

# TIPS FOR CHRISTIAN LIFE



Walking with Jesus as a pilgrim on the way to heaven.....

Bible Study Light studies are designed to:

- Build relationship among participants.
- Seek ways to apply the Bible to daily living.
- Discover the Bible is an 'open' book.
- Explore God's great love for us in the Gospel.

## Today's Topic: Living in Covenant

### TEACHER GUIDE

RECOGNIZE THAT ANSWERS REFLECT THE AUTHORS PERSPECTIVE.  
ADDITIONAL DETAILS ARE CERTAINLY POSSIBLE AND ENCOURAGED.

**Suggested Song: (to be sung or use as an opening prayer)**

The Church's one foundation is Jesus Christ, her Lord;  
She is His new creation by water and the Word.  
From heav'n He came and sought her to be His holy bride.  
With His own blood He bought her, and for her life He died.

Elect from every nation, yet on o'er all the earth,  
Her charter of salvation one Lord, one faith, one birth.  
One holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,  
And to one hope she presses, with ev'ry grace endued.

Mid toil and tribulation and tumult of her war  
She waits the consummation of peace forevermore,  
Till with the vision glorious her longing eyes are blest  
And the great Church victorious shall be the Church at rest.

Samuel J. Stone. Public domain

DEFINE THE TERM COVENANT WITH THE FOLLOWING.

NOTE THE ORDER.....PROMISE MADE....RELATIONSHIP ESTABLISHED.

**Covenant:** *n.* the promise made by God to humanity and the relationship it established, as described in the Bible. Webster's New World Dictionary, 4<sup>th</sup> Ed.

**The Master's Teaching - We Learn from Jesus' words & example.**

In your small group....

Read Luke 22:15-20. What is Jesus establishing? If there is a 'new covenant', what does that imply? A NEW COVENANT. WE CELEBRATE AND AFFIRM THIS COVENANT WHEN WE CELEBRATE COMMUNION. IF THERE IS A NEW COVENANT, THE OLD COVENANT HAS BEEN REPLACED.

Read Matthew 5:17-18. What reference does Jesus make to the 'old covenant' in this passage? GOD'S WILL (THE 10 COMMANDMENTS) REMAIN....THEIR DEMANDS MET IN JESUS. THE NEW COVENANT WILL REPLACE THE OLD.

What does it mean to be part of the New Covenant community?

DISCUSS WITH THE CLASS. A CLEARER ANSWER WILL COME AS THE CLASS LOOKS AT THE FOLLOWING...

### God's Support for this Activity in our Christian Life - God's grace is sufficient!

A Brief Look at Covenant	
Old Covenant	New Covenant
Exodus 19:5 Gods' design was for Israel to be a kingdom of.... PRIESTS: THOSE WHO STAND BETWEEN GOD AND MAN AND MAKE THE CONNECTIONS.	1 Peter 2:9 God's design for Christians is that we be... Priests and much more....A LIGHT TO A DARK WORLD OF GOD'S LOVE FOR ALL.
Exodus 20:1-17 God speaks about how the community is to function..... REFLECT HIS GLORY IN KEEPING HIS WILL	John 13:34-35 Jesus speaks about how the community is to function..... REFLECT HIS VERY CHARACTER BY LIVING IN LOVE....CONNECT JOHN 15:45, 9-12
Deuteronomy 6:1-13 Follow God....do what He says.... THIS IS TO BE A WAY OF LIFE!	John 14:6 & 15 Follow Jesus....do what He says.... JESUS IS THE ONLY WAY...FOLLOWING HIM IS A WAY OF LIFE!
Deuteronomy 29:9-13 God promises blessing to those who are faithful to the covenant..... PROMISE OF PROSPERITY. THIS COVENANT IS FOR EVERY MEMBER OF THE SOCIETY!	1 Corinthians 4:1-3 We are called to be faithful with all that is entrusted to us in Christ..... WE ARE GIVEN THIS GIFT BY GOD AND WILL BE ACCOUNTABLE TO HIM, NOT PEOPLE!

Read Jeremiah 31:31-34. What is God saying here? What is predicted?

THE OLD COVENANT WAS BROKEN BY US. GOD WILL CREATE A NEW COVENANT THAT IS DIFFERENT IN CHARACTER. A NEW COVENANT THAT ALLOWS HIM TO LIVE INSIDE HIS PEOPLE.

How is Ezekiel 16:59-62 similar? What promise is added?

EVEN THOUGH AS SINFUL HUMAN BEINGS, WE DO NOT DESERVE IT, GOD WILL REESTABLISH HIS COVENANT RELATIONSHIP WITH US. IT IS AN ETERNAL COVENANT!

Read Galatians 4:21-31. What case is Paul making here? What does it mean for us today?  
TWO COVENANTS....TO TRY TO KEEP THE OLD LEADS TO SLAVERY. TO KEEP THE NEW LEADS TO THE  
GIFT OF LIFE!

What promises are found in Hebrews 9:14-15?  
WE ARE PART OF AN ETERNAL COVENANT IN CHRIST.

So What? {A way to apply these ideas to Christian living....}

Read Hebrews 12:1-3. What are we encouraged to do as God's covenant people?  
CLING TO CHRIST JESUS. LIVE AS HIS PEOPLE!

What perspective does 1 Corinthians 12:12-13 add?  
WE ARE IN THIS TOGETHER THROUGH BAPTISM!

What are the implications of these passages for daily life?  
DISCUSS.

## Closing Prayer