

LESSON 1

The Purpose of a God-Focused School

THE
INNER MAN



What Is the Purpose of Our Christian School?

- **Ephesians 4:11–13**
 - Same As Purpose of Local Church
 - Perfecting of the Saints
 - Work of the Ministry
- **Produce Mature Believers for Christian Service**

This Goal Is Not Popular

- **Growth Takes Time**
- **Difficult to Measure Maturity**
- **Higher Standards Help Produce Maturity**

**“Smooth seas do
not make skillful
sailors.”**

—African proverb

A Mature, God-Focused Christian Youth

- **Ephesians 4:12–32**
- **Saved**
- **Stable in the Word**
- **Submitting**

A Mature, God-Focused Christian Youth (cont.)

- Sharing
- Separated

How Do We Produce Mature Teens?

- **What Doesn't Develop Christian Youth**
 - Excitement
 - Fun
 - Activities
 - Food
 - Entertainment
 - Promotional Gimmicks

How Do We Produce Mature Teens? (cont.)

- Nothing is wrong with these things, but they will not produce a mature Christian
- They are *enhancing* ingredients

Essential Ingredients for Spiritual Growth

- Knowing God's Glory
 - Colossians 1:9–11
- Growing in God's Glory
 - 2 Corinthians 3:18
- Showing God's Glory
 - Psalm 145:10–12

Our Program

- **Gradual, Sequential Growth**
- **Growth According to a Divine Order**
- **Salvation Is Beginning of Growth**
- **Mature Service Is Conclusion of Growth**

Five Areas of Growth

- Faith
- Virtue
- Knowledge
- Character
- Service

Developing These Five Areas

- Bible classes
- Chapel
- Academics

Developing These Five Areas (cont.)

- Scripture Memory
- Extracurricular and Other Opportunities

Final Considerations

- **We Do Everything with a Definite Purpose**
 - To know God
 - To ensure your maturity into Christian adulthood

Become a Five-Star Youth

- **Commit Yourself to Know, Grow in, and Show God's glory**
- **Discipline Yourself and Seek God's Strength**

Our Purpose

Mature, God-Focused
Youth for Christian
Ministry

1. Saved

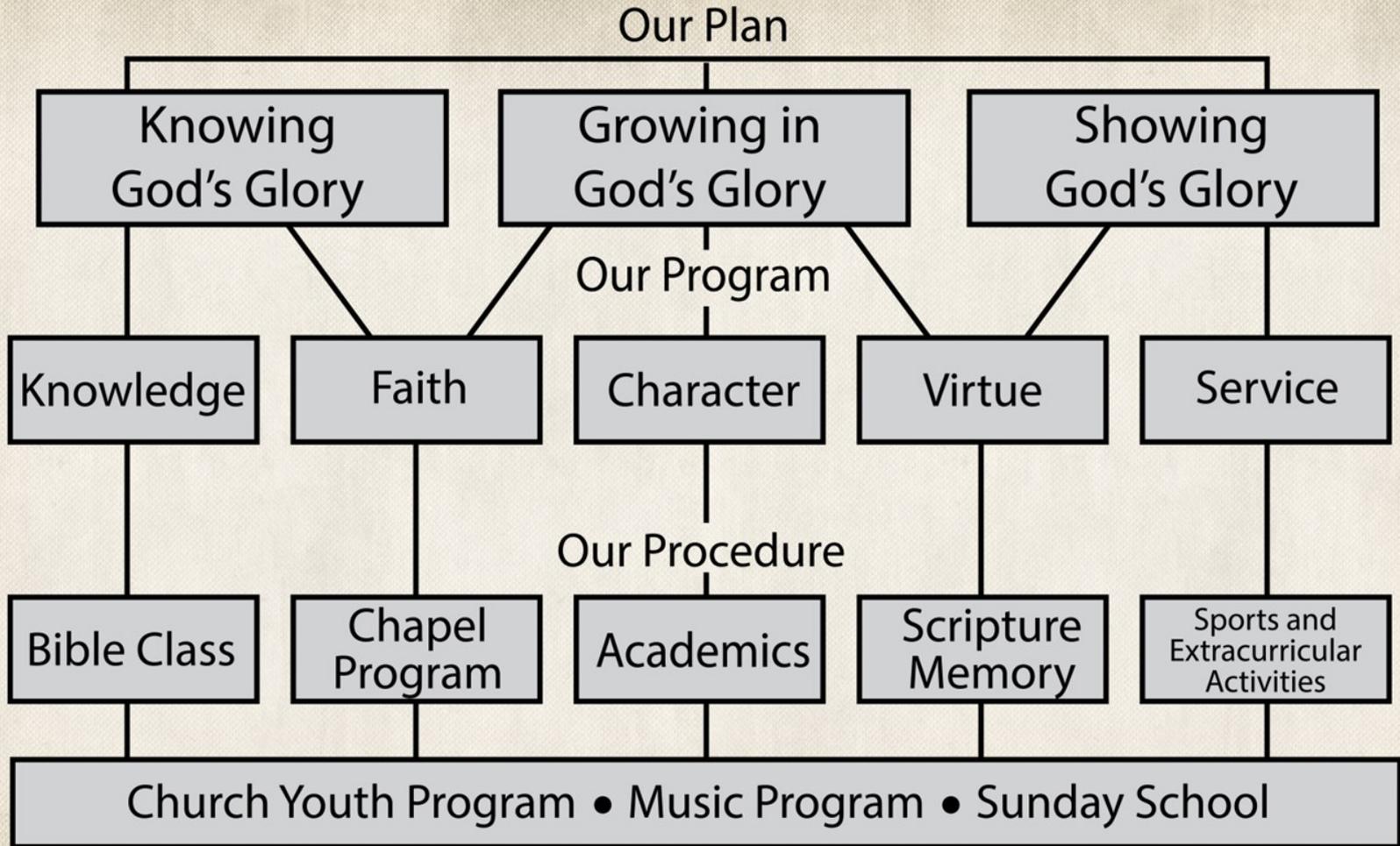


2. Stable in the Word

3. Submitting

5. Separated

4. Sharing





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LESSON 2

God's Plan for My Life

THE
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God Brings Good from Every Circumstance

- Romans 8:28

William Carey

- **Lost Bible Translation Work in Fire**
 - Carey, Ward, and Marshman's response
- **What Good Came from Their Experience?**

Joseph

- His Brothers Hated Him
- They Sold Him to the Ishmaelites
- They Sold Him as a Slave

Joseph (cont.)

- Potiphar's Wife Falsely Accused Him
- He Was Cast Into Prison
- What Good Came Out of This?

The Israelites

- **Why Did God Allow Enslavement in Egypt?**

David

- **Boyhood Spent Tending Sheep**
 - An Undesirable Job
 - Dangers, Weariness
 - Potential Boredom and Loneliness
- **God's Plan for David's Life**

David (cont.)

- **God Needed a King for Israel (Ps. 78:70–72)**
 - A shepherd's caring heart
 - Food and protection for his people
 - Skillful, Deep Thinker, Great Character

What Is God Making You?

- **A Mature Christian**
- **God Allows Trying Circumstances**
 - Lamentations 3:27

Why God Allows Problems

- **To Drive Us to His Word**
 - Psalm 119:71
- **To Build Character Into Us**
 - Romans 8:29

Why God Allows Problems (cont.)

- **To Give Us Grace**
 - James 4:6

A Wrong Response

- Complaining and Gripping Are Not Christian Virtues

What Should Be Our Attitude in All Circumstances?

- **Joy Always**
- **Thankfulness in Everything**
- **Contentment in All Situations**



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LESSON 3

The God I Serve

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Introduction

- **Our Expectations of God's Greatness and Power**
- **Vision of God to Men in the Bible**
 - Awe
 - Abhorring self
 - New sense of responsibility

The Need for a Vision of God

- Exodus 33:11–23
- Exodus 34:5–8
- Exodus 34:28–35
- Why Did Moses Want and Need This Vision of God?

What We Need to Know to Serve God

- God's Thoughts and Actions
 - Exodus 33:13
- God's Character
- God's Goodness and Glory
 - Exodus 33:18–19

The Form of the Vision

God Revealed in the Old Testament

- Hebrews 1:1
- In Person to Moses and Others
- By Inspiration to the Prophets
- Through Dreams and Interpretations

God Revealed in the Old Testament (cont.)

- In a Whirlwind
- In a Still, Small Voice
- In a Burning Bush
- Through a Donkey

God Revealed in the New Testament

- God Spoke Through Christ
 - John 1:14, 18

God Revealed in the Church Age

- God Speaks Through His Word
 - 1 Corinthians 13:9–12

The Effect of the Vision

- **Moses**
 - Moses worshipped
 - His countenance changed

The Effect of the Vision (cont.)

- Isaiah
 - Cried “Woe is me!”
 - Surrendered his life

The Effect of the Vision (cont.)

- Joshua
 - Fell on his face
 - Submitted
 - Joshua Served

The Pattern

- **Vision ▶ Self-abhorrence ▶
Self-abasement ▶ Worship ▶
Surrender ▶ Service ▶
Changed Life**

The Awesomeness of the Vision

- What about God struck these men with awe?
 - Goodness and Glory of God
 - Holiness of God
 - Authority and Power of God



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