

Nov 14, 2010



Oaks Early Risers Bible Class

The Oaks Baptist Church
Grand Prairie, Texas

Lesson Leader:

James Haymon

Class Leaders:

Director: Ron Harris

Inreach: Pat Hester

Outreach: Shearon Lehrack

Secretary: Mary Clark

ESSENTIAL TRUTH Knowing Christ Personally

Date	Lesson	Text
08/01	Introduction	
08/08	Who is God	Exod 3:1-15
08/15	God Wants to Talk	Isa 6:1-10
08/22	Oaks120th Anniversary-No Class	
08/29	What God Expects	Mk 12:28-34
09/05	Bible is Important	Matt 4:1-11
09/12	Who is Jesus	Matt 16:13-20
09/19	Can I be Forgiven	John 3:1-17
09/26	Death	John 11:17-44
10/03	Lone Ranger	Acts 2:42-47
10/10	Keep it Real	Luke 11:37-54
10/17	Temptation	Gen 3:1-8
10/24	Meaningful Life	Luke 9:23-27
10/31	Holy Spirit	Acts 2:1-13
11/07	Grace	Eph 2:1-10
11/14	Summary and Review	

Future Schedule

Date	Lesson	Text
11/21	Thanksgiving	Luke 17:12-19
11/28	Guest Teacher	
12/05	Next Series	
	<i>(13 Week Study in 1 Corinthians)</i>	

REVIEW AND SUMMARY OF ESSENTIAL TRUTH: Knowing Christ Personally

Lessons Learned Review

Session 1: Who is God

- Become more sensitive to God's presence by scheduling a daily time for prayer
- Believe God will act in your life by scheduling a daily time for Bible reading
- Believe God can use you by trying some 'serving' opportunities at your Church

Session 2: God Wants to Talk to Me

- Develop a personal bible study plan
- Get involved with Christian friends who learn and listen together
- Wait and pray when you are unclear what God is saying

Session 3: What does God expect of me

- Develop an attitude of thanksgiving toward God by worshipping Him daily
- Give of your financial resources to God through your Church
- Express your love for people verbally

Session 4: Why is the Bible so Important

- Take Advantage of our Church's learning opportunities
- Set aside a consistent time for private bible study
- Memorize scriptures that are meaningful to you

Session 5: Who is Jesus

- Publicly acknowledge that you have chosen to become a Christian and live for Jesus
- Declare by your lifestyle that Jesus Christ is Lord of your life

Session 6: How can I be forgiven

- Confess your faith in Jesus Christ as the one who saves you from your sin
- What we can do: In addition to the Scripture we have been studying today, John 3:16-17, another important passage that relates to this is Romans 10:9. If you have already made this confession of faith, proceed to next action item.
- An important practice for Christians is to learn to confess your specific sins daily and ask for God's forgiveness

(Adapted from Essential Truth: Knowing Christ Personally)

Session 7: What happens when someone dies

- Trust Christ's promise of eternal life through Him
- Learn to talk openly about death
- Manage your life wisely

Session 8: Why can't I be a Lone Ranger Christian

- Commit to a Church
- Attend worship and small group regularly
- Use your talents and gifts in service to your Church

Session 9: How do I keep it real in a phony world

- Keep the grace of God in Jesus Christ central in all of our actions
- Face our weaknesses with honesty and openness by confessing them to God regularly
- Be gentle with others in their weakness by praying for them

Session 10: How do I deal with temptation

- Pray daily for God's strength to face temptation
- Avoid tempting situations by confiding in an accountability partner
- Reflect on God's word by writing key scriptures on a card and carrying it with you throughout the day

Session 11: What makes life meaningful

- Decide to make Christ Lord as well as Savior by asking, "what would Jesus do?" before every decision
- Find ways to use your gifts for God by reading scripture or talking to a trusted friend
- Discipline yourself to focus more outward than inward by meeting the needs of a friend

Session 12: How does the Holy Spirit help me

- Pray for the Spirit's power and presence in your life
- Discover your gifts
- Develop your gifts

Session 13: What is this thing called Grace

- Accept what God in His grace has done for us by receiving Jesus Christ into our life
- Become a member of a local church and small group
- Find a way to actively serve God by talking with a pastor or small-group leader this week

NOTES AND CROSS-REFERENCES

Bible Study Review

Session 1 - Who is God?

- to examine the variety of ways people look at God today
- to better understand what the Bible says about who God is
- to start looking at how who God is affects us as God's creatures

Session 2 - God Wants to Talk to Me?

- to understand that God does seek to communicate with us, God's children
- to come to a fuller understanding of how God communicates with us
- to look at what kinds of messages God often gives to us

Session 3 - What Does God Expect of Me?

- to understand some simple foundations in Scripture that tell what God expects of us
- to consider what we need to do to better fulfill those expectations
- to understand how God helps us fulfill those expectations

Session 4 - Why is the Bible so Important?

- to understand why the Bible is more special than other books
- to understand how the Bible can be used to find God's will and face temptation
- to learn to guard against abuses of the Bible

Session 5 - Who is Jesus?

- to get a clearer picture of the kind of person Jesus is
- to better understand the unique relationship between Jesus and God
- to appreciate the role Jesus plays in restoring relationship between people and God

Session 6 - How Can I be Forgiven?

- to realize that all of us have failed to carry out all of God's directives
- to know that God is a God who is willing and eager to forgive us
- to understand what it means that God sent Jesus to pay the penalty for our sin so that we might have forgiveness

(Adapted from Essential Truth: Knowing Christ Personally)

Session 7 - What Happens When Someone Dies?

- to discuss how people of faith might react to the death of a loved one
- to better understand the biblical promise of life after death for the believer
- to realize Christ's role in assuring us of the promise of eternal life

Session 8 - Why Can't I be a Lone Ranger Christian?

- to look at the loneliness that is often part of our lives
- to see how the church is part of God's remedy for human loneliness
- to see how the church helps us learn and grow as Christians

Session 9 - How Do I Keep it Real in a Phony World?

- to acknowledge that there is much phoniness in the world, even in the area of religion
- to learn how Christ fought against phoniness in His world
- to learn how to avoid phoniness in our own spiritual lives

Session 10 - How Do I Deal with Temptation?

- to better understand what happens when we are tempted
- to learn ways to resist temptation
- to understand Christ is an ally in the temptations we face

Session 11 - What Makes Life Meaningful?

- to look at our need for meaning in what we do in life
- to see how living for Christ helps bring that meaning
- to understand what it means to "die to self" in order to truly live

Session 12 - Who is the Holy Spirit and How does He Help Me?

- to discover who the Holy Spirit is and His relationship to God the Father
- to consider how the Holy Spirit came at Pentecost and what it meant for the church
- to learn what the Holy Spirit can do for us as we seek to do God's work

Session 13 - What is This Thing Called Grace?

- to better understand what Christians mean when referring to "God's grace"
- to understand how grace relates to other matters we have looked at in this study
- to learn how God's grace can give us new life