

# Getting Started

## Lesson 1

Matthew 28:<sup>19-20</sup> "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

### Possible Answers

ETERNAL

DIRECTION

PERSONAL

RELATIONSHIP

DISCIPLE

**So, you answered the call of the Holy Spirit and accepted the Lord Jesus as your Savior!**

What does that mean?

What have you done?

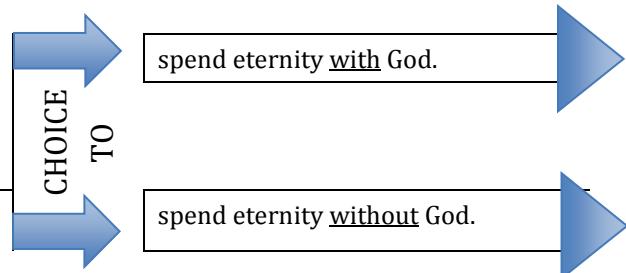
It means

1. you have entered into an eternal One on one \_\_\_\_\_ with the God and Creator of everything,
2. you have changed the \_\_\_\_\_ of your life and
3. you have become His \_\_\_\_\_.

### God's Path for People

When God created the first man and woman, He provided a decision path for them. To this day, He has not changed a single thing about that path. Here is a diagram of the choice God established for the first two humans, as well as you, to make.

Some time during every person's life, the point will come when he or she must make a



Because you answered the call of the Holy Spirit to accept the Lord Jesus as Savior, you have made your choice to spend eternity with God both in heaven and while on earth. Living in heaven will be the easiest part of living with God! These lessons will help you live with God while you are still here on earth.

**What do we mean when we say, “you answered the call of the Holy Spirit?”**

**ANSWER :** You will learn why it is the call of the Holy Spirit when we study His section in these lessons. ([About the Holy Spirit](#))

For now, the short simple answer is below.

One job of the Holy Spirit is to offer salvation to every person. He points individuals to the Lord and each one must make a choice to accept or reject Him.

***How do you get started in your new life’s direction?***

It is so easy! You have already met Him and made Him your closest Friend and Savior. Now you need to grow in that relationship by getting to know Him, what He likes, what He desires, what He thinks, what He teaches, and what He wants you to do.

*Thy WORD is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.*

*Ps. 119:105*

*Thy WORD have I hid in my heart that I might not sin against God.*

*Ps 119:11*

### **Wait! You are thinking ...**

***How can I get to know the Lord?*** He is in heaven and I am here on earth. We are worlds apart. **Not so!**

The Lord has provided a way for you to get to know Him and how He wants you to live. He has provided an example for every situation you might encounter by letting you know what He thinks, what He approves and how He wants you to respond. We call it the Holy Bible. It is called the WORD, and it will give you direction and guidance on any path or in any circumstance you find yourself. You just need to know His WORD - or - where to find His answers and that is what you will learn in these lessons.

### **The Bible – The WORD of God – Your Manual for Living**

#### ***Where do I begin reading to learn about God?***

At the beginning!

#### ***What is the best way to discover what God wants me to know about Him and how to live my life?***

By learning what He said in the same order He presented it to the world! **WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?**

## In the beginning, God made it very simple for man and woman!

### *Possible Answers*

GARDEN

TREE

GROCERIES

HOMEWORK

BILLS

INSURANCE

SADNESS

FEARS

God knew that the very first man and woman that He created could not understand all that He had planned, so He placed them in the Garden of Eden and gave them two instructions to live by. Very simple – two rules. **What were those two simple rules?**

1. Adam, your job is to take care of everything in the \_\_\_\_\_ of Eden.
2. You can eat the fruit from every tree and bush in the garden except the \_\_\_\_\_ of the knowledge of good and evil.

### **That's pretty simple! Think about it ...**

No shopping for \_\_\_\_\_ or clothing

No school, no \_\_\_\_\_

No \_\_\_\_\_ to pay because the Lord has supplied all your needs

No need for \_\_\_\_\_

No tragedies, no \_\_\_\_\_, no disappointments

No \_\_\_\_\_, no evil, no enemies

It was all that the new man and woman could handle in the beginning. **What happened?**

As time progressed, man and woman, with a little help from a snake, broke one of the simple rules. They ate a piece of fruit from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

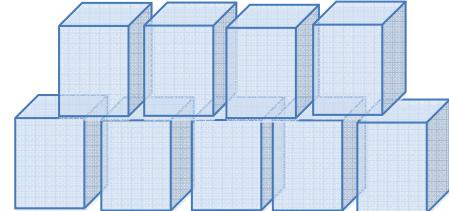
### What did God do?

He intervened and removed the man and the woman from the garden.

**Because they now knew about evil, it was necessary for the Lord to give them more instructions, specifically, how to live outside the garden and survive in the rugged world.**

### Building Blocks of Instruction with the Progression of Time and Learning

With the progression of time, the Lord began placing one block of knowledge on top of another until He had delivered everything He wanted man to know about Him and how to live. The first block of knowledge given by the Lord is simple; the last blocks given by Him are complex. The WORD of God contains many more simple teachings than it does complex; however, studying the more complex parts can greatly discourage the child of God if the foundation is not understood first. Nothing in the WORD of God is difficult if you understand all the underlying teachings that lead up to that point.

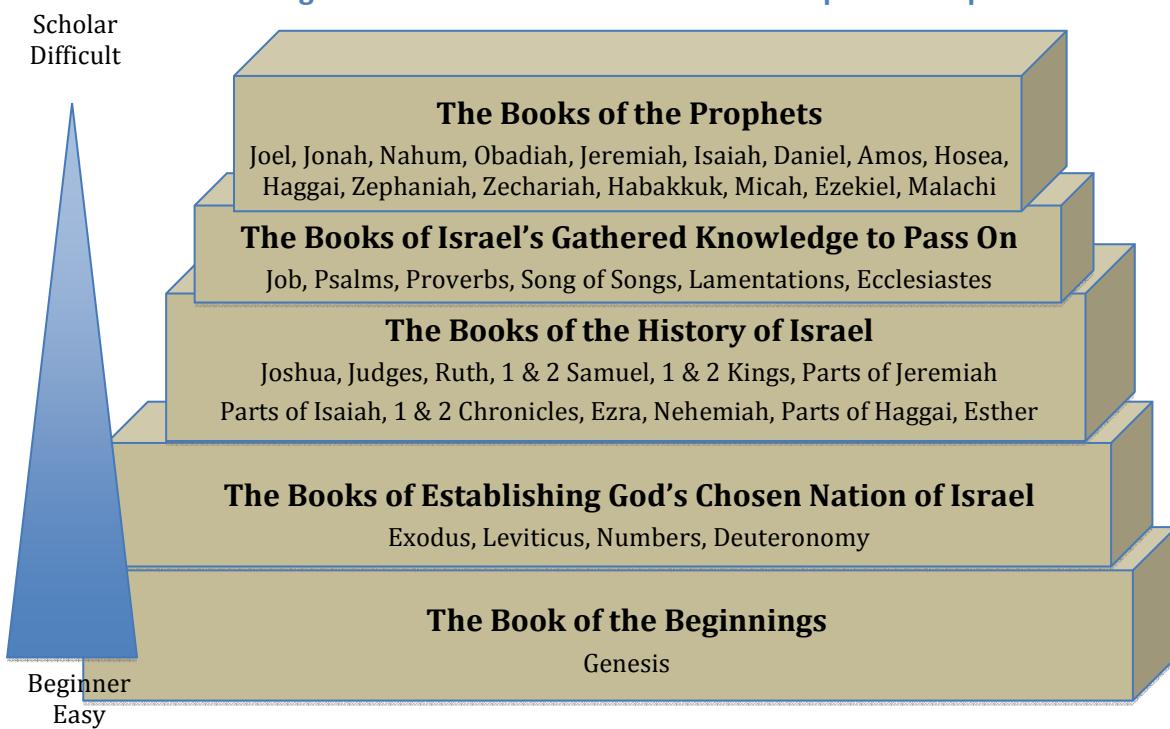


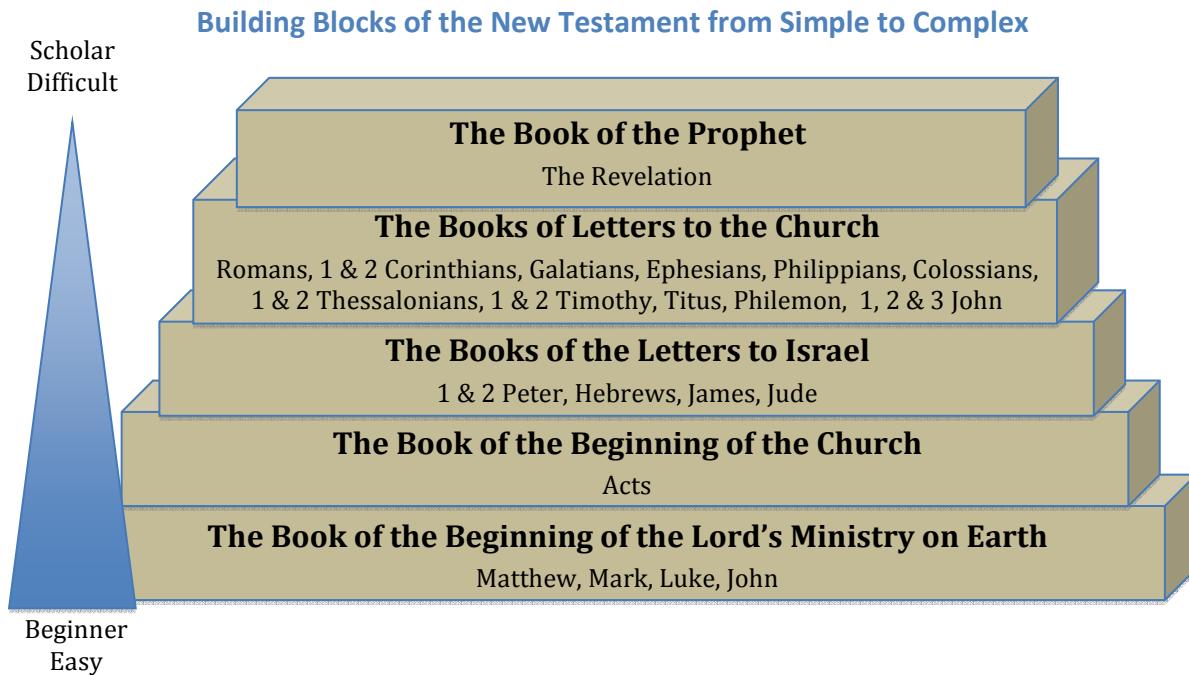
*The purpose of this series of lessons is to provide all children of God with the tools to begin to develop a meaningful relationship with the Lord after they have accepted Him as Savior.*

Every new believer in the Lord needs this material to make the building of the relationship with the Lord simple and easy. However, the churches of the world are filled with people who have been believers for years, maybe even decades, and they have never

grown in the Lord because they have never understood the WORD of God. Perhaps they have tried to read the harder parts such as the prophets and they cannot understand all the supernatural “stuff” that the Lord is presenting. All of that can be easily understood if you take your time, learn the basics and study the WORD of God in the order of its delivery to mankind. When you study it in order, you are studying it from simple to complex, and yet the complex will be easy to understand by the time you arrive at that material.

**Here are two a pictures of how the Lord presented His WORD to humans.**





**Where should beginners begin in their journey to grow in a relationship  
with the Lord?**

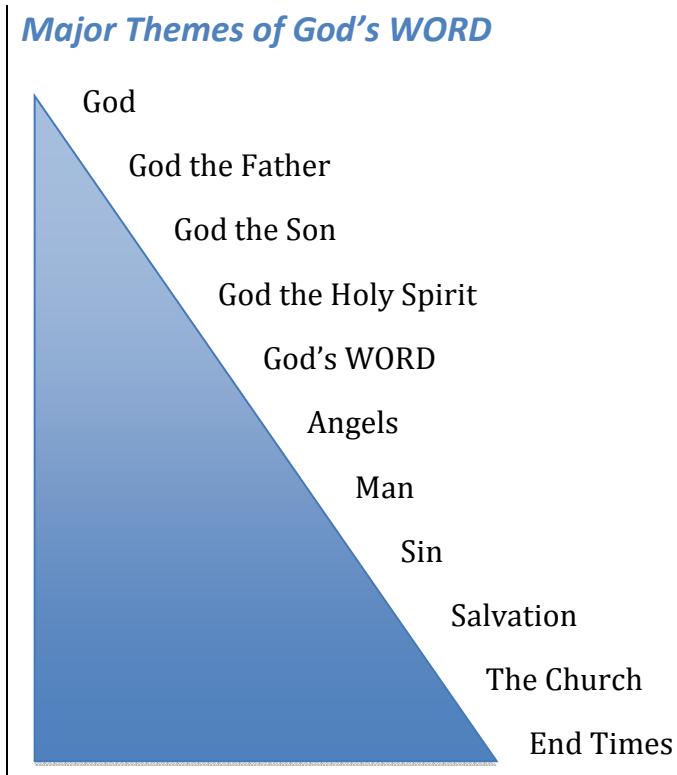
Beginners should always begin at the beginning, where the Lord God began. In the Old Testament you should start in Genesis; in the New Testament you should start in Matthew, Mark, Luke or John. Once you have a good handle on the stories on the bottom block of each Testament, then the stories in the second block will be much easier to understand, and so on, as you go up the levels of layers.

## Themes in God's WORD

Your assignment is to read some basic stories from the bottom block of the Old Testament this week. To no surprise, within those stories, you will discover recurring themes that run though the entire WORD of God. In this series of lessons, we are going to discover the major points of each of those themes and build upon them to:

- Grow closer to the Lord
- Learn how He wants us to live
- Find His answers to our everyday problems
- Lay a foundation for eventually studying the entire WORD of God with full understanding.

**What are the major themes that run through the entire WORD of God?**



## Getting to Know God – This Week

### **WEEK ONE – STORIES TO READ**

From the Bible Version of Your Choice!

MONDAY	<i>The Story of Adam and Eve</i> Genesis Chapters 1, 2, 3 and 4
TUESDAY	<i>The Story of Noah and the Ark</i> Genesis Chapters 6, 7, 8 and 9
WEDNESDAY	<i>The Story of the Tower of Babel and Part of the Story of Abraham and Sarah</i> Genesis Chapters 11, 12, 13, and 14
THURSDAY	<i>More of the Story of Abraham and Sarah</i> Genesis Chapters 15, 16, 17, and 18
FRIDAY	<i>The Rest of the Story of Abraham and Sarah</i> Genesis Chapters 19, 20, 21, and 22
SATURDAY	<i>The Story of Sarah, Isaac and Rebekah</i> Genesis Chapters 23, 24, 25, and 26