

Module 1/Christian Foundations, Introduction & Chapters 1 & 2.

Introduction: Getting Wisdom

- a) Knowledge is what you know.
- b) Wisdom is what you are in the light of what you know.

☐ Ephesians 1:17:

I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know Him better.

Christian Foundations.

Chapter 1: Jesus Taught

□ When we follow Jesus

- We abide in Him
- Revelation
- Illumination
- Character

i. Appropriation

ii. Transformation

- Persecution

The song “I have decided to follow Jesus”.

According to Dr P. Job, the lyrics are based on the last words of Nokseng, a Garo man, a tribe from Meghalaya which then was in Assam, who along with his family decided to follow Jesus Christ in the middle of the 19th century through the efforts of an American Baptist missionary.

Called to renounce his faith by the village chief, the convert declared, "I have decided to follow Jesus." His two children were killed and in response to threats to his wife, he continued,

"Though no one join me, still I will follow." His wife was killed, and he was executed while singing,

"The world behind me, The cross before me." This display of faith is reported to have led to the conversion of the chief and others in the village. The fierce opposition is possible, as various tribes in that area were formerly renowned for head-hunting. [Wikipedia.](#)

❖ **Play video (I have decided to follow Jesus)**

We abide in Him.

John 15:4-8.

Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches.

Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.

If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned.

If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.

By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.

Abiding in the (Living) Word.

John 15:7.

If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.

The use it or lose it principle.

Mark 4:23-25.

He who has ears to hear let him hear.

Consider carefully what you hear, with the measure you use it will be given to you and even more. He who hears will be given more, he who does not hear even that which he has will be taken away.

We retain God's Word by obeying it.



Revelation.

The greatest revelation of God to man is the Bible.

Paul speaks of the Apostles as
1Cor 6:1.

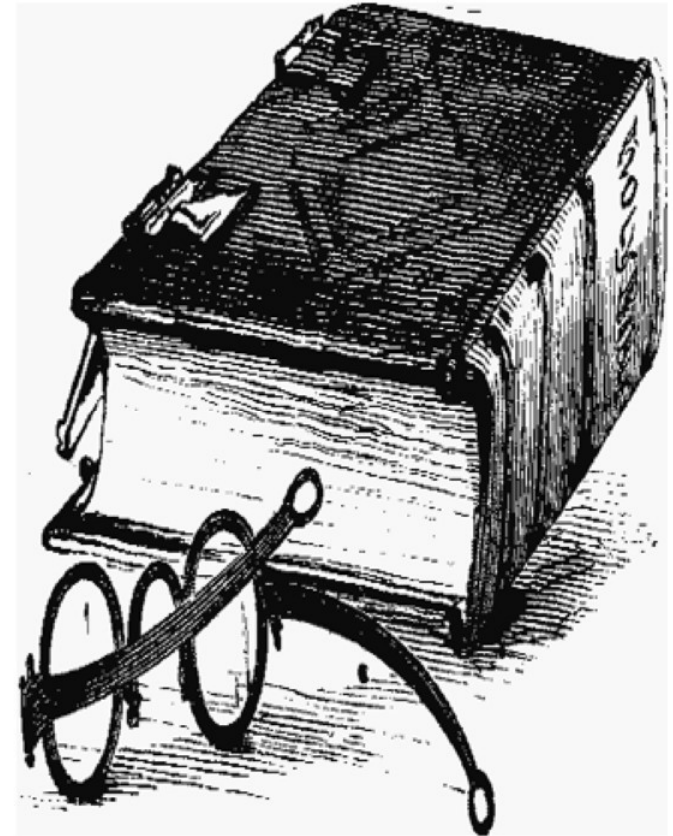
“Stewards of the mysteries of God.”

**But Revelation is not enough,
even Satan knows Scripture**

When he tempted Jesus, Satan said
“it is written”

Yet Satan was taken by surprise by
what happened at Calvary.

❖ **Show Bible project video**



God's Revelation to man.

1Cor2:6-8.

We do however, speak a message of wisdom among the mature....

None of the rulers of this age understood it, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.

Satan thought he could outsmart God, others have been deceived to think the same.



God's Revelation to man.

Ephesians 3:8-10.

This grace was given to me: to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, and to make plain to everyone the administration of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things.

His intent was that now, through the Church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms.

**Satan now knows the gospel, but
Revelation is not enough**

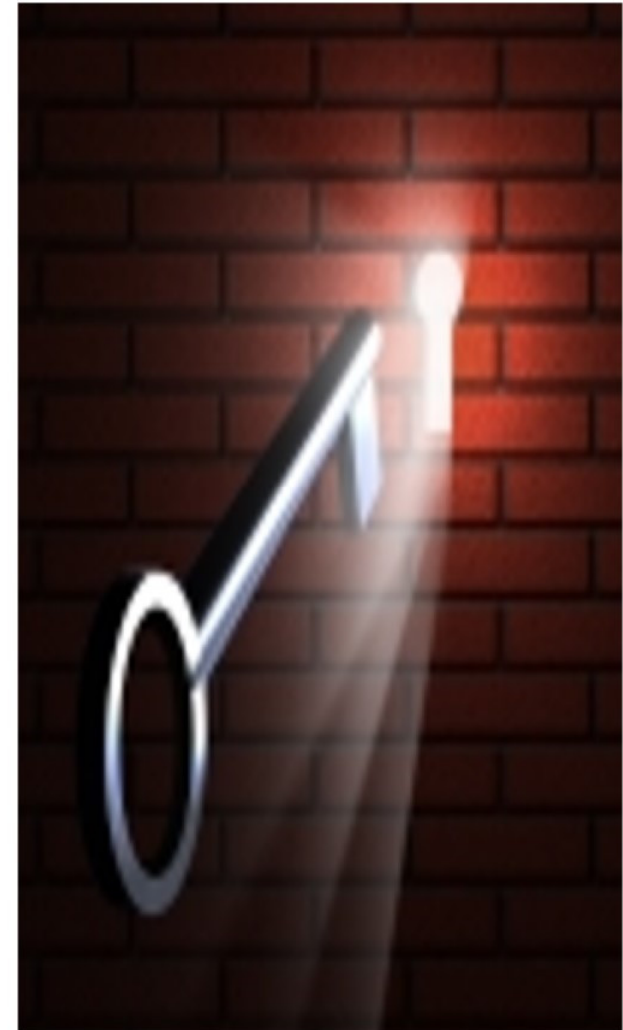
Illumination.

Beyond the pages of the Bible is God himself, this is not a rule book, but God revealing Himself.

1 Cor2:11-16.

.... we have not received the spirit of the world but the Spirit who is from God, that we may understand what God has freely given us.

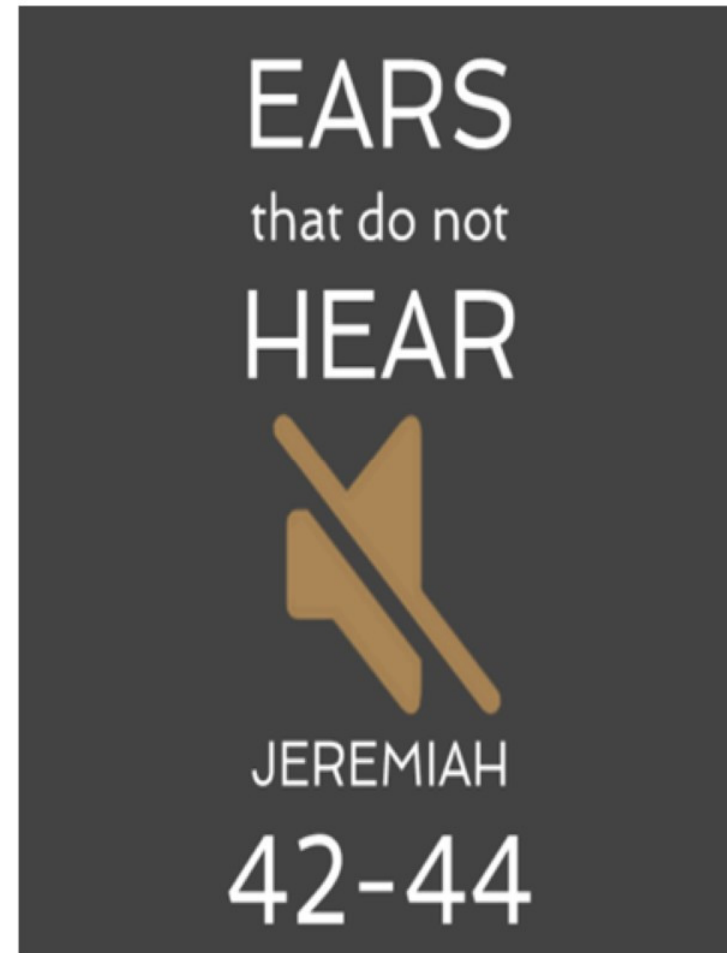
The man without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them because they are spiritually discerned.....



Illumination.

Mark 4:11-12.

The secret of the Kingdom of God has been given to you. But to those on the outside everything is said in parables so that, they may be ever seeing but never perceiving, and ever hearing but never understanding



Illumination.

Mark 4:21-25.

Do you bring in a lamp to put it under a bowl or a bed? Instead don't you put it on a stand? For what is hidden is meant to be disclosed and whatever is concealed is meant to be brought into the open. If anyone has ears to hear, let him hear. Consider carefully what you hear, he continued. With the measure you use, it will be measured to you and even more. Whoever has will be given more; whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken from him.



Illumination.

2 Corinthians 4:3-4&6.

And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ....

For God who said “Let the light shine out of darkness,” has made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.



Illumination is not enough.

John 3:19.

This is the condemnation, that light has come into the world, but men preferred the darkness to the light because their deeds were evil.

2 Peter 1 :19.

And we have the word of the prophets made more certain, and you do well to pay attention to it, as to a light shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts.

- **Revelation:** Jesus is “A Saviour.”
- **Illumination:** Jesus is “The Saviour.”
- **Appropriation:** Jesus is “My Saviour.”

Character .

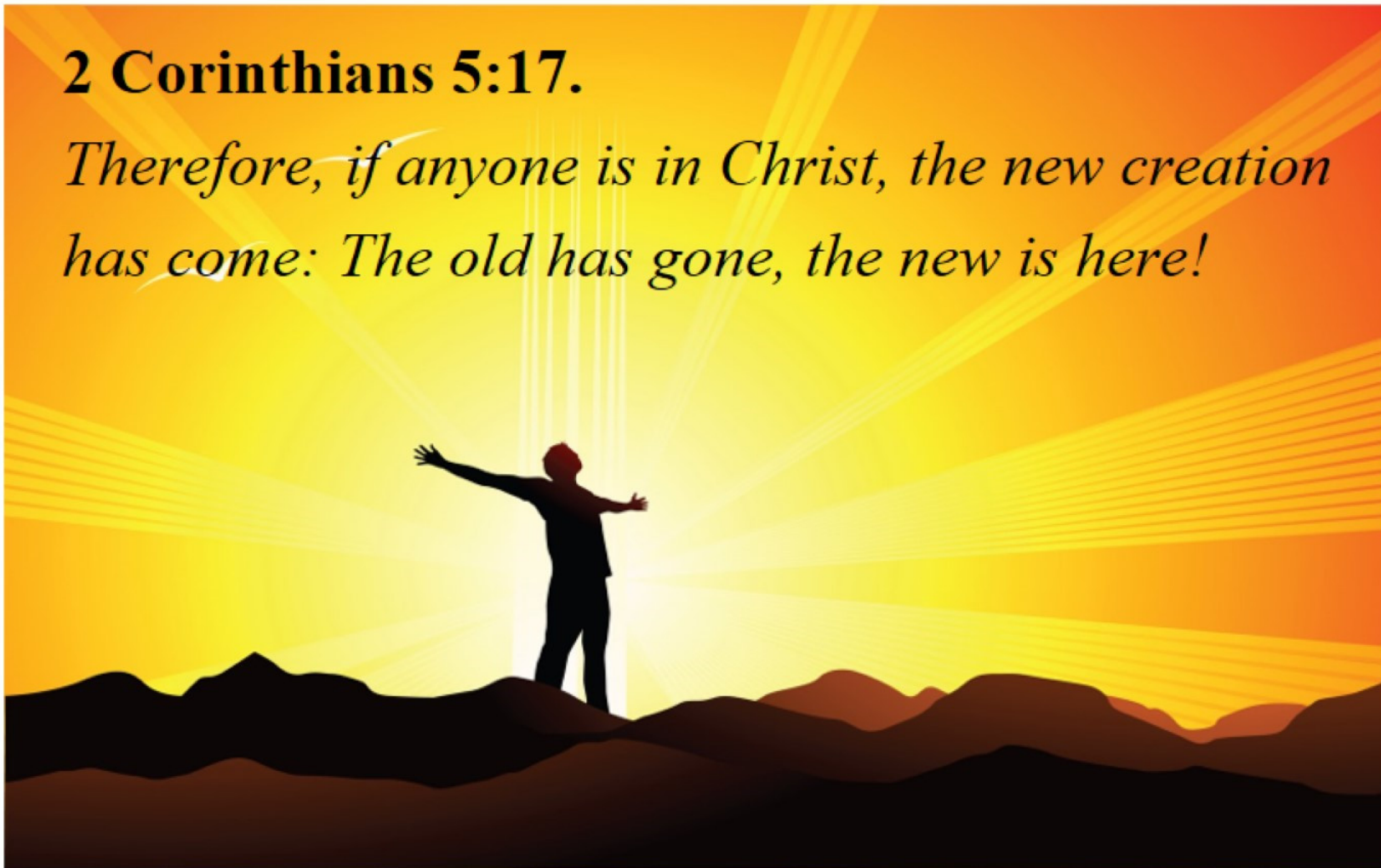
❑ Appropriation.

Our relationship with God must affect our character.

❑ Transformation.

2 Corinthians 5:17.

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!



Appropriation.

John 12:42,43.

Yet at the same time many even among the leaders believed in him. But because of the Pharisees they would not confess their faith for fear they would be put out of the Synagogue for they loved praise from men more than praise from God.

Romans 10:8-10.

The word is near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart, that is the word of faith we are proclaiming. That if you confess with your mouth “Jesus is Lord” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.

Persecution from the world.

John 15:18-25.

If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first.

If you belonged to the world, it would love you as its own.

As it is, you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world.

That is why the world hates you. Remember what I told you: A servant is not greater than his master.

If they persecuted me, they will persecute you also...

But this is to fulfill what is written in their Law:

They hated me without reason.

Do Not Be Surprised,
My Brothers, If The
World Hates You.

1 John 3-13

Persecution of Christians.

To understand what is behind the persecution of God's chosen covenant people, firstly the Jews (Israel) and then also the Church (Christians) we need to look at Scripture, particularly references to the unseen rulers of the world that Paul speaks about on a number of occasions.

Reference is made to the "Divine Counsel" or "The Sons of God" on numerous occasions in the Old Testament.



Our attitude during trials and suffering.

Hebrews 10:32-37.

Remember those earlier days after you had received the light, when you endured in a great conflict full of suffering. Sometimes you were publicly exposed to insult and persecution; at other times you stood side by side with those who were so treated. You suffered along with those in prison and joyfully accepted the confiscation of your property, because you knew that you yourselves had better and lasting possessions.

*So do not throw away your confidence; it will be richly rewarded. You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what he has promised. For, In just a little while, he who is coming will come and will not delay. **Play audio “Killing Christians”***

Chapter 2: Discipleship.

The true disciple will join in Jesus mission.

Matthew 28:16-20.

Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.

And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.

The true disciple will join in Jesus mission.

John 15:8,16.

By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.... You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you.

The Lord wants us to make Disciples.



The progression in discipling.

- 1. They watched Jesus**
- 2. He sent them out**
- 3. They returned and gave an account**
- 4. He physically left**

Paul followed Jesus example.

2 Timothy 2:2.

And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others.

YEAR	EVANGELIST	DISCIPLER
1	365	2
2	730	4
3	1095	8
4	1460	16
5	1825	32
6	2190	64
7	2555	128
8	2920	256
9	3285	512
10	3650	1024
11	4015	2048
12	4380	4096
13	4745	8192
14	5110	16384
15	5475	32768
16	5840	65536
17	6205	131072

YEAR	EVANGELIST	DISCIPLER
18	6570	262144
19	6935	524288
20	7300	1048576
21	7665	2097152
22	8030	4194304
23	8395	8388608
24	8760	16777216
25	9125	33554432
26	9490	67108864
27	9855	134217728
28	10220	268435456
29	10585	536870912
30	10950	1073741824
31	11315	2147483648
32	11680	4294967296
33	12045	8589934592

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