

# T4T-TEACHING GUIDE - LESSONS 1-3

After we have shared our own testimony with others, we should immediately share the story of Jesus.

## LESSON 1

You can also enjoy this wonderful life just like me! Now I will tell you: We are all made by God. From the beginning when God created people, He designated an important place for Himself in our hearts. People who are not with God will not be satisfied. You will find that no matter how remote the area or ethnic group, the people of the world have their own ways of worshipping God. Because people need God in their hearts, they cannot be satisfied without God's presence.

This is where human beings are different from animals. Animals do not have a soul. They do not need God. You never see kittens or puppies worshipping God. But people have a soul; they need God.

Many people are rich and try to do many good things, but they still feel empty and unsatisfied, because they do not know God.

1961, Yuri Gagarin of the Soviet Union was the first astronaut in the world to go to outer space. The leader of the Soviet Union at that time was Khrushchev. Shortly after, Khrushchev was making a speech at the plenum of the Central Committee of the CPSU about the state's anti-religion campaign. He argued, "Gagarin flew into space, but didn't see any god there", to prove his point that there is no God in the universe.

The next day, Dr. Billy Graham put a small article in the New York Times: One day, an earthworm came out of the ground in Moscow and made a circle. He went back to the ground and told the other worms that "I went to Moscow today, but I did not see Khrushchev.

This proves that Khrushchev does not exist!" This is really a big joke. Everyone in the world knew that Khrushchev was the leader of the Soviet Union. Just because the earthworm went to Moscow but did not see him, doesn't mean he doesn't exist. Moscow is so big, and the worm is so small; how can he say that Khrushchev does not exist?

- How large is the universe now, and how small is our earth in the solar system?
- How small is the sun in the Milky Way; how many galaxies are in the universe?
- Where did your astronaut arrived today?
- You may not even see the side of the universe.
- How can you say that there is no God in this universe?
- Yes, everybody wants to find God today, but how can we find God by relying on us?

Today only one possibility is that God came to us.  
God sent His beloved Son from heaven to save the world. (Ephesians 2:8)

There was a pair of twin brothers. After they grew up, the older brother became a very good person, but the younger brother became a criminal and did many evil things. One day he was arrested for a felony and sent to court for trial. He knew that the crime he had committed is punishable by death. The judge who saw the younger brother's case on that day was his own twin brother.

They hadn't seen each other for many years. He was full of hope that his brother would certainly be on his side to save him. However, his elder brother was a law-abiding judge and very fair. After all the evidence was presented, the younger brother was found guilty and sentenced to death. The younger brother was extremely upset and angry with his brother.

The bailiff put him in prison to await his execution. Every day while in prison, the younger brother was jealous of his older brother. The night before he was about to be executed, his brother, the judge, suddenly came to visit him. He was very angry and said to his older brother, "Are you happy now? I am going to die. Are you are satisfied?" But the older brother said: "My brother! This is not the case. I always wanted to save you, but you committed a capital offense. According to the laws of this country, I must sentence you to death. But now I have a solution. Because we look very much like, we can change clothes and you can go free while I pretend to be you." The younger brother was very happy and said that his older brother was really smart. "Let me escape very far away before you show your face. Do not let them catch me again!" The elder brother said that there was not much time before the execution and they exchanged clothes. The younger brother ran out. He went wild and partied and celebrated all night, because he was glad that he didn't have to die.

In the early morning of the next day, he hid near the wall outside the execution site. Sitting there, he thought that at six o'clock in the morning he would celebrate that he was not dead (because it was the time when he was supposed to be executed). At six o'clock, he suddenly heard the sound of gunshots and thought that there must have been other prisoners who were scheduled to be executed with him at the same time. So he climbed the fence to see who it was. He saw that his brother had been shot and he fell from the wall in shock!

He did not understand why his brother was killed, why he hadn't revealed his true identity and avoided execution. He ran to his brother's house and saw that the door was open. He rushed in to see a letter on the table left for him. His brother wrote in the letter: "My brother! You have committed a capital sin, and as a judge I must condemn you to die; but I love you and will die for you.

My brother! Please accept my love and live for me and live a wonderful life from today. " The younger brother's tears remained. He discovered that his brother loved him and died on his behalf. The younger brother accepted his brother's love and went on to lead a new life.

This is how our heavenly Father loves us. Jesus, His Son, came to the cross to be crucified for our sins. Because we are sinners, we cannot save ourselves; but Jesus became a righteous substitute to satisfy justice. If we believe in Jesus' love and trust in his sacrifice on our behalf, our sins are forgiven and we can enjoy this new life!

In this first lesson we also explain what eternal life is; eternal life is not only life after death. Eternal life begins right from when we believe in the love of Jesus. From that moment we have already begun to enjoy eternal life here in this life.

At the same time, we also compare the difference between new and old people.

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come. The old has gone, the new is here!” 2 Corinthians 5:17

The people who have been saved will have experienced changes since that time. What changes have you experienced in your life?

- Inner peace
- Consciousness of sin
- The ability to overcome sin
- Rethink the love of God
- Eager to read the Bible
- Peace of forgiveness
- Change in attitude (become better)
- Care for others

Then we invite them to join us in prayer and if they have trusted Christ, to sign their name and date as a testament of their faith that they can later look back to as proof of their salvation.

We rejoice that they are saved, like a newborn baby, with new life!

## LESSON 2: UNDERSTANDING PRAYER

Prayer is like breathing. When a little baby is born, they must immediately breathe, otherwise there will be no life. When Christians believe in the Lord, they must immediately learn to pray, or they will not have spiritual life.

Just as we breathe every minute and every second; we should pray throughout the day, regardless of place and time. Prayer is like talking to your parents or a close friend; we can tell God everything in our hearts. But we pray not only to seek what we want, but also to offer praise, gratitude, and confession of sin. Praying not just for oneself, but for others, society, and nations.

Many people have asked: How do I know if God heard my prayer? How do I know the answer to whether or not it is God's will that I should do something?

The answer is very simple and important - it is "peace!" If there is peace in your heart after your prayers, you know that God has given permission and you can do what you plan to do. If there is no peace, do not do it until there is peace within you. Therefore, there are three kinds of answers to prayer:

1. there is peace (green light), you can do it
2. there is no peace (red light) it is not the right path
3. there is no answer, not clear (yellow light), you have to wait.

The Bible tells us that we don't receive because we don't ask; but sometimes we don't receive even when we ask because we ask with wrong motives. So we pray that it will be done according to God's will.

Basically there are three kinds of God's will:

1. God's ordained will - God has decided that no matter how you ask, God will do it no matter what.
2. The permissible will of God – this is not God's perfect will, but because we have repeatedly and strongly requested God's permission, He may grant our request, but we need to pay for the consequences.
3. God's good, pleasing, and perfect will. (Romans 12:1-2) That which God wishes to do for us, but which will only happen when we are seeking His will.

Tips for prayers:

1. Man must pray [in the name of the Lord Jesus] (John 14:13) because only through the Lord Jesus can men be acceptable to God (John 14:6).
2. At the end of the prayer, we will say "amen" or "may your will be done". "Amen" is a transliteration that means so be it, while "may your will be done" is a more direct translation.
3. There are many things to pray about: Praise, Gratitude, Prayer, Intercession, and Confession. We don't want to emphasize one or two and ignore the others. For example, in your prayers, do not forget to say thank you to God. Don't only seek for yourself but, remember to seek for others.
4. Don't let your prayers become empty; avoid unnecessary repetition. Use language that is natural and specific.
5. Prayer is not limited to a certain time and place. Of course, you can have a fixed time and place every day, but you should also pray whenever you feel moved to in your heart.

### LESSON 3: DAILY DEVOTIONS

After a baby is born, they breathe immediately, but in order to survive they also need nourishing food. They also need to have a good relationship with their parents who care for them every moment. Therefore, we must immediately teach the new disciples to establish a daily devotional time to read the Bible and pray. That way, they have a good relationship with God and receive daily spiritual nourishment.

Your devotional time is meant to be the time when you are alone with God. This is the most precious time of the day, just like when a baby is held in his parents' arms and enjoy the love of their parents. Therefore, we encourage trainers to find the best time each and every day to meet with God alone.

In the course of our studies, we learned from several people in the Bible that the best time is in the morning, because if you meet with God first before you go to meet with people and begin your work, you will have the ability you need for the day! If you do not have time in the morning due to work or other factors, then choose another time that works for your schedule. No matter how busy you are, always find a quiet time and place to meet with God during your day.

At the same time, we also encourage trainers to set up a daily reading plan. We encourage them to read three chapters of the Old Testament and one chapter of the New Testament each day. If you follow this reading plan, you can read through the full Bible in one year. Many people have believed in the Lord for years but have never finished reading the whole Bible. They might have read some of their favorite Bible books or chapters thousands of times. However, some parts of the Bible they have never read.

This is wrong. Because the entire Bible is God's Word, we cannot choose which parts to read or ignore. We pray so that we can we speak to God; and we read the Bible to let God speak to us.

Many people ask why God always talks to other people, but not to them? That is because they did not put the Word of God in their hearts and have not read the words of God. How can we let God speak to us if we do not read His words to us?

Many people also have problems with their prayers. They speak to God, but they don't wait for his answer. They pray a long prayer, saying a lot, then at the end just close, "in the name of Jesus, Amen!" Then they just get up and leave. This is wrong. If you don't give God a chance to respond to you and you leave, you are just like a child that says to his father: "Dad! You are a good father. I know you love me. I am going to college now. I need a little more money to pay tuition. Thank you! Sincerely hope you help me! Bye!" then just leave. Your dad didn't answer you yet before you just left him.

This is too impolite. It also shows that you don't really want to get the answer. What if you go to see a doctor, and you say, "you are a great doctor. I am in pain here; please help me, thank you, thank you!" Then you leave while the doctor has not yet opened his mouth. He has not yet examined you. You have not been treated and he has not prescribed medicine, yet you have already left. This is unreasonable.

But when many Christians pray today, it is like this. They tell God a bunch of nice words and use a lot of prayers sounding words. Then they say, "Whichever is what you want, Amen!" and get up and leave. They do not listen to God's answer. If you do not respect God, then of course you cannot hear God speaking to you.

Prayer is when we speak to God; reading the Bible is to let God speak to us. So if we do not remember God's words, how can we hear God's voice?

There are many well-designed one-year reading plans that are good, but if you lose track of your place, or lose your reading plan outline, it will be very difficult to continue your daily reading plan. Therefore, T4T is the simplest and most secure method: read three chapters of the Old Testament Bible in a day, and read one chapter of the New Testament Bible.

In this way, the Bible can be read once a year. Therefore, it is very important to read the Bible daily, and we must always keep the Word of God in our hearts and let God speak to us.