

## BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES: BIBLICAL STRUCTURE FOR CHANGE

Biblical change is initiated in your life through the regenerating power of the Holy Spirit. As a new creation in Christ, you are empowered to make biblical changes in your thoughts, words, and actions as you die to self and lovingly serve God and others (*based on Matthew 22:37-39; Luke 9:23; John 3:5-6; Romans 12:1-2; I Corinthians 10:31; II Corinthians 5:15, 17; Ephesians 4:22-24; Philippians 2:3-8, 3:12-14; Titus 3:5*).

### Your steps for biblical change

#### A. The process

(*Principle 27*) Effective and lasting biblical change is a continuing process. You are to obey the commands and guidelines in God's Word for every area of your life (your thoughts, words, and actions) (*Romans 15:4; II Timothy 3:16-17; James 1:21-25; II Peter 1:2-4*). As you stop (put off) the old continuing pattern of sin and begin (put on) the new practice of righteousness and holiness, you are renewed in the spirit of your mind (*Romans 6:11-14, 16-23; 12:1-2; Ephesians 4:22-24; Philippians 2:12-13; Colossians 3:5-17; II Timothy 2:19*).

#### B. The "put-offs"

(*Principle 28*) In order to put off the old sinful habits, you must first identify them by examining (judging) your life in light of God's Word (*Matthew 7:1-5; I Corinthians 11:28-31; II Timothy 3:16-17; Hebrews 4:12*). Once you have specifically identified sins in your life, you must repent of them (*Proverbs 28:13; II Corinthians 7:9-10; Revelation 2:5*), confess them (*I John 1:9*), and immediately put them aside (*Romans 6:12-13a; II Corinthians 10:5; Ephesians 4:25, 29, 31; 5:4; Colossians 3:2, 5-9; II Timothy 2:22a*).

#### C. The "put-ons"

(*Principle 29*) As you put on righteous deeds (*II Timothy 2:22b; Titus 2:11-12*) in the power of the Holy Spirit (*Galatians 5:16; Ephesians 3:16-21, 5:18*), you will glorify God (*I Corinthians 10:31; I Peter 4:11*), demonstrate your love for Him (*Deuteronomy 10:12; Matthew 22:37; I John 5:3; II John 1:6*), and please Him in all things (*II Corinthians 5:9; Colossians 1:10*).

## **Lesson 7: Biblical Structure for Change**

### **Introduction:**

#### **I. Reviewing the principles:**

##### **A. Principle #27 – Understand this is a p\_\_\_\_\_**

**1. Assorted scriptures – Ephesians 4:22-32; Colossians 3:5-17; 1 Peter 2:1; Psalm 37:1-7; Philippians 4:6-9; Romans 12:17-21**

##### **2. “Renewed”**

**a. Romans 8:28, 29; Phil 1:6 – H\_\_\_\_\_ p\_\_\_\_\_**

**b. Romans 12:1,2 – O\_\_\_\_\_ p\_\_\_\_\_**

##### **B. Principle #28 – The Put-Offs**

**1. I\_\_\_\_\_ the Sin – Matthew 7, 1 Corinthians 11:28-31, Psalm 139:23-24**

**2. R\_\_\_\_\_**

**a. H\_\_\_\_\_ (2 Corinthians 7:8-10)**

**b. C\_\_\_\_\_ of m\_\_\_\_\_ (part of confession)**

**1) What I’m doing is wrong!**

**2) How can I take my life and turn it into greatness for God?**

**3) How can I glorify God, in my circumstance?**

**3. C \_\_\_\_\_ - "to say the same thing about it that God says"**

**a. Develops a pattern of recognizing sin as opposed to being blinded by it and beginning the downward spiral, separating us from God.**

**b. No excuses. No "yeah, but's" . . .**

**c. The 7 A's of Confession:**

**1) A**

**2) A**

**3) A**

**4) A**

**5) A**

**6) A**

**7) A**

**4. Immediately put them aside - James 1:22-25**

**C. Principle #29 – The Put-ons - As you do what God says is right:**

**1. You begin to g\_\_\_\_\_ God**

**2. You begin to e\_\_\_\_\_ Him**

**3. You begin to please Him and not y\_\_\_\_\_**

4. His p\_\_\_\_\_ comes!

II. From p\_\_\_\_\_ to p\_\_\_\_\_: What are some things we can do to begin to make some of the changes in our lives that God is wanting us to change?

A. Think S\_\_\_\_\_

1. What is His view of my situation?

2. What is God calling you to put away today? Listen to the Holy Spirit's direction.

B. Think B\_\_\_\_\_

1. Observation – What does the text say?

- a. Get a copy of the text that you can mark up (you can use the one we have provided in the notebook).
- b. Read the entire passage a few times.
- c. Mark repeated words (for example, "created, create, creation") or phrases (for example, "according to their kind").
- d. Underline any "themes" that are listed (for example, "creation, blessing, punishment"). These are ideas that are addressed.
- e. Circle transition words (for example, "therefore, but, if, then, likewise").
- f. Make note of any lists that are in the text (for example, "day, night, heavens, earth, seas").
- g. Make note of any comparisons or contrast (for example, "light, darkness, evening, morning, land, sea").
- h. Make note of any commands (for example, "do not eat").
- i. Mark any words that are unclear or confusing (you will use a dictionary later to define these words).
- j. Use a "?" on any sentence or phrase that you have a question about (but do not worry about finding the answer now...that is for interpretation.)

2. Interpretation – "What did the text mean to the original audience?"

- a. Read the passage in different versions (ESV, NKJV, NASB, etc.).



b. Look up and read the cross references (these are found in the study note section if you are using a study bible, OR in the center column of your bible after the verse number.) Use other verses in the Bible that address the same word, theme or topic that is in your text. This can bring greater understanding to how God defines these words.

c. Look up definitions of key words in a dictionary, or in Strong's Concordance. This will give you the original meaning of the word in its original language. (Note: - blueletterbible.org is a great online resource for these study tools.

d. Read trustworthy commentaries for greater explanation.

**3. Application – “How should the truth of this passage change me?” In this step, ask yourself the following questions and spend time thinking through the answers.**

a. What character of God is revealed in this passage?

b. What do I learn about myself in light of this passage? (For example, “Am I in sin in an area of my life?)

c. How should this truth change me? (“What steps can I actively take to apply this truth?”)

d. Other questions to meditate on when you think on this passage:

1) Is there a truth about God I need to remember in this passage?

2) Is there a sin to flee in this passage?

3) Is there a command to obey?

4) Is there an action or attitude to emulate in this passage?

5) Is there something I need to pray about?

6) What does this passage reveal about God and His character?

7) How should the truth of who God is as revealed in this passage change the way I live?

### **C. Some put-off's**

**1. P\_\_\_\_\_ – 1 Corinthians 15:33; Proverbs 4:14; 12:26; 13:20; 16:29; 22:24, 25; 23:19, 21; Psalm 1:1; Haggai 2:10-14**

**2. P\_\_\_\_\_**

**3. P\_\_\_\_\_**

**D. Some put-on's – where the real emphasis should be!**

- 1. Time in the Word (p. 115, II., B., 1-5)**
- 2. Doing the Word**
- 3. People that will help you grow**
- 4. True fellowship**
- 5. Thankfulness**

**E. Be specific –**

- 1. Put off adornment, put on gentle spirit**
- 2. Put off critical spirit, put on building up spirit**
- 3. Put off TV/internet, put on Bible study**
- 4. Put off self-pity, put on care for others by . . .**
- 5. Put off laziness (procrastination), put on diligence**
- 6. Put off worry, put on trust**
- 7. Put off anger, put on kindness and forgiveness**
- 8. Put off lust, put on love for others**

**III. Some dangers**

**A. Not putting off and not putting on could result in m\_\_\_\_\_ s\_\_\_\_\_**

**B. Putting off, but not putting on will result in returning to your o\_\_\_\_\_**  
**c\_\_\_\_\_**

**C. Putting on but not putting off could be called h\_\_\_\_\_**

**D. Changing the outside with no heart change will result in t\_\_\_\_\_ or**  
**s\_\_\_\_\_ change**

**Conclusion:**

**As a result, what is the Lord asking you to change?**