**RECEIVE**

Decisions that Encourage Discipleship

Choosing to intentionally grow into Christlikeness

*“My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge” Hosea 4:6*

Church Website…http://cacnaz.org. & teacher’s email address…fstone7777@gmail.com.

Unit 101 Choosing to leave the place where Jesus finds me

*(Luke 9:23a) “if anyone will come after me…”*

Class 101-1: Deciding to Believe & Trust

Class 101-2: Deciding to Hear & Pray

**Class 101-3: Deciding to Risk & Receive**

**John 1:12** *“****But as many as received Him****, to them He gave the right to become...*

\*\*We have decided to Believe (John 3:16) \*\*…to Trust (Proverbs 3:5-6)

\*\*…to Hear (Psalm 119:11) \*\*…to Pray (I John 1:9) \*\*In the first two lessons as “babes in Christ” (I Corinthians 3:1; Ephesians 4:14) we have taken small steps to “come after Jesus” (Luke 9:23a). Now we are faced with a greater step—what risks are we willing to take, and what can help us to decide to take those risks?

**John 8:31-32** *“if you continue…”* **/ John 6:66-68** *“many left…”*

***James 1:12 “Blessed is a man who perseveres under trial; for once he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him.”*** ***I Corinthians 10:13 “No temptation has overtaken you except something common to mankind; and God is faithful, so He will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, so that you will be able to endure it.”***

**Deciding to Risk**

***Matthew 4:3-4*** *“And the tempter came and said to Him, “If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread.” But He answered and said, “It is written: ‘Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes out of the mouth of God.”*

**Last week we looked at hearing from the word of God—today we ask: “are we willing to risk what because we hear—and how much are we willing to risk?**

\*\*Even Jesus needed to live by the Word of God! (Deuteronomy 8:3)

\*\*Even Jesus was tempted by the evil one to doubt the Word of God!

\*\*In this time of temptation, Jesus was weak physically and emotionally.

\*\*Jesus overcomes all three temptations by the Word (4:4; 4:7; 4:10.)

\*\*Others have risked their lives because of God’s Word (Joshua 1:8, etc.)

***I Peter 2:1-3*** *“Therefore, rid yourselves of all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander, and like newborn babies, long for the pure milk of the word, so that by it you may grow in respect to salvation,**if you have tasted the kindness of the Lord.”*

\*\*Following after Christ requires us to empty ourselves of a former life.

\*\*Following after Christ requires honesty and transparency.

\*\*Following after Christ requires nurture through the “milk of the Word.”

\*\*Following after Christ requires growth, learning, and “tasting.!!!”

***Hebrews 4:12-13*** *“For the word of God is****living and active****, and sharper than any two-edged sword, even penetrating as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are open and laid bare to the eyes of Him to whom we must answer*.*”*

**Deciding to Commit to Receive**

***John 16:13-14*** *“But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come. He will glorify Me, for He will take from Mine and will disclose it to you.”*

\*\*Jesus has invited us to “Come after Him” (Luke 9:23a)

\*\*We have begun to understand that this is no simple task

\*\*We need to understand that **He wants us to receive His help!!!**

…His Spirit enables us to be born again (John 3:5-8…the story of Nicodemus)

…His Spirit wants to live with us and in us (John 14:16-17)

…His Spirit will pour God’s love into our hearts (Romans 5:5)

…His Spirit will teach and remind you of everything (John 14:26)

…His Spirit will help you continue and be set free (Romans 8:31-32)

…His Spirit will help you with your weaknesses and pray for you (Romans 8:26)

…His Spirit will bear witness with you that you are a child of God (Romans 8:16)

***Acts 1:4-5 “Gathering them together, He commanded them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait for what the Father had promised, ‘Which,’ He said, ‘you heard of from Me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now******.” Psalm 1:6 “For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.”***

HAVE YOU INVITED THE SPIRIT OF GOD INTO YOUR LIFE?

**GO FOLLOW JESUS THIS WEEK!!!**