



# GENERAL COURSE FOR NEW CONVERTS

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# 1 - BORN AGAIN

Congratulations to all of you who are doing the Course for New Converts, because this means that you have given your lives to Jesus

Let us open our Bibles in

***João 3:1-6-***

*Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council.*

*He came to Jesus at night and said, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him.”*

*Jesus replied, “Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.”*

*“How can someone be born when they are old?” Nicodemus asked. “Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother’s womb to be born!”*

*Jesus answered, “Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. 6 Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit.*

## **THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING BORN AGAIN.**

The Bible says in *Thessalonians 5:23* that we are spirit, soul and body.  
God is the Father of Spirits

We are spirit and when we die our spirit goes to heaven. That is what Jesus was saying to Nicodemus, to get into heaven we have to be born again.

We can see the illustration of a mobile phone that when it has no credit or battery you can't make a call. Jesus is saying, that in order to receive Salvation one has to be born again in the spirit through believing that Jesus alone is the only Way.

### ***John 14:6***

*Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me"*

Men try to teach various ways to get to God. Jesus said that wide is the path that leads to destruction, but narrow is the path that leads to salvation. The path that leads to salvation is Jesus Christ.

Let us open our Bibles in

### ***Acts 4:12***

*"Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."*

The Bible says that Salvation only comes through Jesus Christ. In certain countries that call themselves Catholic, it is taught that there are several ways to reach God.

For example, Mary and the saints, God does not say that. Idolatry irritates God. .

## THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

Let us open our Bibles in *Exodus 20:3* - “The Ten Commandments”.

### *Exodus 20:3-5*

*You shall have no other gods before Me.*

*You shall not make for yourself a carved image—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 nor serve them. For I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me.*

Many people say they believe in God, but they are always disobeying God. Why? Because the men who teach them, do not speak the truth of what is written in the Bible.

What is written is that there is only Salvation in Jesus.

The Bible says, that after we die, some go to heaven (those who are saved in Christ) and others go to hell.

The only way to live an eternal life with Jesus is to recognize that we have to receive that eternal life THROUGH Jesus.

On the cross of Calvary, Jesus paid for our sins. In everything Jesus was our substitute. He conquered hell, the demons, and cleansed us with his blood.

Salvation is me recognizing that Jesus is the only Way. And by doing so, we are submitting to God.

Jesus continues to warn us, that wide is the path that leads to destruction.

Nobody can think that they own Salvation.

It is very important that you understand that the narrow path is Jesus Christ, our Saviour.

Whoever prevails in the Word and in Christ until the end will be saved.

### **THE PARABLE OF THE TEN VIRGINS**

The Bible says in *Matthew 25:1-13* - "The Parable of the Ten Virgins".

*1 "Then the kingdom of heaven shall be likened to ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom.*

*2 Now five of them were wise, and five were foolish.*

*3 Those who were foolish took their lamps and took no oil with them,*

*4 but the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps.*

*5 But while the bridegroom was delayed, they all slumbered and slept.*

*6 "And at midnight a cry was heard: 'Behold, the bridegroom is coming; go out to meet him!'*

*7 Then all those virgins arose and trimmed their lamps.*

*8 And the foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.'*



*9 But the wise answered, saying, 'No, lest there should not be enough for us and you; but go rather to those who sell, and buy for yourselves.'*

*10 And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the wedding; and the door was shut.*

*11 "Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, 'Lord, Lord, open to us!'" 1*

*2 But he answered and said, 'Assuredly, I say to you, I do not know you.'*

*13 "Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour in which the Son of Man is coming.*

Five were wise, they had oil in their lamps and they also had EXTRA oil in case they ran out.

These five virgins were steadfast in their Salvation.

The other five virgins, whom Jesus called foolish, were distracted in regard to preserving their Salvation, so when the groom came, they did not see him.

Now that you have received Jesus, prevail with Jesus to the end, because then you will reach the final goal, that is heaven.

## **EXHORTATION**

Come to Church to hear the WORD of God.

Walk with Jesus.

Honour God.

Be baptised in the water.

Begin your journey with God as a Born-Again Christian.

Take the Course for New Converts.

Take the Elementary and Complementary Course.

Serve God..

Note:

Never look at the mistakes others commit as no one is perfect.

Your eyes should always be on Jesus Christ. Only by looking at Jesus can we fight for our life

## 2 - BLESSINGS OR CURSES

### **Galatians 3:13-14**

*Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree”), that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.*

We all know that Abraham was a very blessed man. And the Bible says that the blessings of Abraham are ours.

God made the earth and everything in it was perfect.

### **Genesis 1:1**

*In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.*

After creating the earth, God created man in his own image and likeness and gave him dominion to rule over all the earth.

### **Genesis 1:26-27**

*Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”.*

After creating man and woman, God instructed them in

**Genesis 2:16-17-**

*And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, “Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat;  
But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.*

God was instructing ma, that they were not to eat from the tree of science of good and evil and everything would go well, and mankind would live under the mantle of God’s glory.

But there was a being called Lucifer, who rebelled against God and dragged one third of the angels to hell. And so he transformed into the devil (the deceiver) and was cast out of heaven.

When the devil saw the wonder that God had created (mankind in the image and likeness of God), he tried and succeeded in coming up with a plan to destroy mankind.

The devil in the form of a serpent, deceived Eve, who then led her husband to sin against God.

This is how the curse entered the earth, and mankind was cast out of the presence of God.

**Genesis 3:17-**

*Then to Adam He said, “Because you have heeded the voice of your wife, and have eaten from the tree of which I commanded you, saying, ‘You shall not eat of it’: “Cursed is the ground for your sake; In toil you shall eat of it; All the days of your life.*

When this happened, God began to think of a plan to redeem mankind. This is why He sent his Son Jesus, so that man could reconcile with God.

When you gave your life to Jesus, you were set free from the power of Satan and his demons.

The devil comes to kill, steal and destroy and this is why he tries to deceive you so that you do not know the truth.

The truth is looking toward Jesus, coming to Church, serving God, going to a family group, always walking with Jesus.

The Bible says that God has already given us blessings. Deuteronomy 28, which has two distinct parts: BLESSINGS and CURSES.

*Deuteronomy 28:1-14* - Blessings for the obedient

*Deuteronomy 28:15-68* - Curses for the disobedient

## **THE BLESSINGS FOR THE OBEDIENT**

*Deuteronomy 28:1-14*

Chapter 28 verse 1 says:

*Now it shall come to pass, if you diligently obey the voice of the Lord your God, to observe carefully all His commandments which I command you today, that the Lord your God will set you high above all nations of the earth.*

As we study chapter 28, from verse 1 to 14, we see that those who obey and practice what is written in the Word of God, will have blessings.

But for all those, who do not care about God, and have their backs turned toward Him, the curses from verse 15 onwards are already upon them.

## **CURSES FOR THE DISOBEDIENT**

### *Deuteronomy 28:15-68*

Verse 15:

*But it shall come to pass, if you do not obey the voice of the Lord your God, to observe carefully all His commandments and His statutes which I command you today, that all these curses will come upon you and overtake you:*

## **You can choose BLESSINGS OR CURSES!**

Always choose blessings, for only God is our Dear Father. He has the best for us.

## **EXHORTATION**

Come to Church

Go to a family Group.

Start your journey with God

Serve God

God needs EVERYONE!

Always keep your eyes toward Jesus Christ.

Do not focus circumstances that you see.

Only Jesus is the Way to a life of peace, joy, happiness, health, and prosperity.

All this will always be added to you by God when your goal is to prevail in Salvation with Christ. .

# 3 - REPENTANCE FROM DEAD WORKS - I

## 1. HOW TO BUILD YOUR LIFE

### THE WISE MAN

Build your life on the rock, hearing and practicing the Word of God. Then, when problems arise, you will not be destroyed.

**Luke 6:47-48**

*47 Whoever comes to Me, and hears My sayings and does them, I will show you whom he is like:*

*48 He is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid the foundation on the rock. And when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently against that house, and could not shake it, for it was founded on the rock.*

### THE FOOLISH MAN

The foolish man builds his house on the sand. This is the person who disregards the Word of God, in other words, DOES NOT practice the Word of God.

**Luke 6:49**

*49 But he who heard and did nothing is like a man who built a house on the earth without a foundation, against which the stream beat vehemently; and immediately it fell. And the ruin of that house was great.”*

## **2. ELEMENTARY PRINCIPLES OF CHRIST**

*Hebrews 6:1-2*

*1 Therefore, leaving the discussion of the elementary principles of Christ, let us go on to perfection, not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God,*

*2 of the doctrine of baptisms, of laying on of hands, of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment.*

What are the elementary principles of Christ?

- The Principle of Repentance of Dead Works
- The Principle of Faith in God
- The Principle of Baptisms
- The Principle of the Laying on of Hands
- The Principle of the Resurrection of the Dead
- The Principle of Eternal Judgement

## **3. REPENTANCE FROM DEAD WORKS**

What are Dead Works?

Everything that produces death.

REPENTANCE is a Change of LIFE, turning your back to the wrong ways of living.

## **4. WHAT ARE DEAD WORKS?**

### **IDOLATRY**

**Images, Statues, etc.**

*Exodus 20:1-5*

*1 And God spoke all these words, saying:*

*2 "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land*



*of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.*

*3 “You shall have no other gods before Me.*

*4 “You shall not make for yourself a carved image—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;*

*5 you shall not bow down to them nor serve them. For I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me*

## **SORCERY**

### **Spiritism, consulting the dead**

#### ***Deuteronomy 18:9-12***

*9 “When you come into the land which the Lord your God is giving you, you shall not learn to follow the abominations of those nations.*

*10 There shall not be found among you anyone who makes his son or his daughter pass through the fire, or one who practices witchcraft, or a soothsayer, or one who interprets omens, or a sorcerer,*

*11 or one who conjures spells, or a medium, or a spiritist, or one who calls up the dead.*

*12 For all who do these things are [c]an abomination to the Lord, and because of these abominations the Lord your God drives them out from before you.*

### **Mediums, horoscopes, fortune-telling**

#### ***Revelation 22:14-15***

*14 Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city.*

*15 But outside are dogs and sorcerers and sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and whoever loves and practices a lie*



# 4 - REPENTANCE FROM DEAD WORKS - II

## 1. ARGUMENTS, CRITICISM, FINGER-POINTING, FIGHTING

*James 3:16*

*For where envy and self-seeking exist, confusion and every evil thing are there.*

*Isaiah 58:6–9*

*8 Then your light shall break forth like the morning,  
Your healing shall spring forth speedily,  
And your righteousness shall go before you;  
The glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard.*

*9 Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer;  
You shall cry, and He will say, 'Here I am.'  
"If you take away the yoke from your midst,  
The pointing of the finger, and speaking wickedness;*

*Matthew 7:1–5*

*1 Judge not, that you be not judged.  
2 For with what judgment you judge, you will be judged; and  
with the measure you use, it will be measured back to you.  
3 And why do you look at the speck in your brother's eye,  
but do not consider the plank in your own eye?  
4 Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me remove the  
speck from your eye'; and look, a plank is in your own eye?  
5 Hypocrite! First remove the plank from your own eye,*

*and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye.*

## **2. ILLICIT LIVING, ADULTERY**

### **Galatians 5:19 and 20**

*19 Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness,*

*20 idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies,*

## **3. DRUNKENNESS AND REVELRIES**

### **Galatians 5:21**

*envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.*

## **4. NOT FORGIVING, HOLDING GRUDGES AND RESENTMENTS**

### **Matthew 18:21–35**

*21 Then Peter came to Him and said, “Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? Up to seven times?”*

### **The Parable of the Unforgiving Servant**

*32 Then his master, after he had called him, said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you begged me.*

*33 Should you not also have had compassion on your fellow servant, just as I had pity on you?’*

*34 And his master was angry, and delivered him to the torturers until he should pay all that was due to him.*

*35 “So My heavenly Father also will do to you if each of you, from his heart, does not forgive his brother his trespasses.”.*

# BAPTISM IN THE WATERS

## 1. BAPTISM IN THE WATERS DOES NOT SAVE ANY-ONE

Salvation only comes through:

- Believing in Jesus and what He has done.
- Repenting from your sins and wrong way of living.
- Receiving Jesus as your Saviour. .

## 2. IT IS A COMMANDMENT OF JESUS

*Acts 2:28*

*You have made known to me the ways of life;  
You will make me full of joy in Your presence.*

*Mark 16:15,16*

*15 And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.*

*16 He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned.*

## 3. REQUIREMENTS FOR BAPTISM

The sole requirement for baptism is that you have accepted Jesus as your Lord and Saviour.

Your Lord, because it is Jesus who governs your life.

Your Saviour, because it is Jesus who saved you, and helped you

## 4. THE MEANING OF BAPTISM IN THE WATERS

### 4.1- THE DEATH OF ONE'S OLD "SELF"

It is our Funeral

#### *II Corinthians 5:17*

*Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.*

### 4.2-THE WASHING OF SINS

The Blood that Jesus shed on the Cross of Calvary cleanses us from all our sins.

BAPTISM IN THE WATERS is an outward act, symbolising the inward cleansing that Jesus did.

### 4.3- THE RESURRECTION OF ONE'S NEW "SELF"

It symbolises being "Born Again", to a life with God.

#### *Romans 6:1 a 4*

*1 What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound?*

*2 Certainly not! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it?*

*3 Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?*

*4 Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.*

### 4.4- SYMBOLISES BEING DISCIPLES OF JESUS

Salvation is not just about giving your life to Jesus one day and never doing anything else.

Once we have passed through the gate of the Kingdom of God (through Jesus), we have to walk on the narrow path, which leads to the presence of the Father. .

## 5. BIBLICAL EXAMPLES

### 5.1- BAPTISM OF THE EUNUCH

#### *Acts 8:35-38*

*35 Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning at this Scripture, preached Jesus to him.*

*36 Now as they went down the road, they came to some water. And the eunuch said, “See, here is water. What hinders me from being baptized?”*

*37 Then Philip said, “If you believe with all your heart, you may.”*

*And he answered and said, “I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.”*

*38 So he commanded the chariot to stand still. And both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and he baptized him.*

### 5.2- PETER AT CORNELIUS' HOUSE

#### *Acts 10:34-48*

*44 While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who heard the word.*

*45 And those of the circumcision who believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles also.*

*46 For they heard them speak with tongues and magnify God.*

*Then Peter answered,*

*47 “Can anyone forbid water, that these should not be baptized who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?”*

*48 And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then they asked him to stay a few days.*

## **6. SOME MISCONCEPTIONS**

### **6.1- BAPTISING BABIES**

We do not do this because they have no “conscience” of repentance, nor faith.

### **6.2- INSPECTING THE CANDIDATES’ LIVES**

It is the practice of some Churches to send a group of older brothers to inspect the candidates’ lives.

This is wrong! It is not biblical.

There is instant sanctification and progressive sanctification.

## **7. HOW TO ADMINSTRATE BAPTISM**

### **7.1- By Immersion**

### **7.2- In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit**



# 6 - BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT

## 7 STEPS TO RECEIVE THE BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT

### 1. THE HOLY SPIRIT HAS ALREADY BEEN GIVEN TO US

God has already given us the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost. Since that day He has been in this world.

It is up to us to receive the Gift of the Holy Spirit.

We should not ask God to fill us with the Holy Spirit. Asking is a lack of faith.

The right thing to do is to come to Jesus and receive this baptism in the Holy Spirit.

### 2. WHO CAN RECEIVE THE HOLY SPIRIT

Everyone who is born again (*has given their life to Jesus*), is ready to receive the Holy Spirit.

#### *John 7:38-39*

*He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water."*

*39 But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those*

*believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.*

**Acts 2:38**

*Then Peter said to them, “Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.*

**3. IT IS BIBLICAL TO RECEIVE THE HOLY SPIRIT**

How can I receive the Holy Spirit?

Through the laying of hands

**Acts 8:17**

*Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit*

**Acts 9:17**

*... and laying his hands on him he said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you came, has sent me that you may receive your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.”*

**Acts 19:6**

*And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied.*

**4. YOUR PART IN RECEIVING THE HOLY SPIRIT**

The Holy Spirit moves in our vocal cords and puts supernatural words in our mouths.

The Holy Spirit gives the ability to speak, but it is the person that has to speak.

**Acts 2:4**

*And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.*

**I Corinthians 14:2**

*For he who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but*

*to God, for no one understands him; however, in the spirit he speaks mysteries.*

Speaking in tongues is mankind in the flesh, speaking to God in Spirit.

God promised in **Joel 2:28,29**

*28 And it shall come to pass afterward  
That I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your  
daughters shall prophesy, Your old men shall dream dreams,  
Your young men shall see visions.*

*29 And also on My menservants and on My maidservants  
I will pour out My Spirit in those days.*

## **5. THROW AWAY WHAT DOES NOT MATTER**

Throw away any wrong teachings you may have and the fear of receiving something false

**Luke 11:11-13**

*11 If a son asks for bread from any father among you, will he give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent instead of a fish?*

*12 Or if he asks for an egg, will he offer him a scorpion?*

*13 If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!"*

## **6. PRAYER**

### **PRAYER TO RECEIVE THE HOLY SPIRIT**

*"Jesus, I believe in my heart,  
based on the scriptures,  
that the gift of the Holy Spirit is for me.*

*Just as I received eternal salvation by faith,  
it is also by faith that I now receive*

*the baptism in the Holy Spirit,  
with evidence of speaking in new tongues.  
Amen”*

We receive the Holy Spirit by Faith, by saying a prayer, just as we received Jesus!

## **7. PRAISE GOD**

Now praise God in your new heavenly language. Do not say a single word in your language. The Holy Spirit gives you the words, it seems that your tongue wants to say something.

Fearlessly and confidently raise your voice and let out those supernatural sounds whatever they may be. THIS IS FAITH.

Keep saying those supernatural words, until you are sure within yourself, that you have received a clear language. Remember that it is not the Holy Spirit who speaks. He only gives the gift of speech and places the words. It is you who must say them.

If at first the language does not flow, do not be discouraged, do not doubt that you have received the gift of the Holy Spirit. The devil may come with the idea that everything is a sham, but remember that he is a liar, the father of lies.

Be obedient to the Lord, praying, singing in the spirit, and moving forward in faith.

Whenever possible, meet with other Spirit-filled Christians to pray in the Spirit.

### **NOTE:**

We urge all brethren to be baptised in the Holy Spirit at next Sunday meeting. .