

I N T E R N A T I O N A L



C E N T R E

**DISCIPLESHIP SCHOOL**  
NURTURING SERIES -ENABLE

## ASSURANCE OF SALVATION

**Objective:** To be able to provide every person a greater understanding of the importance of being assured of their salvation after making a personal commitment to accept Jesus Christ as Lord and personal Savior.

### Main Outline:

- I. God's original plan for man.
- II. The Fall of Man
- III. How can we be saved?
- IV. What does it mean to be born-again?

*Discussion question: If you have been given a chance for a do-over, how and where will you use it?*

### I. God's Original Plan for Man

God's original plan for man is to spend eternity with Him in heaven. God gave man the freedom to choose, the will... to choose or reject the salvation offered by Christ and whatever choice we make, there is a consequence. Eventually, man chose to disobey God and the Bible calls that disobedience **sin**. Romans 3:23 "for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."

### II. The Fall of Man

All the way back in Genesis, Adam and Eve were created by God to live in the Garden of Eden where God provided for all their needs. God gave them one specific commandment: do not eat from the tree in the middle of the garden. One day, Satan (in the form of a serpent) tempted Eve and convinced her to eat the fruit from the tree. Then Eve gave some of the fruit to Adam and he also ate it. At that very moment, they both realized they have sinned and disobeyed God. Because of their sin, God banished Adam and Eve from the garden. That sin ended their intimate relationship with God—equal to spiritual death. Therefore, the curse of death came into the world because of their sin.

Romans 6:23 "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Man's sin resulted in **separation** from God (Isaiah 59:2), **physical** death (Hebrew 9:27a) and **punishment** in hell (Matthew 25:41-46).

*Discussion question: When you were young, have you ever been caught in an act of disobedience? What punishment did you receive? Were you forgiven? How did that feel?*

### III. How Can We Be Saved?

There is the GOOD NEWS! God so loved us that He provided a way for us to have eternal life with Him by **sending** His Son Jesus Christ. (John 3:16, Romans 5:8). Two things for us to do:

First, by **repenting from our sins** (180-degree turn). Repentance means asking God for forgiveness of our sins and deciding to turn away from a sinful life to a life of obedience to God. When we repent of our sins we receive God's forgiveness.

Second, by **making Jesus our Lord & Savior** through personal confession. This means we give Jesus full control over all areas of our lives and living a surrendered life to Jesus. (Romans 10:9-10, Romans 10:13). This is spiritual rebirth or being born again. It means becoming part of God's family—the word "again" literally means "from above"—becoming a child of God. It is being alive spiritually with the life Jesus gave us. (John 3:3, 2 Corinthians 5:17)

**Summary:**

God provided a way for us to have eternal life with Him by sending His Son Jesus Christ so that whoever places their faith in Him will be saved. (John 3:16) Jesus died to pay for our sins and rescued/saved us from eternal punishment. Salvation is available to anyone who will trust in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior.

**Conclusion & Application:**

The Bible (God's Word), gives us the assurance that the moment we put our full trust in Christ, receive Him as Lord and Savior, we have the assurance of eternal life. The Inner Witness (strong knowing in our hearts) of the Holy Spirit gives us this assurance through the peace in our hearts. (Romans 8:16, John 1:12)

We can never be saved by trying to be a good person, nor can we be saved through doing good works, being kind to the poor, being religious, etc. (Ephesians 2:8-9). Salvation only happens by placing our faith in Jesus and what He has done on the cross.

## DEVOTIONAL LIFE

**Objective:** For every believer to discover how to grow in their personal relationship with Jesus Christ through prayer and reading the Bible.

**Main Outline:**

- I. Need for Spiritual Growth
- II. Jesus' Pattern for Prayer – The Lord's Prayer
- III. Guidelines and Practical Suggestions in Prayer
- IV. The Importance of Daily Meditation of God's Word

*Discussion Questions: Describe your growing years (3-6 years old), what has been your most unforgettable childhood memory?*

**I. Need for Spiritual Growth**

Once we become born again, we are like **babies** who need to grow in our relationship with God. Accepting Jesus as our Lord and Savior (spiritual rebirth) is only the beginning. We are to spend daily quality time in spiritual habits of **prayer** and meditation of God's **Word**.

*Discussion Questions: What is your best way of expressing or communicating your love/affection to others (ex. words of affirmation, actions/gestures, gifts, meaningful touch, quality time, etc.)? (Option: What do you think is the most effective form of communication ever invented by man?)*

**II. Jesus' Pattern for Prayer**

God our Heavenly Father wants us to live a life of constant communication with Him in prayer just as Jesus lived a life of constant communion with the Father. Jesus lived a life of prayer anywhere and anytime and He gave us this pattern:

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Matthew 6:7-13) NKJV

**Our Father in Heaven** - *We can have the boldness to approach God as our Heavenly Father.*

**Hallowed Be Your Name** - *We start by honoring His Name, praising and worshipping Him for who He is and what He has done.*

**Your Kingdom Come, Your Will Be Done on Earth As It Is In Heaven** - *We pray for His rule and reign to come in our lives, both in the present and in the future. We pray for people to know Christ and make Him Lord and Savior. We pray for people to be healed and be set free from the lies of the devil. We can pray for our family, friends, classmates, workmates, people in our government, etc.*

**Give Us This Day Our Daily Bread** - *We ask God to meet and supply all our needs. (Matthew 7:7, Philippians 4:19)*

**Forgive Us Our Sins As We Forgive Those Who Sin Against Us** - *We ask God to forgive our sins (1John 1:9), and to forgive those who have sinned against us, whether they have apologized or not, we are to release them to God and forgive them. Unforgiveness is a sin and if we have sin in our hearts, the Lord will not listen to our prayers.*

**And Lead Us Not Into Temptation But Deliver Us From Evil** - *Ask God for grace and strength against the attacks of the Devil.*

**For Yours Is The Kingdom And The Power And The Glory Forever** - *and give God the glory again before ending in prayer.*

**AMEN.** - *End in agreement with God's Word and promises knowing by faith that our prayers are heard and answered by God.*

### III. Guidelines in Prayer

- a. Pray with a **clean** heart (Psalm 66:18). **Sin** will block our communication with God.
- b. Pray in the Name of **Jesus** (John 14:13-14). We pray to the Father, in the name of Jesus, His Son (John 14:13) and through the guidance of the Holy Spirit (John 14:16-17).
- c. Pray with **faith** (Hebrews 11:6). When we pray, we leave our burdens to God and let Him have His way, and timing. We have to trust Him with all our cares.
- d. Pray according to the **will** of God (1 John 5:14-15). Let us not expect God to answer our prayer if we are not praying according to His will. (Ex. prayer to win the Lotto). One way to know the will of God is by reading His **Word**- the Bible. Another is through the guidance and counsel of **godly** people.

### Practical Suggestions When Praying

1. Find a quiet and **private** place to pray.
2. Wake up **earlier** than usual before you go to your daily routine.
3. Start with at least **30** minutes a day
4. Allot a time to pray before you **sleep**.
5. Develop a **lifestyle** of praying anywhere and anytime (1Thessalonians 5:17).

*Discussion Questions: What is your favorite book and what is the greatest lesson you learned from that book?*

### IV. The Importance of Daily Meditation of God's Word

Meditate literally means '**to chew the cud**'. It's like a cow that chews, swallows the grass and bring it back again and re-chews the cud (grass) to extract all the nutrients from it. When we read God's Word, we need to ponder, study intently (over and over) and take hold of whatever promise or truth God has shown us in the Bible.

Seven reasons why we need to meditate on the Word of God:

1. For **guidance** in life (Psalm 119:105)
2. To keep us from **sinning**. (Psalm 119:11)
3. For spiritual **nourishment**. (Matthew 4:4)
4. As a weapon against the devil's **attacks** (Ephesians 6:17b).

Sometimes the devil will throw accusations at us and condemn us. We can hold on to the word of God

to face these attacks. If our faith is becoming weak, we can hold on to the **promises** of God. (Romans 10:17)

5. To live a **successful** and prosperous life. (Joshua 1:8)
6. To **please** God. (2 Timothy 2:15)
7. To **teach, correct** and **equip** us in serving God. (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

### Summary:

Communication is very important in a relationship. God communicates with us through His Word – the Bible and we communicate with God through prayer. Since God is our Creator, He alone knows how we can live a life of purpose. His Word, the Bible, teaches us how to live right. We can come to the word of God to seek guidance in all aspects of our lives like marriage, parenting, financial management, ministry, etc.

**Conclusion & Application:**

What is the best time of the day to read and meditate on God's Word? The best time is when you're at your **best!**" If you're an evening person, do your devotions in the evening. If you're the opposite, do it during the day. The bottom line is: *"Jesus deserves your best, so give Him the best part of your day!"*

## BIBLICAL BAPTISM – WATER BAPTISM

### Objective:

1. For every believer to understand the importance of making a commitment to follow Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour by going through water baptism.

### Main Outline:

- I. What is Water Baptism and is it necessary to be baptized in water?
- II. How Is Water Baptism Done?
- III. When Should You Be Baptized in water?
- IV. Why Do We Not Baptize Babies?

Discussion Questions: Who between your Dad or Mom you look like the most? What do you think are the character or personality traits you have gotten from your parent/s?

### I. What Is Water Baptism?

Water baptism is a public **declaration** of an inward commitment to our Lord Jesus Christ. It is a means of **identifying** ourselves with the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus (Romans 6:3-5).

It is a special celebration of being a part of God's family. This is NOT done to wash away our sins because our sins are already washed by the **Blood** that Jesus Christ shed when He died on the cross.

Is it necessary to be baptized in water?

Yes, because it is Jesus' **command** (Matthew 28:19; Mark 16:15-16). Even Jesus Himself, was baptized by John in the Jordan River because He had to obey the Father and be an example to the believers (Matthew 3:13-17).

### II. How Is Water Baptism Done?

The word **baptizo** came from the Greek word meaning "**to immerse**" and this is the biblical way of being baptized in water. Any believer in Christ who lives in **obedience** to His will may be baptized (Acts 2:38, 41; Acts 8:36-39).

### III. When Should You Be Baptized in Water?

As **soon** as you get born again. The true mark of a believer is **obedience**.

### IV. Why Do We Not Baptize Babies?

Babies do not have the **capacity** to decide that is why Peter preached about being baptized in water after **repentance** from sin. (Acts 2:38). Babies are instead **dedicated** to the Lord, which means parents are committing the life of the baby to God's plan and purpose. The Bible also do not **mention** of any baby who was baptized in water. Jesus Himself was **dedicated** to God when He was a baby (Luke 2:22). He was only water baptized at the age of thirty (Matthew 3: 13-17). If you happen to have been baptized in water as an infant, you still need to undergo water baptism now that you know its true biblical meaning.

**Summary:** Being born again and publicly declaring Jesus as Lord and Savior is a decision a person makes, that is why the Bible doesn't teach infant baptism.

**Conclusion & Application:**

Any believer in Christ who lives in obedience to His will may be baptized. But preferably, it should be officiated by a minister, elder or even your life group leader. Here at International Worship Centre, we can schedule for Water Baptism for people who need it. If you want to be baptized in water, you may call the church (204-774-4478) or go to the Welcome Centre before or after the worship service and fill up the application form. You can also visit our website [www.iwcentre.com](http://www.iwcentre.com) click on "Resources", scroll down to "Forms," scroll down and click on "Water Baptism Form." After filling in the form, click on "Submit" and someone from the church office will give you a call regarding the next steps.



## BIBLICAL BAPTISM – BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT

### Objective:

2. For every believer to understand the importance of being filled and empowered by the Holy Spirit.

### Main Outline:

- I. What is the Baptism in the Holy Spirit?
- II. What is the Purpose of the Baptism in the Holy Spirit?
- III. How Can We Be Baptized in The Holy Spirit?
- IV. What is Speaking in Tongues?
- V. Why Should Every Believer in Christ Speak in Tongues?

Acts 2:4; Acts 10:46; Acts 19:6; Acts 8:12-17; Acts 10:44-46

*Discussion question: If you will be given supernatural abilities, what will you do to be a world-changer?*

### I. What is the Baptism in the Holy Spirit?

Before Jesus went to heaven, He gave His disciples His final instructions. He told them that they will be His witnesses throughout the world. But before this happens, He emphasized that they needed to receive the gift of the Holy Spirit referred to as “the promise of the Father” (Acts 1:4 NIV). He assured them that the promised Spirit would be their source of power to accomplish their divine mission (Acts 1:8 NIV) and therefore, available to those who are believers in Jesus Christ. (Luke 24:49; Acts 1:4-5). The word baptism came from the Greek word “Baptizo” which means immersion, submersion.” Therefore, to be baptised in the Holy Spirit means to be immersed in the power of the Holy Spirit.

### II. What Is the Purpose of Baptism in the Holy Spirit?

The Baptism in the Holy Spirit is an experience in which the believer yields control of Himself to the Holy Spirit. (Matthew 3:11, Acts 1:5, Eph. 5: 18). Through this he/she comes to know Christ in a more **intimate** way (John 16: 13-15) and receives **boldness** to witness and grow **spiritually**. (2 Cor.3:18, Acts 1:8). Believers should earnestly seek this experience according to the **command** of our Lord Jesus Christ (Acts 1: 4-5, 8). The baptism in the Holy Spirit is the beginning of a Spirit-filled life. As a result of this spiritual experience, the Holy Spirit can help us live empowered Christian lives, overcome sin and help us grow in spiritual maturity (Luke 24:49).

Who is the Baptizer in the Holy Spirit?

John the Baptist introduced Jesus as the baptizer in the Holy Spirit (Matthew 3:11, Luke 3:16). Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever and He still baptizes people today. The prophet Joel said that in the last days, God will pour out His Spirit on everyone (Acts 2:16-18).

### III. How Can We Be Baptized in The Holy Spirit?

There are a number of ways which we can be baptized in the Holy Spirit.

1. We can ask for it by faith for the purpose of obeying God (Luke 11:13).
2. While in our personal time of prayer (Acts 1:14; 2:1).
3. While listening to the preaching of God’s word (Acts 10:44-46).
4. Through the laying on of hands by Spirit-filled believers (Acts 19:1-6).

#### **IV. What is Speaking in Tongues?**

The **initial** evidence of the baptism in the Holy Spirit is speaking in tongues as the Spirit gives utterance or words (Acts 2: 1-4, 9-17, 39; I Cor. 14:18). This experience is distinct (separate) from and subsequent (follows after) the experience of the new birth/salvation (Acts 8:12-17; 10:44-46).

Two Kinds of Tongues:

A. **Known** tongue- known language (like English, French or Spanish) but unknown to the one speaking; ex. A Filipino who does not know how to speak French suddenly speaks French as the Holy Spirit enables him. This is what the apostles experienced on the Day of Pentecost when they were heard speaking the different languages of the people who came to celebrate the Feast of Passover with them. The apostles were Galileans but the Holy Spirit enabled them to speak in different tongues (Acts 2:5-11).

B. **Unknown** tongue- language not known by anyone in the world. It's called the language of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 14:2-4 KJV).

#### **Summary:**

Why Should Every Believer in Christ Speak in (Unknown) Tongues?

Speaking in tongues results in greater intimacy with God (1 Corinthians 14:2, 14), it builds up our faith (Jude 1:20) and other fellow believers (if there is interpretation) (1 Cor. 14:4, 26, 27). The Holy Spirit also helps us in praying for the perfect will of God concerning situations that we go through (Romans 8:26-27).

#### **Conclusion & Application:**

Believers should We Speak in Tongues in both **private** place (by ourselves) where we can speak or pray aloud or in a **public** place with other believers, we should do it quietly or share it with others if there is an interpreter (1 Corinthians 14:27-28)

## BELONGING TO GOD'S FAMILY – THE CHURCH

**Objective:** For every believer to understand the importance of being a committed member of a local body of believers.

**Main Outline:**

- I. **What is the Church?**
- II. **What Should We Do to Become Part of God's Family?**
- III. **Description of The Church**
- IV. **Be Committed to a Local Church**
- V. **What Does Fellowship Really Mean?**

*Discussion Question: Describe your growing up years with your family? How many of us are glad we were born to the family we grew up into and why did you say so?*

### **What is the Church?**

When we place our faith in Christ, God becomes our Father and we become His children. Other believers become our brothers and sisters and the church becomes our **spiritual** family. The family of God includes all believers in the past, present and the future.

### **What Should We Do To Become Part Of God's Family?**

a. Be **Born Again** - By our first birth, we belong to a human family. By our second birth or the born-again experience, we belong to God's family. b. The invitation to be a part of God's family is for everyone but there is one condition: Putting our **faith** in Jesus. (Galatians 3:26)

### **Description of The Church**

a. The Church is not a building, but a living **organism**. The English word church is from the Greek word "**ekklesia**" meaning "**called out ones.**" We are people set apart for God (1 Peter 2:9).

### **Be Committed to A Local Church**

The Christian life is more than just commitment to Christ; it is also a commitment to other **Christians** in a church. (2 Cor. 8:5)

What is a Local Church?

A local church is a body of believers in Christ who have joined together in a certain community or locality that functions as a part of the universal church. Hebrews 10:25 commanded us to not give up meeting together.

### **What Does Fellowship Really Mean?**

Fellowship is the Greek word "**KOINONIA.**" God wants us to experience **life** together. The Bible calls this *fellowship*. It's not about people having casual conversation, socializing, eating or sharing food together or just having fun. It's about promoting genuine care and concern as brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ.

\*(Reference about this lesson on the Church is taken from book "The Purpose Driven Life" by Rick Warren, 2002 Zondervan, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49530)

### **Purpose of Life Groups**

Like in the Bible, we gather to **worship** God together, to **study** His Word, to **care** for one another through friendship, to pray and **help** needy members in practical ways. To pray and **work** for the cause of Christ in bringing the lost to God (Acts 2:41-47).

### **Be Part of a Life Group**

A Life Group is a small group gathering which allow us to grow closer to our fellow Christians. The church, which is the Body of Christ, is like our body which is a collection of small cells. Our life is within those cells. In the same way, the life of the church is in the Life Groups. At the International Worship Centre, we have Life Groups that meet once a week or every other week.

### **Summary:**

Become a part also of Sunday Worship celebrations. The New Testament believers in the Book of Acts did not just gather from house to house, but also in the “temple” (Acts 2:46). So, as a church we gather every Sunday to **worship** God, to **celebrate** His goodness and victories throughout the week, to get **fired** up (spiritually), to be **fed** by the teaching of His Word and to **celebrate** the Lord’s Supper every first Sunday of the month.

### **Conclusion & Application:**

IWC FAMILY MEMBERSHIP CLASS - A formal classroom that discusses the vision, mission, foundational beliefs and doctrines of International Worship Centre. Here, people are encouraged to ask questions to help you fully understand the teachings and doctrines that come with your walk with the Lord. You are given the privilege of becoming a bonafide member after attending the class.

### **IWC CHURCH MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS:**

Membership Class > Undercover Seminar > Bait of Satan Seminar

Water Baptism

Pastors/ Pastors’ Council Interview

## BIBLICAL STEWARDSHIP – HONORING GOD WITH OUR FINANCES

**Objective:** For every believer to understand the importance of being a faithful and obedient steward of God's provisions and blessings.

### Main Outline:

- I. **Jesus Must Be Lord of All**
- II. **God's Will Concerning Finances**
- III. **What Is Stewardship?**
- IV. **What is Tithing or Biblical Giving?**
- V. **Principles of Tithing**

*Discussion Question: If you will be given a million dollars by a very wealthy man, what are the top three things you will do with the money? What was the biggest amount of money you ever had and how did you spend it?*

### **Jesus Must Be Lord of All**

Jesus must be Lord in every area of our lives, including our finances otherwise He is not really our Lord at all. It is important that we submit to the Lordship of Jesus. While Jesus was here on earth, there was no area in His life that was contrary to the Father's will (John 6:38). The Bible teaches us about the correct handling and how we can honor God with our finances.

### **God's Will Concerning Finances**

The Bible says in James 1:17 that God is the source of all good and perfect things. One of God's provisions is money. We have money because God gave us the wisdom, talent, strength, health and the very air we breathe so we can work. Even our work/job itself is a blessing from the Lord. We do not really own the things that we have (Psalm 24:1). We are His stewards of everything we receive from the Lord. He is giving us an opportunity to trust in Him and not in our own skill, wisdom and strength. He does not want us to trust in the world's economy which is so unstable. If we are faithful in little things, He will entrust us with bigger things. (Luke 16:10)

### **What is Stewardship?**

Stewardship means taking care of another's property. To fully obey God, we need to understand His will concerning finances. We are required to be faithful stewards. A day will come when we will all meet Him face to face and we will answer for all the things we have done to the things He has entrusted to us. There is a corresponding punishment for those who have not been faithful (Luke 12:47-48).

### **What is Tithing or Biblical Giving?**

Tithing means ten percent. God's share is the ten percent or tithe of all we receive (Leviticus 27:30; Malachi 3:8-10). It was recorded in the Bible as early as the times of Abraham and Jacob. God's servants live in partnership with Him (Genesis 4:1-4; 14:18-20; 28:20-22). It was also a New Testament practice. Jesus rebuked the Jewish leaders because of their wrong priorities (Matthew 23:23).

### **Principles of Tithing:**

The command in the Bible to give our tithes and offerings to the Lord have corresponding promises of prosperity. Proverbs 3:9-10, Malachi 3:10-12, Philippians 4:15-19, 2 Corinthians 9:6-8

1. We give from the gross. (Proverbs 3:9; Luke 20:20-25). The Bible commands us to give from the gross of our income and all our increase. We pay taxes from the gross, we also are to give our tithes from the gross.
2. We give it first before other expenses or put it first in our budget (Exodus 22:29-30; Proverbs 3:9). God is to be the Lord of all and first in our priorities.
3. We give it to our home church (Malachi 3:10) to pay for the operating expenses of the church to fulfill God's unique vision for the local church where we belong. After we have tithed that we can give offerings as we are moved to help and support other needs of our own church as well as the needs of other churches and ministries.
4. We give our tithes as an act of obedience to God (Proverbs 3:9) Acknowledge that God is the source of all the things that we have (Deut:8:18).
5. We need faith to obey and please the Lord to give Faith pleases God (Hebrews 11:6). God will fulfill His promise to provide for all our needs and to bless us abundantly. God also promised that He will rebuke the devourer of our properties (Mal. 3:11) and no one can stop the flow of blessings in our lives.

### **Summary:**

In Proverbs 3:9, the Bible commands us to honor the Lord with our substance and with the first fruits of our increase. For us to prosper, God wants us to work in partnership with Him. We must be faithful to give what is His and manage the rest in wise spending, saving and investing.

### **Conclusion & Application:**

After we have given the portion that belongs to the Lord (our tithes), we cannot spend the money that is left according to our own discretion. The Lord wants us to properly manage it and use or spend it wisely. Here are some practical tips:

1. Create a budget then live within your means. Know the things you really need and the things that are wants. Live a simple and content life. (I Timothy 6:6-10).
2. Be a saver- investor person (Matthew 25:14-30).
3. Provide well for your family (I Timothy 5:8).
4. Share to those who are in need (II Corinthians 9:8).

## SHARING OUR FAITH – BEING FISHERS OF MEN

**Objective:** For every believer to understand the importance of sharing one's faith to others and how we can lead people to a personal relationship with our Lord Jesus Christ.

### **Main Outline:**

- I. Follow Christ and be a Fisher of Men
- II. God Promised Power
- III. Pray First

*Discussion question: What was your favorite movie so far (this year)? Did you let others know how good the movie was? Why?*

### **Follow Christ and Be a Fisher of Men**

Before our encounter with Jesus (through our salvation experience), we used to live in sin, distant from God, bound by Satan, lost and doomed to eternal suffering in hell. Billions of people all over the world are presently in that same situation. If God reached out to you and gave you new life and hope, others are not without a chance. They are equally important to the Lord.

What is God's will for those who do not know Him? (II Peter 3:9). In the same manner that you came to know Christ through prayer, care and sharing of God's Word by your friend or relative, God is counting on you to be His partner in this worthy cause of reaching out to people to share God's love and His Word.

When we decided to follow Jesus Christ, we are not just to enjoy life and wait for heaven, but also to become **fishers** of men or God's bait to the lost (Matthew 4:19). We are to do God's will, especially in **bringing** the lost to God (John 4:34). Lastly, to become Christ's **ambassadors** to the world. (II Corinthians 5:17-20)

The wonderful thing about this great task before us is that God will be the One who will make us "fishers of men". He will give us the ability to do the work. He promised that as we go, He will be with us even to the ends of the earth. (Matthew 28:18-20, Mark 16:15-20)

*Discussion question: If you happen to become a very well-known research scientist, and you have discovered a medicine for an incurable ailment (say HIV), what will be the first thing you will do? Why?*

### **God Promised Power**

In Acts 1:8, Jesus promised to give us power to become witnesses for Him anywhere under heaven. This power comes from the person of the **Holy Spirit**. Our Heavenly Father promises to baptize all believers in Christ with the Holy Spirit (Luke 24:49; Acts 1:4-8). So, as we fulfill our task on earth, we can be assured that we have God's power to do it.

### **Role of Prayer in Sharing Our Faith**

Bringing people to Christ to experience salvation and rebirth is the inner working of the Holy Spirit in the heart of the person. It is in **prayer** that we win the battle for the souls of man and are enabled by God's power to do it. (1Timothy 2:1-4).

### **Summary: How to Share Your Personal Testimony?**

There are three stages in sharing our personal testimony,

- a. **Before coming to Christ:** How was your life before you came to a personal relationship with Jesus Christ?
- b. **During your encounter with Christ:** Who led you or what situation brought you into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ?
- c. **After you received Christ as Lord & Savior:** What changes took place in your life (your family and other relationships) right after this experience?

**Conclusion & Application: Share Your Story**

Before sharing your testimony to anyone, go out and be a friend and share God's love in practical ways to friends, relatives, and even strangers. If you believe that God is leading you to somebody, go and reach out.

It's time to share your story of how the Lord came into your life and the result of that experience or the change that happened in your life.