**The Messiah, Session 3**

**“Where do we go from here?”**

**Jeremy Tillman**

 **Beginning Truth:**

* **God desires a personal and intimate love relationship with you.**

**How do I begin a relationship with God?**

***“Jesus answered and said to him, ‘Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.’”* John 3:3**

According to the words of Jesus, there must be a point in time when a transformation takes place. Here Jesus calls it a new birth. In other words, every person must be spiritually made new on the inside by the power of God.

***“…for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.”* Romans 3:23**

This new birth is necessary because of our sin. All have sinned. Every person ever born has sinned before God.

***“The wages of sin is death…”* Romans 6:23a**

The consequence of our sin (wage) is separation from God. Our sin makes a relationship impossible because of His holiness.

***“But the free gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.”* Romans 6:23b**

***“God demonstrates His own love toward us in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died FOR us.”* Romans 5:8**

We were hopelessly separated from God by our sin. BUT, because of His great love, Jesus Christ took our sin debt upon Himself and died in our place.

***“…and He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, so that we might die to sin and live to righteousness; for by His wounds you were healed.”* 1 Peter 2:24**

Jesus took our sins and died for us in order to make it possible to enter into a relationship with God.

***“And He (Jesus) summoned the crowd with His disciples, and said to them, “If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross and follow Me. “For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel’s will save it. “For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world, and forfeit his soul?”* Mark 8:34-36**

***“But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name.”* John 1:12**

Jesus died and made a relationship with God possible for everyone. But this relationship for each individual begins with a surrendered heart (deny self) and receiving of Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord.

***“Whoever will call upon the name of the Lord will be saved.”* Romans 10:13**

When a person realizes their great need for a Savior, and trusts Jesus alone to be that Savior, then the relationship begins by simply calling upon Him. That is done by prayer. Simply crying out to God for forgiveness and receive Jesus as the Lord and Savior of your life. You can do that right now wherever you are. Simply stop and talk to God. Be honest with Him. Tell Him the desire of your heart and trust Him to keep His promise. God knows your heart and is not so concerned with the words as He is the attitude of your heart.

***The Promise of the Holy Spirit***

**1In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, 2until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. 3He presented himself alive to them after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. 4And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, “you heard from me; 5for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized withthe Holy Spirit not many days from now.”**

***The Ascension***

**6So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” 7He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. 8But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” 9And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. 10And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, 11and said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.” Acts 1:1-11 (ESV)**

***The Great Commission***

**16Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. 17And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted. 18And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” Matthew 28:16-20 (ESV)**

**What is a disciple?**

***“And He (Jesus) said to them, ‘Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men’.”***

 ***Matthew 4:19 (ESV)***

* **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with Jesus (follow me)**
* **Being \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ by Jesus (I will make you)**
* **On \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with Jesus (fishers of men)**

**4 keys from The Great Commission**

1. **DISCIPLES’ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Matthew 28:17)**
* **DOUBT – to waiver, to question something, uncertain about taking a certain course of action, to be hesitant**
1. **JESUS’ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Matthew 28:18)**
* **ALL AUTHORITY**

**-Examples found in the book of Mark:**

**Over animals (1:13), Angels (1:13), Teaching (1:22), Nature (4), Healing (1:34), Demons (1:34), Sabbath (1:28), Forgiveness of sins (2:10), To give authority (3:15)**

1. **JESUS’ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Matthew 28:19-20a)**
* **Invite then Invest (Evangelism and Discipleship)**
* **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ**
* **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: intentionally equipping believers with the Word of God through accountable relationships empowered by the Holy Spirit in order to replicate/reproduce faithful followers of Christ**

***“Jesus’ concern was not with programs to reach the multitudes but with men/women whom the multitudes would follow…Men/Women were to be His method of winning the world to God.” - Robert Coleman***

***“You then, my child, be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus, and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witness entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.” 2 Timothy 2:1-2***

* **Jesus cares about \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**
* **The goal of discipleship is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ on mission.**
* **Discipleship is God’s design to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the world.**

***“Ministry is what God does out of the overflow of our intimacy with Him.”***

* **3 Major Ingredients in Spiritual Growth:**
1. **THE \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Why we must study the Bible:**

* **Essential for Spiritual \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (1 Peter 2:2)**
* **Essential for Spiritual \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Heb. 5:11-14)**
* **Essential for Spiritual \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (2 Tim. 3:16-17)**

**KEY: SUBMISSION= us submitting to the Word. Aligning our life under the Authority of the Word.**

**Steps to Bible Study: (Observation, Interpretation, Application)**

1. **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: What do I see?**
* **Learn to Listen and Look.**

**LISTEN**

* **Listen \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**
* **Listen \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (Bombard it with questions)**
* **WHO? Wrote it? Originally read it? Main characters?**
* **WHAT? Happening in the text? Wrong with the picture? Author saying?**
* **WHERE? Is the writer? Are the original readers? Is the text taking place?**
* **WHEN? Was it written? Did the events take place?**
* **WHY? Is the author writing this? Is this included in scripture? Did the events happen the way they did? Did the author say what he said?**
* **Listen \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (Read text over & over…)**
* **Listen \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (Patient with text and yourself)**
* **Listen \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (See sights, smell smells, experience emotions)**
* **Listen \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (Take time to reflect) (Joshua 1:8, Psalm 1:1-2, Psalm 119:97)**
* **Listen \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (Transformation)**

**LOOK**

* **Look for what the Word \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**
* **Verbs: (Action of the Text)**
* **Past, Present, Future (Eph. 1:11)**
* **Imperative (Matt. 28:19)**
* **Active or Passive (Gen. 12:1-3; Eph. 5:18; Col. 3:1)**
* **Space: (Is the author devoting concentrated attention to a certain theme, character, event, etc.?)**
* **Purpose Statement: (Deut. 4:5-6; Psalm 119:11; John 3:16; John 15:16; John 20:30-31)**
* **Exaggeration: (Does the author exaggerate something for intentional effect or emphasis?) (Psalm 119:20;**

**2 Cor. 11:8; Matt. 23:24)**

* **Look for what the Word \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**
* **Look for what the Word \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

**(Example: Therefore, But, Since, Because)**

* **Look for what the Word \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

**(Does the author compare certain items, ideas, or individuals to others?)**

* **Look for what the Word \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

**(Does the author contrast certain items, ideas, or individuals with one another?) (Example: Rom. 6:23; Luke 11:11-13)**

* **Look for what the Word \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

**(Does the author use certain words, images, phrases, or other literary tools to communicate certain emotions, moods, or tones in the text?) (Example: Jer. 3:19-20; Gal. 4:12-16; Phil. 4:4; Lam. 3:1-6; Matt. 23:33-35; Gal. 3:1-4)**

**OBSERVATION REVIEW:**

* **Observe Individual verses.**
* **Observe Paragraphs.**
* **Observe entire Discussions. (Dialogue)**
* **Be Patient.**

**OBSERVATION IN ACTION 🡪 INTERPRETATION**

1. **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: What does it mean?**
* **Moving from Exploration to Interpretation.**

**Basic Principles:**

**Remember Context rules.**

* **Always seek the Full counsel of the Word of God.**
* **Remember that scripture will never contradict scripture.**
* **Avoid basing your doctrine on an obscure (cloudy) passage of scripture.**
* **Interpret scripture Plainly.**

**INTERPRETATION IN ACTION 🡪 APPLICATION**

1. **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: What do I do?**
* **Differences between Interpretation and Application:**
* **Interpretation focuses on meaning, Application focus on Action.**
* **Interpretation involves a singular meaning, Application involves Multiple actions.**
* **Interpretation is the same for all Christians, Application is Different for specific situations.**
* **Interpretation involves getting into the Word, Application involves the Word getting into us.**
* **Interpretation asks, “What does this text mean?”, Application asks, “How does this meaning Apply to my life?”**
* **3 Steps to Responsible, Biblical Application:**
* **M\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
* **R\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
* **P\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

 **(Example: 2 Timothy 3:14 - 4:2)**

* **5 Questions when Applying:**
* **Who should I Be?**
* **How should I Think?**
* **What should I Do? (Sin to avoid? Verse to memorize? Promise to claim? Prayer to repeat? Command to obey? Condition to meet? Challenge to face?**
* **Where should I Go?**
* **Who will I Teach? Give it away!**
* **Valuable Resources: Bible Handbook, Bible Dictionary, Word Studies, Bible Atlas, Bible Commentaries, Internet Helps (**[**www.biblicaltraining.org**](http://www.biblicaltraining.org)**;** [**www.biblegateway.com**](http://www.biblegateway.com)**;** [**www.crosswalk.com**](http://www.crosswalk.com); **www.biblehub.com)**
1. **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

***Prayer is the translation into a thousand different words of a single sentence: “Apart from me [Christ] you can do nothing” (John 15:5).***

***Oh, how we need to wake up to how much “nothing” we spend our time doing. Apart from prayer, all our scurrying about, all our talking, all our study amounts to “nothing.” For most of us the voice of self-reliance is ten times louder than the bell that tolls for the hours of prayer. The voice cries out: “You must open the mail, you must make that call, you must write this sermon, you must prepare for the board meeting, you must go to the hospital.” But the bell tolls softly: “Without Me you can do nothing.” - John Piper***

**Five Essentials of Prayer: (James 4:1-3)**

1. **GET ALONE WITH YOUR \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Focus)**

***Psalm 23, “The Lord is my shepherd.”***

***Psalm 27, “The Lord is my light and my salvation. The Lord is the stronghold of my life.”***

***Psalm 34:1, “I will bless the Lord at all times. His praise shall continually be in my mouth.”***

***Psalm 46:1, “God is my refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.”***

***Psalm 46:10, “Be still and know that He is God.”***

**Using the 3 R’s. This simple tool can help assist you in praying the Bible.**

**1. Rejoice 2. Repent 3. Request**

**With every verse in the Bible we can do one (or more likely, all three) of these things. We can rejoice and thank God for his character and blessings. We can repent of our mistakes and sins. We can request new mercies and help. Example = Psalm 104. Verse 1 says “Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord my God, you are very great! You are clothed with splendor and majesty.” How might you pray through this verse? Well, at first look you might see nothing more to do than praise God. “Dear Lord, you are very great. You are clothed with splendor and majesty. Amen.” But try that again with the 3 R’s.**

**Rejoice – O Lord, you have richly blessed me more than I deserve. What a privilege that I can call you my God. Thank you for making me a little lower than the angels and crowing me with glory and honor too.**

**Repent – Forgive me for being blind to your splendor and majesty. Though you are very great, my circumstances and disappointments often feel greater. I’m sorry for being so ungrateful and taking your blessings for granted.**

**Request – Give me eyes to see as you are. Tune my heart to sing your praise. Help me see your glory in the world you’ve created, in the people around me, and in the face of Christ.**

* + - * **Obviously, some verses lend themselves to prayer more easily than others. The Psalms are particularly prayer-worthy. But with the simple strategy of Rejoice, Repent, Request there shouldn’t be a verse in the Bible that can’t be used as a prompt to pray.**
1. **KNEEL \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Humility)**

**Picture of Submissiveness.**

1. **PRAY OUT \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Concentration)**

**Many people can pray under their breath or in their minds for long periods and still maintain intensity, but for most of us it's a quick ticket to dreamland. When we pray out loud we have to concentrate more on what we're praying about.**

1. **PRAY WITH A \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Specific)**

**Make a list to keep track of your prayer needs. This can be done several ways. Prayer needs can be listed by category like "Church," "Family," or "Unsaved friends." Or they may be listed by the days of the week. Each day you pray for a different set of needs. You may want to include prayer every day for a different area of society that has a tremendous influence on the direction of our nation. These seven categories include 1) the church, 2) the family and the home, 3) the media, 4) government, 5) education, 6) business and commerce, and 7) the arts and entertainment.**

1. **PRAY \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Compassion)**

**James 5: 17-18, “Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth.** **Then he prayed again, and heaven gave rain, and the earth bore its fruit.”**

**To pray with fervency means to pray with an emotional intensity. A fervent prayer is…hot … burning… glowing...aggressive… strong... forceful...targeted.**

**Suggestions for Better Intercession**

* **Pray for others as you wish others would pray for you.**
* **Focus your intercessory prayers more on the spiritual issues of eternal significance than the material, physical, temporary needs of the other person.**
* **Use scriptural prayers as appropriate.**

**(Ex. Col. 1:9-12, Phil. 1:9-11)**

**Praying for Prodigals (Luke 15)**

* **Bring them to a place of famine and need (14)**
* **Create within them holy hunger and homesickness (16-17)**
* **Cause them to come to their senses (17)**
* **Draw them home (18)**
* **Give them the gift of repentance (18-21)**
* **Give us welcoming grace (20)**

**Praying for the Church**

* **Truly love and serve one another (John 13:14)**
* **Be protected from the evil one (John 17:15)**
* **Be sanctified and freed through the truth (John 8:32; John 17:16)**
* **Be united (John 17:21-23)**
* **Be, and make, disciples (Matthew 28:19-20)**
* **Be devoted to the word, prayer, fellowship, worship, ministry, and evangelism (Acts 2:42-47)**

**Praying for the Lost**

* **Lord, pour out your Spirit on them.**
* **Convict them of their sin, lack of righteousness, and deserved judgment. (John 16:8)**
* **Reveal to them who you are and what Christ has done for them.**
* **Open the eyes of their understanding (Eph. 1:18) and remove their spiritual blindness (2 Cor. 4:4).**
* **Draw them to yourself in a powerful fashion (John 6:44).**
* **Bind Satan from them. Keep Satan from stealing your Word from their heart (Matt. 12:19).**
* **May your grace and mercy surround them.**
* **Help me to be willing and anxious to be the means by which you save and deliver them. Lord, show me how to lead them to Christ.**
* **Send people across their path to bring them a witness of Christ.**
1. **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
	* + - * **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_- being responsible for one’s actions; sharing, openly and honestly, our struggles and successes in an atmosphere of trust.**

***“Jesus created a highly inviting but highly challenging culture for His disciples to function and grow within. Fundamentally, effective leadership is based upon an invitation to relationship and a challenge to change. A gifted disciple-maker is someone who invites people into a covenantal relationship with him or her, but challenges that person to live into his or her true identity in very direct yet graceful ways. Without both dynamics working together, you will not see people grow into the people God has created them to be.” - Mike Breen***

1. **JESUS’ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Matthew 28:20b)**
	* + **Jesus is and will be with us always!**
		+ **The only way we can make disciples is by having the Lord empower us.**
		+ **My hope is not in what I can do for Christ, my hope is in what Christ can do in and through me.**

**H.E.A.R METHOD**

**After prayerfully reading a passage,**

**Identify at least one verse from that passage that speaks to your heart.**

**Highlight** **~ Write out the key verse that speaks to your heart.**

**Explain ~ Write out what God shows you and what He means from that verse.**

**Application ~ Write out how your life will be different today as a result of what you have read.**

**Response ~ Write out a prayer of response or a call to action based on the verse.**

**EXAMPLE:**

**H Think over what I say, for the Lord will give you understanding**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_in everything. (2 Timothy 2:7)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**E Paul encouraged Timothy to ponder what he taught him. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Casual thinking will not uncover deep doctrinal truths of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_faith. Meditation leads to proper understanding.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**A It is important for me to spend time meditating on the Word of**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_the Lord. Memorization provides a way for me to saturate my**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_mind with God’s Word.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**R God, give me a hunger for Your Word through memorization of**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Scripture. Speak to me as I meditate on Your truths.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**S.O.A.P METHOD**

**After prayerfully reading a passage,**

**Identify at least one verse from that passage that speaks to your heart.**

**Scripture** **~ Write out the key verse that speaks to your heart.**

**Observation ~ Write out what God shows you and what He means from that verse.**

**Application ~ Write out how your life will be different today as a result of what you have read.**

**Prayer ~ Write out a prayer of response based on the verse.**

**EXAMPLE:**

**S See how great a love the Father has bestowed on us,**

 **that we should be called children of God; and such**

 **we are. (1 John 3:1)**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**O The love of God is a gift. He has showered His love on**

 **us and allowed me to be a part of His family. Nothing**

 **will ever change that. The love of God is a constant!**

**A My thought, action, and attitudes today should reflect**

 **who I am. I am loved with an everlasting, endless,**

 **unchanging love. Therefore, I have the capacity to love**

 **others as I am loved.**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**P Lord, thank you. Thank you for first loving me. Let**

 **me walk in that love today and be willing to share that**

 **love with others.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**