Lesson 2

**The Inspiration of Scripture**

*Divine Inspiration is the work of the Holy Spirit. The Bible is written by men through divine inspiration, and conveys divine meaning.*

[2 Timothy: 3:15]

We cannot believe in Christ without accepting both the Old and New Testaments as the Word of God. [John 5:39]

Jesus himself testified to the Old Testament and the Holy Spirit was promised to the disciples to complete the revelation of Christ. [John 16:13]

Lesson 3

**Bible Doctrine of God**

There is only ONE God. Our personal God exists in the Holy Trinity: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

We can know God’s existence, power and holiness by the universe and by his creation. God is all powerful, all present, all knowing and all loving. He is eternal, without beginning or end – immutable, changeless.

All creation is a witness to God’s existence.

Lesson 4

**Christ's pre-existence and Incarnation**

[John 1:1-3, Phil. 2:5-11]

– Christ has always been, is, and will be the Son of God. He was the “Word” in the beginning with God and “the Word was God.”

“His goings forth have been from everlasting.” [Micah 5:2]

He is not a later or lesser creation of God, but fully God in nature, who took part in the creation of all things.

– Christ took on human nature without giving up his divine nature (only voluntarily laying aside his glory) through a virgin birth that was prophesied centuries before and that has never occurred before or since.

– Christ became like us in order to carry out the redemption of man’s eternal soul and to provide a way for man to regain fellowship with God. Jesus Christ accomplished all this by his sacrificial death as the perfect spotless offering (in our place.) (Hebrews 2:17)

Lesson 5

**Christ’s Humanity and Atoning Death**

[Phil. 2:7-8]

Christ was fully God and the express image of God, exhibiting the attributes and the power of God (healing the sick, raising the dead, rebuking the wind and sea.) He was also fully human, exhibiting human characteristics as birth, growth, hunger, thirst, fatigue, temptation, sorrow, humility, and death. We cannot expect to fully comprehend this mystery.

– The foundation of our faith – unlike all other religions – rests on Christ’s shedding of his own blood as a payment for all of our sins and the sins of all mankind. His death for us, as God and a perfect man, was the purpose of his life.

– The Old Testament system of sacrifices, and the Law throughout history, show that man cannot save himself by his own works or sacrifices. They point to God’s love and his grace – which we must receive – in sending Christ as the perfect sacrifice.
Lesson 6

[Romans 8:34, I Cor. 15:3-8]
Christ’s death and resurrection fulfilled Old Testament prophecy as well as Jesus’ own statements in the New Testament and is an established fact of history. The resurrection of Christ is evidence of God’s seal upon Him as Judge and proves His Deity. Because of Christ’s resurrection, the believer is made right with God (justified), has an Intercessor pleading his case with God, and has a foundation for his faith in God’s promises.

Lesson 7

[Acts 1:9, Heb. 4:14-16]
In His role as High Priest, Christ’s death offered one sacrifice for the sins of the people and by His place at the right hand of God and the presence of the Holy Spirit, He becomes the believer’s intercessor and advocate with the Father.

Christ is able to act on behalf of the believer because He was tempted as we are but was without sin; He is righteous. The ascension of Christ to a position at the right hand of God also gives us assurance that our salvation is absolutely complete and that He will come again.

Lesson 8

[Titus 2:12-13, I Thess. 4:15-18]
Christ, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of a woman, was made flesh and dwelt among us – sent by God to save mankind. After his death he returned to heaven to prepare a place for us. [John 14:2-4]
- The “blessed hope” of believers is the Rapture, at which time believers will be taken up with Him to dwell forever with God in heaven. We know not when this will take place – there are no signs.
- The Tribulation is a seven year period at the end of our time, marked by strife, false prophets and teachers, great distress among the nations and catastrophic world events.
- After this, Christ will come in the clouds in great glory with his saints and heavenly hosts.

Chapter 9

[1 Cor. 6:19-20]
The Holy Spirit is the Third Person of the Trinity, a unique Person in the Godhead with his own attributes and works. Before Jesus’ death, he promised his disciples that he would send the Spirit. He now dwells in the believer – our bodies are his temple. The Spirit works within us to strengthen our faith as our helper, our comforter, our teacher, the one who prays within us, our very seal of salvation. We have the “fruit of the Spirit”: love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness and temperance.

Christ is the “door” and faith is the “key” (John 10:9 and Rom. 10:17)
The Holy Spirit gives on the key and helps him turn it in the lock for access! (Ephesians 2:18)
Chapter 10: The Doctrine of Satan
Satan, Lucifer, Serpent, Prince of the World, great dragon, Prince of darkness, tempter – all names by which we know the devil. He was created lucifer, the highest of the angelic host, beautiful and full of wisdom, called an angel of light. He was capable of choosing evil but not obliged to do so – free will! His wisdom became corrupted in him by pride, and he fell from the grace of God. Satan is not yet cast out of heaven and is free to come and go in the earth as our adversary.
Satan’s purpose now is to steal forever the hearts of unbelievers and to suppress the faith of believers so they’re unable or unwilling to witness to God’s salvation. His objective is to gain a kingdom for himself and become the object of men’s worship.
He promotes confusion and terror, and has a mighty influence on the affairs of the world through those who serve him. His influence will continue until the Second Coming of Christ when he will be cast into a pit for the 1000 year reign of Christ. Then he will be “loosed a little season” for a final attack on the people of God. Satan will meet the justice and judgment of God and be cast into the burning pit of fire for all eternity.

Chapter 11: Basic Principles of the Gospel
People need two births; the first allows opportunity to understand God’s grace, the second to stand in God’s grace. John 3:3-8
We need to hear God’s word to receive God’s grace in salvation. Rom. 10:17
We need to speak God’s word to spread His invitation of salvation. Rom 10:9-10

Chapter 12: Vital Biblical Truths
[Rom. 3:19-20]
Through the law is knowledge of sin and need of Christ; Christ fulfilled the law’s penalty against us and superseded the law’s capability for us.
In salvation and justification, we accept by faith what God gives in grace; the more we comprehend God’s love and gifting in salvation, the more we realize our ego and effort have no part. Rom. 4:21 Ephesians 2:8-9
We gain freedom from penalty, righteousness from Christ, assurance in God’s word, desire for His will and anticipation of future rewards.