

# DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING OBJECTIVES

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## **INTRODUCTION**

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A basic tenet of the Christian Military Fellowship is that God has chosen the Bible as His primary means of communicating with us - it is His Word! In the words of the Apostle Paul, therefore:

***“Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth.”  
(2 Timothy 2:15)***

Why? Because as he also said:

***“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.” (2 Timothy 3:16-17)***

Key to a vibrant, robust, fruitful relationship with God is our attitude toward His Word (see Joshua 1:8; Psalms 1, 19 and 119; John 14:21, 23; Romans 10:17; 1 Peter 2:1-3 and many others!).

These “Discipleship Training Objectives” (DTO’s) are intended to get us into the Bible, studying for ourselves. Most of them are adapted with permission from “30 Discipleship Exercises” by Charlie Riggs. They are divided into three levels: BASIC, INTERMEDIATE and ADVANCED. This is not due to any degree of difficulty or intensity, but simply because the:

### **BASIC**

*contains some fundamentals of Christianity, primarily what God has done and is doing for us;*

### **INTERMEDIATE**

*contains some “how-to’s,” primarily appreciation responses to what God has done and is doing for us;*

### **ADVANCED**

*contains some realities of life as a Christian that are applied best when we grasp the basic and intermediate objectives.*

By design, these DTO’s require more work than the average “fill-in-the-blanks” studies, but they are less exhaustive than a scholar would prefer.

Hopefully they strike a balance by systematically guiding a person to develop basic Bible study skills while learning some foundations for Christian living (the “objectives”).

If you will save your studies in a notebook, you will eventually have your own discipleship library. You can be tucking information into that “library” as you record your research, jot down questions, take notes of what others have discovered, find cross-references, and do supplemental reading. Then, rather than a “canned” method, you will have a customized resource; a “living,” personalized document that represents how God is working in and through you. Something you “own” will be very much worth sharing!

The remainder of this “Guide” contains instructions on how to study with the DTO’s and tips on using them for personal devotions, in one-to-one discipleship or as the basis for small group discussions. However or whether you decide to use them, we pray that God will:

***“...fill you with the knowledge of his will through all spiritual wisdom and understanding...in order that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and may please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience, and joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the kingdom of light. For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins”***  
***(Colossians 1:9b-14)***

*(All Scripture quotes herein are from the New International Version.)*

## **FOR PERSONAL DEVOTIONS:**

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Study one DTO per week. Spend most of the week reading the Scripture passages for that objective. Reserve at least one day for a more detailed study of the passage you liked best.

**NOTE:** If that is too ambitious for your schedule, create a more suitable plan for yourself.

Look at each passage in context, reading the entire chapter. Have a good idea of the theme(s) and topic(s) of that chapter in order to prevent a poor interpretation of the passage in question. Your understanding of any verse or passage should agree with the theme/ topic of the context from which it came.

## **TIPS FOR GETTING THE MOST FROM YOUR DTO STUDY:**

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1. Prayerfully read each passage, asking God to reveal His truth to you and trusting the Holy Spirit to be your Teacher.
2. Briefly answer question #1 in the "STUDY GUIDE" at the bottom of the page. This does not need to be "deep," just record your observations of what the passage says in answer to the question.
3. Memorize the passage noted for that purpose.
4. Select your favorite passage and do a more detailed study using the "STUDY FORM" on the back of the page.
5. If it is available, do some supplemental reading about the objective at hand. Choose something you may have noted somewhere (in a magazine, essay, pamphlet, book, etc.) or something that someone may have suggested.
6. As you are able, do detailed studies of all the passages, keeping the results in your notebook. Extra copies of the "STUDY FORM" are included in this package for you to photocopy. You can also get them from the CMF Home Office, or make up your own!
7. Look for an opportunity to share what you learn with someone else.

## **TIPS FOR USING THE "STUDY FORM":**

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1. Note the reference at the top of the page.
2. Complete each section as follows:
  - a. Jot down the theme or topic of the paragraph and chapter (as noted in your English Bible) from which the passage came.
  - b. Ask questions that will help clarify what the passage says and means (see the "STUDY FORM" on the back of "**BASIC DTO #1 — SALVATION**" for some examples). Good questions:
    - (1) Cannot be answered "Yes" or "No" ;
    - (2) Will answer WHO, WHAT, WHEN, WHERE, WHY & HOW;
    - (3) Are stated simply;
    - (4) Will draw out specific observations (what the passage says) that can most often be answered directly from the text, interpretations (what the passage means) that can usually be answered only by looking at the larger context and/or other references, and applications (how you put the passage into practice) which you must determine for yourself.

Some examples for John 3:16 might be as follows:

- **Why** did God send His “one and only Son” into the world? (Observation)
- **What** is the meaning of “one and only Son”? (Interpretation)
- **Who** is the “one and only Son” of God? (Interpretation)
- **What** happens to whoever “believes” in Him? (Observation)
- **What** does it mean to “believe”? (Interpretation)
- **How** would you define “eternal life”? (Interpretation)
- **What** is promised in this verse? (Observation & Interpretation)
- **Who** can I share this promise with? (Application)
- **How, when and where will I share it? (Application)**

- c. While doing your research, you will be helped in your interpretations if you note:
- (1) **Who** wrote the book in which the verse or passage is located.
  - (2) **To Whom** the book was written.
  - (3) **When** the book was written.
  - (4) **Why** the book was written.
- d. List words and/or phrases that you need to define and clarify. Research definitions and meanings in a study Bible, Bible handbook, dictionary, encyclopedia, workbook, concordance, commentary, or whatever is available. An especially valuable tool is a good English dictionary — you will be amazed at what you can glean by simply defining words. Write whatever you discover in the space provided. Using your own observations and the definitions/meanings you researched, write the passage in your own words. This discipline of summarizing or paraphrasing will help you think about what the passage says and grasp what it means.
- e. Ask the Lord for wisdom and guidance regarding how to apply the passage to your life. Are there sins to forsake, promises to claim, examples to follow, commands to obey, errors to avoid, or any actions to take, attitudes to change, etc.? Write out specific plans that you can begin right away — then go for it!

## ***FOR ONE-TO-ONE DISCIPLESHIP:***

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Remember that” discipleship” is primarily a function of relationships -first, yours with the Lord and then with the person you are discipling. These “DTO’s” are not “methods” or “formulas” for success, but “tools” to use as you deem best in the process of growing in your faith and helping others to do the same.

You could use these DTO’s in meeting with others on an individual basis. Show them how to complete a DTO, possibly doing one together. Eventually, have them do it on their own. It is important to get people studying on their own as soon as possible.

## ***TIPS FOR ONE-TO-ONE DISCIPLESHIP:***

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1. Be sure you have studied and applied whatever objective you plan to use before you try to impart it to another. Your discipling should flow from your own relationship with God. An effective discipler is able to say as the Apostle Paul did, “Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ” (1 Corinthians 11:1) and therefore “Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me -put it into practice...” (Phil. 4:9).
2. Use the DTO’s as tools - NOT as the basis of your fellowship. If you let filling out the forms become priority, you move away from the process of growth to just manipulating a “product.” Disciples are not mass-produced but uniquely developed by the Holy Spirit in His time as He sees fit.
3. These objectives can be done in order, or they can be varied; whatever works best to meet the needs of the disciple. If you discern a need to spend time on a specific objective or even a single passage, camp on it regardless of how long it takes. God is fitting the person for eternity, not your time schedule!
4. When you meet together:
  - a. Share your answers to questions, review the memory work, and PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER!
  - b. Discuss the results of your detailed studies. Record one another’s observations, interpretations, questions, etc. for future reference. Explore the passages together and seek to understand them.
  - c. Brainstorm extra questions (WHO, WHAT, WHEN, WHERE, WHY, HOW) to draw out meanings, principles and applications.

## **FOR SMALL GROUPS:**

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Make the completion and discussion of actual DTO's an objective for your group or use some questions (WHO, WHAT, WHEN, WHERE, WHY, HOW) from your own study as the basis for discussion, basically using your completed DTO as a lesson plan. Either way, the best preparation for leading is your own personal Bible study.

## **TIPS FOR YOUR FIRST MEETING:**

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1. Before the meeting—pray; during the meeting—pray; after the meeting—pray.
2. Be sure you have covered all the logistics like materials, transportation, childcare, refreshments and whatever will contribute to group comfort. Do all you can to make the atmosphere informal, comfortable, and non-threatening.
3. Spend the bulk of your time getting acquainted. Show yourself friendly, be real, find out about jobs, families, etc. and share some yourself. If you know of or can find a good “ice-breaker,” use it.
4. If you plan to complete actual DTO's in your group, pass out the sample “BASIC DTO #1 - SALVATION” and use it to show the group how it is done. Make completing that sample the assignment for the next meeting.
5. Answer any questions the group members might have about the purpose, format, completion, schedule, logistics or whatever is important to them

*NOTE: If you are using actual DTO's in your group, pass out only one per session. Receiving the entire package can be very intimidating.*

## ***TIPS FOR SUBSEQUENT MEETINGS:***

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1. Make sure all the logistics are covered.
2. Before the meeting—pray; during the meeting—pray; after the meeting—pray. Hopefully the group itself will have been born out of a process of praying and planning. Take time to worship and adore God, to confess when necessary, and to intercede for others. For some tips, request CMF Brief #3 “The Pray and Plan Process” available free from the Home Office.
3. To avoid lecturing, you should talk less than 20% of the time. You can keep the discussion moving by constantly pointing to the DTO or always being prepared to ask one of your questions. The idea is to let the Word of God be the authority and to have people discover the truth for themselves.
4. If completing DTO’s is an objective of your group, don’t panic if someone comes unprepared. Let them complete the assignment during the course of your discussions. **Gently** and **privately** encourage them to come prepared next time. Remember that you are not trying to get people to fit your agenda, but simply exposing them to the Word of God and the ministry of the Spirit of God Who is making them into the people of God. RELAX - He can handle it!
5. When asking questions, let answers be given by all group members in a spontaneous way. Don’t embarrass anyone by calling on them by name.
6. Keep the discussion moving, but don’t fear a pause for thinking. If the pause seems long, ask, “Does everyone understand?” If not, read the Scripture and ask the question again.
7. If someone dominates a group discussion, wait until they finish talking and say, “What does someone else think about this?”
8. Avoid “bunny trails.” If something seems to sidetrack, just say, “We can explore that some other time. Right now let’s look at this study.”
9. If you are using actual DTO’s, pass out the one for the next meeting.

# SCRIPTURE REFERENCES

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## **BASIC DTO #1: SALVATION**

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Salvation means deliverance from the penalty and the eternal consequences of sin; often referred to as being “saved” or “born-again.” It includes having our sins forgiven, being born in to God’s family as His child, and receiving eternal life.

**“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.” (John 3:16)**

*God makes salvation possible. Eternal life is the result of believing in His Son.*

**“For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.” (Romans 6:23)**

**“But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” (Romans 5:8)**

**“For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast.” (Ephesians 2:8-9)**

**“Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God—children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband’s will, but born of God.” (John 1:12-13)**

**“...he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit...” (Titus 3:5)**

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### **STUDY GUIDE**

1. What do we learn about **salvation**, **becoming a child of God**, and **eternal life** in the passages above? (Write brief answers below each passage.)
2. Memorize Ephesians 2:8-9.
3. Do a more detailed study of one of the above passages using the form on the back of this page. (As you are able, do a detailed study of all the passages.)
4. Supplemental reading: “Would You Like to Know God Personally?”

## STUDY FORM

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Select a verse/passage from your DTO study and complete this form

**REFERENCE:** John 3:16

1. What is the theme or topic of the context (chapter/paragraph)?  
*Jesus is teaching about how to be born into the kingdom of God.*
2. Write questions (Who, What, When, Where, Why and How) below.  
How can we be sure that God loves us?  
How have I experienced that promise?  
What is meant by "one and only Son"?  
Who is God's "one and only Son"?  
Why is it important to believe in Him?  
How do we "believe"; What does that mean?  
How would you define "eternal Life"?  
What is promised in this verse?
3. List words and/or phrases you need to define and clarify. Write the definitions and meanings.

"one and only Son" (New International Version)

"only begotten Son" (King James Version and New American Standard Bible)

sets God's Son apart as one of a kind—unique!

from the context of John, Chapters 1-3, this obviously refers to Jesus Christ

- ✓ "perish" (NIV)
- ✓ "die" in Good News Bible (today's English version)
- ✓ context equates perishing with exclusion from the kingdom of God (vv 5-21) and
- ✓ condemnation (vv 17-19); obviously opposite of "eternal life"
  
- ✓ "eternal life" (NIV)
- ✓ A gift of God. Not to be confused with endless existence, which all possess, saved and unsaved. It is abundant (John 10:10); Includes Christ living in us (Col. 1:2 7); Likened to birth from above (John 5:12). Has beginning, but no end. Not natural life derived from humans and subject to death. Those with just natural life will be separated from God for eternity: those with eternal life will be united with Him for eternity. (See Unger's Bible Dictionary, p.326)

4. What does the passage say? (Rewrite it in your own words.)

*God sent Jesus as a demonstration of His love so that if we believe in Him, we will forever live in fellowship, rather than apart from God.*

5. How can I apply the truth of this passage to my life starting today?

*Thank you, Lord, for sending Your One and only Son as proof of your love for me. I will share this promise with Joe over lunch this week.*

## **BASIC DTO #2: ASSURANCE OF SALVATION**

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Assurance is the conviction, the settled confidence that Christ has entered our lives, saved us, and will not forsake us. It is being sure that God will not reject us, which enables us to serve Him freely and confidently.

***“My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father’s hand.” (John 10:27-29)***

***“For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.” (Romans 8:38-39)***

***“We accept man’s testimony, but God’s testimony is greater because it is the testimony of God, which he has given about his Son. Anyone who believes in the Son of God has this testimony in his heart. Anyone who does not believe God has made him out to be a liar, because he has not believed the testimony God has given about his Son. And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life.” (1 John 5:9-12)***

***“I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life.” (1 John 5:13)***

***“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade—kept in heaven for you. Through faith you are shielded by God’s power until the coming of salvation...” (1 Peter 1:3-5)***

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### **STUDY GUIDE**

1. What do we learn about **assurance** in the passages above? (Write brief answers below each passage.)
2. Memorize 1 John 5:13.
3. Do a more detailed study of one of the above passages using the form on the back of this page. (As you are able, do a detailed study of all the passages.)
4. Supplemental reading:



## **BASIC DTO #3: GOD'S FORGIVENESS**

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Although it is God's desire that every believer live a victorious Christian life, He knows there will be times when we yield to sin. In His graciousness He has provided a way for us, through confession, to be forgiven and cleansed from sin.

*"...Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, "I will confess my transgression to the LORD"—and you forgave the guilt of my sin." (Psalm 32:5)*

*"For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us." (Psalm 103:11-12)*

*"He who conceals his sins does not prosper, but whoever confesses and renounces them finds mercy." (Proverbs 28:13)*

*"For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have One who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet was without sin. Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need." (Hebrews 4:15-16)*

*"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness." (1 John 1:9)*

*"My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have one who speaks to the Father in our defense—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world." (1 John 2:1-2)*

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### **STUDY GUIDE**

1. What do we learn about **God's forgiveness** in the passages above? (Write brief answers below each passage.)
2. Memorize 1 John 5:13.
3. Do a more detailed study of one of the above passages using the form on the back of this page. (As you are able, do a detailed study of all the passages.)
4. Supplemental reading:



## **BASIC DTO #4: INDWELLING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**

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God has not left us helpless and alone in the world. He actually indwells us — lives within us by His Spirit and daily ministers to our needs.

***“The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.” (John 3:8)***

***“You, however, are controlled not by the sinful nature but by the Spirit, if the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ. But if Christ is in you, your body is dead because of sin, yet your spirit is alive because of righteousness. And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit, who lives in you.” (Romans 8:9-11)***

***“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.’ The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children.” (Romans 8:15-16)***

***“Don’t you know that you yourselves are God’s temple and that God’s Spirit lives in you?” (1 Corinthians 3:16)***

***“Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body.” (1 Corinthians 6:19-20)***

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### **STUDY GUIDE**

1. What do we learn about **the Holy Spirit’s Indwelling** in the passages above? (Write brief answers below each passage.)
2. Memorize 1 Corinthians’s 3:16.
3. Do a more detailed study of one of the above passages using the form on the back of this page. (As you are able, do a detailed study of all the passages.)
4. Supplemental reading:



## **BASIC DTO #5: SOME WORKS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**

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God indwells us by His Spirit who will, if we allow Him to control our lives, give us a dynamic for godly living and make us more like Jesus Christ every day.

***“...But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth...He will bring glory to me by taking from what is mine and making it known to you.” (John 16:13-14)***

***“...the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express...he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints in accordance with God’s will.” (Romans 8:26-27)***

***“...I tell you that no one who is speaking by the Spirit of God says, “Jesus be cursed,” and no one can say, “Jesus is Lord,” except by the Holy Spirit. There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit...All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he gives them to each one, just as he determines.” (1 Corinthians 12:3-4, 11)***

***“And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord’s glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.” (2 Corinthians 3:18)***

***“...live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature...the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires. Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.” (Galatians 5:16, 22-25)***

***“Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit.” (Ephesians 5:18)***

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### **STUDY GUIDE**

1. What do we learn about **works of the Holy Spirit** in the passages above? (Write brief answers below each passage.)
2. Memorize Ephesians 8:18.
3. Do a more detailed study of one of the above passages using the form on the back of this page. (As you are able, do a detailed study of all the passages.)
4. Supplemental Reading:



## **BASIC DTO #6: SCRIPTURE**

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To help us glorify God by our lives and to be effective witnesses, we need to know and obey the Scriptures (also known as God's law, word, precepts, etc.). We should make it a daily habit to read, meditate in and memorize Scriptures.

***"Do not let his Book of the Law depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful." (Joshua 1:8)***

***"...his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night. He is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither. Whatever he does prospers." (Psalm 1:2, 3)***

***"I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you." (Psalm 119:11)***

***"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path...The unfolding of your words gives light; it gives understanding to the simple...Great peace have they who love your law and nothing can make them stumble." (Psalm 119:105, 130, 165)***

***"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." (2 Timothy 3:16-17)***

***"For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart." (Hebrews 4:12)***

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### **STUDY GUIDE**

1. What do we learn about **value of Scriptures** in the passages above? (Write brief answers below each passage.)
2. Memorize 2 Timothy 3:16-17.
3. Do a more detailed study of one of the above passages using the form on the back of this page. (As you are able, do a detailed study of all the passages.)
4. Supplemental reading:



## **INTERMEDIATE DTO #1: LORDSHIP**

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When we place our faith in Jesus Christ He not only becomes our Savior but also our Sovereign Lord. We are under new ownership! We can enjoy our new life in Christ and the benefits thereof, only as we daily seek His will and follow Him in obedience.

***“You know the message God sent to the people of Israel, telling the good news of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all.” (Act s 10:36)***

***“For none of us lives to himself alone and none of us dies to himself alone. If we live, we live to the Lord; and if we die, we die to the Lord. So, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord. For this very reason, Christ died and returned to life so that He might be the Lord of both the dead and the living.” (Romans 14:7-9)***

***“Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body.” (I Corinthians 6:19-20)***

***“...God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.” (Philippians 2:9-11)***

***“For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created for him and by him ...And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the first born from the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy.” (Colossians 1:16, 18)***

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### **STUDY GUIDE**

1. What do we learn about **lordship** in the passages above? (Write brief answers below each passage.)
2. Memorize 1 Corinthians 6:19-20.
3. Do a more detailed study of one of the above passages using the form on the back of this page. (As you are able, do a detailed study of all the passages.)
4. Supplemental reading:



## **INTERMEDIATE DTO #2: OBEDIENCE**

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God gave us His Word not only to increase our knowledge but also to change our lives. It is only as we apply truth to our lives (i.e. obey the Scriptures) that there will be any significant changes made.

***“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts.” (Deuteronomy 6:5-6)***

***“Now all has been heard; here is the conclusion of the matter: Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man.” (Ecclesiastes 12:13)***

***“Why do you call me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ and do not do what I say?” (Luke 6:46)***

***“Whoever has my commands and obeys them, he is the one who loves me. He who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love him and show myself to him...If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching. My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him.” (John 14:21, 23)***

***“We know that we have come to know him if we obey his commands. The man who says, ‘I know him,’ but does not do what he commands is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But if any one obeys his word, God’s love is truly made complete in him. This is how we know we are in him: Whoever claims to live in him must walk as Jesus did.” (1 John 2:3-6)***

***“This is love for God: to obey his commands. And his commands are not burdensome...” (1 John 5:3)***

### **STUDY GUIDE**

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1. What do we learn about **obedience** in the passages above? (Write brief answers below each passage.)
2. Memorize 1 Corinthians 6:19-20.
3. Do a more detailed study of one of the above passages using the form on the back of this page. (As you are able, do a detailed study of all the passages.)
4. Supplemental reading:



## **INTERMEDIATE DTO #3: VICTORY OVER TEMPTATION**

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All believers are subject to temptation. But victory is ours through reliance on the Holy Spirit, by believing promises from the Word of God, and by obeying His directions. He provides everything we need to resist temptation.

***“So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand...For I am the LORD, your God, who takes hold of your right hand and says to you, Do not fear; I will help you.” (Isaiah 41:10, 13)***

***“No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it.” (1 Corinthians 10:13)***

***“So I say, live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature.” (Galatians 5:16)***

***“Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted. (Hebrews 2:18)***

***“For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet was without sin. Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.” (Hebrews 4:15-16)***

***“This is love for God: to obey his commands. And his commands are not burdensome, for everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. Who is it that overcomes the world? Only he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God.” (1 John 5:3-5)***

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### **STUDY GUIDE**

1. What do we learn about **victory over temptation** in the passages above? (Write brief answers below each passage.)
2. Memorize I Corinthians 6:19-20.
3. Do a more detailed study of one of the above passages using the form on the back of this page. (As you are able, do a detailed study of all the passages.)
4. Supplemental reading:



## ***INTERMEDIATE DTO #4: PRAYER***

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Prayer is our lifeline to God! We should form the habit of starting each day with prayer, then learn to pray throughout the day as the Lord brings people, places and predicaments to mind. We should, "...pray continually..." (1 Thessalonians 5:16).

***"This is what the Lord says, he who made the earth, the Lord who formed it and established it — the Lord is his name: 'Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know.'" (Jeremiah 33:2-3)***

***"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." (Matthew 7:7-8)***

***"Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete." (John 16:24)***

***"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." (Philippians 4:6-7)***

***"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)***

***"This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us — whatever we ask — we know that we have what we have asked of him ." (1 John 5:14-15)***

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### **STUDY GUIDE**

1. What do we learn about **prayer** in the passages above? (Write brief answers below each passage.)
2. Memorize Philippians 4:6-7.
3. Do a more detailed study of one of the above passages using the form on the back of this page. (As you are able, do a detailed study of all the passages.)
4. Supplemental reading:



## **INTERMEDIATE DTO #5: PRAYER UNHINDERED**

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God hears and answers prayer! The answer is not always “Yes,” and sometimes the answer is a long time coming. There are some conditions that we need to keep in mind if our prayer is going to be unhindered.

***“...if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land.” (2 Chronicles 7:14)***

***“If I had cherished sin in my heart, he Lord would not have listened...” (Psalm 66:18)***

***“If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you.” (John 15:7)***

***“But when he asks, he must believe and not doubt, because he who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. That man should not think he will receive anything from the Lord...” (James 1:6-7)***

***“When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.” (James 4:3)***

***“Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God and receive from him anything we ask, because we obey his commands and do what pleases him.” (1 John 3:21-22)***

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### **STUDY GUIDE**

1. What do we learn about **prayer unhindered** in the passages above? (Write brief answers below each passage.)
2. Memorize John 15:7
3. Do a more detailed study of one of the above passages using the form on the back of this page. (As you are able, do a detailed study of all the passages.)
4. Supplemental reading:

### **STUDY FORM**



## **INTERMEDIATE DTO #6: PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING**

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As you study Scriptures, you will note that taking time for praise and thanksgiving pleases God. On occasion, we ought to take all our prayer time to tell God how much we appreciate all He has done and is doing for us.

***“He who sacrifices thank offerings honors me, and prepares the way so that I may show him the salvation of God.” (Psalm 50:23)***

***“I will praise God’s name in song and glorify him with thanksgiving. This will please the Lord more than an ox, more than a bull with its horns and hoofs.” (Psalm 69:30-31)***

***“Praise the Lord. Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever.” (Psalm 106:1)***

***“Praise the Lord. Praise, O servants of the Lord, praise the name of the Lord. Let the name of the Lord be praised, both now and forevermore. From the rising of the sun to the place where it sets, the name of the Lord is to be praised. (Psalm 113:1-3)***

***“Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.” (Ephesians 5:19-20)***

***“Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.” (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)***

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### **STUDY GUIDE**

1. What do we learn about **praise** and **thanksgiving** in the passages above? (Write brief answers below each passage.)
2. Memorize 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18.
3. Do a more detailed study of one of the above passages using the form on the back of this page. (As you are able, do a detailed study of all the passages.)
4. Supplemental reading:



## **INTERMEDIATE DTO #7: FELLOWSHIP**

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As Christians, we are all members of one family called the “Body of Christ.” We need each other for mutual encouragement and help to grow in our relationship with the Lord. That is why fellowship is so important!

***“As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another.” (Proverbs 27:17)***

***“We who are strong ought to bear with the failings of the weak and not to please ourselves. Each of us should please his neighbor for his good, to build him up.” (Romans 15:1-2)***

***“Nobody should seek his own good, but the good of others.” (1 Corinthians 10:24)***

***“...God has combined the members of the body and has given greater honor to the parts that lacked it, so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other.... Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.” (1 Corinthians 12:24-25, 27)***

***“Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.” (Philippians 2:3-4)***

***“And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.” (Hebrews 10:24-25)***

***“Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.” (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)***

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### **STUDY GUIDE**

1. What do we learn about **fellowship** in the passages above? (Write brief answers below each passage.)
2. Memorize Hebrews 10:24-25
3. Do a more detailed study of one of the above passages using the form on the back of this page. (As you are able, do a detailed study of all the passages.)
4. Supplemental reading:



## **ADVANCED DTO #1: FEARING GOD**

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As you study the Scriptures, you will discover the blessing of placing your full trust in God. The following Scriptures speak about the “fear” (reverence, respect, trust) of the Lord and what will result if we have a reverential respect for His authority.

***“The Lord confides in those who fear Him; He makes His covenant known to them.” (Psalm 25:14)***

***“But the eyes of the Lord are on those who fear Him, on those whose hope is in His unfailing love.” (Psalm 33:18)***

***“The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear Him, and He delivers them. Fear the Lord, you His saints, for those who fear Him lack nothing.” (Psalm 34:7, 9)***

***“He fulfills the desires of those who fear Him; He hears their cry and saves them.” (Psalm 145:19)***

***“The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge...The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom...” (Proverbs 1:7a; 9:10a)***

***“Humility and the fear of the Lord bring wealth and honor and life.” (Proverbs 22:4)***

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### **STUDY GUIDE**

1. What do we learn about **fearing God** in the passages above? (Write brief answers below each passage.)
2. Memorize Psalm 34:7-9
3. Do a more detailed study of one of the above passages using the form on the back of this page. (As you are able, do a detailed study of all the passages.)
4. Supplemental reading:



## **ADVANCED DTO #2: DISCIPLESHIP**

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By definition, a disciple is a “learner — a follower of Christ.” A true disciple will recognize Christ as Lord daily and be willing to put Him ahead of every pursuit in life.

**“And anyone who does not carry his cross and follow me cannot be my disciple.” (Luke 14:27)**

**“In the same way, any of you who does not give up everything he has cannot be my disciple.” (Luke 14:33)**

**“This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.” (John 15:8)**

**“By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.” (John 13:35)**

**“...Jesus said, ‘If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples.’” (John 8:31)**

**“A student is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his master.” (Matthew 10:24)**

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### **STUDY GUIDE**

1. What do we learn about **discipleship** in the passages above? (Write brief answers below each passage.)
2. Memorize Luke 14:27 10:24-25
3. Do a more detailed study of one of the above passages using the form on the back of this page. (As you are able, do a detailed study of all the passages.)
4. Supplemental reading:



## **ADVANCED DTO #3: SELF-DENIAL**

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As Christians, we have a new nature. Our Spirit has been reborn as a work of the Holy Spirit, but our flesh is still subject to temptation. To grow, we must learn to say “No” to the flesh, and say “Yes” to Christ as He has empowered us.

***“...If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will save it.” (Luke 9:23-24)***

***“...count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus. Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires. Do not offer the parts of your body to sin, as instruments of wickedness, but rather offer yourselves to God, as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer the parts of your body to him as instruments of righteousness.” (Romans 6:11-13)***

***“...clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the sinful nature.” (Romans 13:14)***

***“You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.” (Ephesians 4:22-24)***

***“Dear friends, I urge you, as aliens and strangers in the world, to abstain from sinful desires, which war against your soul.” (1 Peter 2:11)***

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### **STUDY GUIDE**

1. What do we learn about **self-denial** in the passages above? (Write brief answers below each passage.)
2. Memorize Romans: 13:14
3. Do a more detailed study of one of the above passages using the form on the back of this page. (As you are able, do a detailed study of all the passages.)
4. Supplemental reading:



## **ADVANCED DTO #4: OVERCOMING THE ENEMY**

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From the day that we received Jesus Christ as our Savior and Lord, we entered into a spiritual warfare. Our enemy is the devil (Satan) and he will do everything in his power to make us discouraged, doubting, defeated Christians. But the victory is ours as we trust in the Lord!

***“Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings.” (1 Peter 5:8-9)***

***“In your anger do not sin’: Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, and do not give the devil a foot hold.” (Ephesians 4:26-27)***

***“Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.” (Ephesians 6:10-13)***

***“Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.” (James 4:7)***

***“Dear children, do not let anyone lead you astray. He who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous. He who does what is sinful is of the devil, because the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil’s work.” (1 John 3:7-8)***

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### **STUDY GUIDE**

1. What do we learn about **overcoming the enemy** in the passages above? (Write brief answers below each passage.)
2. Memorize James 4:7
3. Do a more detailed study of one of the above passages using the form on the back of this page. (As you are able, do a detailed study of all the passages.)
4. Supplemental reading:



## **ADVANCED DTO #5: WITNESSING**

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When we become a child of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, we receive a responsibility to tell others. We become “witnesses,” either faithful or otherwise, to the reality of how to have a relationship with the Lord.

**“‘Come, follow me,’ Jesus said, ‘and I will make you fishers of men.’” (Matthew 4:19)**

**“You are the light of the world...let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.” (Matthew 5:14, 16)**

**“I tell you, whoever acknowledges me before men, the Son of Man will also acknowledge him before the angels of God. But he who disowns me before men will be disowned before the angels of God.” (Luke 12:8-9)**

**“‘...Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.’ How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, ‘How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!’” (Romans 10:13-15)**

**“...God...reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men’s sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation.” (2 Corinthians 5:18-19)**

**“But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect...” (1Peter 3:15)**

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### **STUDY GUIDE**

1. What do we learn about **witnessing** in the passages above? (Write brief answers below each passage.)
2. Memorize Matthew 4:19
3. Do a more detailed study of one of the above passages using the form on the back of this page. (As you are able, do a detailed study of all the passages.)
4. Supplemental reading:



## **ADVANCED DTO #6: GUIDANCE**

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If we want to save a lot of heartache, wasted time, dead-end roads, and wrong turns in our Christian lives, we need to let God direct our paths daily. He sees things from a much different perspective and knows what is best for us, now and in the future!

***“Show me your ways, O Lord, teach me your paths; guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Savior, and my hope is in you all day long.” (Psalm 25:4-5)***

***“Good and upright is the Lord; therefore he instructs sinners in his ways. He guides the humble in what is right and teaches them his way.” (Psalm 25:8-9)***

***“I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you and watch over you. Do not be like the horse or the mule, which have no understanding but must be controlled by bit and bridle or they will not come to you.” (Psalm 32:8-9)***

***“Let the morning bring me word of your unfailing love, for I have put my trust in you. Show me the way I should go, for to you I lift up my soul.” (Psalm 143:8)***

***“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.” (Proverbs 3:5-6)***

***“Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God — this is your spiritual act of worship. Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is — his good, pleasing and perfect will.” (Romans 12:1-2)***

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### **STUDY GUIDE**

1. What do we learn about **guidance** in the passages above? (Write brief answers below each passage.)
2. Memorize Proverbs 3:5-6
3. Do a more detailed study of one of the above passages using the form on the back of this page. (As you are able, do a detailed study of all the passages.)
4. Supplemental reading:



## **ADVANCED DTO #7: ADVERSITY**

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In many ways, the Christian life is a life of testing. Through adverse situations, God purifies and takes out of our lives those things that are not pleasing to Him. We are not immune to trials; they should be viewed as opportunities to grow!

***“The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away; may the name of the Lord be praised...But he knows the way that I take; when he has tested me, I will come forth as gold.” (Job 1:21b; 23:10)***

***“...but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us.” (Romans 5:3-4)***

***“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.” (Romans 8:28)***

***““We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed.” (2 Corinthians 4:8-9)***

***“Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.” (James 1:2-4)***

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### **STUDY GUIDE**

1. What do we learn about **adversity** in the passages above? (Write brief answers below each passage.)
2. Memorize Romans 8:28
3. Do a more detailed study of one of the above passages using the form on the back of this page. (As you are able, do a detailed study of all the passages.)
4. Supplemental reading:



## **ADVANCED DTO #8: CHASTENING**

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To chasten means to correct or to discipline. There are times when God, because of His love for us, must bring a measure of discipline into our lives.

***“Blessed is the man whom God corrects; so do not despise the discipline of the Almighty.” (Job 5:17)***

***“Blessed is the man you discipline, O LORD, the man you teach from your law; you grant him relief from days of trouble, till a pit is dug for the wicked.” (Psalm 94:12-13)***

***“Before I was afflicted I went astray, but now I obey your word. I know, O LORD, that your laws are righteous, and in faithfulness you have afflicted me.” (Psalm 119:67, 75)***

***“My son, do not despise the LORD’S discipline and do not resent his rebuke, because the LORD disciplines those he loves, as a father the son he delights in.” (Proverbs 3:11-12)***

***“But if we judged ourselves, we would not come under judgment. When we are judged by the Lord, we are being disciplined so that we will not be condemned with the world.” (1 Corinthians 11:31-32)***

***“If you are not disciplined...then you are illegitimate children...we have all had human fathers who disciplined us and we respected them for it. How much more should we submit to the Father of our spirits and live!...God disciplines us for our good, that we may share in his holiness. No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it”. (Hebrew s 12:8-11)***

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### **STUDY GUIDE**

1. What do we learn about **chastening** in the passages above? (Write brief answers below each passage.)
2. Memorize Proverbs 3:11-12
3. Do a more detailed study of one of the above passages using the form on the back of this page. (As you are able, do a detailed study of all the passages.)
4. Supplemental reading:



## **ADVANCED DTO #9: SUFFERING**

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We can expect some suffering in this life. All of the Apostles and our Lord Himself suffered. Our suffering can be simply part of our common lot while living in this fallen world or it can be the result of persecution. But it should not be viewed necessarily as indicating God's displeasure — He loves us! We can trust Him regard less of what we may be experiencing.

***“I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.” (Romans 8:18)***

***“For it has been granted to you on behalf of Christ not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for him...” (Philippians 1:29)***

***“I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death.” (Philippians 3:10)***

***“But how is it to your credit if you receive a beating for doing wrong and endure it? But if you suffer for doing good and you endure it, this is commendable before God. To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example that you should follow in his steps.” (1 Peter 2:20-21)***

***“Dear friends, do not be surprised at the painful trial you are suffering, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice that you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed.” (1 Peter 4:12-13)***

***“And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast.” (1 Peter 5:10)***

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### **STUDY GUIDE**

1. What do we learn about suffering in the passages above? (Write brief answers below each passage.)
2. Memorize Romans 8:18
3. Do a more detailed study of one of the above passages using the form on the back of this page. (As you are able, do a detailed study of all the passages.)
4. Supplemental reading:



## **ADVANCED DTO #10: PROVIDENTIAL CARE**

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Regard less of any trials, testing and suffering we may experience — God is sovereign! He cares, watches over us and meets our every need. As God, His promises can be trusted.

***“A righteous man may have many troubles, but the LORD delivers him from them all...” (Psalm 34:19)***

***“Cast your cares on the LORD and he will sustain you; he will never let the righteous fall.” (Psalm 55:22)***

***“So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.” (Isaiah 41:10)***

***“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke up on you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.” (Matthew 11:28-29)***

***“Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.” (1 Peter 5:7)***

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### **STUDY GUIDE**

1. What do we learn about **providential care** in the passages above? (Write brief answers below each passage.)
2. Memorize I Peter 5:7
3. Do a more detailed study of one of the above passages using the form on the back of this page. (As you are able, do a detailed study of all the passages.)
4. Supplemental reading:



## **ADVANCED DTO #11: HUMILITY**

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It is natural to want recognition and achievement in this life. But the Scriptures teach the need for humility — an attitude of submission and deference — rather than pride and arrogance.

***“A man’s pride brings him low, but a man of lowly spirit gains honor.” (Proverbs 29:23)***

***“‘Has not my hand made all these things, and so they came into being?’ declares the Lord. ‘This is the one I esteem: he who is humble and contrite in spirit, and trembles at my word.’” (Isaiah 66:2)***

***“...everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.” (Luke 14:11)***

***“...live a life worthy of the calling you have received. Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.” (Ephesians 4:1b-2)***

***“Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.” (Philippians 2:3-4)***

***“...All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because, ‘God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.’ Humble yourselves, therefore, under God’s mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time.” (1 Peter 5:5b-6)***

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### **STUDY GUIDE**

1. What do we learn about **humility** in the passages above? (Write brief answers below each passage.)
2. Memorize Philippians 2:3-4
3. Do a more detailed study of one of the above passages using the form on the back of this page. (As you are able, do a detailed study of all the passages.)
4. Supplemental reading:



## **ADVANCED DTO #12: LOVE**

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The Scriptures describe love as the mark of a genuine Christian (i.e., 1 Corinthians 13:1-13). People everywhere are starving for love. We are called to meet that need!

***“Jesus replied: ‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.” (Matthew 22:37-40)***

***“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.” (John 13:34-35)***

***“Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves.” (Romans 12:9-10)***

***“And now the se three remain: faith, hope, and love. But the greatest of these is love.” (1 Corinthians 13:13)***

***“This is the message you heard from the beginning: We should love one another.” (1 John 3:11)***

***“This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers. If any one has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him? Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth.” (1 John 3:16-18)***

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### **STUDY GUIDE**

1. What do we learn about **love** in the passages above? (Write brief answers below each passage.)
2. Memorize Matthew 22:37-40.
3. Do a more detailed study of one of the above passages using the form on the back of this page. (As you are able, do a detailed study of all the passages.)
4. Supplemental reading:



## **ADVANCED DTO #13: VISION**

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Vision is the quality of having God's perspective of life. It is an attitude of fitting in with His plan for the advance of His Kingdom — seeing what He wants done and then being available to Him in the process of making it happen.

***“When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, ‘The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.’” (Matthew 9:36-38)***

***“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, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” (Matthew 28:19-20)***

***“You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit — fruit that will last. Then the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name.” (John 15:16)***

***“As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world...that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me...I in them and you in me. May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.” (John 17:18, 21, 23)***

***“All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation.” (2 Corinthians 5:18-19)***

***“The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.” (2 Peter 3:9)***

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### **STUDY GUIDE**

1. What do we learn about vision in the passages above? (Write brief answers below each passage.)
2. Memorize John 15:16
3. Do a more detailed study of one of the above passages using the form on the back of this page. (As you are able, do a detailed study of all the passages.)
4. Supplemental reading:



## **ADVANCED DTO #14: MULTIPLICATION**

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Christianity lives and thrives because of multiplication. It is God's strategy for reaching the world. The significance of our involvement in that strategy can be staggering. One Christian whose life is multiplying can set off a chain-reaction that affects multitudes.

***"Then Jesus came to them and said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 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, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.'" (Matthew 28:18-20)***

***"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." (Acts 1:8)***

***"Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you." (Philippians 4:9)***

***"For we know ...that he has chosen you, because our gospel came to you...with power, with the Holy Spirit and with deep conviction. You know how we lived among you for your sake. You became imitators of us and of the Lord...you welcomed the message with the joy given by the Holy Spirit ...you became a model to all the believers in Macedonia and Achaia. The Lord's message rang out from you...your faith in God has become known everywhere." (1 Thessalonians 1:4-8)***

***"And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others." (2 Timothy 2:2)***

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### **STUDY GUIDE**

1. What do we learn about **multiplication** in the passages above? (Write brief answers below each passage.)
2. Memorize 2 Timothy 2:2
3. Do a more detailed study of one of the above passages using the form on the back of this page. (As you are able, do a detailed study of all the passages.)
4. Supplemental reading:









