



I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Jesus Christ because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes

You can expect a Miracle from God Today!

Training Course

Purpose: To equip Christians to be effective ministers in their home, place of work and beyond by helping them study the scriptures, proclaim Christ and pursue holiness. *We proclaim him, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone perfect in Christ.* Col. 1:28

Preparation: 1 Look at the study subject, read the Bible verses given, read the recommended booklets provided and answer the questions. (NB some questions may require a short essay style response.)

2 Watch an episode of the dvd (or MP3) where relevant.

3 (Optional) Research the subject further.

It is recommended that you meet informally at least once a month in small groups and discuss your work.

Review: The answers to be discussed in a group forum

The initial 12 subjects covered are from the AoG Statement of Faith:

1. The Bible
2. God
3. Jesus
4. Mankind and original sin
5. New Birth
6. Water Baptism of Believers
7. Holy Spirit Baptism
8. Gifts of the Holy Spirit
9. Holiness
10. Healing
11. Breaking of Bread
12. The Future – heaven and hell

The provided reference material is taken predominately from books and articles from D. Petts: *"You had better believe it"*; G. Canty: *"I was just thinking"*; J. Cornwall: *"Back to Basics"*; and A. Corbett as they provide a comprehensive yet challenging Pentecostal perspective. DVDs (also available as MP4, CD or MP3) including

T.L.Osborn: What is your Mission; Unshakeable Faith; Virtues for Victory;

The Christ Connection – Miracles: Model – Inspiration – Response – Action –

Credibility – Legality – Experience. The basis of Christianity - 7 facts for our faith, 7 essentials to simplify the Gospel, 7 ideals to lift your spirit and nourish your faith for when life is difficult, 7 principles in Christian living. Acts 1:14

M.White: Creation

Minister: Revd Paul S Fermor M.Th.



Study 1

Subject: The Bible.

Statement of Faith: *We believe that the Bible (i.e. the Old and New Testaments excluding the Apocrypha), is the inspired Word of God, the infallible, all sufficient rule for faith and practice.*

(ELIM Statement of Faith: *We believe the Bible, as originally given, to be without error, the fully inspired and infallible Word of God and the supreme and final authority in all matters of faith and conduct.)*

Bible Reading: Deut.32:46-47; Josh.1:8; Neh.8:12; Matt.22:29; Luke 1:1-4; 24:25-27; Jn.5:37-40; 20:30-31; 21:24-25; Acts 17:11; Rom.15:4-6; 1Cor.10:6; Col.4:16; 2Tim.2:14-15; 3:15-16; 4:13; 2Peter 1:19-21; 3:15-16;

Questions:

1. *What do you understand by inspired (God-breathed)? See 2Tim.3:16*
2. *What is Scripture? What makes the Scriptures different from the Apocrypha and other sacred writings? See Lk.1:1-4; Col.4:16.*
3. *What is the Septuagint (LXX)? What is the Masoretic text? How do you explain the differences between some of the verses in the OT and their quotations in the NT? (e.g. Ps.8:2 some versions / Matt.21:16 ; Deut.30:14/ Rom.10:7)*
4. *Why do the various Bible translations differ? Give some examples of these differences*
5. *What is the purpose of the Scriptures? See Jn.5:39;20:30-31; 21:24-25; Rom.15:4-6; 1Cor.10:6; Deut.32:46-47; Acts 17:11; Lk.24:25-27.*
6. *Do you think the Elim Statement of Faith (We believe the Bible, as originally given, to be without error...) is helpful? Please explain your answer.*
7. *How would you explain the trustworthiness of Scripture to a non-Christian? How would you communicate it to a new Christian?*
8. *Can the meaning of words in one language be conveyed with absolute accuracy in the words of another language? Why or why not? Can you point to examples from your knowledge of different cultures or languages?*
9. *Suppose you were going to translate the Bible for a nomadic tribe that lived on the edges of the Gobi desert of Asia, nowhere near any ocean or lake—how would you seek to convey biblical ideas like Jesus walking on the waters of the Sea of Galilee? What other translation problems might you encounter? How would you deal with them?*
10. *Is there a difference between the Word of God and Scripture? See Jn.5:37-40.*

Please list other books/references you have used for your research:

(PTO)



T.L.Osborn: The Christ Connection – Miracles:

“M”IRACLE: “M” for the MODEL we are to follow.

Episode 1 Model: What fact unlocks the Miracle life in us? (1hour 26 minutes)

To discover what God is like and to discover His love.

Acts 1:1-4 ...all that Jesus began to do and to teach...

Jesus was the Model for the Disciples in the book of Acts and we too must focus on Jesus as our Model. Humanity had (has) religion but a distorted view of God. The early Christians discovered that God was like Jesus so they abandoned their religion. They discovered God and His love by seeing Jesus. When we preach Jesus we reveal God. When we unveil God, love is exposed and that is power.

We focus on Jesus because He shows us what God is like (John14:9). Until Jesus came God had not lived in anyone – not even Abraham or Moses or David – because sin separated man from God. But Jesus is the Word who became flesh (Jn.1:14); Emmanuel - God is with us (Matt.1:23).

LORD JESUS, You opened the way for me to know God personally. You came back from the dead and sent the Holy Spirit to dwell in me. Now the ministry that You began is continued through me. Religion distorted God's image, but You revealed what He is like. He created me to be like Him. I am His offspring. You are my MODEL.

I choose to emulate You. The life that You lived is the life I now live. The Spirit that anointed You, now functions through me. Understanding that, unlocks Your miracle life in me. God did His work through You. Now it is continued through me. You came to do God's will. Now His will is realized through my life.

Religion is a ritual. Your miracle life is You alive in me. My mission is to share Your life and love with others.

JESUS, You began to do and teach a new way to God. You showed me His life and love in action. Thank You for continuing what You began through me. Your miracle life is unlocked in me. Amen!

11. What value do non-Christian religions have (including Judaism and Islam)? Please explain.

12. Name at least 2 differences between the Old Covenant (Testament) and the New Covenant (Testament).

13. What was the message of the Apostles and early Disciples? See Peter: Acts 2:22; 3:13; 10:36; Philip: Acts 8:35; Paul: Acts 13:33; 18:5; 28:31.

14. Why are we to focus on Jesus?

15. Why is Jesus unique?

16. How is Jesus our Model?



Study 2

Subject: God

Statement of Faith: *We believe in the unity of the One True and Living God who is the Eternal, Self-Existent "I AM", who has also revealed Himself as One Being co-existing in three Persons – Father, Son and Holy Spirit*

Trinity – although not used in Scripture it describes the nature of God – tri (3) unity – the 3 persons of the Godhead in total unity. Direct and indirect implications of the Trinity: Gen.1:1-2; 1:26; Deut.6:4-5; Ps.110:1; Mat.3:16-17; 28:19; 2Cor.13:14.

God is 3 distinct Persons (i.e. God the Father is not God the Son or God the Holy Spirit) Jn.14:26; 16:7; 17:24; Rom.8:27; 1Jn.2:1. Each Person is fully God: Is.9:6; Acts 5:3-4; Ps.139:7-8. But there is only 1 God: Ex.15:11; Deut.6:4-5; Is.45:5-6; 44:6-8; 45:21-22.

We know God through Jesus Christ (Jn.1:17; Acts4:12; Heb.10:19-20)

Some heresies:

Modalism: (God appearing as 3 forms, or "modes") God in OT, Jesus in Gospels, Holy Spirit now. The United Pentecostal Church holds to this view. Modalists use: Jn.10:30 (Father and Son are one); Jn.14:9 (Jesus is the same as the Father) as their proof texts.

Arianism: Jesus was created by God the Father and so not eternally equal with God. Mormons and Jehovah Witnesses hold this view or variations on it. Arianists use Jn.3:16 (God's begotten Son); Col.1:15 (the firstborn) as their proof texts.

Questions:

1. What are the evidences for God's existence?

Ps.19:1-6; Is.6:3; Acts 14:17; Jn.1:3-5;

Rom.1:18-25; Ps.14:1; 53:1;

Gen.1:1f; Ex.3:15-16; Jn.1:1-2

Rom.8:15-16; Heb.11:2

2. In what way has God spoken to us (Rom.1:19-21)?

3. Both the OT & NT emphatically declare there is only one God. Which words in the following scriptures show this?

Deut.6:4		Is.44:6	
Deut.32:39		Is.45:5-6	
Ps.86:10		1Cor.8:4-6	

4. From the following scriptures write out the words that refer to one of the persons of the Godhead (note there may be more than one person in each reference):

Matt.3:16-17		Acts 10:38	
Matt.1:20		Heb.9:14	
Jn.14:16		2Cor.13:14	
Acts 2:33			

5. What quality of God is referred to in the following verses?

Gen.1:1		Jer.23:24	
Job.42:2		1Jn.3:20	
Matt.19:26		Ps.90:2	

(PTO)



Study 2

6. In the following Scriptures what words show conclusively that the Holy Spirit is not a mere impersonal force but that he possesses personal attributes and engages in personal activities:

Rom.8:27		Jn.14:26	
1Cor.12:11		Jn.15:26	
Eph.4:30		Jn.16:8	
Is.63:10		Jn.16:13	
Gen.6:3		Jn.14:26	

7. What words in the following scriptures show that the Holy Spirit possesses each of the attributes of God:

Gen.1:-2, Job.33:4; Lk.1:35-37; Ps.139:7; 1Cor.2:10; Acts 5:3-4; Heb.9:14

8. What words in the following scriptures shows that Jesus possesses divine attributes?

Heb.13:8; Is.9:6; Matt.28:20; Micah 5:2; Jn1:1; Jn.8:58; Rev.1:8; Rev.1:17-18

Jn.1:3; Col.1:16; Is.9:6; Matt.28:18; Mat.18:20; Jn.21:17;

9. With whom is Jesus equal (Phil.2:6)?

Who have we seen if we have seen Jesus (Jn.14:9)?

What name or title is given to Jesus (Matt.1:23)?

10. How does Heb.1:6-8 show that Jesus is God?

T.L.Osborn The Christ Connection – Miracles: (1 hr.22 min)

M“I”RACLE “I” for the INSPIRATION of His Example.

Episode 2 - Inspiration: What makes the Christian faith more than a religion?

Acts 1:1-4 ...until the day he was taken up to heaven...

LORD JESUS, When I hear what You taught and see Your MIRACLES, Your life and ministry inspire me. Until the day You were taken up, Your example proves that my Christian faith is more than a religion. It is a living reality.

YOU CAME and revealed God to our world. Now God reveals Himself through me.

He was in YOU, Lord Jesus. Now He is in me, continuing what You began.

You showed me what God is like then You showed me what I am to be like. You

looked like a Jew in Galilee. In China, You look Chinese. Here, You look like me.

THE GREATEST revelation in my Bible is the fact that You are alive in me.

I am inspired by Your person, by Your ministry, by Your words, by Your love, by Your attitude. You believe in people like me. The inspiration of Your Life energizes my life.

You and I are one. We are triumphant together as You live and continue Your ministry through me. Amen!

11. T.L.Osborn says that we are “**God’s Embassy**”. *What does he mean by this?*

12. *What does he mean when he says we are “**God’s interpreters**”?*

13. *What was John the Baptist’s message (Mark 1:12f)? Should this be ours too?*

14. *How does T.L.Osborn define the Kingdom of God? Do you agree with him?*

15. *What does “**repentance**” mean?*

16. *How did Jesus resist the devil? How can we?*



Study 3

Subject: **Jesus**

Statement of Faith: *We believe in the Virgin Birth, Sinless Life, Miraculous Ministry, Substitutionary Atoning Death, Bodily Resurrection, Triumphant Ascension and Abiding Intercession of the Lord Jesus Christ and in His personal, visible, bodily return in power and glory as the blessed hope of all believers. (Isa.7:14; Matt.1:23; Heb.7:26; 1Pet.2:22; Acts 2:22, 10:38; 2Cor.5:21; Heb.9:12; Luke 24:39; 1Cor.15:4; Acts 1:9; Eph.4:8-10; Rom.8:34; Heb.7:25; 1Cor.15:22-24, 51-57; 1Thess.4:13-18; Rev.20:1-6).*

The 2nd article of the Church of England's 39 Articles of Faith states:

Of the Word, or Son of God, which was made very man. The Son, which is the Word of the Father, begotten from everlasting of the Father, the very and eternal God, and of one substance with the Father, took man's nature in the womb of the blessed Virgin, of her substance: so that two whole and perfect natures, that is to say, the Godhead and manhood, were joined together in one person, never to be divided, whereof is one Christ, very God and very man, who truly suffered, was crucified, dead, and buried, to reconcile His Father to us, and to be a sacrifice, not only for original guilt, but also for all actual sins of men.

Questions:

1 Jesus virgin birth

1a Explain in your own words how you understand the “virgin birth” of Jesus (for example, was Mary a surrogate mother of God’s Son or did she bear her own son?).

Isaiah 7:14; Luke 1:31-35; John 3:16; Heb.1:5-6; Gal.4:4; Rom.1:3

1b Did Jesus develop like an ordinary child or did he use his Deity (i.e. his “God-part”) to help him? *Heb.2:14; 5:7-10; Phil.2:5-11; Luke 2:40/51-52*

1c Did Jesus know why he was on earth? *Lk.2:49-50; John 4:34; 5:19-20; 6:38/57/62; 7:29; 8:14-18*

2 Jesus sinless life

2a In what way was Jesus sinless? *Luke 1:35; 2Cor.5:21*

2b How would you define “sin”? *Rom.3:23; 14:23;*

3 Jesus miraculous ministry

3a What was Jesus 1st miracle? *Jn.2:11*

3b What was the purpose of Jesus miracles? *Jn.2:11/23; 14:11; 20:30-31*

4 Jesus substitutionary atoning death

4a Why did Jesus die when death is the result of sin? *Rom.5:12; 2Cor.5:21; Is.53:5-6*

4b In what way did Jesus become a substitute for us? *Heb.2:9; 9:28; 1Tim.2:6; 4:10; 1Jn.2:2; 2Cor.5:15; 1Pet.2:23*

4c Was the devil defeated on the cross, at Jesus resurrection or at his ascension? *Lk.23:46; Jn.19:30; Col.2:13-15; Heb.2:14; Rev.12:11*

5 Jesus bodily resurrection

5a Why is Jesus resurrection so important to us? *1Cor.15:12-20 2Tim.2:5;*

5b How was Jesus resurrection different from the other people who were raised from the dead (such as Lazarus *Jn.11* or Jairus’ daughter *Lk.8*)? *Jn.20:19/26*

6 Jesus triumphant ascension

6a Where did Jesus ascend to? *Acts 1:10-11; Eph.4:7-8; Acts 2:33*

6b Why did he not stay on the earth to help people here? *Jn.7:37-39; 16:5-7;*



7 Jesus abiding intercession

7a How do you understand the current ministry of Jesus as Intercessor? *Heb.7:25; Col.3:1; Eph.1:19-23*

8 Jesus' return

The return of Jesus Christ is fundamental to the Christian faith. Although this is the blessed hope of all believers, there are many theories about this event, some of which are very bizarre! However we should all be able to agree that Jesus' return in power and glory will be personal, visible and physical.

8a What words in *Acts 1:11* show that Jesus' return will be:

1) Personal? 2) Visible? 3) Physical?

8b How should the promise of Jesus' return affect our lives? *2Pet.3:11-18; Jn.14:1-4; 1Thes.5:1-11*

Linked to Jesus' return is **the Resurrection of Believers** (but wait until Study 12!)

T.L.Osborn The Christ Connection – Miracles.

MI“R”ACLE “R” for our RESPONSE to His Mandate.

Episode 3 Response: What brings out God's best in us?

To know God's plan and how we fit into it

O LORD JESUS, You have chosen me as Your partner. Today I respond: “Yes!” to Your plan. Since I know that I am Your choice, that brings out Your best in me.

Your plan for me is to believe Your word, to receive Your Power, to be Your witness, and to share Your love and life.

Dear LORD JESUS, You purged me from my sins, so now You can live in me, and Continue Your ministry through me. You have entrusted me with Your gospel. My purpose in life is to represent YOU. You came to do the will of Your Father. Now, I am here to continue doing His will. Your mission has become my mission. We are workers together. Ours is a CO-mission. Religion is a ritual. Your miracle life is You alive in me. My mission is to share Your life and love with others.

JESUS, YOU began to do and teach a new way to God. You showed me His life and love in action. Thank You for continuing what You began through me. Your miracle Life is unlocked in me. Amen!

Questions

9 Can we say about ourselves everything that Jesus says of Himself? T.L.Osborn says that we can when we get the revelation that Jesus lives in us and our lives are melded or joined with Him. *Do you agree with him? Please explain your answer.*

10 How do you know when God is speaking to you? T.L.Osborn says that if it is good for God, good for people and good for you then do it without any more questions. *Can you give any Biblical examples of his principle?*

11 God has entrusted the Gospel to us (*1Tim.1:11; 1Thes.2:4; Gal.2:7*). T.L.Osborn says that God does His work through people and if we don't, He can't. How would you answer his question: *What are you doing to carry forward God's plan for your world/ town/ road?*

12 Osborn says that religion (in any form) spiritualises God but Jesus humanises God! *Is this a fair comment? Please explain your answer*

Have you arrived at the place in your spiritual growth that you are conscience of the fact that your life is a reflection of Jesus Christ and when people see you they see Jesus in human flesh?



Study 4

Subject: **Mankind and original sin**

Statement of Faith: *We believe in the fall of man, who was created pure and upright, but fell by voluntary transgression (Gen.1:26-31, 3:1-7; Rom.5:12-21).*

Questions:

1 Why do you think that Adam (and Eve) yielded to satan's temptation to disobey God's instructions? *Gen.2:15-17; 3:1-7; Jn.8:44;10:10; Rev.12:9;2Cor.11:3; 1Tim.2:13*

2 When Adam sinned, what happened to him (and thus to all mankind)? *Rom.5:12-19; 1Cor.15:21-22*

3 In response to the catechism question: *In what sense is Adam's sin imputed to all mankind?* John Wesley's answer was: *In Adam all die; that is, our bodies then became mortal. Our souls died; that is, were disunited from God. And hence, we are all born with a sinful, devilish nature. By reason whereof, we are children of wrath, liable to death eternal. (Romans 5.18; Eph. 2.3).*

Do you agree with Wesley's answer? Please explain (especially with reference to eternal life).

4 Nigel Wright, in his article *The Reality And Origin Of Evil* says he believes that "*evil in itself does not consist of structured form or being. This amounts to a claim that the language used in the Scriptures and in the traditions of Christian thought and practice to describe evil is narrative and mythic in nature even though the reality to which it refers is far from being mythical. Otherwise put, the devil is a product of sinful human society rather than the other way round, a construct of godless corporate human existence*". This is in contrast to Jesus who said that he saw "*satan fall like lightning from heaven*" (*Luke 10:18*) and that the devil had been "*a murderer from the beginning ... and is a liar*" (*Jn.8:44*) clearly showing satan is a personality not a concept. Although the devil was stripped of his power to harm Believers, how can satan influence us today and what is our defence? *1Jn.5:18; 1Pet.5:7-9; Col.3:1-10; Rom.12:1-2; Eph.6:10-18 2Cor.10:3-5*

5 Can we blame the devil for our problems, mistakes or sins or should we take the blame ourselves?

Michel Reid states: *There is no evidence in the New Testament to suggest that Christians are called to engage in an ongoing conflict with spiritual forces in the cosmic realm. There is, however, real evidence of a spiritual battle for truth. Jesus came to establish His truth in the hearts and minds of men; this was the promise of the New Covenant as foretold by the prophet Jeremiah, "I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people" Jer. 31:33). The apostles understood that truth alone brought freedom and life (John 8:31-32). Contending for truth, whilst standing in truth is the New Testament pattern of spiritual warfare.*

6 How do we "contend" for truth? Where is this struggle and who is it against?

(PTO)



Study 4

T.L.Osborn The Christ Connection – Miracles:

MIR“A”CLE “A” for our ACTION as His Delegates.

Episode 4 Action: What happens when we discover how much God trusts us?

Answer: *we go into Action to accomplish God's plan*

Thank You LORD that You believe in me, and have chosen me as Your delegate. Your power is invested in me. Your plan depends on me. By ACTION I transform my knowledge into power. My possibilities become realities. My ACTION proves what I believe.

Dear LORD, when I act with You at work in me, then “all things are possible.”

Without ACTION, my faith accomplishes no more than if I had no faith.

LORD, when I ACT on Your word, Your power materializes Your best in my life, and in the lives of those around me.

Doing Your will gives my life purpose. Dear Lord Jesus, I am saved so that You, can continue Your ministry through me.

I am one of Your chosen delegates. You have committed Your work into my hands. I am motivated to ACTION. You trust me to share Your love with people.

Christianity is Love in ACTION. Your plan unfolds through me. You trust me to interpret You in my world. Amen!

Questions

In order to address past neglect T.L.Osborn does rather labour the point about women having an equal role with men in God's kingdom. However we should remember that men and women are not in competition with one another but are a team.

7 Has his preaching challenged you to be more inclusive in your language so you are clear that the Scripture is talking about each of us today rather than someone else or another era? Please explain

8 T.L.Osborn says *“Jesus considers us His friend, ...get acquainted with Him”*.

Have you felt guilty for not “doing” enough to help God run His kingdom? How do you feel after hearing T.L.Osborn? Please explain

9 He also says that *power (“virtue” in the KJV) is resident within us and so we must not go by feelings (which is not faith) but by the Bible*.

Have you relied on “feeling” spiritual or holy rather than believing what God has stated about you? How can you overcome your feelings in order to believe God? Please back up your answers from Scripture

We have not learnt anything until we do it!



Study 5

Subject: **New Birth**

Statement of Faith: *We believe in salvation through faith in Christ, who, according to the Scriptures, died for our sins, was buried and was raised from the dead on the third day, and that through His blood we have redemption (Titus 2:11, 3:5-7; Rom. 10:8-15; 1 Cor. 15:3-4). This experience is also known as the new birth, and is an instantaneous and complete operation of the Holy Spirit upon initial faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. (John 3:5-6; James 1:18; 1 Pet. 1:23; 1 John 5:1).*

Questions:

1. What does being “born again” mean to you?
2. What can you remember most about your conversion experience?
3. What difference did it make to you?
4. What is the first great result of our being born again? (Jn.1:12-13)
5. What were we before we knew God through Jesus Christ? (Eph.2:1-10)
6. What are we now that we do know Him? (Eph.2:1-10)
What were we slaves to? (Jn.8:31-36; Rom.6:1-23; 7:1-6)
What are we slaves to now? (Rom.6:1-23; 7:1-6)
7. What remedy has God provided if we do sin? (1Jn.1:8-10; 2:1-2)
8. List some scriptural phrases that describe/explain the “new-birth” experience. (These references may help you make a start: Jn.3:3/5; 1Pet.1:23; Jas.1:18; 2Cor.5:17; 2Pet.1:9; Heb.8:10; Acts 15:19; 16:30; Rev.1:5.)
9. Which person(s) of the Godhead bring(s) about the new birth? (Jn.3:5; 3:16; 16:8; 1Jn.5:10-12)
10. Mike Petzer in “**Forgiveness**” says that “*salvation depends on the believer confessing Jesus as Lord, ^{Romans 10:9,10; Matthew 10:32,33} and not on him confessing all his sin*”. Do you agree with him?
11. M.P. also says: “*God is not calling man into account for sins, but to account for his gift of life in Jesus Christ*”. When did God forgive our sins? (Col.2:13-15)
12. Explain why the animal sacrifices of the Old Covenant/Testament are now obsolete (Heb.8:13; 9:10)
13. Canty (Why make Christianity so hard) says: *There was the example of Paul the apostle... But he immediately swept his conscience clean: "Thanks be to God- through Jesus Christ our Lord. There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus." Romans 7:24/ 25. He never expressed any depression over weaknesses, no bewailing his poor spirituality, no remorse, no mortification, no self-deprecation. He showed every sign of assurance that God really went along with him.* How can we keep a good conscience with no remorse?

(PTO)



Study 5

T.L.Osborn The Christ Connection – Miracles:

MIRA“C”LE “C” for the CREDIBILITY of the Gospel.

Episode 5 Credibility: What makes the Christian witness believable?

Acts 1:1-4 ... He appeared to them...

The Resurrection of Jesus brings miracles and He brings tangible proof of our witness.

LORD JESUS, Your resurrection is **our Father's guarantee of His promises**. Since You have come back from the dead, I can experience Your resurrection life in me.

Christianity without Your resurrection is a dead religion. Since You showed Yourself alive by many proofs, I know that You are not a dead prophet. **You are alive in me.**

You said, “Because I live, you can live also.”

Preaching the gospel is not in vain. It changes lives. It has changed my life.

My faith in God is not vain, because You confirm my trust in Your word, with signs and wonders of Your grace.

When I say that Jesus arose from the dead, I am not a false witness of God. **Your miracles prove Your resurrection today.**

LORD JESUS, Christianity is CREDIBLE, and **my witness is believable**, because You live to give proof, that You are “the same yesterday, today and forever.”

You are not a dead religion. You are my living Saviour and Healer. Your resurrection guarantees Your life in me. Amen!

Questions

Jesus resurrection is God's guarantee of the Gospel.

14 What proof do you have in your life that Jesus is alive?

15 How can people associate you with Jesus?

16 Your witness is credible. As you speak words of Jesus in love it will work on people and we can leave the rest to God – He'll process it through their crises. Do **you** believe in **your** witness?



Study 6

Subject: **Water Baptism of Believers**

Statement of Faith: *We believe that all who have truly repented and believed in Christ as Lord and Saviour are commanded to be baptised by immersion in water (Matt. 28:19; Acts 10:47-48; Acts 2:38-39).*

Questions:

1. What is the meaning of the word “baptism”?
2. What words in Matthew 3:6, Mark 1:5-9 John 3:23 Acts 8:38 show that baptism is by immersion?
3. What are the Biblical requirements for baptism?
4. Religious washing (or baptism) was a daily requirement for Priest serving the Temple (see **Baptism History** in Reference Material under *Temple Worship* by A Edersheim). What does this illustrate about our relationship with God (see Rom.12:1 & Jn.13:10)
5. The definition of **sacrament** is “an act (usually a formal religious ceremony) that confers specific grace on those who receive it” (see **Baptism as a “Sacrament?”** in the Reference Material). Do you think that “baptism” is a “Sacrament”? Please explain your answer (you will have to define “Sacrament” as Corbett has a different definition).
6. Who should be baptised?
7. Why be baptised?
8. When should people be baptised?
9. How should people be baptised?
10. What is the purpose of being baptised?
11. How does Acts 8 show us that it is possible to be baptised and still not be right with God?
12. How does Luke 23:39-43 show us that it is not necessary to be baptised to be saved? Explain Mk.16:16?

PTO



T.L.Osborn dvd The Christ Connection – Miracles:

MIRAC“L”E “L” for the LEGALITY of our Faith.

Episode 6 Legality: How does Jesus function today in our community?

Acts 1:1-4 ... spoke about the kingdom of God...

LORD JESUS, You want to continue Your ministry, and to do Your work through me. Now that I have received YOU, God's plan is to be **expressed through me**.

I do not pray and send angels, to do what You have sent me to do. I am a member of God's royal family. I am a LEGAL part of the Kingdom of God. You are my King, and you have set up Your headquarters at my house. **You live in me.**

Since You have redeemed me from my sins, now **You are alive in me**. Your Holy Spirit can function through me. That is Your Kingdom in me. My position with YOU, and before Satan, is LEGAL.

JESUS, You now reign in my life. When Satan approaches me, **he confronts YOU**. I have LEGALITY. The King rules through me. Your presence is in me. Hallelujah!

My sins are remitted forever. I am born from above. I am called. I am justified. I am redeemed. I am glorified. I am LEGAL. I am ROYAL. I have peace with God. JESUS, You are my King. You are alive in me. I am triumphant in You. Amen!

Questions

13. T.L.Osborn says that we should carry on what Jesus started. What did Jesus start?
14. How does Jesus function in your nature (or life)?
15. If we believe that there is power in our witness, we will talk with confidence and hope. Has your thinking and talking changed? Please explain.
16. How has your lifestyle been affect or changed by you carrying out God's plans?
17. If, as T.L.Osborn says, prayer is “**drawing life from God's presence**” and “**pondering God's attitude to people**”, then how is your prayer life?



Study 7

Subject: Holy Spirit Baptism

Statement of Faith: *We believe in the baptism in the Holy Spirit as an enduement of the believer with power for service, the essential biblical evidence of which is speaking with other tongues as the Spirit gives utterance (Acts 1:4-5, 8, 2:4, 10:44-46, 11:14-16, 19:6).*

Questions:

The Holy Spirit is symbolised in the Bible as “water” - Jn.7:38; “wine” - Acts 2:15; “oil” - Heb.1:9; Lk.10:21; *breath/wind* - Jn.20:22. (The Hebrew and Greek word for *breath* and *wind* is *spirit*.)

1. Find other examples of these symbols or types (Gen.2:7; 1Sam.10:1; Exodus 30:35; Is.55:1; Ezekiel 47; Joel 2:23-24; Zech.10:1; 14:8).

Joel prophesied that the Holy Spirit would be poured out on all people (Joel 2:28). John said that this would happen when Jesus had been glorified.

2. What did he mean by “*glorified*”? (John 7:38-39; 14:15; 16:7)
3. What do you think Jesus meant by “*streams of living water will flow from within*”? (Jn.7:38)
4. What do you think Jesus meant by “*a spring of water*” (Jn.4:14)?
5. What did Jesus mean by “*never thirst again*” (Jn.4:14; 6:35)?

Clearly the Holy Spirit is involved in conversion (1Cor.12:3; Jn.3:5). However there is an experience of the Holy Spirit that is distinct from being born-again (cf Acts 8:6; 19:1-2)

6. What was Peter’s message on the day of Pentecost? (Acts 2:38-39)

The order of Believe, be Baptised and receive the Holy Spirit is the Biblical norm and although God is not restricted to a set pattern He does expect all Believers to be filled with the Holy Spirit.

7. What was the order at Samaria (Acts 8:15-17)?
8. What was the order at Caesarea (Acts 10: 44-47)?
9. What was the order at Ephesus (Acts 19:1-3)?

The AoG Statement of Truth says that “...essential biblical evidence of [the baptism of the Holy Spirit] is speaking with other tongues...” Cornwall (*Basics of the Holy Spirit*) says “*fundamentally, this baptism of the Holy Spirit is an energizing of the life of the person who is indwelt by the Spirit*”

Dave Smethurst says “*the desire to witness for Jesus is the evidence of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit and tongues are a consequence*”.

10. If the Mormons and some pagan religions speak in tongues, (see *The New International Dictionary of Pentecostal and Charismatic Movements*) are tongues really the evidence of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit? Please explain your answer.
11. Can someone really be “*baptised in the Holy Spirit*” and not bear the fruit of the Spirit? Please explain with reference to the meaning of “baptism” and Paul’s list of fruit in Gal.5:22-23.
12. In the OT the Holy Spirit came on people and changed them (1Sam.10:6-13) but He also left them (1Sam.16:14; Ps.51:11). Under the New Covenant will the Holy Spirit leave us?
13. In the OT the Holy Spirit came on people (Nu.11:25-26) **but He did not dwell in them**. What happens under the New Covenant (Jn.14:17; Col.1:27; 2Cor.13:5)?
14. What did Jesus say about asking God for the Holy Spirit (Luke 11:13)?
15. Have you asked God to give you the Holy Spirit? If you have, what happened?

(PTO)



T.L.Osborn The Christ Connection – Miracles:

MIRACL“E” “E” for the EXPERIENCE of His energy in us.

Episode 7 Experience: How big can "possible" be in you?

Acts 1:1-4 ...Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about.

I am a New Testament believer. Jesus, my Lord is risen from the dead, and **He guarantees His promises for me.** I EXPERIENCE His energy.

The resurrected Christ now lives in me. The Holy Spirit that anointed Jesus now **anoints me.** Thank you JESUS.

YOU said, “If I can believe, all things are possible.” “Possible” in me is as big as YOU are in me. It is bigger than **any problem** or challenge before me.

Jesus, You are alive in me. The power that raised You from the dead is now at work in me. Satan knows that and can do nothing about it. You publicly put my enemy to shame, and destroyed his works. Now You live in me.

The life and virtue that energized You, now energizes me. I know EXPERIENCE the power, that raised You from the dead. **Your energy is now the living force in me.**

“Possible” in me is **unlimited**, because I EXPERIENCE **the unlimited Christ, at work in and through me.** Amen!

Questions

16. How would you answer the question that T.L.Osborn asks: *What does “Jesus is Lord” mean?*
17. T.L.Osborn asks: *Do you have confidence that God tells the truth? Do you have confidence that God does what He says He will do? – That’s faith.* Do you find this explanation helpful? Please explain.
18. T.L.Osborn says: *We must teach the Word of God and educate people about the devil’s defeat.* Do you feel able to do that now? Please explain your answer.
19. Reflecting over T.L.Osborn’s teaching on “**the Christ Connection**,” what has impacted you the most (i.e. what have you remembered the most clearly)?

**You haven’t learnt something until you do it.
Go out in all your world and practice what you have learnt!**



Study 8

Subject: **Gifts of the Holy Spirit**

Statement of Faith: *We believe in the operation of the gifts of the Holy Spirit and the gifts of Christ in the Church today (1 Cor. 12:4-11, 28; Eph. 4:7-16).*

Questions:

The phrase “spiritual gifts” in 1Cor.12:1 and 14:1 is actually just “spiritual” in the Greek – the same word as in 1Cor.3:1. Gifts are secondary to character and so spirituality (maturity) is our goal. The Giver not the gifts must always be our emphasis. However “spiritual” gifts and how we use them are important which is why Paul taught on them.

1. List the gifts mentioned in 1Cor. 12-14.
2. Is this a complete list or are there other gifts (see Rom.12 and Eph.4)?
3. What word is used to describe these (gifts) in 1Cor.12:1?
4. What is the purpose of spiritual gifts (cf 1Cor.14:3/5/12/7/24/26/31)?
5. Paul encourages us to eagerly seek spiritual (gifts) and especially prophecy (1Cor.14:1). Define prophecy (cf Rev.19:10)
6. Which is the greatest of all gifts (cf (1Cor.13:13)?
7. What will a person who speaks by the power of the Holy Spirit gladly acknowledge?
8. Can spiritual gifts be natural abilities enhanced by God or are they specifically given after conversion? (cf 1 Cor.12:7; Heb.2:4) Please explain your answer.
9. What has God promised will accompany the preaching of his word? (cf Mark 16:15-20, Hebrews 2:4, Romans 15:18-19)
10. How should we exercise our gifts, including praying and prophesying? (cf James 1:6; Romans 12:6; Heb.11:6)
11. Who are the leadership gifts mentioned in Eph.4:7-12, 1 Corinthians 12:7-13, 14:12; Rom.12:3-16?
12. Who is said to give leadership gifts?
13. To whom are spiritual gifts given and for whose benefit?
14. Who is said to give spiritual gifts?

(PTO)



Study 5

T.L.Osborn dvd: **What is your Mission?**

16. Explain what “**Repentance**” and “**Remission of sins**” means. (Luke 24).

15. Explain these 4 facts that guarantee our Mission:

- I. **God is good**
- II. **See people as God sees them** – He loves all of them. The Church mostly sees people as sinners or saints!
- III. **Discover yourself** – your value to God; how much God believes in you; your identity in Jesus
- IV. **Commit yourself to God’s plan for you**

Reaching people is our Mission, our life’s goal.

Mission

- M** Make new roads. Seeing the possibilities for good in our world and making it happen
- I** Invent new solutions to problems and new ways to meet needs of society
- S** Saving new souls with the loving life-force of Christ. Seeing the waste of human lives without Christ
- S** Sowing new seed ideas of success and seeing the unlimited potential in every human being.
- I** Inspiring new discoveries of people’s roots in God. Seeing the depravity and incurable loneliness of people without God
- O** Opening new doors of unlimited service to others. Seeing the loss of productivity of those locked-in with poor self-image.
- N** Nourishing new dreams of positive living by infusion of faith in God and Miracle life in Jesus. Seeing the awful destructiveness of negativism and hopelessness.

Unless you see the value in others you will never realise your own value.



Study 9

Subject: Holiness

Statement of Faith: *We believe in holiness of life and conduct in obedience to the command of God (1 Pet. 1:14-16; Heb. 12:14; 1 Thess. 5:23; 1 John 2:6).*

Questions:

1. What is the nature of God described in 1Pet.1:16?
2. What is the nature of a Believer described in 1Cor.1:30 and 1Cor.6:11
3. List the various aspects of holiness in
 - a. Gen.2:3
 - b. Ex.13:2
 - c. Ex.19:10
 - d. Ex.28:3
4. What are the 2 basic elements by which Believers are made holy in:
 - a. 1Pet.1:2; 1Pet.3:18; 1Cor.6:11
 - b. Jn.17:17
5. Is there a difference between being holy and living a holy life (cf Rom.6:19; 6:22; 2Cor.7:11; 2Pet.1:4)? Please explain your answer
6. David Powell in "The Doctrine of Holiness" says: *Those people who say that they are saved and belong to Christ and are dirty, dishevelled and undisciplined, are a disgrace to the name of Christ, because this is contrary to decency.* Do you agree with him? Please explain your answer.

G.Canty (Why Make Christianity So Hard?) explains the Bible phrase (Lev.16:29) 'afflict your souls' (KJV). *The NIV doesn't say "afflict" but 'deny yourselves'. The actual Hebrew says 'humble yourselves, deny yourselves, fast', and when we ask what we should fast from, the answer is – from work! "You must not do any work ... it is a Sabbath of rest'. No workaholics! ... Sweat is evidence of hard work and God doesn't want it to be hard work to come to Him. Strenuous effort and hard searching only give us something to boast about, and it doesn't look good about God as if He is sullen, indifferent, playing hide and seek with us as if He didn't want us to find Him. That is not the Bible God. It is the God only of mystics waiting and straining to hear Him. The Lord did not say "Labour pleases me" His favourites are not masochists wearing hair-shirts. The Word is "Call upon Him while He may be found". The Bible is the world's happiest book. It took me time to adjust my perspectives to take in the whole Bible landscape. The Bible God needs no finding, no chasing. He is the God who does the finding; "Adam, where are you?" We can't claim the credit when we know Him – He found us. God doesn't arrange for the Christian life to be hard. It is not a system for gaining credits. Circumstances impose hardships upon us, not God. He is not an inflictor of trouble, but a deliverer. The devil slips the insinuation into Christian teaching that God sends trials. He certainly allows us to be tried, but God is not in the business of planning trouble. "In the world you will have tribulation, but fear not for I have overcome the world." Is God happy when we refuse His good things, and make righteousness so sorely unattractive? Eternal life means quality lifestyle, companionship with God, the source of all goodness.*

7. Do you think that you have adjusted your perspectives to take in the whole Bible landscape?

Andrew Corbett in "Christian Witchcraft, Getting It Wrong In Jesus' Name" says: *It borders on obscene for a church to think it can evangelise its community when its homes are devoid of parental discipleship. We need to see Christians overthrowing principalities and powers by winning the hearts and minds of a society. This requires stable, well-socialised, Biblically-literate, Spirit-filled believers who have been disciplined by their parents in their family home growing up to take positions of influence in the Law, Politics, Academia, Media, the Arts, and Industry. Discipleship involves a depth of Biblical understanding, a commitment to prayer, how to fellowship (which involves training in forgiveness and reconciliation) and the development of spiritual gifts. The easiest (yet apparently the rarest) way to do this is for it to be modelled in the family home of Christians.*

PTO



8. How well do you fit the description “*stable, well-socialised, Biblically-literate, Spirit-filled Believer*”? That is the aim of our Church and especially the training School!

T.L.Osborn dvd: Reasons for Unshakeable Faith

**Christ is alive; He now reigns in our hearts
He called us, He filled us, He set us apart
His truth and His grace were the seeds of our start
His love energises the life we impart.**

**He sent us to give the good news to the poor
To tell all the captives they're prisoners no more
To announce to the blind that their sight is restored
To lift the downtrodden they're free evermore.**

**As the Father sent Jesus to show forth His will
Now Jesus sends us to reveal Him until
Everyone knows that that of His own free will
Christ died to redeem them, to heal every ill.**

**So now that God's Kingdom in us is the key
Our reason on earth is to let Jesus be
The same in our flesh He lives to set free
Whoever believes the Good News – let it be!**

Questions

9. T.L.Osborn says that once we are saved we only have one mission, which is the mission Jesus had: to show us God and to show us ourselves. Do you think he is right? Please explain your answer
10. T.L.Osborn also says that we should speak for God reverently, confidently and with faith and that when we declare God's Word, He is in our words. If we are a “spokesperson” for God, we can say that we come from God and speak for God because He has entrusted us with the Gospel (1Tim.1:11; Titus 1:3; Is.50:4). What does this mean to you? Do you think that you are doing this?
11. What do you think that T.L.Osborn means when he says that “*Healing is not in Christ's Atonement but in Christ's Redemption*”?
12. Do you think that you will face your past sins at “the Judgement Day” or has God removed and expunged your sins, never to remember them ever again? Please explain your answer
13. Learn Jesus words. Learn nice sentences to say to people. Let people know that they can run with us and we will do them good.

Learn Jesus' words.

Learn nice sentences to say to people.

Let people know that they can run with us and we will do them good.



Study 10

Subject: **Healing**

Statement of Faith: *We believe that deliverance from sickness, by Divine Healing is provided for in the Atonement. (Isa. 53:4-5, Matt. 8:16-17, James 5:13-16).*

Any doctrine of Divine healing that professes to leave no place for pain in the present order of things is palpably too shallow to be true. It may have a passing appeal to the thoughtless. It cannot stand up to the strain of life as it really is in God's Universe. Donald Gee.

Parham (the father of the Pentecostal movement) estimated half of all diseases were psychosomatic and once people "threw back their shoulders and faced the world with a smile and cheerful disposition... the afflictions would disappear."

Questions:

1. What is God's name in Exodus 15:26 and what is God's promise to His people?
2. Do you think that sickness is the result of sin? If so, whose sin? Please explain your answer (Canty's *Does God Hurt to Heal?* is helpful)
3. What is the link between sickness and sin in the following verses? Rom.5:12; Luke 5:22-26; Exodus 23:25; Rev.21:1-4; Ps.103:1-5
4. In Matthew 10:1-8, Mark 16:16-20,
 - a. What was Jesus command to his disciples?
 - b. What promises are made to those who preach the gospel?
 - c. Who is responsible for laying hands on the sick?
 - d. Who is responsible for exercising faith?
5. In James 5:13-16
 - a. what instructions are given to Christians who are:
 - i. In trouble?
 - ii. Happy?
 - iii Sick?
 - b. Whose responsibility is it to pray in faith?
 - c. What does the Lord promise to do?
17. Is healing really as simple as "praying in faith" or "claiming God's promises"? Please explain your answer especially with reference to Paul's teaching (Rom.8:11; 2Cor.1:20;12:12; 1Thes.2:13; 2Thes.1:11) and the experiences of Dorcus (Acts 9:37), Paul (Gal.4:13-14), Trophimus (2Tim.4:20), Timothy (1Tim.5:23), Epaphroditus (Phil.2:25-30), the Christians at Corinth (1Cor.11:30; 2Cor.5:1-5).
18. In Cornwall's *Basics of Healing*, he lists 4 types of healing: **Natural, Medicinal, Attitudinal** and **Divine**. Do you agree with these categories? Please explain
19. How much responsibility do we have for our own health? (i.e. should we expect health problems if we don't live "healthily"? or will God keep us healthy anyway? Is it alright to drink coffee, tea, alcohol or consume meat and dairy products? Do we all have to be "fitness fanatics" to look after our bodies? Should we take medicines? (see 1Cor.3:16;9:27; 2Cor.7:1; 1Tim.4:8) What about medicines which have dangerous side-effects?
20. Has God healed you? What is the evidence that it was God who healed you?
21. Is spiritual healing more important than physical healing? Please explain your answer.

PTO



T.L.Osborn dvd: Virtues for Victory



Study 11

Subject: **Breaking of Bread**

Statement of Faith: *We believe that all who have truly repented and believe in Christ as Lord and Saviour should regularly participate in Breaking of Bread (Luke 22:14-20; 1 Cor. 11:20-34).*

Questions:

1. Do you think that the Church Family Meal of Communion is a Christianized version of the Jewish Passover? Please explain your answer
2. Describe briefly each of these 3 aspects of the Church Family Meal of Communion
 - a. Commemoration (past)
 - b. Communion (present)
 - c. Consummation (future)
3. Is there a difference between
A Love Feast (Agape meal) Jude 1:12;
Breaking Bread Luke 24:30; Acts 2:42;
The Lord's Table 1Cor.10:21;
The Lord's Supper 1Cor.11:20?
(Please explain your answer.)
4. Is the Church Family Meal of Communion a "sacrament"? Please explain your answer
5. Who should participate in the Church Family Meal of Communion?
6. Should people be excluded from the Church Family Meal of Communion (i.e. as a form of "discipline"?)
7. *The 4 main views of Communion are:*
Roman Catholic's – *the 'substance' (the reality within) the bread and the wine is 'transformed' into the substance of the body and blood of Christ (Transubstantiation);*
Luther's - *God is really present, but without a change in the substance of the emblems (Consubstantiation) ;*
Calvin's – *the substance of the emblems remains unchanged, but there is a 'spiritual reception' of Christ by faith in the act of Communion (i.e. the recipient receives some spiritual benefit from the meal);*
Zwingli's – *a symbolic act to remember Christ (a memorial).*
Which of these 4 descriptions do you think is the best? Please explain your answer
8. Do you think that our Church Family Meal of Communion is different from the early Church's? Should we change our format or style?

Although Melchizedek's bread and wine had nothing to do with Church Family Meal of Communion, it does remind us that we are to bless each other when we come together *Then Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine. He was priest of God Most High, and he blessed Abram, saying, "Blessed be Abram by God Most High, Creator of heaven and earth. And blessed be God Most High, who delivered your enemies into your hand." Then Abram gave him a tenth of everything.* Gen.14:18-20

PTO



Creation

The Creation issue is much more complex than “I believe the Bible”.

Monty White’s explanation is logical and sound with some excellent examples of the world’s bias against God. However Andrew Corbett’s article on *Was Paradise "perfect"?* is also thought provoking.

The classic answer “*I’m not sure as I wasn’t there!*” may conveniently get us out of an argument but can also excuse us from thinking about Creation.

Rather than ask questions on the DVD this month, I would like you to ask some questions on issues that you would like further information or make comments on some of the points raised in the DVD or Andrew Corbett’s article.

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.
6.
7.
8.



Study 12

Subject: The Future – heaven and hell

Statement of Faith: *We believe in the bodily resurrection of all men, the everlasting conscious bliss of all who truly believe in our Lord Jesus Christ and the everlasting conscious punishment of all whose names are not written in the Book of Life (Dan. 12:2-3; John 5:28-29, 1 Cor. 15:22-24; Matt. 25:46; 2 Thess. 1:9; Rev. 20:10-15).*

Questions:

1. When Jesus made the statement in Matthew 22:32, were Abraham, Isaac and Jacob still living on the earth?
2. What did Job believe would happen to his body? (Job 19:25-26)
3. When Jesus said to the thief that he would be with him in paradise that day, would the man go on living? (Luke 23:43)
4. What would it mean for Paul to be 'absent from the body'? (2 Corinthians 5:8)
5. Jesus spoke of 2 resurrections in John 5:24-29
 - a. In John 5:24-25, when would the dead hear Jesus voice and live?
 - b. In John 5:28-29 when would the dead come out of their graves?
 - c. Jesus teaching seems clear that the 1st Resurrection is spiritual new life now (conversion) and the 2nd Resurrection is physical new life at the end of the age (bodies raised from the grave). Does the believer have anything to fear from the 2nd death described in Revelation 20:4-6?
6. What is God's will? (1 Timothy 2:3-6)
7. What is not God's will? (2 Peter 3:19)
8. What does Jesus say about everlasting life and condemnation in John 3:14-18, 36; 5:24; 20:31?
9. What does Jesus teach about hell in Matthew 25:41, 46?
10. What does Paul teach about the essential nature of hell in 2 Thessalonians 1:7-9?
11. Explain what Petzer means by
 - a. Past Judgement,
 - b. Present Judgement
 - c. Future Judgement
12. What evidence is there that Believers have nothing to fear concerning the judgement of eternal punishment?
13. How would you describe "heaven"?