

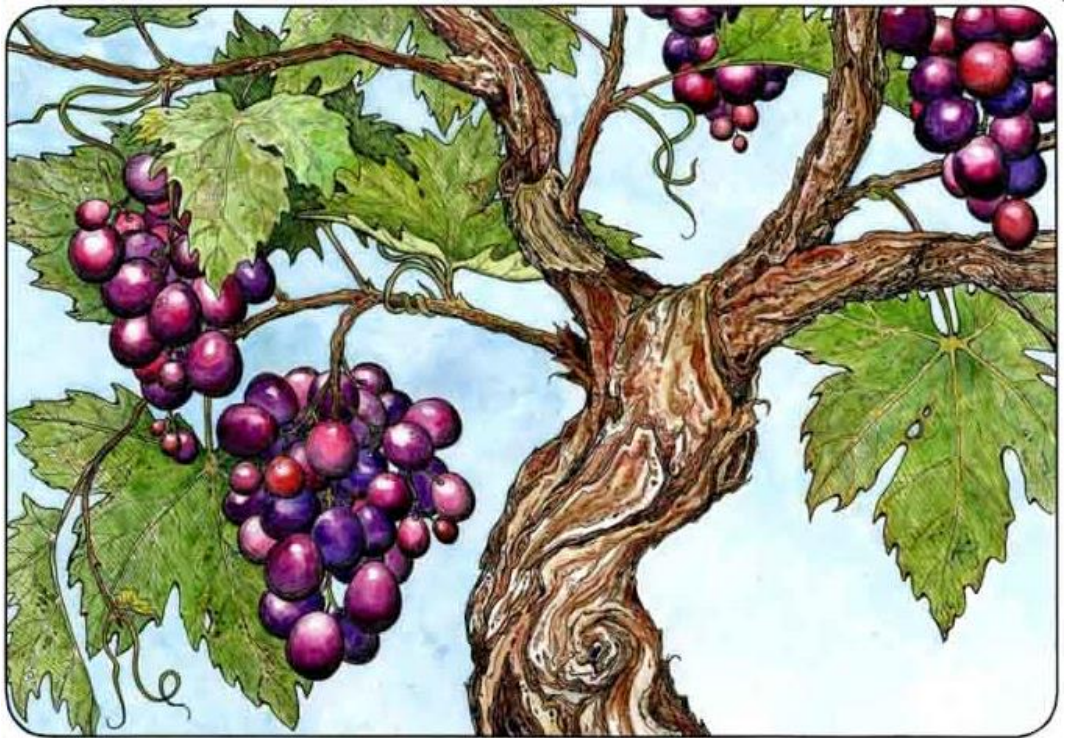
# PROGRESSING TOGETHER



## COURSE 107

### DISCERNING GOD'S WILL

(Formerly Course 106 – Christian Ethics)



We pray...  
that you may live a life worthy of the Lord  
and may please Him in every way;  
bearing fruit in every good work,  
growing in the knowledge of God.

Colossians 1:10

[www.ProgressingTogether.com](http://www.ProgressingTogether.com)  
[info@progressingtogether.com](mailto:info@progressingtogether.com)

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# PROGRESSING TOGETHER LEVEL I

## INTRODUCTION TO PART II

The first six courses of the Level I program are designed to help you to grow as disciples of Jesus Christ. If you have followed this program you will recall the theme verse below. Complete the missing phrase here:



*So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord,  
continue to live your lives in him,*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*strengthened in the faith as you were taught,  
and overflowing with thankfulness. Colossians 2:6-7*

With this course we enter into a new phase: Bearing fruit for God's glory. Our theme verse is Colossians 1:10. Review the verse on the cover page of this course, then write it from memory below:

*We pray...*




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## PART II: BEARING FRUIT FOR HIS GLORY

<b>Course 107</b> Discerning God's Will	<b>Course 110</b> A Life of Service
<b>Course 108</b> Transformed Relationships	<b>Course 111</b> Forgiveness & Reconciliation
<b>Course 109</b> Spiritual Warfare & the Occult	<b>Course 112</b> Prepared to Give an Answer

In our first course in this series, we will discover that as we grow in our understanding of God's word, we become more capable of discerning God's will for our daily lives. This will enable us to bear much fruit as we learn to follow His ways.



# COURSE 107: Discerning God's Will

## Course Objectives

1. To understand the key Biblical teachings that make up the Christian moral ethics.
2. To allow the renewed heart, soul, and mind to work together with God's Word to discern God's will.
3. To apply Biblical ethical teaching to specific life situations to make God-honouring decisions.
4. To commit to remaining connected to Christ and His Body for the power to live a moral and ethical life.

## Lessons

1	The Ten Commandments
2	The Greatest Commandment
3	The Teaching of Jesus
4	Our Conscience Renewed by God
5	Strengthened to Bear Fruit

## Introduction

No one can escape the influence of society around us. We all share its language, traditions and customs. When we receive Jesus as our Saviour and accept him as our Lord, our new faith changes our behaviour. We find that the Lord approves of some of the moral values that we have learnt in the society we live in, but that He will work in us to correct others.

How can we know how we should behave as a disciple of Christ? What should we do and what should we not do? Where can we find the strength to put into practise our convictions?

In this course, we are not trying to say what we should do, or not do, in the face of every possible situation. Rather we want to show how a believer in Christ can use the principles Christ left us in His word, the Bible, to make responsible decisions in his or her daily life. The study of these principles and how to apply them to our lives is called "Christian Ethics." Each one of us is called to learn God's principles and to discern, with the guidance of the Holy Spirit and the counsel of our faith community, how to boldly take action that best honours Christ in each new situation.

In the first four lessons we will study the basis of Christian Ethics and discern together how these principles apply to life situations.

In the fifth lesson we will look at where we can find the strength which allows us to do the will of God.

### *Testimony*

Your group leader will have you watch or listen to a testimony related to the topic of this Course.



## Lesson 1: The Ten Commandments

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

### Lesson Objectives

1. To understand the intent of the moral law as providing structure to society while giving liberty to individuals.
2. To be able to explain the benefits of obeying the 10 commandments.
3. To be able to apply the teachings of the 10 commandments to life's decisions and situations.



The Mosaic law is made up of the moral law, the civil law, and the ceremonial law. The civil law was designed for the children of Israel when they came out of Egypt and became an actual nation. The ceremonial law regulated the sacrificial Jewish religious system and the rituals for purification, both of which pointed to the righteousness made available through the sacrifice of Jesus, the Messiah. The moral laws, however, can be applied by all people throughout time.

In this lesson, we will be looking at the moral law as presented in the 10 Commandments and how these commandments can guide us as we grow and mature as Christians.



### Read Exodus 20:1-17.



The Decalogue (Ten Commandments) is a covenant treaty between God and His people, Israel. (See also Deuteronomy 5:3). What does the text tell us about God's relationship to His people? (20:2)



What is the purpose of these laws?



Ex. 20:2 shows that God intends liberty for his people. As you reflect on these laws, describe how observing them would keep the people free.



Fill in the table on the following page. (An example is given in italics.)



Note that there are four commandments about our respect for God and six about our respect for others.

Verses		Commandment	Is this commandment talking about values generally respected in your society?		Do you consider this commandment to be...		When this commandment is respected, what are the positive results for me / for society?
			Yes	No	Difficult	Easy	
1	Ex. 20:3	<i>No other gods</i>	✓ <i>in principle</i>	✓ <i>in practice</i>	✓		<i>Example: This releases me from relying on false gods and idols which, if I followed them, would reduce me to a form of slavery.</i>
2	Ex. 20:4-6						
3	Ex. 20:7						
4	Ex. 20:8-11						
5	Ex. 20:12						

6	Ex. 20:13						
7	Ex. 20:14						
8	Ex. 20:15						
9	Ex. 20:16						
10	Ex. 20:17						



**EXAMPLE:** Djamila is a 17-year-old Christian. Her parents are practising Muslims. On the television she discovers the latest fashions in France. She knows that for a Muslim this way of dressing would be considered sinful but she wonders, as a Christian, if she could dress like this.

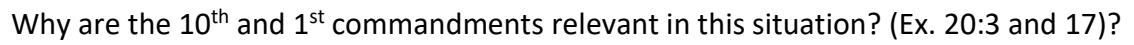


Which of the ten commandments should be taken into consideration in this context?



Why is the 5<sup>th</sup> commandment relevant in this situation? (Exodus 20:12)?





1. Learn the 10 Commandments by heart using hand gestures. Click on the following [link](#) for ideas. (Make sure you adapt the hand gestures to your particular culture.)

2. Listen to Psalm 19:7-13. Make a list of what the law of God is like and how obedience to the Law affects our lives. Then, thank God for His law.

[illegible]



## Applications

1. We looked together at the decision Djamila had to make regarding her choice of clothes. Come up with another example of a real-life situation where an understanding and application of the Ten Commandments can help a Christian make a good decision.
2. How are covetousness and idolatry linked? Provide an example from your life or that of another believer of how you or they have overcome covetousness and/or idolatry.
3. Read or listen to Psalm 1 and draw a picture to represent the blessing of the person who delights in the law of the Lord. Then, thank God for His law and for His promise to bless you as you walk in His ways. Pray that you would delight more and more in doing His will. Put your picture in a place where you can see it often and continue to pray this prayer during the coming week.



## Sharing

This week, share with others what you have learned in this lesson. You can also redo the lesson with someone.



## Lesson ②: The Greatest Commandment

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

### Lesson Objectives

1. To see and be able to explain how the Greatest Commandment of love for God and our fellow man fulfils the 10 Commandments.
2. To understand how to apply the principle of love to moral choices.
3. To examine a personal habit in the light of the law of love and determine if there is a need to change.



### How are you getting on?

1. What were the main points of the last lesson?
2. What happened when you shared with others what you learned?
3. What changed in your lives as a result of these teachings?



### Read Matthew 22:34-40.



In Matthew 22:33-40 Jesus quotes two commandments from the Old Testament: Deuteronomy 6:5 and Leviticus 19:18. This "greatest commandment" shows us the universal aspect of the law which can be applied in all places and circumstances.

The "rules" of the Old Testament were primarily laws which guided human behaviour whereas the "greatest commandment" addresses man's heart.



The Greatest Commandment is composed of two parts. Each addresses relationship: first, our relationship to God and then, our relationship to our fellow man. Write both parts below:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_



With which parts of our being should we express our love of God? What function does each of these parts have in our lives?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



How does each one of them influence the other two?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



Look at the list of the Ten Commandments in lesson 1, and explain how love is understood in each of the commandments:

<b>1</b> If I really love God I will desire no other gods.	<b>6</b> ..... ..... ..... .....
<b>2</b> ..... ..... ..... .....	<b>7</b> ..... ..... ..... .....
<b>3</b> ..... ..... ..... .....	<b>8</b> ..... ..... ..... .....
<b>4</b> If I love God my work retains its proper importance and I joyfully give over the day of rest to God, knowing that He will provide.	<b>9</b> If I love God and my neighbour I do not destroy my neighbour's reputation.
<b>5</b> ..... ..... ..... .....	<b>10</b> ..... ..... ..... .....



### Read Jeremiah 31:31-34



More than 600 years before Jesus Christ, Jeremiah prophesied that the old law based on the letter of the law would be replaced by a new law. This new law, while hardly changing the contents, would no longer be external but would be written on the heart.



Why was a new covenant with a new law necessary?

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What would replace the tables of the law?



As this new law is not based on the letter of the law, on what is it based?



What is the essence of the law that Jesus taught in Matthew 22:37?



Explain how this command can truly guide all our moral decisions and enable us to accomplish God's Law in the New Covenant.



**EXAMPLE:** The Bible does not mention tobacco because it was not known then; but many Christians prefer not to smoke.



How can the "Greatest Commandment" be applied to this question when we consider:

1. The love of God:

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2. The love of our neighbour:

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3. The love of self:

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### Optional activities

1. Sing a song about loving God:

- [Love the Lord your God with all your heart](#)
- [I love you, Lord](#)
- [We love you, Lord](#)

2. Sing a song about loving our neighbour:
  - [A new commandment I give unto you](#)
  - [Love each other](#)
  - [Love one another](#)
3. Show how understanding some of Jesus' responses to objections regarding the Sabbath illustrate the priority of the Greatest Commandment. (Matthew 12:9-14)



### Applications

1. As Christ's bride we want to show our love by remaining pure for him. Think of a behaviour, habit or attitude you are not sure whether you need to change. Apply the law of Love and any of the 10 Commandments as you examine it.
2. Watch this video from the Bible Project about [the meaning of Agape Love](#). Pray and ask God to show you how you could show agape love to someone this week. In groups of two share what God has shown you and pray for each other.



### Sharing

This week, share with others what you have learned in this lesson. You can also redo the lesson with someone.



## Lesson ③: The Teaching of Jesus

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

### Lesson Objectives

1. *To realise that God's standard of righteousness is impossible to attain and that we desperately need His mercy.*
2. *To seek the Father's grace to transform our hearts and make us more like Himself.*
3. *To grow in godliness: become constantly aware of our Father's presence in our lives.*
4. *To live by the "Golden Rule" of ethics and treat others as we would want to be treated.*



### How are you getting on?

1. What were the main points of the last lesson?
2. What happened when you shared with others what you learned?
3. What changed in your lives as a result of these teachings?



### Read Matthew 5 to 7.



In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus sets a very high standard of moral purity: perfection! His two-fold purpose in doing so is evident in Matthew 5:13-20. First (5:13-16), he holds up a model of values and behaviour that inspires us to become like our heavenly Father. Following the teachings of Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount will make you stand out in the world like salt and light. Second (5:17-20), he convinces those of us who are trying to attain salvation by our righteous deeds that we can never hope to attain it. Exceeding the standard of righteousness set by the Pharisees seems impossible and indeed it is. And so, we all need to acknowledge our need for Christ as our saviour. As believers in Christ we strive for this perfection in our moral choices, knowing that when we fail we can rest by faith in our salvation through the forgiveness of the cross.



### A RENEWED HEART – MATTHEW 5



### Re-read Matthew 5.



Jesus taught that to truly obey the Old Testament Law man must have a renewed heart. An external observance of the law without a renewed heart falls short of Jesus' perfect standard for His followers.



The chart below places in parallel the Old Testament Law as practised in Jesus' day with Jesus' standard of success in fully achieving it. In each case, rate on the scale of 1-10 the difficulty you have in fulfilling the requirement. Then, determine what quality or attitude of the heart is required and write it in the last column.

	OLD TESTAMENT LAW		JESUS' TEACHING		HEART TRANSFORMATION
Verses	What did the Law specify?	How difficult is it to follow this perfectly (1-10)? 1=easy 10=hard	What did Jesus' explanation of the Law require?	How difficult is it to follow this perfectly (1-10)? 1=easy 10=hard	What character traits does Jesus' explanation require?
5:21-26	You shall not murder		Do not even be angry		Kindness and forgiveness
5:27-30	You shall not commit adultery		Do not even look at a woman lustfully		
5:33-37	You shall not swear falsely to the LORD		Do not swear falsely in any situation but rather keep your word every time.		
5:38-42	An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth (law of retaliation)		Do not resist evil people or exact retribution against them. Rather bless them.		
5:43-47	Love your neighbour and hate your enemy.		Love both your neighbour and your enemy.		



How possible is it to accomplish God's standard of righteous in Matthew 5:20-48? (See also 2 Corinthians 5:21)



Which challenge above is the hardest for you? Why?



## ② A RENEWED FOCUS – MATTHEW 6



### Re-read Matthew 6.



In Matthew 6 Jesus encourages us to focus on pleasing our heavenly Father rather than pleasing the people of this world.

#### a) Worshipping God alone



In Matthew 6:1, what is Jesus warning against?



In 6:1-18, Jesus describes how three religious practices in his day were being performed in such a way as to impress men but dishonour and insult God. Name these three practices.



What was the motivation and reward for “the hypocrites”?



What word does Jesus use to explain how men should perform these activities to honour God?

*They should do it* \_\_\_\_\_.



What does Jesus promise to those who do these activities in a way that honours and is pleasing to our heavenly Father?

#### b) Allowing our good works to shine while worshipping God in secret



How can we reconcile Matthew 5:13-16 with Matthew 6:1-18?



When giving to help someone in need, which of the following ways best glorify God? Tick the appropriate response(s) below:



Give (spontaneously) directly to the person.



Give to the person in the presence of other witnesses.



Alert a deacon or treasurer of the church (or house group) to the need and give the amount anonymously through the church.



Can you give another example of how to glorify God and not ourselves in our good works?

### c) Seeking God's kingdom first



What is the promise in Matthew 6:33?



Explain what it means to 'seek God's Kingdom first' in the context of verses 19-33.



Describe a situation in your life where you are anxious and worried and explain how you can change to have a more heavenly focus.



## ③ THE GOLDEN RULE – MATTHEW 7:1-12



**Re-read Matthew 7:1-12.**



Matthew 7:12 has become known as the "Golden Rule" of ethics.



Write Matthew 7:12.



When we apply the Golden Rule, we are simply imitating our Heavenly Father, who loves to give good things to his children who ask in confidence. (verse 11)



Reread Matthew 7:1-5. How are these verses an application of the Golden Rule?



Reread Matthew 5:21-46. (You can also review the chart in section 1.) Show how the Golden Rule can be applied to a situation mentioned in this passage. An example is provided below as a model to follow:

*In verses 21-26, I prefer people to be forgiving and kind than to be unforgiving and angry toward me. So, I should do likewise.*

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## FINAL WARNINGS – MATTHEW 7



Jesus in the closing sections of his message reinforces the theme he introduced in the beginning: we need to be perfect, like our Father in Heaven.



### Re-read Matthew 7:12-23



What additional warnings does Jesus give to self-righteous and religious people, confident in the merit of their good works before God? (The first response below is given as an example.)

*He warns his fellow humans that they are hypocrites. We naturally have blind spots that cause us to excuse ourselves while condemning others. The real problem is inside our hearts. We need to realize that the evil we see around us reveals what we tend not to see in ourselves. (verses 1-5)*

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### Optional activities

1. Play a skit showing the right and the wrong way to practice one of the three religious practices mentioned by Jesus in Matthew 6 (giving to the needy, praying and fasting). Then, pray that God would give the right attitude when you do these things.
2. Play a skit illustrating the problem of 'looking at the speck of sawdust in our brother's eye and paying no attention to the plank in our own eye' (Matthew 7:3) Then, discuss as a group what can help us overcome this tendency. Then, pray for God's help to put this into practice.
3. Meditate on the Beatitudes (Matthew 5:3-12) while listening to [this song](#).



## Applications

1. What promises does Jesus offer in the Sermon on the Mount to those who trust in him? How will you remember these promises and claim them in your daily life? Make an action plan. (What you will do, when, who will encourage you?)
2. Learn Matthew 7:12 by heart. Make a list of all the things you want others to do to you. Think about why you appreciated being treated like that? Pray and ask God to show you how you can act in this way towards someone this week. Put the list you made somewhere where you can see it every day. Then, put it into practice.

[illegible]

## Sharing

This week, share with others what you have learned in this lesson. You can also redo the lesson with someone.



## Lesson 4: Our Conscience Renewed by God

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

### Lesson Objectives

1. Recognize the difference between our old identity and our new identity in Christ.
2. Examine our current behaviours in light of our transformed identity.
3. Learn to put on the new self and walk in righteousness and holiness 'in the power of the Spirit'.



### How are you getting on?

1. What were the main points of the last lesson?
2. What happened when you shared with others what you learned?
3. What changed in your lives as a result of these teachings?



Each one of us has a conscience to guide us and help us to distinguish good and evil. (Romans 2.14,15). This "inner voice" can change from one person to another according to their character and past influences. It is for this reason that we should open our consciences more and more to the light of the Holy Scriptures so that our values become progressively more like the Lord's.



### Read Ephesians 4:17 to 5:21.

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#### THE CONDITION OF HUMANITY WITHOUT GOD



How does the "darkening in their understanding" and the "hardening of their hearts" influence the behaviour of people who do not know the one true God? (4:17-31)

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#### THE NEW PERSON RECREATED BY GOD



Reread 4:20-24,30. What has God changed in us now that we are believers in Christ?

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What does God ask us to do now that He has recreated us? Complete each command below. Then explain what this means (how we do this) in your own words. *The first and last explanations have been provided as model answers for you.*

Verse	Command	What does this mean? How do we do this?
22	Put off _____ _____.	<i>This means I must consider myself dead to—unaffected by—my former identity with its desires and habits. I proclaim that they have no authority or place in my life and that I refuse them. I rejoice that I have been set free from slavery to sin!! I declare I no longer enjoy this destructive lifestyle.</i>
23	_____ the spirit of your mind.	_____ _____ _____ _____ _____
24	_____ the new self.	_____ _____ _____ _____ _____
30	_____ the Holy Spirit of God.	<i>I understand that God the Holy Spirit lives in my heart. The Holy Spirit is saddened when we choose to disobey His leading and fall back into the sinful ways of the old self. I must continually be attentive to the Spirit and allow Him to help me as I choose daily to put off the old self and put on the new self.</i>



### ③ THE NEW SELF REPLACES THE OLD



Re-read Ephesians 4:25-5:21. After each verse, write the practice of the Old Self to be removed and then the one designed to replace it from the New.

Verse	What are the elements of the <b>old self</b> that we should “put off”?	What are the elements of the <b>new self</b> that we should “put on”?
4:25	Falsehood, (lies)	Truth

4:26		
4:28	Theft	
4:29		Build others up
4:32	Bitterness, rage, anger, brawling, slander, malice	
4:32		Kindness, compassion, forgiveness
5:1-2		
5:3	Sexual immorality, impurity, greed (desire to possess things)	
5:4		Thanksgiving
5:5	Immorality, impurity, greed (idolatry)	
5:9		Goodness, righteousness, truth
5:11	Fruitless deeds of darkness (occult practices)	
5:15		wisdom
5:16	Laziness	
5:17		Understand what is God's will
5:18	Drunkenness	
5:19		Mutual encouragement, worship

5:20		
5:21		Mutual submission



Which one of the above areas do you struggle with the most?



What can you do to put off that practice and put on the new practice?



List some practical steps you can take to change that practice.



How can we as a group help and encourage you to change this practice?



**EXAMPLE:** Hakim had never drunk alcohol and had seen enough alcoholics to make him very wary. When he became a Christian, he was relieved to discover that Christians were not big drinkers as he had thought before. However, he was shocked to see his new brothers drinking wine at a small party. He went to his Bible and discovered that the Bible distinguishes between drunkenness (Ephesians 5.18) and a healthy use of wine (1 Timothy 5.23) and that Jesus drank wine with his disciples (Matthew 26.27-29).

Hakim now knows that a Christian may drink but should not get drunk. He will not judge Christians whom he sees drinking. However, he will not drink himself. His conscience would not allow him to do so.





## Optional activities

1. Bring in a nice clean jug (that is not see-through) and fill it with dirty water. Ask the participants who would like a drink from it. Pour the dirty water in their glass. Ask: What is most important, the outside aspect of the jug or its content? Why?  
Then, discuss the following questions:
  - What does it mean for us to be ‘made new in the attitudes of our mind’?
  - What happens if we only change our external behaviour but not the attitudes of our minds?
2. Sing one of the following songs as a prayer to God for your own sanctification and the renewing of your mind:
  - [Holiness](#), Scott Underwood
  - [Take my life and let it be](#)
  - [The Power of Your Love](#), by Geoff Bullock
  - [Create in me a clean heart](#)



## Applications

1. Pray and ask God to show you if there are any things on the negative list in section 3 above that you are doing. Ask the Lord to forgive you. Thank him that you have been made new in Christ. Break up into groups of two or three and share what God has shown you (as specifically or generally as you want). Then, pray for each other. Throughout the week, ask the Lord to give you strength to resist the temptation to do this. Recite Ephesians 4:22-24 whenever you are tempted.
2. Pray and ask God to show you if there is anything on the positive list that you are not doing. Break up into groups of two or three and share what God has shown you (as specifically or generally as you want). Then pray for each other. Throughout this week, put into practice what God has shown to you.



## Sharing

This week, share with others what you have learned in this lesson. You can also redo the lesson with someone.



## Lesson 5: Strengthened to Bear Fruit

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

### Lesson Objectives

1. To recognise that our strength and ability to produce fruit is based on remaining in Christ.
2. To understand that, as Christians, we strive to live righteously and ethically because we love God and not because we are trying to earn our salvation.
3. To commit to live a life that produces the fruit of the Spirit.



### How are you getting on?

1. What were the main points of the last lesson?
2. What happened when you shared with others what you learned?
3. What changed in your lives as a result of these teachings?



In this lesson, we are going to look at the strength that allows us to do God's will. God Himself works in us "to will and to act according to His good purpose" (Philippians 2.13). Our ethical codes are based on the character of God. The Mosaic law is a reflection of this. The perfect life of Jesus is an example. The Holy Spirit will empower us to obey God's law in our everyday life.



### Read John 15:1-17.



The picture of the vine shows us that we must be "grafted" into Christ and use His strength to keep the law. If we are in Christ we will produce fruit for Him. At first sight, this fruit looks very much like "good works" but this fruit does not come from ourselves. It grows from our relationship with Christ. Bearing fruit in this way is the true accomplishment of the law.



Fill in the table below: What does the text say about the vine and how can this teaching be applied to my life?

	The vine	My life
<b>God's plan</b> Verses 8 and 16	A vine that bears much fruit is to the glory of the vineyard owner/gardener.	If I bear much fruit, I glorify God. God chose me so that I may bear much fruit

<b>The position of the shoot (branch)</b> Verses 4 and 5	It does not bear fruit unless it remains in the vine.	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
<b>The work of the gardener</b> Verse 2	He cuts off every branch that does not bear fruit. Those that bear fruit, he trims so that they become even more fruitful.	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
<b>Who benefits?</b> Verse 8	The vineyard owner/gardener	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>



What is the new relationship between Jesus and the believer (verses 12-16)?



On what is it based?



What are its characteristics?



A servant tries to please his master and a friend wants to please his friend. Compare what motivates each one of them to act in this way.



In what way is my relationship with Jesus like that between a master and his servant?



In what way is my relationship with Jesus like that between friends?



What do you consider a 'good work'?



List at least five things which are considered to be 'good works' in your society.

1. Helping an elderly person to cross the road

2.

3.

4.

5.



A 'work' is very different from a 'fruit'. The first is a deed or an action which can be motivated either by love for God or by our old nature (the flesh). The fruit of the Spirit are a set of attitudes of the new nature which motivate good works that are truly pleasing to God.



**Read Galatians 5:16-26.**



Paul talks here about the evil works of the flesh, and the good fruit of the Spirit.



Why does he insist on the fact that the flesh can only produce works (good or bad), and that only the Spirit can produce fruit?



In the parable of the Pharisee and the tax collector (Luke 18:9-14) Jesus shows us the example of a man full of 'good works' who, nevertheless, did not please God and another with no 'good work' but who found grace in God's eyes.



Fill in the table below.

What are the nine evidences of the fruit of the Spirit?	Are they on the list of 'good works' that you mentioned above?		How well are you bearing this fruit (1-10)? 1=bad / 10=good	Do you have room for improvement?	
	Yes	no		yes	No



In John 15:9-17 one commandment is repeated: Which one?



Where in the last reading (Galatians. 5:16-26) did we see it?



Explain whether keeping this commandment is a result of a 'fruit' or a 'work'.



Explain the importance of Galatians 5:24 in being able to produce fruit.



How will abiding with Christ and producing the fruit of the Spirit affect our relationships with other believers in Christ's Body?



### Optional activities

1. Memorise the list of the fruit of the Spirit.
2. Sing the song '[You are the vine, we are the branches](#)' as a prayer.



### Applications

1. Read Acts 5:1-11. Then, discuss the following questions as a group:
  - a. What was the 'good work' of Ananias and Sapphira?
  - b. Was it motivated by the fruit of the Spirit or by their own flesh? Explain your answer.
  - c. What should they have done differently in order to truly glorify God by their work?

Now, reflect on any good works you have done in the last month. Examine whether it has been motivated by the desires of the flesh (i.e. done for your own glory, power or material gain). Confess this to God and, if applicable, to those who were affected by it. Then, do what is possible to glorify God and make the situation right this week.

2. Draw a tree with 9 fruit and label each one to represent the fruit of the Spirit. Meditate on your drawing and ask God to show you which fruit needs to grow more in you. Then, pray that God will produce it in you in abundance. In groups of two pray for one another and encourage each other. Then, continue to pray for this fruit to grow in you this week.



### Review of Course 106

Review the five lessons of this Course. What is the most helpful thing you have learned? Share your discoveries with the group.

Then, ask the students to play a drama that shows what you have learned about discerning the will of God through this course.



### Sharing

This week, share with others what you have learned in this lesson. You can also redo the lesson with someone.

