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TEACHING ON BASIC DOCTRINES

UNIT 1

« THE WAY OF LIFE »

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LESSON 6: TERMINATING WITH THE PAST

REMINDER

Dear student,

We are happy for the interest that this course has produced in you.

The purpose of our Bible Correspondence Course is to help you to find the Lord Jesus. This first series of this Bible course comprises seven lessons based on the book entitled "The Way of Life". As you begin to study, we encourage you to press on right to the end.

We particularly insist that you get a Bible that you will read systematically. If you fail to do this, then this course might not be of full benefit to you. All the Bible passages quoted should be carefully read.

Our prayer is that by the time you finish studying these lessons, you would have entered into a living relationship with Jesus so that you will truly begin to live.

May God bless you richly.

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INTRODUCTION

In lesson 5 we talked about the regenerating work of God in man, which is also known as the new Birth. This work brings about a transfer of man from the Old Creation to the New Creation. We saw that the new birth, which is 100% the work of God alone solves the problem of the fall of Adam and provides the solution to man's sin. But from lesson 1, we saw that outside sin, (Adam's sin as well as the sin of all men) there are sins which involve the individual responsibility of each person. These sins vary according to individuals, their spiritual, social and cultural environments. They are many but when we consider them together or separately one thing characterises them: they are practices that contradict God's commandments. All have their origin in Satan, and one of them is a link on the chain that constitutes the kingdom of the devil. They are chains that bind men to the devil, and which were established by direct or indirect pacts with Satan. They are works of darkness.

The death of Christ immediately and automatically separates all those who believe from Adam's sin. But Christ's death does not automatically liberate us from our commitments vis-à-vis Satan and his kingdom. The breaking of these chains necessitates the co-operation of man. In this lesson, we will be considering a certain number of things which belong to Satan and which the believer must separate himself from, at the moment of his conversion in order to have a normal growth in the life.

1. TERMINATING WITH RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE SUPERNATURAL

The supernatural realm is in two dimensions: the supernatural that relates to God who is the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ and the supernatural which relates to the devil and all his principalities and powers. The supernatural dealing with

God is to be encouraged but the supernatural dealing with the devil must be terminated with.

Young convert before you received the Lord, you might have had the following contacts with forbidden supernatural practices:

1. Practice of magic
2. Contact with sorcerers in one form or the other
3. Contact with the dead and the worship of ancestors
4. Attempts to foretell the future through astrology, e.g. horoscope, palmistry, mediums, fortune tellers, etc.
5. Contact with mystical secret societies of local origin like Ogboni society, Famlá, Nyankwe, Obassinjom, Ngondo, etc.
6. Contact with mystical secret societies of foreign origin like the rosicrucian order (AMORC) freemasons, yoga, transcendental meditation, lodges, etc.
7. Talismans and all that is used for personal protection
8. Charms and all that is used to influence others, e.g. love lotions used to seduce and maintain the love of others, etc.
9. Brain pills and all that are used to acquire intelligence or examination successes.
10. The use of magical powers for success in football and other games.

You must break with them at once. The life of God in you through the Lord Jesus is entirely opposed to these supernatural activities of the devil so you cannot continue in them as a child of God. In the past, while you were a child of the devil, you could continue in these practices that originate with your father the devil. Now, you have changed parentage, you have changed kingdoms. You must leave all that belongs to the kingdom which you have abandoned.

God is opposed to these practices. He says, “You shall not practice augury or witchcraft... You shall not make any

cuttings in your flesh on account of the dead or tattoo any marks upon you. I am the Lord.” (Leviticus 19:26-28).

“Do not turn to mediums or wizards; do not seek them out, to be defiled by them; I am the Lord your God (Leviticus 19:31)

There shall not be found among you any one who burns his son or his daughter as an offering, anyone who practices divination, a soothsayer or an augur, or a sorcerer, or a charmer, or medium, or wizard, or necromancer. For whoever does these things is an abomination to the Lord.” (Deuteronomy 18:10-12).

God punishes all who have dealings with such things: His word says, “You shall not permit a sorceress to live” (Exodus 22:18). “If a person turns to mediums and wizards, playing the harlot after them, I will set my face against that person and will cut him off from among his people” (Leviticus 20:6). “A man or woman who is a medium or a wizard shall be put to death” (Leviticus 20:27). “But as for ... sorcerers... their lot shall be in the lake that burns with fire and sulphur, which is the second death” (Revelation 21:8).

You are not to break with them because they are impotent. No. Sometimes they have great power. Sometimes their knowledge is true. The problem is not whether or not they are correct. The crucial question is, “what is their origin? Whom do they serve? Do they offer only temporary help or do they offer eternal help?”

All these practices use the power of the devil. The devil is their originator. He gives them a beginning and sustains them. For that reason, all that comes from them is to be rejected even if it appears helpful. In philippi, there was a slave girl with a spirit of divination that brought her owners great gain by soothsaying. The spirit even recognised Paul and Silas and spoke out what was true about them saying, “these men are servants of the Most High God, who proclaim

to you the way of salvation” (Acts 16:17). What was being said was true but the source was from the devil. Paul could have allowed it in the hope that her pronouncements would help the people to believe him and his message. He could have said, “It is the truth. It will help irrespective of the source.” Of course he knew that, the source being the devil could never help God. Nothing from the devil can help God. All healings by sorcerers; witchdoctors, are from the devil’s kingdom. They can never help the Kingdom of God. You must never just ask, “Is this good or bad? Is it profitable or unprofitable?” Rather, you must ask “Is it of God or Satan?” Satan may offer things that appear good. They are all to be rejected. God may offer things that may appear bad. They are all to be received with thanksgiving. So Paul turned and said to the spirit, “I charge you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her” and it came out that very hour (Acts 16 :18). Paul perhaps knew that such an action could bring them trouble nevertheless he did it. He was not out to compromise. True servants of the Lord proclaim and practice the whole truth at all costs. He did not say, “Let me leave the girl alone so that my ministry may not have complications”. No! He cast out the spirit and got imprisonment as a well-earned thank you. The only way to further the kingdom of God is to denounce all the works of the devil. Please, put an end to all of them.

THE EPHESIAN EXAMPLE

The bible says about Ephesian believers, « Many also of those who were believers came, confessing and divulging their practices. And a number of those who practised magic arts brought their books together and burnt them in the sight of all, and they counted the value of them and found that it came to fifty thousand pieces of silver. So the word of God grew mightily” (Acts19: 18-20). We can learn the following from these believers:

1. They did not hide the deeds of darkness in which they were involved prior to their conversion to Christ. They exposed them and confessed them.
2. They destroyed everything that had to do with their sinful past, expensive as that was.
3. These things were destroyed (burnt) publicly and not thrown away privately.
4. This action resulted in spiritual growth for the work of the Lord.

You too must not hide any magical activities in which you were once involved. Expose them and confess them. Bring all these things to the Assembly of God's children so that they should be destroyed regardless of what they cost you.

In this way, you will contribute to the growth of the gospel. You have no choice about this.

2. TERMINATING WITH IDOLATRY

In the first commandments God said to man, "you shall have no other gods besides me. You shall not make for yourself a graven image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or serve them" (Exodus 20: 3-5).

Idolatry includes having anything, person, system, philosophy on the throne of the heart above, besides or next to God. God must have the first place in an absolute sense. It also includes the making of any images of God or man or anything to represent God. It includes the bowing to objects, the making and the keeping of pictures of "Jesus" and the like. All this is Idolatry.

If you set up yourself to the place of life where you are prepared to do what you think or like or want instead of what God wants, you should know that you are an idolater. Anyone who deliberately sins, that is he deliberately does what he knows that God does not want, has raised himself to the place of final authority and is unquestionably an idolater.

If your job, ambitions, education, wife (or husband), children, parents, government, girlfriend (or boyfriend) or any other thing takes the first place in your life, you are an idolater. To know if you are worshipping anything can be tested very easily by the following simple tests!

1. Has God asked me not to have this thing? If you still keep it after the Lord has asked you to get rid of it then you are worshipping it.
2. Does this thing hinder my walk with God in any way? If it hinders your walk with God and you still keep it you are worshipping it.
3. Am I prepared to let it go any moment that the Lord asks me to let it go? If you are hesitant or unwilling, you are worshipping it.

All that you are worshipping are idols. You must put an end to them! Images, statues, etc. of God or Jesus or Mary or any other "Saint"; bones from "Saints" being kept for their magical healing powers, other wooden, stone, metallic or any form of images are to be destroyed. You cannot bow to an image of Jesus and also bow to Jesus. All who bow to images or make, keep, distribute and sell them are enemies of the Lord Jesus. All knees are to bow to Jesus alone.

The supposed pictures of Jesus or other personality in the Bible are the devil's lies. No pictures were taken of any one

in the Bible. The picture of Jesus are the products of minds that are at enmity with God.

What of saints as intermediaries? What of saints praying for us? What of Holy Mary praying for us? These are all the devil's lies. There is one God and only one intermediary between God and man –Jesus. All other intermediaries are abominations to God and people who know Him. The Bible says, “For there is one God and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all, the testimony to which was borne at the proper time” (I Timothy 2; 5-6).

“How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? Therefore he (Jesus Christ) is the mediator of a new covenant, so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance, since a death has occurred which redeems them from the transgressions under the first covenant” (Hebrews 9: 14-15). All that is carried out, even in the name of the Lord Jesus, by men who worship religious idols and have other intermediaries apart from Jesus are dead works. When they repent from dead works and come to the Lord Jesus and to Him alone, they will be redeemed by the Lord Jesus. You cannot be redeemed by Jesus and be redeemed by Holy Mary.

GETTING RID OF IDOLS

All idols must be gotten rid of so that the idol worshipper can turn to the Lord in spirit and truth and worship Him as He deserves to be worshipped. The Bible says, “But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for such the Father seeks to worship Him. God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship Him in spirit and truth” (John 4: 23-24). God is spirit

and not a statue; not an image. He is to be worshipped in spirit and truth and not by rosaries and lies. How do we get rid of idols? Let us learn from the example of Gideon.

Gideon was called by the Lord. He knew God. God planned to use him but before God could use him, for other purposes, God had to use him to pull down idols. The Bible says: “That night the Lord said to him, “take your father’s bull, the second bull seven years old, and pull down the altar of Baal which your father has and cut down the Asherah that is beside it; and build an altar to the Lord your God on the top of the stronghold here, with stones laid in due order. Then take the second bull, and offer it as a burnt offering with the wood of the Asherah which you shall cut down”. So Gideon took ten men of his servants and did as the Lord had told him” (Judges 6: 25-27). How did the people react? They wanted to kill him (Judges 6: 30). How did God react to it? The Bible says, “But the Spirit of the Lord took possession of Gideon” (Judges 6: 34).

You too must do the same. Break down and destroy all idols. Then offer a sacrifice of your life to the Lord. He will receive it and in return He will let His Spirit possess you. Will you be a Gideon today? What is God asking you to part with? What is God asking you to break down? Will you obey?

3. REJECTING THE INFLUENCE OF SATANIC POWERS

You have been brought up in an atmosphere where the devil was worshipped in one way or the other. One member or the other of your family, especially your parents may have been or are involved in witchcraft or Satanic powers in one way or the other. By their action you are passively involved. You may even have been dedicated to the devil or been baptised into Satan. A sorcerer or astrologer, etc. may have been consulted on your behalf. You are therefore not free.

To get free from these entanglements, I suggest that you confess your own sins in this area and also the sins of your parents or relatives in this area of life. Then, actively by calling upon the name of the Lord Jesus, break all the bonds, strong or weak, that bind you to your family as far as these supernatural involvements are concerned and take your stand out of that family and into the family of God and tell the devil that from that moment his power over you as a result of such activities is broken for ever. Tell him that by your act now of breaking with your parents' supernatural involvement and taking cover under the blood of Jesus, you have no part in all the activities that your parents may carry out in your name from now on for ever. By that act of breaking with the past, you stand totally free in the Lord Jesus.

3.1 DO NOT FEAR.

You may be afraid to throw away all the rings, charms, and to break down all the idols that you know you should break with for fear that the devil will react. Indeed he will surely react nevertheless do not fear. The Lord Jesus who lives in you is stronger than the devil. The Bible says, "Little children, you are of God, and have overcome them; for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world" (1 John 4: 4). The Lord Jesus said, "Behold I have given you authority upon serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy and nothing shall hurt you" (Luke 10: 19). All the power of hell is impotent against you as you stand fully protected in Christ.

Maybe what you fear is physical death or suffering that will result from your destruction of idols that must be destroyed. Do not fear. The Lord Jesus said; "And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell" (Matthew 10: 28). Also bear in mind that even as far as your physical life is concerned, no harm can come to you without the

permission of your heavenly Father. All that He permits will ultimately result in blessing for you. Pilate said to Jesus, “Do you not know that I have power to release you, and power to crucify you? Jesus answered him, you would have no power over me unless it had been given you from above; therefore he who delivered me to you has the greater sin” (John 19: 10-11).

You too should rest assured that no one can have power over you unless he were allowed from heaven and what God allows will turn out for our ultimate good.

Look at Jesus. Have eternity in view. Fear God and do what he wants. Say to yourself, “the Lord is for me, who can be against me and succeed?”

4. TERMINATING WITH PAST SEXUAL RELATIONSHIPS

Before you knew the Lord, you may have had boyfriends (or girlfriends), men or women in your life who were not your legal partner. You may have been keeping a woman as a concubine. You may have had a steady sex partner or you had several sex partners. You may have been masturbating or involved in homosexual practices in one form or another. You may have been reading dirty novels or involved in questionable petting. You may have been engaged to or hoping to be engaged to an unbeliever. You may have continued to have some sexual relationship with the father or mother of your illegitimate child or children. You are to stop all such practices. You are to break all such relationships and you are to break them at once.

The Bible says, “Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor sexual perverts, nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor robbers will inherit the kingdom of God. And

such were some of you but you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God” (1Cor 6: 9-11).

Again the word of God says “Do not be mismatched with unbelievers. For what partnership have righteousness and iniquity? Or what fellowship has light with darkness? What accord has Christ with Belial? Or what has a believer in common with an unbeliever? What agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God; as God said, “I will live in them and move among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Therefore come out from them, and be separate from them, says the Lord Almighty” (II Corinthians 6: 14-18).

You as a believer cannot marry an unbeliever! The unbeliever belongs to the devil. You belong to God. There is an eternal divorce between the two. You may be engaged to an unbeliever but let me tell you that your conversion has brought that engagement to an end. You are the temple of God. How can you continue in an engagement with someone who is the temple of the devil? You are clean. The unbeliever is unclean. The Bible says, touch not the unclean thing”.

You may be haunted by past relationships. The devil may bring to your memory past sexual relationships in order to turn your face to things that you have abandoned. Reject his suggestions. Take hold of your authority in the name of the Lord Jesus and reject all the ties that link you to your sinful past. Break the power of all sexual sins in the name of Jesus and you shall find that you are delivered completely. If there is an unbeliever in your life who does not want to leave you pray in this fashion: “In the name of the Lord Jesus, I command Mrs/Mr/Miss to get out of my life now so that I may be free always”.

As you take that stand in prayer and refuse all co-operation with the devil, you will experience victory and deliverance. God bless you.

One thing that will help you to break any ties with undesirable people is to return anything that they gave you as part of the price for your body. For example, if a man gave you money, household goods, musical equipment ... as part of the price for using you, then when you have received the Lord Jesus, you must return his property. If you do not do so, those things will remind you of the wicked past and the devil will continue to torment you. It is costly but your total freedom in Christ is far more important than all that you may part with. Another reason why you must return all proceeds from sinful relationships is that unless you do so, you have no testimony before that person. He will not take your conversion seriously until you have returned the price that he paid for your body! If you received goods which are now lost or have become old from use, you should calculate the equivalence and pay that person in cash. This is the way of the new life. Finally, you should stop seeing that person. Do not say, I want to go and see him in order to witness to him. Introduce him to another believer who should then try to reach him for Christ. If you attempt to reach him yourself you may find yourself in fresh entanglements.

5. TERMINATING WITH PROFESSIONS THAT DISHONOUR CHRIST

If before your conversion you worked for a tobacco company you must stop working for that company. It is not God's will that people should destroy themselves by smoking. Your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit (I Corinthians 6:19). You must not destroy God's temple with smoking and the accompanying diseases. If you do, God will destroy you (I Corinthians 3: 16-17). Tobacco is bad for you

and for all the creatures of God. You must not contribute in any way towards its production or use. So stop smoking at once. Stop working for a cigarette production company. Ask God for a new occupation that honours Him.

The same applies to alcohol. The Bible says, “Wine is a mocker, strong drink a brawler; and whoever is led astray by it is not wise” (Proverbs 20: 1). Stop drinking alcohol. Stop serving alcohol. Stop helping the production of alcohol in any way. The Bible says that no drunkard will inherit the kingdom of God (I Corinthians 6:10). No one is born a drunkard. You may give a man the first glass of drink that will lead him on the way of ruin as a drunkard and finally to hell. Dare you do that? So do not drink alcohol. Do not go to bars and drinking houses. They are the devil’s workshops for destroying health, life, family and the nation.

Do not go to night clubs. They are places frequented by men and women who have lost their sense of direction in life. They are also the devil’s workshop. So that is not the place for you.

Do not go to worldly films. Imagine all the bloodshed, immorality and crime that is displayed on the screen. Is that what you want to fill your mind with? Certainly not. So do not go there. Do not help anyone to go there. Do not work there.

As you terminate with this unfruitful works of darkness, you should trust the Lord to help you to find the job that He has in store for you where you can truly serve Him. He will supply all your needs. The Bible says, “Have no anxiety about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God which passes all understanding, will keep your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus” (Philippians 4: 6-7)). Furthermore the word of God says, “And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ” (Philippians 4: 19).

6. TERMINATING WITH UNHEALTHY FAMILY TIES

You belonged to an earthly family before conversion. At conversion you were born into the family of God. Your first loyalty must now be to the Lord and His family. This does not mean that you stop being helpful to your family members. It simply means that your ultimate loyalty is elsewhere. In practice this means that if the demands of your husband, wife, children, parents, etc. conflict with the demands of the Lord Jesus, you will go ahead at once and obey the Lord Jesus. There must be no question about this at all. It is Jesus first. The Bible says, “Now great multitudes accompanied him ; and He turned and said to them, “If any one comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple” (Luke 14 :25-26). Jesus said, “Do not think that I have come to bring peace on earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter –in-law against her mother –in-law ;and a man’s foes will be those of his own household. He who loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and he who loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me “

(Matthew 10: 34-37). Love your family but let your final loyalty be to the Lord Jesus and the household of God.

The proverb goes that, “Like father, like son”. We tend to carry with us family character traits. Some of these are assets and others are liabilities. Some family traits which children take over from their parents and which are liabilities include: laziness, indiscipline, gluttony, restlessness, temper, untidiness, etc. you should break with these character flaws that you took over from your parents or the people in whose environment you were brought up. Claim the power of the Lord Jesus and be delivered from all these.

There are also hereditary traits like baldness, early grey hair, sickle cell anaemia, etc. which are inherited from parents without any personal choice whatsoever. One should break with these in the name of Jesus. The Bible says, “But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities, upon him was the chastisement that made us whole and with his stripes we are healed” (Isaiah 53: 5). When the Lord Jesus went to the cross, he took all our sicknesses and diseases as well as all our other undesirable genes with Him to the cross. We can be free from all these. They are not part of our inheritance. We should also claim our healing from all diseases and deformities in the name of Jesus. Perfect health and perfect form are yours in the Lord Jesus.

7. TERMINATING WITH CHRISTLESS SOCIAL TRADITIONS

There are social traditions that bind people and enslave them. Some of these include expensive birth celebrations, death celebrations, the offering of libations at parties... these are purely worldly traditions and are unhelpful. You are not to indulge in them. Keep yourself pure for the Lord. Be free to serve Him and to serve Him alone.

What should be retained

In John 11: 1-46, the Bible recounts to us the story of the resurrection of a certain Lazarus. The body of the dead man had been in the sepulchre (grave) for four days and was already decomposing; by His word, Jesus gave him life and resurrected him from dead. Lazarus came out of the grave. But he was unable to walk, to work, to speak. His feet and his hands were bound with bondages, and his face was enveloped in a cloth. This account of the physical resurrection of Lazarus is an image of what happens in the

spiritual domain, at the moment when God gives life to a spiritually dead man. We know that at the moment of the new birth, God gives to the one to whom new life is being imparted, all that he needs to be like Jesus, and to do all that Jesus did, as His word says in II Peter 1: 3, “His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence. Thus they have all the potential to manifest the character of Jesus and to exercise His power. Meanwhile in actual experience we find great diversity when we look from one individual to another and even when we look from one assembly to another. Where do these differences come from?

We can answer this question if we know the secret of the power and victory of Jesus over Satan and his world. The Lord said. “For the ruler of this world is coming he has no power over me” (John 14: 30). If the Lord Jesus conquered Satan and the satanic trinity, it is because Satan had nothing in Him. We can have no authority over someone to whom we are a debtor. Even at the human level this is true. If I owe Mr ESSOMBA something, I cannot treat him as I like. I am obliged to please him, to avoid annoying him... I am not free as far as he is concerned. Besides Mr ESSOMBA can take me to court at any time and get me put into prison if I am unable to pay my debts, until my debt is paid. But if I pay my debt I am free with regards to Mr ESSOMBA.

In the same way, I cannot exercise any real authority over Satan as long as I am his debtor. If in me or around me I still keep something that belongs to Satan or to Satan’s kingdom, I cannot exercise any authority before the devil. Many people think that the name of Jesus is a passport key which opens every door no matter the hands using it. It is not so.

If there are still any strings attaching me to Satan's spiritual world, I cannot be efficient in the army of the Lord Jesus. Instead I will be a burden to that army. But if the strings are cut, then I am free and can be efficient, and even very efficient in Jesus' army. Those who believe in Jesus, but do not glorify God, are useless to God even though they are born again. Anything that does not glorify God, belongs to the devil; a string that attaches you to Satan's spiritual world, be it immoral (illegitimate) sexual relationships, or Christless traditions, idolatry or relations with the devilish supernatural ...do not glorify God.

Do you want to be useful to God? Do you want to be enrolled in Jesus' army? Do you want to work for the building of the kingdom of God and for the destruction of Satan's kingdom? Then you must cut off all the chains which keep you attached to the devil's kingdom. May be you tell yourself that being born again is already a great wonder, certainly it is. But you must not remain a milk-drinking baby. You must work for your master. How can you work if your hands are bound like Lazarus? You also have to go around and talk about your Saviour. How will you do that if your feet are still bound and your mouth bandaged by a sin which hinders your witnessing?

If you remain bound, it is not the Saviour's fault. Just as the Lord gave life to Lazarus and ordered that the men (the disciples) unbind him, you too could need the help of believing brethren to really cut some chains. Do not hesitate to ask their help. But also be warned that God will not come down himself to unbind you just as Jesus did not Himself unbind Lazarus. The Lord died on the cross. He conquered the devil. This victory is yours if only you obey. If you do not obey, you will continue to live as if Jesus did not die and resurrect, while the other brethren who live a life of total obedience going from victory to victory.

You have to cut all the strings that link you to Satan, and keep them cut. Here are some principles which will help you in your conduct to maintain a total separation between the devil and you. To help you to decide whether or not to carry out a certain practice, ask yourself the following questions:

1. Who is the author of this? Is it God or Satan? If God is the author then there is the possibility that I can do it.
2. Who will this action glorify? Is it God or Satan or self? Do not do it if it will glorify Satan or self.
3. Will it help me to grow in Christ or will it retard me? Only do what will help you to grow.
4. Will it put me in situations in which I may be tempted? If so, keep away from it.
5. Will it help others to see Christ in me? If not, do not do it for you are an ambassador for Christ.
6. Will others do the same thing and perhaps fall into sin even though you can do it without falling into sin? If the activity is likely to cause a young believer to fall then out of love for him do not do it.
7. Will it lead to a habit from which I may not easily set myself free? If so do not do it.
8. Is it the right time for it? Something may be right when done at a particular time but wrong at a different time. There is a time for everything (Ecclesiastes 3 : 1-8)

Finally, the Holy Spirit will guide you. Look up to Him. The Lord Jesus said, "When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth" (John 16: 13).

Obey the Lord, finish with the devil and get yourself enrolled in Jesus' army and when He comes to take His overcomers you will not be confused.

In lesson 7, we will talk on assurance of salvation

**SCHOOL OF KNOWING AND SERVING GOD
TEACHING ON BASIC DOCTRINES**

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QUESTIONNAIRE ON « THE WAY OF LIFE »

Student's name and surname (in capital letters)

Date of birth

P.O. Box or postal code:

Telephone:

Email address:

City:

Country:

Profession:

Marital Status:

Student's number:

Student's mark:

LESSON 6: TERMINATING WITH THE PAST

QUESTIONNAIRE

Section 1: Tick off the right answer (according to you).

1. The end justifies the means.

Right wrong

Why?

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2. The Bible says ; “Heaven helps those who help themselves”

Right Wrong

3. All that does not come from God comes from the devil.

Right Wrong

Why?

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4. An act can glorify at the same time God and the devil.

Right Wrong

5. All that is not done for God’s sake is done for the devils.

Right Wrong

6. Why?
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Section 2: Acts 16: 16-34; Acts 19: 18-20).

7. Was the declaration of the maid-servant about Paul and his followers (in verse 17) true?

8. What was the source of that truth?

9. Did Paul approve of this?

Why?

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10. By his reaction, Paul took a stand.

For whom?

Against whom?

11. Was his reaction approved of by public opinion?

12. What are the two dimensions of the supernatural world?

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13. In which of the areas of the supernatural should the believer have no dealings with?

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14. Is it possible that the supernatural life of God can coexist with the supernatural activity of the devil in the same person?

Explain your answer

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15. In which supernatural activities of the devil were you involved in before receiving Jesus as your Saviour and Lord?

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16. Have you cut off all supernatural contact with the devil? If yes, say how and when you cut off contact with the supernatural activities.....

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17. What profit did Paul's obedience to God brought to the gospel?

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SECTION 3. : Read Exodus 20: 3-5.

18. What is an idolater?

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19. Quote the two forms of idolatry

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20. Are the pictures of Jesus seen here and there true?

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21. Did those who produced them work for God or for the devil?

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22. Are pictures and all other representations of the Lord Jesus a work of God or a work of the devil?

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24. What were the idols in your life before you received the Lord Jesus as your personal Saviour?

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23. Have these idols been destroyed since you believed?

If yes, explain when and how you destroyed them

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24. Who alone deserves worship and adoration from men?
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25. What must be done to images, statues, photographs of the Lord Jesus and of “Saints”?

26. How many mediators did God establish between Him and us?

27. Do those who establish more mediators than God did, obey God or the devil?

28. Are those who establish more mediators than God did, God’s servant or the devil’s servants?

29. How did Gideon satisfy the heart of God, thus qualify by so doing called for greater service?

30. Did the public congratulate Gideon for having destroyed his father idols?
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31. Have you ever consulted a sorcerer, a magician, a wizard?

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For which reasons did you consult him?
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.....

32. Did he help you to solve your problem?

33. Are your parents or family members involved in the satanic supernatural in any form?

34. If yes, what did you do or what are you going to do in order to cut off any satanic bond in which you are involved (through your activities or those of your parents)?
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.....

35. Why is the devil powerless over the child of God who has destroyed all the idols in his life?

36. Whom should a child of God fear?

37. Why?

Section 4:

38. Among the following practices, point out the one allowed by God.

39. Masturbation Fornication Adultery
 Homosexuality

40. When is it said, according to the Bible, that two persons are married?

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41. What is an immoral sexual relationship?

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42. Is it advisable for a child of God to take for a wife an unbeliever?

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43. What should a person converted to the Lord Jesus-Christ do with goods obtained before his conversion, the fruit of immoral relationships?

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44. Are you bound to a man (or woman) to whom you are not legally married?

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45. When are you going to put an end to these relationships?

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And how?

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46. Why shouldn't a child of God neither drink alcohol nor smoke? Justify your answer with a Bible verse

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47. Is it all the same possible to offer to others what he does not consume himself?

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48. Would it be therefore right for a child of God, who neither smokes nor drinks alcohol to work in cigarette or alcohol producing factories?

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49. Who has the first place in your heart?

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50. When is a family tie considered as unhealthy?

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51. In which case can the gospel divide a family?

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52. In which condition can the gospel unite a family?

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53. Why should a child of God not commit himself to expensive
birth celebrations and death celebrations?

Section 5:

54. Do all the children of God have the same potentialities?
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55. Do all the children of God have the same authority over
Satan's powers? Why?

56. Is it possible for the believer who accumulates ill-gotten
riches to exercise power over the devil?



57. Lazarus resurrected had life. He could not move. Why?

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58. How was his problem solved?

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59. Do you still have in your life bonds which link you to Satan?

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60. What are you going to do to cut them off?

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61. Do you have anything else to say concerning this lesson?

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62. Do have someone helping you to grow in your new life with
Jesus?

If not, should I offer you someone?

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