

CHURCH.

LESSON 32

1	PRAYER
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Group leader. Pray and commit your group and this course on building Christ's Church to the Lord.

2	SHARING (20 minutes) <i>[QUIET TIMES]</i> TITUS 1 - 3
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Take turns and **share** (or **read** from your notes) in short what you have learned from one of your quiet times with God out of the assigned Bible passages (Titus 1 to 3).

Listen to the person sharing, take him serious and accept him. Do not discuss what he shares. Take notes.

3	MEMORISATION (5 minutes) <i>[KEY VERSES IN JOHN]</i> (12) JOHN 12:32
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Review two by two.

(12) John 12:32. But I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to myself.

4	BIBLE STUDY (85 minutes) <i>[THE GOSPEL OF JOHN]</i> JOHN 14:1-31
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Introduce. Make use of the five steps method of Bible study to study John 14:1-31 together. John chapters 14 to 17 consist of the discourses and prayer of Jesus at the Last Supper. In John chapter 14, *Jesus comforts* his disciples. He promises the continuous presence of the Holy Spirit and greater works that the disciples will do.

<u>STEP 1. READ.</u>	GOD'S WORD
Read. LET US READ John 14:1-31 together. Let us take turns to read one verse each until we have completed the reading.	

<u>STEP 2. DISCOVER.</u>	OBSERVATIONS
Consider. WHICH TRUTH IN THIS PASSAGE IS IMPORTANT FOR YOU? Or WHICH TRUTH IN THIS PASSAGE TOUCHES YOUR MIND OR HEART? Record. Discover one or two truths that you understand. Think about them and write your thoughts in your notebook. Share. (After the group members have had about two minutes to think and write, take turns to share). Let us take turns to share with one another what each of us has discovered. (Remember: In every small group, the group members will share different things)	

14:1-4

Discovery 1. The reason why Christians can have constant trust in God.

Jesus literally says, "Do not let your hearts be troubled *any longer*. *Continue* to trust in God. *Continue* to trust in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling-places... And when I go and prepare a place for you, I come again and will take you to be face to face with me, in order that where I am you may be also." The hearts of the disciples were filled with many kinds of emotions. They were *sad* because Christ said he was going to leave them. They were *ashamed* because they had been quarrelling about who was the greatest. They were *perplexed* because of Jesus' prediction that one of them would betray him, another would deny him, and all would fall away from him. They were *wavering* in their faith because they were probably thinking how it was possible that the Messiah could be betrayed. At the same time they *loved* Jesus and hoped that things would change. Their faith was being tested. Therefore Jesus commanded them to continue to trust. They *can continue to trust* because Jesus Christ is equal with God the Father and because he is coming back to take them to be together with him in the new heaven and the new earth! The purpose of his going away is to prepare their permanent reunion. That is why his 'going away' is not a calamity, but a blessing! The Father's house is 'heaven' and in the future Christians will live there. Because believers look forward to this permanent reunion with Christ, they can keep on trusting him.

14:5-6

Discovery 2. The reason why Jesus is called the Way, the Truth and the Life.

In verse 6, Jesus says, "I AM the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me".

(1) Jesus is the way.

He does not merely *show* the way to God (as a prophet does). He *IS himself* the only way to God. Jesus Christ is God. In his divine nature he is equal to each one of his divine attributes, because he possesses each attribute in an infinite degree. For example, he not only do loving things, but he is love and nothing but love. Likewise, he does not merely do what is right, but IS righteousness and nothing but righteousness, etc. Likewise he is also holiness, faithfulness, etc. (cf. 1 Corinthians 1:30). He IS the way, the truth, the life and nothing but the way, the truth and the life. In every one of his deeds, words and attitudes, Jesus Christ IS the way between God and his elect. Jesus Christ is the way from God to man. All the divine blessings come down from God the Father through God the Son.

Jesus Christ is also the way from man to God. He is the only way from man to God! No religion on earth and no good work any man can do on earth can be a ladder that leads to God in heaven! He is the only One who can restore the broken relationship between man and God. Whoever believes in Jesus Christ will have uninhibited access to God.

(2) Jesus is the truth.

He is himself the embodiment of truth. The Absolute Reality to which the shadows in the Old Testament point, is Jesus Christ (Colossians 2:17; Hebrews 10:1). He reveals the truth about GOD, about man and about salvation and judgement. God's Word is the truth (John 17:17) and is revealed to us by Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ is also the only dependable Source of truth, the Only One who has revealed and implemented God's eternal plan of salvation to people (Revelation 5:5). He is the visible Image (manifestation) of the invisible God (Colossians 1:15; 2:9). He is the visible Radiance of God's glory and the exact Representation of his Divine Being (Hebrews 1:3).

Whoever knows Jesus Christ, knows God the Father (John 14:7). Christ himself is the truth as opposed to lies (untruths). He hates lies and opposes lies. Whoever believes in Jesus Christ will know the Creator and Saviour more and more until he will know him fully. The truth will take hold of him and influence him powerfully. The truth will set him free, guide him and sanctify him completely (John 8:32; 16:13; 17:17).

(3) Jesus is the life.

- "The life" in Jesus means that all the glorious attributes of God dwell in Jesus Christ (John 1:4). Because Jesus Christ has life in himself, he is the Source of life for Christians (John 1:4; 3:16).
- As "the Light of Life" Jesus Christ reveals the attributes (divine characteristics) of God to people.
- As "the word of life" Christ reveals the will of God to Christians so that they may have fellowship with God the Father (John 8:12; 6:68).

He came into the world so that Christians may have life and abundance (John 10:10). Christ himself is life as opposed to death. He conquered spiritual death, physical death and eternal death in hell. Whoever believes in Jesus Christ will have spiritual life, will be resurrected from physical death and will never suffer eternal death in hell! The life in Jesus will regenerate him, transform his lowly body and make him an heir who shares in Christ's inheritance of the new heaven and the new earth. Just as "death" means separation from God, "life" means fellowship with God! Jesus Christ set me free from my sins and gave me uninhibited access to God and abundant fellowship with God.

STEP 3. QUESTION.

EXPLANATIONS

Consider. WHICH QUESTION ABOUT ANYTHING IN THIS PASSAGE WOULD YOU LIKE TO ASK TO THIS GROUP?

Let us try to understand all the truths in John 14:1-31 and ask questions about the things we still do not understand.

Record. Formulate your question as clearly as possible. Then write your question in your notebook.

Share. (After the group members have had about two minutes to think and write, let each person first share his question.)

Discuss. (Then, choose a few of these questions and try to answer them by discussing them together in your group.)

(The following are examples of questions the students might ask and some notes about the discussion of the questions.)

14:7-9

Question 1. What does it mean to really know God?

Notes. In John 14:7-9 Jesus says, "If you really knew me, you would know my Father as well. From now on, you do *know* him and have *seen* him... Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father". Jesus says that his disciples had too often failed to see that he is the only way, which gives access to God, the only truth, which sanctifies people for God, and the only life, which gives abundant fellowship with God. If they had more carefully pondered his words and observed his deeds, then they would have learned to know (Greek: ginuskó) (perfect tense) Christ better. And then they would *continually* know (by observation, study and experience) (Greek: ginuskó) God the Father. From now on the disciples *continually* know (Greek: ginuskó) (present continuous tense) him and have seen him so that his image *constantly* remains before their eyes (Greek: heóraka) (perfect tense)!

No one in the Old Testament has had this privilege to see, recognise and know God the Father in such a concrete, visible and even permanent way as is now happening in the New Testament in Jesus Christ! The verbs in the original

language (perfect tenses) indicate that this spiritual knowledge and vision of God the Father in Christ has abiding results. The believer will forever continue to know and see God the Father in Jesus Christ!

The entire passage points out clearly that the revelation of God and salvation are impossible apart from Jesus Christ! The final and permanent revelation of God and his plan of salvation are only realised in Jesus Christ (cf. Hebrews 1:1-2)! No other religion in the world reveals the invisible God visibly within his creation and within human history (by God taking on the human nature in Jesus Christ)! Therefore, “to know God” means that someone knows and sees God spiritually (with spiritual eyes) in Jesus Christ. He has gained access to God the Father through Jesus Christ. He has been saved and sanctified in Christ. He now has abundant fellowship with God through Christ!

14:12

Question 2. What are the greater works that Christians will do?

Notes. In John 14:12 Jesus promises his disciples, “I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father”. It is an advantage for the disciples that Jesus is going to the Father in heaven, because it will make them much more effective! They will be able to perform the works that Jesus had been doing, that is, miracles in the physical realm. But they will also be able to perform greater works than these, that is, miracles in the spiritual realm!

According to John 5:20-24, the works of Jesus had consisted to a considerable extent of miracles in the physical realm, like healing the sick and raising the dead, and these were performed largely among the Jews. The greater works of the disciples will be of a higher character and vaster in extent. The greater works of the disciples will especially consist of the conversion of people and making them disciples in all the Gentile nations in the world! Jesus is thinking of his work through his disciples in the world. He was thinking of passages like John 12:23-32, where he would draw all men to himself and of John 17:20, where he would pray for all the people who would believe in him through the message of the disciples. But these greater works can only be done after the death and resurrection of Christ and the outpouring of the Spirit of Christ on the disciples.

14:13-14

Question 3. May Christians ask for anything in prayer?

Notes.

(1) Prayer and the greater works in Acts.

In John 14:13 Jesus promises his disciples, “I will do whatever you ask in my name”. This verse may not be taken out of context. Otherwise people will abuse this promise and ask for all kinds of selfish things. This verse refers to the greater works of verse 12. The greater works of verse 12 need the prayers of the disciples in verse 13! In the book of Acts, both works in the physical realm as well as works in the spiritual realm were connected to prayer. For example, the prayer in Acts 4:24 was followed by boldly proclaiming the gospel. The prayer in Acts 6:4 was followed by the spreading of the word of God and the rapid increase in numbers of those who became obedient to the Christian faith. The prayers by Cornelius and Peter in Acts 10:2,9 resulted in the conversion of the first Gentiles to the Christian faith. And the prayers in Acts 12:5,12 resulted in the release of Peter from prison!

(2) Prayer in the name of Jesus Christ.

The prayers that Jesus Christ will answer should be prayers in his name. Praying “in the name of Jesus” means praying on the basis of his completed work of salvation and praying according to his sovereign will. What he has revealed has been recorded in the Bible. But because he has not revealed everything concerning his sovereign will, Christians need to pray in faith and trust that his answer is always the best answer! Christians should always pray, “Not my will, but your will be done” (Luke 22:42). Sometimes Christ’s answer will be “yes”; sometimes “no” and sometimes “wait”! The Christian who has prayed in this way may believe that whatever happens thereafter is the perfect will of God!

14:16

Question 4. Why is the Holy Spirit called “another” Counsellor?

Notes. The original word in Greek for “Counsellor” is “Paraclete” (Greek: paraklétos) It does not have the passive meaning of “Someone called to assist you” like an “Advocate” or a “Counsellor”, as in the Latin Bible translations. It also does not have the passive meaning of “Comforter” as in the Greek Bible translation of Job 16:2. It rather has the active meaning of “Helper”, “Mediator” or “Representative” as in other Greek literature.

(1) Jesus Christ is the Representative (Greek: paraklétos) of Christians with God the Father in heaven (1 John 2:1).

Jesus Christ is the Mediator between God and Christians. He entered heaven to appear in God’s presence for Christians (Hebrews 9:24)! He actively intercedes for Christians in heaven.

(2) The Holy Spirit is the Representative (Greek: paraklétos) of Jesus Christ with Christians on earth (John 16:13-15).

The Holy Spirit is the Mediator between Christ and Christians. He actively explains Christ's words to Christians on earth (John 14:26; 15:26; 16:14). The Holy Spirit applies Christ's completed work of salvation in people's lives on earth.

Thus, the Holy Spirit is "*another* Representative" than the Man, Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit is distinguished from Jesus Christ, but still has the same divine nature as Jesus Christ and is in essence one with God the Father and God the Son. The Holy Spirit is everything to us on earth what Jesus Christ would have been in his human nature if he were still on earth!

14:25-26

Question 5. What is the distinction between the teaching by Jesus and the teaching by the Holy Spirit?

Notes. Jesus says, "All this I have spoken while still with you. But the ... Holy Spirit ... will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you". In these verses, Jesus draws a distinction between his teaching during the time he was still on earth and his teaching through the Holy Spirit during the time he is gloriously exalted in heaven! While Jesus was with his disciples on earth, he taught them many things. The Holy Spirit continued the teaching of Jesus Christ. THE FOUR GOSPELS are full of the teachings of Jesus Christ while he was still on earth.

But some of the most important events had still not taken place. Jesus still had to die, be resurrected, ascend to heaven, take his seat on the throne in heaven and pour out the Holy Spirit! Jesus said that after his physical departure from the earth, he would make many things much clearer to his disciples through the coming Holy Spirit. Jesus promised that the Holy Spirit would teach his disciples everything that is necessary for salvation and for their task as Christ's witnesses. And he promised that the Holy Spirit would remind them of everything he had taught them while he was still on earth. Jesus would continue to fulfil his prophetic task through the teaching of the Holy Spirit. THE BOOK OF ACTS AND THE LETTERS OF THE APOSTLES are full of the teachings of Jesus Christ through the Holy Spirit after his enthronement in heaven.

(1) The Holy Spirit would recall the truths that Jesus spoke while he was still on earth.

Why would he recall old truths? Because through the Holy Spirit, Christ would give his disciples a deeper understanding of the truths he taught on earth. When these words were first spoken on earth, they were barely registered (cf. John 2:22; 12:16). That is why Paul later says (1 Corinthians 2:13), "This is what we speak, not in words taught by human wisdom but *in words taught by the Spirit*, expressing spiritual truths in spiritual words".

(2) The Holy Spirit would teach the disciples new truths.

Why would he teach new truths? Because between this promise and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, there still occurred the following significant events: Christ's crucifixion, resurrection, ascension, enthronement and the outpouring of his Spirit. These events had to be explained so that the people in the world would be able to understand the significance of these events, especially understand the significance of the death and resurrection of Christ.

(3) The apostles needed the Holy Spirit.

The apostles of Jesus Christ would need the Holy Spirit, because especially they would be Christ's eye- and ear-witnesses.

- They would be the official witnesses of his death, resurrection and teachings.
- They would be his instruments to plant the Christian Church among the Jews, the Samaritans and the Gentiles.
- They would be his instruments to write the books of the New Testament.
- They would be the authoritative interpreters of the teachings of Jesus and thus establish the first Christian doctrines.
- They would appoint the new leaders (elders) of the new churches (Acts 14:23)

(4) The Christians today need the Holy Spirit.

That same Holy Spirit:

- teaches Christians today to understand the revelation of God (Christ) in the Bible (not arbitrary new revelations devised in the brain of man) (John 16:13; 1 John 2:27)
 - reminds Christians in their daily situations of life of what Jesus wants them to be and do.
 - gives Christians the love, wisdom, boldness and power to be the witnesses of Jesus Christ on earth (Matthew 10:19-20; 2 Timothy 1:7).
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14:27

Question 6. What is the meaning of the word "peace"?

Notes. The word "peace" has two distinct meanings in the Bible.

- Negatively, "peace" means the absence of bad things that destroy: disputes, war, irritation, anger, anxiety, fear, turbulent feelings, moral conflicts, etc.
- Positive, "peace" means the presence of things that heal what previously was broken: to restore a broken relationship, to take up again an aborted goal, to heal hurt feelings, to bring about everything that God deems necessary in the Christian's life.

Question 7. In what way is God the Father greater than Jesus?

Notes. Jesus says, “If you loved me, you would be glad that I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. I have told you now before it happens, so that when it does happen you will believe”. The Old and New Testaments reveal that Jesus Christ has two distinct natures. God the Father is greater than Jesus Christ only with respect to his human nature!¹

(1) The human nature of Jesus Christ in the Old Testament.

Isaiah (740-680 B.C.) predicts, “For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders” (Isaiah 9:6; cf. 7:14).

(2) The divine nature of Jesus Christ in the Old Testament.

Isaiah continues, “And he will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace” (Isaiah 9:6). In Isaiah 9:6, Jesus Christ is called “the mighty God” (Hebrew: El gibor) and in Isaiah 10:20-23, the LORD (Hebrew: JaHWeH), the Holy One of Israel, is called both “the mighty God” (Hebrew: El gibor) as well as “the Lord LORD Almighty” (Hebrew: Adonai Jahweh Tsibaoth, that is, the Lord of the heavenly armies of angels). Thus, the prophet Isaiah already revealed Jesus Christ as GOD!

(3) The human nature of Jesus Christ in the Gospel of John.

Only when John 14:28 is interpreted apart from the rest of the Bible, some people² conclude that Jesus is not God or the Almighty God. That conclusion is wrong!

When this verse is interpreted in the context of the Gospel of John, it is clear that Jesus is here referring not to his uncreated divine nature, but to his created human nature! As the Mediator between God and man, Jesus Christ is himself a human being and therefore in his created human nature Jesus Christ is “less than” or “subordinate to” God the Father, who is Spirit and thus far greater than any created being! Also John 10:29 says, “My Father is greater than all” and compares here the divine nature of God the Father with the human nature of Jesus Christ when he was still present on earth as Shepherd (John 10:27).

John 14:28 speaks about the period before his resurrection from the dead, when Jesus was still subject to the suffering under sin of people and died in the place of those who believe in him. When Jesus Christ said that God the Father was “more” than he, he was preparing his disciples that he was going to die (cf. Mark 8:31; 9:31; 10:32-34). Thus, only in his state of humiliation (between his birth and his resurrection from the dead) was Jesus Christ “less than” or “subordinate to” God the Father (cf. Philippians 2:6-8).

(4) The divine nature of Jesus Christ in the Gospel of John.

After his resurrection from the dead, the ascension and enthronement Jesus Christ is never again “less than” or “subordinate to” God the Father (Isaiah 45:21-23; Philippians 2:9-11)! Then he is again glorified with the same glory he possessed before he took on the human nature (cf. John 17:5). Then the throne of God in heaven is “the throne of God and of the Lamb (Hebrews 1:8; 12:2; Revelation 5:6; 12:5; 22:3).

In Luke 16:8, the expressions “sons (Greek: huioi) of this world” refers to people who possess all the characteristics of this present sinful world. And the expression “sons (Greek: huioi) of light” refers to people who possess all the characteristics of light. Likewise, when Jesus says, “I AM the Son (Greek: huios) of God” (John 10:36), he expresses the fact that he possesses all the attributes of God, that is, that he is GOD! That is why Jesus says, “I and the Father are one” (John 10:30). “The Father is in me and I in the Father” (John 10:38). “Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father” (John 14:9). And that is why the Gospel of John begins with the words: “In the beginning was the Word and the Word is GOD” (John 1:1). “The Word took on the human nature” (John 1:14). “He has made God known” (John 1:18). Jesus Christ is fully equal to God the Father with respect to his divine essence.

(5) The human nature of Jesus Christ in the Letters of the apostles.

At the incarnation, when God took on the human nature in Jesus Christ, Jesus Christ made himself not only a man, but also a Servant of all men (Mark 10:45) and he even became obedient to death for the sake of saving lost people (Philippians 2:7-8). And at the second coming, Jesus Christ in his function as Mediator between God and man (that is, a function in his human nature) will make himself subject to God the Father, so “that GOD may be all in all” (1 Corinthians 15:28).

(6) The divine nature of Jesus Christ in the Letters of the apostles.

Jesus Christ possesses the very nature of God and is equal with God (Philippians 2:6). Jesus Christ “is the visible image of the invisible God” (Colossians 1:15). “All the fullness of God dwells in Jesus Christ” (Colossians 1:19). “In Christ all

¹ The Divine Nature stands above the limitations of the creation (the dimensions of space and time), while the human nature is a part of the limitations of the creation.

² Jews, Moslems and a few sects reject the fact that Jesus Christ is GOD – that is, that God took on the human nature in Jesus Christ and in Jesus Christ entered his own creation and human history!

the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form” (Colossians 2:9). Jesus Christ is “the radiance of God’s glory and the exact representation of God’s being” (Hebrews 1:3).

Jesus Christ has two natures: as GOD he is fully equal to God the Father and as MAN (during his incarnation) he is subordinate to God the Father. But because his two natures are never separated and also because he is never separated from God the Father and God the Holy Spirit, Christians must view Jesus Christ as “the visible manifestation of the invisible Almighty God” (Colossians 1:15).

(7) Jesus Christ receives the same honour as God the Father.

Jesus says, “All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me” (Matthew 28:18). Paul says that God’s plan is “to bring all things in heaven and on earth together under one head, even Christ” (Ephesians 1:10). Christ “ascended higher than all the heavens in order to fill (make complete, perfect) (Greek: pléroó) the whole universe” (Ephesians 4:10). Peter says that “angels, authorities and powers are in submission to Jesus Christ” (1 Peter 3:22).

Let no one dishonour Jesus Christ by making him less than God the Father. God has entrusted all judgement to the Son (Jesus Christ) “that all may honour the Son just as they honour the Father. “Whoever does not honour the Son does not honour the Father” (John 5:22-23)!

STEP 4. APPLY.

APPLICATIONS

Consider. WHICH TRUTHS IN THIS PASSAGE ARE POSSIBLE APPLICATIONS FOR CHRISTIANS?

Share and record. Let us brainstorm with one another and record a list of possible applications from John 14:1-31.

Consider. WHICH POSSIBLE APPLICATION DOES GOD WANT YOU TO TURN INTO A PERSONAL APPLICATION?

Record. Write this personal application down in your notebook. Feel free to share your personal application.

(Remember that people in every group will apply different truths or even make different applications of the same truth. The following is a list of possible applications.)

1. Examples of possible applications from John 14:1-31.

14:6,9. Get to know God the Father better by getting to know Jesus Christ better.

14:12. Believe that Jesus Christ also has “greater works” for you to accomplish in this world!

14:13. Be bolder and pray that Jesus would do “greater works” through you in this world.

14:21,23. Put the teachings and commandments of Jesus Christ into practice. Then Jesus Christ will reveal himself to you and make his home with you.

14:26. Allow the Holy Spirit to teach you the significance of the teachings of Jesus Christ.

2. Examples of personal applications from John 14:1-31.

I want to enjoy the fact that I know God. Jesus Christ has revealed God the Father and his salvation to me. “To know God” means to have gained access to God the Father through Christ. It means to have been set free and sanctified through Christ. And it means to have abundant fellowship with God the Father through Christ. I have accepted Christ by faith and thus have gained access to God. I continue to study the truth about Christ in the Bible and am more and more set free from sin. I persist to remain in Christ and thus have uninhibited and abundant fellowship with God.

I want to trust Christ and be involved in doing the greater works. *The greater works are the conversion of the Gentile nations!* And these greater works need my prayers. If in the book of Acts (6:4), prayer was followed by the spreading of the Word of God and the rapid increase in numbers of those who became obedient to the Christian faith, I too want to pray and trust God that my prayers will have the same kind of results in my village and province and country.

STEP 5. PRAY.

RESPONSE

LET US TAKE TURNS TO PRAY ABOUT ONE TRUTH THAT GOD HAS TAUGHT US in John 14:1-31.

(Respond in your prayer to what you have learned during this Bible study. Practise to pray only in one or two sentences. Remember that people in every group will pray about different issues.)

5

PRAYER (8 minutes)

[INTERCESSION]
PRAY FOR OTHERS

Continue to pray in groups of two’s or three’s. Pray with one another for one another and for the people in the world (Romans 15:30; Colossians 4:12).

6

PREPARATION (2 minutes)

[ASSIGNMENT]
FOR NEXT LESSON

(**Group leader.** Give the group members this preparation for at home in writing or let them copy it down).

1. Commitment. Be committed to make disciples and build Christ’s Church.

2. Preach, teach or study the Bible study of John 14 together with another person or group of people.
3. Personal time with God. Have a quiet time with God from half a chapter of Hebrews 1 – 3 each day. Make use of the favourite truth method. Make notes.
4. Memorisation. Meditate and memorise the new Bible verse. (13) John 13:34-35. Daily review the last 5 memorised Bible verses.
5. Prayer. Pray for someone or something specific this week and see what God is doing (Psalm 5:3).
6. Update your notebook on building Christ's Church. Include your notes on personal time with God, your memorisation notes, your Bible study notes and this preparation.