

FOLLOW-UP BIBLE STUDIES  
TO  
PERSONAL APPEARANCES

CONCEPT

An integral part of the personal appearance program is the follow-up Bible Studies. These studies are intended to capitalize upon the initial impact made upon interested people by those appearances.

All who have attended the personal appearances and are interested in learning more about Christianity should be encouraged to attend these special Bible Studies.

IMPLEMENTATION

1. Announcement of Bible Studies

During both nights of the program, the emcee will announce that a special series of Bible Studies will be held for all those present wishing to attend. The people will be told that this will be a way to learn more about this Work, the solution toward problems and God's way of life. When possible the speaker will be present for the first study. This will aid in making a smooth transition from the featured speaker to the local pastor.

2. Approach to Bible Studies

The study series should continue for six weekly meetings. In most cases this series will replace the present by-weekly studies in the local area. Plan to skip one or two nights following the personal appearance before the actual study begins. The length of the Bible Study should be one and one-half hours.

3. Format of Service

Basically the same as that of regular Bible Studies: opening prayer and introductory comments before getting into Biblical topic. Also, we suggest that if there are questions they be answered in the last half hour of the study. Some can be carried over a week or so for further study.

## BIBLE STUDY OUTLINES

The following is a set of Bible Study outlines we hope will be of assistance in preparing your follow-up series. These outlines are intended to be guidelines in developing a cohesive program of six studies best suited for your audience.

### Study Series:

1. Why Were You Born?
2. Does God Exist?
3. Where Is God's Church Today?
4. What Is Required for Salvation?
5. Repentance and Baptism
6. The Sabbath

## WHY WERE YOU BORN?

Introduction Idea:

Most people today do not understand why humanity was created and put here on earth. Many have never considered the fact that there is an intelligent and almighty Creator and that mankind was created for a definite purpose.

The first three studies in this series must provide a solid foundation on which individuals newly exposed to the Truth can rebuild their lives. For that reason we are recommending the initial subjects be (1) "Why Were You Born?" (2) "Does God Exist?" (3) "Is The Bible God's Word?".

It has suddenly become imperative that mankind find out why he was created. Suddenly, humanity's number one problem has become the question of SURVIVAL. Time is fast running out--and there seem to be no answers!

Is it possible there may exist a source able to shed new light on this life and death question? The question "Why Were You Born?" has baffled science, religion, education and government throughout history. What is the truth on this most important of all questions?

We recommend that you thoroughly digest the booklet "Why Were You Born?" and expound this subject during the first Bible Study, carefully emphasizing and explaining the scriptures in the booklet. This subject provides a reason and foundation for further study.

## DOES GOD EXIST?

Introduction Idea:

People are looking for proof that God exists. Can the existence of God be scientifically proved? Is it possible within the 20th century to know whether an omnipotent, omniscient supernatural Being really exists?

Challenge the audience to face this question. Is it rational to believe in God? Is God merely a myth--an invention of an ignorant superstitious past? Can mankind afford to assume that God does or does not exist?

We recommend you simply digest and outline the booklet "Does God Exist?". It has proved vital in past experience to establish a solid foundation for these new prospective members. They all need to know, to be sure that God exists.

In addition, you could cover several of the seven proofs of God:

- (1) Creation
- (2) Law
- (3) Design
- (4) Life
- (5) Fulfilled prophecy
- (6) Answered prayer
- (7) Reproduction by Kind

In addition, evolution must prove:

- (1) Life develops from inorganic matter.
- (2) Species can jump species of itself in successive generations.
- (3) Change is always improvement.
- (4) Simple fossils are always oldest and on the bottom layer.

## WHERE IS GOD'S CHURCH TODAY?

Introduction Idea:

Most people are offended by those who say, "I have the truth, my church is THE Church!" Most of us have felt this way ourselves. We see so many differing groups that we have to conclude "How can they all be right?"

Is there one God with one standard of conduct? Or does God have MANY standards? Does God take an "anything goes" approach? We have learned there is a God and why we were born--now we'll also see there is only one TRUE CHURCH.

Eph. 4:3-6

ONE BODY = ONE CHURCH! Not many, many, differing, quarrelling sisters. Rather, God says it would be one Church, united in Spirit.

Eph. 5:25-32

Christ is to MARRY the church. This analogy would correctly show that Christ would have only ONE CHURCH--not many brides.

Take time to explain at least some of the signs of God's Church; for example:

- 1) Name of Church
- 2) Keeps Commandments:

Ex. 31:13-17

A sign of the True Church is that it keeps the Commandments of God.

- 3) Preaches gospel worldwide

Matt. 7:15-20

This very important key is that you can prove the True Church by the fruits it is producing. The True Church will be DOING the WORK of God by preaching the Gospel Worldwide.

Mark 16:14, 15

Here Christ left the Commission to His Church to preach the True Gospel Worldwide. This is being done, through the World Tomorrow on radio and TV and the Plain Truth magazine and other publications of this Work.

John 17:11

That True Church could be found by NAME! It would bear the name of the Father--"The Church of God."

Eph. 3:15

The whole Church rightly carries the name of the Head of the Family.

Acts 20:28

Paul, in many places, used the name--the Church of God.

I Pet. 5:1-3

Also, it is the responsibility of the ministry God calls to "feed the flock." This is done Worldwide through the local Churches God has called and organized. Thus, we have the incorporated name: "The Worldwide Church of God."

Matt. 16:18

Christ Himself built that Church.

Eph. 1:22, 23

He remains the Head of that Church. God's Church follows Christ's examples, teachings and doctrines--exactly as He set them down.

Luke 12:32

It was destined to be a LITTLE FLOCK. Not a huge denomination.

Matt. 7:13-14

Only a few in this present age would find God's True Church.

In the Autobiography of Herbert W. Armstrong, Mr. Armstrong writes of the beginning days of this era of God's Church. It is exciting to see how God was working out events in Mr. Armstrong's life so this Work could be done.

#### 4) Organization

Romans 10:14, 15

God has ALWAYS worked through men. He has called certain men to lead His Work and Church throughout the different eras since the days of Christ.

Eph. 4:11

Responsibilities within Church.

Acts 2:37-47

It is God who does the adding to the Church. He is calling many now to repentance and putting them into His True Church.

Your chance is now--and what a wonderful opportunity it is!