

Committing the Gospel to Faithful Men

A Discipleship Manual for Aspiring Teachers

“And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.”

2 Timothy 2:2 (KJV)

An Apostolic (Oneness) Pentecostal discipleship course

Contents

How to Use This Manual

Course Goal

Module 1: The Resurrection and Pentecost

Module 2: Grace, Faith, and Justification

Module 3: Union with Christ

Module 4: The Church

Module 5: Holy Living

Module 6: Future Hope

Module 7: Leadership

Module 8: Commission

Final Charge

How to Use This Manual

This manual is built on a single verse — 2 Timothy 2:2 — and a single aim: to hand the whole gospel, intact, to the next preacher, who can then hand it on again. It is not information to collect; it is a trust to carry.

For the instructor

Teach one module per session. Have the student read each key Scripture aloud, work through the discussion questions together, assign the memory verse, and complete the assignment before the next meeting. Do not rush. The goal is not that the student has heard all eight modules, but that he can teach all eight to someone else.

For the student

You are preparing to teach the Word to others. Read with your Bible open; never take a quotation on trust — look it up, read it in context, and prove it (1 Thessalonians 5:21). When you finish, you should be able to open the Scriptures and show another person the Resurrection, the new birth, and the gift of the Spirit from the text itself.

A note on the title

Some use the phrase “Paul’s gospel” to teach that Paul preached a different message from the one proclaimed at Pentecost. This manual holds the opposite: there is one gospel. The death, burial, and resurrection Paul summarizes in 1 Corinthians 15:3-4 and the repentance, baptism in Jesus’ name, and infilling of the Spirit that Peter preached in Acts 2:38 are not two gospels but one — the finished work of Christ, and the God-appointed way that finished work is received.

Course Goal

To equip faithful men with the full gospel of Jesus Christ: that the Resurrection is the foundation of salvation, that the new birth of water and Spirit (John 3:5; Acts 2:38) is the entrance into the kingdom of God, and that the infilling of the Holy Ghost is accompanied by speaking with tongues, as demonstrated throughout the book of Acts.

CORE TRUTH

Without the Resurrection, there is no gospel (1 Corinthians 15:12-19).

Without the new birth, there is no entrance into the kingdom (John 3:5).

Therefore the Resurrection makes salvation *possible*, and the new birth makes salvation *actual*.

Module 1: The Resurrection and Pentecost

OBJECTIVE

Establish the Resurrection of Jesus Christ as the foundation of salvation, and the day of Pentecost (Acts 2:38) as the appointed entrance into new-covenant life.

THE TEACHING

Paul stakes the entire gospel on one historical event: “if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins” (1 Corinthians 15:17). The Resurrection is not an appendix to the message — it is the message’s power. A dead saviour saves no one; a risen Lord saves to the uttermost.

But a salvation accomplished must be applied, and the Lord Himself appointed how. On the day of Pentecost, Peter preached the risen Christ; and when the convicted crowd cried out, “what shall we do?”, he did not leave them guessing. He gave them Acts 2:38 — repentance, baptism in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and the gift of the Holy Ghost.

That infilling of the Spirit came with a recognizable sign. At Jerusalem (Acts 2), at the house of Cornelius (Acts 10), and at Ephesus (Acts 19), those who received the Spirit spoke with tongues as the Spirit gave utterance. The Resurrection makes salvation possible; the new birth makes salvation actual.

KEY SCRIPTURES

“Christ died for our sins... was buried, and... rose again the third day according to the scriptures” — 1 Corinthians 15:3-4

The gospel in its simplest form: death, burial, resurrection.

“Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost” — Acts 2:38

The Spirit-breathed response to the risen Christ — how the Resurrection is applied to a sinner.

“they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance” — Acts 2:4

The same pattern recurs in Acts 10:44-46 and Acts 19:6.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Why does Paul say our faith is “vain” without the Resurrection?
2. How does Acts 2:38 take the finished work of Christ and apply it to a person today?
3. What is the consistent sign of the Spirit’s infilling across Acts 2, 10, and 19?
4. In your own words: how do the Resurrection and Pentecost fit together?

MEMORY VERSE

“Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; and... was buried, and... rose again the third day.” (1 Corinthians 15:3-4)

ASSIGNMENT

Read Acts 2 in full. Write out, in order, every step Peter’s sermon moves through — from the Spirit’s outpouring to the three thousand added that day.

Module 2: Grace, Faith, and Justification

OBJECTIVE

Show that salvation is by grace through faith, and that true faith is an obedient faith that enters the new birth.

THE TEACHING

Salvation is never earned. “By grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast” (Ephesians 2:8-9). Grace is the source; faith is the empty hand that receives it. No sinner contributes to his own redemption.

Yet the faith that saves is not bare mental agreement. Scripture calls it “the obedience of faith” (Romans 1:5; 16:26) and rejoices when believers “obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine” (Romans 6:17). Faith believes God enough to do what He says — and what He says is the new birth.

Justification — being counted righteous before God — rests on the risen Christ, who “was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification” (Romans 4:25). Grace is the fountain, faith the channel, the new birth the door. All of it is God’s gift; none of it is optional.

KEY SCRIPTURES

“For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God” — Ephesians 2:8-9

Salvation originates in God’s grace, not human merit.

“Who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification” — Romans 4:25

Our standing before God is secured by the Resurrection.

“ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you” — Romans 6:17

Saving faith expresses itself in obedience to the gospel.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. If salvation is a gift, why is obedience still necessary?
2. What is the difference between believing facts about Christ and the “obedience of faith”?
3. How does the Resurrection relate to our justification?
4. How would you answer someone who says obedience to Acts 2:38 is “works salvation”?

MEMORY VERSE

“For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God.” (Ephesians 2:8)

ASSIGNMENT

Write a short paragraph (half a page) explaining how grace, faith, and obedience work together without contradicting one another.

Module 3: Union with Christ

OBJECTIVE

Teach that in the new birth the believer is joined to Christ's death, burial, and resurrection.

THE TEACHING

The new birth is not merely a decision about Christ; it is a participation in Christ. "Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?... we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead... even so we also should walk in newness of life" (Romans 6:3-4).

This is why the gospel events and the new-birth experience mirror each other exactly: Christ died, was buried, and rose; the believer repents (dies to sin), is buried in baptism, and rises filled with the Spirit. We do not merely remember the gospel — we enter it.

The result is a new identity. "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me" (Galatians 2:20). The old life is reckoned dead; the risen Christ now lives His life through the believer.

KEY SCRIPTURES

"we are buried with him by baptism into death... even so we also should walk in newness of life" — Romans 6:4

Baptism unites us to the burial and resurrection of Christ.

"I am crucified with Christ... Christ liveth in me" — Galatians 2:20

Union with Christ produces a wholly new life.

"if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new" — 2 Corinthians 5:17

The new birth is a new creation, not a reformed old one.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How does the new-birth experience mirror the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ?
2. What does it mean practically that "Christ liveth in me"?
3. Why is it important that the believer is a "new creature," not just an improved one?
4. How does union with Christ give assurance and strength for holy living?

MEMORY VERSE

"I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me." (Galatians 2:20)

ASSIGNMENT

List the three gospel events (death, burial, resurrection) and, beside each, the part of the new-birth experience that corresponds to it.

Module 4: The Church

OBJECTIVE

Define the Church biblically as the body of the born-again, built on the one Lord Jesus Christ.

THE TEACHING

The Church is not a building, a program, or a denomination. It is “the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood” (Acts 20:28) — the whole company of those born again of water and of the Spirit (John 3:5).

Paul defines its unity with sevenfold precision: “There is one body, and one Spirit... One Lord, one faith, one baptism, One God and Father of all” (Ephesians 4:4-6). The oneness of the Church flows from the oneness of God revealed in Jesus Christ. There is one Lord — and that Lord is God with us.

No committee runs the door of the Church. “The Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved” (Acts 2:47). Our task is to preach the gospel faithfully; the adding is His.

KEY SCRIPTURES

“There is one body, and one Spirit... One Lord, one faith, one baptism” — Ephesians 4:4-6

The Church’s unity rests on the oneness of God in Christ.

“And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved” — Acts 2:47

The Lord Himself builds His Church through the preached gospel.

“For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body” — 1 Corinthians 12:13

Entrance into the Church is by the Spirit, through the new birth.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What is the biblical definition of the Church?
2. How does the oneness of God shape the oneness of the Church?
3. Who adds members to the Church, and what does that mean for our methods?
4. How should Ephesians 4:4-6 guide the way we treat other believers?

MEMORY VERSE

■ ***“One Lord, one faith, one baptism.”*** (Ephesians 4:5)

ASSIGNMENT

Memorize the seven “ones” of Ephesians 4:4-6 and be ready to explain what each one means.

Module 5: Holy Living

OBJECTIVE

Teach that the indwelling Spirit produces a transformed, holy life — the fruit of salvation, not its price.

THE TEACHING

The Spirit who fills the believer does not leave him unchanged. “I beseech you therefore, brethren... that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God... And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind” (Romans 12:1-2).

Holiness is not the root of salvation but its fruit. “The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance” (Galatians 5:22-23). Where the Spirit truly dwells, this fruit grows.

Scripture will not let us treat holiness as optional: “Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord” (Hebrews 12:14). We pursue holiness not to be saved, but because we are — and because we will see Him.

KEY SCRIPTURES

“present your bodies a living sacrifice... be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind” — Romans 12:1-2

Salvation reorders the whole of life, inside and out.

“the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance” — Galatians 5:22-23

Holy character is the natural yield of the indwelling Spirit.

“Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord” — Hebrews 12:14

Holiness is not negotiable for those who would see God.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Why is holiness called the fruit of salvation rather than its cause?
2. Which fruit of the Spirit do you most need to grow in, and why?
3. How do Romans 12:1-2 describe transformation — where does it begin?
4. How would you counsel a new convert who struggles to live holy?

MEMORY VERSE

“present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.” (Romans 12:1)

ASSIGNMENT

Keep a one-week journal: each day, note one way the Spirit prompted you toward Christlike character, and how you responded.

Module 6: Future Hope

OBJECTIVE

Show that the Resurrection of Christ guarantees the believer's future resurrection and eternal life.

THE TEACHING

The gospel does not end at conversion; it reaches to the grave and beyond.

Because Christ rose, His people will rise. "Behold, I shew you a mystery... we shall all be changed... the dead shall be raised incorruptible" (1 Corinthians 15:51-52).

For the believer this is not dread but "that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ" (Titus 2:13). The Lord Himself shall descend, and "the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive... shall be caught up... to meet the Lord in the air" (1 Thessalonians 4:16-17).

Therefore labour is never wasted. Paul closes his great resurrection chapter: "be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord" (1 Corinthians 15:58).

KEY SCRIPTURES

"your labour is not in vain in the Lord" — 1 Corinthians 15:58

The certainty of resurrection fuels steadfast service now.

"the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive... shall be caught up... to meet the Lord" — 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17

The believer's hope at Christ's coming.

"Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ" — Titus 2:13

Our future is a Person — the returning Lord.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How does Christ's resurrection guarantee ours?
2. Why does Paul connect the future resurrection to present faithfulness (1 Cor 15:58)?
3. What does it mean that our "blessed hope" is the appearing of Christ Himself?
4. How should the hope of resurrection shape the way a preacher comforts the grieving?

MEMORY VERSE

"be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord... your labour is not in vain in the Lord." (1 Corinthians 15:58)

ASSIGNMENT

Write out 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17 and list, in order, the events it describes at the coming of the Lord.

Module 7: Leadership

OBJECTIVE

Charge faithful men to preserve, rightly handle, and teach the whole counsel of God.

THE TEACHING

A preacher is first a steward of truth. “All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine... that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works” (2 Timothy 3:16-17). The whole Bible, not a favorite corner of it, is the preacher’s charge.

That charge demands diligence: “Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth” (2 Timothy 2:15). And it demands character — a leader must be “blameless... vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, apt to teach” (1 Timothy 3:2). Gift without character wrecks a ministry.

Above all, the preacher guards what he was given. “That good thing which was committed unto thee keep by the Holy Ghost which dwelleth in us” (2 Timothy 1:14). He preaches the word “in season, out of season” (2 Timothy 4:2), adding nothing and subtracting nothing.

KEY SCRIPTURES

“Study to shew thyself approved unto God... rightly dividing the word of truth” — 2 Timothy 2:15

Faithful leadership is built on diligent, accurate handling of Scripture.

“All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine” — 2 Timothy 3:16-17

The preacher is accountable to the whole of Scripture.

“Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season” — 2 Timothy 4:2

The call is to preach faithfully whether convenient or not.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What does it mean to “rightly divide” the word of truth?
2. Why does Scripture tie leadership so closely to character (1 Timothy 3)?
3. What is the “good thing committed” that a preacher must guard?
4. Name one area where you need to grow before you are ready to lead others.

MEMORY VERSE

“Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.” (2 Timothy 2:15)

ASSIGNMENT

Read 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and 2 Timothy 2:1-15. List the qualities required of a leader, and mark the two you most want God to develop in you.

Module 8: Commission

OBJECTIVE

Send each student out to teach the Resurrection, the new birth, and the sign of the Spirit — and to raise up others who will do the same.

THE TEACHING

The manual ends where Paul's charge begins: multiplication. "The things that thou hast heard of me... the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also" (2 Timothy 2:2). Four generations are in that one verse — Paul, Timothy, faithful men, and others. A preacher who only gathers, and never reproduces, breaks the chain.

The commission is clear and unchanging: "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them... Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you" (Matthew 28:19-20) — a command the apostles carried out by baptizing in the name of the Lord Jesus (Acts 2:38; 8:16; 10:48; 19:5). "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved... and these signs shall follow them that believe" (Mark 16:16-17).

So teach it whole: the Resurrection is the foundation, Pentecost is the entrance, and the Spirit is given with a recognizable sign. Then find faithful men, and commit it to them.

KEY SCRIPTURES

"the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also" — 2 Timothy 2:2

The goal of all teaching is reproducing teachers.

"Go ye therefore, and teach all nations... Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you" — Matthew 28:19-20

The Great Commission, fulfilled in the name of Jesus (Acts 2:38).

"He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved... these signs shall follow them that believe" — Mark 16:16-17

The commission carries the promise of the Spirit's confirming signs.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How many "generations" of teaching are contained in 2 Timothy 2:2?
2. What are the three things every student of this manual must be able to teach?
3. How do Matthew 28:19 and Acts 2:38 fit together?
4. Who is one "faithful man" you could begin to disciple with this manual?

MEMORY VERSE

"And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also." (2 Timothy 2:2)

ASSIGNMENT

Choose one faithful person and make a plan to teach them these eight modules. Write down their name, when you will begin, and your first step.

Final Charge

You have been handed something that was handed to others before you, all the way back to the apostles. Guard it, live it, and give it away.

“Remember that Jesus Christ of the seed of David was raised from the dead according to my gospel.” (2 Timothy 2:8)

“Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.” (John 3:5)

The Resurrection is the foundation.

Pentecost is the entrance.

The Spirit is given with a recognizable sign.

Now go, and commit it to faithful men.

Instructor's Answer Key

These are suggested answers to guide discussion, not a rigid script. Several questions call for personal reflection or application; let the student answer those honestly, then point him to the Scriptures listed.

Module 1 — The Resurrection and Pentecost

1. Because if Christ did not rise, sin is unatoned and death unconquered; there is no living Saviour to save (1 Corinthians 15:17).
2. It is the God-appointed response to the risen Christ — repentance, baptism in Jesus' name for remission, and receiving the Spirit — the point at which His death, burial, and resurrection become ours.
3. Speaking with tongues as the Spirit gives utterance (Acts 2:4; 10:46; 19:6).
4. Summary answer: the Resurrection accomplishes salvation; Pentecost / the new birth applies it. (Allow the student to state it in his own words.)

Module 2 — Grace, Faith, and Justification

1. A gift must still be received, and God has appointed how it is received — obedient faith (Romans 6:17). Obedience does not earn grace; it lays hold of it.
2. Mere mental assent agrees that something is true; saving faith trusts God enough to obey the gospel (Romans 1:5; James 2).
3. "Raised again for our justification" (Romans 4:25) — the living Christ secures our righteous standing before God.
4. Obedience is the empty hand that receives grace, not a wage that earns it; baptism and faith are God's appointed means, so boasting is still excluded (Ephesians 2:8-9).

Module 3 — Union with Christ

1. Repentance answers to Christ's death (death to sin), baptism to His burial, and the infilling of the Spirit to His resurrection (Romans 6:3-4).
2. The believer's life is now empowered and directed by the indwelling Christ rather than by self (Galatians 2:20).
3. Salvation is re-creation, not reformation; "old things are passed away... all things are become new" (2 Corinthians 5:17).
4. Because our life is now hid with Christ, His resurrection life supplies the power to live holy.

Module 4 — The Church

1. The body of the born-again — those born of water and Spirit, purchased by Christ's blood — not a building or a denomination.
2. There is one Lord (God revealed in Christ), and that oneness grounds one body, one faith, one baptism (Ephesians 4:4-6).
3. The Lord adds to the church (Acts 2:47); our task is to preach faithfully and leave the increase to Him.
4. Personal / application — it should move us toward humility, peace, and unity with other believers.

Module 5 — Holy Living

1. Because it flows from the indwelling Spirit; we are saved unto good works, not by them (Ephesians 2:10).
2. Personal reflection.
3. With the renewing of the mind — transformation begins inwardly before it shows outwardly (Romans 12:2).
4. Personal / application — point them to walking in the Spirit (Galatians 5:16) and to patient growth under grace.

Module 6 — Future Hope

1. Christ is the firstfruits; the same power that raised Him will raise His people (1 Corinthians 15:20-23).
2. Because the certainty of resurrection makes present labour meaningful — it “is not in vain in the Lord” (1 Corinthians 15:58).
3. Our hope is a Person returning, not merely an event — the appearing of Christ Himself (Titus 2:13).
4. Personal / application — comfort them from 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18: we do not sorrow as those without hope.

Module 7 — Leadership

1. To handle Scripture accurately and in context, teaching the whole counsel of God rather than a favorite part (2 Timothy 2:15).
2. Because gift without character destroys a ministry; the qualifications of 1 Timothy 3 are almost entirely about character.
3. The sound doctrine and gospel entrusted to the preacher, to be guarded by the Holy Ghost (2 Timothy 1:14).
4. Personal reflection.

Module 8 — Commission

1. Four: Paul, Timothy, faithful men, and the others they will teach (2 Timothy 2:2).
2. The Resurrection, the new birth, and the sign of the Spirit.
3. The apostles obeyed the Great Commission by baptizing in the name of the Lord Jesus — the singular name of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost (Acts 2:38; 8:16; 10:48; 19:5).
4. Personal / application.

BIBLE PROPHECY EXPLORER

Certificate of Completion

Committing the Gospel to Faithful Men

This certifies that

(name)

has faithfully completed this course of study, and is charged to commit it to faithful men
who shall be able to teach others also.

"Remember that Jesus Christ... was raised from the dead according to my gospel." — 2 Timothy 2:8

Date

Instructor