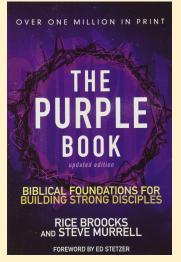
SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

RESOURCES



THE PURPLE BOOK BY RICE BROOCKS & STEVE MURRELL

The Purple Book will help you understand foundational truths on topics such as sin, salvation, spiritual gifts, prayer, worship, generosity, and evangelism. It will show you how the Bible is "God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness" (2 Timothy 3:16). It will help you understand that the faith you hold has true power to change lives and transform nations. It will give you a solid foundation the enemy cannot dismantle–and a heart shaped by knowledge of God's Word. Purchase *The Purple Book* at your campus bookstore or online retailers.



SESSION VIDEOS PASTOR RANDY CRAIGHEAD

Pastor Randy Craighead has served as an Executive Pastor at Church of the King for twenty years. He and his wife, Diane, spent five years in Russia from 1991 to 1996, serving as missionaries in the early days of Glasnost and Perestroika. He was instrumental in planting the church, Moscow Christian Center, and Bible School in 1991. He holds a B.S. in Chemical Engineering from Louisiana State University and worked ten years in his field of study before resigning in 1990 to obtain his Ministerial Degree from Ministers Training Institute in Baton Rouge, LA. Pastor Randy has been a key part of building the Church of the King culture and strategy for six

different locations. He oversees the Campus Pastors, Missions, Online Classes, LEAD College, and Special Projects. He is a gifted instructor and has taught Biblical Foundations to hundreds of people. Through his unique explanations and visuals, those who engage in his Biblical Foundation teaching will experience a new perspective and understanding of the Bible and become equipped to walk in freedom and truth.

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

Introduction

Thank you for leading a Biblical Foundations One small group. As part of Church of the King's core curriculum, it is a rich study of God's Word that focuses on fundamental and essential truths.

The first six chapters of *The Purple Book* will be your text along with a weekly video by Pastor Randy Craighead to supplement learning. Five to eight discussion questions, taken from *The Purple Book*, are suggested each week to facilitate group discussions. Feel free to add, eliminate or change these questions as you see fit. A synopsis of Pastor Randy's teaching videos is provided to help review presented truths.

Since *The Purple Book* is the focus of Biblical Foundations One, home study is key to getting the most out of the next six weeks. Encourage your small group to complete the weekly homework and watch Pastor Randy's weekly teaching video before attending your small group. <u>Emphasize that it is important to follow the homework schedule</u>.

Pastor Randy's teaching videos are found at <u>ChurchoftheKing.com/foundations</u>.

Small Group Format

Each lesson follows the same format.

- 1. Welcome and open in prayer.
- 2. Review the discussion guide with your group.
- 3. Ask the suggested discussion questions based on *The Purple Book*. You may add, eliminate or change which questions you choose to ask.
- 4. Review the home study assignment for the upcoming week.
- 5. Ask for prayer requests within the group and close in prayer.

Before Session One

Small group participants should complete Chapter One in *The Purple Book*, Sin & Salvation, and watch Pastor Randy's Session One teaching video before the first meeting. It is also recommended that *The Purple Book's* Forward and Preface be read before Week One.

Important Elements for Session One

In Session One, you will want to establish clear guidelines and expectations in order to lay a good foundation for a healthy group experience.

Attendance: Each member should make a commitment to attend the group every week.

Home Study: Completion of weekly homework assignments and watching Pastor Randy's weekly teaching video is key to getting the most out of Biblical Foundations One.

Safe Environment: Create a safe, non-judgmental place for each person to come and feel loved.

Confidentiality: Emphasize the importance of keeping everything shared during group confidential.

Small Group Roster: Get contact information from every person and consider a GroupMe text for announcements and prayer requests.

Shared Ownership: You may want to share the responsibility of leading the group and/or have others help with needed tasks.

Biblical Foundations One—Tips for Leaders

Be a servant leader.

Let your small group know that you're just as excited to learn from the material and discussions as they are. Most importantly, just be you. Admit when you do not have an answer, and apologize when you make a mistake. Your group will love you for it.

Rely on the power of prayer.

Cover every aspect of your small group in prayer. Pray for each member by name. Ask God to use your time together to touch the heart of every person uniquely. Expect God to lead you to whomever He wants to encourage or challenge in a special way.

Prepare for your small group ahead of time.

Complete the homework and review the suggested discussion questions from *The Purple Book*. Read through your lesson plan and watch the video before your group meets. You will discover that the time you spend preparing will not only benefit your group, but it will also give you confidence as a leader.

Involve every member in discussion.

The suggested questions from *The Purple Book* are discussion starters. Give small group members an opportunity to answer. Affirm responses with a simple "Thanks" or "Good job." Then ask, "Would someone who has not shared like to add anything?

Prevent one person from dominating.

One of the most effective ways to keep one person from dominating the discussion is to communicate that it is important to hear from each member. Encourage discussion, but emphasize that being respectful of time gives everyone a chance to participate.

Be open to God's leading during the lesson.

Most often, God uses the discussions in small group to accomplish His purposes. Even though a lesson plan is provided for each week, it does not have to be rigidly followed if God leads you to focus on other questions presented in *The Purple Book*. When you and your group are covered in prayer, be prepared to be amazed at what God will do.

WEEKLY TOPICS AND HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS

The Purple Book assignments and Pastor Randy's Biblical Foundations videos are to be reviewed prior to the weekly small group session. <u>Please notice that the chapters in The Purple Book are to be read and completed in the order below</u>.

SESSION ONE

- Watch Biblical Foundations Video #1, *Your New Life*, individually.
- Complete The Purple Book **Chapter 1: Lessons 1-5**.

SESSION TWO

- Watch Biblical Foundations Video #2, *Being Right*, individually.
- Complete The Purple Book **Chapter 2: Lessons 1-4**.

SESSION THREE

- Watch Biblical Foundations Video #3, *Living Right*, individually.
- Complete The Purple Book **Chapter 3: Lessons 1-3**.

SESSION FOUR

- Watch Biblical Foundations Video #4, *The Power of Water Baptism*, individually.
- Complete The Purple Book **Chapter 3: Lesson 4**.

SESSION FIVE

- Watch Biblical Foundations Video #5, *Connecting With God*, individually.
- Complete The Purple Book Chapter 5: Lessons 1-4, Chapter 8: Lesson 1, & Chapter 10: Lesson 3.

SESSION SIX

- Watch Biblical Foundations Video #6, *The Spirit-Filled Life*, individually.
- Complete The Purple Book **Chapter: 4 Lessons 1-4**.

SESSION ONE DISCUSSION GUIDE YOUR NEW LIFE

Introduction

Welcome and open in prayer. Review important elements for Session One (Found on pages 2-4 of this Small Group Discussion Guide.)

Session One Video Overview

Where does your new life begin?

The first book in the Bible, Genesis, is "the book of beginning". God created time, space, and matter. Genesis 1:1 says, "In the beginning (time), God created the heavens (space) and the earth (matter)..."

God's Creation

<u>Day 1</u> God created day and night. <u>Day 2</u> God created the sky. <u>Day 3</u> God created the land, sea, plants, and trees. <u>Day 4</u> God created the sun, moon, and stars. <u>Day 5</u> God created the birds and sea animals. <u>Day 6</u> God created the animals and mankind. <u>Day 7</u> God rested from all the work He had done. **(Genesis 1:3-Genesis 2:3)**

God created man in His image: "God created man in his own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them." (Genesis 1:27)

The Tale of Two Trees

In the Garden or Eden, God created <u>The Tree of Life</u> which represents God's presence in our lives and <u>The Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil</u> which represents spiritual death. "...**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.**" (Genesis 2:16)

Eight results of the fall of Adam and Eve

The fall of Adam and Eve occurred because of lust of the flesh, lust of the eyes, and the pride of life. **(Genesis 3:6)**

- 1. Everyone stands guilty of sin (Romans 3:23, Romans 5:19)
- 2. Spiritual death (Romans 5:12)
- 3. Man hid from God (Genesis 3:8)
- 4. Man was stricken with fear (Genesis 3:10)
- 5. Man blamed others (Genesis 3:12)
- 6. The ground became cursed (Genesis 3:17)
- 7. Man's mind became perverted and wicked (Genesis 6:5)
- 8. Man came under the power of the enemy, the devil (1 John 5:19, Ephesians 2:12)

God's Plan for Man

- First Prophecy "And I will put enmity between you (the serpent) and the woman, and between your seed (the world) and her Seed (Jesus, the Messiah); He will bruise (crush) your head, and you will bruise (strike) his heel" (Genesis 3:15)
- First Blood "For Adam also and to his wife did the Lord God make coats of skins, and clothed them." (Genesis 3:21) To cover sin, blood has to be shed. This ultimately points to Jesus' death on the cross. Because of Jesus' blood, we can all receive salvation. Today He clothes us, not with coats of skin, but with the righteousness of Christ.

The Story of Jesus Begins

- He is the centerpiece of all history (Revelation 1:8)
- He is the Beginning (Colossians 1:17)
- He is the Supreme Ruler of the cosmos (Philippians 2:9-11)
- He is Lord: <u>Theologically</u> Putting trust in Christ alone; <u>Politically</u> Putting God before political rulers; <u>Personally</u> Jesus is Lord of my life and my household.

The Purple Book Discussion Questions

- 1. Page 17, Question 9: How did God respond to Adam and Eve's sin? (Genesis 3:8-9)
- 2. Page 19, Question 5: What impact has sin had on the human heart? (Jeremiah 17:9)
- 3. Page 21, Question 9: What does Jesus' blood—His sacrificial death—do for us? (Romans 5:9, Ephesians 1:7, Ephesians 2:13, 1 John 1:7, Revelation 1:5)
- 4. Page 21, Question 10: What did Jesus do for us on the cross? (1 Corinthians 15:3-4, 2 Corinthians 5:21, Galatians 3:13-14, 1 Peter 2:24)
- 5. Page 22, Question 12: What is the significance of Jesus' resurrection? What if there was no resurrection? **(1 Corinthians 15:14-19)**
- 6. Page 24, Question 5: What do the following passages tell you about being "born again" or "born of God"? (John 1:12-13, 1 Peter 1:23, 1 John 3:9, 1 John 4:7)
- 7. Page 25, Question 1: Is it possible to be saved by the good things we do—our "works"? How are we saved? **(Ephesians 2:8-9)**

Home Study Assignment

Complete Chapter 2, Lessons 1–4 (pages 27–36) in *The Purple Book*, and watch Session Two of Pastor Randy's Biblical Foundations videos for next week.

SESSION TWO DISCUSSION GUIDE BEING RIGHT

Introduction

Welcome and open in prayer. Introduce any new members who have come for the first time.

Session Two Video Overview

What does it mean to *be right* before Christ? Understanding what it means to *be right* before God is crucial to the Christian faith.

"But now God has shown us <u>a way</u> to be <u>made right</u> with Him without keeping the requirements of the law..." (Romans 3:21)

"We are <u>made right</u> with God by placing our faith in Jesus Christ. And this is true for everyone who believes, no matter who we are. (Romans 3:22)

"So we are <u>made right</u> with God through faith and not by obeying the law." (Romans 3:28)

The old way of *being made right* before God refers to the Levitical Sacrificial Law System that was decreed by God and given to Moses. Because God sent His Son, Jesus, to die for us, we no longer have to live by this system. It's not by our works, but by our faith that we are *made right* before God. **"The just shall live by faith." (Romans 1:17)** To be right with God, there is no standard **(Galatians 2:16)** or moral code of conduct **(Romans 3:12)**

Being *made right* is called <u>Justification</u>. Justification is an instantaneous, legal act of God in which He: forgives us of our sins and declares us to be right in His sight. **"These whom He called, He also justified." (Romans 8:30)**

Forgiveness of Sins

Everyone is born with a tarnished spirit. When Jesus Christ comes inside of us, our spirit becomes alive. We are born into sin, but when we put our faith in Jesus, our sins are forgiven. Not only did Jesus pay our debts, but He also gives us Christ's righteousness. (2 Corinthians 5:12, Romans 4:3, Philippians 3:9)

The Process of Salvation

- All have sinned. (Romans 3:23)
- The penalty of sin is death. (Romans 6:23)
- Jesus Christ died to pay the penalty. (Romans 5:8)
- <u>God's Call</u> to us:
 - □ The invitation by Jesus (Matthew 11:28-30)
 - □ The promise of forgiveness of sins and eternal life (John 3:16)

- <u>Conversion</u> is our willing response to God's Call. We respond in:
 - □ Repentance Turning from sin. (Acts 3:19)
 - □ Faith Turning to Christ. (Romans 10:9-10)
 - □ Repentance + faith = conversion (becoming *born again*)
- <u>God's Response</u> to our acceptance of Jesus as our Lord and Savior:
 - □ Regeneration
 - Born Again (John 3:3)
 - New Creation (2 Corinthians 5:17)
 - □ Justification & Righteousness (Isaiah 61:10)

Four Benefits of Being Made Right With God

- 1. Living free of condemnation (Romans 8:1)
 - The devil condemns, but the Holy Spirit convicts
- 2. You are <u>now</u> the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus (2 Corinthians 5:21)
- 3. Approaching God with confidence (Hebrews 10:19-22)
- 4. Living at peace with God (Romans 5:1)

The Purple Book Discussion Questions

- 1. Page 29, Question 5: According to Jesus, who will enter the kingdom of heaven? (Matthew 7:21-23)
- 2. Page 31, Question 7: What is the difference between those who love Jesus and those who do not? (John 14:15, 23-24)
- 3. Page 31, Question 10: What is the reason that people live in sin and still think they are Christians? **(1 Corinthians 6:9-10)**
- 4. Page 33, Question 8: As we live in love and unity with one another, what did Jesus promise would be the world's response? **(John 17:23)**
- 5. Page 33, Question 9: What is a key to having this kind of unity? (Philippians 2:3-4)
- 6. Page 35, Question 7: If we say we love God yet hate a brother or sister, what does the Bible say we are? **(1 John 4:20)**

Home Study Assignment

Complete Chapter 3, Lessons 1-3 (pages 37–43) in *The Purple Book*, and watch Session Three of Pastor Randy's Biblical Foundations videos for next week.

SESSION THREE DISCUSSION GUIDE LIVING RIGHT

Introduction

Welcome and open in prayer. Introduce any new members who have come for the first time.

Group opener question:

Has your new understanding of "being made right" before God impacted your lifestyle? Why
or why not?

Session Three Video Overview

God's goal is for us to become more like Jesus– to be conformed into the image of Christ. **"For those whom He foreknew, He predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, so that He might be the firstborn among many brothers." (Romans 8:29)** *Conforming* into the image of Christ is a moral renovation, in which we are increasingly changed from what we once were by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Sanctification means to be set apart, to be holy, or to "live right". Sanctification begins when we become *born again* and continues throughout life as we participate and respond to the inner voice to the Holy Spirit.

The Stages of Sanctification:

Slaves to sin \rightarrow conversion (giving your life to Christ) \rightarrow growing in holiness during your Christian life \rightarrow entering into perfect holiness after your death

The Problem – Our Flesh

"I say then, walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. For the flesh lusts (wars) against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh. These are in opposition to one another, so that you may not do the things (right) that you please." (Galatians 5:16-17)

The flesh is our carnal, innate tendencies which is our most immediate enemy. Desire alone is not enough to battle the flesh; we are to war against the flesh.

What's Right–What's Wrong! The Human Battle (Romans 7:21-25)

When we begin our new life in Christ, we have two natures. The first being a follower of Jesus; the second being our previous lives before we accepted Jesus (our sinful nature). What we feed will grow, and what we starve will die. The more we feed our spirit-filled nature, the greater that will grow in our lives. We must continue to fill our lives with God's Word so that we can sustain our Christian journey throughout the rest of our lives.

Seven Ways to Live Holy-Sanctified

- 1. <u>Believe</u> God is for you. (Jeremiah 29:11)
- 2. <u>Embrace</u> your new identity in Christ. (2 Corinthians 5:17)
 - Apply the <u>values</u> of Christ. (Philippians 2:5)
 - The world's values are <u>not</u> your values. (John 17:14)
- 3. <u>Confess</u> and <u>repent</u> of any sin in your life. **(1 John 1:9)**
- 4. <u>Renew</u> your mind. (Romans 12:2)
 - Don't allow your mind to wander in the wrong direction. Take every thought captive. (2 Corinthians 10:5)
 - <u>Reject</u> sinful thoughts Think "Philippians" thoughts. (Philippians 4:8)
- 5. Apply the <u>Put-Off Put On</u> principle (Colossians 3:5-10,12-14)
- 6. <u>Admit your dependence on the Holy Spirit</u>. (Galatians 5:16)
- 7. Location, location, location!
 - Find a place (same) everyday to <u>read</u> God's Word. (Joshua 1:8)
 - Maintain regular <u>prayer</u> times. (Matthew 6:6)
 - Get in a small group. (Genesis 2:18, Acts 5:42)
 - Stay <u>accountable</u>. (2 Timothy 2:22)
 - Physically remove yourself from places of <u>temptation</u>. (Proverbs 4:25-27)

The Purple Book Discussion Questions

- 1. Page 38, Question 7: What did Peter say they would receive if they would repent and be baptized? (Acts 2:38)
- 2. Page 42, Question 15: Part of repentance is being sorry for our sins. What are the two types of sorrow, and what do they produce? (2 Corinthians 7:10)
- 3. Page 42, Question 16: Besides repentance, what else does godly sorrow produce? (2 Corinthians 7:11)
- 4. Page 43, Question 3: What was the evidence that the "Lord's hand" was with those who proclaimed Christ? (Acts 11:21)
- 5. Page 43, Question 5: What does the Bible say about faith without any corresponding works? (James 2:26)

Home Study Assignment

Complete Chapter 3, Lesson 4 (pages 44–46) in *The Purple Book*, and watch Session Four of Pastor Randy's Biblical Foundations videos for next week.

SESSION FOUR DISCUSSION GUIDE THE POWER OF WATER BAPTISM

Introduction

Welcome and open in prayer. Introduce any new members who have come for the first time. Group opener question:

■ How have you incorporated last week's lesson, "Living Right", in your daily life?

Session Four Video Overview

"Then those who gladly received his word were baptized." (Acts 2:41)

Why should I be baptized?

- 1. To <u>follow</u> the example of Jesus. (Mark 1:9)
- 2. Jesus <u>commanded</u> us to baptize those who <u>believe</u>. (Matthew 28:19)
- 3. The <u>apostles</u> and others preached and demonstrated water baptism. (Acts 2:38, Acts 8:12, Acts 9:18)
- 4. Gives <u>confidence</u> to overcome sin and resist the accusations of the enemy. **(Revelation 12:10)**
- 5. Gives a <u>clear conscience</u> before God. (1 Peter 3:21)
- 6. <u>Identifies</u> you as a part of God's <u>Spiritual Family</u>. (1 Corinthians 12:13)

What does water baptism represent?

- Water baptism represents the <u>death</u> of our old life. (2 Corinthians 5:17)
- Water baptism is a <u>burial</u> service for the sinful nature. (Colossians 2:12)
- We are <u>buried</u> with Christ in water baptism. (Romans 6:4)
- We are <u>resurrected</u> with Christ in water baptism. (Romans 6:5)

Who is a candidate for water baptism?

- Those who have given a <u>profession</u> of faith in Jesus Christ.
- The <u>pattern</u> in the New Testament: <u>Salvation then Water Baptism</u>.
 - □ Water baptism does not <u>regenerate</u> your heart (spirit).
 - □ The church does not bestow saving <u>grace</u> on the person being baptized.
- Sometimes called "<u>Believer's Baptism</u>."
 - □ Water baptism is strictly a <u>post-salvation</u> experience.
 - □ Have you been baptized <u>since you've believed</u>? (Acts 2:41)

The Method of Water Baptism

- <u>Immersion</u> is the only method found in the New Testament.
 - A person was put completely <u>under</u> the water and brought back <u>up</u>. (Mark 1:5, Mark 1:10)
 - □ The <u>symbolism</u> seems to require water baptism by <u>immersion</u>. (Colossians 2:12)

When should you be baptized?

- As soon as you <u>believe</u> the message of salvation through Jesus Christ. (Acts 2:41)
- As soon as possible. (Acts 8:36)

The Purple Book Discussion Questions

- 1. Page 44, Question 1: What happened to those who accepted Peter's message? (Acts 2:41)
- 2. Page 45, Question 4: Jesus told His disciples to go and make disciples of all nations. What did He say to do with those disciples? (Matthew 28:19-20)
- 3. Page 45, Question 5: Paul compares Christian baptism to a burial. In order to be buried, a person must first die. What must we die to before we can be baptized? (Romans 6:1-4)
- 4. Page 45, Question 6: The Israelites' passing through the Red Sea is a picture of baptism for us. Why were the Israelites fleeing from the Egyptians? **(Exodus 2:23, 3:7-9)**
- 5. Page 45, Question 7: What happened to the Egyptians? (Exodus 14:22-28)

In the same way that the Israelites were slaves to the Egyptians, we are all slaves to sin. The Israelites were freed from their bondage by passing through the Red Sea. Baptism pictures the freedom from sin that Jesus purchased for us on the cross (page 45).

Home Study Assignment

Complete Chapter 5, Lessons 1-4 (pages 55 – 62), Chapter 8, Lesson 1 (pages 87-89), and Chapter 10, Lesson 3 (pages 112-113) in *The Purple Book*, and watch Session Five of Pastor Randy's Biblical Foundations videos for next week.

BIBLICAL FOUNDATIONS ONE SESSION FIVE DISCUSSION GUIDE

CONNECTING WITH GOD

Introduction

Welcome and open in prayer. Introduce any new members who have come for the first time.

Session Five Video Overview

Only one object is worthy of our devotion, only one thing that will last for eternity–Jesus! Our devotion to God is a matter of life and death. Isaiah 40:8 says, "The grass withers, the flower fades, but the Word of our God stands forever."

Why should I connect with God?

To <u>love</u>. (Mark 12:30) To <u>talk</u>. (1 John 5:14) To <u>listen</u>. (Isaiah 55:2-3) To <u>cleanse</u>. (1 John 1:9) To <u>grow</u>. (1 Peter 3:18)

Prayer

Prayer is personal or individual. It's a time to get to know God. Our motivation to establish an intimate prayer life comes from our love that we have for Jesus. According to **Daniel 6:19**, our prayer life should be <u>scheduled</u> and <u>consistent</u> at a specific <u>time</u> and <u>place</u> to be the most effective. In **Matthew 6:9-13**, Jesus teaches us how to pray (Also known as "The Lord's Prayer"). You can use this template to build your prayer life.

The Word of God – Reading the Bible

"Your Word *is* a lamp to my feet and a light to my path" (Psalms 119:105)

- Find a <u>consistent, quiet</u> place.
- Use a simple <u>reading plan</u>. (life journal, one year Bible, YouVersion.com)
 - Use the SOAP method: Scripture, Observation, Application, Prayer
- <u>Meditate</u> on the Word. (Joshua 1:8)
- Speak God's Word. (Mark 11:22-23)
- Memorize God's Word. (Psalms 119:1)

Fasting

Fasting is the practice of abstaining from food for a given period of time, in order to seek God in a greater way.

- Examples:
 - □ Old Testament Moses on Mount Sinai: two 40 day fast.
 - □ New Testament Jesus in the wilderness 40 days.
 - □ Fasting implemented when making decisions (ex. Choosing missionaries Acts 13:2-3, selecting elders Acts 14:23)
- Benefits of Fasting:
 - □ <u>Health</u> blood sugar, heart health, weight, brain function, longevity.

- □ <u>Humbles</u> our soul before God. (Psalms 35:13)
- □ <u>Builds</u> our faith. (Matthew 17:20-21)
- □ <u>Breaks bondages</u> in our lives. (Isaiah 58:6)
- □ God <u>draws close</u> to us. (Isaiah 58:9, James 4:8)
- Practical Fasting Tips:
 - □ Start out small, drink plenty of water, and pray for grace. If you're health compromised, contact your physician.
 - Learn more. (Dr. Bill Bright- ccci.org/howtofast, read *God's Chosen Fast* by Arthur Wallis.)

Giving – Treasure in Heaven

"But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also... No one can serve two masters. You cannot serve both God and money." (Matthew 20-21, 24)

The Tithe

- Principle of the <u>First</u>. (Proverbs 3:9)
- <u>Tenth</u> or 10% (Malachi 3:10)
- <u>T</u>rusting <u>In</u> <u>T</u>he <u>H</u>eavenly <u>E</u>conomy

The Offering

The key to abundance is giving offerings. Offerings are not the tithe, but over and above the tithe. There are three places to give offerings: Missions (Philippians 4:15), the poor (Galatians 2:10), and the temple (Exodus 35:4-5).

The Purple Book Discussion Questions

- 1. Page 57, Question 9: What do the following passages teach about God's Word? (Psalm 119:89, Psalm 119:160, Isaiah 40:8, Isaiah 55:11, Matthew 24:35, John 17:17)
- 2. Page 59, Question 6: What are ways God's Word benefits the believer? (Psalm 119:98-100, Psalm 119:105, Psalm 119:165, Proverbs 4:20-22)
- 3. Page 60, Question 5: What do you think it means to "hunger and thirst for righteousness?" (Matthew 5:6)
- 4. Page 89, Question 6: What should we pray for? (Matthew 6:9-13)
- 5. Page 112, Question 3: What happens as a result of giving the first part to God? (Proverbs 3:10)
- 6. Page 112, Question 8: What did God promise to do if His people would give Him the whole tithe? (Malachi 3:10-12)

Home Study Assignment

Complete Chapter Four, Lessons 1-4 (pages 47–54) in *The Purple Book*, and watch Session Six of Pastor Randy's Biblical Foundations videos for next week.

SESSION SIX DISCUSSION GUIDE THE SPIRIT-FILLED LIFE

Introduction

Welcome and open in prayer. Introduce any new members who have come for the first time.

Group opener question:

• How has this Small Group impacted the way you connect with and view God?

Session Six Video Overview

The Baptism with the Holy Spirit is:

- Our <u>Birthright</u>: "For John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now" (Acts 1:5)
- A Gateway to <u>Spirit-empowered living</u> (Acts 3:6)
- Promised by Jesus (John 14:16-18)
- Scriptural Mandate (Ephesians 5:17-18)

The Pattern that we see in the Bible

Salvation \rightarrow Water Baptism \rightarrow Baptism with the Holy Spirit (Acts 19:2-6)

The Promise of the Holy Spirit

The baptism of the Holy Spirit is first mentioned in Matthew 3:11, "I (John the Baptist) indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire."

The Day of Pentecost

Pentecost is fifty days after Christ's resurrection. In Acts 2 on the Day of Pentecost, the Disciples, along with 108 others, were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages. Every nation heard "the wonderful works of God" (Acts 2:5-13). After Peter was filled with the Holy Spirit, he became emboldened to preach the first New Testament message (Acts 2:6-40) where he referred back to the "Promise of the Father" (Acts 2:33) and about 3,000 were saved (Acts 2:41).

The Power Encounters

The disciples before and after: Before the disciples encountered the Holy Spirit, they were insecure, jealous, fearful, and disunified. After their encounter with the Holy Spirit, they were deferential, practiced the nine fruits of the spirit, operated in a personal prayer language, and became the Apostles.

The Provision of the Holy Spirit

"You shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit..." (Acts 2:38-39)

The Holy Spirit is God's gift to us. According to **1 Corinthians 12:7-10**, there are nine gifts of the Holy Spirit: words of wisdom, words of knowledge, faith, gifts of healings, working of miracles, prophecy, discerning of spirits, different kinds of tongues, and interpretation of tongues.

When we are baptized in the Holy Spirit, we can also receive a personal prayer language **(1 Corinthians 14:14-15)**. ("Tongues" translated in Greek = "glossa" meaning "languages")

The Purpose of the Holy Spirit

Our prayers can become more effective when we pray in the Spirit. Romans 8:26 says, "Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weakness. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered."

"But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit." (Jude 1:20)

Another purpose of the Holy Spirit is to refill us when we begin to leak. Because we live in a fallen world, it's important that we continually fill ourselves with the Holy Spirit. **(Ephesians 5:18)**

The Prayer for the Holy Spirit

How do I get baptized or filled with the Spirit? Ask in faith. (Luke 11:10-13)

Example: Heavenly Father, I am a believer. I am your child and you are my Father. Jesus is my Lord. Lord, I believe with all my heart that your Word is true. Your Word says if I ask, I'll receive the Holy Spirit. So, in the name of Jesus, I am asking You to fill me to overflowing with your precious Holy Spirit. Jesus, baptize me today in the Holy Spirit. Because of your Word, I now receive, and I thank You for it. I believe the Holy Spirit is in me and by faith I accept it. Holy Spirit, rise up within me as I praise God. I fully expect to walk in power as You give me Your spiritual gifts. In Jesus' name, Amen!

The Purple Book Discussion Questions

- 1. Page 48, Question 1: Who is the Holy Spirit? (John 14:16, John 14:17)
- 2. Page 50, Question 6: What must we do to bear spiritual fruit? (John 15:4-5)
- 3. Page 50, Question 7: What does it mean to "remain in the vine?" (John 15:4-7)
- 4. Page 50, Question 8: What are the fruits of the Spirit? (Galatians 5:22-23)
- 5. Page 52, Question 3: What are the "manifestations of the Spirit" that are given for the common good? **(1 Corinthians 12:4-11)**
- 6. Page 52, Question 5: What should be our motivation for desiring and using our spiritual gifts? **(1Corinthians 13:1-12)**
- 7. Page 54, Question 4: Read the following five accounts of people who received the Holy Spirit in the book of Acts. How did they receive the Spirit? What happened when they received God's Spirit? (Acts 2:1-6, Acts 8:14-19, Acts 9:17-19, Acts 10:44-48, Acts 19:1-6)

Home Study Assignment

Consider joining or leading a Biblical Foundations Two small group. It covers chapters seven through twelve in *The Purple Book.*