

SAMPLE  
COPY

---

# Teach Me Your Way

---

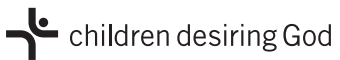
A Study for Youth on Surrender to Jesus  
and Submission to His Way

*By Sally Michael*

---

---

**SAMPLE  
COPY**



Children Desiring God  
P.O. Box 2901  
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0901

Toll-free: 888.346.4700  
[cdg@desiringGOD.org](mailto:cdg@desiringGOD.org)  
[www.childrendesiringGOD.org](http://www.childrendesiringGOD.org)

Copyright © 2008 by Sally Michael. All rights reserved.  
Scripture quotations marked ESV are from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version, copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.  
This publication includes images from Jupiterimages Corporation © 2007, and its licensors, and from Bill Walsh, © Bill Walsh, Clearly Seen, LLC, [clearlyseen.org](http://clearlyseen.org), which are protected by the copyright laws of the U.S., Canada, and elsewhere. Used under license.

Dedicated to my dear friend and sister in the Lord, Kathi Westlund,  
who has submitted to the hard providences of God with faith and joy  
never losing her affection for God.

Kathi, may the Lord “enlarge your heart”  
that you might “run in the way of His commandments.”

(from Psalm 119:32)

# True Religion

**Lord God Almighty,**

*I ask not to be enrolled amongst the earthly great and rich, but to be numbered with the spiritually blessed.*

*Make it my present, supreme, persevering concern to obtain those blessings which are spiritual in their nature, eternal in their continuance, satisfying in their possession.*

*Preserve me from a false estimate of the whole or a part of my character; May I pay regard to my principles as well as my conduct, my motives as well as my actions.*

*Help me never to mistake the excitement of my passions for the renewing of the Holy Spirit, never to judge my religion by occasional impressions and impulses, but by my constant and prevailing disposition.*

*May my heart be right with thee, and my life as becometh the gospel.*

*May I maintain a supreme regard to another and better world, and feel and confess myself a stranger and a pilgrim here.*

*Afford me all the direction, defence, support, and consolation my journey hence requires, and grant me a mind stayed upon thee.*

*Give me large abundance of the supply of the Spirit of Jesus, that I may be prepared for every duty, love thee in all my mercies, submit to thee in every trial, trust thee when walking in darkness, have peace in thee amidst life's changes.*

*Lord, I believe, help thou my unbelief and uncertainties.*

BENNET, ARTHUR, ED. *THE VALLEY OF VISION—A COLLECTION OF PURITAN PRAYERS AND DEVOTIONS*. (EDINBURGH, SCOTLAND: THE BANNER OF TRUTH TRUST, 2002), 118-119.

# Acknowledgements

I recently sat in a Family Discipleship Department meeting at Bethlehem Baptist Church in Minneapolis, Minnesota, and then in an all-day planning meeting at Children Desiring God. Among other thoughts, one that came to my mind with frequency was, “I love working with this group of people.” What a blessing to be working among God’s saints and to partner together in the great calling of bringing forth faith in the next generation by proclaiming the Word of God.

I love the marriage of these two ministries—one in the trenches with the next generation; the other putting forth the vision and teaching to the next generation around the world. What an awesome calling God has placed on our lives! What a joyful partnership in this great task He has given us in each other. I thank God for every team leader, teacher, small group leader, worship leader, ministry assistant, pastor, minister, director, manager for customer service, project manager, director of finance, editor, artist, creative designer, and proofreader who, by the grace of God, is working diligently to accomplish God’s kingdom purposes.

*“To this end [I] pray for you, that our God may make you worthy of His calling and may fulfill every resolve for good and every work of faith by His power, so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in Him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.”*

(1 THESSALONIANS 1:11-12)

Natalie Klewja: worship song selection

Bob Goebel: template design

Allison Goebel, Amy Steward, Heidi Anderson: photo research and graphics resourcing

Karen Hieb: project management

Gary Steward: theological editing

Brian and Kristin Tabb: piloting/structural revision

Dan and Jen Brendsel: cross-referencing

Kathy Thompson, Debbie Head, Doni Grodahl, Shelley and Yoshi Kasahara: proofreading

**A special thanks**

to Brian and Kristin Tabb. You graciously and enthusiastically poured your time and expertise into the revision of this curriculum. It has been a joy to work with you and to see your heart for God, His Word, and for teaching truth to the next generation. In true humility you suggested wonderful ideas, alternate texts, and thoughtful rewording. Your enthusiasm in piloting this curriculum was accompanied by a serious treatment of your responsibility and a joyful camaraderie in ministry, and was a blessing to the students you led.

I respect and love you both. I count you as valuable partners, trusted co-workers, and precious friends. Many thanks for your diligent labors.

*And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.*

GALATIANS 6:9

# Preface

“Teach Me Your Way” is an expression of need, an acknowledgement of dependency, a prayer for help. This portion of Psalm 86:11 demonstrates some very important truths and leads us to the Source of spiritual blessing. God’s ways are not our ways; they are higher than our ways. God’s ways don’t come naturally to us. Therefore, we must be taught the ways of God by God.

It is true that our minds must be taught—we must have an understanding of what is different about the way of God from the way of man. We must know what God expects of His children. But our hearts must be taught as well. Because the ways of God are contrary to our nature, our sinful hearts must learn to embrace the ways of God. Even more, our wills must be taught—they must bend to respond to the work of God in our hearts. This requires surrender to Jesus Christ as our Savior and submission to the will and way of God.

This curriculum is about surrender—surrendering the mind, heart, and will to Jesus Christ in salvation. And it is about submission—submission to the way that God has called His children to operate in this world, submission to God’s pruning work of sanctification, and submission to the will of God. Only God can do the heart transforming work necessary to enable us to faithfully walk in His ways.

Obedience to the will and ways of God often involves a battle for the Christian. For though redeemed, we still struggle with the idols our hearts so naturally want to embrace.

All people are worshippers. What or whom do you worship most? You were created to worship God. If you truly believe that “[in the presence of God] there is fullness of joy, at [His] right hand are pleasures forevermore” then your prayer will be “make known to me the path of life” (paraphrased from Psalm 16:11). May this be your prayer as you walk through this curriculum.

*Teach me Your way, O LORD,  
that I may walk in Your truth;  
unite my heart to fear Your name.*

PSALM 86:11

# Table of Contents

<b>ix</b>	<b>Preface</b>	9	<i>Setting Up the Room</i>
		10	<i>Application Time</i>
		10	<i>Additional Tips for Application Time</i>
	<b>Introduction</b>	11	<i>Student Journal</i>
1	<i>God-Centered Curriculum</i>	11	<i>Additional Tips for Encouraging the Use of the Journals at Home</i>
2	<i>Lesson Order</i>	11	<i>A Note to Parents</i>
2	<i>Intended Use of This Curriculum</i>	12	<i>Encouraging Parent-Student Interaction</i>
2	<i>Roles and Responsibilities of Leaders</i>	12	<i>Adaptation for Christian or Homeschool</i>
2	<i>Tips for Teaching Junior High Students (for Teachers and Mentors)</i>	13	<i>Conclusion</i>
3	<i>Use of Class Time</i>		
3	<i>Worship Time</i>		
4	<i>Lesson Presentation</i>		
4	<i>Teachers</i>		
5	<i>Team Teaching</i>		
5	<i>Bibles</i>		
5	<i>Walking Through a Lesson</i>		
5	<i>Lesson Format</i>		
7	<i>Lesson Presentation</i>		
7	<i>Lesson Examples</i>		
7	<i>Additional Tips for Presenting the Lesson</i>		
8	<i>Small Group Discussions</i>		
9	<i>Tips for Equipping Mentors</i>		

**Lessons**

1 1. Created to Worship God

7 2. The Idolatrous Heart

15 3. God Gave Them Up

23 4. Jesus, the Bread of Life

31 5. The Surpassing Worth of Knowing Christ

39 6. Follow Jesus

47 7. Your Life is Hidden With Christ

55 8. Obedience: The Mark of a Surrendered Heart

65 9. Jesus: Our Example

75 10. Teach Me Your Way

85 11. The Poor in Spirit

93 12. Those Who Mourn

101 13. The Meek

111 14. Those Who Hunger and Thirst for Righteousness

119 15. The Merciful

127 16. The Pure in Heart

135 17. The Peacemaker

143 18. Those Who Are Persecuted for Righteousness' Sake

153 19. The Salt of the Earth

161 20. The Light of the World

169 21. Anger

177 22. Reconciliation

187 23. Lust

197 24. Dying to Self

207 25. Love Your Enemies

215 26. Hypocrisy

223 27. Submission in Prayer

231 28. Store Up Treasures in Heaven

239 29. Faith, Not Anxiety

247 30. Judge Not

257 31. Ask, Seek, Knock

263 32. The Narrow Gate to Life

271 33. Beware of False Prophets

279 34. Genuine Faith Produces Obedience

287 35. Sojourners and Exiles

295 36. Fear God, Not Man

303 37. The Folly of Sin

313 38. Exhort One Another Every Day

323 39. Submit Daily

331 40. The Glory to Come

**Appendices**

I A Note to Parents

II Origami Box Instructions

III Parent Letter—Lesson 23

IV Fs on the Path to Freedom (Tague Harding)

V Battling the Unbelief of Lust (John Piper)

VI God's Will and Human Happiness (R.C. Sproul)

VII Thy Word I Have Treasured in My Heart (John Piper)

VIII Jesus' Obedience and Ours: Demonstrating True Love for God (Bruce Ware) Audio Message on Visuals CD

# Teach Me Your Way

---

**FOCUS STATEMENT:**

**Because the believer operates in God's kingdom, he must submit his mind, heart, and will to learn the ways of God.**

---

**KEY VERSE:**

Teach me Your way, O LORD, that I may walk in Your truth; unite my heart to fear Your name.  
PSALM 86:11

---

**MAIN IDEAS:**

- > God's ways are not our ways; God's ways are higher than man's ways.
- > The Christian operates in God's kingdom.
- > Christ helps believers put off the old self and put on the new self.
- > We must learn the ways of God.
- > Teaching the soul involves an informed mind, a heart desire, and a surrendered will.
- > We should not be stubborn before the Lord, but teachable.

---

**MORE SCRIPTURE:**

- |                         |                       |                   |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| 1) Numbers 11:21-23, 31 | 4) 2 Corinthians 5:17 | 7) Psalm 86:11    |
| 2) Isaiah 55:8-9        | 5) Ephesians 4:17-24  | 8) Psalm 143:10   |
| 3) John 18:36           | 6) Romans 7:18-19     | 9) (Psalm 32:8-9) |

---

**WORSHIP SONGS:**

*Jesus, Lover of My Soul*—Paul Oakley  
*Step by Step*—Rich Mullins  
*Famous One*—Jesse Reeves/Chris Tomlin

*Wonderful, Merciful Savior*—Dawn Rogers/Eric Wyse  
*In Christ Alone*—Keith Getty/Stuart Townend

---

**VISUALS/MATERIALS:**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| > Bible                                 | > Focus visual (Resource Packet CD)       |
| > Chalkboard/chalk or whiteboard/marker | > 4 Swimming Strokes (Resource Packet CD) |
| > Softball and mitt                     |   |

**PREPARATION:**

Study the Scripture passages carefully and prayerfully. Ask God to make them real in your own heart. Be open to what God may be teaching you in this lesson. Study the lesson well. Pray for the students in your class.

Choose two volunteers to help with the opening illustration—one a left-handed student and the other

a right-handed student. If a left-handed student is not available, either recruit someone else or ask one of the volunteers to use the left hand as though left-handed.

NOTE: Be sure to encourage your students to write in their journal in class and at home.

## Small Group Discussion

Choose among the follow-up activities:

(Note: the small group leader may need to come prepared to initiate the discussion.)

Discuss the take-home part of the journal from the last lesson.

Ask the students if God has used the previous lesson to work in their hearts.

Ask the students to share how they applied the last lesson during the week.

Ask the students to comment on something they have been thinking about that they read in *The Pursuit of God*.

Girls: Ask the girls if they learned any lessons from *Hinds' Feet on High Places*.

## Introduction

### Hands-On Demonstration/Illustration

SOFTBALL AND  
MITT

Ask for your two volunteers to come to the front (one left-handed and one right-handed). Go through a few exercises with each student that would require the students to use their dominant hands (e.g., eat something with a fork; catch a ball or throw a ball; write).

- *Did you observe a difference between the two students?*
  - The students respond differently—having different dominant hands—because they are different by nature.
  - We all act according to our nature unless we are trained otherwise. Some people write with their left hands because they are, by nature, left-handed; others write with their right hands because they are, by nature, right-handed.
  - The same thing is true about people's personalities. Some people are by nature more quiet; others are more boisterous and outgoing. A quiet person can make herself be louder or more outgoing, but that person is usually more comfortable acting according to her nature.
- ! The differences between a right-handed and a left-handed person, or between a quiet and a boisterous person are an example to help us see that just as our ways are different from each other's ways, so God's ways are different than ours.
- ! God's thoughts are different from ours; His methods, His means and His purposes are different by nature than ours are by nature.

## Large Group Lessons

*Israel's need for food in the wilderness is a good example of how God's ways are different than man's ways. When God brought Israel out of Egypt into the wilderness, there were 600,000 men—600,000 hungry men. Listen for Moses' response to this.*

*Numbers 11:21-22—But Moses said, “The people among whom I am number six hundred thousand on foot, and You have said, ‘I will give them meat, that they may eat a whole month!’<sup>22</sup> Shall flocks and herds be slaughtered for them, and be enough for them? Or shall all the fish of the sea be gathered together for them, and be enough for them?”*

*Moses is very concerned; in fact he seems quite anxious—how could so many people be fed? How many sheep and goats and cattle would it take to feed 600,000 men?!*

*God, of course, is not concerned. This is His response to Moses.*

*Numbers 11:23, 31—And the LORD said to Moses, “Is the LORD’s hand shortened? Now you shall see whether My word will come true for you or not.”...<sup>31</sup>Then a wind from the LORD sprang up, and it brought quail from the sea and let them fall beside the camp, about a day’s journey on this side and a day’s journey on the other side, around the camp, and about two cubits above the ground.*

**? What is the difference between Moses’ solution and God’s solution?**

*Moses is thinking flocks and herds—sheep, goats, cattle. God is thinking birds! Not that sheep, goats, and cattle would be a problem for Him at all. But God’s ways are different than Moses’ ways! He doesn’t need sheep to feed people. He is planning to bring in a wind to drop quail at their feet. Of course, Moses couldn’t do that. God’s ways are different than our ways. God’s thoughts are different than our thoughts. God’s means are different than our means.*

! God’s character is different than our character as well. God’s nature and His ways are better and higher than our ways.

Ask someone to read Isaiah 55:8-9:

*Isaiah 55:8-9—For My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways, declares the LORD.<sup>9</sup> For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways and My thoughts than your thoughts.*

**Review**

Write the following chart on the board while you are sharing the points below.

<b>God</b>		<b>Man</b>
thoughts	≠	thoughts
ways	≠	ways

- God’s thoughts are not our thoughts.
- God’s ways are not our ways.

- God's responses, nature, thoughts, and ways are different than ours and so too is His kingdom.

Ask someone to read Jesus' words to Pilate, a powerful earthly governor.

---

*John 18:36—Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, My servants would have been fighting, that I might not be delivered over to the Jews. But My kingdom is not from the world.”*

---

**? What is implied in this verse about the difference between Jesus' kingdom and the kingdom of this world? [God's kingdom is better than the kingdom of man]**

*If you had a choice between living in a shack with selfish peasants or in a palace with a good king, where would you live? We have the privilege through Christ Jesus of entering the palace—of living in the king's world, of belonging to a different kingdom.*

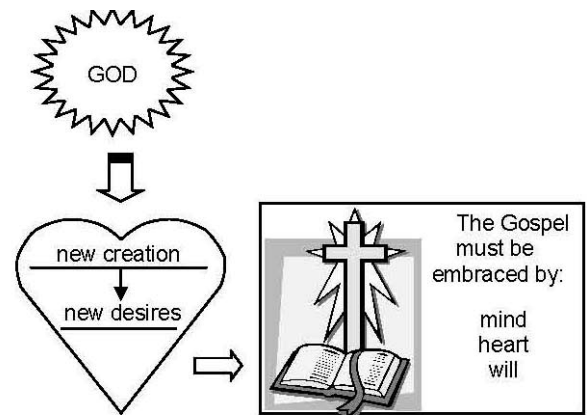
**Review**

**In what three areas of your life must you embrace the truth of the Gospel of King Jesus?**

[mind, heart, will]

(As you teach through this section, encourage the students to fill out the diagram in the journal.)

*Trusting in Jesus as your Savior makes you a part of another kingdom—the kingdom of God, where the ways, means, purposes, and methods are far superior than in the kingdom of man.*



**Review**

**What action must God take before we ever have the desire or ability to embrace the Gospel?**

- God must make us new men (new creations) with new desires for Christ and His ways. Paul calls this action of God “a new creation”: “if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away...the new has come” (2 Corinthians 5:17).
- This means that the Christian operates in a whole different kingdom with a whole different way of being and doing. Those who are in Christ should no longer walk according to the sinful patterns and practices of this world.

**Focus Statement**

(Show the Focus visual.)



**Because the believer operates in God's kingdom, he must submit his mind, heart, and will to learn the ways of God.**

*In your small groups, you are going to look at Ephesians 4:17-22 together to discover the contrast between the life submitted to the rule of sin and the life submitted to the rule of Jesus.*

**Small Group Discussion**

**DISCUSSION 10A**

Read the following verses and answer the questions:

(Instruct the students to circle in the journal those things that describe unbelievers that do not live for God, and underline those things that describe men that have been changed by God.)

*Ephesians 4:17-24—Now this I say and testify in the Lord, that you must no longer walk as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their minds.<sup>18</sup> They are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their hardness of heart.<sup>19</sup> They have become callous and have given themselves up to sensuality, greedy to practice every kind of impurity.<sup>20</sup> But that is not the way you learned Christ!<sup>21</sup>—assuming that you have heard about Him and were taught in Him, as the truth is in Jesus,<sup>22</sup> to put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires,<sup>23</sup> and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds,<sup>24</sup> and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.*

When Paul says Gentiles what does he mean? [those who are not trusting in Christ for salvation]

What actions of unbelievers did you underline in the journal? What is the cause of these actions? [unbeliever's alienation from God; hardness of heart; unwillingness to surrender to Christ]

The word "but" signals a contrast. What is the contrast Paul is making? [contrasting the believer with the unbeliever—the believer is not like the unbeliever]

What is Paul referring to when he says, "That is not the way you learned Christ"? [salvation] Does this seem like unusual terminology? Is this the way the Bible usually talks about salvation?

Unusual terminology is an indication that a writer is trying to say something specific, that he has something he wants to make sure the reader does not miss. What do you think Paul is saying in this phrase? [that salvation is not just a moment of experience but it includes daily learning who Christ is and daily learning from Him; in salvation, our understanding is enlightened and we embrace the truth we understand and the person of Christ who that truth points to—we continue learning about Christ and His ways and His truth]

What words and phrases did you underline in this passage that describe believers?

What is Paul saying to the Christian in verse 22 with the use of the words "old" and "former"? [the Christian is a new person with a new manner of life and new desires; there has been a change; verses 17-19 do not describe the Christian because that was the "old"—unregenerate—person, not the new person in Christ]

What two things does Paul encourage the Christian to do? [renew the mind and put on the new self] What does it mean to renew the mind? [change your way of thinking; seek truth and replace old thought patterns with new thought patterns]

What does it mean "to put on the new self"? [to assume the manner and attitude and heart of the new creature that you are in Christ; to be and act differently than before; to become Christlike—righteous and holy]

Does this mean that salvation is earned? [no—

the person is able to renew the mind and put on the new self because he has “learned Christ”]

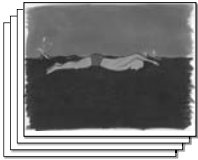
Then why does Paul tell us to DO these things? [man must respond to God’s work of salvation and sanctification; doing is an evidence of

believing]

If you have trusted in Christ, are there any areas of your life that belong to your “old” way of living that you need to put off?

## Large Group Lesson

### Hands-On Demonstration/Illustration



Ask the class to raise their hands if they have ever taken swimming lessons. *Did you learn to do different strokes? How many of you can do the butterfly stroke? If you can’t swim the butterfly stroke, it is not an easy stroke, but it can be learned.*

*Suppose you didn’t know how to do the butterfly stroke and a good teacher was teaching it to you. He would first give you some instruction. (Demonstrate this using the 4 Swimming Strokes.)*

*But can you swim the butterfly stroke now? Has the instructor done all he can do to teach you the butterfly stroke? No. Next he would get in the water and demonstrate to you how to do the butterfly stroke. He would show you each step. He would be an example to you.*

*Could you do the butterfly stroke now? No. The instructor would then ask you to get in the water and he would help you. He would position your arms and legs, he would walk you through the steps, he would correct your mistakes, and if you started to sink, he would pull you out of the water!*

*But at this point could you do the butterfly stroke? What is needed? You have to DO it—you have to move your arms and legs. You have to make mistakes and start over. You have to ask for help when you need it—because a good instructor will be right there to help you.*

*With understanding of how to do the butterfly stroke and a desire to learn the butterfly stroke and the determination or will to do it and much practice, you will be able to do the butterfly stroke—not perfectly but little by little you will move toward perfection.*

### **? How does this illustration about learning the butterfly stroke help us understand how to learn and live the truth from God’s Word?**

- Teaching the soul is much like teaching championship swimming. It involves instruction. The soul must know truth. God has given us a whole book to instruct the soul.

*When Jesus was alive on earth, He gave us many words of truth, some of which are in the Sermon on the Mount, which we will be studying.*

- Just like learning the butterfly stroke, learning to walk in God’s ways involves more than just knowledge.

*! How do you put off the old and put on the new? How do we learn to walk in God’s ways?*

*Paul makes it sound so simple—like we are just changing clothes. But if we read Romans 7, we see that it is not that easy. Paul knew what it was like to struggle to become more like Christ and walk in His ways. "For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing" (Romans 7:18-19). So what is the answer? Are we just stuck in our sin nature?*

*In your small groups, you will discover an answer to the Christian's struggle to walk in God's ways.*

## Small Group Discussion

### DISCUSSION 10B

Read the following verse and answer the questions:

---

*Psalm 86:11—Teach me Your way, O LORD, that I may walk in Your truth; unite my heart to fear Your name.*

---

What does the first phrase tell you about walking in God's way? [we must be taught, we don't learn it on our own; it is the result of mercy; we need to pray that God will teach us—plead with the Lord for His mercy on us]

Who does the teaching? [God]

What does LORD mean? [master] What does the name LORD in this context imply? [submission to God as our master or authority; recognizing that He is the LORD of our lives and being teachable]

How does God teach us His way? [through the Bible, experiences, communion with Him, our consciences, letting us make mistakes, disciplining us, consequences, other Christians, preaching]

What does it mean to "walk" in God's truth? [our behavior and our speech will be conformed to the Word of God; God's Word influences how we live daily]

What can you learn from the last phrase? [this teaching involves the heart as well as the mind; our hearts must be wholly given to God, not pulled toward competing loves which is idolatry; fearing God or respecting God's authority in our lives will incline us to be godly; the psalmist is praying for a heart change which only God can give]

## Large Group Lesson

---

*Psalm 143:10—Teach me to do Your will, for You are my God! Let Your good Spirit lead me on level ground!*

---

**? What can you learn from this verse? [sanctification—walking on level ground—comes from a will that is bent in surrender to God, who is the object of the Christian's affection and worship]**

! The soul must be taught the ways of God.

! Teaching the soul involves knowledge (an informed mind), a heart desire, and a will surrendered to Christ.

! Knowledge alone does not deal with our sinful nature. Knowledge is important—but it should transform the heart and will.

**Conclusion/Summary**

(Encourage the students to fill out the roles of the Godhead in the journal.)

- God is like the swimming instructor in our illustration. He has given us truth—He has instructed us in His ways.
- Jesus came to show us how to follow the ways of God—how to live as a Christian. He demonstrated a life of surrender to the Father’s will and submission to His ways—He is the perfect example.
- And the Holy Spirit is “in the water with you”—reminding you of Christ’s instructions, giving you understanding, pricking your conscience, picking you up when you fall, and coming to your aid when you ask for help.

*If you are a Christian and want to grow in God’s ways, God is an eager teacher.*

*But you have to ask God to teach you, daily. You must make a humble pleading with the Lord asking Him to change you daily. And you have to “jump in the water” and swim—not perfectly, but moving toward greater perfection.*

**Focus Statement**

(Show the Focus visual again.)



**Because the believer operates in God’s kingdom, he must submit his mind, heart, and will to learn the ways of God.**

*If you are not a Christian, God invites you to come to Him and learn from Him through Jesus Christ. He will not turn away anyone who comes to Him (John 6:37b).*

End with prayer.

**Small Group Application**

The following are suggestions.

*Have you ever taught someone something? Was there anything in the person’s attitude that made the job either easier or harder? Can you effectively teach a person who really does not want to learn?*

Read and discuss the following verse:

*Psalm 32:8-9—I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with My eye upon you.<sup>9</sup> Be not like a horse or a mule, without understanding, which must be curbed with bit and bridle, or it will not stay near you.*

*What are the marks of a teachable heart? Is your heart teachable before the Lord? How do you know this? In what areas are you not teachable?*

*Do you think God’s ways are easy for us? Is there any connection between learning to skate/swim and learning the ways of God? [at first it is really hard, but as you practice, it gets easier]*

*Do you think a Christian should make himself do what is right even if he doesn’t feel like it? How reliable are feelings for determining what you really should do?*

*Have you ever had the experience of doing what is right with a reluctant heart and after you did it, the feelings came along? [help the students understand that determined obedience will*

often train the heart; sometimes it may need to be repeated [obedience before the heart will respond]

*If God gave me an envelope with your name on it with a note inside about an area of your life where He wants you to follow Him, what would it say?*

At the end of the Application Time, encourage each student to fill in the section labeled, "What application can I make of this lesson?" in the journal.

## At Home Activity for Girls

Encourage the girls to read *Hinds' Feet on High Places* by Hannah Hurnard each week. This week read the first half of Chapter 5.