

Foundations of Faith

For New Believers

Leaders Manual

By Nigel Brown

& Sharif George

Parvus Magna Press
5 Ambleside Close, Leyton, London, E10 5RU
Email: sic@pmpress.co.uk
Website: www.pmpress.co.uk

© 2013 by Sharif George and Nigel Brown

Nigel Brown and Sharif George have asserted their right under the copyright, designs and patents act 1988, to be identified as authors of this work.

All rights reserved. No part of this publication (excluding the student notes sheets) may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without the prior permission of the publisher or the Copyright Licensing Agency.

FIRST EDITION - MAY 2013

SECOND EDITION – September 2015

British Library Cataloguing in Publication Data

A catalogue record and a copy of this book are available from the British Library

ISBN: 978-1-910372-00-5

Parvus Magna Press publishes limited run and niche interest books in the UK. If you would like to see your book in print please email your manuscript to sic@pmpress.co.uk

Contents

| | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Introduction – Be Ready | 5 |
| 1. What Went Wrong | 13 |
| Romans' Road..... | 32 |
| 2. Funeral Service for the Old Man | Error! Bookmark not defined. |
| 3. Spiritual Warfare | Error! Bookmark not defined. |
| 4. The Baptism of the Holy Spirit | Error! Bookmark not defined. |
| 5. Knocking on Heaven's Door | Error! Bookmark not defined. |
| 6. Invitation to Feast..... | Error! Bookmark not defined. |
| 7. The Place to Be | Error! Bookmark not defined. |
| 8. Culture Shock | Error! Bookmark not defined. |
| 9. Heavenly Investment..... | Error! Bookmark not defined. |
| 10. Fascinated by the Future..... | Error! Bookmark not defined. |
| Glossary of Terms..... | Error! Bookmark not defined. |

Introduction – Be Ready

The Teacher

The role of the teacher is very often amalgamated into the role of the pastor but it is also a very specific anointing or calling, included in Paul's list in Ephesians.

*And He Himself gave some to be apostles,
some prophets, some evangelists, and some
pastors and teachers,*

Ephesians 4:11

There is a special blessing on teachers in the Bible and the teacher is numbered with the apostles and preachers as those who are called by God to a special work and a special anointing.

For that reason, it is important to realise that as well as there being many warnings about shepherds not feeding the flock there is also this very stern warning from James specifically for teachers.

My brethren, let not many of you become teachers, knowing that we shall receive a stricter judgment.

James 3:1

The judgement relates to teaching properly and teaching correct doctrine it is also a warning to the teacher to make sure they know their doctrine.

The Teachers Role

The teacher's role in society has changed a lot over the years so that education has become almost entirely vocational teaching. The number of times my own children have come home telling me they are going to take "X" or "Y" so they can "get a better job", whatever happened to a love of learning?

Of course, part of the role of the Bible teacher is to instil truth into his class so that they are equipped for every good work (2 Timothy 3:17) whether that be evangelism on the streets, in their homes or in a pulpit ministry as a pastor or an evangelist.

The teacher prepares his students so they are able to answer those that question their faith. But also the teacher prepares the student for testing and trials of faith. Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God. There is a direct correlation between faith and the Word of God.

"Faith is having the audacity to take God at his word. "

Smith Wigglesworth

The other far more important role of the Bible teacher is to instil into the student a love for their Bible and for learning everything that it can teach them.

One of the great privileges of the teaching ministry is watching people fall in love with the Bible and seeing them "get it", watching the student grow in their knowledge of God and in faith.

Our job as teachers is to teach a love for the Bible, so our students leave our classes hungry for more and eager to move up from milk to solid food.

As you work through these next few chapters it is important to realise that your love for the word of God and for the subjects that you teach will be transferred or instilled into the hearts of your hearers and if you can get them into a love affair with the word of God then you will have done your job well.

If you are able to instil into your hearers a strong and earnest desire to know more and more of God's Word, you will not only equip them for the present but you will also give them the tools to work out their own salvation with fear and trembling and start the mustard seed of faith growing.

So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Romans 10:17

The more a person gets into the Word of God, the more faith they will have when the trials hit and the better resource they will have to survive the buffeting of the enemy.

Jesus tells of the sower who sowed seed and some fell on shallow ground where it quickly grew up and then withered and died for want of soil to bury its roots. What if the farmer took time to find those seeds and get them planted deeply into good soil?

It is part of a teacher's role to cultivate the soil and be sure that the seed has the best possible chance of growing and producing fruit.

Throughout the 10 weeks of this New Believers' course you will get the amazing opportunity to turn your hearers into seekers after truth and help them acquire a taste for the word of God.

Connections

The new believers' class aims to connect the class together in relationship with each other, with members of the church, the teacher and also with the word of God.

Give plenty of time for questions during the study, get the students involved, the more input and interaction you get the better.

Keep it Simple!

DON'T read the book to the class!

We have experimented widely with different formats for the study and we have found that the ideal format is as set out below:-

- Prayer - Start off the evening opening in prayer and ask God into the room.
- Study
 - Encourage the students to take notes, the student sheets and student book are both intended for that purpose.
 - The maximum time for the study section should be 45 minutes including questions. Allow questions in place of the material if you can.
 - The material provided is enough for a 30 minutes study allowing 15 minutes for questions.
 - When going through notes take the questions as you go along, this will break up the study and make it a little less formal.
 - The idea is that the study is more an informative discussion rather than a classroom.
- After the study take some time for fellowship and also take some time to allow people to come to you and ask you questions privately.

Preparation

The Leaders manual is divided into 10 subjects each split into two parts.

The first part is an outline of the study and contains three points (each approx. 10 minutes) with some pointers to help form the study.

The second part of the chapter is some source material to help you get to grips with the subject. It contains some interesting quotes and of course the key scriptures for the subject.

To prepare for the study take some time to study through the subject yourself and make your notes to fill out the outline to your own satisfaction.

Don't include too much information at this stage but be sure you have enough to answer any key questions that may arise.

DON'T read the book to the class!

Notes

1. What Went Wrong – Outline

The first lesson is all about salvation. To understand salvation we must realise how we got to the position of needing a saviour and also understand how lost we are without one.

What went wrong [Romans 5:12]

Perfect Start [Genesis 1:26ff]

The Fall

The fall [Romans 5:12]

The Curse [Genesis 3:17]

Fallen Man [Romans 3:10]

The Law [Mark 10:17 - 19]

Wages of Sin [Romans 6:23]

None Righteous [Rom 3:23]

God's Salvation through Jesus [Romans 5:8]

God's Plan [Isaiah 53:1 - 5]

Jesus and the Cross [Romans 6:10]

Our Hope [Romans 10:9 - 13]

1. What Went Wrong

What you will find below is much more material than you need for the 30 minute study. Use this study as a basis for your own notes - the idea is that you **don't read it all out!**

What is it about man, which God would condescend to save him? Why on earth does man need saving and what from?

The idea of this lesson is to guide the new believer through the salvation story so they understand what went wrong and how God rectified it. The new believer should come out of the class with a firm assurance of their salvation by the grace of God.

Perfect start

Man had the perfect start, everything he needed was created for him and with him in mind.

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."

Genesis 1:26

And God's declaration on the sixth day when he surveyed his whole creation was – "it is good".

Then He rested.

Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good. So the evening and the morning were the sixth day.

Genesis 1:31

The universe God created was the perfect environment to accommodate the Earth and the Earth was created as the perfect environment for Man. Everything was created to function in perfect order and harmony, for this was to be enjoyed by mankind

God wanted children who were like Him. So, He created a perfect world so that those He loved could live with Him forever.

Man was made in the image of God, with God's likeness which included something amazing which was unique to God – he gave man the gift of free will.

The fall

The Garden was the perfect paradise but there lurked in it a sinister enemy to mankind.

Enter the Enemy...

Satan hates everything God loves - why is that? We know that Satan was not always evil and sinister.

"Full of wisdom, and perfect beauty... every precious stone was your covering... you were the anointed cherub who covers... perfect in your ways from the day you were created, till iniquity was found in you."

Ezekiel 28:12-19

Ezekiel gives quite a detailed picture of the beauty and wisdom of Satan when he was originally created.

All things were created good; including Satan who is also known as Lucifer, which means Bright Star.

Lucifer was full of pride and rebellion and wanted to be higher than God!

For you have said in your heart: 'I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will also sit on the mount of the congregation on the farthest sides of the north; I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the most High.'

Isaiah 14:13 -14

Yet you shall be brought down to Sheol, to the lowest depths of the Pit.

Isaiah 14:15

So Satan fell - actually he was thrown out of the heaven and from the high position he had.

"How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning. How you are cut down to the ground, you who weakened the nations.

Isaiah 14:12

And He said to them, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven.

Luke 10:18

The fall of man

Man had been given the ultimate gift by God - his freedom of choice, his ability to choose. Satan, knowing that this freedom of choice was man's greatest strength, came to test that strength.

Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made.

Genesis 3:1

Satan's approach in the Garden was to drive a wedge between God and His creation.

There was just one crucial commandment that God had given to Adam and Eve and Satan targeted that single commandment and their freedom of choice.

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."

Genesis 2:16-17

Satan targeted their freedom to choose to obey in love.

Then the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

Genesis 3:4-5

Not only does Satan call God a liar but he also tempts Eve with the same power he himself craved and knew he could not get.

Adam and Eve broke God's commandment by eating the forbidden fruit and through this disobedience allowed a curse to separate them from God.

Did they die for it?

Yes. First they died spiritually and were separated from God and later they died physically.

That is how sin works to break man's relationship with God, who is Holy, then it kills the body.

It's more or less the same strategy as he is using now; trying to get people to doubt God's goodness, His sovereignty, His Love and His motives.

The curse

The result of the fall was Mankind became separated from God and subject to physical and spiritual death.

Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned.

Romans 5:12

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.

Genesis 3:17

Death genetically entered our bloodstream and there passed from generation to generation the trait of sin and disobedience.

Children do not have to be taught to lie or fight or cheat, they do it naturally, it is in their nature, the bedrock of their being.

Our greatest problem is not just our conduct, it is our condition, and we sin because it is our nature to sin, and we have inherited this nature from Adam.

A lot of people who believe that there probably is a God often think that He's light years away and nothing to do with their real, everyday lives man instinctively feels he is separated from God.

Fallen man

So man fell and with that fall was introduced into his very nature sin. Insidious and all-pervading, it clings to the very fibre of his being and history has taught us that there is no depravity too low for man to sink to.

being filled with all unrighteousness, sexual immorality, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness;

full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, evil-mindedness; they are whisperers, backbiters, haters of God, violent, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, undiscerning, untrustworthy, unloving, unforgiving, unmerciful;

who, knowing the righteous judgment of God, that those who practice such things are deserving of death, not only do the same but also approve of those who practice them.

Romans 1:29-32

Paul when speaking to the Roman Church points out that there are none righteous - not one.

What then? Are we better than they? Not at all. For we have previously charged both Jews and Greeks that they are all under sin.

As it is written: "there is none righteous, no, not one; there is none who understands; there is none who seeks after God. They have all turned aside; they have together become unprofitable; there is none who does good, no, not one...."

Romans 3:9-13

Even in the psalms we find evidence of the wickedness of man.

They have all turned aside, they have together become corrupt; There is none who does good, No, not one.

Psalms 14:3

Man needed some guidance on how to be right and how to be Godly, the further away from the perfect creation he got; the quieter the voice of conscience became and the worse became his sins.

The Law

When God rescued his people from Egypt and the Egyptian gods, he took them out into the desert and he gave them the most perfect law there ever was.

The law was given through Moses and was written for him by the finger of God himself to prove it was His divine will.

The law was intended to show man the way he should go, it was not intended to replace faith but was intended as a school-teacher or shadow of what was desired.

For the law, having a shadow of the good things to come, and not the very image of the things, can never with these same sacrifices, which they offer continually year by year, make those who approach perfect.

Hebrews 10:1

The Law was not intended to be the final arbiter or the route of salvation. Repentance and faith were always intended to save mankind.

Cast away from you all the transgressions which you have committed, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit. For why should you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of one who dies," says the Lord GOD. "Therefore turn and live!"

Ezekiel 18:31-32

The law was intended to show man his inability to do right and his need of a saviour. It was the school teacher.

Turn and Live is an excellent definition of repentance. Repentance means to turn 180 degrees or to face the other way.

Therefore the law was our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith.

Galatians 3:24

And it was always intended that faith would be paramount

"Behold the proud, His soul is not upright in him; But the just shall live by his faith.

Habakkuk 2:4

Faith is hearing what God says and doing it in spite of what your flesh desires you to do. Faith is taking God at His Word.

The wages of Sin

The wages of sin are recorded throughout the law. As you read through the law it is almost startling how many things were capital offences.

There are hundreds of scriptures that simply state the wages of sin is death.

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 2:17

The New Testament records that the wages of sin is death.

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 6:23

"Behold, all souls are Mine; The soul of the father as well as the soul of the son is Mine; The soul who sins shall die.

Ezekiel 18:4

None righteous

Sin is inherited, it is passed down the line and there are none at all who live up to the standard as described by The Bible.

As it is written: "there is none righteous, no, not one;

Romans 3:10

But this is not limited to the New Testament, even David saw this when he wrote.

Every one of them has turned aside; they have together become corrupt; there is none who does good, No, not one.

Psalms 53:3

The Pharisees prided themselves on their obedience to the law but Jesus went further than the Pharisees and drew out the very essence of what the law was.

He gave the law and then explained what it meant and with His explanations it is clear to see that we have all fallen short of the Glory of God.

"You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'YOU SHALL NOT MURDER, and whoever murders will be in danger of the judgment.'

But I say to you that whoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment. And whoever says to his brother, 'Raca!' shall be in danger of the council. But whoever says, 'You fool!' shall be in danger of hell fire.

Matthew 5:21-22

In the Revelation of John we have a list of people who will not inherit the Kingdom but will go to Hell.

But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death."

Revelation 21:8

We know that God can search out sin and destroy it. Nothing is hidden from God, no sin will remain hidden forever – God sees.

"For His eyes are on the ways of man, and He sees all his steps. There is no darkness nor shadow of death where the workers of iniquity may hide themselves.

Job 34:21-22

We are without hope if we are in sin, the law is there to teach us that we are sinful and cannot get to God by our own righteousness. It is there to teach us we need a saviour

God's Salvation through Jesus

In the beginning it was intended that man would live eternally with God in the garden of Eden but through

Adam's act of sin he introduced man to mortality; that is man became 'doomed to death' and we have inherited through Adams blood the curse of death.

Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned

Romans 5:12

We are not sinners because we sin, but we sin because we are sinners.

We needed a plan of salvation that was sufficient to bridge the vast gap between these two infinite extremes. Man's sinfulness and God's holiness.

God's Plan - Jesus

God ordained the shedding of blood for the remission of sins.

In the Old Testament law if you committed a sin then you were required to bring a sacrifice and as the sacrifice was killed, your sins were imputed to it.

Also for Adam and his wife the LORD God made tunics of skin, and clothed them.

Genesis 3:21

And according to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no remission.

Hebrews 9:22

That word remission means forgiveness and deliverance.

G859 – ἀφ᾽ἑσῆς – aphasis – remission
freedom; (figuratively) pardon: -
deliverance, forgiveness, liberty, remission.

God was willing to accept an animal sacrifice to pay the penalty of the sins of man rather than take man's blood and life.

The priest shall take some of the blood of the sin offering with his finger, put it on the horns of the altar of burnt offering, and pour its blood at the base of the altar of burnt offering.

Leviticus 4:25

But the blood of bulls and rams was never enough; the children of Israel had to continually offer these sacrifices before God as they were continually unable to keep the law.

For the law, having a shadow of the good things to come, and not the very image of the things, can never with these same sacrifices, which they offer continually year by year, make those who approach perfect. For then would they not have ceased to be offered? For the worshipers, once purified, would have had no more consciousness of sins.

Hebrews 10:1-2

God's plan was to pay for our sin once and for all with a perfect sin offering that DID have the power to cover all sins.

'For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

John 3:16

At the heart of God's plan of salvation is the function of a mediator; one who can go between a Holy God and a helpless and sinful man.

For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus,

1 Timothy 2:5

To be a mediator for God, He must be God and to represent mankind he must be man.

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

John 1:14

So Jesus became a man and dwelt amongst us. Here he was tempted as we are tempted and suffered even as we suffer.

Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.

Hebrews 2:14-17

Jesus and the Cross

Jesus partook of flesh and blood in order that he might die

Jesus answered, 'Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. Christ came into this world for the express purpose of giving himself a ransom for our sins.

1 John 3:5

"just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."

Matthew 20:28

"He then would have had to suffer often since the foundation of the world; but now, once at the end of the ages, He has appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself.

Hebrews 9:26

The only basis on which a Holy God could forgive the sin of man, was by His Son bearing the penalty of the sinner's guilt. Jesus paid the price for our sins by dying. The penalty of sin is fully paid.

For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

2 Corinthians 5:21

Justice has been met, Satan can't complain. It is the perfect answer. God has not just ignored man's disobedience and sin, but has made a way where sin can be utterly cancelled and therefore man can enter his presence as if he never sinned.

Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,

Romans 5:1

For the death that He died, He died to sin once for all; but the life that He lives, He lives to God.

Romans 6:10

Our hope

Jesus Christ not only died but rose again from the dead. Death was completely defeated and the sacrifice complete and acceptable. It fulfilled all the legal requirements of the law.

Moreover, brethren, I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand, by which also you are saved, if you hold fast that word which I preached to you--unless you believed in vain.

For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures,

1 Corinthians 15:1-4

The tomb is empty and this is our hope that even as Christ died and rose again from the dead, even so will we rise in the second resurrection.

Our hope is in the empty tomb, evidence that sin and death could not hold Him captive.

that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.

For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. For the Scripture says, "WHOEVER BELIEVES ON HIM WILL NOT BE PUT TO SHAME."

For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord over all is rich to all who call upon Him. For "WHOEVER CALLS ON THE NAME OF THE LORD SHALL BE SAVED."

Romans 10:9-13

He is alive and continually mediates between us and God.

Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned--

Romans 5:12

For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "THE JUST SHALL LIVE BY FAITH."

Romans 1:16-17

There is a transaction.

Jesus has reconciled us back to God.

But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name:

John 1:12

Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,

Romans 5:1

Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him.

Romans 5:9

And not only that, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received the reconciliation.

Romans 5:11

But the free gift is not like the offence. For if by the one man's offence many died, much more the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ, abounded to many.

Romans 5:15

Complete forgiveness by faith and grace.

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.

Ephesians 2:8-9

Who forgives all your iniquities, who heals all your diseases,

Psalms 103:3

As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us.

Psalms 103:12

"No more shall every man teach his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD, 'for they all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them, says the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more."

Jeremiah 31:34

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1 John 1:9

The message of the New Testament is a message of God's perfect mercy and forgiveness for you and I. Jesus has satisfied God's judgement for sin, we can't and will never be able to satisfy it.

No wonder scripture records this as "So great a salvation"

Recommended Reading

The Bible in the light of Our Redemption – E. W. Kenyon

More than a Carpenter – Josh McDowell

Romans' Road

Romans 3:10 As it is written: "There Is None Righteous, No, Not One;"

Romans 3:23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

Romans 5:12 Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned-

Romans 5:8 But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 10:9-13 that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.

10 For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

11 For the Scripture says, "WHOEVER BELIEVES ON HIM WILL NOT BE PUT TO SHAME."

12 For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord over all is rich to all who call upon Him.

13 For "WHOEVER CALLS ON THE NAME OF THE LORD SHALL BE SAVED."