

Discipleship training for discipleship maker ②

**16+ Trainings for evangelization, discipleship,
and fellowships multiplication**



Advanced practice instruction (16+ trainings) to know Jesus, follow Him and do what He did.

© By Hiram Küenzi

Inspired by Ying Kai, Curtis Sergeant, Jack Wood, Jeff Sandell & others.
Based on the principles of T4T (Training for Trainers)
13. Januar 2022

Introduction – Discipleship training for followers of Jesus Christ

Jesus Christ from Nazareth, the Messiah, brought God's love, peace and righteousness to humanity. He healed the sick, set the captives free and raised the dead. He conquered death and made a way to restore the relationship to God that had been lost due to sin. Jesus Christ trained his followers to be disciples so that they would continue his mission. This is our divine destiny! This discipleship training helps you to come into your divine calling and to become an empowered follower of Jesus!

If you have the desire to know Jesus Christ personally, to learn from him and to follow him, this will change your life substantially and forever!

The discipleship training is for Christians from traditional Catholic and Reformed churches, evangelical free churches and also house churches. It is also suitable for youth groups, small groups and church groups.

The discipleship training is also suitable for Muslims, Buddhists, Hindus and seekers from other religions and spiritual groups (e.g. esoterics), those to whom the Christian religion does not mean much. It is not about changing ones religion but to become a follower of Jesus Christ!

The discipleship training is very suitable for seeking VIPs, be it in one-on-one trainings or for a discipleship group process in a home or with a person of peace. The trained disciples of Jesus will be able to plant new Jesus groups in their community or start a discipleship meeting in unreached places within a short period of time!

What the discipleship training *is not*:

- The basic discipleship training is *not* a new tool, *not* a (new) faith course, *not* a lesson and *not* another schooling.
- The training cannot be "bought" for the church, small groups or youth groups.
- The training does not cost any school or license fees.

What the discipleship training *is*:

- > It is an invaluable practical training that fosters a Jesus-lifestyle resulting in lots of lasting fruit.
- > It is an evangelization training through which many people have already found Jesus Christ.
- > It is a training by which the *sick have been healed, captives been freed and the dead been raised*.
- > Persons of peace are being found and first *meetings* take place in *homes of peace*.
- > New Jesus groups and Jesus meetings start almost by themselves...
- > It brings forth disciple makers that start new Jesus groups, churches and movements!

--> **The training can be compared to an apprenticeship** (craft training). What mainly counts is practical application combined with some basic theory. This means practice, practice and more practice! The apprenticeship is completed when one is able to apply the things learned and to teach them to others.

Discipleship training for followers of Jesus

● Introduction to T4T

God's passion: he desires for everyone to come to the knowledge of the truth.
The command of Jesus: make disciples of all nations (disciples make disciple-makers)
Maturity, fruit and growth comes from obedience – not from knowledge
The DNA for groups and church multiplication is the 3/3-process
Leading a group through the “3/3-process” using the “manual” (step-by-step guide)
The basic training lays the groundwork for discipleship!
Organizing A T4T group or church meeting – a practical example

● Manual 3/3-process for group leaders

3/3 step by step version / short version / overview

● Overview

Discipleship training according to the 3/3-process with practical application

Includes a task and obedience check list

● Training 1

Finding God through Jesus

The Romans Road

● Training 2

The five levels of salvation

Repentance and conversion: check-up your life!

● Training 3

The baptism in water

A practical look at the baptism in water

● Training 4

Being born again and the new life

Change in sovereignty

● Training 5

The gift of the Holy Spirit

The gift of tongues

● Training 6

Being a witness for Jesus

My story with God

● Training 7

The Bible (God's word) – God speaking to us

My Bible reading plan

● Training 8

Prayer – Talking with God

My prayer list

● Training 9

Becoming church

We celebrate the Lord's Supper

● Training 10

Finances and the blessing of giving

How much do we need? How much, for what cause or whom shall we give to?

● Training 11

The gifts, ministries and offices of the Holy Spirit

We pray for the gifts of the spirit and the gifts of the five-fold ministry of the Holy Spirit

● Training 12

The invisible world

God or Satan? Paradise or hell? Spiritual warfare. Victorious spiritual weapons.

● Training 13

Hearing God's voice

How to hear. Prayers: „The Lord's Prayer, Jabez, Psalm 23. The armor of God. VIP-salvation.

● Training 14

Heal the sick, cast out demons and raise the dead!

With practical application: healing, casting out demons and raising the dead!

● Training 15

The price of discipleship

Suffering in discipleship makes strong. Jesus also suffered. Love can suffer. The crown of life.

● Training 16

The Kingdom of God

Becoming citizens of Heaven and ambassadors of the King. Doing the commandments of Jesus.

● Training +

Introduction to inductive Bible study: the loving Father

by Hiram Küenzi & team

Version 2018-01

Introduction to T4T discipleship training (training for trainers) Hiram Küenzi

1. God's passion: He desires for everyone to come to the knowledge of the truth

1 Tim. 2,4 **God wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.**

The Roman governor Plinius wrote to Emperor Trajan around 110 AD about the rapid growth of Christianity. *"For persons of all ages and position as well both sexes are endangered or will be endangered. The disease of this superstition has not only spread in the cities but also in the villages."* This already happened about 80 years after Jesus had sent out his disciples! Thousands upon thousands believed through the testimony of Christians, who have just came to faith... We want to experience this again!

2. The mission of Jesus: make disciples of all nations (disciples make disciple-makers)!

2 Tim. 2,2 **And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others.**

Matt. 28:18 Then Jesus came to them and said, **"All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me."**

→ How do we come into this authority? Through obedience!

Matt. 28.19-20a 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.

→ Which promises may we claim if we do this?

Matt. 28.20b And surely **I am with you always, to the very end of the age.**

→ Also: "go" + not "come" / "all" + not only "some" / "disciples" + not only "church members" and "obey everything", as for example "make disciples of all nations..."!

3. Maturity, fruit and growth comes from obedience – not from knowledge

Only when I am obedient and do what Jesus commanded me to do, I can grow in the faith.

Obedience means eternal life (eating from the tree of life). Knowledge without obedience puffs up and leads to death (eating from the tree of knowledge).

4. The DNA for group and church multiplication is the 3/3-process

The DNA of T4T is the 3/3-process that contains multiplication and all basic elements of what church is and what is necessary for discipleship. Through the basic training new groups/churches are planted easily and almost on their own. This corresponds to healthy DNA (genetic information) in the cell core. If I leave out elements or change them I produce a fatal genetic mutation and growth ceases.

5. Leading a group through the "3/3-process" with the manual (step by step)

1) The extensive "Manual 3/3-process for group leaders" is a step-by-step guide:

→ At first it is strongly recommended to use the extensive version: "**Manual 3/3-process for group leaders**" and the integration of the basic trainings (1-16+). Otherwise the most important aspects might be forgotten that are fundamentally important for the basic process! This way the group leader finds his or her way into the 3/3-prforgottenepp-by-step and can thus also lead the group/church into a sustainable discipleship process.

2) The short version of the 3/3-process is suitable for experienced leaders of a church group.

3) The 3/3-circle provides a quick overview.

6. The basic training lays the foundation and is the core element for discipleship!

The foundation of T4T: Basic training for discipleship! This was adapted to suit the **German-speaking, multi-religious and European context** and is for seekers as well as believers.

- **The training is effective, when seekers and believers understand it, doing and passing on everything that God is teaching them!** This develops into a lifestyle that leads to multiplication! In spite of its simplicity the training has got a divine profoundness and it changes people. A strong and stable foundation can be established on which one can build, everyone at his or her own place.
- **Multiplication:** The training combined with the 3/3-process leads to new church groups or churches without further action.

7. Holding a T4T-meeting practically

For example 1.5 to 2 hours **during lunch** with students or colleagues from work; **during afternoons** with young students or elderly people; **after the end of school** or **in the evening** at the Park or the Café; **in the evenings** with friends, **on Saturday** during BBQ or on **Sundays** at the bath...

a) What could a meeting according to the 3/3-process look like?

T4T-meeting sequence (Example: meeting in the evening. Time: 2.45 hours)

- 1/3**
- **19pm (45 min): Food & fellowship.** Begin your group punctually with a meal together. There is room for small talk as well as personal **sharing**.
 - **19.45pm(10-15 min): Thanks, praise and worship.** With words, prayers, psalms, singing or video clips. Keep it rather short so as to have enough time for the basic training and practice.
 - **20pm (10-15 min): Sharing & obedience check.** During this time we check our "homework" (from the second meeting onward), who passed on what to whom and how? During this time, sharing is *exclusively* about checking our obedience.
→ **Chatterbox:** there are people who like to stray from a topic. Tell them to recount the details the next time during dinner. **f someone has a problem**, then meet him or her at another time and **when you are not together in the group**.
 - **20.15pm (5 min): God's task and vision** (2-3 min input, a Bible word, an experience or a text, so that we would never lose sight of the lost ones).
- 2/3**
- **20.20pm (40 min): Training:** Go through the entire (!) training together (afterwards stories and texts from the Word of God...)
- 3/3**
- **21.00pm (5 min): Task from God?**
 - **21.05pm (40 min): Application & training!**
 - **21.45pm (5 min): Prayer & blessing.** Conclusion between 21.45 or latest 22.00pm.

b) Practical tips for a T4T meeting

- Every meeting begins with **food and fellowship** if somehow possible.
- **The training is for believers and new seekers without Biblical background knowledge.** Believers are in danger of slipping in additional things to that the simplicity can get lost!
- There is enough **room** for simple questions, but **not for discussion**!
- It is very recommended to **go through the training again** at home during a quiet time.
- If there was not enough time for the training, one should practice it more at home. Europeans are familiar with that since many of them regularly educate themselves further.
- **The simplicity of the training helps people to pass on the things learned already in the same week.**
- It is even possible that a participant, who is only one training ahead, can start a new group/church. The multiplicative potential of the training is almost unlimited.
- **After the last meeting the "long-term discipleship" begins (with Inductive Bible Study).** From that moment on one can choose a suitable Bible text oneself for the second third, depending on where the group is. It is astonishing and rewarding to see all that will be discovered within the group!

Most important practical advice (so that no one gets left behind and that practice and application does not come short):

Training with believers: **Orally summarize** the contents of the second third (leaving nothing out). Perhaps sharing a personal testimony. **Important is the third part: training and application (task)!**
Training for seekers: **Reading together** the contents of the second third, then **practice and apply!**

Manual 3/3-process for group leaders (activities in a T4T-meeting) Hiram Künzli

Dark blue (core element) = NEVER to be left out! Dark grey = can be skipped ("nice to have" element)

Light grey = content-related explanation → = key element **Dark red → action step!** **1/3 2/3 3/3...** of the 3/3-process

1/3 1/3 Looking back: Being there for one another. Encouraging one another.

1. Fellowship (Perhaps there is room for 3a already here)

Have regular fellowship. Take time for conversations during the meals (or the snack and refreshment).

→ Tell each other what you have experienced with God in the past week. Care about each other's lives.

2. Thanks, praise & worship (prayer / worship / Bible text)

Take some time to thank and praise God and to worship him. Pray for example as a group / someone reads a Psalm or a Bible text / or sing worship songs (e.g. with instruments or worship video clips on the tablet/TV/projector).

3a. Sharing (How is my faith life? 1-2 min for each person for 3a and 3b)

→ How is my personal relationship with (e.g. what am I reading in the Bible, what am I praying for...)?

→ How am I feeling personally? (Encouraged, bad, sad, frustrated... - not only what things I am doing...)

Attention: If someone is not feeling well then pray for that person and take some time for him or her after the meeting!

3b. Obedience check (Did I carry out the task from God? The 3 disciple maker questions)

→ Have I been obedient and done what God told me to do last time? With which result?

→ Whom have I trained?

→ Have I passed on what I learned (e.g. my story /Jesus story / steps to salvation, new revelation...)?

4. Vision (Every disciple of Jesus has the task to share the saving message of Jesus with others)

"God wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth." 1. Tim. 2.4

Recount a short Biblical story; share a personal experience, something inspiring or a touching song. This should encourage the group to tell others about Jesus, to start a group/church and/or to help others to do the same. Possible Bible texts:

Matt. 28.18-20, Luke 10.1-11, Josh. 1.8, Luke 19.1-10, Matt. 13.1-23 and others...

(If the vision is not passed on at least every second week it gets lost!)

2/3 2/3 Looking up: hearing God's voice and speaking about it

5a. Training unit (foundation for reproducible discipleship and multiplication)

After completing all training units one continues with 5b: Inductive Bible Reading and Bible study choosing Bible texts freely):

5b. Bible text/Word of God (Inductive Bible Study)

→ Pray that God would speak to you through his word. Read God's word and talk about it:

1. Someone reads the Bible text aloud.

2. Everyone reads the text for himself or herself.

3. Someone recounts the text (Bible closed). The group then helps to complete the text.

→ Ask each other the 3 questions of the inductive Bible study

1. What spoke to me while reading the text or what questions arose?

2. What does the text say about God and people?

3. Is there something in the text that I should be obedient to or put into practice?

3/3 3/3 Looking ahead: Obedience. Training. Passing on.

6a. Task (Listening to God. Then plan how and when to obey what God has shown.)

● Pray about the 3 disciple maker questions...

→ 1. How shall I obey? What shall I put into practice and/or pass on to others of what I have learned?

2. Whom shall I train? (e.g. VIP, friends, colleagues from work... → Who are my disciples?)

3. Passing on what to whom? "My story"/presenting the gospel (e.g. Romans Road + 5 steps to salvation)

● ... and then: relax and listen to God:

→ Pray that God would show you what your next step is. The Holy Spirit brings someone or something to your mind for example. Write it down!

→ Tell the group what God has shown you. Help each other to carry out God's task.

6b. Training (If necessary as homework for next time)

Practice the things learned in a practical way: E.g. practice a difficult conversation with possible questions and answers as a role-play or how to respond to different reactions when you pass on what God has shown you. Prepare yourselves!

7. Prayer and blessing: Then pray for each other. Pray that God would prepare the hearts of people that will hear about Jesus in this week. Pray that God would give us the strength to be obedient.

Manual 3/3-process for group leaders (short version)

Hiram Küenzi

1/3 Looking back First third (ready...)	2/3 Looking up Second third (steady...)	3/3 Looking forward Last third (go!)
<p>1. Fellowship (and perhaps sharing 3a) Eating together with conversations</p> <p>2. Thanks, praise and worship</p> <p>3a. Sharing → How am I doing personally? → How is my relationship with God (Bible reading, praying)?</p> <p>3b. Obedience check (task) → Have I been obedient to what God has shown me? → Whom have I trained? → With whom have I shared my personal story, the “Jesus story” and the “Steps to salvation”?</p> <p>4. Vision Focusing on the mission of Jesus. Showing what they can be in Christ and what God wants to use them for.</p>	<p>a) Short-term discipleship: 5a. Training unit (Laying the foundation) Reproducible basic trainings, then 5b.</p> <p>b) Long-term discipleship: 5b. Bible text/Word of God (After basic training): Bible texts serve as content for Inductive Bible Study</p> <p>1. Someone reads the Bible text aloud. 2. Everyone reads the text for himself. 3. Someone recounts the whole Text (Bible closed). The group then helps to complete the text.</p> <p>Questions about the Bible text (choose suitable questions):</p> <p>→ 1. What spoke to me while reading the text or what questions arose? → 2. What does the text say about God and people? → 3. Is there something in the text that I should be obedient to or put into practice?</p>	<p>6. Task & application Ask the 3 disciple maker questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> How shall I obey? Whom shall I train? With whom shall I share? <p>Pray about this!</p> <p>7. Training, prayer & blessing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Practice the things learned! - Pray for one another! <p>Yellow box = Never to be skipped!</p>

3/3-process (Overview)



→ Overview discipleship training and corresponding practice and application parts:

→ The following two sheets serve to provide a simple overview on the consecutive discipleship trainings and practical tasks:

3/3-process		1/3 Looking back			2/3 looking up	3/3 Looking forward	
Date / leadership	Where?	Thanks, praise & worship	Sharing Obedience check	God's task and vision	Training unit Word of God	Application & training	Task, prayer & blessing
Training 1	If possible at a person of peace	Responsibility: Disciple maker	Leadership : Disciple maker	John 3:16 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.	Finding God through Jesus Leadership: Disciple maker	God's story: Practicing to present the gospel. Explain to each other Romans Road with the 4 Bible verses and ask the 3 questions at the end.	Ask God, whom I shall present the gospel to the way I just learned. I contact them and tell explain to them the gospel.
Training 2	Person of peace or hospitable person	Disciple maker	Disciple maker	Acts 2:37-38 When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?" Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.	The 5 Steps of Salvation Leadership: Disciple maker	Explain to one another the "5 Steps of Salvation" until you can pass them on without difficulty. Do you lack a level? Do you want to be baptized next time?	Repentance and conversion: Go through the sheet "Check up your life". Write down on a blank sheet everything you need to confess to Jesus! Confess all sins to Jesus. Receive forgiveness and healing. Let God show you everything: There is nothing better than to be totally free.
Training 3	Person of peace or hospitable person	Disciple maker	Disciple maker	Mark 16.16 Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.	Baptism with water Leadership: DM / mature Christian	We practice how to baptize in water.	We conduct a baptism if there is someone who has not been baptized.
Training 4	Person of peace or hospitable person	Disciple maker	Disciple maker	2 Cor. 5.17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!	Rebirth and the new life Leadership: Disciple maker	Change of sovereignty: Explain to each other the change of sovereignty and how you experienced this in your personal life.	Think about whom to tell about the change of sovereignty and how Jesus came into your life until next time.
Training 5	Person of peace or hospitable person	Disciple maker	Disciple maker	Acts 1.8 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."	The gift of the Holy Spirit Leadership: Disciple maker	Pray for the filling of the Holy Spirit and for the gift of tongues.	Practice to pray in tongues.
Training 6	Person of peace or hospitable person	Disciple maker	Disciple maker	1. Tim. 2:4 God wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.	Being a witness for Jesus Leadership: Disciple maker	I write down "My story with God": What has been, what happened and what changed? Would you like this too?	We tell them to each other and give each other feedback. Ask God, whom I shall tell my story as a testimony. Contact this person and tell them.
Training 7	Person of peace or hospitable person / different homes	Disciple maker / mature Christian	Disciple maker / mature Christian	Psalm 119:104-105 I gain understanding from your precepts; therefore I hate every wrong path. Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.	The Bible - God's word God talking to us Leadership: DM / mature Christian	Think about at which hour you want to read the Word of God daily. Where do you start? Share in groups of two! Introduction to the group of commitment.	Begin to plan commitment meetings! Find someone. Read God's word, pray for VIPs and discuss the commitment questions.
Training 8	Person of peace/ hospitable person different homes	New disciple	Disciple maker / mature Christian	John 16:23 Very truly I tell you, my Father will give you whatever you ask in my name.	Prayer - Talking to God Leadership: DM / mature Christian	My prayer list. Writing down the "oikos list" for daily prayer. Create a plan for daily Bible reading and prayer (quiet time).	Pray for people on your prayer list: family, relatives, friends, neighbors, colleagues from work, school or your club, children, etc. Follow the impulses that God is giving you during the prayer time.
Training 9	Person of peace: hospitable person or in different homes	New disciple	Disciple maker / mature Christian	Acts 2:42 They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.	Becoming church Leadership: Disciple maker	Practice the two church models (traditional Christian and the original Biblical model)! Practice how to hold the Lord's Supper (Bible text + words of institution)! Clarify, whether you are a church.	We celebrate the Lord's Supper and collect an offering. Do we want to continue as a church from now on? Plan how you want to live hospitality.

3/3-process		1/3 Looking backwards			2/3 Looking up	3/3 Looking forward	
Date	Where	Thanks, praise & worship	Sharing Obedience check	God's task and vision	Training unit Word of God	Application & training	Task, prayer & blessing
Training 10	Person of peace or hospitable person / or in different homes	New disciple	Disciple maker / mature Christian	Acts 2:44-45 All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need...	The blessing of giving Leadership: Disciple maker	We determine together with God how much is enough for us. We divide our possessions and income into two jars: the "enough-jar" and the "overflow-jar". How much shall we give to whom or what?	We collect an offering, e.g. for the person who started our group. We read all Bible passages at home and underline them.
Training 11	Person of peace or hospitable person / different homes	New disciple	Disciple maker / mature Christian / New disciple	1 Pet. 4:10 Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.	The gifts, ministries and offices of the Holy Spirit Leadership: DM / mature Christian	Ask God, which gift(s) of the Spirit he wants to give you. Pray for gifts of the Spirit and gifts of ministry (5-fold ministry) . Practice the spiritual gifts you have asked for: e.g. pray in tongues, prophesy, heal, etc.	We practice how to pray for the filling with the Holy Spirit, receiving spiritual gifts and fruits and the gift of tongues . Which ministry of the 5-fold ministry have I received? Read at home about all the deeds of Jesus. Find out which gifts he used.
Training 12	Person of peace or hospitable person / different homes	New disciple	Disciple maker / mature Christian / New disciple	Isa. 61:1 The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives.	The invisible world Leadership: DM / mature Christian	God or Satan? Paradise or hell? Get ready for spiritual warfare. Claim the spiritual garments and God's armor!	Swipe your home clean: images, statues, symbols, movies, music, books, pictures, audio also on your mobile phone, PCs, tablets! Anoint your home. Send away everything negative in the name of Jesus. Break every curse. Cut ungodly ties. Anoint every room with oil.
Training 13	Person of peace or hospitable person / different homes	New disciple	Disciple maker / mature Christian / New disciple	John 10:27 My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me.	Hearing God's voice Leadership: DM / mature Christian	Listen to God. Write down for each other the thoughts and impulses on a sheet of paper. Read them aloud to each other.	Write down your most important life questions at home. Then listen to God. Write it down! Study these prayers: the Lord's Prayer, the Prayer of Jabez, Psalm 23, VIP prayer...
Training 14	Person of peace or hospitable person / different homes	New disciple	Disciple maker / mature Christian / New disciple	Matt. 10:8 Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy, drive out demons. Freely you have received; freely give.	Heal the sick, drive out demons and raise the dead! Leadership: DM / mature Christian	We practice according to the practice manual how to drive out demons, break curses, heal the sick, raise the dead and fight victoriously in the name of Jesus!	Who needs deliverance or shall I raise someone from the dead?
Training 15	Back and forth in different homes	New disciple	Disciple maker / mature Christian / New disciple	2 Tim. 3:12 In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted.	The cost of discipleship & crown of life Leadership: DM / mature Christian	Where can there be difficulties if I am a witness for Jesus to others? Which consequences do I have to expect?	Which fears are hindering me, to be a more effective witness for Jesus? Which steps of faith shall I take for Jesus?
Training 16	Back and forth in different homes	New disciple	Disciple maker / mature Christian / New disciple	Matt. 6:33 But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.	The Kingdom of God Leadership: DM / mature Christian	Discover the Kingdom of God: Jesus is King over everything! He reigns in love and righteousness! Jesus makes us sons and daughters of the Heavenly Father! We are co-heirs with Chris, citizens of Heaven and ambassadors of the King!	Learn to keep the commandments of Jesus: Find out which ones you find easier to keep and 3 that are difficult for you to keep.
Training 17	Back and forth in different homes	New disciple	Disciple maker / mature Christian / New disciple	Luke 15:31 'My son,' the father said, 'you are always with me, and everything I have is yours.'	Introduction to Inductive Bible Study. / The loving Father Leadership: DM / mature Christian	What is the nature of God and his character as Father? How have I been formed? What was good? What wasn't? Where do I need healing and forgiveness?	Whom shall I tell a Bible story to? Whom shall I give a testimony? Whom shall I baptize, heal, deliver or raise from the dead?

Tasks from God to be noted down for the next meeting by the leader or participant (required for obedience check) by hk 2018

Training 1 – Finding God through Jesus

by hk 2018

2/3

I. How can I find God and eternal life?

At the beginning God created the world and us people. We humans were designed to live in fellowship with God. However, through sin this relationship to God was destroyed. We were separated from God and lost the relationship to him, no matter what we do against it.

1. What does sin cause in my life? Image 1

Rom. 3.23 For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

- Sin separates me from God.

2. People try to find God in different ways but without success. Why? Image 1

Rom. 6.23 For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

- We cannot make it out of our own strength nor through good deeds. Jesus came to us, died for our sins on the cross and overcame the divide.

Through him we find a relationship with God.

3. How does God bring us into a personal relationship with him? Image 2

Rom. 5.8 But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

- Jesus took our sins and hurts (injuries) on himself through his death!

4. Jesus Chris made a way for a relationship with God through his sacrificial death and resurrection. Image 2

Rom. 10.9 If you declare with your mouth “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved!
• Jesus, who was without sin, died for our sins in order to save us and to give us eternal life!

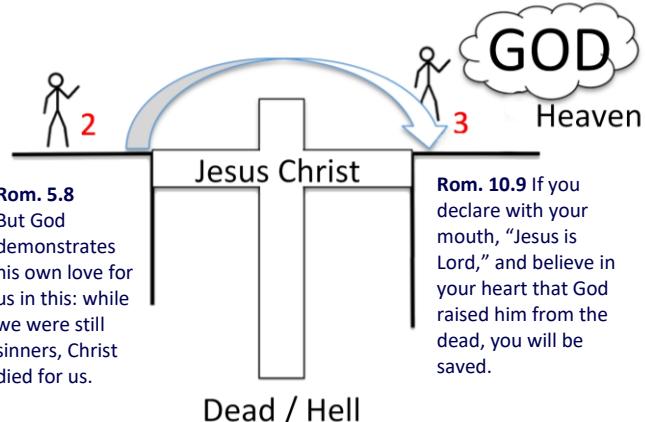
The 3 questions: → Where would it be good to be, at position 3, 2 or 1?

- Where are you standing now?
- Where would you like to be?



Rom. 3.23
For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

Rom. 6.23 For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.



Rom. 5.8
But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Rom. 10.9 If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

Dead / Hell

II. Finding God: the 5 steps of salvation!

→ Have these things already happened?	Yes/not yet/...
1. Awareness of sin: I recognize that I am a sinner in need of forgiveness because I have lived without God. I believe that Jesus wants to forgive me my sins.	
2. Confession / repentance / conversion: I turn towards Jesus and turn away from evil. I repent by confessing Jesus all my sin(s), asking him for forgiveness and then stop sinning. Jesus takes this very seriously and forgives the upright!	
3. Baptism with water: I die to my old life and confess Jesus as Lord: I let myself be baptized with water in the name of Jesus, the Father and the Holy Spirit for the forgiveness of my sins. I am saved by confessing Jesus as my Lord.	
4. Rebirth, assurance of salvation and eternal life as a gift of God!	
5. Baptism with the Holy Spirit: If I have done this (confession of sins, conversion, repentance, baptism) God gives me the gift of the Holy Spirit. I claim this gift.	

3/3

Task, practice & application:

- Explain the Romans Road to each other with the 4 Bible verses and ask the 3 questions.
- Pray for each other and tell Jesus that you, as sinful people, need his forgiveness!

Training 2 – The five steps of salvation

by hk 2018

2/3

I. What do I have to do to find God?

→ Draw and briefly explain each other the Romans Road (from Training 1) in groups of two.

We people are separated from God and lost without him. We are in need of salvation. Jesus Christ bridged the separating fatal divide for us out of pure love. Jesus let himself be killed as an innocent sacrifice for the forgiveness of our iniquity. Through his death on the cross, Jesus took all sins upon himself. Everything that separated us from God is overcome through his forgiveness. I find God through Jesus Christ of Nazareth and I may live with him eternally.

II. “The 5 steps of salvation“ according to Acts 2.37-38

1. MY STEP: Realization Awareness of sin	2. MY STEP: Confession (Repentance) & faith Conversion (turning from sin to Jesus)	3. MY STEP: Baptism with water (in death / to life)	4. GOD'S GIFT Rebirth *) (new eternal life)	5. GOD'S GIFT Baptism with the Holy Spirit *) (empowered sonship)
Acts 2.37 When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?"	Acts 2.38a ...Peter and the other Apostles replied: "Repent, confess your sins" and...	Acts 2.38b "...be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ..."	Acts 2.38c ...for the forgiveness of your sins.	Acts 2.38 ...And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.
Rom. 5.8 But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.	Rom. 2.4 Or do you show contempt for the riches of his kindness, forbearance and patience, not realizing that God's kindness is intended to lead you to repentance ?	Rom. 10.9a If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead...	Rom. 6.4 We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life .	Rom. 8.14-15 For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father."

*) God is sovereign and cannot be manipulated. Sometimes the steps are in a different order in real life!

1. Awareness of sin: I recognize that I am a sinner and that sin separates me from God. It is helpful to write down all sins (list of deeds, left out deeds, thoughts, ungodly ties, addictions and other things...)

2. Conversion (confession and honest, complete repentance): "Jesus, I have lived without you and I am a sinner. I ask you to forgive *all* my sins. I confess everything to you (list!). Please save me, forgive me and grant me your eternal life. Be my Lord from this day onward and lead me! Thank you."

1 John 1.9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

3. Baptism in the name of Jesus (submersion in water; e.g. in a bath tub, well or water body...): I let myself be baptized "in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit" and I become clean of all dirt. I die to my old life and renounce demonic bondages and all powers that are not from God!

4. Rebirth: God's gift for us is the salvation through his forgiveness, rebirth, assurance of salvation and eternal life in Heaven.

5. Baptism in the Holy Spirit: I am being baptized and filled with the Holy Spirit as a gift of God!

III. A new life with God!

After these 5 steps I may be assured: I am a child of God and born again as a new human being in Jesus and I have eternal life with my Heavenly Father!

→ **What have I repented of?** Having lived without God. I repented of all sins and confessed them to Jesus.

→ **What has happened with my iniquity because of the forgiveness of Jesus?** Jesus forgave all my iniquity and sins based on the promise in his word. I have received a clean heart and a new life!

→ **Where is Jesus now?** In my heart. I have been baptized and filled with the Holy Spirit and the love of Jesus.

3/3

Task, practice & application:

→ Explain each other "the 5 steps of salvation" until you can pass them on without difficulty.

→ Do you lack a step? Would you like to be baptized the next time?

→ Go through the "Check up your life" sheet: note down everything you should confess to Jesus!

Check-up your life & get free (or: let the Spirit show you everything!)

by Charles Finney 18. Jh. & hk 2018

1 John 1.9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

God is holy. He hates sin. Jesus died on the cross for that. His blood flowed for the forgiveness of all sins. I confess my sins, turn away from them and claim the forgiveness and healing of Jesus. Let God show you everything and do not be afraid! There is nothing better than to get rid of all burdens and to be totally free. (Psalm 103.12, Ps. 69.5, 25.11, 130. 3-4)

→ Examine your life:

Fears: What am I afraid of? Why? Do I trust Jesus totally?

Lies: Misleading ambiguities. When we say (half) the truth to cover something, this too is a lie! (Prov. 21.8)

Hypocrisy: Did you say or do things in front of others that you did not mean so? Did you say one thing and do the other? Did you lead others on a wrong way by being a bad example to them? (Matt. 6.5-6, 7.3, 7.5, 23.28, Rev. 3.15-16)

Broken promises: Did you make God a promise and break it? If you made a foolish promise, ask God for forgiveness and release from it. God expects you to keep voluntary promises to him and others! (Ecc. 5.1-6)

Wrong coveting, envy: Do you covet what does not belong to you? (Ex. 20.17; Prov. 14.30)

Stealing: Did you steal money or possessions of others? Did you take things from neighbors, relatives, businesses, shops, schools or your home? Not returning borrowed things is theft. (Ex. 20.15, Eph. 4.20; Mark 7.21; 1 Cor. 6.10)

Cheating: Did you get something from someone in an unfair way or through deception to get an inheritance or something else? Did you cheat on important exams? Did you rob someone by denying him the profit of the actual price or by not or only partially paying the due wages? (Isa. 5.1-4, Mal 3.5, Deut. 24. 14-15, Jer. 22.13, Job 31.13)

Speaking evil about others. Malicious gossip. Envy. Slander. Insult: Did you defame others, speak ill of someone, criticize others or did you speak evil about them, putting yourself over them? Did you give your ear to slander and participate under the disguise of "have you heard...?" Telling the truth in order to hurt someone is slander, or even talking about a person, as I would not in front of him/her! (Ex. 20.16; Job 5.2; Matt. 5.21-24; Matt. 7.1-5; Mark 7.22; 1 Cor. 5.12; Eph. 4.31; Col. 3.8; Gal. 5.20-21+25)

Bitterness. Grudges: Do you live at peace with everyone? Do you hold grudges?

Anger. Wrath: Are you "unrestrained"? Do you lose your temper, patience or friendliness towards others? Do you carry disappointments, anger or hate in you? Did you judge and tell the worst things about a person? Whom do you need to forgive? (Prov. 14.29, 15.8, 21.9, 22.24; 27.4; Ecc. 7.9; John

7.24, 1 Cor. 4.1-7; Eph. 4.26; Col. 3.8; Matt. 5.22; Gal. 5.20; Eph. 4.31)

Unkindness. Strife. Enmity: Did you behave in an unloving, quarrelsome or hostile way towards others? (Gal. 5.20)

Hardness: Do you hit back? Do you repay evil with evil? Do you talk evil about others? Do you react hurt or in a reconciling way? (Phil. 2.14, 1 Cor. 10.10)

Murdering people: Have you murdered someone with words or wished death upon someone? Abortion, attempted suicide, murder. (Ex. 20.13; Mark 7.21)

Lawlessness. Cursing. Using the name of God in vain. Swearing: Do you have a blasphemous language? Those are expressions directed against God. Jesus also said that we should not swear! (Ex. 20.7; Deut. 5.11; Matt. 5.33-37)

Not honoring parents (Ex. 20.12; Lev. 20.9)

Fornication. Sexual sins. Immorality: Inappropriate flirting. Sexual desires for someone (thoughts, feelings, eyes). Premarital sex, pornography, masturbation (due to unclean thoughts/stimulating images); prostitution, homosexuality, sodomy (sex with animals), pedophilia, abuse of children. (Gen. 19.1-13; Lev. 18.22-23; Lev. 20.10-22; Deut. 22.20-21; Job 31.1; Ezek. 23.1-3; Mark 7.21; Matt. 5.28; Rom. 1.26-27; 1 Cor. 6.9+18; 1 Cor. 7.1-2; 1 John 2.16; Gal. 5.19; 2 Pet. 2.14; Rev. 14.4)

Breaking the marriage: Adultery. Separation. Divorce. (Ex. 20.14; Lev. 20.10; Mal. 2.14-16; Mark 7.22; Matt. 5.28; Matt. 5.32; Matt. 19.6; 1 Cor. 7.10-11)

Pride. Arrogance. boastfulness. Selfishness.

Egoism: The thought to be more in life than one actually is. Do you pay more attention to your image, your outward appearance and your possessions than to your heart and your soul? Do you seek recognition and attention from others instead from God? Repent if this demonic spirit has misled you! (Prov. 16.5/12.18/21.4/29.23; Mark 7.22; Tit. 3.9; 1 Cor. 1.26-31; 1 John 2.16; 2 Tim. 3.2)

Ungratefulness: How often have others sacrificed their time and strength for you, which sometimes was a real sacrifice for them, yet you took it all for granted? (2.Tim. 3.2, Mal. 3.8-11)

Foolishness: Foolish, unreflected words and deeds. Ambiguous, unclean jokes. Joking about God or the Bible. (Ecc. 5.3)

Half-heartedness: Did you put off responsibilities or only do things half-heartedly: e.g. with money, concerning your spouse or family, at work, fulfilling tasks or dealing with situations? (Prov. 19.15, 21.5, 24.11-12, Matt. 25.1-13, 25.14-30, 1 Thess. 5.6, James 4.13+17; Eph. 5.4)

Greed. Clinging to possessions. Spirit of mammon, serving money: (Isa. 57.17; Matt. 6.24; Mark 7.22; 1 Cor. 6.10; 2 Tim. 3.2)

Wrong expectations: Unrealistic or selfish expectations of others. Do I put others under pressure? Do I allow myself to be angry unjustly? Let go of everything!

Dependencies. Addictive behavior: Excessive appetite (Binge eating/anorexia/gluttony)? Addiction to buying things or gambling, gaming, mobile phone, smoking, pornography, alcohol, drugs, medication, people...? (Phil.3.19; Prov. 23.21; 1 Cor. 6.19; Gal. 5.21; 1 Cor. 6.10; 1 Cor. 6.12+19-20)

Idolatry: Help from other gods, religions & power. Astrology, horoscopes, adoration of angels or saints. Spirit healing, white and black magic, power stones, Bach flowers, anthroposophy, shamanism, (Ex. 20.3-5; Rom. 1.21-25; 1 Cor. 6.9; Gal. 5.20)

Witchcraft. Occultism: (passive or active): contact to spirits, demons and the dead. Curses. Free masonry, spiritism, Satanism, superstition, dwarfs, fairies, goblins, séances. Dream catcher, occult objects, books, images, tattoos and symbols. Demonic movies, games and music. Witchcraft, hypnosis, tunneling, tarot, pendulum, clairvoyance, chiromancy, divination, aura reading, crystal ball, yoga, reincarnation, Reiki, Ouija, ask the glass, familiar spirits. (Lev. 19.26; Deut. 18.10-12; Gal. 5.20; Acts 19.19; Deut. 18.11; 2 Kings 21.6; Lev. 19.26; Col. 2.18; Rev. 22.8-9; Isa. 47.13-15)

Integrity and loyalty towards authorities over me: Do I honor, appreciate and pray for them? Do I live in relationships characterized by respect, integrity and loyalty with my parents, spouse, boss, teacher, church leader (apostle, prophet, evangelist, pastor and teacher), government and public authorities? (Rom. 13.1-3)

Finances: How do I deal with money? Can God bless me through my giving? (Matt. 19:21; Mark 10:21; Luke 6:38)

Real repentance and honest confession

Confessing (Greek: *homologeo*) means: saying the same thing (as it really is). Call sin by its name. **NOT:** "I am sorry, **but...**" / "Forgive me, **when...**" / "**Well, yes** – I am sorry", or "**I admit, but...**" This is a wrong attitude. Be honest! It is humbling to admit mistakes, to make things right, to pay things back, etc. However, make everything right as far as it is possible. God blesses this. Confession of sins and repentance is also needed after one's baptism.

→ Confess everything before God and witnesses!

James 5.16 **Therefore confess your sins to each other** and pray for each other so that you may be healed. **The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.** (Ps. 103.8-13, Isa. 43.25, Jer. 31.34)

Keep it with Martin Luther: "**Confession is a happy business.**" It makes us free and joyful. Yes, God makes my whole life new!

Training 4 – Being born again and the new life

by hk 2018

2/3

I. A new life by being born again

If I have been baptized with water, I have sent my old life to death and have been resurrected to a new life. I have put on Christ. According to his word, God grants me new life by being born again. We also speak about assurance of salvation, because I know in my heart in a supernatural way that all my sins have been forgiven through Jesus Christ. I know that the Bible is God's word and that I have eternal life. Additionally, God gives us the gift of the Holy Spirit.

- John 1.12 **Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.**
- Eph. 2.8-9 **For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast.**
- John 10.28 **I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand.**
- 1 John 5.12 **Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.**
- Rom. 8.16 **The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children.**

- **Do you see changes in your life?** Received inner peace & joy Want to understand the Bible
 I have experienced forgiveness Convinced that heaven & hell are real Feel God's love. He is with me.
 Have new priorities Have a desire to talk to God I do not want to sin anymore
→ I know that I have been saved and have eternal life? Yes No Unsure

- 2 Cor. 5:17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the **new creation** has come: **The old has gone, the new is here!**

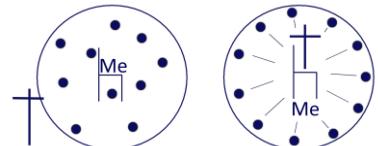
II. What If I sin again? What shall I do?

- 1 John 1.9 **If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.**
- Heb. 10.26 **If we deliberately keep on sinning after we have received the knowledge of the truth, no sacrifice for sins is left.**

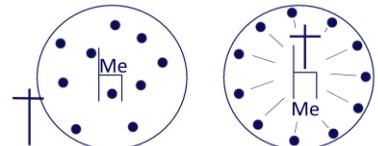
III. Change in sovereignty: Which place do I give Jesus?

Jesus Christ comes into my life and grants me forgivness, salvation and deliverance. The new life into my divine destiny happens through a change of sovereignty:

Left image: Jesus has no place in my life or only marginally. My "I" (Me) is on the throne of life. My life areas (●) are not ordered well...



Right image: Jesus takes his place on the throne of my life. He leads me and brings me to my destiny. My life is being ordered well.



IV. You shall be a blessing and pass on what you have received as blessings

- Rom. 10.9 **If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.**

If a person decides to live for Jesus, there is a big feast in Heaven! Just imagine what happens in Heaven when others come to faith through you! **The most important thing you should do is to tell others, why you chose to live for Jesus. Be aware:**

- It is a blessing to follow God and Jesus, yet a greater blessing to lead other people to Jesus!
- It is even a greater blessing to start a group/church in my neighborhood!
- It is the greatest blessing to start new groups/churches that start even more groups/churches!

3/3

V. Task, practice & application:

- Explain to each other in groups of two what the change of sovereignty is and how this happened in your life.
 → Think about whom you want to tell how Jesus came into your life.
 → To whom do you want to explain the change of sovereignty to until next time?

Training 5 – The gift of the Holy Spirit

by hk 2018

→ Explain to each other again the change of sovereignty in groups of two.

Through the 5 steps of salvation you have become a child of God. God has forgiven your sins, you have been saved, you can talk to Jesus and have fellowship with him everywhere and at all times.

2/3

I. The Holy Spirit is a person

God promises us the Holy Spirit with the baptism in water. The Holy Spirit is a person and not only a power or force! There are three characteristics of a person:

a) A person has a mind.

This consists of knowledge (1 Cor. 2.11: the Holy Spirit searches the deep things of God), the will, thoughts, intelligence (Neh. 9.20: the Holy Spirit teaches us), and feelings (Eph. 4.30: do not grieve the Holy Spirit)...

b) Only a person can do the deeds of the Holy Spirit.

These include: searching (1 Cor. 2.10), helping (Rom. 8.26: the Spirit helps us in our weakness), representation (Rom. 8.26: the Spirit intercedes for us with groaning), he can teach, encourage and comfort (John 14.26).

c) The Holy Spirit has a ministry that only a person can carry out.

Jesus went away and the Holy Spirit came (John 16.7-8,17) and he is our advocate (1 John 2.1).

II. The baptism with the Holy Spirit - being filled with power and authority for service

→ Why is it important that we be filled with the Holy Spirit? What must be considered?

Acts 1.8 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 2.38 Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Eph. 5.18 ...be filled with the Spirit!

→ What is required from us that God would give us his Holy Spirit?

Luke 11.13 If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!

God is sovereign and gives the Holy Spirit with or without laying on of hands; with or without the gift of tongues:

1. Tim. 4.14 Do not neglect your gift, which was given you through prophecy when the body of elders laid their hands on you.

Acts 19.6 When Paul placed his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied.

1 Cor. 12.30 Not all spoke in tongues and not all interpreted (Acts 8.17 / 9.17).

1 Cor. 14.5 I would like every one of you to speak in tongues, but I would rather have you prophesy...

Acts 10.44 While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message.

III. Signs of being filled with the Holy Spirit: a new person and fruits of the Spirit!

→ How does God's Spirit change our nature towards good if we want this?

Col. 3.5-10 Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. Because of these, the wrath of God is coming. You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived. But now you must also rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips. Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator.

→ Which good fruits does God's Spirit bring forth in us if we live from the power of His Holy Spirit?

Gal. 5.22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness and self-control.

3/3

IV. Task, practice & application:

→ Pray for the filling with the Holy Spirit and for the gift of tongues. Practice this gift!

→ Ask God, whom you should share the Romans Road with until next time.

Training 6 – Being a witness for Jesus

by yk & hk 2018

2/3

I. Called to share the gospel (the good news)

God calls me to share the good news, the gospel, and to be obedient to what he says. In this way many others can hear the gospel and pass it on themselves and train others.

II. Der fourfold call to share the gospel daily:

1. The call from above – from Heaven (fingers upwards)

Isa. 6:5-8 I am a man of unclean lips, and (...) my eyes have seen the King, the Lord Almighty." Then one of the seraphim flew to me with a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with tongs from the altar. With it he touched my mouth and said, "See, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away and your sin atoned for." Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I. Send me!"

→ Whom can God send? What is my answer? **Here I am; send me!**

Mark 16:15 He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation."

→ To whom and where shall we preach the gospel? **To everyone and everywhere!**

2. The call from below – from hell (fingers downward)

The lost souls in hell call to us to bring the gospel to their family members that are still alive. Can you hear them?

Luke 16:23-28 In hell, where he was in torment, he looked up and saw Abraham far away, with Lazarus by his side. 24 So he called to him, 'Father Abraham, have pity on me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, because I am in agony in this fire.' But Abraham replied, '...between us and you a great chasm' ... 'Then I beg you, father, send Lazarus to my family, for I have five brothers ... so that they will not also come to this place of torment.'

→ What does the rich man in hell ask Lazarus to warn his brothers from? From **hell!**

3. The call from within - from our hearts (fingers on your heart)

An inner voice tells us that we should not keep the gospel for ourselves. Do you hear it?

1 Cor. 9:16-17 For when I **preach the gospel**, I cannot boast, since I am compelled to preach. Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel! If I preach voluntarily, I have a reward; if not voluntarily, I am simply discharging the trust committed to me.

→ Do we have a choice whether we want to proclaim the gospel? **No: voluntarily or we are commanded to do so!**

4. The call from outside (fingers to others)

Acts 16:9 During the night Paul had a vision of a man of Macedonia standing and begging him, "Come over to Macedonia and help us."

→ What did the man from Macedonia ask Paul? **He asked him to come and to help!**

- The lost people call for our help. Even if they do not say anything, their hearts are crying out for the gospel. Do you hear them? Followers of Jesus should respond to this fourfold call.

→ Repeat the four calls by pointing your fingers upwards, downwards, inwards and outwards!

III. Quickly pass on what you have learned and help others to become trainers!

1. We should pass on the gospel:

People should not only believe in God. They **should become trainers who train others**, so that many others would hear the good news.

2 Tim. 2:2 And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others.

→ What shall we do with what we have learned? **Pass it on!**

2. Hospitality: It is God's desire that I would open up my house and start a group myself so that my family and my friends can get to know the gospel through me!

Acts 2:46-47 Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They **broke bread in their homes** ... And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

On one day alone 3,000 were baptized: historians believe that there were up to 50,000 Christians in Jerusalem! The church met back and forth **in houses** (consider: the temple was destroyed in the year 70 AD and did not exist anymore afterwards). Biblical **church meetings took place in houses!**

→ How many houses were required for all to meet, if a typical private home offered room for 10 to 15 persons? **3,500 to 5,000 houses were necessary!** More were not needed!

→ How great does the willingness need to be to open one's home? **Very great!**

Heb. 13:2 Show **hospitality** to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it.

3/3

Task, practice & application: "My story with God"

- I write down "my story with God".
- Then we tell them each other in groups of two and give each other feedback!
- I ask God, whom I tell "my story with God" to during the next week.

Writing down my story with God:

by yk & hk 2018

- I divide "my story with God" into three parts. I write them down using brief notes.

Depending on the opportunity, it is also possible to recount another moving experience with God...

1. **Before:** I note a few aspects of my previous life.
2. **Encounter with Jesus:** I briefly note, how I heard about Jesus for the first time. How did I react to it and how did I get to know Jesus personally in the end?
3. **Afterwards:** How has my life changed through Jesus since then? How does it look like now?

1. Before: How did my old life look like "before"?	2. Encounter with Jesus: How did I get to know Jesus personally?	3. Afterwards: How did this change my life?
-	-	-
-	-	-
-	-	-
-	-	-
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-	-	-
-	-	-

My final questions related to my testimony:

- Finally, I ask "my question": an open final question that relates to "my story with God" and I see, whether someone is open for God and Jesus, e.g.:

→ "Have you had a similar experience with God?" "I am interested to hear, whether you also know that peace of heart?" "Have you ever had the desire to know God?" "Would you also like to hear more about Jesus?" "Have you also been looking for the meaning of life?"

- I limit "my Story with God" to 1 to 3 minutes! I pay attention that Jesus is in the center of the story and I try to avoid Christian vocabulary. If people are touched by it, they want to hear more about it!

→ I write down "my story with God". We tell them to each other in groups of two until we are comfortable doing so. .

→ We give each other an encouraging feedback on how to improve the story.

→ I write "my story with God" again in a proper way.

→ I ask God, whom I should tell "my story with God" to next:

Training 7 - The Bible - the Word of God (listening to God)

by hk 2018

2/3 If I believe in Jesus as the Risen One and confess him as Lord, I will be saved. By being born again and through the baptism in the Holy Spirit I have found a relationship with God. A newborn baby, however, needs food to grow and mature.

I. The Bible is the living and true word of God for us humans

A baby needs nourishment to be able to grow. The word of God – the Bible – is that nourishment. If I do not eat anything, I will wither away. At first it is the mother's milk or the bottle we get from our parents; afterwards we get porridge and later solid food. The goal for me is to be able to feed myself alone soon and to mature!

1. The Bible, the word of God, gives us answers to the 3 most important questions in life:

1) Where do I come from? From God 2) What do I live for? For God 3) Where do I go to? To God

2. The Bible starts at the beginning, has a climax point and only ends with the future

About 40 authors wrote the Bible over a time-span of approx. 60 generations and about 1,600 years. It is a library of 66 books that are *related* to each other! This is worldwide unique!

1) **The beginning** of the Bible describes how God created the world and people and how the relationship with God was destroyed through sin.

2) **The climax** is the sacrifice of Jesus for the forgiveness of sins, his resurrection and ascension to Heaven.

3) **The end** of the Bible shows that Jesus will return to this world as king and savior. However, God does not want that we spend eternity in hell with Satan and his angels, but that all people would be saved to live in Heaven with him eternally.

3. The Bible is the revealed word of God, which he had people write

2 Tim. 3.16 All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness.

2 Pet. 1.21 For prophecy never had its origin in the human will, but prophets, though human, spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

4. The Bible – knowing the word of God means living in wisdom!

Matt. 4.4 Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

Josh. 1.8 Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; 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.

→ Which commands and promises of God are in Joshua 1.8? 1. Study the word of God day and night 2. Keep God's word and do it 3. We will succeed at everything 4. We will act wisely

5. Jesus gave us the command to teach others what he taught us:

Matt. 28.20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you...

Matt. 9.38 Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."

Attention: there is a warning if we do not do it:

John 12.48 There is a judge for the one who rejects me and does not accept my words; the very words I have spoken will condemn them at the last day.

II. How do I read the Bible?

→ Read through the Bible text aloud (or silently). Ask God before to speak to you.

→ Ask the 3 questions:

1. What spoke to me when I read the text?
2. What does the text say about God and people?
3. Where shall I be obedient and/or put something into practice?

3/3 Task, practice & application

→ Think about when you want to read the word of God daily. Where do you start? Share in groups of two.

→ Start a commitment group! Find someone! Read God's word together, pray for your VIPs and practice mutual accountability by discussing the accountability questions.

→ Think about someone you could share "your story with God" and the "gospel presentation" with.

Commitment meetings for Bible reading, prayer and discipleship by Neil Cole & Hiram Küenzi

Growth and personal maturity comes through obedience, by hearing God's word and doing it. This entails a powerful prayer life and a holy lifestyle that strongly contributes to experiencing God's presence and his working in and through our lives. It is about authority. The gifts of the Holy Spirit empower us that people find into a life of following Jesus.

It is about a committed, dynamic life in the power and dependency of the Holy Spirit. One meets in groups of two, reads the Bible in a committed way, prays to God for the salvation of seekers and is mutually accountable to each other. In this way one becomes a disciple of Jesus and makes disciples of others.

I. A group of commitment has three goals

1. Concrete and continual **prayer** for e.g. three people that do not yet know God.
2. **In the commitment group one discusses the books of the Bible reading.** Beginners read 1-3 chapters and advanced participants read 3-5 chapters from the Bible for example. At every meeting one makes a commitment what do read until next time.
3. **Personal accountability using the commitment questions** in an atmosphere of mutual trust.

II. A commitment group as aid for a constant and godly lifestyle

1. A commitment group fosters **commitment**, spiritual growth and personal liberation.
2. **The group consists of two to three persons of the same sex**, which fosters a committed and trustful fellowship and also enables flexible planning.
3. **One meets at first every week or later twice a week in a committed way**, e.g. in the morning, during lunch or in the evening at home or outside for about 1-2 hours.
5. The commitment group is for **people who are ready to work on themselves, listen to God and want to do what God tells them in his word**. A curriculum or leader is not necessary.
7. A commitment group aims for multiplication. As soon as there are four persons the group splits into two.

III. The three mandatory elements: prayer, God's word and accountability.

1. Prayer for people to find God!

Everyone prays together for three persons each that do not know God yet. Jesus desires that seeking people would find him and become his disciples. Believing that God would save these three persons we continue to pray for them.

Everyone adds the three names of his partner in the commitment group to his personal prayer list.

A name on a list can mean life! More than thousand Jews escaped death in the concentration camps because of "Schindler's list". Who of your colleagues is not saved yet? (Rom. 3.22).

We pray for these people together. Their name on your prayer list can mean life for them!

2. Bible reading: being impacted by the word of God!

Every commitment group agrees to a common Bible reading plan. Reading the word of God, the Bible, sets people free, which releases great power. It is important to **read God's word and then to put it into practice**. This is one of the most important keys to personal growth and maturity!

Experience shows that it is very helpful to read a whole book for the next meeting (about 5 chapters daily). The book is thus read in its context. One then shares about the book read. Beginners start e.g. with 1-3 chapters daily.

Concerning the things read it is important to discuss the following questions:

- What did you learn about God through what you read? What does the text say about God, you and others?
- Which consequences are you taking from that? What is there to confess, to do, to pass on...?

3. Growth through personal accountability

The third element of a commitment meeting is: **everyone asks one another the commitment questions in order to reveal sinful patterns and character weaknesses.**

The commitment group offers a safe **context of trust and privacy**.

The direct questions are helpful to **confess personal shortcomings to one another and to bring them to God**.

James 5,16 Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed.

→ It is cleansing to confess sins! One asks Jesus for his forgiveness and help (1 John 1.9) and prepares the soul for every good work that God has prepared for a person (Eph. 2.11).

What is required for this: the sheet "**Order of a commitment meeting**" and **a Bible**. This is everything!

Commitment meeting (order)**Leader's sheet to print out**

Hiram Küenzi

1. Prayer

→ We ask God for his guidance and help.

2. Our VIPs

Very Important Persons / God-seeking persons

a) Sharing about VIPs:

→ **Which tasks has God given me with regard to VIPs and how did it go?**

b) Prayer

→ **Which 3 VIPs who do not know Jesus yet do we pray for together?**

3. Bible reading (Recommendation: 1-5 chapters a day)

→ **Which book of the Bible / chapter have we read?**

We share about Bible books we read:

What did I discover in my Bible reading about God, people, tasks, promises, questions and admonition?

→ **What spoke to me while reading the text?**

→ **What does the text say about God and people?**

→ **Where shall I obey and/or put something into practice?**

4. Sharing & accountability

Confessing sins cleanses (1 John 1.9), and brings healing. James 5.16: "Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed." Which works of Jesus are to be done, which he has prepared for us (Eph. 2.11)?

→ The commitment questions (basic questions)

We want to lay down every burden that hinders our run. Confessing sins. Repenting. Receiving forgiveness and asking for God's help and forgiveness. Those are the reasons we go through the commitment questions:

1a. Intimacy with God: How do you live your daily relationship with God at the moment in talking to him (prayer) and listening to him (God's word)?

1b. Kingdom of God / evangelization: Have you lived for God? With whom have you spoken about Jesus since the last time? Over whom have you proclaimed healing, deliverance and life? How have you been a witness for Jesus through your words and deeds?

2. Purity and faithfulness in sexuality: are you pure and faithful? Have you lived your sexuality in a way that pleases God since last time?

For men: Have you consumed sexually stimulating material or have you gone too far with a woman?

For women: Did you give in to inappropriate thoughts towards men? Have you been impure, have you flirted

inappropriately, dressed provocatively or let your sexual allures play?

3. Addictions: Do you struggle with addictive or destructive behavior? Is there something you do not have control over? Should you change any habits?

4. Faithfulness in finances: Have you acted in a responsible way financially towards you and others; have you been generous, honest, correct and moderate? Have you faithfully invested into God's Kingdom? Did you make good use of your house, possessions and other things for God? Are you spending money on unnecessary things? Are you living wastefully?

5. Family: Have you treated those entrusted to you (parents, spouse, children...) with priority and given them enough honor, respect, appreciation, trust, understanding, compassion and generosity?

6. Work space: Have you been a faithful in your work since last time? Have you been an offence to others?

7. Peace with everyone: have you ignored someone, treated someone without respect, hurt with words, spoke evil behind his back or wished bad luck on someone?

8. Your body: How are you treating your body (sport, food, weight)? It belongs to God as temple of the Holy Spirit (2 Cor. 6.20).

9. Living forgiveness: Are you living in forgiveness and peace with everyone as far as it is up to you? Or do you hold onto disappointments, anger, hate or unforgiveness?

10. Living the gifts of the Holy Spirit daily & fruits of the Spirit: Where do you employ the gifts of the Holy Spirit in your everyday life? Where do you see fruits of the Spirit in your life? Where do other things than God determine you? Where do you build the Kingdom of God? Where do you build your kingdom?

5. Planning: Bible reading and next meeting?

→ **Which book(s) do we read until next time and when and where do we meet?**

Meeting place: _____

6. Conclusion

→ We thank God for his presence, forgiveness, help and that he will continue to guide us.

The time for commitment meetings last about 1.5 - 2 hours. This sheet can be a big help for those meetings.

Training 8 – Prayer (talking to God)

Ying Kai & hk 2018

2/3

Our calling is to worship God and to live in his presence

It is my calling to worship God and to live in his presence. Having fellowship with him is good. My Heavenly Father knows me and loves me. I am his child. I spend as much time with him as possible. Jesus is my best friend. He reveals to me his secrets. He leads me and I listen to him. I do what he says. I can talk to him about everything. This is prayer!

I. Why should I pray?

1) It is the command of God:

- Luke 18.1 Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they **should always pray and not give up.**
- Eph. 6.18 And **pray** in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of **prayers and requests.** With this in mind, **be alert** and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.

2) It is important for me to ask God for his guidance:

- 1 Pet. 5.7 Cast all your **anxiety** on him because **he cares for you.**
- Jer. 33.3 **Call to me** and I will **answer** you and tell you great and unsearchable **things you do not know.**

3) Receive grace and find mercy when you are in need

- Heb. 4.16 **Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence**, so that we may **receive mercy and find grace** to help us in our time of need.

4) What things should I pray for?

- Phil. 4.6 Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

II. Three possible answers to my prayer:

- 1) **Yes (green light)**, I can continue
- 2) **No (red light)**, I cannot continue
- 3) **Wait (yellow light)**, God does not answer, I need to be patient.

III. The threefold will of God

1. What God commanded us to do: this is what God has already ordained from the beginning: it can never be changed through the prayer for a person (e.g. that I should love my neighbor).

2. What God permits: sometimes, when I plead with God and ask him, he gives me what I asked for, even if it had not been planned for me. The responsibility now lies with me what I am going to do with it.

3. What pleases God: Rom. 12.2 **Do not conform 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.

IV. Which life attitude affects prayer?

- **You desire but do not have ...** You do not have because you do not ask God. When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.
- **If I had cherished sin in my heart**, the Lord would not have listened. Psalm 66.18
- But when you **ask**, you must believe and **not doubt.** James 1.6
- This is the confidence we have in approaching God: **that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us.** 1 John 5.14
- Then Jesus told his disciples ... that they should **always pray and not give up.** Luke 18.1

V. Help for effective prayer:

1. Pray in your everyday language "in the name of Jesus." We can talk to God through him.

John 14.13 And I (God) will do whatever you ask in my name.

2. "Amen" means to be one in what was prayed for and to agree with the prayer.

Matt. 6.13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For yours is the Kingdom, the power and the glory forever. Amen.

3. Prayer has many parts: we should not prefer one part and neglect another:

- **Confession of sins:** 1 John 1.9 If we **confess our sins**, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and

purify us from all unrighteousness.

- **Praise:** Psalm 135.3 **Praise** the Lord, for the Lord is good; sing praise to his name, for that is pleasant.
 - **Thanks:** 1 Thess. 5:18 **Give thanks in all circumstances**; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.
 - **Tongues:** 1 Cor. 14.4: Anyone who speaks in a tongue edifies themselves... / 1 Cor. 14.39: Therefore, my brothers and sisters ... do not forbid speaking in tongues. / 1 Cor. 14.15: I will pray with my spirit (in tongues), but I will also pray with my understanding; I will sing with my spirit, but I will also sing with my understanding.
 - **Supplication:** Phil 4.6 Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, **present your requests to God**.
 - **Intercession:** 1 Tim. 2.1: I urge, then, first of all, that **petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving** be made for all people.

- **Prayer and fasting:** It makes our spirit free for God's speaking and acting in and through us! Fasting cleanses us and is one of the most powerful weapons against the enemy (e.g. very helpful to cast out demons): Mark 9.29: This spirit can come out only by prayer and fasting! A disciple of Jesus fasts! (Luke 5.35)

Tip: 16 hours up to 40 days without food; however usually with water (perhaps bouillon/fruit juice, vegetable juice...)

4. Pray naturally and understandably in your normal language: Try to avoid babbling.

5. Pray everywhere and at all times! There is no restriction to the when, where or how we pray.

3/3 VI. Task, practice & application

→ I make a prayer list of my relationship network (Greek: oikos)

My prayer list

hk / jh 2018

→ **Pray for:** family, relatives, friends, neighbors, colleagues from work, school, friends of my children, apprenticeship, education, studies, sport, club, free time, hobby, etc. and write down all names in the following list.

→ Make a small cross (✗) if someone is a follower of Jesus and a question mark (?) if you are unsure.

→ For further names takes a second sheet!

→ Ask God: For whom shall I pray, whom can I share “my story with God” or a presentation of the gospel with, or with whom shall I talk about God next week? God knows the hearts of your friends, what moves them and what concerns them. Fast from time to time. Let Jesus lead you in your prayers!

Practical tips: How do I plan my time with God? (Bible reading and prayer)

1. My Bible reading and prayer plan

Luke 8.15 But the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop.

- I plan my daily time with God from _____ until _____. Place: _____
- I read daily ___ chapters in the Bible (approx. 5min./chapter; recommended: 1-5 chapters per day)
- I begin with the following book _____ (Luke, Mark, John, Matthew)

2. When, where and how often shall I spend time with God?

→ Underline: when different persons in the Bible spent time with God where and how:

Gen. 19.27 Early the next morning Abraham got up and returned to the place where he had stood before the Lord.

Dan. 6.10 Daniel went home ... Three times a day he got down on his knees and prayed, giving thanks to his God, just as he had done before.

Ps. 42.8 By day the Lord directs his love, at night his song is with me—a prayer to the God of my life.

Ps. 119.147-148 I rise before dawn and cry for help; I have put my hope in your word. My eyes stay open through the watches of the night, that I may meditate on your promises.

Isa. 26.9 My soul yearns for you in the night; in the morning my spirit longs for you.

Mark 1.35 Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed.

3. Planning and application:

a) Committed planning! It is my decision:

a) I find a suitable time window

b) I find a suitable place where I can concentrate on God.

c) I make a plan to read the whole Bible (there are different Bible reading plans). If someone does not like to read he or she can download an audio Bible on the mobile phone. I want to meet God daily!

b) I read my Bible daily: God's word cannot be replaced through another book or anything else.

→ I direct my thoughts towards God and ask God to show me what he wants to teach me.

Psalm 119.18 Pray: "Open my eyes that I may see wonderful things in your law."

I begin with Luke, Mark, John or Matthew in the New Testament and read e.g. 1-5 chapters in the Bible daily. If I read two chapters from the Old Testament and a chapter from the New Testament every day Tag I will have read through the whole Bible in one year.

c) I pray and think about the things I read: You can write down for example what God showed you.

d) I thank God for his speaking. I am obedient and do what he showed me. I share this with others. This will help me to grow in my spiritual life.

How can I find things in the Bible? (Help each other!)

→ Look first for the table of contents: there you can see that the Bible consists of an "Old Testament" (OT: from creation to Jesus) and a "New Testament" (NT: from Jesus to revelation).

Finding a Bible verse practically:

a) The NT starts again with page 1 an (from the last third onward).

b) If there is a number before a book then there are several books with the same name.

c) The big fat number after the name of the book is the number of the chapter.

d) The number(s) afterward designate the verses.

→ Practical exercise: Open your Bible at 2 Sam. 20.1-17. Help one another to find the text!

Proceed as follows: 2 = Second book Samuel / 20 = 20th chapter / 1-17 = Verses 1 to 17 (small numbers at the beginning of the text row).

Psalm 119.104-105 I gain understanding from your precepts; therefore I hate every wrong path. Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.

Training 9 – Becoming a church (group)

Leader's manual

by hk 2018

1/3 → **Prayer list (oikos list):** For whom have I prayed? Whom did God put on my heart to share “my story with God” with or the “gospel presentation” to?

I. What and who is church?

The Bible uses the word “**oikos**” (Greek: household or house assembly) when it talks about a “**local church**”, so to say a group that comes together as a “family” in homes. The Bible also talks about the worldwide “**body of Christ**” (one body and one Lord → Jesus) and uses the word “**ecclesia**” (Greek: “**summoned assembly**” when talking about church. Thus, from a Biblical viewpoint there is only one (!) church!

Matt. 18.20 Jesus says: For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.

II. Where does the church meet?

There were no church buildings in the first three centuries. The temple was destroyed in 70 AD. Nevertheless, the church of Jesus continued to grow. The church met in houses, villa, castles, parks, schools, cafes, church buildings, companies, shopping malls, forests, caves or simply at home! (Acts 2.46; 5.42; 16.40; 17.5-7; 19.9; 20.20; Rom. 16.1-5)

III. Definition of church (according to Acts 2.38-47):

Peter replied, “**Repent** and be **baptized**, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ **for the forgiveness of your sins**. And you will receive the **gift of the Holy Spirit**. The promise is for **you and your children** and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call.” With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” Those who accepted **his message** were **baptized**, and about three thousand were **added** to their number that day. They **devoted** themselves to the **apostles' teaching** and to **fellowship**, to the **breaking of bread** and to **prayer**. Everyone was filled with awe at the **many wonders and signs performed by the apostles**. All the believers were **together** and had **everything in common**. They **sold** property and possessions to **give** to anyone who had need. **Every day** they continued to **meet together** in the temple courts. They **broke bread in their homes** and **ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God** and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the **Lord added to their number daily** those who were being saved.

IV. What constitutes a church? What are we?

→ What constitutes a church according to Acts 2.38-47? Underline the key words from above!

What is our group like?		Present group	Church
What constitutes a church? Key elements:	Symbol	Look for verses to each symbol (Acts 2.38-47)	What are we already doing? e.g.:
Fellowship and sharing	Heart	42	
Thanks, praise and worship	Person	47	
Word of God & teachings of the Apostles (75 commandments of Jesus)	Book	41 + 42	
Baptism for the forgiveness of sins	Wavy line	38 + 41	
Being a witness for Jesus	Two faces	40	
Prayer & blessing	Hand	42	
Giving & sharing	Dollar sign	44 + 45	
Signs and wonders / apostolic leadership	Two people	43 + 44	→ Place corresponding symbols into, and missing symbols outside the circle!
Additional dinner and Lord's Supper: bread+cup	Cup and bread	47 + 46	

Attention: I cannot be a part of the “body of Christ” without being part of a local church!

→ Ask each other: **What are we? Do we want to be a church?** (Yes, for we already are a church...)

Training 9 – Becoming a church (group)

Participant sheet

by hk 2018

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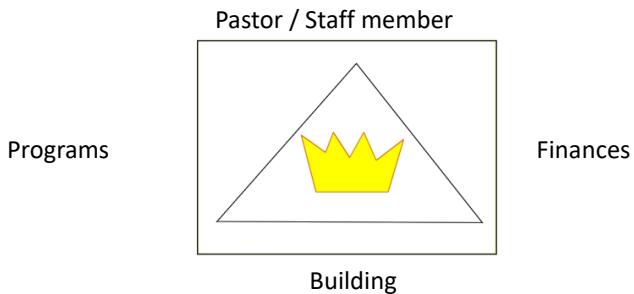
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What constitutes a church? Key elements:	Symbol	→ Look for verses to each symbol (Acts 2.38-47):	→ What are we already doing?
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Thanks, praise and worship	Person		
Word of God & teachings of the Apostles (75 commandments of Jesus)	Book		
Baptism for the forgiveness of sins	Wavy lines		
Being a witness for Jesus	Smiley faces		
Prayer & blessing	Hand		
Giving & sharing	\$		
Signs and wonders / apostolic leadership	Two people		→ Place corresponding symbols into , and missing symbols outside the circle!
Additional dinner and Lord's Supper: bread+cup	Cup and bread		→ What do we lack to be a church? - _____ - _____ - _____

Attention: I cannot be a part of the “body of Christ” without being part of a local church!

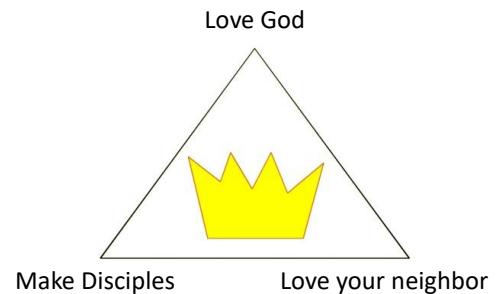
→ **Ask each other: What are we? Do we want to be a church?** (Yes, for we already are a church...)

V. Church models in comparison:

1. Traditional Christian church model



2. Initial biblical church model



→ Study both church models 1 + 2: which is easier to multiply? Explain your answer.

VI. Tasks of a church:

Heb. 10:23-25 Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

- **Generous giving – for God loves a joyful giver!**

Generous giving. Giving is a sign of our thankfulness towards God. Such gifts include offering our time, strength and abilities. Financial gifts are touchstone of our obedience. Making sacrifices helps us to stay dependent on God.

- **Celebrating the “Lord’s Supper” together as a reminder of why Jesus died:**

Jesus himself set this remembrance meal (actually a real meal) in the context of the Passover lamb (exodus from Egypt): **The bread symbolizes that we are a part of the body of Jesus** (his church “members”). **The wine (blood-red) symbolizes that Jesus gave his life (shed his blood) in order to absolve us from our sin!** Whoever participates in this meal should examine himself.

3/3 VII. Task (Jesus said: “Do this in remembrance of me!”)

→ We celebrate the “Lord’s Meal” together very practically:

We read the words of Jesus from **1 Cor. 11.23-29**: (or Matt. 26.17-19.26-30):

For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, “**This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me.**” In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, “**This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.**” For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes. So then, whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. Everyone ought to examine themselves before they eat of the bread and drink from the cup. For those who eat and drink without discerning the body of Christ eat and drink judgment on themselves.

→ We thank God for this in prayer, give out bread & wine/grape juice saying: “The body of Jesus, which was broken for you” and “the blood of Jesus that was shed for the forgiveness of your sins”.

→ We collect an offering! Ask God: for whom?

VIII. Practice & application:

→ Explain to one another the two church models (Christian traditional + original, biblical model).

→ Practice how to give out the Lord’s Supper (Bible text + words of Jesus)!

→ Decide whether you as a group want to continue as a biblical church!

Training 10 – Finances and the blessing of giving

by hk 2018-05

2/3 Dealing with finances, income and property is a significant touchstone for a follower of Jesus. **100% belongs to God.** We are stewards. The question is: how much do I keep for myself

→ **I.-V. Only to be read aloud!**

I. Stewardship: God gave us the responsibility for everything

God created the universe, the earth, us humans and everything else. Everything was very good! There was plenty of everything. God wants more than just good thinks for us! Everything there is comes from God and also belongs to him. We cannot give God anything that does not already belong to him. God is like a father who is giving his children something beautiful for them to enjoy. What belongs to the father also belongs to the children. It is an expression of a perfect relationship: God loves us, but people have destroyed their relationship with God through their disobedience. We are no longer living in paradise.

II. God's commands for dealing with riches, possessions and property: all should have enough!

God have us humans the task to be stewards of the earth. However, God is still the owner and demands a responsible administration of the entrusted resources. Unfortunately, God's mandate was not obeyed. The creation and the creatures were exploited with greed (Luke 12.5). A few have almost everything and many have almost nothing left. Therefore **God gave us his commands so that all should have enough! For God loves us!**

- **First fruits:** These all belong to God; this means all income from all areas (e.g. new Job):

Neh. 10.35-38 We also assume responsibility for bringing to the house of the Lord each year the firstfruits of our crops and of every fruit tree ... the firstborn of our sons and of our cattle, of our herds and of our flocks to the house of our God, to the priests ministering there. And we will bring a tithe of our crops to the Levites, for it is the Levites who collect the tithes in all the towns where we work ... and the Levites are to bring a tenth of the tithes up to the house of our God, to the storerooms of the treasury.

- **The needy and the poor:** **God does not want there to be needy and poor people.** All should have enough!

Isa. 58.7-8 Share your food with the hungry, provide the poor wanderer with shelter. ... Then your light will break forth like the dawn, and your healing will quickly appear...

- **Freewill offerings (contribution):** for projects like the temple freewill offerings were collected, to which people gave joyfully and much (1 Chron. 29.3-4+7): David for example gave 177 tons of gold amongst other things!

- **Tax every third year (Deut. 14.28 and 26.12):** the tenth of the harvest was given to the poor population (besides the "regular" tithe).

- **Sabbath every seventh year (Lev. 25.1-7):** Everything should rest on the seventh year (servants, employees, animals and land). God promises that the previous harvest would be enough for provision!

- **Shmita every seventh year (Deut. 15.1-18):** All debts were cancelled! The slaves were freed!

- **Year of jubilee in the fiftieth year (Lev. 25.8-55):** there should not be any poor persons (Deut. 15.4)! Families sold their houses, their land and themselves because of debts; but...

→ **Everything had to be returned to the original owners in the fiftieth year, the year of jubilee!** The wealthy had to return land, possessions or property: all debts were cancelled, houses and fields were returned to their original owners and slaves were set free. The land rested for one year. God's law prescribed social justice for poor and rich!

→ **The year of jubilee reveals God's heart. It enables an economic new beginning.** God wants justice. The needy are rescued from poverty and the rich from greed (2 Cor. 8.14).

The followers of Jesus practiced the year of jubilees as a lifestyle up until the third century AD (Acts 2.44-46 / 4.32-37)!

2 Cor. 8.14 At the present time your plenty will supply what they need, so that in turn their plenty will supply what you need. The goal is equality.

III. Jesus did not abolish the commandments of God but fulfilled them!

- **Liability to pay taxes:** as children we are not liable to pay taxes! Nevertheless Jesus paid the temple tax:

Matt. 17.25-27 "What do you think, Simon?" Jesus asked. "From whom do the kings of the earth collect duty and taxes—from their own children or from others?" "From others," Peter answered. "Then the children are exempt," Jesus said to him. "But so that we may not cause offense, go to the lake and throw out your line. Take the first fish you catch; open its mouth and you will find a four-drachma coin. Take it and give it to them for my tax and yours."

- **The tithe is for the servants of God:** the tribe of Levi of the twelve tribes of Israel served God. Eleven tribes were tasked to provide for the Levites with their tithe (100% - 10% = 90%) (11 x 10% = 110%). In the old covenant the Levites gave their tithe to the priests in the temple (110% - 10% = 99%).

- **Tithing: always goes "upward", to people through whom I have been blessed** (therefore not to "earthly" infrastructure costs, maintenance or projects): Abraham tithed to the priest Melchizedek!

- **The tithe was introduced by Melchizedek, the King of Salem and priest of the Most High, before the law was given:** Abraham gave Melchizedek the tithe of his battle plunder once in his life – not from his earnings or possessions (Gen. 14.20). • The tithe was introduced before the law. • The priesthood of the Levites with the

tithe came only later through Moses. • Priests had the ministry of reconciling people to God through (imperfect) animal sacrifices. • **Jesus ended the priesthood:** he brought the perfect sacrifice: his own life! It is valid for everyone who accepts it! Jesus is now both sacrifice and priest at the same time. Jesus is the King of all kings, the eternal high priest after the order of Melchizedek (Heb. 5.5; 7.17-18). Through Jesus we are a royal people made to be priests (Rev. 1.6).

→ **Should we still tithe?** Jesus never spoke of it. Because there is now only one high priest all should give their tithes to Jesus. If we are made priests through Jesus, we would be those to receive the tithe. The **solution: the first church shared everything to a 100%!**

IV. The benchmark: “Having enough”! (*Neither poverty nor riches*)

Deut. 15.4-5 **There need be no poor people among you ... the Lord your God will richly bless you**, if only you fully obey the Lord your God and are careful to follow all these commands I am giving you today.

Acts 2.44-46; 4.32 **All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need...**

- ● **There shall be no poor people** (Deut. 15.4-5)! According to the word of God all rich people were required to give everything back without condition! This was the same thing Jesus told the young rich ruler: “Sell everything you have and give it to the poor” (Luke 18.22 / Mark 10.21)! Jesus does not want there to be *any* poor people!
- ● **We shall be neither poor nor rich.** “Having enough” is enough! “Give us today our daily bread.” Whoever has more than enough cannot pray like this! Define a budget limit of how much “enough” is! This way the needs do not automatically adapt to the growing income!
Proverbs 30.7-9 Keep falsehood and lies far from me; give me neither poverty nor riches, but give me only my daily bread. Otherwise, I may have too much and disown you and say, ‘Who is the Lord?’ Or I may become poor and steal, and so dishonor the name of my God..

V. Our handling of money: we shall be a blessing!

- ● **Honesty and faithfulness:** Whoever is honest and faithful in small things will be like this with bigger things! This should be our basic attitude in everything concerning money, possessions, land and property!
- ● **Riches:** Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs. (1 Tim. 6.9-10). No matter how rich one gets, it can be gone already tomorrow (Matt. 6.19-20 / Luke 12.13-21). It is not possible to live for God and money at the same time (Matt. 6.24)!
- ● **Work:** God gave people the explicit command to work for our daily bread already at the beginning of humanity's history (Gen. 3.19).
- ● **We shall completely repay all debts and unjust gains** (Rom. 13.7-8)! Zacchaeus repaid every unjust gain four times and gave half (!) of his possessions to the poor; just as it is God's (Luke 19.8).
- ● **We shall pay taxes:** Jesus said that we should give the “emperor” his “money” (Matt. 22.21).
- ● **Giving with a thankful heart:** this finds its expression through generous giving: 1. to the widows and orphans, 2. to the workers of the King; 3. for projects and the expansion of the Kingdom and 4. for the poor who are living outside the Kingdom; for God loves a joyful giver (2 Cor. 9.7)!
- ● **Offerings for churches:** Apostles collect and distribute money offerings (1 Cor. 16.1-3)
- ● **Provision:** If we care first about the Kingdom of God, God will care for us (Matt. 6.33). Righteous persons are blessed, they always have enough; do good, are merciful and like to lend! (Psalm 37.25-27). God blesses those who obey him, but disobedience brings a curse (Deut. 28).
- ● **Sharing:** the first Christians sold their possessions and shared it with those who had too little (Acts 2.45+4.32). Then followed the tragedy in the 4th century: Der papal state removed the year of jubilee and introduce the tithe as a substitute.
- ● **Every person will give an account on the Day of Judgment:** Jesus said: “Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me (Matt. 25. 40+46). Whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.” Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life (Matt. 25. 45-46).

3/3 VI. Practice & application: → Study at home: read all Bible verses above and mark them!

→ We decide for ourselves and with God what is enough for us! This helps us to divide possessions and income two jars: the “enough jar” and the “overflow jar”.

→ We collect an offering: e.g. for the person that started this group!

Training 11 – The gifts, ministries and offices of the Holy Spirit

by hk 2018

2/3

I. The gift of the Holy Spirit: a person!

A painter is a "painter", because he can paint (not because he has got colors). We are disciples of Jesus because we have Jesus (not because we have the gifts of the Spirit). However, a worker without tools is not worth much. That is why God gave us the Holy Spirit so that we could carry out and fulfill our ministry. God grants us the gift of the Holy Spirit together with gifts of the Spirit for the edification of his church and to serve others.

II. The gifts of the Holy Spirit (spiritual gifts)

1 Cor. 12 (4) 8-11 4 There are different kinds of gifts... 8 To one there is given through the Spirit a message of wisdom, to another a message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, 9 to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, 10 to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to another the interpretation of tongues. 11 All these are the work of the same Spirit, and he distributes them to each one, just as he determines.

→ Study the Bible text above! Try to write down from memory all spiritual gifts with a description!

Spiritual gift:	Description of the spiritual gift according to 1 Cor. 12.4-11 and what it is useful for:
Wisdom	Shows the way out of a difficult situation and a current condition
Knowledge	Specifically shows the condition of something
Faith	Faith in certain situations when God wants to do something in me or through
Healing	Healing someone from a specific suffering, sickness or pain
Miracles	What God does supernaturally, like multiplication of fish, deliverance from prison...
Prophecy	Revelation of hidden things, what God wants to do; a revelation of God concerning the future.
Discerning of spirits	Examines what is from God. Reveals satanic powers of darkness!
Praying in tongues	Speaking in tongues (=unknown language). The language can be the language of angels, a heavenly language or an earthly language (Acts 2.4) There are different kinds of speaking in tongues: a) Tongues with interpretation for the edification of the church (1 Cor. 14.13-15 + 27-28) b) Tongues for personal edification (1 Cor. 14.4 and Rom. 8.26)
Interpretation	Interpretation of the Speaking in tongues for the church (1 Cor. 14.13-15 + 27-28)

→ The gift of prophecy is very important for every church. Why?

1 Cor. 14.4 Anyone who speaks in a tongue edifies themselves, but the one who **prophesies** edifies the church.

→ The gift of speaking in tongues (for prayer) is important for personal edification. Why?

Rom. 8.26 In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to **pray** for, but the **Spirit** himself intercedes for us through wordless groans

III. The fivefold ministry, offices and further gifts of services of the Holy Spirit

Further gifts are persons (in responsibility) with special gifts to serve others:

→ Which ministries are mentioned where (Rom. 12.6-8)? → What does the fivefold ministry entail (Eph. 4.11)?

Gabe	Rom. 12.6-8	Eph. 4.11	Gabe	Rom. 12.6-8	Eph. 4.11
Prophecy, prophets	X	X	Mercy (deacons)	X	
Encouragement, building up, consolation	X		Apostles , church planters, pioneers		X
Teaching/teacher/ministry of teaching	X	X	Evangelists		X
Giving	X		Pastors		X
Leading, governing	X				

→ In whom does God work which gifts and what shall we use the gifts for?

1 Cor. 12:6-7 There are different kinds of working, but in **all** of them and in **everyone** it is **the same God at work**. Now to **each one** the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the **common** good.

Everyone receives a gift (charisma) *for the common benefit* to equip the saints (=every believer) to the work of ministry. Thus not as an end in itself, but for the equipment for ministry.

1 Pet. 4.10-11 **Each** of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as **faithful stewards** of God's grace in its various forms.

Eph. 4.12 To equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be **built up**.

Not / have a gift, but the *giver = God*. If a gift is working especially strong in me, then I have a special anointing for this special ministry.

→ Examining the gifts: How can I know, whether my gifts are from God?

1 John 4.1-2

Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but **test** the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world. This is how you can recognize the Spirit of God: Every spirit that **acknowledges** that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God.

3/3 IV. Task, practice & application:

→ Ask God, which spiritual gift(s) he wants to give you. Pray to receive them. Claim them in faith!

→ Practice the spiritual gift(s) you asked for: e.g. pray in tongues, prophecy, heal, etc.

→ Share amongst yourselves which type of the fivefold ministry could be you!

→ Homework study: read about all the deeds of Jesus in the word of God. Find out which gifts he used!

Deeds of Jesus (overview)	Matt.	Mark	Luke	John	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	Gift used
1 Man with unclean spirit			1.23	4.33		X	X											
2 Pet.'s mother-in-law	8.14	1.30	4.38			X	X	X										
3 Crowd of people	8.16	1.32	4.40		X	X	X		X								X	
4 Many demons		1.34			X						X							
5 Leper	8.2	1.40	5.12			X	X					X	X					
6 Lame man	9.2	2.3	5.18			X			X								X	
7 Man with crippled hand	12.10	3.1	6.6			X						X					X	
8 Crowd of people	12.15	3.10			X											X		
9 Demoniac in Gesarea	8.28	5.1	8.26		X	X											X	
10 Daughter of Jairus	9.18	5.22	8.41			X	X	X									X	
11 Woman with the blood issue	9.20	5.25	8.43								X		X				X	
12 Some sick people	13.58	6.5					X									X		
13 Crowd of people	14.34	6.55							X				X				X	
14 Phoenician woman's daughter	15.22	7.24						X	X									
15 Deaf-mute man		7.32				X	X	X										
16 Blind man		8.22				X	X	X										
17 Child with evil spirit	17.14	9.14	9.38			X	X	X	X	X						X	X	
18 Blind Bartholomew	20.30	10.46	18.35			X	X					X	X					
19 Servant of the captain	8.5		7.2					X	X								X	
20 Two blind	9.27					X	X				X							
21 Mute demoniac	9.32				X													
22 Blind and mute demoniac	12.22		11.14			X											X	
23 Crowd of people	4.23		6.17							X			X			X	X	X
24 Crowd of people	9.35									X			X			X	X	
25 Crowd of people	11.7		7.21							X			X			X	X	
26 Crowd of people	14.14		9.11	6.2								X					X	
27 Large crowd of people	15.30									X			X			X	X	
28 Large crowd of people	19.2																X	
29 Blind and lame man in the temple	21.14																X	
30 Son of the widow			7.11			X						X						
31 Mary Magdalene and others			8.2		X												X	
32 Woman bound by Satan			13.10			X	X										X	
33 Dropsical man			14.1				X										X	
34 Ten lepers			17.11			X					X						X	
35 Ear of Malchus			22.50			X											X	
36 Crowd of people			5.15														X	
37 Different persons			13.32		X												X	
38 Son of the royal officer				4.46		X			X									
39 Lame man at Bethesda				5.2		X						X						
40 Blind-born man				9.1		X	X											
41 Lazarus				11.1		X											X	

Legend: A Driving out demons B Word spoken C Touched by Jesus D Prayer for others E Faith for others F Sermon of Jesus G Faith of the person H Jesus moved with compassion I Person touches Jesus J Teaching of Jesus K Jesus heals actively / makes well L Jesus announces healing / someone is healed in absence M Jesus prays (to God) for healing

Training 12 – The invisible world

by hk 2018

2/3 **Luke 4:18-19** The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has **anointed** me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has **sent** me to proclaim freedom for the **prisoners** and recovery of sight for the **blind**, to set the **oppressed** free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.

I. Our destiny: eternal life in fellowship with God!

There is an invisible spiritual world, which we sense but do not usually see. God informs us in his word about paradise but also about hell. The final question is where every soul will spend eternity: in paradise in relationship with God or in hell that is reserved for Satan and his fallen angels.

→ II. From beginning to eternity... (II. Only to be read aloud!)

a) God is the creator of everything and has given us people the mandate to rule over the earth!

Jesus is the creator of everything (Col. 1.15-16). Satan and his angels who were perfect creatures of God (Ezek. 28.13-14), rose up against God (Isa. 14.12-15) and Satan was cast out of heaven to earth because of his pride (Luke 10.18) together with his angels – one third of all (Rev. 12.3-4/7-9) who then became demons (Jude 1.6 / Rev. 1.9). Since then there rages a battle between light and darkness, good and evil, heaven and hell, life and death.

b) The destiny of mankind: to live with God and carry responsibility for the earth

Mankind is destined to rule over creation (Gen. 1.26) but Satan caused man to fall with the same lie that brought him down: do be like God (Gen. 3.5). Mankind has lost the right to live in paradise eternally together with God because of the sin of Adam and Eve.

c) Heaven: paradise for all who reconciled - hell: eternal place for Satan and all who were led astray

- Heaven (paradise) is eternal life with God for those who have been reconciled to God through Jesus.
- Hell is the place of eternal punishment for Satan and the fallen angels (Rev. 20.10-16).
- The lake of fire is the place of punishment and eternal agony for Satan, but he drags many with him who have been led astray. Their name is not written in the Book of Life.
- Satan has different names: Satan (accuser), devil, prince of the air, god of this world, dragon, snake, Lucifer (=angel of light), liar, thief, seducer, and others. Satan is stronger than every human but not omnipresent and he holds no power over us if Jesus is our Lord.
- Satan rules on the earth through princes, evil spirits and demons (Eph. 6.12). We can see this too in Dan. 10.10-13, where the archangel Michael (Gabriel is the other one) fights against the prince of Satan over Greece.

III. Spiritual undergarments

→ Underline a) what we take off b) and what we should put on afterwards:

Col. 3.5-16 Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. ... Now you must also rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips. Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices. ... Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity. Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom.

IV. The spiritual armor

Eph. 6.10-18 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. ... Stand firm then, with the belt of **truth** buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of **righteousness** in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the **gospel** of peace. In addition to all this, take up the **shield of faith**, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil

one. Take the **helmet of salvation** and the **sword of the Spirit**, which is the word of God. And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.

3/3 V. Task, practice & application:

→ **Homework study:** Read *through all Bible verses at home* and underline them in your Bible.

→ Go through every room of your home and clear things out: dispose or burn everything that does not honor God: images, statues, symbols, videos, DVDs, music, books...

→ Also delete all such things on your mobile phone, PCs, tablets like recordings, films, pictures, audio...!

Ex. 40:9 Take the anointing oil and anoint the tabernacle and everything in it; consecrate it and all its furnishings, and it will be holy.

→ Go through your home prayerfully and send away everything in the name of Jesus: every polluting, morbid, depressing thing and whatever else the Holy Spirit shows you. Break every curse and cut ungodly ties that exist in your house! Then anoint every room with oil (e.g. olive oil...)!

→ Claim the *spiritual undergarment and God's armor daily* for yourself in prayer:

The spiritual underwear

Cor. 1.3.12-17 Now be dressed as the chosen of God and Beloved

May the word of Christ reside
abundantly in you

May the peace of Christ reign in
your hearts.

Cordial mercy

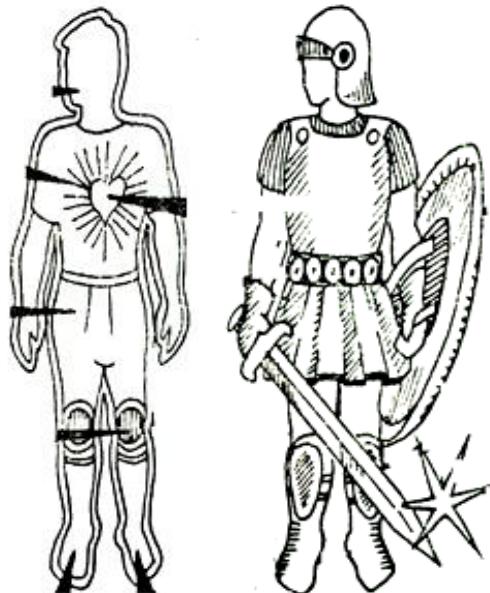
Mercy

Humbleness

Gentleness

Patience

And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.



The spiritual armor

Ephesians 6, 11-18

Helmet of salvation

Breastplate of justice

Shield of faith

Belt of truth

The sword of the spirit : The word of God !

Boots and feet made to
proclaim the Gospel of
Peace

Note: If we are not ourselves "clothed" with the presence of Jesus, a rigid armor is prejudicial to us. Only the work and life of Jesus, in and through us in his love, brings about a victorious use of it.

Training 13 – God's guidance and hearing his voice

by hk 2018

2/3

I. Preconditions for hearing God's voice:

1. Fellowship with God

God's desire for mankind is fellowship, which we find through conversion, repentance and forgiveness of sins through Jesus. God's Spirit unites himself with our spirit through baptism and so we hear God:

- Heb. 1.1 In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son.
- Rev. 3.20 If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in...
- John 10.27 My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me.
- Rom. 8.14-16 For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. ... The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children.

→ Der Heavenly Father does not allow the devil to give us what we asked God for (Matt. 7.7-11).

2. A clean heart

- Ps. 51.2 Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.

3. Our readiness

- Our readiness to hear God: (Psalm 85.9 Heb. 3.7+15): "... do not harden your heart!"
- Open ears: Psalm 115.6 and Mark 8.18 and Isa. 50.5
- Doing what we heard: Luke 8.21 and James 1.22-25

→ If I do not carry out small task I will not experience bigger things with God!

4. Practice... like Samuel: Eli, the priest, taught him to hear God at an early age.

- 1 Sam. 3.7-19 Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord ... A third time the Lord called, "Samuel!" ... Then Eli realized that the Lord was calling the boy. ... and if he calls you, say, "Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening." The Lord came and stood there, calling as at the other times, "Samuel! Samuel!" Then Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening." ... The Lord was with Samuel as he grew up, and he let none of Samuel's words fall to the ground.

→ If God does not speak there could be sin or God wants me to act according to my heart!

II. God speaks through the Holy Spirit in different ways to us people

God speaks through:

- Bible reading (word of God)
- the Word = Jesus (John 1.1)
- prayer
- other Christians
- circumstances, events
- dreams (Joel 3.1/Gen. 37.5-6)
- sermons (Rom. 10.14)
- angels (Matt. 1.20/Matt. 2.13)
- peace of heart
- prophecy (prophetic speaking)
- visions (inner image or film) (1 Cor. 12.4-11)
- inner voice: God speaks very often by giving his divine impulses into our thoughts!

→ Impulses are also colored through my personality. If an impulse was from God will be shown, when I do what I believe to have heard from God! He will confirm it! Important decision God will show me himself!

III. How do I know if God has really "spoken" to me?

Jesus lives in me. He is guiding me so that I would be a blessing for others and do what he tells me:

- I get to know God's voice through reading the Bible and understand the biblical principles!
- God does not contradict himself: we should evaluate everything with the Bible; therefore know God's word!

- 1 Thess. 5.19-21 Do not quench the Spirit. Do not treat prophecies with contempt but test them all.
- James 1.17 Every good and perfect gift is from the Father of the heavenly lights.
- 1 Cor. 14.26 What then shall we say, brothers and sisters? When you come together, each of you has a hymn, or a word of instruction, a revelation, a tongue or an interpretation. Everything must be done so that the church may be built up.
- The fruit will reveal that God has spoken to me (John 15.5).
- Isa. 61.1-3 The Spirit of Lord ... has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor ... to comfort all who mourn, ... to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of joy instead of mourning, a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair...

3/3

Task, practice & application:

Make groups of 3: → Listen to God 2-3 minutes for every person. → Write down the thoughts and impulses you have received for one another on a sheet of paper! → Read the impulses to each other!

→ At home: Write down your most important life questions Then listen to what God says. Write it down!

Talking with God – listening to God - prayers & impulses for inspiring moments...

The prayer of Jesus (Lord's Prayer)

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For yours is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory for eternity.

Amen.

Matt. 6.9-13

The Prayer des Jabez!

Jabez cried out to the God of Israel,
 1) Oh, that you would bless me
 2) and enlarge my territory!
 3) Let your hand be with me,
 4) and keep me from harm so that I will
 be free from pain.
 And God granted his request.

1 Chron. 4.10

Psalm 23.1-6 (Psalm of David)

The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing.
 He makes me lie down in green
 pastures, he leads me beside quiet
 waters, he refreshes my soul.
 He guides me along the right paths for
 his name's sake.
 Even though I walk through the darkest
 valley,
 I will fear no evil, for you are with me;
 your rod and your staff, they comfort
 me.
 You prepare a table before me in the
 presence of my enemies.
 You anoint my head with oil; my cup
 overflows.
 Surely your goodness and love will
 follow me all the days of my life,
 and I will dwell in the house of the Lord
 forever.

Prayer wheel: 12x 5 minutes= 1 hour *1-hour prayer with the prayer wheel*

1. Praise: praise God for things on your heart. Praise him for something he did for you in the last days. Praise him for his goodness to your family. Praise him for who he is (Ps. 34.1).

2. Wait: wait upon the Lord. Let him give you thoughts. Think about what God wants to do in your (Ps. 27.14).

3. Confess: ask the Holy Spirit to show you attitudes and deeds in your life that do not please him. Confess what he is

showing you (1 John 1.9; Ps. 51.1-19).

4. Read in the Bible: e.g. promises from the Psalms, prophets or the New Testament (Ps. 119.97), use a concordance.

5. Pray: pray for other people and your personal requests (Heb. 4.16).

6. Intercession: intercede specifically for others. You can use a prayer list (Rom. 15.30-33).

7. Pray with the Scriptures; e.g. Ps. 119.38-46 or the "Lord's Prayer", etc.

8. Thanks: thank God for the things he has given you; for your church, family, etc. (Phil 4.6)

9. Sing: sing a worship song or listen to worship or make music (Ps. 59.17)

10. Listen: have a sheet of paper and a pen ready and let Jesus speak into your life (Ps. 63).

11. Summarize: look for the common theme of your time with God and summarize what you read, prayed for, thanked for, your songs and do what he says (1. Sam 3.9-10).

12. Conclude your prayer time: give thanks for the impulses and tasks he has given you (Ps. 145.1-13).

Putting on spiritual undergarment

- Put off all unclean things first...
- Then put on as God's chosen saints and beloved people sincere compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, patience.
- Get along with each other. Forgive each other if someone has a complaint against you; forgive just as Christ forgave you.
- And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.
- Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.
- Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom. Col. 3.5-16

Putt on the armor of God

- **Helmet of salvation:** God, protect and shape my thoughts.
- **Breastplate of righteousness:** thank you, God, for your grace that saved

me.

- **Belt of truth:** God, I want to speak truth. Fill me with your truth.
- **Shoes of readiness:** God, help me to see and use the situations where you want to use me.
- **Shield of faith:** God, I trust you. Let my faith grow stronger.
- **Sword / Word of God:** God, help me to understand your word and act on it. Eph. 6.10-17

Prayer for VIPs

1. Lord, I pray that you would draw _____ to you (John 6.44).
2. I pray that _____ would hear the word of God and believe it (1 Thess 2.13).
3. I pray that _____ would seek and find you (Acts 17.27).
4. LORD, grant that _____ would see the truth and that Satan cannot prevent this (2 Cor. 4.4; 2 Tim. 2.25-26).
5. Holy Spirit, I ask you to convict _____ of his/her sin and let him/her see the necessity of salvation through Christ (John 16.7-14).
6. I ask you to send someone to share the gospel with _____ (Matt. 9.37-38).
7. I ask you that you would give me or _____ the opportunity, the courage and the right words for _____ (Col 4.3-6).
8. LORD, I pray that _____ turns from his/her sins and follows Jesus Christ (Acts 17.30-31; 1 Thess 1.9-10).
9. LORD, I pray, that _____ would place all his/her trust in Jesus (John 1.12; 5.24).
10. LORD, I pray, that _____ would confess Christ as LORD, take roots, grow in faith and bring fruit (Rom. 10.9-10; Col 2.6-7; Luke 8.15).
11. LORD, draw _____ to you (John 6.44).
12. I pray that _____ would hear the word of God and believe in it (1 Thess. 2.13).
13. I pray that _____ would seek and recognize you (Acts 17.27).
14. I ask you, LORD, to prevent Satan from blinding _____ to recognize the truth (2 Cor. 4.4; 2 Tim 2.25-26).

→ These tools can be a help to you to pray, proclaim and claim in struggles and victories.

Training 14 - Heal the sick, drive out demons and raise the dead! by hk 2018

2/3 I. From the fall of man to salvation through Jesus

Through sin we lost our relationship with God. The animal sacrifices had a vicarious, symbolic character in that they were punished with the death that we deserved so that we would be acquitted and could live on. This changed when Jesus sacrificed himself as a sinless man and not only took our iniquity but also our pain and sicknesses upon himself:

Isa. 53:4-5 Surely he took up our **pain** and bore our **suffering**, yet we considered him punished by God, stricken by him, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our **transgressions**, he was crushed for our **iniquities**; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.

The prophet Isaiah predicted what the coming savior (Jesus) would die for: for **the forgiveness of our wrongdoings**, where we became guilty (towards others), **healing of pain** (where I was injured through the sins of others) and **healing of sicknesses** (as a consequence of sin). Through the sacrifice of Jesus we are completely freed from sin and its consequences and are completely restored. He grants us eternal life through his resurrection. God wants to give this eternal life also to others through us!

II. The commission of Jesus: heal, drive out demons and raise the dead!

Jesus gave us, his disciples, the authority over evil spirits, demons, sicknesses and diseases!

Matt. 10.8 Heal the sick, **raise the dead**, cleanse those who have leprosy, drive out demons. Freely you have received; freely give.

1. We shall heal the sick!

Matt. 9.28-30 When he had gone indoors, the **blind** men came to him, and he asked them, "Do you believe that I am able to do this?" "Yes, Lord," they replied. Then he touched their eyes and said, "According to your faith let it be done to you"; and their sight was restored.

Matt. 9.2-7 Some men brought to him a **paralyzed** man, lying on a mat. When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the man, "Take heart, son; your sins are forgiven." ... "Get up, take your mat and go home." Then the man got up and went home.

Luke 17.12-14 As he was going into a village, ten **men who had leprosy** met him. They stood at a distance and called out in a loud voice, "Jesus, Master, have pity on us!" When he saw them, he said, "Go, show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were cleansed.

Matt. 12.10-15 A large crowd followed him, and he healed **all** who were ill.

2. We shall drive out demons!

Demons and unclean spirits are driven out individually but sometimes also in a large number.

Matt. 12.22-23 Then they brought him a **demon-possessed man** who was **blind and mute**, and Jesus healed him, so that he could both talk and see.

*) The word "demon-possessed" can also be translated with "demonized". Only seldomly has someone lost all control over himself.

Luke 8.2 Also some women who had been cured of **evil spirits and diseases**: Mary (called Magdalene) from whom seven demons had come out.

Mark 1.23-27 Just then a man in their synagogue who was possessed by an **impure spirit** cried out, "What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy **us**? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!" "Be quiet!" said Jesus sternly. "Come out of him!" The impure spirit shook the man violently and came out of him with a shriek.

3. We shall raise the dead – this is also a task that Jesus gave us...!

Acts 20.7-12 On the first day of the week we came together to break bread. Paul spoke to the people and, because he intended to leave the next day, kept on talking until midnight. ... Seated in a window was a young man named Eutychus, who was sinking into a deep sleep as Paul talked on and on. When he was sound asleep, he fell to the ground from the third story and was picked up **dead**. Paul went down, threw himself on the young man and put his arms around him. "Don't be alarmed," he said. "He's alive!" Then he went upstairs again and broke bread and ate. After talking until daylight, he left. The people took the young man home alive and were greatly comforted.

3/3 III. Task, practice & application:

Let yourself be filled with the Holy Spirit (John 5.14 / Eph. 5.18), put on the spiritual undergarment and the armor of God, renew and protect your thought (Rom. 12.2 / 2 Cor. 10.4-5)!

John 14.12-14 Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. **And I will do whatever you ask in my name.**

Mark 6.13 They drove out many demons and anointed many sick people with oil and healed them.

James 5.14 Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord.

→ Practice in groups of two according to the practice manual! Ask God whom you can go to and do this to!

→ Is someone sick, bound or dead? Then heal, deliver or raise the dead!

→ Whom can you share "your story" and "Romans Road" with this week?

Practice manual (best done in groups of two!)

1. Healing the sick:

→ Ask Jesus the following questions:

- a) Jesus, how do you want to heal?
- b) Jesus, through whom do you want to heal (if you are not alone)?

→ Study the sheet of the different deeds of Jesus! Perhaps it is a touch, that the person is asking for healing, that you speak to the sickness to depart, through laying on of hands or sometimes also through a prayer (there is only one example of that in the 40 healings mentioned in the gospels).

→ Do what Jesus showed you until the person is healed or is doing better! Ask how strong the pain still is on a scale from 1 to 10. If necessary, repeat it all (perhaps several times).

→ If the person does not know Jesus yet, explain to that Jesus has got even more and lead him/her to Jesus!

→ And finally: let the person thank Jesus for the healing and give glory to him!

If someone is skeptical or suspicious for whatever reasons, the following questions can help:

→ Ask the person who wants healing the following questions:

- a) Do you believe that God can heal?
- b) Do you believe that God can heal now?
- c) Do you believe that Jesus Christ wants to heal you right now?

→ If the person responds to point c with "I hope so" or "I do not know", you can say:
"I have good news for you because Jesus loves you and therefore wants to heal you!"

2. Driving out demons:

Deliverance from demons can occur at baptism or else during a deliverance ministry.

→ Ask the person who wants to be delivered the following question:

What do you want to be delivered from (very often people feel what is oppressing them)?

→ Then command the demon/evil spirit to go and leave that person "in the name of Jesus"!

If the person has to choke or needs to cough, continue to pray and command in the name of Jesus until the person is totally free.

→ Let the person pray along inwardly and check whether he feels that it is gone.

→ If the delivered person does not know Jesus yet, explain to him why Jesus set him free (because he loves him!) Lead him to Jesus! If the house is "empty" it has to be "filled" again (by Jesus) so that the evil one cannot come back! Then thank Jesus and give him the glory!

Important:

→ Always do this together. It is usually not recommended to do this ministry alone!

→ It is appropriate to fast before an announced/planned deliverance service.

3. Raising the dead:

It is quite evident that Jesus usually wants to save, heal and deliver people. He probably healed and delivered several tens of thousands sick and oppressed people, but only raised a hand full of dead people. Nevertheless it is a clear command of Jesus. For this we need clear guidance of the Holy Spirit. If he says yes...

→ Do what God said and raise the dead person: e.g. proclaim the life of Jesus over the dead person, breath on him with the breath of God, lay yourself on the dead person until he becomes warm again, command him to wake up, pray for the person until he comes back to life...

→ When the person is raised he often is thirsty or hungry. Give him something to drink and to eat!

→ Then ask him whether he can remember something and if yes, what he experienced while he was gone. Show him what kind of miracle Jesus has done and lead him to Jesus!

→ If grieving bystanders, let them know what they just witnessed and that Jesus wants them to give him their lives and follow him.

Important:

Safeguard the death certificate as proof and get a doctor to confirm what happened. Have further witnesses confirm in writing what happened!

→ And finally: thank God for the risen dead and give glory to Jesus!

Training 15 – The price of discipleship & the crown of life!

by hk 2018

2/3 I. Living in difficult times: do I have a goal in life that is worth dying for?

What foundation is my life based on? If the foundation of my life is right, then I will not have to be afraid of difficult times:

→ If I am not ready to die for what I believe, it is also not worth living forth!

II. Loving God

Mark 12.33 We shall love God with all our heart, with all our understanding and with all our strength.
We shall also love our neighbor as ourselves.

→ Whom shall we love? a) _____ b) _____ c) _____

Matt. 5.44 But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you.

→ What happens when everyone loves his or her enemies? a) _____

Rom. 8.28 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him.

III. Jesus is our example in suffering

Jesus shows us with his life that suffering is a part of it.

Matt. 16.21 From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things ... and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life.

God helps us: also when we are left alone, feel treated unjustly, are misunderstood and suffer innocently. Nevertheless we are never alone. God is there. He comforts us and makes everything to serve us for our best.

IV. Suffering belongs to discipleship!

2 Tim. 3.12 In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted.

The motto of the Chinese Christians:

- When you mock me, Jesus loves me nevertheless.
- When you put me in jail, I may proclaim the gospel even more freely.
- When you hit me, you glorify God because I may suffer for him.
- When you take away my home, I am set free to travel around.
- When you kill me, you send me into glory!

Paul described himself as a disciple of Jesus and wanted to live like Jesus. He had a goal in life for which he was ready to die – Jesus Christ. He lived for him and for him he was ready to die:

I have worked much harder, been in prison more frequently, been flogged more severely, and been exposed to death again and again. Five times I received from the Jews the forty lashes minus one. Three times I was beaten with rods, once I was pelted with stones, three times I was shipwrecked, I spent a night and a day in the open sea, I have been constantly on the move. I have been in danger from rivers, in danger from bandits, in danger from my fellow Jews, in danger from Gentiles; in danger in the city, in danger in the country, in danger at sea; and in danger from false believers. I have labored and toiled and have often gone without sleep; I have known hunger and thirst and have often gone without food; I have been cold and naked.

2 Cor. 11.23-27

→ Am I ready to give up my possessions, be rejected and to leave my comfort zones?

V. Suffering makes strong

James 1.2 Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance.

When we fight for something good, it may be that we have to suffer for it.

This has a positive impact on many areas of life:

- a) My endurance is strengthened, I do not despair nor do I give up!
- b) I learn to reach goals in spite of opposition and difficulties.

→ Am I ready to suffer? Then no one can stop me from bringing hope to the world and doing what makes life meaningful and worth living!

VI. Only love is willing to suffer and be active!

Righteousness and peace

1 Pet. 3.11; 13-14 ... they must seek peace and pursue it. Who is going to harm you if you are eager to do good? ... "Do not fear their threats; do not be frightened."

Freedom as basic right to live and believe

Every person has the right to freedom. We shall raise our voice in situations where people are oppressed, abused and enslaved.

1 Cor. 12.26 If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it.

Poor, oppressed, starving and persecuted people need our support

1 John 3.17 If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person?

→ Do I deal responsibly with my money and possessions? Am I ready to pass on what God has entrusted to me? God promises: whoever gives will receive!

VII. God's promise: the crown of life!

God will take away all suffering and pain for all eternity and transform it into joy:

Rev. 21.4 He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.

Rev. 2.10 Do not be afraid of what you are about to suffer. I tell you, the devil will put some of you in prison to test you, and you will suffer persecution for ten days. Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you life as your victor's crown.

VII. What does this mean practically for my faith?

Tell the group about the struggles you have because of the new faith. Mention the difficulties that could arise for you. Practice in role-play how you can deal with it – with fearlessness and love – just as Jesus has taught us.

a) Here I struggle to confess my faith:

O Family O friends O Work O School O Street O At home O Parents O Colleagues
O Hobby O Free time O _____ O _____ O _____

b) It is difficult in these areas: _____

c) Here I have difficulties because of my faith: _____

d) In these areas I become vulnerable: O Sexuality O _____ O _____

e) This paralyzes me or makes me afraid: O Fear of man O Rejection O _____

f) I want to take the following steps and address the following: _____

3/3 VIII. Task, practice & application:

→ Practice how to deal with these situations and persons in a role-play in groups of two and pray for one another and for every person you talked about!

→ Share your story and the story of Jesus with other people this week!

Training 16 - The Kingdom of God

by hk 2018

I. The main message of Jesus: the Kingdom of God (or: Kingdom of Heaven)

Matt. 6.33 **But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.**

Jesus actually only taught about one thing: the Kingdom of God. It is the most important topic of Jesus! The life of Jesus, his words, prayers, parables, healings, the driving out of demons, his travels, the dead people who rose to life and the deeds of Jesus are all about the visualization of “basileia” (Greek: “royal governance”)! The prayer of Jesus is about the Kingdom of God: “Your Kingdom come...” or “Yours is the Kingdom...” (Matt. 6.10+13).

Matt. 9.35 Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, **proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness.**

Matt. 12.28 But if it is by the Spirit of God that I drive out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you.

Acts 1.3 After his suffering, he presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of **forty days** and **spoke about the kingdom of God.**

II. Living in the Kingdom of light or darkness – Whom do I serve?

Before the creation of mankind, $\frac{1}{3}$ of the angels under the leadership of Lucifer (Satan) were cast on the earth (Luke 10.18; Rev. 12.4). The first people in the Garden of Eden stood under the authority of God (Gen. 3). Since the fall, Satan (=enemy of God) and his demons are ruling over human civilization. Evil is reigning.

God chose Israel as his own people, but Israel refused to acknowledge God as king (1 Sam. 8.7). Human monarchs (mostly evil rulers) should have represented God (1 Chron. 29.23). However, a future King is prophesied who would reign on the earth. The archangel Gabriel announced him to Mary as Jesus: “He will be great ... and his kingdom will never end” (Luke 1.32-33). The Roman governor Pontius Pilate heard of Jesus during his trial: “... I am a king. In fact, the reason I was born and came into the world is to testify to the truth” (John 18.37).

III. Entering the Kingdom through repentance, believing the gospel and being born again

Jesus compared the Kingdom of God to seed that fell on different kinds of soil (Luke 8.5-15). Our hearts should be good soil for the message of the Kingdom of God and bring forth fruit! It is a serious matter: whoever does not bring forth fruit ends up in fire.

Mark 1.15 The kingdom of God has come near. **Repent and believe the good news!**

Luke 23.42 Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.”

John 3.5 Jesus answered, **“Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit.**

Acts 8.12 But when they believed Philip as he proclaimed the **good news of the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.**

Acts 28.23 They arranged to meet Paul on a certain day, and came in **even larger numbers** to the place where he was staying. He witnessed to them from morning till evening, explaining about the kingdom of God.

IV. God's incredible brilliant legal order

God's Kingdom is a domain of incredible love and righteousness; it is filled with acceptance, secureness and life, full of light, a safe place of eternal peace where God's creation blossoms anew. His Kingdom includes:

1. Jesus is king. He is perfect love.

2. The dominion of Jesus encompasses simply everything!

Matt. 25.34 Then the King will say to those on his right, “Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world.”

3. Jesus is the binding legal system: he governs in love and righteousness!

4. Jesus makes us legal citizens of God's Kingdom.

5. Through Jesus we became sons and daughters of the Heavenly Father!

Rev. 19.6 Then I heard what sounded like a great multitude, like the roar of rushing waters and like loud peals of thunder, shouting: “Hallelujah! For our Lord God Almighty reigns.”

6. We have a share in the property of the King and are his co-heirs.

- James 2.5 Has not God chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and to inherit the kingdom he promised those who love him?
- 1 Cor. 6.9-10 Or do you not know that wrongdoers will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor men who have sex with men nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God.
- Gal. 5.21 Drunkenness, orgies, ... those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.

7. We participate in governance and jurisprudence:

- 2 Tim. 4.1 In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom...
- Luke 22.30 You may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom and sit on thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

Attention: there are also real trials, earnest admonitions and warnings of judgment!

- Acts 14.22 Paul and Barnabas strengthened the disciples and encouraged them to remain true to the faith. "We must go through many hardships to enter the kingdom of God".
- Mark 9.47 And if your eye causes you to stumble, pluck it out. It is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and be thrown into hell...
- Luke 13.28 There will be weeping there, and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, but you yourselves thrown out.

V. Our heavenly citizenship

- John 18.36 Jesus said, "My kingdom is not of this world..."
- Phil. 3.20 Our citizenship is in heaven.

God's Kingdom is open to every person in this world. Jesus invites all "citizens of this world" to come under his authority. Everyone is free to change citizenship and to accept the citizenship of his Kingdom. We give away the citizenship of this world and become citizens of Heaven. There is no dual citizenship. Our citizenship is in Heaven; from then on and we are no longer citizens of this world.

VI. A new identity: we are sons and daughters of the King

We receive a new identity: we are God's beloved sons and daughters and we have a task: to bring his light into the world. His Kingdom pierces the darkness and will destroy evil. Everything that belongs to our Heavenly Father also belongs to us! We have a share in the riches of Heaven. All earthly glamour is nothing in comparison. The Golden City is our home. Jesus made a way to paradise. It is the most beautiful thing that awaits us: perfection!

VII. As ambassadors of the King – a fingerprint of God on earth

We represent the interests of our King on earth. As sent ones of Jesus we are God's ambassadors and as citizens of Heaven we are representing the interests of the King. We may and should open embassies and establishments of the heavenly Kingdom in every place until Jesus returns.

- Acts 19.8 Paul entered the synagogue and spoke boldly there for three months, arguing persuasively about the kingdom of God.
- Luke 8.1 After this, Jesus traveled about from one town and village to another, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom of God. The Twelve were with him,
- Luke 9.2 He sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal the sick.
- Matt. 24.14 And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.

During the time of Paul, Roman soldiers were settled in conquered areas in order to plant Roman culture in a foreign environment. As sent ones of Jesus we are God's ambassadors representing the interests of the King. We are authorized to establish God's Kingdom in our environment!

3/3 VIII. Task, practice & application:

→ Learn the memory verse by heart:

- Matt. 28.20 Teach them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

→ Look for 3 commandments of Jesus that you find easy to keep (perhaps as homework)!

→ Look for 3 commandments of Jesus that you find hard to keep!

→ Discuss this with someone and pray for one another.



The commands of Jesus (compiled by W. Simson)

§1 The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!" Matt. 4.17; Mark 1.14-15

§2 You have to be born again! John 3.3-7

§3 Do not think I have come to abolish the law or the prophets, but to fulfill them! Matt. 5.17-18

§4 Ask and you will receive; seek and you shall find; knock and the door will be opened to you. Matt. 7.7-11; Luke 11.9-13

§5 Do not work for perishable nourishment, but for that which lasts for eternity. John 6.1-59

§6 Go through the narrow gate! Matt.7.13

§7 Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me. Matt. 11.25-29

§8 Whoever wants to be my disciple needs to deny himself, take up his cross and follow me. Matt. 16.24-26; Mark 8.34; Luke 14.33; Matt. 10.38-39

§9 Receive the Holy Spirit! John 20.22-23

§10 In everything, do to others what you would have them do to you. Matt. 7.12; Luke 6.31

§11 Let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven. Matt. 5.16

§12 Do not resist an evil person. Matt. 5.38 You have heard that it was said, "Eye for eye, and tooth for tooth." But I (go beyond that) and tell you: if anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to them the other cheek also. And if someone wants to sue you and take your shirt, hand over your coat as well. If anyone forces you to go one mile, go with them two miles.

§13 Do not swear! Matt. 5.33-34

Again, you have heard that it was said to the people long ago, "Do not break your oath". But I (go beyond that) and tell you, do not swear an oath at all. All you need to say is simply "Yes" or "No"; anything beyond this comes from the evil one.

§14 Love your enemies! Matt. 5.43-48

You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I go beyond that and tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your Father in heaven.

§15 Love your neighbor as yourself! Luke 10.27; Matt. 22.39; Luke 10.25-29

§16 Be merciful, just as your father is merciful! Luke 6.36

§17 Pay attention that you do not do your works for God so as to be seen by others! Matt. 6.1-18

§18 Do not judge, and you will not be judged! Luke 6.37-38

§19 Forgive, and you will be forgiven! Luke 6.37

§20 Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap! Luke 6.38; Mark 4.24

§21 Do not give dogs what is sacred; do not throw your pearls to pigs! Matt. 7.6

§22 Give to Caesar what is Caesar's, and to God what is God's! Matt. 22.21

§23 Do not suppose that I have come to bring peace to the earth! Matt. 10.34-36; Luke 12.51

§24 Put your sword back in its place, for all who draw the sword will die by the sword! Matt. 26.52

§25 Have salt in you and live at peace with everyone!

§26 Do not despise one of these small ones! Let the children come to me. Matt. 18.1-14; Matt. 19.14

§27 Refrain from food sacrificed to idols! Acts 15, 20, 29 21.25; Rev. 2.14-20

§28 You shall not murder! Matt. 19.18

§29 Do not murder the reputation of your brother! Matt. 5.21-22

§30 You shall not commit adultery!

§31 Adultery begins with lustful eyes – protect yourself radically from it. Matt. 5.27-30

§32 Do not separate what God has put together. Matt. 19.4-9; 5.31-32; Mark 10.12

§33 You shall not steal! Matt. 19.18

§34 You shall not give a false testimony! Matt. 19.18

§35 Honor father and mother! Matt. 19.19

§36 I give you a new commandment: love each other! John 13.34; 15.12

§37 Be reconciled before you pray! Matt. 5.23; Luke 12.58

§38 Do not let yourself be called Rabbi, father or master! Matt. 23.8-12

§39 Do not force anyone to be part of your group! Mark 9.38-40

§40 The legal process for private conflicts is: forgive 7x70 times! Matt. 18.15-35

§41 Pay attention that the light in you is not darkness! Luke 11.35-36; Matt. 6.22-23

§42 Love God, your King, with all of your heart, with all of your soul, with all of your strength and with all of your mind! Luke 10.27; Matt. 22.37-40

§43 Remain in me! Remain in my love that enables you to keep my commandments! John 15.4-9; 14.15

§44 Go and sin no more! John 8.11

§45 Therefore pray in the following way: Luke 11.2-4; Matt. 6.19-13
Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For yours is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

§46 Whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours! Mark 11.24

§47 Ask in my name! John 16.23-24, John 14.13-14,15,16

§48 Listen! Mark 4.3.9.24; 7.14; Matt. 13.3-9; 15.10

§49 Take, eat, drink! Do this in remembrance of me! Matt. 26.26; John 6.53-58

§50 Give to the one who asks you, and do not turn away from the one who wants to borrow from you. Give to everyone who asks you, and if anyone takes what belongs to you, do not demand it back! Matt. 5.42; Luke 6.30

§51 Do not store up treasures on earth, but in Heaven! Matt. 6.19-21.24; Luke 12.33-34
Sell your possessions and give to the poor. Provide purses for yourselves that will not wear out, a treasure in heaven that will never fail, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys.

§52 Do not worry about your life, food, drink, body and clothing! Matt. 6.25-34

§53 Make the Kingdom of God and a life according to this constitution your first priority, then everything else will be added unto you! Matt. 6.33

§54 Carry (every religious merchandise) outside and do not make the house of my Father into a market place and den of thieves! John 2.16; Matt. 21.12-14

§55 Beware of all forms of greed! Luke 12.15

§56 Use worldly wealth to gain friends for yourselves! Luke 16.9

§57 Beware of false prophets. They are wolves in sheep's clothes. Matt. 7.15-28

§58 Beware of the teachers of the law! Matt. 23.13-36; Mark 12.38-40

§59 Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees, Sadducees and Herod! Matt. 16.5-12, Luke 12.1-3

§60 Remember Lot's wife! Luke 17.32

§61 Pay attention that no false Christ would lead you astray! Matt. 24.4-14

§62 Do not be anxious! Believe in God and believe in me! John 14.1

§63 Be prepared for my second coming and be alert! Luke 12.35-40

§64 Do not say, it is still four months until harvest! See the fields ripe for harvest! John 4.35-38

§65 Ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers! Matt. 9.37-38; Luke 10.2

§66 Go, proclaim and explain: the Kingdom of Heaven is near! Matt. 7.10

§67 Heal the sick! Matt. 10.8

§68 Cleanse the lepers! Matt. 10.8

§69 Raise the dead! Matt. 10.8

§70 Cast out demons! Matt. 10.8; Mark 6.7.1

§71 Freely you have received, freely give! Matt. 10

§72 What I tell you in the dark, speak in the daylight; what is whispered in your ear, proclaim from the roofs. Matt. 10.27

§73 I am sending you out like lambs among wolves. Therefore be wise as snakes and innocent like doves. Luke 10.3; Matt. 10.16-31

§74 Shake the dust off your shoes wherever you are not welcome! Matt. 10.14-15; Mark 6.11; Luke 9.5+10-12

§75 Go and make disciples of all nations! Matt. 28.18-20

§76 Go without money for food. Seek a person or house of peace! Stay there! Matt. 10.11; Luke 10.6

Training 17 - Introduction to Inductive Bible Study

by hk / yk 2018

2/3 Inductive Bible Study

There are many Bible study guides on spiritual growth, yet most of these books do not help Christians to understand how to study the Bible, how to discover the truth of God and how to follow what God revealed to them. In reality, there are no spiritual study guides or Bible study guides that could replace the word of God.

From now on, the group will simply read the Bible during their meetings. You will read God's word together, share about it with others and ask God to show you, what you should do and whom you should tell about it.

Since every single one just like the whole groups has received the Holy Spirit, the Holy Spirit will be the leader and help you to understand God's word and to obey it. By proceeding every time according to the same pattern, you will find it easy to discover the truth of the Bible, no matter which passage you or the group are studying at the moment.

I. The pattern

→ **Read Ezra 7.10 to discover, which pattern Ezra the scribe used.**

What were the three things Ezra did?

→ Basically Ezra intent was to **answer three questions:**

- a) **What does the Bible text say? What is written here?**
- b) **How shall we obey it? What is to be done?**
- c) **What shall we pass on to others from it?**

Every time you are studying God's word, you should try to answer these questions.

II. The power

You are in a position to understand the Bible, because God has given you the Holy Spirit as your helper for this. How does he help you?

John 14.26:

1 John 2.27:

Ask God every time you are reading the Bible for yourself or in a group, to fill you with the Holy Spirit, to give you understanding for the truth of the Bible and to help you to obey it.

III. A weekly Bible reading plan

It is very helpful to study a book of the Bible passage by passage from beginning to end during a few weeks or months. Of course one can also take a series of Biblical stories. There is an example for this at the end of this training unit.

IV. Inductive Bible Study – Introductory Bible text: the loving Father

This is a guide on how to proceed alone or in a group. Was an introductory Bible text we take the story of the loving Father from Luke 15.

→ **Pray that God would speak to you through his word. Read God's word and meditate on it:**

1. **Read the Text for yourself alone.**
2. **Read the Bible text aloud.**

We not read the story of the loving Father and his two sons:

Luke 15.10-32

In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

Jesus continued: "There was a man who had two sons. The younger one said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' So he divided his property between them.

"Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything.

"When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.' So he got up and went to his father.

"But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.

"The son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.'

"But the father said to his servants, 'Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate. For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' So they began to celebrate.

"Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. 'Your brother has come,' he replied, 'and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.'

"The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. But he answered his father, 'Look! All these years I've been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!'

"'My son,' the father said, 'you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.'"

3. Retell the text (Bible closed).**4. Ask the following questions:**

- What is written here? What spoke to me, what is difficult to understand?
- What does the text say about God and people?
- Is there something in this text that I should obey or do?

→ Additional questions that can help me to understand the Bible:

- Did I notice something special in the text?
 - What is the main theme? (Do not get distracted by less important details!)
 - Are there verses in context (previous and following passages in the same context) that improve our understanding?
 - Are there further texts in the Bible that help me to better understand the text?
 - How might the first readers or hearers of this book have understood it?
- Pay attention that every answer comes from the Bible and is not an own idea/opinion!

3/3 V. Task, practice & application:**→ How should we obey it? What is to be done?**

Pay attention to find very practical and simple ways to obey and put into practice what the Bible says. You should never want to study the Bible without wanting to obey it! Otherwise you will just accumulate a lot of knowledge without having a changed life. Oblige yourself to obedience and ask each other how you are practicing it!

→ What shall we pass on to others?

Think about someone who should hear what you have learned today.

Make specific plans when you want to do this in the coming week.

→ When you are done with the Bible study, pray and ask God to give you the courage to be obedient and to pass it on to others this week. Thank him for having spoken to you!

Training plan for further meetings (Proposal for meetings with Inductive Bible Study)

by hk /yk 2018

Sheet for leaders/participants

- After the basic training one can go through the following books of the Bible (chronological proposal) for oneself or with others during the next church or group meetings in the 3/3-process:
- Gospel of John** (Shows who God is and how the followers of Jesus live their relationship with God)
- Gospel of Luke** (Shows us who Jesus is and what his disciples are called to do)
- Acts** (Story of the first followers of Jesus and of the life of the first churches)
- Romans** (About the influence of sin in our lives and how Jesus wants to set us free)
- Ephesians** (Revelation of how the invisible world operates and how we can live as Christians)
- Galatians** (The working of God in our lives)
- Cor.** (About the church, the Holy Spirit, the spiritual gifts and our responsibility)
- Revelation of John** (What awaits us, the church, judgment and eternity)

Or:

After the basic training the following plan with passages from the gospel of Mark can be used to discover the word of God. You can also read more than one passage at once:

- | | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Mark 1.1-8 | 26. Mark 6.33-44 | 51. Mark 11.27-33 |
| 2. Mark 1.9-15 | 27. Mark 6.45-52 | 52. Mark 12.1-12 |
| 3. Mark 1.16-20 | 28. Mark 6.53-56 | 53. Mark 12.13-17 |
| 4. Mark 1.21-28 | 29. Mark 7.1-13 | 54. Mark 12.18-27 |
| 5. Mark 1.29-34 | 30. Mark 7.14-23 | 55. Mark 12.28-34 |
| 6. Mark 1.35-45 | 31. Mark 7.24-30 | 56. Mark 12.35-40 |
| 7. Mark 2.1-12 | 32. Mark 7.31-37 | 57. Mark 12.41-44 |
| 8. Mark 2.13-17 | 33. Mark 8.1-10 | 58. Mark 13.1-8 |
| 9. Mark 2.18-28 | 34. Mark 8.11-21 | 59. Mark 13.9-13 |
| 10. Mark 3.1-12 | 35. Mark 8.22-26 | 60. Mark 13.14-27 |
| 11. Mark 3.13-19 | 36. Mark 8.27-38; 9.30-32 | 61. Mark 13.28-37 |
| 12. Mark 3.20-30 | 37. Mark 9.1-8 | 62. Mark 14.1-10 |
| 13. Mark 3.31-35 | 38. Mark 9.9-13 | 63. Mark 14.11-21 |
| 14. Mark 4.1-20 | 39. Mark 9.14-29 | 64. Mark 14.22-26 |
| 15. Mark 4.21-25 | 40. Mark 9.33-37 | 65. Mark 14.27-31 |
| 16. Mark 4.26-29 | 41. Mark 9.38-50 | 66. Mark 14.32-42 |
| 17. Mark 4.30-34 | 42. Mark 10.1-12 | 67. Mark 14.43-52 |
| 18. Mark 4.35-41 | 43. Mark 10.13-16 | 68. Mark 14.53-65 |
| 19. Mark 5.1-20 | 44. Mark 10.17-31 | 69. Mark 14.66-72 |
| 20. Mark 5.21-24; 35-43 | 45. Mark 10.32-34 | 70. Mark 15.1-15 |
| 21. Mark 5.25-34 | 46. Mark 10.35-45 | 71. Mark 15.16-47 |
| 22. Mark 6.1-6 | 47. Mark 10.46-52 | 72. Mark 16.1-8 |
| 23. Mark 6.7-13 | 48. Mark 11.1-11 | 73. Mark 16.9-13 |
| 24. Mark 6.14-29 | 49. Mark 11.12-18 | 74. Mark 16.14-20 |
| 25. Mark 6.30-32 | 50. Mark 11.19-26 | |

→ Very suitable are also the gospel of Matthew, the Psalms (prayers), Proverbs (divine wisdom), or...

→ ... and finally: the whole Bible from A-Z as continued "reading"

The Bible tells us about the creation of the world, the story of the first humans, paradise, the lost relationship with God, the development of humanity after the separation from God, formation and development of the first peoples, the greatest natural disaster in history, the divine presence in the lives of different patriarchs, times of need, ungodliness, captivity and liberation, God's election of a people as a testimony for all peoples, successes and failures of judges, kings, prophets, wars and the promise of a savior for humanity until the fulfillment of this prophecy, the election of the disciples of Jesus up until a revelation about the end of the world with Heaven and hell and the eternal city of God for all who live forever thanks to the salvation of Jesus! The most exiting and comprehensive book of the universe that gives the best perspectives for our lives, both here and now but also for the future!

Appendix - the Story of T4T...



Curtis Sergeant (USA) started different church planting movements until today, as in China, Northern India and today in the USA. Amongst other things he trained a missionary, Ying Kai, who wanted to reach China.

1993 Curtis found three churches with 85 Chinese believers on the island Hainan. Curtis began to train them and to plant churches: 6 churches in the first year, 17 in the next and then 50 new churches. Only 5 years after the start there were 55 churches with 55,000 believers. Within 9 years (in 2002) there were 360,000 baptized followers of Jesus. Again after a short time this number grew to 550,000 followers of Jesus. Today Curtis is working in the West and is experiencing the same thing in the USA!

Jeff Sandell (USA) started different church planting movements in China, Northern India and the USA up until today.

God lead Jeff into an unreached area in the Himalaya. For two years he told people about Jesus without success. The first convert was a drunk who had beaten his wife. The first church was started, which grew to 35 persons. 3 more churches developed through this one, which again began to multiply slowly. Then he met Ying Kai who told him, what he is experiencing. Jeff thought that this would be impossible in his area but he started to do the same thing out of obedience: 25 small churches were founded and they were able to baptize 125 people. After one year there were more than 100 churches and 700 baptisms. God showed Jeff how a spiritual tsunami swept over countries like Burma, West Bengal and India and he got a vision for 10,000 churches and 100,000 baptisms. Some time later there were 189,000 baptisms and countless churches in this area.

2009 Jeff got commissioned by God to return to the USA. Twice he founded a business, failed and prayed... For months nothing happened until he had an encounter with two violent black men. He prayed for them and they opened their doors. Another breakthrough came through a 40-day fast. In the beginning of 2016 there were already 17 church planting movements (!) with a total of 114 discipleship streams.



Ying & Grace Kai initiated with T4T (Trainers For Trainer) in China probably the largest church planting movement of church history. Today they train followers of Jesus worldwide.

At first they led 40-60 persons to faith in Jesus Christ every year through which a church was planted every year. However, Ying realized that the commission of Jesus, to reach all people with the gospel, could never be fulfilled in this way. God answered him in prayer: in the next year (2001) of the ministry of Ying & Grace Kai 53,000 new Christian converts were baptized. Within 10 years the total of all baptisms rose to an incredible 1.73 million! Since many also came to faith in the traditional Three-Self-Church, the total number of new believers exceeds 2 million people.



Gary Stump founded a church in the USA in 2001. 1,000 people were baptized within 10 years, thus his church belongs to the 1% most successful churches in the USA. Reading the book about the story of Ying Kai ("T4T - a discipleship-revolution by Steve Smith & Ying Kai") Gary realized that Jesus' command to make disciples is almost not followed and that excuses are being made for this disobedience: "During my 22 years as a pastor I did encourage, challenge, admonish, motivate and even scold Christians to make disciples, but I have never taught how to disciple someone." Gary asked God for forgiveness and started from scratch. Now he is training followers of Jesus how to disciple others...

A worldwide discipleship and church planting movement...

People are finding Jesus! God initiated a worldwide unique discipleship and church planting movement that is founded on obedience and not knowledge! Many proven principles have grown together to a holistic church planting and multiplication movement. Many followers of Jesus have paid the price with their lives for this. However, what God is doing today corresponds exactly to what we read in the book of Acts or even goes beyond this!

Simple, dynamic, healthy and multipliable – in order to reach the world for Jesus!

This movement grew so dynamically in the past years that it is becoming realistic to reach all nations with the gospel! It is becoming possible to fulfill the commission of Jesus because denominations, power structures and its leaders, theological and philosophical seminaries, businesses, institutional and materialistic thinking, cultural values, expensive infrastructure and buildings do no longer play a crucial role. It is about Jesus and his message to us in the Bible: God loves everyone and desires that everyone would be saved.

Personal notes