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| Elevate Groups | logo.jpg |
| logo.png | Leader Training Manual |

***“When God is Elevated,***

***LIVES CHANGE!”***

 rev.12.23.14

Dear Elevate Group Leader,

Welcome to Elevate Group Leader training! We are thrilled that you are partnering with us and becoming a group leader. We are so excited about the upcoming semester. Our hope is that by the end of this training session you will feel well equipped and all of your questions will be answered in how to have a successful small group.

Here at Elevate, we focus on these five things: Sunday Morning Service, Dream Team, Discovery Class, Coaching and SMALL GROUPS. The goal of small groups is to connect people with similar interest, in hopes that they as individuals will grow in their relationship with Christ as the body of believers grows as well. At the heart of each Elevate Group, should be found, a place for people to belong, serve and to grow.

Lastly, I would like to say that I am honored to be doing ministry with each and every one of you. My prayer is that each of our groups will be glorifying to God, because we know here at Elevate **“When God Is Elevated, Lives Change!!”**

Love each and every one of you,

Candice Gabriel

Small Group Administrator

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# SECTION 1:

# THE HEART OF ELEVATE GROUPS

“Connecting people with people”

**What We Do**

At Elevate Church, our vision is to do ONLY five things but do them very well:

1. WEEKEND SERVICES

2. SMALL GROUPS

3. DISCOVERY CLASS

4. DREAM TEAM

5. COACHING

As you can see, small groups are an important part of the vision of Elevate Church.

## Elevate Groups Provide Three Things

1. A place to **BELONG**.

*…Yes, I try to find common ground with everyone, doing everything I can to save some.* 1 Corinthians 9:22 (NLT)

It is easy to feel alone in a crowd. Elevate groups are an open door into the life of our church family and a place where you can meet new people.

1. A place to **SERVE**.

*We know what real love is because Christ gave up His life for us. And so we also ought to give up our lives for our Christian brothers and sisters.* (1 John 3:16 NLT)

We encourage all Elevate groups to participate in at least one service project per semester. Serving others as a group is a great way to impact our community, as well as grow closer as a group and have fun.

3. A place to **GROW**.

*As iron sharpens iron, so a friend sharpens a friend.* (Proverbs 27:17 NLT)

Elevate groups are a place you can be equipped to become more like Jesus and to live a faith-filled life through the study of God’s Word, prayer, and serving others.

## How Elevate Groups Work

1. Free market groups

Our groups are as varied as we are; group leaders use their gifts and passions to create a group that allows others to join with them in serving God. Whatever the age, interest, or location there is a group that is just right for you.

1. Three semesters

New groups start and stop three times a year—spring, summer and fall semesters. Each semester kicks off with an online registration and a new small group directory.

# SECTION 2:

# YOUR ROLE AS LEADER

## Leader Responsibilities

With the privilege of leadership comes responsibility. In his pastoral letter to Timothy, the Apostle Paul lists some standards for leadership.

*This is a trustworthy saying: “If someone aspires to be an elder, he desires an honorable position.” So an elder must be a man whose life is above reproach. He must be faithful to his wife. He must exercise self-control, live wisely, and have a good reputation. He must enjoy having guests in his home, and he must be able to teach. He must not be a heavy drinker or be violent. He must be gentle, not quarrelsome, and not love money. He must manage his own family well, having children who respect and obey him… In the same way, deacons must be well respected and have integrity. They must not be heavy drinkers or dishonest with money. They must be committed to the mystery of the faith now revealed and must live with a clear conscience… Those who do well as deacons will be rewarded with respect from others and will have increased confidence in their faith in Christ Jesus.* (1 Timothy 3:1-13, NLT)

## An Elevate Group Leader is:

1. Passionate about God and people.
2. A person of character and integrity.
3. Committed to personal spiritual growth.
4. Supportive of the vision and mission of the church.

 This includes:

* Attending a Sunday service
* Supporting the church financially through tithes and offerings

## Elevate Group Leader Job Description

**Prerequisites:**

1. Become a partner of Elevate Church and complete the Discovery Class
2. Attend Elevate Group Leadership Training

**Responsibilities:**

1. Pray for and coordinate weekly Elevate group meetings to include the following: Fellowship, Topic or Activity, Spiritual Component, and Service.
2. Pray daily for everyone in your Elevate group.
3. Be an example to your Elevate group members, developing them into future leaders.
4. Provide a supportive atmosphere in which Elevate group members are able to discover and develop their spiritual gifts.
5. Maintain unity by representing the philosophy of ministry and theology of Elevate Church.
6. Be open to counsel from the Small Groups Administrator and provide highlights and concerns about your Elevate group regularly.
7. Invite and welcome new people into your group.
8. Encourage group members to invite people who are unchurched.

## Understanding Your Role

Since Small Groups is one of the five Elevate Church strategies, your role as an Elevate Group Leader is very important. The goal is to have every person who attends Elevate in a small group. This includes people who attend weekly, as well as those who attend less frequently. Please also encourage members to bring their friends that do not attend church anywhere. The idea is to connect people and make some friends.

The ideal Elevate group will have 15-20 members consisting of a few folks who are already friends and a larger number of people who are new to you. Some will become friends and some will remain acquaintances. Both scenarios are a win. In subsequent semesters, each of these people will serve as connectors in their new Elevate group.

As you facilitate your group over the semester, you will be able to help members in your group move one step further in their walk with Christ. Some practical steps to accomplish this are:

* If a group member is not in a relationship with Christ, bring him/her to a **CHURCH SERVICE**.
* Encourage group members to be **WATER BAPTIZED**.
* Challenge group members to attend the **DISCOVERY CLASS**.
* Connect group members to the **DREAM TEAM**.

**Tips to Being a Successful Elevate Group Leader**

1. **PRAY DAILY** for group members. Tell them you are praying for them and encourage them to pray for each other.
2. **BE PREPARED** for each meeting. Read and study the material for the week. Start and end the meeting on time.
3. **COMMUNICATE** with group members weekly with encouragement and keep them informed of important events in your group. Phone or text people who miss a meeting.
4. **INVOLVE** everyone through serving the group by asking for group members to take turns coordinating food, sending out the weekly prayer requests, planning the service project, etc.
5. **FOSTER COMMUNICATION** within the group. Encourage them to fellowship outside of the group through phone conversations, email, or sharing a meal or coffee.
6. **RALLY** the group if a member goes through a crisis. Use wisdom and be sensitive!
7. **COMMUNICATE** regularly with the Elevate Small Groups Administrator.
8. **IDENTIFY** people in your group who could be potential Elevate group leaders in the future.

# SECTION 3:

# CREATING YOUR ELEVATE GROUP

## Group type

The first step is to decide on what type of group you want to lead. Do you want a group that centers on an activity such as a game night group? How about a group that focuses on a book study? Pick an area that interests you.

##

## Some possible group types:

* Special interest (studies on marriage, parenting, etc.)
* Basic spiritual growth (studies on specific books of the Bible, prayer, etc.)
* Community service (serving at the Jesus House, Regional Food Bank, etc.)
* Activity (bowling, golf, exercise, etc.)

## Things to Avoid:

* Business promotion
* Collecting offerings
* Unapproved speakers or material
* Closed or cliquish groups

##

## Day and Location

The day and time your group meets is completely up to you.

All Elevate groups are to meet outside of the church building. If you cannot meet in your own home, look for a host home (possibly the home of someone attending your group). Other possibilities for meeting locations include:

 Library conference room

 Recreation center

 Subdivision clubhouse

 Outdoors in a park

 Restaurant

 Coffee Shop

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# SECTION 4:

# FILLING YOUR ELEVATE GROUP

## Finding group members

Promotion for Elevate Groups will begin four weeks before the semester begins. Groups will be promoted from the stage by pastoral staff, notices in the Elevate bulletin, and posts on Facebook and the elevateokc.com website. While these promotions are great, they will not fill your group!

As group leader, it is your responsibility to fill your group. A personal invitation from the group leader is the most effective way to fill your group. You don’t have to know a person well to invite them to your group. Remember, the idea is to meet and connect people.

## Recruiting

* Start with people who are already in your sphere of influence (co-workers, friends, neighbors).
* Find people around you who are new to the church, new believers, or have shown interest in getting involved.
* Pray for God to send people to you who you haven’t already discovered.
* When people sign up for your group, encourage them to invite others.

## Small Group Fairs

We will host a Small Group Fair the two Sunday mornings before the semester start date. Before and after each service, people will have a chance to go around the lobby and get information about each Elevate Group. As a leader, you will have a chance to talk to people and invite them to your group.

## Sign Up Process

Group signups will open four weeks before the semester start date. People will be able to sign up for small groups in one of three ways:

1. Signup sheet at the Small Group Fair
2. Mark on Connection Card
3. Online at www.elevateokc.com

While we have official signup periods every semester, groups are always open. This will allow people new to Elevate to get connected faster than waiting for the next semester. You will be notified by the Elevate Small Groups administrator if someone wishes to join your group.

## New Member Connection

As each person signs up for an Elevate Group, they will be added to your Church Community Builder (CCB) group. CCB will send you an email as each person is added to your group. See Section 6 for more details about how to use CCB.

It is your responsibility to contact each person the week after they sign up. This is important! Introduce yourself and welcome them to your group. If you are doing a book study, remind them to purchase the book so they will have it for your first meeting. It is also a good idea to contact everyone in your group the day before you group starts to confirm meeting details.

#  SECTION 5:

# YOUR ELEVATE GROUP MEETING

## It’s here! You’ve done the hard work of creating and filling your Elevate group. Now it’s time for the fun to begin.

## First meeting

## We know the power of a first impression. A strong first meeting is the foundation of a successful semester. There are a few key things you must discuss with your group to get everyone on the same page and on the way to a great experience for everyone. There will be several things happening in your first meeting - introductions, prayer, eating, going over the curriculum and group covenant.

## Group Covenant

## The group covenant is an agreement between the members of the group and outlines the commitment that each person is making by being a member of the group.

## It is essential for your group to have a covenant in place. Keep in mind that no two groups’ covenants will look the same. Your covenant should be unique to your group. Some commitments to consider:

* **PRIORITY**- I will make this group a priority by attending each week.
* **TIME** - The group will start and end on time.
* **PARTICIPATION** - I will keep up with my assignments and participate in the discussion.
* **SERVE** - The group will participate in at least one service project this semester.
* **PRAYER** - I will pray for the members of my group.
* **CONFIDENTIALITY** - What is said in small group stays in small group.
* **OTHER**

## Key Dates

## At the first meeting, it is important to lay out a plan for the semester. Think through the following before the semester starts. Each member should be given the following information:

## When the group will be off (holidays)

## Decide when the group will do a service project

## If doing a book study, dates that each chapter will be discussed

## Party or fellowship date

## Date of the last group meeting

## Staying on time

## Your first meeting, and every meeting that follows, should start and end on time. It is your responsibility as the group leader to manage the timing of your group.

**Sample schedule for your first meeting**

(Adjust times according to your start/end time)

1. People arrive, talk and snack (15 min).
2. Pray (1 min).
3. Have people introduce themselves and share what they do, where they live and why they decided to join the group. (10 min)
4. Icebreaker. Have everyone tell three things about themselves, two true and one false. Have everyone try to guess which one is false. Any interactive game will work. (10 min)
5. Introduce group study briefly. Hand out Key Dates sheet. Answer any questions. (15 min)
6. Discuss and agree on Group Covenant. (15 min)
7. Explain and ask for volunteers for the different roles in the group: Snack coordinator, game coordinator, etc. (5 min)
8. Share prayer requests and pray together (10 min)
9. Talk and eat (15 min)

##

## Group Dynamics

* Create a welcoming and comfortable **ATMOSPHERE**. Greet everyone by name and introduce members to each other.
* Cultivate a **LIFE GIVING** atmosphere. Be a source of encouragement. You do not need to know all the answers or be the source of all wisdom. The Holy Spiritis there to help and guide you.
* Give time for **DISCUSSION**. Avoid doing all the talking. A good guideline is the “70-30” rule. Approximately 70% of the speaking should be from members and 30% from the leader.
* Keep the discussion **POSITIVE**. Carefully lead the conversation back to the topic when tangents occur. Where sensitive issues or complex questions arise in your group, follow up one-on-one after the meeting.
* Men should **MINISTER** to men and women to women. Couples may minister to a single.
* Steer the discussion in a direction where **EVERYONE** can participate.
* Be prepared to **CHANGE THE DIRECTION** of the meeting if needed. Do not allow gossip in your group. The primary goal is to create an environment where people feel loved and accepted.

**Childcare**

Childcare for adult Elevate groups will be the responsibility of each individual group.

Should you, the leader, decide to provide childcare remember that safety and supervision are paramount.

Also, as an Elevate group leader, you may become aware of individuals who would like to attend an Elevate group, but do not have the resources to pay for a babysitter each week. At Elevate Church, we believe that members should not miss the opportunity to participate in an Elevate group due to a financial burden. If this is the case, you should contact the Elevate Small Groups Administrator for other options &/or financial needs.

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# SECTION 6:

# USING CHURCH COMMUNITY BUILDER (CCB)

Elevate Church utilizes Church Community Builder (CCB) software as our church membership management system. All group information is managed through CCB.

CCB is your friend! It is the best way to get contact information for your members and communicate with them.

## Login to CCB

To access your group’s information, you will need to login to CCB. To do this, go to Elevate’s website (www.elevateokc.com), scroll to the bottom of the page and click on “CCB Login.”

## 1. Returning users.

Enter your username and password. If you have forgotten your information, click on “Forgot username or password?” and we will send you a reset link.

## 2. First time users

If you are new to CCB, you will need to create a password for yourself. From the Login page, click on “Sign Up” and follow the instructions. Once you login to CCB, please take a minute to make sure your profile information is correct. Click on your name in the top right-hand corner and select “Profile.”

## See your group

You can see a list of your groups from your home page. Everyone in the church belongs to the “Entire Church Group,” and you can ignore this. Your group should be listed as well. Click on your group to go to your group’s page.

Under the “Actions” tab on the right, you can add people to your group, edit your group settings, and send a message to the entire group.

In the center of the page, there is a link to the participants of your group. Click “View” to see the list. You should be the Main Leader of the group. The Elevate Small Group Administrator will be listed as an assistant leader.

For each member of your group, there will be a phone number and email address listed. Use this information to contact your members. You will receive an email every time a new member is added to your group.

# SECTION 7:

# ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

**Elevate Church: What We Believe**

1. About God

God is the Creator and Ruler of the universe. He eternally exists in three personalities: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. These three are co-equal and are one God, not three different Gods. (Gen. 1:1,26-27; 3:22; Ps. 90:2; Matthew 28:19; I Peter 1:2; 2 Cor. 13:14)

2. About Jesus Christ

Jesus Christ is God who came in the flesh. He is co-equal with the Father. Jesus came to Earth as a baby and lived a sinless life and then willingly offered himself as the perfect sacrifice for the sins of all the people by dying on a cross. He arose from the dead after 3 days to demonstrate His power over sin and death. He ascended to Heaven’s glory and will return again someday. (Matthew 1:22,23; Isaiah 9:6; John 1:1-5; 14:10-30; Hebrews 4:14-15; I Cor. 15:3-4; Romans 1:3-4; Acts 1:9-11; I Tim 6:14-15; Titus 2:13)

3. About the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is co-equal with the Father and Jesus Christ. He is present in the world to make mankind aware of their need for Jesus Christ. He also lives in every Christian from the moment of salvation. He provides the Christian with power for living, understanding of spiritual truth, and guidance in doing what is right. As Christians we seek to live under His control daily. The Holy Spirit is a person who lives in the spirit of a believer rather than an impersonal “it” or apparition.

(2 Cor 3:17; John 16:7-13; 14:16-17; Acts 1:8; I Cor 2:12; 3:16; Eph 1:13; Gal 5:25; Eph 5:18)

4. About the Bible

The Bible is God’s Word to us. Human authors such as Moses, Paul, and King David who were under the supernatural guidance of the Holy Spirit, wrote it down. It is the supreme source of truth for Christian beliefs and living. Because it is inspired by God, it is the truth without any mixture of error. We believe that the original manuscripts are the only “inspired” Word of God. (II Tim 3:16; 1:13; II Peter 1:20-21; Ps 119:105-106; Prov 30:5)

5. About People

People are made in the spiritual image of God, to be like Him in character. People are the supreme object of God’s creation. Although every person has tremendous potential for good, all are marred by disobedience toward God the Bible calls sin. Sin separates people from God and causes many problems in life. (Gen 1:27; Ps 8:3-6; Is: 53:6a; Rom 3:23; Is 59:1-2) Further, Paul explains sin this way, “They exchanged the glory of the immortal God…and worshipped and served created things rather than the Creator.” (Rom 1:21-32) This attitude is when we put our desires above God’s and make ourselves the ultimate authority in life. Christ’s plan for us is to turn away from spiritual idolatry such as: rejection of God, greed, hate, envy, murder, quarreling, deception, gossip, pride and sexual sin. God’s plan for human sexuality is that it is confined within marriage between one man and one woman. For those that accept Christ, God works in us and we strive to put away these things and instead embrace the fruit of the Spirit which are love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. (Gal. 5:19-26)

6. About Salvation

Salvation is God’s free gift to us but we must accept it. We can never make up for our sin by self improvement or good works. Only by continually trusting in Jesus Christ as God’s offer for forgiveness can anyone be saved from sin’s penalty. When we turn from our self-ruled life and turn to Jesus Christ in faith, we are saved. Eternal life begins the moment one receives Jesus Christ into his life by faith. (Rom 5:21; 6:23; Eph 2:8-9; John 14:6; 1:12; Titus 3:5; Gal 3:26)

## Prayer

It is important that you, as an Elevate group leader, develop your prayer life and be able to teach others how to pray and to encourage others in their prayer life. One of your greatest responsibilities will be to pray daily for the people who are in your Elevate group. Prayer will be a key to your effectiveness.

In *James 5:16*, the three key principles for prayer are given, *“the fervent, effectual prayer of a righteous man avails much."*

* Fervent - This word means intently, violently or white hot - gives you the idea of being welded together. God wants us to pray with the kind of intensity that welds us together with His presence.
* Effectual - It is not enough to pray; we must learn to pray effectively.
* Avails much - You might translate this "gets results." This is where we want to end up... with results.

Prayer is the **FOUNDATION.**

Your Elevate group ministry starts with you.

1. To be effective, you have to have been affected.
2. To be poured out, you have to be filled up.
3. To share Him, you have to know Him.
4. To lead people to Christ, you have to know where He is.
5. To fulfill His purposes for your group, you have to know what those purposes are.

Prayer**COVERS,** **PROTECTS,** and **ENLIGHTENS.**

You need to spiritually prepare the environment before group members arrive.

1. Humble yourself.
2. Pray over the house or room.
3. Invite the presence of the Holy Spirit.
4. Ask God to work in the hearts of those He is calling to be there.
5. Ask God to prepare their hearts to receive what He wants to impart.
6. Pray that the Scriptures read will come alive in their hearts.

Prayer is a **CONNECTING POINT** for ministry.

Your group needs to offer an opportunity for the ministry of the Holy Spirit in people’s lives.

1. Make ministry available.
2. Ask the Lord for wisdom and discernment.
3. Ask for His compassion.
4. Ask for His eyes, ears, and heart.
5. Follow the leading of the Holy Spirit.
6. Involve everyone when possible.
7. The pressure is on God.

**Be filled with Him.**

**Seek His vision.**

**Prepare the way.**

**Fulfill the call.**

#

## Icebreakers

Questions to open discussions:

* Where were you born?
* What type of family were you raised in?
* What is the one thing about you that is unique?
* Who is someone who has influenced your growth as a Christian disciple? What did they do?
* How did you end up at this Elevate Group Meeting?
* What is your favorite childhood memory?
* What was Christmas like when you were a child?
* Where did you live when you were growing up?
* What was your greatest struggle as a teenager?
* What is your earliest recollection of God?
* What did you want to be when you grew up?
* What is the farthest place you have ever traveled to?
* Who was your favorite teacher, and why?
* How do you feel the church (in general) has helped you as a person?
* What is a time during the week that you can relax?
* What do you most like about your life’s calling?
* What do you least like about your life’s calling?
* What is one thing that gives you satisfaction?
* Which household chore would you like never to have to do again?
* How do you work on your relationship with Christ during the day?
* What is your greatest joy in your faith?
* What is your greatest struggle in your faith?
* If you could change one thing about your life, what would it be, and why?
* Where would you live if you could move anywhere in the world, and why?
* How would you like to see your closest relationship develop in the next year(s)?
* What area of your faith would you like to work on in the next few years?
* If you could have three wishes come true, what would they be?
* If you could write one news headline for the whole world to see, what would it be?
* What is your greatest anticipation of the future?

## Some Fun Ideas

It is important to involve your group in other activities outside the settings of an Elevate group meeting. One of the purposes of Elevate groups is to develop relationships and a sense of community. Therefore, in order to get beyond certain perceived or actual barriers between relationships, you need to periodically do fun, social activities. Below is a list of ideas to use when planning an activity:

Summer barbecue

Pool party

Games: Outburst, Encore, Pictionary, Charades, etc.

Horseback riding

Hay rides (include hot apple cider and s’mores)

Bowling

Christmas party

Christmas caroling

Progressive dinners

Volleyball, horseshoes, badminton, roller skating, skiing, croquet

Miniature golf

Scavenger hunts

Birthday parties

Concerts, symphony, ballet, opera

New Year’s Eve party

Picnics in the park

Valentine’s Day banquet

Camping

White water rafting

## Ministry Through Use Of The Scripture

In life giving ministry it is helpful to know the scriptures that pertain to the area of ministry. Many times simply reading the Word of God to the person, praying with them, and allowing the Holy Spirit to bring conviction and truth to their lives, is the only role we will play in ministering to them. The following are some scriptures, arranged alphabetically by subject, you might find helpful in life giving ministry:

## Life Giving Scripture References:

**Abortion**

 *Exodus 20:13*  Ten Commandments, you shall not murder

 *Psalm 127:3* Children are a reward from God.

*Psalm 139:13-16* God created us and knew us in our mother’s womb

**Addictions (alcohol, drugs etc.)**

 *Roman 6:12* Do not let sin control your body

 *1 Corinthians 6:19* Your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit

 *Galatians 5:1* Through Christ we can be set free

*Galatians 5:16* Live by the Spirit and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh

**Adultery**

 See “Sexual Immorality”

**Anger**

 *James 1:19* Anger does not achieve God’s righteousness

*Ephesians 4:26, 31* Don’t let the sun go down on your anger, or give devil opportunity

 *Matthew 5:28-40* Turn the other cheek.

 *Colossians 3:8* We must rid ourselves of anger

**Anxiety**

 *Philippians 4:6-13* Don’t worry, pray

 *1 Peter 5:7* Cast all of your anxiety on Jesus

 *Hebrews 13:5-6* God will never leave you or forsake you

### Backsliding

 *1 John 1:8-9* If we confess our sins He will forgive us

 *Jude 24-25* Jesus can keep us from falling

**Baptism of the Holy Spirit**

Acts 2:38 Repent and you will receive the baptism of the Spirit

Luke 11:13 Anyone who asks can receive the Holy Spirit

**Child Discipline**

 *Ephesians 6:4* Fathers don’t provoke your children to anger

 *Samuel 15:23* Rebellion is the sin of witchcraft

 *Colossians 3:21* Fathers don’t frustrate you children

 *Proverbs 13:24* He who spares the rod hates the son

*Proverbs 22:6* Train a child well and as they grow old they will not depart from their training.

*Proverbs 22:15* The rod will drive folly from the heart of a child

**Children’s Responsibilities**

 *Ephesians 6:1* Children obey your parents

*Exodus 20:12* Honor your father and mother that you may live long

*1 Timothy 4:12* Youth, set an example for others

**Condemnation**

 *Romans 8:1* There is no condemnation for those in Christ

*John 5:24* He who hears the word and believes will not be condemned.

*John 3:17-18* Jesus did not come to condemn the world but to save it.

**Confession/Repentance**

 *1 John 1:9* If we confess He will forgive our sins

*Psalm 32:3* When you keep silent about sin your body wastes away

 *James 5:16* Confess your sins to one another

**Cults**

 *1 John 4:1* Test the spirits

 *Mark 13:21-23* False prophets deceive even the elect

### Deliverance

 *James 4:7* Resist the devil and he will flee

 *Matthew 18:18* We have the power to bind demons

*Luke 10:19* We can tread on the enemy and he cannot injure us

*2 Corinthians 3:17* Where the Spirit is there is freedom

**Deny Self**

 *Matthew 20:26-27* The greatest shall be a servant

*Matthew 8:34* Those who come after Jesus must deny themselves

 *John 12:24* A grain of wheat must die to bear fruit

**Depression**

 *Psalm 51:10-12* Restore the joy of our salvation

*Roman 8:28, 31* All things work together for good to those who love God

 *1 Thessalonians 5:18* Give thanks in all circumstances

*Matthew 11:28-39* Come to the Lord when weary and burdened and find rest

*Psalm 147:3* God heals the brokenhearted

**Discouragement**

*Galatians 6:9* Do not become weary in doing good, you will be rewarded

*Psalm 138:7-8* Though I walk in the midst of trouble, God saves me

 *2 Corinthians 4:8-9* We are hard pressed but do not despair

**Divorce**

 *Malachi 2:15-16* God hates divorce

*1 Corinthians 7:10-15* A wife must not divorce her husband, a husband should not divorce his wife

*Matthew 19:4-6* What God has joined let no man separate

**Faith**

 *Hebrews 11:1* Faith is assurance of things hoped for

 *Hebrews 11:6* Without faith cannot please God

 *Hebrews 12:2* Jesus is author of our faith

 *James 2:17* Faith without works is dead

**Fasting**

 *Matthew 6:16* When you fast (we are to fast)

 *Isaiah 58:3* On the day of your fast you have your request

*Isaiah 58:5* The fast the Lord desires is for a man to be humble

### Fear

*Romans 8:13-17* When you die to the flesh you are free from fear

 *2 Thessalonians 3:3* The Lord will protect you from evil

 *Isaiah 41:10* Do not fear for God is with you

 *Psalm 27:1-3* The Lord is my light whom shall I fear

 *Psalm 23* The Lord is my shepherd

*Psalm 91* Make the Lord your refuge and no harm will befall you

*2 Timothy 1:7* God has not given us a spirit of fear

*1 John 4:18* Perfect love casts out fear

**Fear of Man**

 *Colossians 3:23* Do your work for the Lord not to impress men

*Matthew 6:1* If you do good works to please men, lose your reward in Heaven

*Psalm 56:11* Trust in God, do not fear, what can man do to you?

**Fear of the Lord**

*Proverbs 19:23* The fear of the Lord leads to life and being untouched by evil

*Ecclesiastes 12:13* When all is said and done, fear the Lord the most important thing.

*Psalm 25:14* The secret of the Lord is with those who fear Him

*Proverbs 22:4* Humility and the fear of the Lord bring wealth, honor, and life

**Forgiveness**

*2 Corinthians 2:10-11* Forgive others and Satan does not have an advantage over you

*Matthew 6:14-15* If you forgive others, God will forgive you

 *Romans 12: 14* Bless those who persecute you

**Fornication**

 See “Sexual Immorality”

**Generational Curses**

*Exodus 20:5-6* God is jealous and visits iniquity of fathers on children to 3rd and 4th generation

*John 8:36* Whom the Son sets free is free indeed

**God’s Expectations of Us**

*Micah 6:8* To do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly before Him

 *Isaiah 66:2* Humility, contrite spirit, and tremble at His word

 *Matthew 5:3, 8* Pure in heart and spirit see God

*John 5:10* Keep His commandments, love Him and others

### Grief

*John 14:1-3* Jesus goes to prepare a place for us after we die

*John 11:25* If we believe in Jesus, yet we die, we shall live

*1 Corinthians 13:12* Now we see in a mirror dimly, but then, face to face

*Matthew 5:4* Blessed are those who mourn for they will be comforted

**Guilt**

 *Proverbs 28:13* Confess and find mercy

*Romans 3:23* All have sinned

 *Romans 6:23* God freely gives eternal life

*Romans 8:1-3* There is no condemnation for those in Christ Jesus

*2 Corinthians 5:17* The old is gone, the new is come

**Healing**

*Exodus 15:26* I am the God who heals you

*1 Peter 2:24* Jesus took our infirmities, by His stripes we are healed

*1 John 5:14-15* Ask anything of God according to His will, and He hears us

*Matthew 10:1* We have authority to heal every disease and sickness

*Jeremiah 30:17* God will restore your health

*Psalm 103:3* The Lord forgives our sins and heals all of our diseases

**Holiness**

 *1 Peter 1:14-16* Be holy in our behavior

 *Ecclesiastes 20:22* Be holy as the Lord Himself is holy

 *Romans 12:2* Don’t be conformed to the world

*Hebrews 12:14* Pursue sanctification without which you will not see the Lord

**Holy Spirit**

*John 16:7* Better when Jesus leaves and Holy Spirit comes

 *John 16:8-13* Brings conviction of truth & will guide you to truth

 *Acts 9:31* Brings comfort

*1 Corinthians 2:8-13* Brings wonderful things to the life of the believer

 *1 Corinthians 12:7* Brings spiritual gifts

### Homosexuality

###  See “Sexual Immorality”

### Hope

*Jeremiah 29:11* For I know the plans I have for you, to give you future and hope

*Psalm 33:20* We wait in hope for the Lord, He is our shield, in Him we rejoice

 *Proverbs 13:12* Hope deferred makes the heart sick

*Proverbs 23:18* There is future hope for you and your hope will not be cut off

*Isaiah 40:31* Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength and soar on wings as eagles

**Humility**

*Matthew 18:4* The greatest in God’s kingdom are the humble

 *James 4:10* Humble yourself and God will exalt you

 *Proverbs 22:4* Humility brings wealth, honor, and life

 *Psalm 37:11* Humility brings abundant prosperity

 *James 4:6* God gives His grace to the humble

**Husband Responsibilities**

*1 Peter 3:7* Take care of your wife or your prayers will go unanswered

 *Ephesians 5:25* Love your wife as Christ loved the Church

 *1 Timothy 3:1-13* Characteristics of a man of God

 *Hebrews 13:4* Honor the marriage bed

*1 Corinthians 7:3-4* Husbands must fulfill their marriage duties to their wives

**Intercession**

 *1 Timothy 2:1* Intercession be made for everyone

 *Ephesians 6:19* Paul requests intercession on his behalf

 *Colossians1:3* Paul intercedes for others

### Jealousy

*James 3:16* Jealousy and envy results in disorder and evil

 *1 Corinthians 3:3* Jealousy is worldliness

*Exodus 20:17* We shall not covet the property of others

**Judging Others**

*Matthew 7:2-5* We will be judged in the manner we judge others

*James 2:13* Judgment will be merciless for those who show no mercy

*John 5:30* Jesus judged from hearing God, not from His own opinions

**Loneliness**

 *Isaiah 54:10* God’s love for us is unfailing

 *Hebrews 13:5-6* God will never leave us or forsake us

 *Revelation 3:20* Jesus wants to have fellowship with us

 *Psalm 34:18* The Lord is close to the brokenhearted

**Love One Another**

 *1 Peter 1:22* Fervently love one another from the heart

*1 John 2:10* If you love one another you abide in the light

*1 John 4:7-8* If you love one another you are born of God because God is love

**Lust**

 *Romans 13:14* Don’t make provision for lust

 *1 Thessalonians 4:4* Self-discipline over lust

*Galatians 5:16-18* Live by the spirit and won’t carry out desires of the flesh

*Romans 6:12-13* Do not let sin reign in your body, do not give your body to sin

### Marriage

*Genesis 2:21-24* They will become one flesh

*Proverbs 18:22* He who finds a wife finds what is good

*1 Corinthians 11:3* Christ the head of man, man the head of the woman

*1 Corinthians 7:9* It is better to marry than burn with passion

**Marital Problems**

 *Psalm 101:2* I will walk in my house with a blameless heart

*Joshua 24:15* As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord

*Ephesians 4:31-32* Get rid of anger, be kind and compassionate to one another

*Ephesians 5:21-33* Husbands love your wives as yourself, wives respect your husbands

*Colossians 3:18-19* Wives submit to your husbands as unto the Lord, husbands love your wives as Christ loves the church

**Materialism / Money**

 *1 Timothy 6:8* Be content with food and shelter

 *1 Timothy 6:10* The love of money is the root of all kinds of evil

*1 John 2:15* If you love the world the love of God is not in you

*1 John 3:17* If have the world’s goods and see a brother in need, the love of God not in you

 *Mathew 6:24* Don’t be a slave to money

 *Proverbs 3:9-10* Give God the first fruits

 *Proverbs 3:5* Trust the Lord in your finances

 *Proverbs 13:11* Be honest in the use of your money

 *Philippians 4:19* God will meet all of your needs

 *Luke 6:38* Give and it will be given unto you

**Obedience**

 *1 John 2:3* Through obedience we come to know Him

*1 John 3:21* If obedient, ask whatever you wish and it will be done for you

*Deuteronomy 11:26-28* You have a choice between blessing and curse, a blessing if you choose to obey the Lord’s commandments

 *1 Samuel 15:22-23* Rebellion is like the sin of witchcraft

*John 14:15-21* Through obedience we receive the Holy Spirit, Jesus reveals Himself to us and abides in us

*James 1:22* Don’t just hear the Word of God, do what it says

### Peace of Mind

*John 16:33* Jesus said in me you will find peace

*Romans 5:1* Because of our faith we have peace with God

*Colossians 3:15* Let the peace of God rule in your hearts

 *Psalm 4:8* Sleep in peace for the Lord is our safety

**Persistence**

*2 Timothy 4:7* I’ve fought the good fight, I’ve finished the race

 *Galatians 6:9* We will reap a harvest if we do not give up

*Revelation 2:24* Those who obey to the end will be given authority

*Revelation 3:5* To him who overcomes it will be granted their names written in the book of life

**Prayer**

*1 John 3:21* If your heart doesn’t condemn you, ask what you wish

 *1 John 5:14-15* Confidence comes from praying

*James 5:16* The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective

**Prayer Shield**

 *Ephesians 6:18* We are to pray and intercede for each other

 *Ephesians 6:19* Paul requests prayer on his behalf

**Pride**

 *Proverbs 16:5* Pride is an abomination to God

 *James 4:6* God is opposed to the proud

 *Isaiah 25:11* God will bring down the proud

**Priorities**

*Matthew 6:33* Seek first the kingdom of God

*Matthew 22:36-39* Greatest commandment is to love God then love neighbor second commandment

 *Matthew 18:3-4* Greatest in kingdom of God are the humble

*Matthew 20:26-28* Whoever wishes to be great must first be a servant

**Reap What You Sow**

 *Galatians 6:7* God is not mocked, you will reap what you sow

 *Jeremiah 17:9* The Lord gives to each according to his deeds

**Reconciliation**

 2 Corinthians 5:18-19 God reconciled the world through Christ

*Matthew 5:23-26* Before giving your offering be reconciled with your brother

 *Matthew 18:15-17* Principle of godly reconciliation

### Sabbath

*Isaiah 58:13* If you turn from pleasure on Sabbath, God will bless you

*Hebrews 4:8-10* There is a Sabbath rest for the people of God

**Salvation**

 *John 3:16* Whoever believes in him will have eternal life

*Romans 6:23* Wages of sin is death

 *Romans 8:1* No condemnation for those in Christ Jesus

 *Romans10:9-10* Believe in your heart and confess with your mouth

 *Ephesians 2:8-9* We are saved by grace

*Philippians 2:12-13* Work out your salvation with fear and trembling

**Sexual Immorality**

*Hebrews 13:41* Adultery - Remain faithful to one another

 *1 Corinthians 6:9-11, 18-20* Homosexuality/Fornication

**Soul-Ties**

 *1 Corinthians 5:9* Do not associate with immoral brother

 *1 Corinthians 15:33* Bad company corrupts good morals

 *2 Thessalonians 3:6* Do not associate with unruly brother

 *2 Corinthians 6:14* Do not be bound together with unbelievers

**Spiritual Gifts**

 *Romans 12:6-8* God has given us different gifts

*1 Timothy 4:14* Don’t neglect the gift you’ve received

 *1 Corinthians 12:7-11* Spiritual gifts are given to each of us

 *Ephesians 4:11-13* These are the gifts Christ gave the church

 *1 Peter 4:10-11* Great variety of spiritual gifts

**Spiritual Warfare**

 *1 Timothy 4:1* Pay attention to deceitful spirits

 *1 Timothy 6:12* Fight the good fight of faith

*Ephesians 6:10-18* Put on the armor of God. Our struggle is against spiritual enemy

 *2 Timothy 2:4* No soldier entangles himself in everyday life

*James 4:7* Humble yourself, resist the devil and he will flee

*1 Peter 5:8* Be on the alert, the devil like a roaring lion out to destroy you

**Submission to Authority**

 *1 Peter 2:13* Submit to authority

 *Hebrews 13:17* Obey leaders and submit to their authority

 *Romans13:1-7* Submit to governing authorities, for your good

**Suicide**

*Psalm 91:1,11,12,15,16* Take refuge in the Lord and he will defend you

 *John 10:10* Jesus came to give us abundant life

### Temptation

*1 Corinthians 10:13* God will not allow you to be tempted above what you can handle

 *Genesis 4:7* We must master sin

 *Romans 6:6* Crucify self and no longer be a slave to sin

 *Romans 13:14* Make no provision for the flesh

 *2 Corinthians 10:5* Take every thought captive

*Galatians 5:16* Walk by spirit and won’t carry out the desires of the flesh

*James 1:14* Tempted when carried away with our own lust

 *Philippians 4:8* Let your mind dwell on good things

*Matthew 26:41* Watch and pray that you will not fall into temptation

**Thanksgiving**

 *Psalm 100:1* Enter His gates with thanksgiving

*Psalm 139:13* I will give thanks for I am fearfully and wonderfully made

**Tithing and Giving**

*Malachi 3:8-10* Test God to see Him bless you when you tithe

 *Philippians 4:17* Giving profits our account

 *Proverbs 3:9* Honor the Lord from the first of our fruits

 *Luke 6:38* Give and it will be given unto you

 *2 Corinthians 9:7* God loves a cheerful giver

**Trials**

*James 1:12* Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial

 *2 Corinthians 4:17* Afflictions produce eternal glory

*1 Peter 4:12* Do not be surprised with trials, they are for your testing

*1 Peter 5:10* After suffered for a while, God will strengthen you

 *Revelation 3:19* Those who are loved will be disciplined

**Trust in the Lord**

*Proverbs 3:5* Trust in the Lord with all of your heart and He will make your paths straight

 *Ephesians 6:16* Put on the shield of faith

 *Psalm 56:4* Trust in the Lord and do not be afraid

*John 14:1* Don’t be troubled, trust in God, He will prepare a place for you

### Who We Are In Christ

 *1 Peter 2:9* We are a chosen race, a royal priesthood

*Revelation 2:26* He who overcomes will be given authority to rule the nations

*Ephesians 2:6, 10* We are seated with Christ in the heavenly realm

*John 1:12* We are children of God

**Wife Responsibilities**

 *1 Peter 3:1-6* Submit to husband

 *Ephesians 5:33* Respect your husband

 *1 Timothy 2:9* Adorn yourself modestly

*1 Timothy 2:12* Women should not exercise authority over men

*Titus2:5* Be sensible, pure, workers at home, kind and submissive

 *1 Corinthians 7:3-4* The wife’s body belongs to her husband

 *Hebrews 13:4* Keep the marriage bed pure

*1 Corinthians 7:39* The wife is bound to her husband as long as he lives

**Words and Their Power**

*Ephesians 4:29-30* Let no unwholesome word come out of your mouth

*Proverbs 18:21* Life and death are in the power of our words

*Matthew 12:36* We will be held accountable for every careless word

*Colossians 4:6* Let speech always be with grace

*James 3:9-10* With our tongues we praise God and curse men, this should not be