

GodSense

Lesson 6 *(Principles 29-33)*

TEACHER NOTES

- I. Review Lesson 5 assignment
- II. Introduction
Faith is the key ingredient to our Christian lives. Without it, we cannot please God. Hebrews 11:5-6 (Enoch as example; Abraham).
- III. Pleasing our heavenly Father
 - A. What does not please God?
 - i. Proverbs 20:23 *dishonesty; be honest*
 - ii. Jeremiah 6:20 *sacrifices when lives are disobedient to Him; be obedient*
 - iii. Romans 8:8 *the sinful nature; be surrendered to Holy Spirit's power*
 - B. Who do you want to please the most? *There cannot be two answers – you can serve only one God.*
 - i. Jesus is our example

John 5:30 *seek to please not self, but Him who sent me*

Matthew 17:5 *my Son, in whom I am well pleased*
 - ii. God desires our holiness

I Thessalonians 4:1-8 *live in order to please God*
 - iii. We are God's servants. *The usefulness of a servant depends on pleasing the master.*

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Galatians 1:10 *am I pleasing men or God?*
II Timothy 2:3-4 *please commanding officer*

iv. God is the ultimate Judge of the effectiveness of our lives.

II Corinthians 5:9-10 *make it our goal to please Him*

IV. Accepting God's gifts *Through faith. Define faith: Taking God at His word; believing; acting on that belief. Living with guilt, regret, or fear means you do not believe God. Doubt is the opposite of faith.*

A. Salvation *Who is the instigator of our salvation? What is our role?*

- i. Ephesians 1:3-10 *look for 2 references to God's pleasure; and 2 references to God's grace; discuss concept of grace*
- ii. Ephesians 2:8-9 *not of works, lest we boast*

B. Spiritual life *Who is the empowerer of our Christian life? What is our role?*

- i. Romans 1:17 *the righteous shall live by faith*
- ii. Galatians 3:1-5 *begin with Spirit; don't switch to human effort*
- iii. Colossians 2:6 *You know your way around faith; now do what you have been taught. (Message)*

V. Allowing imperfection

A. Psalm 130:3-4 *Forgiveness is your habit (Message)*

B. Psalm 131:1-2 *I am not trying to rule the roost; contentment (Message)*

VI. Living with confidence *Even self control is a gift of the Spirit; we don't rustle it up by ourselves.*

A. II Corinthians 1:9 *Rely on God, not self*

B. II Corinthians 1:24 *It is by faith you stand firm*

C. Colossians 2:2 *confident and at rest, focused on Christ*

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VII. Living with hope *Biblical hope is “looking forward to a sure thing”, not a vague, uncertain desire as in “I hope so.”*

- A. Hebrews 11:1 *things hoped for*
- B. Colossians 1:19-20 *all will be set right (Message)*
- C. Romans 5:1-2 *standing where we had hoped we would stand
Where is that place? In grace – not something we
can earn or deserve; accept by faith.*

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ASSIGNMENT

Lesson 6

Bible study

Read and think about each of the following Bible promises. After each one, write down how it might affect our behavior if we accepted the promise at face value and applied them to our lives in faith.

A generous man will prosper; he who refreshes others will himself be refreshed. (Proverbs 11:24-25) *I cannot give too much away if God is leading the giving. I would hold what I own with an open hand and a generous heart knowing that God will take care of my needs.*

When you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. (Matthew 6:1-4) *I will find secret ways to give to those who have needs seeking no honor or recognition for myself.*

The Lord is good, a refuge in times of trouble. He cares for those who trust in him. (Nahum 1:7) *I will know that God never gets tired of hearing from me, of my weakness, of my coming to Him with my problems. He wants to take care of me.*

Cast your cares on the Lord and he will sustain you; he will never let the righteous fall. (Psalm 55:22) *Everytime I feel burdened, I will give that care to God. He is powerful and promises to walk with me through whatever it is that I face.*

Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you. (Hebrews 13:5) *I will never be alone again, never allow loneliness to overcome me, never feel abandoned.*

Whoever believes in him is not condemned. (John 1:12) *I do not have to fear standing in front of God on judgment day. I can approach Him confidently because He no longer seems my condemnation; He sees me through my faith in Jesus.*

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I tell you the truth, he who believes has everlasting life. (John 6:47) *I will not fear death, it is simply a transition to an eternal life that God has promised.*

Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. (II Corinthians 4:16) *No matter what happens to me in this earthly life, I know that God will not let my true self deteriorate. He will keep renewing me, keep giving me the grace I need to get through absolutely anything.*

If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him. (James 1:5) *I don't have to know it all; God will provide wisdom I may need in any given situation if I ask Him for it.*

All your words are true; all your righteous laws are eternal (Psalm 119:160) *If God has made a promise, I can count on it. It is true and will last forever. I will read God's word with greater anticipation, counting up all the things I can count on Him for. I will be thankful.*

So we can say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me?" (Hebrews 13:6) *I will not let fear control me or inhibit my actions or my relationships. I trust that God will keep me from making bad mistakes and that He will protect me from the acts of men.*

And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever increasing glory (II Corinthian 3:18) *I can stop trying to be perfect. I will be like Christ someday because God says I will and He will bring it about. It won't be because I work at it.*

I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you and watch over you. (Psalm 32:8) *I will know that God wants to direct me and will approach Him with confidence with my questions. He wants to talk to me, to guide, to counsel.*

For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more. (Jeremiah 31:34) *Whenever I feel guilt, I will go to God. If it is from Him, he will forgive and the guilt will be gone. If it is from the adversary, I will identify it for what it is and walk away from it.*

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I will be a Father to you, and you will be my sons and daughters, say the Lord Almighty (II Corinthians 6:18) *I will never doubt the love of my heavenly Father and will go about my living knowing that I am forever His child.*

And we know and rely on the love God has for us. (I John 4:16) *I will love Him back knowing that He wants a relationship with me. He wants to show me His love.*

Journaling

Choose one of the promises listed above and meditate on it for a few minutes or off and on throughout a day. Then write down how that promise applies to your life right now and how your faith needs to grow in the application of that promise in your life. How will believing this promise affect the way that you live and the way that you feel? How will it affect your walk with God?

Prayer

Spend some time with God asking Him to increase your faith. Put it in your own words, but tell Him that you want to trust Him more, that you want to believe and put into practice the promises He has given. Allow the Holy Spirit to talk to you and to begin to transform you into a faith-filled Christian ready to obey God with joy and with confidence.