

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Table of Contents.....1

## **THRIVE DISCIPLESHIP SCHOOL LEVEL 1**

**SESSION 1: WHAT WE BELIEVE AT THRIVE.....3**

**SESSION 2: THE RIGHT ENVIRONMENT FOR YOUR DESTINY (THE VISION OF THRIVE CHURCH).....9**

## **THRIVE DISCIPLESHIP SCHOOL LEVEL 2**

**SESSION 1: THE HOLY SPIRIT.....15**

**SESSION 2: THE FILLING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.....17**

**SESSION 3: RECEIVING HEALING FROM GOD FOR YOUR PAST HURTS.....25**

**SESSION 4: LEARNING TO HAVE A DAILY TIME WITH GOD (YOUR "GAME TIME").....31**

**SESSION 5: LOVE ONE ANOTHER.....34**

**SESSION 6: THE SECRET POWER OF TITHING.....38**



# THRIVE DISCIPLESHIP SCHOOL LEVEL 1

## SESSION 1: WHAT WE BELIEVE AT THRIVE

Everyone wants to be happy. People try many ways. Some look for happiness by acquiring possessions, by experiencing pleasure or by gaining prestige & power. But real happiness comes from understanding my \_\_\_\_\_ and living it out!

### WHY AM I HERE?

1. God made me to \_\_\_\_\_ me! He made you for a personal relationship with Him.

#### ***Ephesians 1:4 (MSG)***

*<sup>4</sup> Long before he laid down earth's foundations, he had us in mind, had settled on us as the focus of his love, to be made whole and holy by his love.*

2. We were created to \_\_\_\_\_ a personal relationship with God and to \_\_\_\_\_ all of the rest of God's creation! He has given us a unique and special purpose for our days on earth.

#### ***John 10:10 (MSG)***

*<sup>10</sup> A thief is only there to steal and kill and destroy. I came so they can have real and eternal life, more and better life than they ever dreamed of.*

3. When we know God, love God and live in harmony with His purpose for our lives, it produces tremendous benefits in our lives:

#### **Purpose**

Romans 8:28

#### **Confidence**

Romans 8:31

#### **Security**

Romans 8:39

#### **Clear Conscience**

Romans 8:1

#### **Peace**

Romans 8:6

#### **Wisdom**

Proverbs 2:6

#### **Power & Strength**

Philippians 4:13

#### **Ability to Forgive**

Ephesians 4:32

#### **Joy**

Galatians 5:22

## WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?

1. Man has a natural desire to \_\_\_\_\_ and to ignore God's principles for living. The bible calls this attitude: \_\_\_\_\_.

**Isaiah 53:6 (NLT)**

*<sup>6</sup>All of us, like sheep, have strayed away. We have left God's paths to follow our own.*

**Romans 3:23 (NIV)**

*<sup>23</sup>for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God*

2. The penalty for our sins is \_\_\_\_\_ (eternal separation from God).

**Isaiah 59:2 (NLT)**

*<sup>2</sup>It's your sins that have cut you off from God. Because of your sins, he has turned away and will not listen anymore.*

**Romans 6:23 (NIV)**

*<sup>23</sup>For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

## WHAT'S THE SOLUTION?

God did not want us to be separated from Him because of our sin. So He sent His Son \_\_\_\_\_ to fulfill all of God's requirements that we could not fulfill and to die the death that we were supposed to die because of our sin.

**Romans 5:8 (NIV)**

*<sup>8</sup>But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.*

**Bridge Illustration:**

**John 14:6 (NIV)**

*<sup>6</sup>Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."*

**JESUS CHRIST HAS ALREADY TAKEN CARE OF YOUR SIN PROBLEM!** God has already done His part to restore our relationship to Him. Now He waits for each of us to accept what He has done for us.

## WHAT DOES GOD WANT ME TO DO?

1. \_\_\_\_\_ that God has not been first place in your life and ask Him to forgive your sins.

### **1 John 1:9 (NIV)**

<sup>9</sup> If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

2. \_\_\_\_\_ that Jesus died to pay for your sins, that He rose again, and that He is Alive today.

### **Romans 10:9 (NLT)**

<sup>9</sup> If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

3. \_\_\_\_\_ God's free gift of salvation.

### **Ephesians 2:8-9 (NIV)**

<sup>8</sup> For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith--and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—<sup>9</sup> not by works, so that no one can boast.

4. \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus Christ as the director ("LORD") of your life.

### **John 1:12 (NIV)**

<sup>12</sup> Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God

**Have you taken those steps already? If not, you can do so right now by praying a simple prayer like this:**

"Dear Jesus, thank you for making me and loving me, even when I've ignored you and gone my own way. I realize I need you in my life and I'm sorry for my sins. I ask you to forgive me. Thank you for dying on the cross for me. Please come into my life and make me a new person inside. I accept your gift of salvation and receive you as Lord of my life."

**Remember: Salvation is a \_\_\_\_\_ gift from God. You can't earn it. You can only receive it by faith in Jesus Christ.**

### **Ephesians 2:8-9 (NIV)**

<sup>8</sup> For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith--and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God  
<sup>9</sup> not by works, so that no one can boast.

## HAVING RECEIVED GOD'S GIFT OF SALVATION, WHAT NOW?

Now that you have received God's gift of salvation, there are two things you need to know:

**FIRST**, God's plan is for you to \_\_\_\_\_ spiritually.

### **1 Peter 2:2-3 (NIV)**

*Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, now that you have tasted that the Lord is good.*

### How do I grow spiritually?

1. \_\_\_\_\_ a little bit of God's Word every day.

### **Matthew 4:4 (NIV)**

*<sup>4</sup>Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"*

2. Practice \_\_\_\_\_ every day.

### **Luke 5:16 (NIV)**

*<sup>16</sup>But Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed.*

3. \_\_\_\_\_ with other believers.

### **Hebrews 10:24-25 (NIV)**

*Let us not give up meeting together as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another and all the more as you see the day approaching.*

That means being committed to a good \_\_\_\_\_ and a good \_\_\_\_\_!

**SECOND**, your next step after receiving salvation is to get \_\_\_\_\_.

## THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING BAPTIZED

### WHY SHOULD I BE BAPTIZED?

1. To follow the example set by \_\_\_\_\_

**Mark 1:9 (NRSV)**

*In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan.*

2. Because Christ \_\_\_\_\_ it.

**Matthew 28:19-20 (NIV)**

*<sup>19</sup> 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, <sup>20</sup> and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."*

3. It demonstrates that I really am a \_\_\_\_\_

**Acts 18:8 (NIV)**

*...many of the Corinthians who heard him believed and were baptized.*

**1 John 2:3 (NLT)**

*<sup>3</sup> And we can be sure that we know him if we obey his commandments.*

### WHAT IS THE MEANING OF BAPTISM?

1. It illustrates Christ's \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

**1 Corinthians 15:4 (NLT)**

*<sup>4</sup> He was buried, and he was raised from the dead on the third day, just as the Scriptures said.*

**Colossians 2:12 (TLB)**

*<sup>12</sup> For in baptism you see how your old, evil nature died with him and was buried with him; and then you came up out of death with him into a new life because you trusted the Word of the mighty God who raised Christ from the dead.*

2. It illustrates my \_\_\_\_\_ as a Christian.

**Romans 6:4 (NLT):**

*<sup>4</sup> For we died and were buried with Christ by baptism. And just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, now we also may live new lives.*

Baptism doesn't make you a believer — it shows that you \_\_\_\_\_. Baptism does not "save" you; only your faith in Christ does that. Baptism is like a wedding ring — it's the outward symbol of the commitment you made in your heart.

## WHO SHOULD BE BAPTIZED?

Every person who has \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ.

### **Acts 2:41 (NIV)**

*<sup>41</sup> Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.*

### **Acts 8:12 (NLT)**

*<sup>12</sup> But now the people believed Philip's message of Good News concerning the Kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ. As a result, many men and women were baptized.*

## WHEN SHOULD I BE BAPTIZED?

\_\_\_\_\_ you have believed!

### **Acts 8:35-38 (NIV)**

*Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus. As they traveled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water. Why shouldn't I be baptized?" And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him.*

There is no reason to delay. As soon as you have decided to receive Christ into your life, you can and should be baptized. If you wait until you are "perfect", you'll never feel "good enough"!<sup>1</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup> These materials are based on Class 101 Materials written by Dr. Rick Warren of Saddleback Church.

**THRIVE DISCIPLESHIP SCHOOL LEVEL 1**  
**SESSION 2: THE RIGHT ENVIRONMENT FOR YOUR DESTINY**  
**(THE VISION OF THRIVE CHURCH)**

**2 MYTHS ABOUT FINDING THE RIGHT CHURCH**

**Myth #1:**

“The right church is a place where I feel completely \_\_\_\_\_ all the time.”

**The Truth:**

The right church will \_\_\_\_\_ so that you can grow.

**Myth #2:**

“The right church is a place where it’s easy for me to \_\_\_\_\_ a lot of people.”

**Proverbs 12:11 (NIV)**

<sup>11</sup> He who works his land will have abundant food, but he who chases fantasies lacks judgment.

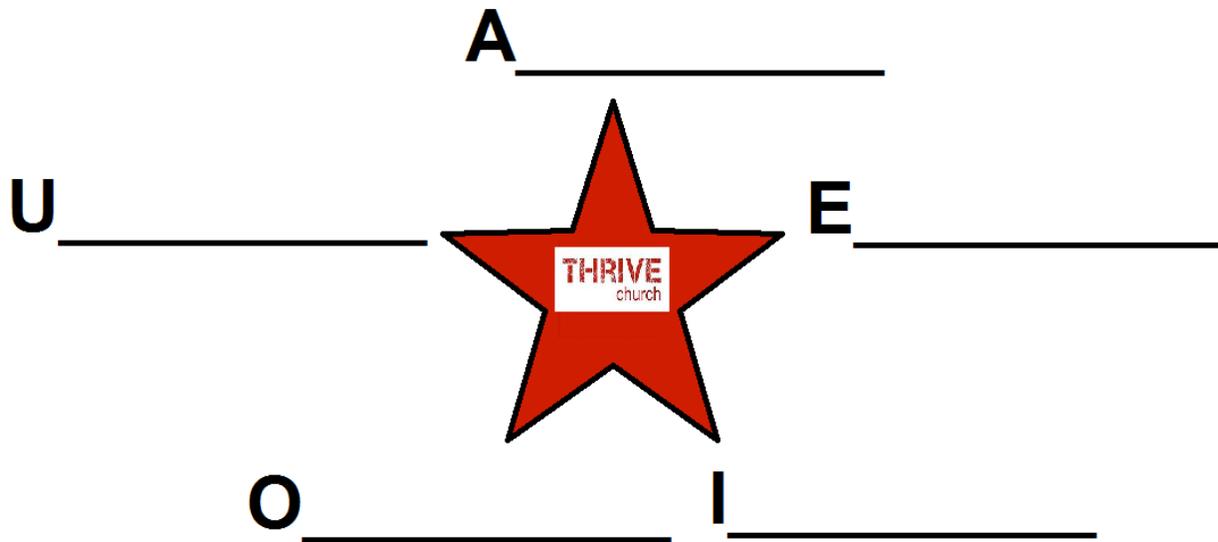
**Proverbs 28:19 (NIV)**

<sup>19</sup> He who works his land will have abundant food, but the one who chases fantasies will have his fill of poverty.

**The Truth:**

The right church is a place where you will be different from most people, but you trust and respect the \_\_\_\_\_ in that environment and the \_\_\_\_\_

**OUR VISION**



At THRIVE We Are...	Which Means We Are Here To	Practically That Means...
" _____ "	Worship Jesus	Gathering together each week to worship
" _____ "	Grow Into Christ-Like Disciples	Developing a personal GAME time
" _____ "	Serve Christ with our talents	Finding a ministry to serve in
" _____ "	Lead Others to Jesus	Bringing our unchurched friends to Thrive
" _____ "	Love our spiritual family	Being part of a small group

*At THRIVE Church we exist for 5 purposes, which we call "AEIOU".*

*A stands for Alive, which means we're here to worship Jesus*

*E stands for Expectant, which means we're here to grow into Christ-like disciples*

*I stands for Involved, which means we're here to serve God with our talents*

*O stands for Outloud, which means we're here to lead others to Jesus*

*U stands for United, which means we're here to love our spiritual family*

*And our dream is to build a church of 10,000 AEIOU Leaders.*

## HOW TO MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR TIME AT THRIVE

### 1. Be committed to \_\_\_\_\_ consistently

#### **Acts 2:42-47 (NIV)**

<sup>42</sup> They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. <sup>43</sup> Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and miraculous signs were done by the apostles. <sup>44</sup> All the believers were together and had everything in common. <sup>45</sup> Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need. <sup>46</sup> 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, <sup>47</sup> praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

#### **Hebrews 10:25 (NIV)**

<sup>25</sup> Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another - and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

### 2. Avoid \_\_\_\_\_

#### **James 1:6-8 (NLT)**

<sup>6</sup> ...Do not waver, for a person with divided loyalty is as unsettled as a wave of the sea that is blown and tossed by the wind. <sup>7</sup> Such people should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. <sup>8</sup> Their loyalty is divided between God and the world, and they are unstable in everything they do.

**THE COMMITMENT OF A THRIVER**

We ask every person who calls THRIVE their home church to make this commitment:

**1. I WILL \_\_\_\_\_ OF MY CHURCH**

...By acting in love toward other members (1 Peter 4:8)

...By speaking well of my church and refusing to gossip (Ephesians 4:29)

...By following the leaders (Hebrews 13:17)

**2. I WILL \_\_\_\_\_ OF MY CHURCH**

...By praying for its growth (1 Timothy 2:8)

...By inviting the unchurched to attend (John 10:16)

...By warmly welcoming those who visit (Matthew 5:16)

**3. I WILL \_\_\_\_\_ OF MY CHURCH**

...By using my time and talents to serve where needed (1 Peter 4:10)

...By being equipped to serve by my pastors (Ephesians 4:11-13)

...By developing a servant's heart (Matthew 23:11)

**4. I WILL \_\_\_\_\_ OF MY CHURCH**

...By attending faithfully (Hebrews 10:25)

...By living a godly life (Ephesians 5:1)

...By giving regularly (Malachi 3:10)

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**THE COMMITMENT OF A THRIVER**

**(THRIVE Church Copy)**

We ask every person who calls THRIVE their home church to make this commitment:

**1. I WILL \_\_\_\_\_ OF MY CHURCH**

...By acting in love toward other members (1 Peter 4:8)

...By speaking well of my church and refusing to gossip (Ephesians 4:29)

...By following the leaders (Hebrews 13:17)

**2. I WILL \_\_\_\_\_ OF MY CHURCH**

...By praying for its growth (1 Timothy 2:8)

...By inviting the unchurched to attend (John 10:16)

...By warmly welcoming those who visit (Matthew 5:16)

**3. I WILL \_\_\_\_\_ OF MY CHURCH**

...By using my time and talents to serve where needed (1 Peter 4:10)

...By being equipped to serve by my pastors (Ephesians 4:11-13)

...By developing a servant's heart (Matthew 23:11)

**4. I WILL \_\_\_\_\_ OF MY CHURCH**

...By attending faithfully (Hebrews 10:25)

...By living a godly life (Ephesians 5:1)

...By giving regularly (Malachi 3:10)

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



## THRIVE DISCIPLESHIP SCHOOL LEVEL 2

### SESSION 1: THE HOLY SPIRIT

#### **John 14:16-17 (NLT)**

<sup>16</sup> And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, who will never leave you.

<sup>17</sup> He is the Holy Spirit, who leads into all truth. The world cannot receive him, because it isn't looking for him and doesn't recognize him. But you know him, because he lives with you now and later will be in you.

The Holy Spirit is \_\_\_\_\_.

#### **2 Corinthians 3:17 (NIV)**

<sup>17</sup> Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.

The Holy Spirit is \_\_\_\_\_.

#### **Matthew 28:18-19 (NIV)**

<sup>18</sup> Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

<sup>19</sup> 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

1. The Holy Spirit \_\_\_\_\_ every Christian.

#### **1 John 2:27 (NLT)**

But you have received the Holy Spirit, and he lives within you...

#### **1 Corinthians 6:19 (NIV)**

Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own

#### **2 Corinthians 1:22 (NIV)**

God set his seal of ownership on us, and put his Spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.

2. The Holy Spirit helps us \_\_\_\_\_ God's Word.

#### **John 14:26 (NIV)**

But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.

#### **1 Corinthians 2:9-10 (NIV)**

"No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him"-- but God has revealed it to us by his Spirit. The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God.

3. The Holy Spirit \_\_\_\_\_ decisions.

**John 16:13 (NIV)**

*But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come.*

**HOW DO YOU KNOW IF THE HOLY SPIRIT IS GUIDING YOU?**

Clue 1. The Holy Spirit will only guide you in a way that is \_\_\_\_\_.

Clue 2. The Holy Spirit will only guide you in a way that \_\_\_\_\_.

Clue 3. When the Holy Spirit guides you, it is usually \_\_\_\_\_.

**Philippians 4:7 (NIV)**

*And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*

Clue 4. When it is the Holy Spirit guiding, it will often be \_\_\_\_\_.

4. The Holy Spirit \_\_\_\_\_ us of sin.

**John 16:7-8 (NIV)**

*<sup>7</sup> But I tell you the truth: It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Counselor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you.*

*<sup>8</sup> When he comes, he will convict the world of guilt in regard to sin and righteousness and judgment:*

5. The Holy Spirit \_\_\_\_\_ us with gifts to serve God.

**1 Corinthians 12:11 (NLT)**

*It is the one and only Spirit who distributes all these gifts. He alone decides which gift each person should have.*

6. The Holy Spirit helps us to \_\_\_\_\_ intimately and to \_\_\_\_\_.

**Romans 8:15-16 (NIV)**

*<sup>15</sup> For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father." <sup>16</sup> The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children.*

## THRIVE DISCIPLESHIP SCHOOL LEVEL 2

### SESSION 2: THE FILLING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

*On the audio recording for this session, after Pastor JB's teaching there is approximately 30 minutes of worship and prayer time where you will hear Pastor JB leading Thrivers in praying and drawing near to God. As you listen to that part, try your best to pray and draw near to God too.*

#### ***Ephesians 5:18 (NLT)***

*<sup>18</sup> Don't be drunk with wine, because that will ruin your life. Instead, be filled with the Holy Spirit*

#### **WHAT IS THE FILLING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT?**

The filling of the Holy Spirit is an experience where the Spirit of God fills you with His

\_\_\_\_\_.

#### ***Acts 1:8 (NIV)***

*<sup>8</sup> 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."*

#### ***Acts 2:4 (NIV)***

*<sup>4</sup> All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.*

#### ***Acts 4:31 (NIV)***

*<sup>31</sup> ...And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.*

#### ***Acts 7:55 (NIV)***

*<sup>55</sup> But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God.*

Certain signs will often accompany the filling of the Holy Spirit, including:

1. Greater \_\_\_\_\_ for God.
2. Greater \_\_\_\_\_ for people.
3. Greater sensitivity to God's \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Greater \_\_\_\_\_ to pray and take risks for God.
5. Greater \_\_\_\_\_ when you serve God.
6. Greater \_\_\_\_\_ to obey God's commands.
7. More Christ-like \_\_\_\_\_.
8. The ability to speak in \_\_\_\_\_.

## MYTHS ABOUT THE FILLING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

### Myth #1:

The filling of the Holy Spirit is only for “special Christians”.

### The Truth:

God commands \_\_\_\_\_ Christian to be filled with the Holy Spirit.

### Myth #2:

The filling of the Holy Spirit is a one-time experience.

### The Truth:

We need to \_\_\_\_\_ being filled with the Holy Spirit.

## HOW DO YOU RECEIVE THE FILLING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT?

1. \_\_\_\_\_ of any sins you struggle with

### **Isaiah 59:2 (NLT)**

<sup>2</sup> It's your sins that have cut you off from God. Because of your sins, he has turned away and will not listen anymore.

### **1 John 1:9 (NIV)**

<sup>9</sup> If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

\*See “List of Sins” at the back of this handout.

2. \_\_\_\_\_ the Holy Spirit to fill you.

### **Luke 11:11-13 (NIV)**

<sup>11</sup> "Which of you fathers, if your son asks for a fish, will give him a snake instead? <sup>12</sup> Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? <sup>13</sup> 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!"

3. \_\_\_\_\_ in worship and obedience to the Holy Spirit.

### **Acts 1:4-5 (NIV)**

<sup>4</sup> ...[Jesus] gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but **wait** for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. <sup>5</sup> For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

## SPEAKING IN TONGUES

Speaking in tongues is a spiritual gift that God is willing to give to Christians who desire it.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ predicted that his followers would speak in tongues.

### **Mark 16:17-18 (NIV)**

<sup>17</sup> And these signs will accompany those who believe: In my name they will drive out demons; **they will speak in new tongues**; <sup>18</sup> they will pick up snakes with their hands; and when they drink deadly poison, it will not hurt them at all; they will place their hands on sick people, and they will get well."

2. In the early church, when people were filled with the Holy Spirit, tongues was a very \_\_\_\_\_ sign.

### **Acts 2:4 (NIV)**

<sup>4</sup> All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

### **Acts 19:5-6 (NIV)**

<sup>5</sup> On hearing this, they were baptized into the name of the Lord Jesus. <sup>6</sup> When Paul placed his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied.

### **1 Corinthians 14:18 (NIV)**

<sup>18</sup> ...I speak in tongues more than all of you.

3. Tongues is a spiritual gift that the \_\_\_\_\_ gives.

### **1 Corinthians 12:4-11 (NIV)**

<sup>4</sup> There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit. <sup>5</sup> There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. <sup>6</sup> There are different kinds of working, but the same God works all of them in all men. <sup>7</sup> Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. <sup>8</sup> To one there is given through the Spirit the message of wisdom, to another the message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, <sup>9</sup> to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, <sup>10</sup> to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another **speaking in different kinds of tongues**, and to still another the interpretation of tongues. <sup>11</sup> **All these are the work of one and the same Spirit**, and he gives them to each one, just as he determines.

4. When you speak in a tongue, you're speaking to \_\_\_\_\_ not to men. Since it's a language that you don't know and have not learned, it will not be \_\_\_\_\_ to you or others, unless you or others have the gift of interpretation.

### **1 Corinthians 14:2 (NIV)**

<sup>2</sup> For anyone who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God. Indeed, no one understands him; he utters mysteries with his spirit.

5. When you speak in a tongue, you are praying not with your mind but with your \_\_\_\_\_.

**1 Corinthians 14:2 (NIV)**

*<sup>2</sup> For anyone who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God. Indeed, no one understands him; he utters mysteries **with his spirit**.*

**1 Corinthians 14:14 (TLB)**

*<sup>14</sup> For if I pray in a language I don't understand, **my spirit is praying**, but I don't know what I am saying.*

6. When you speak in a tongue, you \_\_\_\_\_ yourself. Speaking in tongues is a powerful way to build up your spirit. Many Christians find that they can pray longer and can sense God's presence more closely when they pray in tongues.

**1 Corinthians 14:4 (NIV)**

*<sup>4</sup> He who speaks in a tongue edifies himself...*

7. Tongues have their place in the \_\_\_\_\_.

**1 Corinthians 14:39-40 (NIV)**

*<sup>39</sup> Therefore, my brothers, be eager to prophesy, and do not forbid speaking in tongues. <sup>40</sup> But everything should be done in a fitting and orderly way.*

**WHEN CAN YOU PRACTICE SPEAKING IN TONGUES?**

(a) When you are praying with others in church or small group.

(b) Anytime you are on your own and during your own \_\_\_\_\_ with God.

At THRIVE, we refrain from using tongues on stage unless there is someone to interpret.

(1 Corinthians 14:26-28, 39-40)

**HOW TO RECEIVE THE GIFT OF TONGUES?**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ the Holy Spirit for the gift of tongues.

**Luke 11:13 (NIV)**

*...how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who **ask him!**"*

2. Start praying and worshiping God with your spirit without \_\_\_\_\_ too much.

(1 Corinthians 14:2)

**1 Corinthians 14:14-15 (NIV)**

*<sup>14</sup> For if I pray in a tongue, **my spirit prays**, but my mind is unfruitful.*

3. After you have received the gift of tongues, \_\_\_\_\_ it often!

**2 Timothy 1:6 (NIV)**

*<sup>6</sup> For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands.*

At this point in the audio recording you will hear Pastor JB leading Thrivers in praying, drawing close to God and asking the Holy Spirit to fill them. As you're listening, go to a quiet place without distractions where you can stand, sit, or kneel in God's presence. Use this part of the audio recording to draw near to God. Follow the instructions Pastor JB gives on the audio recording as he helps you to repent of sin, invite the Holy Spirit into your life and wait in His presence. Believe that as you spend time in God's presence, His Holy Spirit will touch and empower your life!

## **Light of the World**

Music and lyrics written by Ariel Tsai

Jesus You died on the cross for us  
You paid the price and took our sins away  
You gave Your all so freely, unreserved  
You loved us more than what we could deserve

Jesus You're the truth, the way, the life  
You showed us how to love and to forgive  
You see our hearts, You know our every thought  
You break the chains and set us free again

*Jesus, You're the light and world to me  
I lift my hands and I will sing  
You are the only one for me  
Jesus, make me the light of the world  
Let me shine for Your glory LORD  
Let me love You more each day*

**EXERCISE:** After the prayer time is over, use the space below to record anything you experienced or sensed from the Holy Spirit while you were repenting of sin, asking Holy Spirit to fill you and waiting in His presence:

## LIST OF SINS

Here is a list of some of the sins referred to in the Bible:

Adultery

Blasphemy: making false statements about God

Breaking promises deliberately (not keeping your word)

Complaining attitude

Deceiving others

Dishonoring parents

Disowning God (denouncing your faith in Christ)

Dissension: causing division within God's church

Drunkenness

Entering into a close partnership with someone who rejects Jesus Christ as Lord (also called being yoked unequally with an unbeliever)

Envy

Evil desires and thoughts

Failing to do the good that you know you ought to do

Failing to love God with all your heart

Failing to love your neighbour as yourself

Fits of rage

Fornication: having sex without being married

Gluttony: eating or drinking to excess

Gossip: talking about others in a way that does not benefit

Greed (including refusing to tithe and failing to give to the poor)

Grumbling: complaining about one another

Hatred

Homosexual actions

Hypocrisy

Ill-temperedness: having a bad temper

Impure thoughts

Idolatry: includes giving anything or anyone greater importance than God, or professing faith in a cult or other religion

Indifference to good or evil

Ingratitude

Jealousy

Judgmental attitude toward others

Laziness

Lust

Lying

Malice: wanting to harm others

Materialism

Misusing God's name (using the Lord's name in vain)

Murder (includes abortion)  
Not keeping the Sabbath day  
Not giving to the poor and the church  
Premarital sex (fornication)  
Practicing the occult (ouija boards, séances, satanism)  
Pride  
Profanity (using dirty or obscene language)  
Prostitution  
Recklessness that puts others in danger  
Refusing to submit to God-given authority  
Rudeness  
Selfishness  
Sexual immorality (having sex outside of marriage)  
Slander: making false statements about someone with the intention of hurting them  
Speaking lies  
Stealing  
Unbelief: refusing to believe and obey what God says  
Unforgiveness: refusing to forgive those who have hurt you  
Unjustified anger  
Witchcraft  
Worry

***Isaiah 59:2 (NLT)***

*<sup>2</sup> It's your sins that have cut you off from God. Because of your sins, he has turned away and will not listen anymore.*

***1 John 1:9 (NIV)***

*<sup>9</sup> If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.*



## THRIVE DISCIPLESHIP SCHOOL LEVEL 2

### SESSION 3: RECEIVING HEALING FROM GOD FOR YOUR PAST HURTS

*On the audio recording for this session, after Pastor JB's teaching there is approximately 30 minutes of worship and prayer time where you will hear Pastor JB leading Thrivers in praying and drawing near to God. Use that part of the audio recording to pray and draw near to God.*

Why do some Christians find it difficult to be filled with the Holy Spirit after receiving salvation? It's because they carry \_\_\_\_\_.

Before God can fill you completely with His Spirit, He needs to \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_ wants to heal you from your past hurts!

#### **Isaiah 61:1-3, 7 (NIV)**

*<sup>1</sup> The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me, because the LORD has anointed me to preach 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, <sup>2</sup> to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn, <sup>3</sup> and provide for those who grieve in Zion-- to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair. They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the LORD for the display of his splendor...<sup>7</sup> Instead of their shame my people will receive a double portion, and instead of disgrace they will rejoice in their inheritance; and so they will inherit a double portion in their land, and everlasting joy will be theirs.*

#### **2 Corinthians 1:3-5 (NIV)**

*<sup>3</sup> Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, <sup>4</sup> who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God.*

*<sup>5</sup> For just as the sufferings of Christ flow over into our lives, so also through Christ our comfort overflows.*

#### **HOW TO RECEIVE HEALING FROM THE HOLY SPIRIT FOR PAST HURTS?**

**1. Bring your hurt to \_\_\_\_\_.**

#### **Psalms 118:5 (NIV)**

*<sup>5</sup> In my anguish I cried to the LORD, and he answered by setting me free.*

#### **Psalms 62:8 (NIV)**

*<sup>8</sup> Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your hearts to him, for God is our refuge.*

#### **1 Samuel 1:11 (NIV)**

*<sup>10</sup> In bitterness of soul Hannah wept much and prayed to the LORD.*

2. \_\_\_\_\_ of your sins.

**Jeremiah 3:22 (NLT)**

<sup>22</sup> "My wayward children," says the Lord, "come back to me, and I will heal your wayward hearts." "Yes, we're coming," the people reply, "for you are the Lord our God."

**James 5:16 (NIV)**

<sup>16</sup> Therefore **confess your sins to each other** and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective.

3. \_\_\_\_\_ those who hurt you.

**Colossians 3:13 (NIV)**

<sup>13</sup> Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.

**Luke 6:37 (NIV)**

<sup>37</sup> "Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven.

4. \_\_\_\_\_ Satan from continuing to hurt you.

**John 10:10 (NIV)**

<sup>10</sup> The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

**Matthew 4:10-11 (NIV)**

<sup>10</sup> Jesus said to him, "**Away from me, Satan!** For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.'" <sup>11</sup> Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him.

**Mark 16:17-18 (NIV)**

<sup>17</sup> And these signs will accompany those who believe: In my name they will drive out demons; they will speak in new tongues; <sup>18</sup> they will pick up snakes with their hands; and when they drink deadly poison, it will not hurt them at all; they will place their hands on sick people, and they will get well."

Next on the audio recording you will hear Pastor JB leading Thrivers in praying, drawing close to God and looking to God for healing for past hurts. As you're listening, go find a quiet place without distractions where you can stand, sit, or kneel in God's presence. Take this time to bring your hurts to God, to repent of sins, to forgive those who hurt you, and to cut off Satan from continuing to hurt you. (Some sample prayers you can pray and the song lyrics to the song "Open Heaven (River Wild)" can be found on the following pages.)

Afterwards, do the journal exercise on page 29.

## Hurt Sheet

Instructions: Ask the Holy Spirit to help you scan your heart and put a check mark beside each hurt that you still carry with you today. Circle the hurt that has affected you the most deeply.

### **Abuse**

- verbal abuse (i.e. hurtful words spoken against you)
- physical abuse
- sexual abuse
- victim of bullying
- victim of rape

### **Hurt from Spouse or Friends**

- husband or wife left you
- husband or wife had an affair
- boyfriend or girlfriend broke up with you
- betrayed by a friend
- criticized unfairly by others
- rejected by others
- taken for granted, underappreciated

### **Hurt from Parents**

- not wanted by your dad or mom
- neglected by your dad or mom
- dad or mom was distant and cold
- dad or mom abandoned you
- dad or mom liked your brother or sister more
- dad and mom went through a divorce or separation
- overly controlled by your dad or mom

### **Grief**

- loved one passed away
- loved one is sick
- lost a job

**Other:** \_\_\_\_\_

***When repenting of sin, here's a prayer you can pray:***

### **Prayer of Repentance:**

Dear Jesus, I confess that I have acted, spoken and thought in ways that are not pleasing to You, such as **[name specific sins]**. Lord Jesus, I was wrong and I'm sorry for acting this way. I ask You to forgive me for sinning against You and sinning against others. I turn from my sins now and commit my whole life – body, soul and spirit – to You. Be Lord over my entire life, and cleanse me of all unrighteousness. In Jesus' name I pray, AMEN!

***When forgiving others, here's a prayer you can pray:***

### **Prayer to Forgive Others:**

Dear Jesus, right now I forgive unconditionally every person who has thought, said or done things to hurt me. Specifically, I forgive the following people: I forgive **[name the person]** for **[tell God what the person did]**. Lord Jesus, the forgiveness You have given me I now give to them. I release to You all bitterness and unforgiveness in my heart. I declare that those who hurt me are now forgiven, and I am set free. In Jesus' name I pray, AMEN!

***When cutting off Satan from hurting you further, here's a prayer you can pray:***

**Prayer to Cut Off Satan from hurting you further:**

In Jesus' name I cut off Satan from my life. Satan, you have no right to hurt me anymore. In Jesus' name I command you to leave and to stop bothering me. Every evil spirit, curse, and demonic force on my life I now cut off in Jesus' name. I proclaim that my life belongs to Jesus Christ. His blood has made me healed and whole. Holy Spirit come and fill every part of me. Protect me in Jesus' name I pray, AMEN!

**Open Heaven (River Wild)**

By Hillsong

**Verse 1**

Signs and wonders from above  
When You poured out Your Spirit  
On the old and the young  
In the power of Your presence

**Chorus**

*Holy Spirit rain  
Falling like a flood  
Break upon my praise as I sing of Your love  
Holy Spirit fire  
Burn in my soul as I call on Your Name  
As I call on Your Name*

**Verse 2**

Dreams and visions of the Son  
As I stand in Your presence  
Revelations of Your love  
As I look to the heavens

**Bridge**

Oh Holy Spirit burn like a fire  
All consuming consume me  
Here in Your presence,  
Lord I surrender  
To Your glory, for Your glory |2x|

Living water, river wild in me  
Immerse me in Your mercy  
Open heaven, crashing over me  
Restore me in Your glory

**JOURNAL EXERCISE**

After the prayer time is over, use the space below to record anything you experienced or sensed from the Holy Spirit while you were spending time in His presence:



## THRIVE DISCIPLESHIP SCHOOL LEVEL 2

### SESSION 4: LEARNING TO HAVE A DAILY TIME WITH GOD (YOUR "GAME TIME")

#### **Luke 5:16 (MSG)**

<sup>16</sup> As often as possible Jesus withdrew to out-of-the-way places for prayer.

**Without a daily time with God, you will not grow in your relationship with God.**

#### **Luke 10:38-42 (NIV)**

<sup>38</sup> As Jesus and his disciples were on their way, he came to a village where a woman named Martha opened her home to him.

<sup>39</sup> She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet listening to what he said.

<sup>40</sup> But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made. She came to him and asked, "Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!"

<sup>41</sup> "Martha, Martha," the Lord answered, "you are worried and upset about many things,

<sup>42</sup> but only one thing is needed. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her."

When you don't take time to be close to God and to listen to Him regularly, you will be worried and upset about many things. But when you make your GAME time your daily habit, you will experience God's peace, presence, and wisdom, and you will mature in your relationship with God!

#### **TIPS ON HOW TO HAVE AN EFFECTIVE GAME TIME**

**1. Be \_\_\_\_\_**

#### **Psalm 1:1-3 (NIV)**

<sup>1</sup> Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked or stand in the way of sinners or sit in the seat of mockers.

<sup>2</sup> But his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night.

<sup>3</sup> He is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither. Whatever he does prospers.

#### **Deuteronomy 17:19 (NLT)**

<sup>19</sup> He must always keep that copy [of the Bible] with him and read it **daily** as long as he lives. That way he will learn to fear the LORD his God by obeying all the terms of these instructions and decrees.

**2. Before you read your Bible, \_\_\_\_\_ in God's presence.**

**(let yourself "de-thaw")**

**Tips for how to relax and be still with God (use any one or more of these):**

- Find \_\_\_\_\_ where you can focus and be alone with God
- Be quiet and \_\_\_\_\_ in God's presence. If you really need to, take a short nap.
- Spend time \_\_\_\_\_ God. Use worship music if it helps.

- \_\_\_\_\_ **God for the blessings in your life**
- \_\_\_\_\_ **tell God your troubles**
- **Pray in** \_\_\_\_\_

Also remember to \_\_\_\_\_ **to God.** (*“Holy Spirit, please fill me today. Whatever you want to say, whatever you want to do, go ahead. Have your way in my life.”*)

### 3. Read a passage from \_\_\_\_\_

#### Why the Bible?

##### **Matthew 4:4 (NIV)**

<sup>4</sup> *Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"*

##### **2 Timothy 3:16-17 (NIV)**

<sup>16</sup> *All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,*  
<sup>17</sup> *so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.*

##### **1 Peter 2:2 (NKJV)**

<sup>2</sup> *as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby*

#### Tips when reading the Bible:

- Follow a reading plan. Don't flip randomly. Use the GAME booklet.
- Read a short passage.
- Carefully read the passage a few times over.
- Underline a key word or phrase. (How do you know if it's a key word or phrase? It keeps getting repeated or it is the main idea of the passage.)
- Ask yourself: "How can I apply this passage to my life?" If you're stuck, ask yourself: in this passage is there a:
  - SIN TO CONFESS?
  - PROMISE TO CLAIM?
  - ATTITUDE TO CHANGE?
  - COMMAND TO KEEP?
  - EXAMPLE TO FOLLOW?
  - PRAYER TO PRAY?
  - ERROR TO AVOID?
  - TRUTH TO BELIEVE?
  - SOMETHING TO THANK GOD FOR?
- Get a good Study Bible to help you with questions.
- Use a Bible translation that you find easiest to understand. At THRIVE the translation we use the most is the New International Version (NIV), and the second is New Living Translation (NLT).

4. \_\_\_\_\_ your thoughts and prayers.

- Keep a prayer journal. (Use the GAME booklet.)

**If you find that your GAME time is getting dry, here are some things you can try:**

- Try a different way of relaxing and being still in God's presence (Step 2 above).
- Take a favourite verse and memorize it.
- Read from a different Bible translation.
- Share what you've been learning in your GAME time with a friend.
- Take a verse that you like and:
  - \_\_\_\_\_ it! Visualize the scene in your mind.
  - \_\_\_\_\_ it! Say the verse aloud, each time emphasizing a different word
  - \_\_\_\_\_ it! Rewrite the verse in your own words.
  - \_\_\_\_\_ it! Replace the pronouns or people in the verse with your own name.
  - \_\_\_\_\_ it! Turn the verse into a prayer and say it back to God.

***Colossians 3:16 (NIV)***

<sup>16</sup> *Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly*

**ONE FINAL THOUGHT**

It is important to manage your expectations and don't give up. If during one of your GAME times you don't feel His presence that strongly or you don't learn that much or you miss a day, don't panic and don't quit. Remember that a daily time with God is not about always having an amazing emotional experience with God. It's about maintaining a healthy, growing, and ongoing relationship. If you don't give up, your relationship will surely grow!

## THRIVE DISCIPLESHIP SCHOOL LEVEL 2

### SESSION 5: LOVE ONE ANOTHER

#### **1 John 4:7-12 (NIV)**

<sup>7</sup> Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God.

<sup>8</sup> Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.

<sup>9</sup> This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him.

<sup>10</sup> This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.

<sup>11</sup> Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

<sup>12</sup> No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.

#### **THE TRUTH ABOUT LOVE**

1. Love is not \_\_\_\_\_. Love is \_\_\_\_\_.

2. Love is not \_\_\_\_\_. Love is \_\_\_\_\_.

#### **John 15:12-13 (NIV)**

<sup>12</sup> My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you.

<sup>13</sup> Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends.

3. Love \_\_\_\_\_. God can change the hardest heart if a person is willing.

#### **1 John 4:7 (NIV)**

<sup>7</sup> Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God.

4. The best measure of your maturity in Christ is \_\_\_\_\_.

#### **John 13:35 (NIV)**

<sup>35</sup> By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

#### **1 Corinthians 13:13 (NIV)**

<sup>13</sup> And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

#### **1 John 4:8 (NIV)**

<sup>8</sup> Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.

#### **HOW TO LOVE ONE ANOTHER IN OUR CHURCH FAMILY?**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ one another

#### **1 Corinthians 16:20 (NIV)**

<sup>20</sup> All the brothers here send you greetings. Greet one another with a holy kiss.

2. \_\_\_\_\_ to one another's texts, e-mails and phone calls.

**1 Corinthians 13:5 (NIV)**

<sup>5</sup> [Love] is not rude, it is not self-seeking

3. \_\_\_\_\_.

We want everyone at THRIVE to be committed to meeting regularly in \_\_\_\_\_  
and in a \_\_\_\_\_.

**Acts 2:46 (TLB)**

<sup>46</sup> They worshiped together regularly at the Temple each day, met in small groups in homes for Communion, and shared their meals with great joy and thankfulness

**Hebrews 10:25 (NIV)**

<sup>25</sup> Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another-- and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

4. \_\_\_\_\_ for one another.

**Philippians 2:4 (NLT)**

<sup>4</sup> Don't look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too.

**Romans 12:13 (NIV)**

<sup>13</sup> Share with God's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.

5. Speak \_\_\_\_\_ to one another.

**Proverbs 18:21 (NLT)**

<sup>21</sup> The tongue can bring death or life; those who love to talk will reap the consequences.

**Ephesians 4:29 (NIV)**

<sup>29</sup> Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.

6. Speak \_\_\_\_\_ one another to others. Do not \_\_\_\_\_.

Gossip is talking about someone behind their back in a way that \_\_\_\_\_.

### Four Reasons Why Gossip Is Dangerous

(1) When you gossip, you \_\_\_\_\_.

**Proverbs 11:13 (NIV)**

<sup>13</sup> A gossip betrays a confidence, but a trustworthy man keeps a secret.

(2) When you gossip, you \_\_\_\_\_.

**Proverbs 16:28 (NIV)**

<sup>28</sup> A perverse man stirs up dissension, and a gossip separates close friends.

(3) When you gossip, you \_\_\_\_\_.

**Proverbs 25:9-10 (NLT)**

<sup>9</sup> When arguing with your neighbor, don't betray another person's secret. <sup>10</sup> Others may accuse you of gossip, and you will never regain your good reputation.

(4) When you gossip, you \_\_\_\_\_.

**Matthew 12:36**

<sup>36</sup> But I tell you that men will have to give account on the day of judgment for every careless word they have spoken.

We must learn to **THINK** before we speak.

**T** – Is what I'm saying really \_\_\_\_\_?

**H** – Does it \_\_\_\_\_ the person if I say this?

**I** – Does it \_\_\_\_\_ others if I say this?

**N** – Is it \_\_\_\_\_?

**K** – Is it \_\_\_\_\_?

**7.** \_\_\_\_\_ **one another in love.**

To "bear with someone in love" means to put up with their irritating, immature or ignorant behavior with the hope that they will mature. It means to support them, to hold them up, to tolerate them.

**Ephesians 4:2 (NIV)**

<sup>2</sup> Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, **bearing with one another in love.**

**8. Speak** \_\_\_\_\_.

**Ephesians 4:15 (NLT)**

<sup>15</sup> Instead, **we will speak the truth in love,** growing in every way more and more like Christ, who is the head of his body, the church.

**Matthew 18:15-17 (NLT)**

<sup>15</sup> If another believer sins against you, go privately and point out the offense. If the other person listens and confesses it, you have won that person back. <sup>16</sup> But if you are unsuccessful, take one or two others with you and go back again, so that everything you say may be confirmed by two or three witnesses. <sup>17</sup> If the person still refuses to listen, take your case to the church. Then if he or she won't accept the church's decision, treat that person as a pagan or a corrupt tax collector.

**WHEN IS IT TIME TO SPEAK THE TRUTH IN LOVE?**

**Clue #1:** When the problem is so serious that you cannot

\_\_\_\_\_ in a healthy way without talking about it (i.e. when bitterness has settled in)

**Clue #2:** When the problem is so serious that

---

**Clue #3:** When you want to help that person improve and you are

---

### HOW DO YOU SPEAK THE TRUTH IN LOVE?

A \_\_\_\_\_ – Make sure you understand the situation before you speak.

B \_\_\_\_\_ in the person – Emphasize your belief in the person. Acknowledge the positives first.

C \_\_\_\_\_ – Gently let that person know how they can improve in a practical way.

9. \_\_\_\_\_ one another.

#### ***Colossians 3:13 (NIV)***

*<sup>13</sup>Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.*

#### **A prayer you can pray:**

Lord Jesus, I want to learn to live in loving community with my brothers and sisters in Christ. Since love comes from you, please help me to love my church family well using all the nine ways we talked about today. Thank you for putting me in a church family where I can learn to be a more loving person. May I imitate you more and more in the way that I love my church family. In Jesus' name I pray, Amen.

#### ***Ephesians 4:11-16 (NIV)***

*<sup>11</sup>It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, <sup>12</sup>to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up <sup>13</sup>until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. <sup>14</sup>Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of men in their deceitful scheming. <sup>15</sup>Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ. <sup>16</sup>From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.*

## THRIVE DISCIPLESHIP SCHOOL LEVEL 2

### SESSION 6: THE SECRET POWER OF TITHING

A disciple of Jesus Christ develops the habit of \_\_\_\_\_.

#### ***Proverbs 3:9-10 (NIV)***

<sup>9</sup> Honor the LORD with your wealth, with the first fruits of all your crops;

<sup>10</sup> then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine.

#### **LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

In this class you will learn:

- What is Jesus' view on money?
- What is a "tithe"? How is that different from an "offering"?
- Why is it important for Jesus' disciples to tithe?
- Why is it important for Jesus' disciples to practice generosity in offerings?
- Why is generosity important?

#### **WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY ABOUT MONEY?**

1. There are approximately \_\_\_\_\_ verses in the Bible on money and possessions.
2. In Matthew, Mark and Luke, 1 out of every \_\_\_\_\_ verses talks about money.
3. Out of 38 parables that Jesus taught, \_\_\_\_\_ involve money.
4. There are \_\_\_\_\_ times more verses in the Bible about money and possessions than love.
5. Jesus talks more about money than he does about \_\_\_\_\_.

#### **WHY DOES THE BIBLE TALK SO MUCH ABOUT MONEY?**

It's because how you view money is a reflection of \_\_\_\_\_. Your view of money says a lot about your \_\_\_\_\_ and your \_\_\_\_\_.

How you handle money will determine your \_\_\_\_\_.

#### ***Luke 12:34 (NIV)***

<sup>34</sup> For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

#### **3 TRUTHS ABOUT MONEY**

1. Money is a \_\_\_\_\_.

#### ***Ecclesiastes 10:19 (NIV)***

<sup>19</sup> A feast is made for laughter, and wine makes life merry, but money is the answer for everything.

#### ***Luke 12:15 (NIV)***

<sup>15</sup> Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions."

God wants us to use money and love people. But if we are not careful, we will end up loving money and using people.

**1 Timothy 6:10 (TLB)**

*<sup>10</sup> For the love of money is the first step toward all kinds of sin. Some people have even turned away from God because of their love for it, and as a result have pierced themselves with many sorrows.*

**Luke 16:13 (NIV)**

*<sup>13</sup> "No servant can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and Money."*

You need to learn to control money or else money will control you.

**2. Money is a \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Luke 16:10 (NIV)**

*<sup>10</sup> "Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much."*

You are not the ultimate owner, but a \_\_\_\_\_, of everything you have been given, including money. What I think I own is really on loan!

God calls us to be wise and faithful stewards with what He has given us.

**3. Money is a \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Luke 16:11-12 (NIV)**

*<sup>11</sup> So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches? <sup>12</sup> And if you have not been trustworthy with someone else's property, who will give you property of your own?*

**Matthew 25:23 (NIV)**

*<sup>23</sup> "His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'*

**A healthy disciple of Christ is committed to the habit of giving \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.**

**WHAT IS TITHING?**

Tithing is giving \_\_\_\_\_ to God.

A "tithe" means \_\_\_\_\_.

**FIVE REASONS I SHOULD TITHE**

**(a) Because God \_\_\_\_\_ it.**

**Leviticus 27:30 (CEV)**

*<sup>30</sup> Ten percent of everything you harvest is holy and belongs to me, whether it grows in your fields or on your fruit trees.*

(b) When I refuse to give my tithes and offerings, I am \_\_\_\_\_.

**Malachi 3:8 (NIV)**

<sup>8</sup> "Will a man rob God? Yet you rob me. "But you ask, 'How do we rob you?' "In tithes and offerings."

(c) Tithing shows that God has \_\_\_\_\_ place in my life.

**Deuteronomy 14:23 (TLB)**

<sup>23</sup> ...The purpose of tithing is to teach you always to put God first in your lives.

Tithing reminds me that everything I have was given to me by God, and that I am not the owner but a steward of what I have been given. Tithing is proof of my love for God and my faith in Him.

**John 14:15 (NIV)**

<sup>15</sup> "If you love me, you will obey what I command.

(d) Tithing gives God a chance to \_\_\_\_\_ He exists and wants to bless you!

**Malachi 3:10 (NIV)**

<sup>10</sup> Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the LORD Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it.

**Matthew 6:31-33 (NIV)**

<sup>31</sup> So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' <sup>32</sup> For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. <sup>33</sup> But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

(e) We tithe because we need to take good care of \_\_\_\_\_ God has given us.

**Malachi 3:10 (NIV)**

<sup>10</sup> Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house.

God initiated tithing so that His church would always be well provided for.

Some people say, "Wasn't tithing part of the Old Testament law, and didn't Jesus set us free from the Old Testament law?" The principle of tithing is not just a rule from the Old Testament law. Even before the Old Testament law existed, Abraham tithed as an example for us, the future children of Abraham, to follow.

**Genesis 14:17-20 (NIV)**

<sup>17</sup> After Abram returned from defeating Kedorlaomer and the kings allied with him, the king of Sodom came out to meet him in the Valley of Shaveh (that is, the King's Valley). <sup>18</sup> Then Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine. He was priest of God Most High, <sup>19</sup> and he blessed Abram, saying, "Blessed be Abram by God Most High, Creator of heaven and earth.

<sup>20</sup> And blessed be God Most High, who delivered your enemies into your hand." Then **Abram gave him a tenth of everything.**

**Hebrews 7:1-10 (NIV)**

<sup>1</sup> This Melchizedek was king of Salem and priest of God Most High. He met Abraham returning from the defeat of the kings and blessed him, <sup>2</sup> and Abraham gave him a tenth of everything. First, his name means "king of righteousness"; then also, "king of Salem" means "king of peace." <sup>3</sup> Without father or mother,

without genealogy, without beginning of days or end of life, like the Son of God he remains a priest forever. <sup>4</sup> Just think how great he was: Even the patriarch Abraham gave him a tenth of the plunder! <sup>5</sup> Now the law requires the descendants of Levi who become priests to collect a tenth from the people--that is, their brothers--even though their brothers are descended from Abraham. <sup>6</sup> This man, however, did not trace his descent from Levi, yet he collected a tenth from Abraham and blessed him who had the promises. <sup>7</sup> And without doubt the lesser person is blessed by the greater.

<sup>8</sup> In the one case, the tenth is collected by men who die; but in the other case, by him who is declared to be living. <sup>9</sup> One might even say that Levi, who collects the tenth, paid the tenth through Abraham, <sup>10</sup> because when Melchizedek met Abraham, Levi was still in the body of his ancestor.

*Jesus never abolished tithing. Rather Jesus affirmed the importance of tithing.*

### **Luke 11:39-42 (TLB)**

<sup>39</sup> Then Jesus said to him, "You Pharisees wash the outside, but inside you are still dirty -full of greed and wickedness! <sup>40</sup> Fools! Didn't God make the inside as well as the outside? <sup>41</sup> Purity is best demonstrated by generosity. <sup>42</sup> "But woe to you Pharisees! For though you are careful to tithe even the smallest part of your income, you completely forget about justice and the love of God. **You should tithe**, yes, but you should not leave these other things undone.

**Where should I give my tithe?** \_\_\_\_\_.

### **Malachi 3:10 (MSG)**

<sup>10</sup> *Bring your full tithe to the Temple treasury so there will be ample provisions in my Temple.*

**When should I tithe?** Do so \_\_\_\_\_.

### **1 Corinthians 16:2 (TLB)**

<sup>2</sup> *On every Lord's Day each of you should put aside something from what you have earned during the week, and use it for this offering. The amount depends on how much the Lord has helped you earn. Don't wait until I get there and then try to collect it all at once.*

**If I am a student or I am unemployed, what should I tithe?**

Tithe 10% of whatever income you \_\_\_\_\_ (e.g. an allowance, a gift).

## **OFFERINGS**

**What is the difference between a tithe and an offering?**

A "tithe" is giving the first 10% of my income.

An "offering" is anything I give \_\_\_\_\_ my tithe.

## WHY GOD WANTS ME TO BE GENEROUS IN MY OFFERINGS

### 1. GIVING GENEROUSLY HELPS ME BECOME \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Ephesians 5:2 (MSG)**

<sup>2</sup> Mostly what God does is love you. Keep company with him and learn a life of love. Observe how Christ loved us. His love was not cautious but extravagant. He didn't love in order to get something from us but to give everything of himself to us. Love like that.

### 2. GIVING GENEROUSLY IS AN INVESTMENT \_\_\_\_\_

#### **1 Timothy 6:19 (NIV)**

<sup>19</sup> In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.

#### **Matthew 6:19-20 (NIV)**

<sup>19</sup> "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. <sup>20</sup> But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal.

### 3. GIVING GENEROUSLY BLESSES ME \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Proverbs 22:9 (NIV)**

<sup>9</sup> A generous man will himself be blessed, for he shares his food with the poor.

#### **Proverbs 11:25 (NIV)**

<sup>25</sup> A generous man will prosper; he who refreshes others will himself be refreshed.

#### **Psalms 112:5 (NIV)**

<sup>5</sup> Good will come to him who is generous and lends freely

## GIVING WITH THE RIGHT ATTITUDES

GIVE \_\_\_\_\_.

#### **2 Corinthians 8:12 (NIV)**

<sup>12</sup> For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what he does not have.

GIVE \_\_\_\_\_.

#### **2 Corinthians 9:7 (NIV)**

<sup>7</sup> Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

GIVE \_\_\_\_\_.

#### **2 Corinthians 8:3 (TLB)**

<sup>3</sup> They gave not only what they could afford but far more; and I can testify that they did it because they wanted to and not because of nagging on my part.

**2 Samuel 24:24 (NIV)**

*<sup>24</sup> But the king replied to Araunah, "No, I insist on paying you for it. I will not sacrifice to the LORD my God burnt offerings that cost me nothing." So David bought the threshing floor and the oxen and paid fifty shekels of silver for them.*

**GIVE** \_\_\_\_\_.

**2 Corinthians 9:8 (NIV)**

*<sup>8</sup> And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.*

**A PRAYER TO PRAY**

Father, I know you love me and want what's best for me. I recognize that all I have, or will ever have, comes from you. I am more interested in pleasing you than in having more possessions. I want you to have first place in my life and I am willing to begin tithing as you have commanded. Out of gratitude for all you've done for me, and in expectation that you will continue to provide for me, I commit myself to returning at least the first 10% of all I earn back to you. I want to begin investing for eternity. Help me to remain faithful to this commitment. In Jesus' name, Amen.

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

-----PLEASE TEAR HERE -----

**A PRAYER TO PRAY (THRIVE Church Copy)**

Father, I know you love me and want what's best for me. I recognize that all I have, or will ever have, comes from you. I am more interested in pleasing you than in having more possessions. I want you to have first place in my life and I am willing to begin tithing as you have commanded. Out of gratitude for all you've done for me, and in expectation that you will continue to provide for me, I commit myself to returning at least the first 10% of all I earn back to you. I want to begin investing for eternity. Help me to remain faithful to this commitment. In Jesus' name, Amen.

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_