

Follow-Through Work

Homework, questions, application, etc

Estimated time to completion: 1 hour, 15 minutes, 38 seconds.

This online homework includes “pages” from the membership booklet at then end. So, wherever the questions ask you to turn to “page whatever” find that page at the end of this homework document.

Teaching from: Membership Class Finances Verses: Galatians 6:6-8 and 2 Corinthians 9:6-7

View this video at: <http://www.revo.church/membershiphomework>

We are _____ to do _____ different things.

We are also obligated to _____ (the _____) financially.

Grant Osborne wrote, "When people think and act as if they will not reap what they have sown, or as if they will reap something different from what they have sown, they are deceiving themselves and mocking God."

Your thoughts: In Galatians 6:6-8, the Apostle Paul starts by saying Biblical instructors should be supported financially. Then he says, "God cannot be mocked!" What does giving to the Church have to do with not mocking God?

How much to give? We are called to give what we've _____, remembering that we reap whatever we sow, then do it cheerfully (2 Cor 9:6-7).

Your thoughts: why do you think God wants you to sit down and **make a decision** rather than just give when the impulse hits you?

The Jews gave three tithes, for three reasons. We should use this as a principle for what we support:

The main tithe - First Tithe: for the _____ . (Num 18:19 & 1 Cor 9:14)

Second Tithe: for the _____ . (Lev 27:33 & 2 Cor 9:12-13)

Third Tithe: for the _____ , only given every three years. (Duet 14:28-29 & 1 Cor 16)

The Fourth: Any type of _____ giving.

Your thoughts: What are most Christians taught about "a tithe" or what have you heard before? Have you ever heard of the three tithes, plus free will offerings?

God has _____ for the money he gives me. Out of that money I am _____ meet certain needs, but I must remember that God has a _____ purpose in mind.

Your thoughts: In becoming a Church member you agree that you want to be part of our Church's mission. Why does that mean your finances should change too? What do you think "God's plan" for money is?

Why do you think the Bible speaks about giving to Church and Teachers first, before the poor or free will giving?

God will hold us _____ for what we do _____.

Lookup 2 Corinthians 9:6-7. Rewrite and put those verses into your own words.

Which one word stands out to you, the most?

Now read verse 8! What is the result of giving, generously?

Now read verse 12! What is another result of your giving, generously?

What questions do you have about how the Church uses its finances?

Membership Class, non financial Homework

Look at page 67 of the membership booklet. Read Matthew 18:15-17 and describe why this would imply that membership is important.

Go to www.BIC-Church.org and find something out about the Brethren In Christ that you didn't know. What is it?

Check out the bottom of page 28 to page 30. Is there anything in there you really liked? Also, why do you think we focus on Jesus so much here?

Read Hebrews 13:17. Describe what this verse means. Why does God tell you to "submit" to a Pastor?

Go to page 32-33. Which of those Core Values do you appreciate the most, and why? And which one is the most difficult, in your opinion, and why?

Go to page 50. Why is important to understand that our Church really wants to reach people who don't know Jesus yet?

Check out page 55 and then look up Anabaptists in Google. Write down one question someone might have.

More Healthy Christian Community Specifics

Our Church Should Be a Community:

"If we see the local church as God's household, if it is a place we call home, then the local church ought to be one of the most inviting, warm, and gracious places on the planet. When I visit a church, one of the things I look for most is an overflowing spirit of hospitality. Do we truly have a church home or are we living a homeless faith?"

- From "Ekklesia" by Tom Nelson. Page 37.

"The religious community is essential, for alone our vision is too narrow to see all that must be seen. Together, our vision widens and strength is renewed."

- Mark Morrison-Reed

"Let us learn hence not to seek and mind our own things only, but to concern and engage ourselves for the welfare of the community we are members of; we are not born for ourselves, nor must we live to ourselves."

- Matthew Henry's Commentary on the Whole Bible

"It seems easier for a church to build a multimillion-dollar family life center than to be a Christian family."

- Kenneson, Philip D. and Street, James L.

"A man possesses the Holy Spirit to the extent of his love for Christ's Church."

- Augustine

"Princes, kings, and other rulers of the world have used all their strength and cunning against the Church, yet it continues to endure and hold its own."

- John Foxe

For the Christian, community isn't an option it is a way of life.

For the Christian, community isn't an option it is a way of life. This is how God designed it: Adam *needed* Eve, Jesus sent disciples out *in pairs*, the New Testament contains a plethora of letters written to *groups* rather than individuals, and even Jesus himself was comforted at different times by *other beings*! Furthermore, one of the best ways to introduce Christ into the lives of non-Christians is by helping them to see our communities – or inviting them in to experience the love and joy of Christ firsthand! We are created for community. Therefore, healthy Christian communities will be our church's goal.

“Pages 28-30”

Relationships in Creation

God established order and relationships within His creation, uniting it in all its parts. God created and sustains all things, yet remains distinct from what is created. God does not depend on the creation for His being.

A moral order exists in the universe. The human conscience senses this order, which is more fully revealed in the Scriptures. The moral principles set forth in the Scriptures provide direction for our conduct and relationships.

The Creator has built a cycle of work and rest into the creation, one day in seven being designated by God for worship and renewal. By observing Sunday as the Lord's Day, we honor this divinely-ordained cycle, testify of our trust in God's provision, and witness to the Lord's resurrection.

Made in God's image, each human being is of infinite value and is to be cared for and nurtured. We should relate to others in love and justice -- opposing that which destroys, oppresses, demeans, or manipulates, and fostering that which restores, upbuilds, and affirms. God's plan for the human family calls for wholesome, growing relationships among all persons; it forbids abusive and destructive behavior.

God gave human sexuality a good place in creation. Being either male or female is integral to who we are and in a complementary way provides for the full expression of our humanity. God has given standards for expression of our sexuality that are necessary for proper relationships among people. Human sexuality is affirmed within the chaste single life or a life-long marriage between a man and a woman.

Supporting Scripture

God and Creation

[Genesis 1-2](#); [Psalm 24:1-2](#); [Hebrews 11](#)

Nature of God

[Deuteronomy 6:4](#); [32:3-4](#); [33:27](#); [Psalm 45:6](#); [48:14](#); [100:5](#); [Daniel 6:26-27](#); [Matthew 3:16-17](#); [John 14:16-17, 26](#); [Acts 14:15-17](#); [1 Corinthians 2:11-16](#); [Ephesians 2:8-10](#); [1 Timothy 1:17](#); [James 1:17](#); [Revelation 16:7](#)

Creation and Providence

[Genesis 1-3](#); [1 Chronicles 29:11-12](#); [Nehemiah 9:6](#); [Job 26:7-11](#); [Psalm 19](#); [102:25](#); [Romans 5:12-19](#); [Hebrews 1:3](#); [Revelation 19:6](#)

Relationships in Creation

[Genesis 1-2](#); [Exodus 20:1-17](#); [Leviticus 19:18](#); [Deuteronomy 16:20](#); [Psalm 104:24](#); [Proverbs 21:3](#); [Isaiah 58:13-14](#); [Micah 6:8](#); [Malachi 2:16](#); [Matthew 12:8](#); [19:1-12](#); [25:40](#); [Mark 2:27](#); [Romans 2:13-15](#); [14:5-6](#); [1 Corinthians 6:9-10](#); [Ephesians 4:29-5:2](#); [5:21-6:4](#); [Colossians 1:16-17](#); [1 John 3:14](#)

Jesus Christ and Salvation

God's plan of salvation for sinful humanity is central to God's eternal purpose and is fully revealed in the person and work of Jesus Christ, chosen by God before creation to be the Savior. We affirm that Jesus Christ is truly divine and truly human.

Life and Ministry of Jesus Christ

Jesus Christ, God the Son, is a distinct person of the Trinity, in perfect equality and unity with God the Father and God the Holy Spirit. He is eternally existent and is fully God. He created all things and is the source and sustainer of life.

In the fullness of time God the Son took on human likeness, conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary. He was God incarnate -- God in the flesh -- and lived on earth as a man, fully human, yet

without sin. He grew physically and mentally, and experienced hunger, thirst, fatigue, rejection, and the range of human emotions. He was tempted in every way, but remained sinless. He was perfectly obedient and submissive to the Father. He took on the role of a servant and responded in compassion to those in need. Jesus modeled perfect humanity and called people to follow Him.

The divine nature of Jesus of Nazareth was shown clearly during His life on earth. At infancy He was announced as Immanuel, God with us. At His baptism he was acknowledged to be God's Son. His ministry was marked by the presence and power of the Holy Spirit. He taught with divine authority and commissioned His disciples to proclaim His gospel. He said that anyone who has seen Him had seen the Father. He was the Son of God, full of grace and truth.

Jesus came to earth as the promised Messiah revealed in the Scriptures. He inaugurated the kingdom of God and demonstrate its presence by healing the sick and casting out demons. His miracles were signs of God's kingdom. In His teaching, Jesus set God's rule over against the kingdoms of this world. He called those who followed Him into the church, the new covenant community based on the values of the kingdom of God. He came to destroy the works of the devil and to redeem the human family from sin.

Death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ

Christ's work of redemption was accomplished in His death and resurrection. God purposed in Christ to redeem us from the guilt and power of sin and to free us from the rule of Satan, so that all who believe would be restored to divine favor and fellowship.

By His suffering and sacrificial death for us, Jesus Christ provided complete atonement for sin. His death and resurrection opened the only way for reconciliation between a holy, just God and sinful humanity. His life-blood freely given on the cross provided pardon and ratified the New Covenant.

The bodily resurrection of Jesus testifies decisively of His deity and His victory over Satan, sin, and death. The risen Christ ascended to heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father, interceding for us. Jesus Christ is now our risen, exalted, and reigning Lord. All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Him. He is the Head of the church and the Lord of human history. At the end of time, all things in heaven and on earth will be brought under His rule. Every person will bow before Him and He will reign forever. With joy we confess that Jesus is Lord and acknowledge His authority over our lives. We honor him with our worship and obedience.

Coming to Faith

The salvation graciously provided by the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ becomes effective in our lives by the ministry of the Holy Spirit. It is the Spirit who prepares us for faith in Jesus Christ. He awakens us to our need, enables us to acknowledge our guilt, and calls us to respond to God in faith and obedience.

The response of faith is a personal reliance on God's grace and a turning from sin to righteousness. Repentance involves an acknowledgment of sin. It is expressed in genuine sorrow, forsaking sin, and a change in attitude toward God, preparing for the continuing ministry of the Holy Spirit. Repentance includes a willingness for reconciliation and restitution.

New Life in Christ

All who come to faith in Christ are born again, receive the Holy Spirit, and become children of God. They are acquitted of all guilt for sin, are granted the righteousness of Christ, and are reconciled to God. Persons thus justified by grace through faith enjoy peace with God, are adopted into God's family, become part of the church, and receive the assurance of eternal life. We become new creatures in Christ, regenerated by the Holy Spirit. This change of heart becomes evident in the development of Christlike character and a walk of obedience to God. Conversion is expressed in a changed life with new direction, purposes, interests, and values.

The new life in Christ is developed through Christian spiritual disciplines such as prayer, study of Scripture, fasting, self-denial, they do not make the believer immune from temptation. Persistent disobedience impairs fellowship with God and can destroy one's new life in Christ. When there is sin in the Christian's life, it needs to be confessed and forsaken in the confidence of God's willingness to pardon and His power to cleanse from evil.

Life in the Spirit

We believe that God's grace provides for more than forgiveness of sin. As the Spirit works in the life of the believer, he or she is led forward in sanctification to a full surrender and commitment of the motives and will to Christ. This results in freedom from the control of sin and in empowerment to live the holy life. The Holy Spirit fills persons yielded to God and equips them for effective witness and service. Sanctification is also an ongoing journey of yielding to God and growing in grace. The quality of the surrendered life corresponds to the believer's responsiveness to the Holy Spirit and obedience to the Word of God. The Spirit-filled life results in a sensitivity to the Holy Spirit, inner strength in times of temptation, godly living and wholehearted service to the Lord. The Holy Spirit produces virtuous character—love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, godness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. These virtues characterize the believer's walk in the Spirit.

Hope of Life Everlasting

The salvation provided by our Lord Jesus Christ will be consummated for the believer in the joy of heaven and the full realization of the kingdom of God. In our glorified bodies we will be free from all the effects of sin. Restored in the likeness of Christ, we will worship God and reign with Christ throughout eternity.

Supporting Scripture

Jesus Christ and Salvation

[Ephesians 1:3-14](#); [Titus 2:11-14](#); [Hebrews 1:1-3](#); [1 Peter 1:3-5](#)

Life and Ministry of Jesus Christ

[Matthew 1:20-23](#); [3:13-17](#); [6:33](#); [7:28-29](#), [9:35-36](#); [12:25-28](#); [26:26-29](#); [28:18-20](#); [Mark 1:14-15](#); [14:61-62](#); [Luke 1:26-2:33](#), [52](#); [4:1-21](#), [22:44](#); [John 1:1-14](#); [3:16](#); [13:1-17](#); [14:8-11](#); [Galatians 4:4-5](#); [Philippians 2:5-11](#); [Colossians 1:15-20](#); [Hebrews 4:14-15](#)

Death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ

[Psalm 22:1-18](#); [Isaiah 52:13-53:12](#); [Matthew 27:27-28:20](#); [John 3:16-17](#); [Acts 1:9-11](#); [Romans 5:1-11](#); [1 Corinthians 15:20-28](#); [2 Corinthians 5:21](#); [Ephesians 1:9-10](#); [Philippians 2:9-11](#); [Colossians 1:21-22](#); [Hebrews 1:3](#); [7:24-25](#); [9:11-28](#); [12:2](#); [Revelation 11:15](#)

Coming to Faith

[Luke 3:7-9](#); [5:31-32](#); [18:9-14](#); [19:8-9](#); [John 16:5-15](#)

New Life in Christ

[John 3:1-17](#); [Acts 2:41-47](#); [Romans 5:11](#); [8:14-17](#); [10:9-10](#), [13](#); [2 Corinthians 5:17](#); [Galatians 4:6-7](#), [Ephesians 2:1-10](#); [Colossians 1:22-23](#); [Hebrews 3:14](#); [1 Peter 1:3-5](#); [1 John 2:24-25](#)

Life in the Spirit

[Luke 11:11-13](#); [John 20:21-22](#); [Acts 1](#); [Romans 6:1-14](#); [8:1-17](#); [12:1-2](#); [2 Corinthians 5:5](#); [5:16-25](#); [Ephesians 1:13-14](#); [3:14-21](#); [1 John 1:9](#)

10 Core Values of the BIC

As Brethren in Christ, we value...

“Pages 32-33”

1. Experiencing God’s Love & Grace

We value the free gift of salvation in Christ Jesus and the transforming power of the Holy Spirit.

***JESUS SAID:** “I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again...unless he is born of water and of the Spirit” (John 3:3,5).*

2. Believing the Bible

We value the Bible as God’s authoritative Word, study it together and build our lives on its truth.

***JESUS SAID:** “Blessed...are those who hear the word of God and obey it” (Luke 11:28).*

3. Worshiping God

We value heartfelt worship that is God-honoring, Spirit-directed and life-changing.

***JESUS SAID:** “...A time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks” (John 4:23).*

4. Following Jesus

We value wholehearted obedience to Christ Jesus through the empowering presence of the Holy Spirit.

***JESUS SAID:** “If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me” (Mark 8:34).*

5. Belonging to the Community of Faith

We value integrity in relationships and mutual accountability in an atmosphere of grace, love, and acceptance.

***JESUS SAID:** “May they [the disciples] be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me” (John 17:23).*

6. Witnessing to the World

We value an active and loving witness for Christ to all people.

***JESUS SAID:** “But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth” (Acts 1:8).*

7. Serving Compassionately

We value serving others at their point of need, following the example of our Lord Jesus.

JESUS SAID: *"...I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me"* (Matt. 25:40).

8. Pursuing Peace

We value all human life and promote forgiveness, understanding, reconciliation and non-violent resolution of conflict.

JESUS SAID: *"Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God"* (Matt. 5:9, KJV).

9. Living Simply

We value uncluttered lives, which free us to love boldly, give generously and serve joyfully.

JESUS SAID: *"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth...But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven...For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also"* (Matt. 6:19-21).

10. Relying on God

We confess our dependence on God for everything, and seek to deepen our intimacy with Him by living prayerfully.

JESUS SAID: *"I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing"* (John 15:5).

Revolution Church's Goal

“Page 50”

"To help Spiritual orphans by creating, and welcoming them into, our Healthy Christian Community."

More specifics

Revolution Church is here to help spiritual orphans as we *speak the language of a generation which other churches cannot speak.*

That is a group of people mainly from 18-35. They are postmodern thinkers.

They are outsiders to the church.

It's not shifting people from another church to our place. We desire to take those people who are "lonely" - those who do not know Jesus or do not already have a healthy Christian community - and giving them a home.

We/They are often outsiders to society, as well.

We/They are often poor or disadvantaged somehow.

We should work hard at using things like **technology**, **music styles**, and other practical tools to reach this group keeping in mind our personality and style. But the primary way that we speak their language is through **Healthy Christian Community**. We want to be more than "a place" people gather. We want to be people who gather together.

We need to INVITE THEM IN! (see our A.D.D. acronym)!!! They need to know we *really* want them to be part of us. <http://revo.church/daryl/>

Anabaptism

Anabaptism is a Christian theological tradition that developed during the sixteenth-century Protestant Reformation. The Anabaptists believed that other Protestant reformers (such as Martin Luther) were right in demanding reform of the Roman Catholic Church, but they complained that, in some respects, these reformers had not gone far enough with their demands.

The Anabaptists encouraged their fellow Christians to embrace further reforms, such as:

Adult Baptism — The term "Anabaptist" literally means "re-baptize." Their opponents gave them this name when they began administering adult baptism to one another, believing that their baptism as infants was not an authentic form of baptism...

Voluntary church membership — In the sixteenth century, every citizen in a given geographical area was automatically a member of the church. The Anabaptists had a different conception of the church, believing that church membership should consist only of those who made a voluntary, adult decision to follow Jesus...

Separation of church and state — The Anabaptists did not think it was appropriate to link the church and the government. In the sixteenth century, however, this link was taken for granted by most other Christians. ...The Anabaptists argued that government officials should not have the authority to determine a citizen's church affiliation or a church's theology, and they therefore called for the separation of the church and the state.

Pacifism — In a society racked by violence and selfishness, Anabaptists called for placing the way of Jesus above self- and group-interest. ...

Because of their new ideas, the Anabaptists often found themselves persecuted by other Christians, both Protestant and Catholic. Indeed, thousands of Anabaptist suffered martyrdom during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries.

(from www.messiah.edu/siderinstitute)

From BIC-Church.org:

The theological roots of the Brethren in Christ Church reach back to the Protestant Reformation. At that time, reformers called Anabaptists stressed the importance of a personal responsibility toward one's baptism (believer's baptism), as well as the importance of discipleship, and obedience, the separation of church and state, the practice of non-resistance, and the necessity of community. This Anabaptist strain within our church's "theological DNA" shows itself most particularly in our emphases on the community of faith, to serving compassionately, to living simply, and to pursuing peace.