will help you learn how to use this same prayer from Him to keep moving forward in your new life.

The Lord's Prayer For Becoming A Christian

As you know, in **"The Power Courses"** through the course called: **"How To Get The Power Life,"** Jesus took you through **"The Lord's Prayer"** located in Matthew 6:9-13 and helped you pray each part of it so you could be born again into your heavenly Father's family. And, He helped you pray it so you could become a citizen of His eternal Kingdom. Then Jesus empowered you to obey Romans 10:8-10 and taught you how to confess that He is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead. That gave you salvation and justification. Through salvation you were forgiven for all your past sins; through justification you were forgiven of all your present and future sins.

Praying To Be Ready For Our Day

Jesus is NOW teaching you how to pray His Lord's prayer for each day's issues; and, He is teaching you how to use it to grow in each stage of your life. Jesus told us to pray His prayer that we call **"The Lord's Prayer;"** it is a daily prayer that contains the basic aspects that address your needs for each day. However, if you start praying this prayer every day, some unhelpful things can happen to this time of prayer. So, Jesus has and is helping you look at His prayer from four different perspectives. Jesus already took you through the first one for being born again. Now, He is ready to take you into three more.

Four Child Of God Prayers
There are four courses on **"the Lord's prayer,"** one is found in **"The Power Courses."** It is called: "How To Get The Power Life." It is **"The Lord's Prayer"** for becoming a Christian and getting Jesus' POWER to live your new life. The next three courses on **"The Lord's Prayer"** are found in your next series of studies. This next series is called: "The Prayer Courses." Jesus will be taking you through these three courses called: **"The Lord's Prayer For New Christians," "The Lord's Prayer For Sinning Christians,"** and **"The Lord's Prayer For Mature Christians."** He taught you His prayer on **"How To Get The Power Life"** from one perspective so you could become a child of God. Now He is teaching it from three different perspectives so you can grow and mature into an adult child of God.

One More Course On Prayer
In **"The Prayer Courses,"** there is one more course that isn't based on **"The Lord's Prayer."** In the final course, "Talking With Your Heavenly Father," Jesus will use the book of James to help you examine vital spiritual issues. Then He will use some prayers prayed by David to help you get God's help. He will work on prayers you will need to pray AFTER you have prayed **"The Lord's Prayer"** for that day. As He uses the Scriptures in the book of James, He will help you with specific issues you will face in life. These Scriptures will address spiritual issues that are hurting you and your relationships with others. Then He will help you pray a prayer from the Psalms of David to get healing from it.

Ritual
Prayers you pray over your dinner, prayers you memorize and pray all the time, and praying **"The Lord's Prayer"** can become a habit that is prayed without any real meaning or feeling. If it is just a ritual that you fulfill each day because you feel you are supposed to, then you will do it just to get it out of the way. Prayer is too vital for you to just do it as a ritual; it is all about a relationship with your heavenly Father. He is listening and responding to every word you speak. Ritual prayer is like a person talking to you while thinking about something else. They are distracted, uninterested in you, and just going through the motions. We don't like talking with people like that.

The Lord's Prayer

The Lord's Prayer For New Christians
Through this study, Jesus leads you into a process of praying **"The Lord's Prayer"** on a daily basis. Jesus shows you HOW to do what He told you to do; AND, He helps you do it through the prayer He gave you to pray. He teaches you how to use this great prayer He developed Himself; and, He shows you how to apply it to the life and spiritual growth of a new or untrained Christian. This starts the new or untrained Christian's day off with great power and blessings. It is a general, foundational prayer that is to precede all the other prayers you pray that day.

The Lord's Prayer For Sinning Christians
EVERY Christian, new or old, makes mistakes, commits misdeeds of their body, and does things that the Holy Spirit is trying to help them address. In this study, Jesus helps you pray this daily prayer while approaching it during those times when you have sinned, failed, fallen short, or made a spiritual or relational mistake. He will take you through this general, foundational prayer that MUST precede all the other prayers you pray that day. He uses it to take care of any blockages you have between you and your heavenly Father. Sometimes God isn't responding to other prayers because He is waiting for you and Jesus to take care of this issue FIRST.

The Lord's Prayer For Mature Christians
Jesus uses this study to serve two purposes; He uses it to help mature Christians pray this daily prayer so as to continue to grow. He also uses it to help those who are new or untrained Christians to grow into a mature, adult Christian. He does this to help us all keep praying **"The Lord's Prayer"** every day for the rest of our lives.

Talking With Your Heavenly Father

You Sharing With God
In the previous studies, Jesus dealt with your relationship with God. In this study, Jesus helps you learn how to talk to your heavenly Father and Him talk to you. All of the things Jesus taught you through **"The Lord's Prayer"** about your heavenly Father and the way He thinks and feels will help you move into this more specific study. As you move into **"Talking With Your Heavenly Father,"** Jesus will use those things you learn from the previous studies. This will help you be able to pray and get the results you need. If you know your heavenly Father and understand Him, you will talk with Him and listen to Him with great skill and effectiveness.

God Sharing With You
Prayer is the way for you to not only TALK TO your heavenly Father, it is also a way to LISTEN TO His answers and comments. Even though God doesn't typically use words and sentences, He does use thoughts and feelings. If you could connect to the thoughts and feeling of another person, you wouldn't need words. You would know what they were thinking and feeling by seeing what they see and feeling what they feel. This is a very powerful way of getting to know your heavenly Father. As Jesus teaches you how to recognize the GENTLE thoughts and feelings that He puts in your mind and heart, you will start getting His guidance for your life.

Workbook Chapter Three
How To Mature In The Power Life

THE PRAYER COURSES

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Jesus, make it clear to me that prayer is a VITAL part of my Christian life; it is my invitation to God, asking Him to do something in my life. Show me that it is a time of fellowship with God where I spend time finding out what He wants for my life. Help me understand that it is also a time where I express praise, thanksgiving, worship, and appreciation for all the wonderful things God has done for me. Make it clear to me that even as a Christian, if I don't pray and invite God into those areas of my need, He won't get involved. Even though I am His child, if I don't spend time asking Him for His guidance, I will wander around in life without His knowledge, foreknowledge of the future, understanding, and wisdom. Help me see that if I don't take out time to express my appreciation for all the awesome things He has already done for me, He will stop helping me with my present and future.

Things Are Different With God

Jesus, in the world, with my body, and with Satan I was pushed, driven, lured, tempted, required, and made to do certain things, if I wanted to survive. Teach me how my relationship with God works: **Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice <u>and opens the door</u>, I will come in and eat with him, and he with Me (Rev 3:20).** As a sinner, the world, my body, and Satan would try to break the door down. If they couldn't do that, they would bang on it, yell through it, try to tempt me into opening it, and try to make me think they could hurt me if I didn't open it. NOW, let me learn the gentle, loving, honoring, and gracious attitudes and treatment of God.

This Is What You Had To Do Before

Jesus, James 4:1 says: **"What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your desires that battle within you?"** I am used to having to fight for my rights; I am used to having to claw my way to the top; I am used to having to beat the competition; I am used to having to make sure I am heard; I am used to having to make sure I am respected, appreciated, and wanted; and, I am used to having to make sure I am good enough to be needed by those around me, BUT, teach me that none of that is necessary ANYMORE!

This Doesn't Work In God's World

Jesus, James 4:2a says: **You want something but don't get it. You kill and covet, but you cannot have what you want. You quarrel and fight.** Show me that we all come into Christianity, God's world, and our new life with our old training, experiences, and rules. Help me see that I learned how to get my way; I learned how to win; I learned how to get ahead; I learned how to treat people; I learned how to get myself ready for life; and I learned how to have SELF-confidence, SELF-esteem, and SELF-centered attitudes. Help me see that these things won't work in Christianity.

This Works In God's World

Jesus, James 4:2b says: **You do not have, because you do not ask God.** Teach me why some Christians don't grow, mature, succeed, and win at life. Show me that the major reason most Christians live a frustrating, confusing, discouraging, and defeated life is because they don't know how to pray. You said in **Matthew 7:11 (NIV): If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts <u>to those who ask Him</u>!** Make it clear to me that I have a lot to learn and a lot to UNLEARN.

Where Are We Going From Here?

Jesus, my next area of study is in **"The Prayer Courses."** But, before I start that study, help me take a look at all I will be studying in all the rest of the courses. Teach me that the first major need I have is to learn how to talk to my heavenly Father. Help it not be true of me that I do **not have, because** I **do not ask God.** Jesus, in this series, teach me how to pray about four major issues. Help me take Your Lord's Prayer and learn how to use it to go on beyond being born again. Teach me how to use it as a new or untrained Christian. Let this help me learn how to use this same prayer from You to keep moving forward in my new life.

The Lord's Prayer For Becoming A Christian

Jesus, in **"The Power Courses"** through the course called: **"How To Get The Power Life,"** You used **"The Lord's Prayer"**, located in Matthew 6:9-13, and helped me pray each part of it so I could be born again into my heavenly Father's family. And, You helped me pray it so I could become a citizen of His eternal Kingdom. Then You empowered me to obey Romans 10:8-10 and taught me how to confess that You are Lord and believe in my heart that God raised You from the dead. That gave me salvation and justification. Through salvation You forgave me from all my past sins; through justification You forgave me for all my present and future sins.

Praying To Be Ready For Our Day

Jesus, teach me how to pray **"The Lord's Prayer"** for each day's issues; and, teach me how to use it to grow in each stage of my life. You told me to pray Your prayer that is called **"The Lord's Prayer;"** help me see that it is a daily prayer that contains the basic aspects that address my needs for each day. However, if I start praying this prayer everyday, some unhelpful things can happen to this time of prayer. So, help me look at Your prayer from four different perspectives. You have already taken me through the first one for being born again. Now, take me into three more.

Four Child Of God Prayers

Jesus, teach me how to use the four courses on **"The Lord's Prayer"** with one being found in **"The Power Courses."** It is called: **"How To Get The Power Life."** It is **"The Lord's Prayer"** you used for helping me become a Christian and get Your POWER to live my new life. The next three courses on **"The Lord's Prayer"** are found in my next series of studies. This next series is called: **"The Prayer Courses."** Teach, train, and empower me through these three courses called: **"The Lord's Prayer For New Christians," "The Lord's Prayer For Sinning Christians,"** and **"The Lord's Prayer For Mature Christians."** Jesus, we looked at Your prayer in **"How To Get The Power Life"** from one perspective so I could become a child of God. Now help me look at it from three different perspectives so You can empower me grow and mature into an adult child of God.

One More Course On Prayer

Jesus, in **"The Prayer Courses,"** there is one more course that isn't based on **"The Lord's Prayer."** In the final course, **"Talking With Your Heavenly Father,"** use the book of James to help me examine vital spiritual issues. Then use some prayers prayed by David to help me get God's help. As You use the book of James, help me grow spiritually through these prayers of David. Help me work on prayers I will need to let You help me pray AFTER I have prayed **"The Lord's Prayer"** for that day. Use the Scriptures in the book of James to help me with specific issues I will face in life. Use these Scriptures to address issues in my spiritual life that are hurting me and my relationships with others. Then help me pray a prayer from the Psalms of David to get healing from it.

Ritual

Jesus, the prayers I pray over my dinner, prayers I memorize and pray all the time, and praying **"The Lord's Prayer"** can become a habit that is prayed without any real meaning or feeling. Show me that if it is just a ritual that I fulfill each day because I feel I am supposed to, then I will do it just to get it out of the way. Make it clear to me that prayer is too vital for me to just do it as a ritual; show me that it is all about a relationship with my heavenly Father. Reveal to me that He is listening and responding to every word I speak. Ritual prayer is like a person talking to me while thinking about something else. They are distracted, uninterested in me, and just going through the motions. I don't like talking with people like that. Help me not be that kind of person with You and my heavenly Father.

The Lord's Prayer

The Lord's Prayer For New Christians

Jesus work through this study and lead me into a process of praying **"The Lord's Prayer"** on a daily basis. Shows me HOW to do what You told me to do; AND, help me do it through the prayer You gave me to pray. Teach me how to use this great prayer You developed Yourself; and, show me how to apply it to my life and spiritual growth as a new or untrained Christian. Let this start my day off with great power and blessings. Let it be a general, foundational prayer that is to precede all the other prayers I pray that day.

The Lord's Prayer For Sinning Christians

Jesus, teach me that EVERY Christian, new or old, makes mistakes, commits misdeeds of their body, and does things that the Holy Spirit is trying to help them address. In this study, help me pray this daily prayer; but, help me learn to approach it differently during those times when I have sinned, failed, fallen short, or made a spiritual or relational mistake. Use this study so You can help me see it as addressing all my sins and failures. Use it to take care of any blockages I have between me and my heavenly Father. Teach me that sometimes God isn't responding to my other prayers because He is waiting for You and me to take care of this issue FIRST.

The Lord's Prayer For Mature Christians

Jesus, use this study to serve two purposes in me; use it to help me when I have become a mature Christian. Help me pray this daily prayer so as to continue to grow. Also use it to help me as a new or untrained Christians to grow into a mature, adult Christian. Do this to help me keep praying **"The Lord's Prayer"** every day for the rest of my life.

Talking With Your Heavenly Father

You Sharing With God

Jesus, in the previous studies, You dealt with my relationship with God. In this study, use it to help me learn how to talk to my heavenly Father and Him talk to me. All of the things You taught me through **"The Lord's Prayer"** about my heavenly Father and the way He thinks and feels, let it help me move into this more specific study. As I move into **"Talking With Your Heavenly Father,"** use those things I learned from the previous studies. Let them help me be able to pray and get the results I need. Help me know my heavenly Father and understand Him, so I can talk with Him and listen to Him with great skill and effectiveness.

God Sharing With You

Jesus, teach me that prayer is the way for me to not only TALK TO my heavenly Father, it is also a way to LISTEN TO His answers and comments. Show me that even though God doesn't typically use words and sentences, He does use thoughts and feelings. Help me see that if I could connect to the thoughts and feeling of another person, I wouldn't need words. I would know what they were thinking and feeling by seeing what they see and feeling what they feel. Teach me that this is a very powerful way of getting to know my heavenly Father. Help me learn how to recognize the GENTLE thoughts and feelings that He puts in my mind and heart. Let me start getting His guidance for my life through this relationship.

Textbook Chapter Four
How To Mature In The Power Life

THE RESOURCE COURSES

Learning How To Take Advantage Of Resources

As soon as you become a Christian, you have responsibilities that you will need help with. You will need to help your friends become Christians; they need Jesus just as much as you do. You will also be responsible for bringing your needs before God. You will need help with how you talk to Him; so, you will need GOOD examples for how to pray about various situations. You will need to spend time with other Christians. But, they will need to be Christians who are good for your continued growth. You will need to be able to develop new friends who will be willing to let you lead them into a relationship with Jesus. You will need books to read, prayer studies to work on, and worksheets that guide you into spiritual growth. That is what this course is all about.

The Lord's Prayer For Sharing Salvation

You can't be expected to know how to lead someone into salvation automatically. You need to be prepared for the moment when one of your friends expresses a desire to have what you have. Things change drastically when you lead your friend in praying The Lord's Prayer For Salvation. They become a child of God, they start understanding the Bible, they become a citizen of God's Kingdom, and they get the Holy Spirit inside them. God, the Holy Spirit comes inside their body and joins their spirit. He starts leading them into all the wonderful truths of Jesus. For you to be able to lead them in this wonderful and powerful prayer is awesome!

Praying The Psalms

You will be facing all kinds of situations in life. You were going to face them whether you accepted Jesus as your Lord, Savior, and King or not. But, now that you have Jesus, you will face them with Jesus protecting you, helping you, blessing you, empowering you, and teaching you through these challenges. He will use them as Life Classes so as to help you grow into a mature child of God. The Psalms will give you examples of prayers you can pray after you have prayed The Lord's Prayer. These prayers from the Psalms will guide you into how to pray about every kind of situation a Christian will face.

Christian Fellowship
Just because someone tells you they are a Christian doesn't mean they really are. There are people who think they are: **Mat 7:22-23 (NIV) Many will say to Me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name drive out demons and perform many miracles?' Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Away from Me, you evildoers!'** There will be people who try to be but haven't been born again: **Mat 7:21 (NIV) "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of My Father Who is in heaven.** And, there will be people who are pretending to be Christians for evil purposes: **Mat 7:15 (NIV) "Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves.** You need Jesus to take you through this study so you can find GOOD Christian fellowship.

Developing Friendships
Most of us know how to develop friends around sports, taking about our work, talking about the weather, and looking for someone to date or be friends with on a human level. Developing friendships that are good for you and for others is a special training that Jesus wants to give us all. Friends that keep you preoccupied with worldly cares aren't good for you. You need to have people who are helping you grow in Jesus; you need people you are helping to grow in Jesus; and, you need friends that you are growing together with. This is a wonderful resource for Jesus to use to help you develop all three types of friendships.

Books, Prayer Studies, And Worksheets

Books
There are two book series that are powerful reading and praying. They are in the Books For Successful Living program. The "Success In Life Series" is for people who are either starting a career or are actively involved in the business world. It has ten progressive study and prayer books that start with "The Jesus Life" and then lead you into how to live His life. The "Starting Your Day With Jesus" series has the same basic material as the "Success In Life Series;" but, it is for those who are retired from being actively involved in the business world. And, it is for those who are actively and exclusively involved in the ministry.

Prayer Studies
These are additional studies on prayer that help you keep growing in your communication with your heavenly Father. They deal with special Scriptures and special prayer approaches. The more you become skilled in doing what Matthew 7:7-11 says, the more you will start getting those things you need. **Mat 7:7 (NIV) ASK and it will be given to you; SEEK and you will find; KNOCK and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who ASKS receives; he who SEEKS finds; and to him who KNOCKS, the door will be opened. Which of you, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ASK Him!**

Worksheets
Sometimes Jesus will want you to use a worksheet to help you process a situation. Other times He will want you to use record sheets to help you keep records of your progress. These records and worksheets are provided during various courses at specific times. But, if you don't get a copy at that time, it is hard to go back and find it. So, they are all provided here so you can find the one you need.

Devotions With Jesus

A Daily Devotional Program
You are already actively involved in the programs that lead into **"The Victorious Christian Living"** studies. It is much more involved and starts from the very beginning of the spiritual growth study. However, if Jesus wants you to add **"Devotions With Jesus,"** to this program, He will use it to provide you with a daily devotional time that ties to **"Bible Life University Year One."** It helps you MENTOR people who are going through similar things you have already gone through.

Jesus uses "Devotions With Jesus" to train those who want to MENTOR their friends in growing in Jesus. Jesus teaches you how to MENTOR your friends using "Devotions With Jesus." "Victorious Christian Living" is used by Jesus in **"Bible Life University Year Two."** It helps you MINISTER to people who are going through things you have never faced yourself. Once you have completed these "Victorious Christian Living" studies for yourself, Bible Life University will help you start MINISTERING to hurting people around you.

Victorious Christian Living

An In-depth Spiritual Growth Program
From Tomorrow On, Jesus will be taking you through all the subjects in **"The Victorious Christian Living"** studies. This will give you a chance to see what this training is all about. Jesus will help you see what is will take for you to become a person who can grow into being able to help all kinds of hurting people. First, He will help and heal you in these areas; then He will train you through **"Bible Life University"** to help others. Tomorrow you will start with the Strategy courses and then next week you will move on from there.

Workbook Chapter Four
How To Mature In The Power Life

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Jesus, since there are two book series that are powerful for reading and praying, show me whether or not you want me to get involved with them. Help me be aware that they are in the Books For Successful Living program. Help me understand that the "Success In Life Series" is for people who are either starting a career or are actively involved in the business world. Make it clear to me that it has ten progressive study and prayer books that start with "The Jesus Life" and then lead me into how to live Your life. Also, help me understand that the "Starting Your Day With Jesus" series has the same basic material as the "Success In Life Series;" but, it is for those who are retired from being actively involved in the business world. And, it is for those who are actively and exclusively involved in the ministry. Help me keep this in mind so You can lead me into one of them, if You want to.

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Jesus, keep me aware that there are additional studies on prayer that can help me keep growing in my communication with my heavenly Father. Help me understand that they deal with special Scriptures and special prayer approaches. Make it clear to me that the more I become skilled in doing what Matthew 7:7-11 says, the more I will start getting those things I need. **Mat 7:7 (NIV) ASK and it will be given to you; SEEK and you will find; KNOCK and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who ASKS receives; he who SEEKS finds; and to him who KNOCKS, the door will be opened. Which of you, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ASK Him!**

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Jesus, I am already actively involved in the programs that lead into **"Victorious Christian Living"** studies. Help me understand that it is much more involved and starts from the very beginning of the spiritual growth study. However, if You want me to add "Devotions With Jesus" to this program, help me see that it provides me with a daily devotional time that ties to "Bible Life University Year One." Show me that this will help me MENTOR people who are going through similar things I have already gone through.

Jesus, teach me that "Devotions With Jesus" is used by those who want to MENTOR their friends in growing in You. If you want me to include it or do it first, You will be teaching me how to MENTOR my friends using "Devotions With Jesus." Also, teach me and show me what "Victorious Christian Living" is all about. Help me understand that it is used by You in "Bible Life University Year Two." It will help me MINISTER to people who are going through things I have never faced myself. Jesus, if once I have completed these "Victorious Christian Living" studies for myself, use Bible Life University Year Two to help me start MINISTERING to hurting people.

Victorious Christian Living

An In-depth Spiritual Growth Program

From Tomorrow On, Jesus will be taking you through all the subjects in "The Victorious Christian Living" studies. This will give you a chance to see what this training is all about. Jesus will help you see what is will take for you to become a person who can grow into being able to help all kinds of hurting people. First, He will help and heal you in these areas; then He will train you through "Bible Life University" to help others. Tomorrow you will start with the Strategy courses and then next week you will move on from there.

Textbook Chapter Five
How To Mature In The Power Life

Growing Through
The "Victorious Christian Living" Studies

You are now looking at the main studies of the "Victorious Christian Living" program. Jesus uses the subjects and courses in these studies will help you and heal you in your struggle with life. This is an overview of Victorious Christian Living so you can see if Jesus wants you to get actively involved in it. Below is the first subject in the program; it is called "The Strategy Courses."

THE STRATEGY COURSES

Having a Biblical plan for growing spiritually and living victoriously.

Letting Jesus Give You A Plan

You won't be able to move forward effectively without goals, plans, and strategies. It is vital for you to find out what God's plans are for you. **Rom 8:29-30 (NIV) For those God FOREKNEW He also PREDESTINED to be conformed to the likeness of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brothers. And those He predestined, He also called; those He called, He also justified; those He justified, He also glorified.** God knew you before you were born; He knew what kind of personality you were going to have; and, He knew what kind of attitudes and character you were going to develop.

A God-Given Free Will

Gen 1:26-27 (NIV) Then God said, "Let Us make man <u>in Our image, in Our likeness, and let them rule</u> over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground." <u>So God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them</u>. You have self-identity; you have a God-given free will; you have powerful thought processes; you have talents, skills, physical abilities, and feelings that no other creature has.

When you were made in God's image, that made you a very powerful being. You aren't programed by other people or your circumstances. You are a REACTION to all those things that have come your way. You have been DECIDING how YOU feel about all those things others have tried to teach you. You have DECIDED who YOU want to be; you have DECIDED how YOU want to react to all the things, circumstances, people, and influences you have experienced. You may blame all of these things for how you are; but, you are putting the blame in the wrong place. You were created in God's image and you have been deciding and reacting based on what you wanted to become.

You Are Not A Robot
Machines can be PROGRAMED; they are a PRODUCT of those things programmed into their memory. They can't feel, decide, analyze, self-identify, dream about the future, or compare the true value to the things around them. You were created in God's image and that made you a real challenge to God, yourself, the people around you, and the world. Because you are such a powerful being, God makes YOU responsible for your thoughts, feelings, words, and deeds. You have rejected even those things God has sent your way. You have such God-given freedom, you can even reject some of the most important wishes of God.

You Are A Human
2 Pet 3:9 (NIV) The Lord is not slow in keeping His promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, <u>not WANTING anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance</u>. Even though God doesn't WANT **anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance,** He doesn't get His want from a lot of people. They insist on perishing by refusing to repent (make a U-turn). They refuse to change their ways and their thinking. You are a human; you have abilities and powers that are beyond your imagination. This is wonderful; and, this is very scary.

You Are Foreknown
It doesn't do any good to have all this power and abilities as a human, if people and circumstances keep you from being able to use them. So, God had to look at you and your future and know who you were going to want to be. He had to have a complete understanding of all your desires, dreams, and wishes. He knew you before you were born; He knew things about you that were so complex that only He could understand them. THEN, He started on PREDESTINING you so YOU could have your very best chance of the very best He has to offer.

You Have Been Predestined
God gave you the VERY BEST CHANCE of becoming the VERY BEST He has to offer. He used His foreknowledge to shape you, your environment, your circumstances, and your future so you could USE your God-given free will on all of it. That doesn't mean you get everything you want because that wouldn't be good for you. God designed your environment so you would have the very best CHANCE of turning out the very best that a person can be. You have some things in you that aren't good for you; but, you got them yourself. God did the very best in giving you the right body, the right family, the right geological location, the right time in history, the right circumstances, and the right opportunities. Then YOU decided what to do with them.

God Didn't Make Any Mistakes
God brought you into this world at the right time, place, relationships, and circumstances. He gave you the very best opportunity to reach your highest potential in this life. But, with your incredible human abilities, you have been deciding and reacting to all these provisions of God. You are now who you have decided to make yourself. You have reacted to all God's provisions and have turned yourself into who you now are. BUT, Jesus has produced a WAY, a TRUTH, and a LIFE that CAN give you another chance to start all over and take advantage of all God has provided you.

You Have A New Life
God loves you more than you love yourself; God knows MUCH more than you know about yourself; God knows how to help you become the person you have always wanted to be; and, God knows what it is going to take for you to reach your FULL potential. If you can fully trust Him, He can help you see all the things He gave you; and, He will help you use it all to reach your highest goals, dreams, and aspirations. Put your life in God's hands and He will prove to you that He is TOTALLY trustworthy with your God-given free will. He is the ONLY ONE Who totally and completely honors your God-given free will. You will be TOTALLY involved in all the decisions; He will just be trying to help you see why He wants to do what He wants to do in your life.

The Strategy Courses Will Help
Jesus will be using The Strategy Courses to help you find out how God designed you, how He structured your life and circumstances. He will help you see your strengths, likes and dislikes, talents, skills, abilities, and potential. He will be taking who you are and what you are struggling with and enhance it with spiritual growth. The person you are, will be able to take advantage of God's power to win over the problem that is bothering you the most. You will be able to strategically move forward in God. That will empower you to be who God has shaped you to be.

Workbook Chapter Five
How To Mature In The Power Life

Victorious Christian Living Subjects

THE STRATEGY COURSES

Having a Biblical plan for growing spiritually and living victoriously.

Letting Jesus Give You A Plan

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A God-Given Free Will

Gen 1:26-27 (NIV) Then God said, "Let Us make man <u>in Our image, in Our likeness, and let them rule</u> over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground." <u>So God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them</u>. Jesus, help me understand that I have self-identity; I have a God-given free will; I have powerful thought processes; I have talents, skills, physical abilities, and feelings that no other creature has.

When I was made in God's image, that made me a very powerful being. Make it clear to me that I am not programed by other people or my circumstances. I am a REACTION to all those things that have come my way. Help me understand that I have been DECIDING how I feel about all those things others have tried to teach me. I have DECIDED who I want to be; I have DECIDED how I want to react to all the things, circumstances, people, and influences I have experienced. Show me that I may blame all of these things for how I am; but, I am putting the blame in the wrong place. I was created in God's image and I have been deciding and reacting based on what I wanted to become.

You Are Not A Robot

Jesus, help me understand that machines can be PROGRAMED; they are a PRODUCT of those things programmed into their memory. They can't feel, decide, analyze, self-identify, dream about the future, or compare the true value to the things around them. Make it clear to me that I was created in God's image and that made me a real challenge to God, myself, the people around me, and the world. Help me understand that because I am such a powerful being, God makes ME responsible for MY thoughts, feelings, words, and deeds. I have rejected even those things God has sent my way. I have such God-given freedom, I can even reject some of the most important wishes of God.

You Are A Human

2 Pet 3:9 (NIV) The Lord is not slow in keeping His promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, <u>not WANTING anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance</u>. Jesus, show me that even though God doesn't WANT **anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance,** He doesn't get His want from a lot of people. They insist on perishing by refusing to repent (make a U-turn). They refuse to change their ways and their thinking. I am a human; I have abilities and powers that are beyond my imagination. This is wonderful; and, this is very scary. Help me take the blame; but, help me repent so I can grow in You.

You Are Foreknown

Jesus, teach me that it doesn't do any good to have all this power and abilities as a human, if people and circumstances keep me from being able to use them. So, God had to look at me and my future and know who I was going to want to be. He had to have a complete understanding of all my desires, dreams, and wishes. He knew me before I was born; He knew things about me that were so complex that only He could understand them. THEN, He started on PREDESTINING me so I could have my very best chance of the very best He has to offer. Now, help me take advantage of that predestination.

You Have Been Predestined

Jesus, make it clear to me that God gave me the VERY BEST CHANCE of becoming the VERY BEST He has to offer. He used His foreknowledge to shape me, my environment, my circumstances, and my future so I could USE my God-given free will on all of it. But, help me understand that, that doesn't mean I get everything I want because that wouldn't be good for me. Show me that God designed my environment so I would have the very best CHANCE of turning out the very best that a person can be. I have some things in me that aren't good for me; but, I got them myself. Help me see that God did the very best in giving me the right body, the right family, the right geological location, the right time in history, the right circumstances, and the right opportunities. Then I decided what to do with them. Help me to start taking advantage of God's best plan for me.

God Didn't Make Any Mistakes

Jesus, teach me that God brought me into this world at the right time, place, relationships, and circumstances. He gave me the very best opportunity to reach my highest potential in this life. But, with my incredible human abilities, I have been deciding and reacting to all these provisions of God. I am now who I have decided to make myself. I have reacted to all God's provisions and have turned myself into who I am now. BUT, You have produced a WAY, a TRUTH, and a LIFE that CAN give me another chance to start all over and take advantage of all God has provided me. Help me take that opportunity and use it to its fullest advantages.

You Have A New Life

Jesus, make it clear to me that God loves me more than I love myself; God knows MUCH more than I know about myself; God knows how to help me become the person I have always wanted to be; and, God knows what it is going to take for me to reach my FULL potential. Show me that if I can fully trust Him, He can help me see all the things He gave me; and, He will help me use it all to reach my highest goals, dreams, and aspirations. Help me put my life in God's hands so He can prove to me that He is TOTALLY trustworthy with my God-given free will. Show me that He is the ONLY ONE Who totally and completely honors my God-given free will. Help me see that I will be TOTALLY involved in all the decisions; He will just be trying to help me see why He wants to do what He wants to do in my life.

The Strategy Courses Will Help

Jesus, use The Strategy Courses to help me find out how God designed me, how He structured my life and circumstances. Let Him help me see my strengths, likes and dislikes, talents, skills, abilities, and potential. Let Him take who I am and what I am struggling with and enhance it with spiritual growth. Let the person I am be able to take advantage of God's power to win over the problem that is bothering me the most. Let me be able to strategically move forward in God. Let it empower me to be who God has shaped me to be.

Textbook Chapter Six
How To Mature In The Power Life

THE SUBMISSION COURSES

Right things you need to be constantly allowing to enter into your life.

Submission In Three Areas
Jesus wants to help you get your emotions, your body, and your attitudes brought into a powerful condition. If these three areas are submitted to the wrong things then you don't stand a chance of having real success in life. Your emotions, your attitudes, and your body create powerful drives that can FORCE you to do things you shouldn't be doing. **Rom 7:22 (NIV) For in my inner being I delight in God's law; but I see another law at work in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within my members.**

Love In Four Areas Brings Submission
Mark 12:30 (NIV) Love the Lord your God with all your HEART and with all your SOUL and with all your MIND and with all your STRENGTH. Your emotions come out of your heart; that is the way it communicates with you. Your body also communicates with you from drives; it pressures you with wants or hungers that force you to yield. Its drives and pressures flow through your soul. Your mind holds your attitudes; you have filled it with all kinds of philosophies, information, and principles. Most of these have come through the world and the devil. Most of them are in opposition to the real way God, life, and the world work.

Neutral Information
Math, vocabulary, and uncontaminated science are things you can be taught that are neutral information. But, if you use math, language, or scientific information to refute the things in the Bible, it is no longer neutral. If you use them to cheat, steal, abuse, lie, or establish immoral relationships, they are no longer neutral. SOME of your education was neutral; two plus two equals four as long as you aren't adding up sins. The moment these neutral things (the things I got trained through the world system) are used for thinking, feeling, saying, or doing things that aren't right, good, and righteous, that is the moment you have entered into those areas God is concerned about.

The Holy Spirit And The Bible

John 16:8 (NIV) When He (the Holy Spirit) comes, He will convict the world of guilt in regard to sin and righteousness and judgment. The Holy Spirit is speaking to your conscience; He is trying to inform you of those things you are thinking, feeling, saying, and doing that aren't neutral. **John 16:13 (NIV) But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on His own; He will speak only what He hears, and He will tell you what is yet to come.** When you read the Bible, the Holy Spirit is your authority as to what the Bible means. He will be guiding you into the true meaning of every verse in the Bible. He is your FINAL AUTHORITY as to what is right or wrong, good or bad, and what is righteous or evil.

Living Victoriously Through Submission

Part One

Mark 12:30 (NIV) Love the Lord your God with all your HEART and with all your SOUL and with all your MIND and with all your STRENGTH. In the first part of "Living Victoriously Through Submission," Jesus will be dealing with your emotions that flow out of your heart. He will also be dealing with the drives and passions of your body that communicate with you through your soul. And, He will be dealing with your attitudes that come out of your mind.

Part Two

Love the Lord your God with all your HEART and with all your SOUL and with all your MIND and with all your STRENGTH. In the second part, Jesus will be dealing with your STRENGTH you have in your God-given free will, the contents of your MIND, and the choices you make that are influenced from you, from the people around you, from the society you are trying to conform to, and from the devil. And, He will be dealing with you submitting your life to His life.

Convinced That Jesus Is The Best Way

If You Can Be Convinced

You have a God-given free will; you have incredible abilities that come from being created in God's image and likeness (Genesis 1:26-27). You are a human; that makes you capable of REACTING to your environment rather that being PROGRAMED by it. God can but He won't force you to do anything you don't want to do. This submission issue can be very scary to you. You may fear that a supernatural being like God might do something you don't want or like. You WILL have to give God permission for giving you everything you get from Him. If you don't PRAY and ASK for it, He won't do it. Your problem with God won't be too much influence; it will be a too gentle influence. What will God do in your life if you don't ask? NOTHING!

Submission Through Permission
Your relationship with God is permission based; you can't make Him do anything that isn't good for you and those around you; and, He WON'T do anything without your permission. Moment by moment and issue by issue you will have to give God permission to take control over those things you need Him to. And, in MOST cases, He will still want you to join Him as He does it in you, for you, to you, with you, and through you. Your major concern SHOULD be that you will miss out on things you should have submitted to God.

Workbook Chapter Six
How To Mature In The Power Life

THE SUBMISSION COURSES

Right things we need to be constantly allowing to enter into our life.

Submission In Three Areas

Jesus, help me get my emotions, my body, and my attitudes brought into a powerful condition. Show me that if these three areas are submitted to the wrong things then I don't stand a chance of having real success in life. Help me see that my emotions, my attitudes, and my body create powerful drives that can FORCE me to do things I shouldn't be doing. **Rom 7:22 (NIV) For in my inner being I delight in God's law; but I see another law at work in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind <u>and making me a prisoner</u> of the law of sin at work within my members.** Jesus help me be totally set free from this imprisonment.

Love In Four Areas Brings Submission

Mark 12:30 (NIV) Love the Lord your God with all your HEART and with all your SOUL and with all your MIND and with all your STRENGTH. Jesus, teach me that my emotions come from my heart; that's the way it communicates with me. Help me see that my body also communicates with me from drives; it pressures me with wants or hungers that force me to yield. Help me understand that my mind holds my attitudes; I have filled it with all kinds of philosophies, information, and principles. Show me that most of these have come through the world and the devil. And, most of them are in opposition to the real way God, life, and the world work. Help me submit to You so these issues can be dealt with.

Neutral Information

Jesus, help me understand that math, vocabulary, and uncontaminated science are things I can be taught that are neutral information. But, if I use math, language, or scientific information to refute the things in the Bible, it is no longer neutral. Show me that if I use them to cheat, steal, abuse, lie, or establish immoral relationships, they are no longer neutral. Help me see that SOME of my education was neutral; two plus two equals four as long as I am not adding up sins. Make it clear to me that the moment these neutral things (the things I got trained through the world system) are used for thinking, feeling, saying, or doing things that aren't right, good, and righteous, that is the moment I have entered into the realm of those areas God is concerned about.

The Holy Spirit And The Bible

John 16:8 (NIV) When He (the Holy Spirit) comes, He will convict the world of guilt in regard to sin and righteousness and judgment. Teach me that the Holy Spirit is speaking to my conscience; He is trying to inform me of those things I am thinking, feeling, saying, and doing that aren't neutral. **John 16:13 (NIV) But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on His own; He will speak only what He hears, and He will tell you what is yet to come.** Help me understand that when I read the Bible, the Holy Spirit is my authority as to what the Bible means. He will be guiding me into the true meaning of every verse in the Bible. Help me make Him my FINAL AUTHORITY as to what is right or wrong, good or bad, and what is righteous or evil.

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Mark 12:30 (NIV) Love the Lord your God with all your HEART and with all your SOUL and with all your MIND and with all your STRENGTH. Jesus, use the first part of "Living Victoriously Through Submission," to deal with my emotions that flow out of my heart. Use it to deal with the drives and passions of my body that communicate with me through my soul. Also, deal with my attitudes that come out of my mind.

Part Two

Love the Lord your God with all your HEART and with all your SOUL and with all your MIND and with all your STRENGTH. Jesus, use the second part to deal with my STRENGTH I have in my God-given free will, the contents of my MIND, and the choices I make that are influenced from me, from the people around me, from the society I am trying to conform to, and from the devil. Use it to deal with me submitting my life to Your life.

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Submission Through Permission

Jesus, teach me that my relationship with God is permission based; I can't make Him do anything that isn't good for me and those around me; and, He WON'T do anything without my permission. Help me moment by moment and issue by issue to give God permission to take control over those things I need Him to. And teach me that in MOST cases, He will still want me to join Him as He does it in me, for me, to me, with me, and through me. Help my major concern to be that I will miss out on things I should have submitted to God.

Textbook Chapter Seven
How To Mature In The Power Life

THE RESISTANCE COURSES

Resisting Wrong Things You Were Regularly Allowing To Enter Into Your Life

Resistance Through Creation
Our words are pretty powerless; we are fortunate when people actually get our full meaning when we talk. BUT, when Jesus talks, His words are supernaturally powerful. They go inside us and produce pictures, feelings, and power. Jesus said in **John 6:63 (NIV) The Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing. The words I have spoken to you are Spirit and they are life.** As you read the Bible, and as Jesus produces ideas and feelings in your mind and heart, they are more than information. If you believe in them, they will instantly change your opinions of what you should allow in your life. Through them you will be able to recognize wrong, bad, and evil things that you have been allowing to come into your life.

Resistance Through Faith
Heb 12:2 (NIV) Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the Author and Perfecter of our faith, Who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. When you learn how to **fix** your **eyes on Jesus,** you will know, be convinced, and be sure of the words Jesus speaks to you through the Bible. You will be so sure of His truth, you will resist anything that tries to get into you that Jesus and the Bible say are wrong. Jesus' faith will be so powerful that you won't doubt Him for even a second. So, when something is different from what He says, you will resist it coming into you.

Resistance Through Trust
You have trusted a lot of people and allowed them to teach you things that were wrong. You have trusted yourself and allowed yourself to take you in directions that hurt you. There are things you believe that are errors and misconceptions. There are things you thought would make you happy that are actually doing great damage to your life and relationships. It is time to take your trust away from yourself and other people and put in the One Who is totally trustworthy. Once you start REALLY trusting Jesus, He will prove to you that He is your true answer to life and relationships. This will help you resist any outside information that is trying to get you to trust it. Even if you have been allowing it in for a long time, you will trust what Jesus and the Bible say.

Resistance Through Commitment
You have made up your mind, made a final decision, committed yourself, and determined to do a lot of things. But, like the rest of us, you found that your commitment was inadequate for staying on course. Plus, you often found out that those things you committed to were no good for you in the first place. It is now time to allow Jesus' power-commitment to lock you on the right path for what you should allow to come into you. But, you will have to resist any detours that try to distract you and take you back to the wrong path; Jesus will help you commit to the right path.

Resistance Through Truth
There were times when you were sure you were right and then found out you were wrong. There are things in your life that you are sure are right but are actually hurting you. Jesus is the truth: **John 14:6 (NIV) Jesus answered, "I AM the way <u>and the truth</u> and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.** He will so reveal and make clear the truths of life that you will be amazed at how many things you believed were okay but were actually wrong. It will come clear to you that you didn't stand a chance of winning. No one can succeed at life if they don't know the truth. You and Jesus will be resisting a lot of erroneous things that you thought were truth but were drastically misleading you.

Resistance Through Love
Only being able to see things from your perspective will hurt all your relationships. The people around you are using all kinds of methods, systems, and procedures to get you to do what THEY want you to do. They have learned that they aren't going to get their needs and wants met if they can't convince you that they care about you. They act like they are trying to do you a favor. But, you learned a long time ago that they only have their best interests in mind. If you go their way rather than Jesus' way, then you are being used. You need to yield to Jesus' love rather than their selfish desires.

Love will turn you into a person who is real, sincere, trustworthy, and caring. You will be able to see things from other people's perspectives. As you resist wrong things you were regularly allowing to enter into your life, people will GRADUALLY learn to come to you for truth, honesty, care, and friendship. They will come to you at first while not trusting ANYBODY. BUT, they will slowly learn that you are totally different from anyone they have ever met. However, you will have to keep resisting a lot of things that will keep trying to hinder you from BEING that person. Jesus will continue to empower you to keep all of them out of your life.

Resistance Through Renewal
The people around you have learned that they can't trust anyone. They have developed all kinds of ways of protecting themselves. When you purchase something, there has to be a moment of exchange. When you are at the drive-up window of a fast-food place, they won't give you the food you ordered UNTIL you give them the money for it. Why? Because, you might drive off without paying. They aren't used to being around people that Jesus has transformed.

Most of our human relationships and transactions are designed in such a way that we are able to protect ourselves. The people around you protect themselves by ACTING nice, ACTING trustworthy, ACTING caring, and ACTING sincere; but, they can turn on you in a moment. Jesus doesn't want you ACTING nice, trustworthy, caring, and sincere. There is a huge difference between ACTING like a Christian and BEING one. Renewal, transformation, creation, and being born again MAKE you into a person who lives the way you do because that is who you are now. Renewal will empower you to keep the old you out so you can BE the new you.

Workbook Chapter Seven
How To Mature In The Power Life

THE RESISTANCE COURSES

Resisting Wrong Things You Were Regularly Allowing To Enter Into Your Life

Resistance Through Creation

Jesus, help me understand that my words are pretty powerless; I am fortunate when people actually get my full meaning when I talk. BUT, when You talk, Your words are supernaturally powerful. Show me that they go inside me and produce pictures, feelings, and power. You said in **John 6:63 (NIV) The Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing. <u>The words I have spoken to you</u> are Spirit and they are life.** Help me see that as I read the Bible, and as You produce ideas and feelings in my mind and heart that <u>they are more than information</u>. Help me believe in them so they can instantly change my opinions of what I should allow in my life. Through Your and the Bible's words let me be able to recognize wrong, bad, and evil things that I have been allowing to come into my life.

Resistance Through Faith

Heb 12:2 (NIV) Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the <u>Author and Perfecter</u> of our faith, Who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Jesus, empower me to learn how to **fix** my **eyes on** You so I will know, be convinced, and be sure of the words You speak to me through the Bible. Empower me to be so sure of Your truth that I will resist anything that tries to get into me that You and the Bible say are wrong. Let Your faith be so powerful that I won't doubt You for even a second. So, when something is different from what You say, I will resist it coming into me.

Resistance Through Trust

Jesus, I have trusted a lot of people and allowed them to teach me things that were wrong. I have trusted myself and allowed myself to take me in directions that hurt me. Help me understand that there are things I believe that are errors and misconceptions. Show me that there are things I thought would make me happy that are actually doing great damage to my life and relationships. Empower me to take my trust away from myself and other people and put in You, the One Who is totally trustworthy. Show me that once I start REALLY trusting You, You will prove to me that You are my true answer to life and relationships. Let this help me resist any outside information that is trying to get me to trust it. Even those things that I have been allowing in my life for a long time. Help me only trust what You and the Bible say.

Resistance Through Commitment

Jesus, I have made up my mind, made a final decision, committed myself, and determined to do a lot of things. But, like the rest of the human race, I have found that my commitment was inadequate for staying on course. Plus, I often found out that those things I committed to were no good for me in the first place. Help me allow Your power-commitment to lock me on the right path for what I should allow to come into my life. But, teach me that I will have to resist any detours that try to distract me and take me to the wrong path; let this help me commit to the right path.

Resistance Through Truth

Jesus, there were times when I was sure I was right and then found out I was wrong. There are things in my life that I am sure are right but are actually hurting me. You are the truth: **John 14:6 (NIV) Jesus answered, "I AM the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.** Reveal and make clear the truths of life so I can be amazed at how many things I believed but were actually wrong. Make it clear to me that I didn't stand a chance of winning. Show me that no one can succeed at life if they don't know the truth. Help me cooperate with You as we resist a lot of erroneous things that are trying to drastically mislead me.

Resistance Through Love

Jesus, teach me that only being able to see things from my perspective will hurt all my relationships. Help me understand that the people around me are using all kinds of methods, systems, and procedures to get me to do what THEY want me to do. They have learned that they aren't going to get their needs and wants met if they can't convince me that they care about me. They act like they are trying to do me a favor. But, I learned a long time ago that they only have their best interests in mind. If I go their way rather than Your way, then I am being used. Help me yield to Your love rather than their selfish desires.

Jesus, make it clear to me that love will turn me into a person who is real, sincere, trustworthy, and caring. You will help me be able to see things from other people's perspectives. As I resist wrong things that I was regularly allowing to enter into my life, people will GRADUALLY learn to come to me for truth, honesty, care, and friendship. They will come to me at first while not trusting ANYBODY. BUT, they will slowly learn that I am totally different from anyone they have ever met. However, keep empowering me to join You in resisting a lot of things that will keep trying to hinder me from BEING that person. Continue empowering me to keep all of them out of my life.

Jesus, the people around me have learned that they can't trust anyone. They have developed all kinds of ways of protecting themselves. When I purchase something, there has to be a moment of exchange. When I am at the drive-up window of a fast-food place, they won't give me the food I ordered UNTIL I give them the money for it. They are afraid I might drive off without paying. They aren't used to being around people like me that You have transformed.

Jesus, teach me that most of my human relationships and transactions are designed in such a way that we are able to protect ourselves. Help me understand that the people around me protect themselves by ACTING nice, ACTING trustworthy, ACTING caring, and ACTING sincere; but, they can turn on me in a moment. Set me free from ACTING nice, trustworthy, caring, and sincere. Show me that there is a huge difference between ACTING like a Christian and BEING one. Make clear to me that renewal, transformation, creation, and being born again MAKE me into a person who lives the way I do because that is who I now am. Let renewal empower me to keep the old me out so I can BE the new me.

Textbook Chapter Eight
How To Mature In The Power Life

THE PURIFICATION COURSES

Getting wrong, bad, and evil things out of you that are already there.

Internal Spiritual Damage

The thing about wrong, bad, and evil thoughts, feelings, words, and deeds is, what they do to us, our attitudes, and our behavior. When we sin, it doesn't just damage us at the moment of the sin, we get changed in the way we think, feel, talk, and act. The sins we have allowed to come inside us can cause us to mistreat people, dislike them, lie to them, want revenge against them, and talk about them behind their back. These sins we have allowed to come inside us can cause us to lust after them, to lead THEM into sin, and to do things with them that hurts us and them. We must understand what wrong, bad, and evil do to us once the deed has been committed. It isn't just the deed itself; it is what happens to us once it gets inside us.

The Growth Of Damage

Sin is like a cancer; one cell multiplies and grows; it starts replacing the healthy, normal cells. It isn't a cell that produces beneficial things for our body; it is selfish and self-centered. Its whole purpose is to use the food and energy resources of our body for reproducing itself. Sin is like that; it only has one purpose. It is devoted to taking you away from healthy relationships. It pushes you into selfish, self-centered activities that have to be repeated over and over again. It tries to dominate your feelings, thoughts, words, and deeds. It isn't until it is repented of, renounced from your life, and released from your behavior that you get healed.

Treating The Wrong, Bad, And Evil Things

Start Exposing Yourself To Jesus

Wrong, bad, and evil are alive; they grow like weeds in your yard. Weeds plant themselves; dandelions have little round balls of fuzzy seeds that get blown by the wind. Large quantities of these little airborne seeds flow from one plant and infect your and your neighbors' yards. They don't need to be hand planted like good plants. They will plant themselves and spread all over. This will keep happening until something is done that eliminates them. They must be actively resisted and removed. This is what Jesus is wanting to do in your life. One of the reasons He is taking you through these studies is so you can get the "weeds" removed from your life.

Self-Protection And Healing
Dandelions can be sprayed with certain poisons and they will kill them. Once a dandelion plant is killed, it can't produce any more seeds; but, if it already has seeds produced, they must be captured and disposed of. Jesus' blood killed the reproduction of those sins you committed. But, they still have the potential of doing damage in your life. You must allow Him to set you free from the damage they have already done to you. You have reacted to your life of sin and have put up barriers, walls, defenses, and attitudes that are trying to protect you. You must not protect yourself; you must give these protections up and allow Jesus to heal you.

The Process Of Replacement

A Developed Lifestyle
You have habits, addictions, and a lifestyle that have developed from your life of sin. You have beliefs, philosophies, and principles you are living by that aren't from Jesus' Bible. They are governing, regulating, and manipulating your behavior. Your thoughts, feelings, words, and deeds are being formulated from these things that are resident inside you. For you to be set free from this developed lifestyle sin has formed in you, you need Jesus to set you free. He wants to give you habits, intense desires, and lifestyle patterns that are from Him.

Being Cleansed
If you had dirty hands, you could try to rub all that dirt off; or, you could use soap and water. It is amazing how much better it is to wash things off than trying to just rub them off. Plus, soap deals with the unseen things such as viruses and bacteria. When you allow the power of Jesus to flow into your heart and life, He can do what you have never been able to do. What if you allowed the character of Jesus to flow over all the things you have permitted to enter into your life? You could let the fruit of the Spirit wash out all your habits, addictions, and lifestyle characteristics. **But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law (Gal 5:22-23).**

Being Healed
Your habits, addictions, and lifestyle characteristics are currently influencing your way of thinking. What if you allowed Jesus' way of thinking to force out all of the ways you USED to think? **Phil 4:8 (NIV) Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable--if anything is excellent or praiseworthy--<u>think about such things</u>.** You can only think about one thing at a time. If you are thinking Jesus-thoughts, then you can't be thinking thoughts from your old way of thinking. Jesus' power-attitudes of Galatians 5:22-23 and Jesus' power-thoughts of Philippians 4:8 will crowd out your old way of living life.

Being Pure
Once you are made pure, you are able to use those things Jesus taught you in the Resistance Courses. He trained and empowered you to resist wrong, bad, and evil things. Plus, you will be able to add pure things into your life from those things Jesus taught you in the Submission Courses. Jesus taught and empowered you to submit to right, good, and righteousness. Jesus uses all these courses to help you get, keep, live, and mature in the Victorious Christian Life. He takes you from where you are and makes wonderful improvements through your relationship with Him and your exposure to the Bible. Purity will help you with your relationship with yourself, your friends, your business associates, your family, strangers, and with people you don't like. The power of purity will so enhance who you are that people will love being around you.

Workbook Chapter Eight
How To Mature In The Power Life

THE PURIFICATION COURSES

Getting wrong, bad, and evil things out of you that are already there.

Internal Spiritual Damage

Jesus, teach me that the thing about wrong, bad, and evil thoughts, feelings, words, and deeds is, what they do to me, my attitudes, and my behavior. Show me that when I sin, it doesn't just damage me at the moment of the sin, I get changed in the way I think, feel, talk, and act. The sins I have allowed to come inside me can cause me to mistreat people, dislike them, lie to them, want revenge against them, and talk about them behind their back. These sins I have allowed to come inside me can cause me to lust after them, to lead THEM into sin, and to do things with them that hurts me and them. Help me understand what wrong, bad, and evil do to me once the deed has been committed. Show me that it isn't just the deed itself; it is what happens to me once it gets inside me.

The Growth Of Damage

Jesus, show me that sin is like a cancer; one cell multiplies and grows; it starts replacing the healthy, normal cells. Show me it is like sin, it isn't a cell that produces beneficial things for my body; it is selfish and self-centered. Its whole purpose is to use the food and energy resources of my body for reproducing itself. Show me that sin is just like that; it only has one purpose. It is devoted to taking me away from healthy relationships. It pushes me into selfish, self-centered activities that have to be repeated over and over again. It tries to dominate my feelings, thoughts, words, and deeds. It isn't until it is repented of, renounced from my life, and released from my behavior that I get healed.

Treating The Wrong, Bad, And Evil Things

Start Exposing Yourself To Jesus

Jesus, teach me that wrong, bad, and evil are alive; they grow like weeds in my yard. Help me understand that weeds plant themselves; dandelions have little round balls of fuzzy seeds that get blown by the wind. Large quantities of these little airborne seeds flow from one plant and infect my and my neighbors' yards. They don't need to be hand planted like good plants. They will plant themselves and spread all over. This will keep happening until something is done that eliminates them. They must be actively resisted and removed. Help me see that this is what You are wanting to do in my life. Show me that one of the reasons You are taking me through these studies is so I can get the "weeds" removed from my life.

Self-Protection And Healing

Jesus, use this dandelion illustration to help me understand sin. Show me that dandelions can be sprayed with certain poisons and they will kill them. Once a dandelion plant is killed, it can't produce any more seeds; but, if it already has seeds produced, they must be captured and disposed of. Reveal to me that Your blood killed the deadly reproduction of the sins I committed. But, they still have the potential of doing damage in my life. Help me allow You to set me free from the damage they have already done to me. I have reacted to my life of sin and have put up barriers, walls, defenses, and attitudes that are trying to protect me. Empower me to not try to protect myself; help me give these protections up and allow You to heal me.

The Process Of Replacement

A Developed Lifestyle

Jesus, I have habits, addictions, and a lifestyle that have developed from my life of sin. I have beliefs, philosophies, and principles I am living by that aren't from Your Bible. They are governing, regulating, and manipulating my behavior. My thoughts, feelings, words, and deeds are being formulated from these things that are resident inside me. Teach me that for me to be set free from this developed lifestyle sin has formed in me, I need You to set me free. Give me habits, intense desires, and lifestyle patterns that are from You. Let them crowd out all the old habits, addictions, and lifestyle patterns.

Being Cleansed

Jesus, if I have dirty hands, I could try to rub all that dirt off; or, I could use soap and water. It is amazing how much better it is to wash things off than trying to just rub them off. Plus, soap deals with the unseen things such as viruses and bacteria. Help me always allow Your power to flow into my heart and life so You can do what I have never been able to do. Empower me to allow Your character to flow over all the things I have permitted to enter into my life. Empower me to let the fruit of the Spirit wash out all my habits, addictions, and lifestyle characteristics. Let these lifestyle characteristics flow in and through me: **But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law (Gal 5:22-23).**

Being Healed

Jesus, my habits, addictions, and lifestyle characteristics are currently influencing my way of thinking. Let me allow Your way of thinking to force out all of the ways I USED to think. Let this be my way of thinking: **Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable--if anything is excellent or praiseworthy--<u>think about such things</u> (Phil 4:8).** Since I can only think about one thing at a time, if I am thinking Your thoughts, then I can't be thinking thoughts from my old way of thinking. Jesus, let Your power-attitudes of Galatians 5:22-23 and Your power-thoughts of Philippians 4:8 crowd out my old way of living life.

Being Pure

Jesus, teach me that once I am made pure, I am able to use those things You taught me in the Resistance Courses. You trained and empowered me to resist wrong, bad, and evil things. Plus, I will be able to add pure things into my life from those things You taught me in the Submission Courses. You taught and empowered me to submit to right, good, and righteousness. Show me that You use all these courses to help me get, keep, live, and mature in the Victorious Christian Life. Take me from where I am and make wonderful improvements through my relationship with You and my exposure to the Bible. Let purity help me with my relationship with myself, my friends, my business associates, my family, strangers, and with people I don't like. Let the power of purity so enhance who I am that people will love being around me.

Textbook Chapter Nine
How To Mature In The Power Life

THE PREVENTION COURSES

Preventing wrong things that are trying to get into your life that you NEVER wanted in there.

Once You Get In Line With God
In the Resistance Courses, you were fighting wrong, bad, and evil things trying to get into your life like you are here. But, you were fighting things that were wrong, bad, and evil that you were routinely and purposely allowing to come in. It was your habit, your lifestyle, and your purpose to allow them in. In these Prevention Courses, you are fighting thing you NEVER wanted to come in; but, you didn't know how to "do what it takes" to keep them out. In the Resistance Courses, you USED TO want them in. In the Prevention Courses, you NEVER wanted them in, in the first place.

Fighting Or Cooperating With Sin
Rom 7:15 (NIV) I do not understand what I do. For what I WANT to do I do not do, but what I HATE I do. This is different than **Rom 1:32 (NIV) Although they know God's righteous decree that those who do such things deserve death, they not only continue to do these very things <u>but also approve of those who practice them</u>.** In the Resistance Courses, you were embracing things God and the Bible are against like the people were doing in Romans 1:32 above. The Holy Spirit was speaking against them to your conscience; but, you still wanted to do them anyway. That is the way we all lived; that is what made us sinners. We willfully, purposely did things our conscience was telling us were wrong.

Fighting But Losing
Now you are letting Jesus take you into those areas where you really didn't want to be living like that but were anyway. **Rom 7:18 (NIV) I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my sinful nature. For I have THE DESIRE to do what is good, but I CANNOT carry it out.** This is a much better place to be; your attitudes and character are in line with the will and wishes of Jesus. You just don't know how to yield to His power to win against wrong, bad, and evil. **Rom 7:22-23 (NIV) For in my inner being I delight in God's law; but I see another law at work in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind <u>and making me a prisoner</u> of the law of sin at work within my members.**

Jesus' Prevention Courses

Fighting And Winning

Eph 6:10-11 (NIV) Finally, BE STRONG <u>in the Lord and in His mighty power</u>. Put on the full armor of God SO THAT you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. Things change when you start allowing Jesus to empower you to do what His Bible tells you to do. Once your start studying the Bible and Biblical principles, Jesus teaches you powerful things that enable you to live out those things you knew to do but couldn't make them happen.

The Six Biblical Principles For Winning

1. If it is your DESIRE to start winning over all wrong, bad, and evil things, then that desire will help start you on a journey in that direction.

2. If you STUDY, then the journey that DESIRE started you on will use the Bible to put you on the right path.

3. If you PRAY, then that will invite Jesus into your journey; He will join you and help you understand the meaning of the Bible so you can interpret all the road signs.

4. If you BELIEVE, then that means you have allowed Jesus to speak faith into you so you know you have the power for the journey.

5. If you LOVE, then you will take others on the journey with you.

6. If you take FAITH-ACTION, then you ACTUALLY get on the path and start heading in the right direction into victory. Being trained by Jesus in these principles are all theoretical until you move into faith-action and love.

These six things are necessary for you to be able to get Jesus' help. He requires these things so as to not do anything to you that you don't want Him to. And He requires them so you will learn how live as a mature, adult child of God.

Workbook Chapter Nine
How To Mature In The Power Life

THE PREVENTION COURSES

Preventing wrong things that are trying to get into your life that you NEVER wanted in there.

Once You Get In Line With God

Jesus, help me see the difference in the Resistance Courses and in these Prevention Courses. Show me that in the Resistance Courses I was fighting wrong, bad, and evil things trying to get into my life like I am here. But, I was fighting things that were wrong, bad, and evil that I was routinely and purposely allowing to come in. It was my habit, my lifestyle, and my purpose to allow them in. In these Prevention Courses, You are teaching me how to fight thing I NEVER wanted to come in; but, I didn't know how to "do what it takes" to keep them out. Show me that in the Resistance Courses, I USED TO want those things in. In the Prevention Courses, I NEVER wanted them in, in the first place.

Fighting Or Cooperating With Sin

Rom 7:15 (NIV) I do not understand what I do. For what I WANT to do I do not do, but what I HATE I do. Jesus show me that Romans 7:15 is different than **Romans 1:32 (NIV) Although they know God's righteous decree that those who do such things deserve death, they not only continue to do these very things <u>but also approve of those who practice them</u>.** Help me see that in the Resistance Courses, You were dealing with things I was embracing that God and the Bible are against. This is like what the people were doing in Romans 1:32 above. The Holy Spirit was speaking against them to my conscience; but, I still wanted to do them anyway. Show me that, that is the way all humans have lived; that is what made us all sinners. I willfully, purposely did things my conscience was telling me were wrong.

Fighting But Losing

Jesus, take me into those areas where I really didn't want to be living like that but was anyway. **Rom 7:18 (NIV) I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my sinful nature. For I have THE DESIRE to do what is good, but I CANNOT carry it out.** Teach me that this is a much better place to be; Your salvation has changed my attitudes and character. Now they are in line with Your will and wishes. I just don't know how to yield to Your power to win against wrong, bad, and evil. **Rom 7:22-23 (NIV) For in my inner being <u>I delight in God's law</u>; but I see another law at work in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind <u>and making me a prisoner</u> of the law of sin at work within my members.**

Jesus' Prevention Courses

Fighting And Winning

Eph 6:10-11 (NIV) Finally, BE STRONG <u>in the Lord and in His mighty power</u>. Put on the full armor of God SO THAT you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. Jesus, make it clear to me that things change when I start doing what Your Bible tells me to do. Show me that once I start studying the Bible and Biblical principles, You will teach me powerful things that enable me to live out those things I knew to do but couldn't make them happen.

The Six Biblical Principles For Winning

1. Jesus, it is my DESIRE to start winning over all wrong, bad, and evil things; let that desire help start me on a journey in that direction.

2. Jesus, empower me to STUDY so the journey that DESIRE started me on will use the Bible to put me on the right path.

3. Jesus, empower me to PRAY so I will be inviting You into my journey; join me and help me understand the meaning of the Bible so I can properly interpret all the road signs.

4. Jesus, empower me to BELIEVE by me allowing You to speak faith into me so I will know I have the power for the journey.

5. Jesus, empower me with LOVE so I will take others on the journey with me.

6. Jesus, empower me to take FAITH-ACTION so I will ACTUALLY get on the path and start heading in the right direction into victory. Show me that being trained by You in these principles are all theoretical until You empower me to move into faith-action and love.

Make it clear to me that these six things are mandatory for me to be able to get Your help. You require these six things so as to not do anything to me that I don't want You to. And You require them so I will learn how live as a mature, adult child of God.

Textbook Chapter Ten
How To Mature In The Power Life

THE PROTECTION COURSES

Protecting others who aren't able to protect themselves.

Once You Learn How
Jesus is teaching you how to grow, win, and be victorious over the issues of life. As Jesus teaches you how to win over an issue, it becomes a breakthrough in you. That breakthrough means Jesus has taught you how to be victorious over that problem. He then expects you to start sharing those truths with those who need that help. He doesn't require you to heal them; He just wants you to lead them to Him. He wants you to help them learn the same principles He taught you. And, He will use these Protection Courses to help you take them through the principles He gave you. He will help you lead them into those truths you learned AND ARE USING. Then He will give them the breakthrough like you got.

What Protection For Others Means
John 8:32 (NIV) Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free. Until a person knows a truth from the Bible, they have not yet taken the first step into being set free. If you don't know a Biblical truth, Jesus won't use that truth to set you free. Knowing that truth won't set you free; but, that is a major step into being set free. There is a major step into the world of being set free. And, there are six steps into constantly being set free after a person has taken the step into salvation and justification.

They MUST Be Born Again
Before we look at The Six Biblical Principles that the Christian uses to be set free from all their child of God issues, let's consider one very important principle. **1 Cor 2:14 (NIV) The man without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and <u>he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually discerned</u>.** The people you are used to protect spiritually MUST be Christians. You CANNOT spiritually protect a person who is unsaved. Therefore, you MUST check and see whether or not they have "done what it takes" to become a Christian. Below you will be provided a way to get some material that will help you make sure those you are protecting spiritually ARE saved and justified through Jesus.

The Six Steps
We have already gone over the six steps into freedom. They are The Six Biblical Principles; and, The Six Biblical Principles are: Desire, study, pray, believe, love, and take faith-action. Study is the step that brings the truth into your knowledge. But study doesn't make you DESIRE that truth to set you free from things like the issue you are having with life. It doesn't make you PRAY and ask Jesus to use that truth to set you free. It doesn't make you fix your eyes on Jesus waiting for Him to give you faith so you can know you ARE set free by that truth. It doesn't make you LOVE others enough to share that breakthrough with them. And, it doesn't make you take FAITH-ACTION and start living on the basis of the fact that you are set free.

Once You Get the Breakthrough
Once one of Jesus' truths sets you free, it is vital that you share that breakthrough with others. **Luke 6:38 (NIV) Give, <u>and it will be given to you</u>. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. <u>For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you</u>."** The more you get from Jesus means the more you can give to others; and, the more you give to others means the more you get from Jesus. It is a get, give, get, give type of relationship with Jesus, yourself, and others. This is a vital part of how the victorious life with Jesus works.

Hinderances To Breakthroughs
You will know more truths than will have set you free. That is because you have STUDIED and learned a truth; but, you may lack the DESIRE for it to set you free. Or, you may not have PRAYED and asked for it to set you free. Or, you may not have yet received faith from Jesus so you can BELIEVE you ARE set free. Or, you may not have yet LOVED enough to share those breakthroughs that have already set you free. Or, you may not be taking FAITH-ACTION and living on the basis of the fact that you are set free. In other words, you may not be taking advantage of your new freedom. So, let's take a look at what Jesus wants to help you do through the Protection Courses.

THE FOUR PROTECTION COURSES

Courses on how to protect others who aren't able to protect themselves.

Study One: What Protection For Others Means
Just like there are truths you haven't DESIRED to allow them to set you free, there are new and untrained Christians who lack that desire. Just like there are truths that you haven't STUDIED and learned that they exist, there are new and untrained Christians who aren't learning them. Just like there are truths that you haven't yet received faith from Jesus so you can BELIEVE you have received that freedom, there are new and untrained Christians who don't know how to believe. Just like there are truths that you haven't yet LOVED others enough to share that breakthrough with them, there are new and untrained Christians who don't know how to yield to God's love. And, just like there are truths that you haven't yet taken FAITH-ACTION on and aren't living on the basis of the fact that, that truth HAS set you free, so are other new and untrained Christians not taking FAITH-ACTION. They need you to allow Jesus to flow through you so they can start doing these things.

Study Two: Protection Through Relationship
You can build relationships around doing business together, through being friendly, through talking about common interests, and through talking about common issues, problems, and difficulties. Just like you will share with people new things you have experienced, you can start sharing stories about breakthroughs Jesus has given you. Rather than just trying to get acquainted with someone on a secular level, you need to learn how to share spiritual things with them. Jesus will teach you how to pray for them to be made open to spiritual things. You can pray and ask Him to help you find new and untrained Christians who need your help. You can share some of your stories and breakthrough-events that are similar to their problems. The more you build a spiritual relationship, the more they will open to Jesus' help.

Study Three: Protection Through Jesus
People need your help with their breakthroughs; and, you need to love people enough to share your breakthroughs with them. **Luke 6:38 (NIV) Give, <u>and it will be given to you</u>. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. <u>For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you</u>.** But, it is important for you to not get in between them and Jesus. You aren't trying to heal them; you are trying to teach them HOW to be healed by JESUS. You didn't learn how to heal yourself; you learned how to get Jesus' truths and be healed by them. Your stories, training, and breakthroughs are just a way for you to lead everyone to the healing power of Jesus.

Study Four: Protection Through Love
Love causes you to look beyond yourself; it allows you to see needs and issues in others. It helps you FEEL what they are feeling. It helps you reach out to them and want to get involved. You may be extremely busy; you may feel like you have too many problems of your own; you may feel inadequate for helping others; and you may not know anyone that wants your help. But, if you allow God's love to influence your heart, you will start praying for the opportunities to reach out to others. You will pray for the power to share your breakthroughs. And, you will pray for those you are reaching out to asking Jesus to empower them to get the same type of breakthroughs. **Rom 5:5b (NIV) God has poured out HIS LOVE into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, Whom He has given us.** You have God's power-love; you just need to learn how and be willing to yield to it.

Workbook Chapter Ten
How To Mature In The Power Life

THE PROTECTION COURSES
Protecting others who aren't able to protect themselves.

Once You Learn How

Jesus, continue to teach me how to grow, win, and be victorious over the issues of life. As You teach me how to win over an issue and it becomes a breakthrough in me, help me share it. Show me that, that breakthrough means You have taught me how to be victorious over that problem. Make it clear to me that You expect me to start sharing those truths with those who need that help. Help me understand that You don't require me to heal them; You just want me to lead them to You. Empower me to help them learn the same principles You taught me. And, use these Protection Courses to help me take them through the principles You gave me. Help me lead them into those truths I learned AND AM USING. Then give them the breakthrough like I got.

What Protection For Others Means

John 8:32 (NIV) Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free. Jesus, teach me that until a person knows a truth from the Bible, they have not yet taken the first step into being set free. Make it clear to me that if I don't know a Biblical truth, You won't use that truth to set me free. Help me see that knowing a truth won't set me free; but, it is a major step into being set free. Keep me aware of the fact that there are six steps into being set free; and, knowing the truth comes out of one of those six steps.

You MUST Be Born Again

Jesus, before I look at The Six Biblical Principles that the Christian uses to be set free from all their child of God issues, let me consider one very important principle. **1 Cor 2:14 (NIV) The man without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and <u>he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually discerned</u>.** Help me understand that the people You use me to protect MUST be Christians. I CANNOT protect a person who is unsaved. Therefore, empower me to check and see whether or not they have "done what it takes" to become a Christian. If You want me to get ready to find out whether or not my friends have been born again, guide me into getting the books below. Let them provide me with a way to have some material that will help me make sure those I am protecting ARE saved and justified through You.

The Six Steps

Jesus, You have already gone over the six steps into freedom. Teach me that they are The Six Biblical Principles; and, The Six Biblical Principles are: Desire, study, pray, believe, love, and take faith-action. Show me that study is the step that brings the truth into my knowledge. But study doesn't make me DESIRE that truth to set me free from things like the issue I am having with life. Help me understand that it doesn't make me PRAY and ask You to use that truth to set me free. It doesn't make me fix my eyes on You waiting for You to give me faith so I can know I AM set free by that truth. It doesn't make me LOVE others enough to share that breakthrough with them. And, it doesn't make me take FAITH-ACTION and start living on the basis of the fact that I AM set free.

Once You Get the Breakthrough

Jesus, once one of Your truths sets me free, show me that it is vital that I share that breakthrough with others. **Luke 6:38 (NIV) Give, <u>and it will be given to you</u>. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. <u>For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you</u>."** Teach me that the more I get from You means the more I can give to others; and, the more I give to others means the more I get from You. Help me understand that it is a get, give, get, give type of relationship with You, myself, and others. Make it clear to me that this is a vital part of how the victorious life with You works.

Hinderances To Breakthroughs

Jesus, help me see that I will know more truths than will have set me free. Show me that this is because I have STUDIED and learned a truth; but, I may lack the DESIRE for it to set me free. Or, I may not have PRAYED and asked for it to set me free. Or, I may not have yet received faith from You so I can BELIEVE I AM set free. Or, I may not have yet LOVED enough to share those breakthroughs that have ALREADY set me free. Or, I may not be taking FAITH-ACTION and living on the basis of the fact that I AM set free. In other words, I may not be taking advantage of my new freedom. So, let me take a look at what You want to help me do through the Protection Studies.

THE FOUR PROTECTION COURSES

Courses on how to protect others who aren't able to protect themselves.

Study One: What Protection For Others Means

Jesus, teach me that just like there are truths I haven't DESIRED to allow them to set you free, there are new and untrained Christians who lack that desire. Show me that just like there are truths that I haven't STUDIED and learned that they exist, there are new and untrained Christians who haven't discovered them either. Help me see that just like there are truths that I haven't yet received faith from You so I can BELIEVE I have received that freedom, there are new and untrained Christians who don't know how to believe either. Help me care about the fact that just like there are truths that I haven't yet LOVED others enough to share that breakthrough with them, there are new and untrained Christians who don't know how to yield to God's love in their life. And, show me that just like there are truths that I haven't yet taken FAITH-ACTION on and aren't living on the basis of the fact that, that truth HAS set me free, so are other new and untrained Christians not taking FAITH-ACTION. They need me to allow You to flow through me so they can start doing these things.

Study Two: Protection Through Relationship

Jesus, I can build relationships around doing business together, through being friendly, through talking about common interests, and through talking about common issues, problems, and difficulties. However, just like I will share with people new things I have experienced, help me start sharing stories about breakthroughs You have given me. Rather than me just trying to get acquainted with someone on a secular level, help me learn how to share spiritual things with them. Teach me how to pray for them to be made open to spiritual things. Empower me to pray and ask You to help me find new and untrained Christians who need my help. Help me share some of my stories and breakthrough-events that are similar to their problems. Teach me that the more I build the spiritual relationship, the more they will open to Your help.

Study Three: Protection Through Jesus

Jesus, open my heart to the fact that people need my help with their breakthroughs; and, I need to love people enough to share my breakthroughs with them. **Luke 6:38 (NIV) Give, <u>and it will be given to you</u>. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. <u>For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you</u>.** But, show me that it is important for me to not get in between them and You. Make it clear to me that I am not trying to heal them; I am trying to teach them HOW to be healed by YOU. I didn't learn how to heal myself; You taught me how to get Your truths and be healed by them. My stories, training, and breakthroughs are just a way for me to lead everyone to Your healing power.

Study Four: Protection Through Love

Jesus, help me understand that love causes me to look beyond myself; it allows me to see needs and issues in others. It helps me FEEL what they are feeling. It helps me reach out to them and want to get involved. Even when I am extremely busy, even when I feel like I have too many problems of my own, even when I feel inadequate for helping others, and even when I may not know anyone that wants my help, let me allow God's love to influence my heart. Help me start praying for opportunities to reach out to others. Help me pray for the power to share my breakthroughs. And, help me pray for those I am reaching out to so You can empower them to get the same type of breakthroughs. **Rom 5:5b (NIV) God has poured out HIS LOVE into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, Whom He has given us.** Help me realize that I have God's power-love; show me that I just need to learn how and be willing to yield to it.