

## Introduction

This series of teachings is designed to lay a foundation to help every believer understand more about God; what the Lord has done for us, what He has given us, and what He has in store for us. God has so much for us, and He wants us to receive it all. In the Bible we are encouraged to progress from the '*basic teachings about Christ*' and to '*go on instead and become mature in our understanding*' (Hebrews 6:1-2 NLT). This can only start with a deeper knowledge of Christ, His love for us, His word, and His provision and plan for each one of us.

The purpose and aim of these teachings is to both inform, by means of sound bible-based teachings, and to equip and to inspire all believers to a deeper, fuller and more intimate and intense relationship with the Lord. Salvation is an event, but life as a believer involves growth and maturity – a process of learning, receiving and applying all that has been learnt and has been received – by studying the Word, by receiving from the Holy Spirit, whether directly or by prophetic revelation.

The Bible tells us that we '*must grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ*' (2 Peter 3:18) – and this is a life-long process. This involves putting into practice everything we learn, to the best of our abilities. '*But don't just listen to God's word. You must do what it says. Otherwise, you are only fooling yourselves*' (James 1:22).

Studying the Bible is therefore not so much in what we learn, but in what we decide and purpose in our hearts. Knowledge by itself is pointless, but if it leads to right action then we have a great foundation for the future (Matthew 7:24).

At the end of our lives, will we be able to look back and to say, 'it was all worth it'? This course is intended to go far deeper than head knowledge, and instead to be life-changing in terms of inspiring all who study it to a new and greater understanding, appreciation, joy and exuberant determination to live their lives to the full, in relationship with God and obedience to the instructions of Jesus (John 14:23-4) and the leading of the Holy Spirit (Romans 8:14).

We are all called to live out our faith – to make our lives worthwhile, and to use every talent and gift given to us to live the life that each of us can be proud of, and then we can all be sure the Lord Himself will then say, "*well done, My good and faithful servant ...*" (Matthew 25:21).

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