

GodSense

Lesson 10 *(Principles 50-52)*

TEACHER NOTES

I. Review Lesson 9 assignment

II. Introduction/Review

If God says it, I will do it.

Getting to the real truth about myself and about what God says will free me to be fully me.

I will turn toward God in total, undivided commitment.

Even when I can't understand the difficulties in my life, I will trust God because I know that he is trustworthy.

I want to live every moment to its fullest, letting God live and work through me *now*.

Just as I accepted God's gift of salvation by faith, I must walk the same way. Not works, just faith.

I accept God's invitation to know Him better and to love Him more.

I worship God in reverence and joy.

I choose joy.

Want to experience God at a level that is deeper than run of the mill Christian?

Wow, what a ride! Just You and me, God!

Requires life that is out of balance.

Isaiah: Unpopular message; naked/barefoot 3 yrs.

Hosea: Marriage to prostitute who kept running away

Abraham, Moses, Daniel, Paul

Extreme Christianity, all-out commitment, uninhibited behaviors

III. Radical perspectives

This study is based upon the book entitled *The GodSense Devotional* by Beverly Van Kampen. If you have any questions about this material or if you would like to know more about *GodSense*, please visit the author's website at www.beverlyvankampen.com.

A. World

Insanity around us: Sane people are in touch with truth; insane people are not. World not plugged in to truth of Jesus (John 14:6 or God's Word: John 17:17). We are pilgrims, travelers going through to another land. We don't feet at home here. Instead must connect with the real (true) world of the Spirit and of fellowship with those who know God. Avoid emotional and spiritual attachment to this world. Connect to what is true.

i. I Peter 2:11 *aliens and strangers in the world; live good lives among the pagans. Don't get too involved in the world – be different so God will get the glory.*

ii. Hebrews 11:13-16 *Saints in this chapter were transients in this world; looking for their true home. Radical view of the world. How will that attitude affect how we view world events? Politics? Our jobs? Crime rates? The economy?*

B. Possessions

Clean house; give away; eliminate clutter; Leonard Sweet: Disciples should practice the discipline of giving something away every day. Theology of giving out of compassion, love, accountability. Own, but not possess. Radical view of possessions. Detach to attach. How will this view affect the way we use our money? Our compassion for those in need? Our planning for retirement? Our attitude in giving? Abraham/Isaac; Tom Monaghan (of Domino's Pizza): Goal to give away everything he owns before he dies. Leave a trail of goodness.

Matthew 6:21

C. Time

We judge our use of time decisions in light of eternity. Causes flexibility, prioritization, responsiveness to needs in front of us, focus, serenity. Leonard Sweet: The quality of a godly life does not depend on its number of great happenings or big actions but on what happens in it one small moment after another.

i. John 17:4 *I have brought you glory by completing the work you gave me to do.*

ii. II Corinthians 4:18 *The things we see now are here today and gone tomorrow. But the things we can't see now will last forever. If length of existence reflects importance, where do we want to invest our time? In human beings, in God.*

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IV. Radical relationships Matthew 22:37-39

*Love God with all your heart, soul, mind; love neighbor as you love yourself.
Consistent with view that the world takes? How is it different?*

A. Loving God Ephesians 5:1, 10, 17-18

Be imitators of God, find out what pleases the Lord; understand what the Lord's will is; be filled with the Holy Spirit.

i. Talking to Him *Communion, intercession, confession, petition*

ii. Hearing Him *Obedience follows, out of relationship, not obligation; "OK, God. You said it and I will do it out of love for You and, if necessary, at a personal sacrifice of myself and my own needs in order to be obedient to You." Your heart can hear what your ears cannot.*

iii. Talking about Him *Testify as to what He is going in your life. Your testimony is the most powerful story you can tell. God inhabits the praises of His people.*

B. Loving others Matthew 5, 6, and 7

i. Forgiving *We have been forgiven much, must, in turn, forgive others. If Jesus could say from the cross, "Father, forgive them," what could we possibly NOT forgive?*

ii. Giving *Offer assistance, help, time, caring, compassion, money, hospitality, concern, listening ear, joint rejoicing, counsel.*

iii. Serving *We cannot hold ourselves above our master; He washed feet. Current examples: Mother Teresa, Jimmy Carter*

V. Radical rewards Galatians 6:8b-9

At the right time we will harvest a good crop if we don't give up or quit. Live by faith even though you don't see the crop growing.

A. Fruit of the Spirit Galatians 5:22

Character change occurs – over time, by our clinging to the vine. We become different people; we begin to take on the character of Christ.

i. Love

ii. Joy

iii. Peace

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- iv. Patience
- v. Kindness
- vi. Goodness
- vii. Faithfulness
- viii. Gentleness
- ix. Self control

B. Power

Isaiah 40:28-31

When we least expect it, when we feel the weakest, we begin to fly! Don't give up. There are waiting times, hoping times, but those are learning times. Trust in God must not waver. We will fly!

CHALLENGE: Evaluate: Where are you now? Where do you want to be? Desire is power. Jeremiah 29:13, "You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart." Radical commitment, radical focus, guaranteed results!

ASSIGNMENT

Lesson 10

Bible study

In Jesus' teachings to His disciples just before His death, he told them several times that He wanted them to experience mature joy. Read carefully John 14, 15, and 16 and list the following:

Commands/Instructions that Jesus gives:

CATEGORIES: Trust, obey, abide, love, testify.

Don't let your hearts be troubled.

Believe in Me.

Believe that I am in the Father and the Father in Me.

Obey what I command.

Do not be afraid.

Remain in Me.

Love each other as I have loved you.

Remember the words I have spoken to you: No servant greater than his Master.

You must testify.

Promises that Jesus gives:

CATEGORIES: Power, answered prayer, Holy Spirit, eternal life, love, fruit bearing, joy, peace

I am going to prepare a place and will come back to get you so you can be with Me.

If you have faith in Me, you will do greater things than I have done.

I will do whatever you ask in My name.

I will ask the Father to send the Comforter. He lives with you and will be in you.

I will come to you.

Because I live, you also will live.

He who loves me will be loved by my Father and I will love him and show myself to him.

We will come and make our home with the ones who love Me and obey My teaching.

The counselor will teach you and will remind you of what I have said to you.

My peace I give you.

I will remain in you; you will bear much fruit.

Ask what you wish and it will be given you.

Your joy will be complete.

Your grief will turn to joy.

You will rejoice and no one will take away your joy.

My Father will give you whatever you ask in My name.

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*Ask and you will receive.
Your joy will be complete.
In Me you will have peace*

Journaling

Looking at the commands that Jesus has given, think about things in your life that may be stealing your joy. Is it lack of faith or love or prayer? Is it disobedience? Is it not abiding faithfully in Him? Write about ways in which you can rid your life of joy stealing actions or attitudes and about what positive substitutes you will put in their place.

Prayer

Ask God to reveal to you how you might experience more fully the joy that He has for you. Commit to following Him more obediently, to abiding in Him, to meditating upon His Word, and to loving His followers. Ask Him to fill you to the brim with the joy of His Spirit. Thank Him for His faithfulness in answering your prayer.

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