

TRUTHS EVERY
Christian
NEEDS TO KNOW

CLARENCE SEXTON

TEACHER'S GUIDE



CROWN
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TEACHER'S GUIDE

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INTRODUCTION TO THE TEACHER'S GUIDE

This *Teacher's Guide* is designed to assist those who will be leading in the study of these Bible lessons. You will find helpful information in the front of this book that will be of great value as you prepare to teach each lesson.

- ◆ Able to Teach Others Also
- ◆ Preparing to Teach the Lesson
- ◆ Ten Laws for the Sunday School Teacher
- ◆ Tips for Teaching the Bible
- ◆ Goals for This Series

After the introductory material, you will find preparation instructions and Class Teaching Notes for all thirteen lessons in this series. At the conclusion of this book, information is given for those who are interested in additional materials. Our prayer is that the Holy Spirit will give you divine enabling as you faithfully teach the Word of God.

ABLE TO TEACH OTHERS ALSO

Dr. Clarence Sexton

The book of II Timothy is the farewell given by the apostle Paul. The Bible says in II Timothy 2:1-4,

Thou therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also. Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier.

Note the expression in verse two, “...*able to teach others also.*”

The Lord Jesus said to His disciples in Matthew 9:38, “*Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest.*” The way to get laborers is not to recruit laborers; the way to get laborers is to pray the Lord of the harvest that He would send forth laborers into His harvest.

The way we approach this subject reveals what we believe about God. We either believe the work depends upon us or upon the Lord. Of course, there is the human element; the Lord uses human instrumentality. But God says we are to pray to the Lord of the harvest that He would send forth laborers into the harvest.

If you are laboring, someone has prayed for you. Someone prayed that God would raise up a laborer. You are an answer to someone’s prayer. We must pray for laborers.

When God gives laborers, He tells us what we are to do. The Word of God says very clearly, “*And the things that thou hast*

heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.”

We find here the apostle Paul speaking to Timothy. Paul was at least thirty years older than Timothy. Notice in this verse that the Bible talks about Paul, Timothy, faithful men, and others. Paul taught Timothy; Timothy was to teach faithful men; faithful men were to teach others.

You may not be a pastor, but if you are a Christian and you are a laborer for the Lord, it is your responsibility to try to do your best under God to encourage someone else who will *“be able to teach others also.”* If you teach a Sunday School class, you should challenge the students to teach the lesson to others throughout the week. All those who hear and receive the truth are accountable *“to teach others also.”*

I say often that, when God allowed me to meet and marry my wife, the most wonderful thing God did for me was to give me two sons. I was to impart to those boys what God had imparted to me. I did not believe it was my responsibility to try to train everyone else in the world and neglect my own children. Of course, no one ever does everything he should do, but God gives us a responsibility in the family to entrust certain things to our family members.

When you examine God’s work, you are going to find this same thing to be true. There is always the hand print of a human being on another human being. Have you invested your life in the life of someone else?

THERE IS A PRINCIPLE THAT MUST BE FOLLOWED

Think of how many marvelous things could be accomplished if all of us took to heart the responsibility *“to teach others also.”* You may say, “I don’t know much.” It does not make any difference how much you know. If you know the Lord, start by telling someone about Jesus Christ.

Consider what the Bible says in Luke chapter five. The Lord Jesus was walking by the seaside early in the morning. Peter and the rest of the fishermen had been out all night and had caught nothing. The Lord Jesus invited Peter to cast his nets. So Peter took a net out and they caught a great catch of fish.

Peter looked back to the silhouette of the Son of God on the shore. He went back and fell at the feet of the Lord Jesus. In Luke 5:8-11 the Bible says,

When Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus’ knees, saying, Depart from me; for I am a sinful man, O Lord. For he was astonished, and all that were with him, at the draught of the fishes which they had taken: and so was also James, and John, the sons of Zebedee, which were partners with Simon. And Jesus said unto Simon, Fear not; from henceforth thou shalt catch men. And when they had brought their ships to land, they forsook all, and followed him.

They followed the Lord Jesus. Christ called disciples, learners who could be taught. He established here a principle for us to follow.

In Matthew 11:28-30 the Bible says, *“Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”*

The Lord says, “Get in this yoke with Me. Understand what I am doing.” This gives us the picture of a double yoke with the oxen in the yoke side by side. The Lord says, “I’m on one side, you get on the other side and learn of Me.” There is a principle that we are *“to teach others also.”*

People have invested their lives in me, and I want to invest my life in others. Someone reached people for Christ and those people reached others and those people reached others and finally, through

the centuries, someone reached me. And I am going to do all I can to reach others. This principle is clearly taught in the Word of God.

The apostle Paul was teaching Timothy just as Jesus Christ had taught His disciples. Paul was leaving this farewell address to Timothy, "Timothy, this is the way God's work is to be done."

Women, find young women that you can encourage and help in the Lord.

Men, find young men and invest your life in them.

Older couples, find a young couple and invest your life in them. This is the way God intends for His work to be done. We must pass on to someone else the things we have learned. This is the principle we find in the Word of God.

THERE IS A PRICE TO PAY

Second, there is a price to pay. Consider what the Bible says in II Timothy 2:3, "*Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.*"

The Bible says we are to endure hardness. Our ability or inability to help others as Christians is related entirely to the private, secret preparation we make as Christians. The character of our Christian life is determined by the time we spend with the Lord Jesus. We cannot be a help to others unless we are walking with God.

What people truly need most is not a lecture in a classroom; they need to see a holy life standing before them. May God help us to drive this home, not simply to the heart of the person we hope to teach, but may it be driven home to our own hearts. We must take the time to be holy people.

There is a price to pay. "*Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth*" (II Timothy 2:15). Time and prayer is a price to pay. Digging deep wells of Scripture knowledge is a price to pay.

We must remain vigilant in our personal lives if we are going to "*be able to teach others.*" The note we sound must be clear if we are going to teach other people. The way we state truths should be as close as possible to the very words of Scripture if we are going to teach other people.

There is price to pay for holy living, for time alone with God. There is a price to pay in passing the truth on to other people, pouring out your life into others. It takes something from you.

Would it be better for us to try to leave our children great wealth or a godly heritage? We know the answer to that question. This demands a price that has to be paid. On a daily basis, we must be the Christians God desires for us to be.

THERE IS A PERSON TO PLEASE

The Bible says in II Timothy 2:4, "*...that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier.*" Who has chosen us to be soldiers? The answer to that question is the Lord Jesus. He is the One we are to please.

There are many things that people know how to do that they never teach anyone else how to do. I know a young man who is a builder, but he does not construct things as we normally would think about a man constructing things. He knows how to repair and reconstruct old things that have been hand carved. Someone taught him how to do that. But if he does not teach someone else, that craft will cease to exist.

What has happened in the ministry and in Christian homes is that people have ceased to teach the next generation what God has taught us in His Word. We have left the instruction to people who do not walk with God and who have found a worldly way to try to do God's work. This is our fault because God has told us exactly how it should be done.

Able to Teach Others Also

If we are going to “*be able to teach others also*,” there is a principle to be followed, a price to pay, and a person to please.

Ladies, turn your eyes back on the Lord Jesus and what He has given you to do.

Men, put your eyes back on the Lord and what He has given you to do.

Those in the Lord’s work need to put their eyes back on the Lord and what He has given them to do.

What God has given us to do is to leave behind faithful people who have been trained “*to teach others also*.” This is the way God’s work is to be done.

As I look back, I realize I have received a great heritage. I am grateful for it. As I look forward, I should see that I have invested my life in teaching others also.

PREPARING TO TEACH THE LESSON

As we study and teach God’s Word, we must realize that thorough preparation is extremely important. The teacher should teach from an overflow. The truths of each lesson should make an impact in the teacher’s life before being communicated to others. Here are some suggestions for preparing to teach the lessons in this series.

Begin Preparation Early

For many teachers, preparation is something that begins and ends in the same evening. Usually that evening is the one before the lesson is to be given. If you begin to prepare early, you will have the opportunity to “live” with the lesson throughout the week. Many times we do not get the full impact of Bible truths because we do not give the Lord the opportunity to develop these truths in our own lives.

Look to Christ

In our Bible study and teaching, our goal is not to know information; our goal is to know Jesus Christ and to make Him known. Begin your preparation time by “*looking unto Jesus*.” We need to come to God’s Word in faith believing that He is going to speak to us. Take time to commune with the Lord Jesus and get your heart in tune with Him.

Read the Bible Background Reading

Read the background Bible passages that are given for each lesson. Be sure to read each passage twice.

1. Read the first time for general understanding. Look up any unfamiliar words or phrases.
2. Read the second time to mark key words and key expressions that speak to your heart.

Read the Bible Lesson

After reading and marking the Scripture passages which correspond to the lesson, read the Bible lesson from *Truths Every Christian Needs to Know* that corresponds with the lesson you are studying. As you read, mark key statements or paragraphs so that you can review them later.

Answer the Questions

In the Class Teaching Notes, you will find preparation questions for each lesson. After reading the lesson, answer these questions to reinforce the things you have read. These are identical to the questions that the students are given in the *Student Handbook*.

Notice the Lesson Aims

In each lesson, you should not try to teach *many* things, but rather teach a *few* things well. Give careful attention to the “lesson aims” which help to identify the key truths that are to be taught in each lesson. Keep these aims before you during your preparation time. They will help you to communicate the key truths in the lesson.

Write Out Ideas for Application

A good Bible teacher will always strive to apply the truths of God’s Word to his audience. In every stage of life we have different needs and difficulties. What are the needs and struggles of those in your class? Before teaching, write out specific ideas for applying this lesson to your particular audience. We can teach people of all ages and stages in life to bring their burdens to Christ. Make your application especially strong in the conclusion of the lesson.

Use Illustrations

The Lord Jesus often taught great truths through the use of practical illustrations. Perhaps the best illustrations are those that come directly from the Bible. Take time to reflect upon the lesson and make note of biblical illustrations that

could help you teach more effectively. You may also think of some experiences from your life or the lives of other Christians that would help to illustrate a truth in the lesson. Personal illustrations should always be truthful and practical; at times, they may be thought-provoking or humorous as well.

Use the Class Teaching Notes

Class Teaching Notes have been prepared for each lesson in this series. These notes are identical in format to the Student Handbook. The page number on the Class Teaching Notes corresponds to the page number in the *Student Handbook*.

Be sure to make any handwritten notes on the Class Teaching Notes that you feel will assist you in teaching the lesson. You may wish to mark down personal illustrations, application ideas, or quotes and key expressions from *Truths Every Christian Needs to Know*.

The Class Teaching Notes will be your aid as you teach the Bible lesson. The Class Teaching Notes are designed to be removed from the *Teacher's Guide* and placed neatly in your Bible. When teaching these lessons, do not carry the entire *Teacher's Guide* or *Truths Every Christian Needs to Know* to class; only carry your Bible and the Class Teaching Notes.

Review

When you walk into class, you should not have to worry about what you are going to teach. Plan a time to review the Class Teaching Notes and Scripture reading. If you take the time to review the lesson, the things you have studied will be more firmly planted in your heart.

Conclude With a Time of Prayer

- ◆ Pray for the guidance and power of the Holy Spirit.
- ◆ Pray for a spiritual understanding of God's Word.
- ◆ Pray for your pastor and church to be strengthened.
- ◆ Pray for lost souls to be saved.
- ◆ Pray for your own life to be changed.

TEN LAWS FOR THE SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER

1. *PREPARE EARLY FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL.*
2. *RECOGNIZE THE AUTHORITY OF
GOD'S WORD.*
3. *ENTER INTO STUDY WITH PRAYER.*
4. *KNOW THE MATERIAL COMPREHENSIVELY
BEFORE TEACHING IN PARTS.*
5. *USE PROPER TEACHING METHODS.*
6. *TAKE YOUR CLASS TO THE SCRIPTURE OFTEN.*
7. *HELP YOUR CLASS THINK BIBLICALLY
AND USE BIBLICAL LANGUAGE.*
8. *MAKE STRONG APPLICATION
IN THE CONCLUSION OF THE LESSON.*
9. *ENCOURAGE BIBLE MEMORY.*
10. *FIND A WAY TO ENCOURAGE DAILY
PREPARATION FOR NEXT WEEK'S LESSON.*

TIPS FOR TEACHING THE BIBLE

As teachers of God's Word, we have a desire to be as effective as possible because we know that people need to hear and understand the Bible. You do not have to obtain a formal education to be a good teacher. Here are several suggestions that will help you to become a more effective teacher.

Always Begin and End on Time

This shows great respect and consideration for others. The teacher should arrive to class early and should be prepared to teach before he arrives.

Do Not Be Afraid to Ask Questions

You may ask questions to the entire class or to individuals. Some questions may take time for people to answer. You may have to reword a question to lead people to the answer.

Get Every Member of the Class Involved

This can be done in a variety of ways including the following:

- ◆ Allowing the class or class members to read Scripture
- ◆ Asking questions that call for a response
- ◆ Encouraging class members to write in the *Student Handbook*

Maintain Eye Contact With Your Class

Many teachers fail in this matter because they are bound to their notes or to a book they have carried to class. Notes are nothing more than signposts that keep you on the right road. Do not drive staring at the signs; please look at the road! When teaching, carry only your Bible with the Class Teaching Notes neatly placed in it. Use the notes to help you stay on track and teach in a logical order, but do not give your notes more attention than your students.

Use Variety in Your Teaching

No one wants to be a part of a Sunday School class that is cold and dead. You can make a class much more lively and interesting by varying your teaching methods and styles. This can be done in many ways including the following:

- ◆ Using object lessons or visual aids when teaching
- ◆ Allowing students to answer or discuss questions
- ◆ Using an illustration to grab the students' attention at the beginning of the lesson
- ◆ Varying your tone of voice (Do not speak monotone.)

Make Specific Applications to Your Students

As you are teaching, work diligently to apply the truths you are teaching to the students in your class. They will not find joy in *knowing* God's Word; they will find joy in *obeying* God's Word. Be clear and specific as you seek to show the students how the lesson applies to them. At the conclusion of the lesson, call for definite decisions; encourage each student to write these decisions in the *Student Handbook* or in his Bible.

Keep the Bible Central

As Baptists we believe that our sole authority for faith and practice is God's Word. When you teach, your students should know that you have taught them God's Word. Take people to the Scriptures often and read the passages given in each lesson. You should teach in such a way that every student feels as if he needs a Bible in order to participate. Keep the Bible central in every question, in every discussion, and in every lecture.

Be Filled With the Holy Spirit of God

God can enable all of His children to do the work He has called them to do. For the Christian, the filling of the Spirit is not an option; it is a

Tips for Teaching the Bible

command (Ephesians 5:18). The Lord Jesus said in John 15:5, *“Without me, ye can do nothing.”* We often try to do for ourselves what we are not capable of doing. Only God can speak to the hearts of men, and He will speak through us as we are yielded to Him and filled with His Spirit.

GOALS FOR THIS SERIES

- ◆ *TO TEACH TRUTHS FROM GOD’S WORD THAT HELP CHRISTIANS TO BE WHAT GOD HAS SAVED THEM TO BE*
- ◆ *TO UNDERSTAND THE IMPORTANCE OF THE WORD OF GOD AND PRAYER*
- ◆ *TO LEARN WHAT THE BIBLE TEACHES ABOUT THE NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH*
- ◆ *TO REALIZE THAT BEING FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT IS SOMETHING WE SHOULD SEEK ON A DAILY BASIS*
- ◆ *TO SEE THAT EVERY CHRISTIAN SHOULD SEEK TO WIN SOULS TO THE LORD JESUS CHRIST*
- ◆ *TO RECOGNIZE THAT OUR HOPE IS IN THE LORD JESUS CHRIST WHO IS COMING AGAIN*
- ◆ *TO SEE THAT GOD WORKS IN ALL THINGS TO BRING US UNTO HIMSELF*
- ◆ *TO CHALLENGE CHRISTIANS TO RECEIVE THESE TRUTHS AND TO TEACH THEM TO OTHERS ALSO*

Preparation Questions for Lesson 1

THE BIRTHMARKS OF A BELIEVER

Background Reading

I John 5:9-13; John 20:31; I John 1:4; I John 2:1, 3-6, 19, 26;
I John 3:14-19; I John 4:1-6, 13; Colossians 1:27

MONDAY

According to I John 5:13, what is one of the main purposes for the writing of this book?

TUESDAY

Read I John 2:3-6. If we keep His commandments, what does this do in our lives?

WEDNESDAY

I John 3:14 teaches us that we know we are saved because we do what? How does verse nineteen further define this statement?

THURSDAY

In I John 4:1-6 we are told to try the spirits. How do we know the Spirit of God from other spirits?

FRIDAY

According to I John 4:13, how do we know that we dwell in Him and He dwells in us?

SATURDAY

Compare I John 5:10 and Colossians 1:27. Who is the witness within the believer? How does He bring assurance to the believer?

THE BIRTHMARKS OF A BELIEVER

Teacher's Preparation

1

One of the purposes for the writing of the book of I John is to show believers how they can live in the assurance of their salvation. Once you have eternal life, it is a present possession never to be taken away. However, many Christians do not know the joy of having the assurance of their salvation. The Bible teaches that there are certain birthmarks that should be evident in the life of a child of God. These birthmarks identify the believer with his heavenly Father. They give evidence that we are the children of God.

Bible Background Reading

I John 5:9-13; John 20:31; I John 1:4; I John 2:1, 3-6, 19, 26; I John 3:14-19; I John 4:1-6, 13; Colossians 1:27

Bible Lesson Reading

Read chapter one in *Truths Every Christian Needs to Know*.

Lessons Aims

- ◆ To show that God's Word tells us that we can know we have eternal life

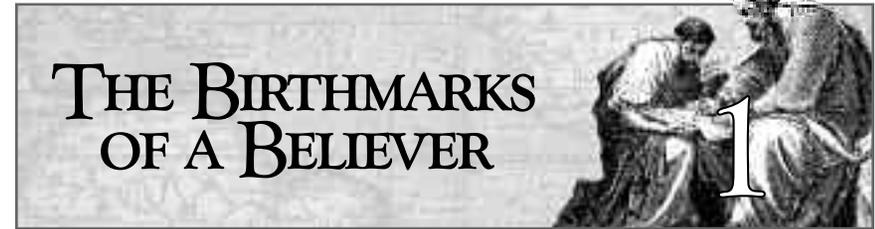
- ◆ To see that God's children are to have an obedient heart toward their heavenly Father

- ◆ To learn that Christians are to love one another with the love of Christ

- ◆ To show that Christians should clearly identify with Jesus Christ both in word and deed

- ◆ To realize that the Holy Spirit indwells every believer and that He can enable every child of God to live a victorious Christian life

- ◆ To understand that a believer is not going to live in the joy of assurance of his salvation unless these birthmarks are evident in his life



SCRIPTURE MEMORY

“These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.”

I John 5:13

Notes



hat a tragic thing it is to go through life uncertain of where you will be for all eternity. If you know the Lord and believe the Bible, you can know for sure that heaven is your home.

Each book of the Bible was written for a specific purpose. Let us see the purpose of the book of I John.

- ◆ TO PROMOTE JOY IN OUR LIVES (I John 1:4)
- ◆ TO PREVENT SIN (I John 2:1)
- ◆ TO PROTECT THE SAINTS (I John 2:26)
- ◆ TO PROVIDE ASSURANCE (I John 5:13)

There are certain characteristics that cause children to be identified with their parents. In I John, we find certain birthmarks that should be easy to find in your life if you are a child of God. These birthmarks identify you with your heavenly Father. This does not mean you must have these marks in order to *become* a Christian, but rather that they give evidence that you *are* a Christian.

If one is a believer, there should be certain birthmarks in his life.

Notes

The Birthmark of Obedience

There are many people who say they are Christians but have no desire to obey the Lord. They lack evidence in their Christian lives.

Read I John 2:3-6. The Bible says, *“And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments.”* Do you have the birthmark of obedience in your life?

Obedience is not simply doing the will of God; it is delighting in doing the will of God.

The Birthmark of Love

Read I John 3:14-19. God’s Word says, *“We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren.”* You may think you are a caring, loving person; but, do you love those who do not love you? Do you use the means God has given you to be a blessing to others?



We are to love others with the love of Christ.

Love is not a word; love is a deed. It is one of the identifying birthmarks of a believer.

The Birthmark of Truth

Almost everyone today talks about “God” without saying that Jesus Christ is God. As a Christian, do not express yourself that way. Express your faith in “The Lord Jesus Christ.” Let us be clearly identified by the birthmark of the truth concerning the Lord Jesus Christ.

Notes

Sometimes we do not deny Jesus Christ in word, but in deed. Sometimes we do not deny Him with our lips, but with our lives. Our behavior should not betray the fact that we are Christians. Do you have the birthmark of truth in your life?

The Birthmark of the Holy Spirit

In I John 4:13 we read, *“Hereby know we that we dwell in him, and he in us, because he hath given us of his Spirit.”* The indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit is a birthmark of the believer. Do you know the Holy Spirit? He lives within you if you are a believer. We must be filled with the Holy Spirit if we are going to live in victory.



The power of the Holy Spirit enables us to live the Christian life.

The Birthmark of the Witness Within

Read I John 5:9-13. When we trust the Lord Jesus as our personal Savior, the Holy Spirit comes to live in us. He becomes our witness within. The Lord lives in each believer and provides assurance that we are His through this divine witness.

I John 5:13 says, *“These things have I written...”* This verse summarizes the entire book. This book was written *“that ye may know that ye have eternal life.”* You may know the Lord as your Savior, but you are not going to live in the joy of assurance of the salvation you have in Christ Jesus unless these birthmarks are found in your life.

Do you have these birthmarks in your life?

Preparation Questions for Lesson 2

THE HOLY SCRIPTURES

Background Reading

II Timothy 3:1-5, 13-17; Psalm 119:89, 152; II Timothy 1:7; I Peter 1:10-11; Daniel 12:8-9; Matthew 4:4; Colossians 2:9-10; John 2:25; I Peter 3:7; Joshua 1:8

MONDAY

II Timothy 3 teaches us about “*perilous times*.” According to verses 14-15, what are we to do in perilous times?

TUESDAY

What tremendous truth do we learn about God’s Word in Psalm 119:89 and Psalm 119:152?

WEDNESDAY

II Timothy 3:16 teaches that the Scriptures came from where? What is the significance of the word “*all*” in this verse?

THURSDAY

According to Matthew 4:4, what are we to live by?

FRIDAY

From II Timothy 3:15-17, list the things that the Scriptures are able to do in our lives.

SATURDAY

What promise is given in Joshua 1:8 to those who know and obey the Word of God?