



ALL IN

MODULES 1 & 2
MEN OF CONVICTION

CLC ALL IN Course Syllabus

Module	Weeks	Activites and Materials
Section 1: Men of Conviction	34	
1. A Man After God's Own Heart	10	<i>My Heart, Christ's Home The Tyranny of the Urgent The Pursuit of God</i>
2. The Exchanged Life	9	<i>The Transforming Power of the Gospel</i>
3. How to Study the Bible	7	<i>How to Study Your Bible (on CLC website)</i>
4. Standing With a Friend	8	<i>The Man In The Mirror Surfing for God</i>
Section 2: Men of Integrity	33	
5. Leading Your Family	11	<i>The Meaning of Marriage</i>
6. Business by the Book	8	<i>The True Measure of a Man</i>
7. Apologetics	8	<i>Good Faith</i>
8. Money or the Master	6	<i>Money, Possessions and Eternity</i>
Section 3: Men of Action	29	
9. How to Teach and Pray	8	<i>Teaching to Change Lives</i>
10. Discipleship	6	<i>Questioning Evangelism</i>
11. Leadership	9	<i>Lifekeys: Discover Who You Are</i>
12. Engaging Your Culture	6	<i>Radical</i>

The Exchanged Life

The Westminster Shorter Catechism begins with this question: “What is the chief end of man?” The answer is brief, yet profound: “Man’s chief end is to glorify God and enjoy Him forever.” Author John Piper said it could be, “Man’s chief end is to glorify God by enjoying Him forever.” From Genesis to Revelation, the Bible portrays God’s actions in history to redeem and restore creation from the effects of sin, and to gather to Himself a people who would live with and for Him and display His glory (Deuteronomy 26:16-19; Jeremiah 31:31-34; Ephesians 2:19-22; Revelation 5:9-10). This purpose became our purpose when we placed our faith in Jesus Christ. Such a purpose expands our concept of the Christian life. Following Jesus is no longer just about being born again and going to heaven, although it includes these. It is more than following a certain set of rules and morals, though with proper motivation, this is also a part of this relationship. We are to be alive to God, to love Him in the present moment, to enjoy Him, to make a difference for Him each day, and to glorify Him in all of life.

In this module, we will be studying and learning of the resources God has provided for us to live close to Jesus. The beginning of this relationship with God is important, but it is just a beginning, and then it is past. After being born again spiritually, our most important task is living. From the time that we are given spiritual birth until we die or Jesus returns, we are to live with and for God. Theologians describe this process as sanctification. The word describes the process of being set apart; in other words, the process of being made more holy, more Christ-like.

The New Testament uses many word pictures for this process of growing in godliness. In John 15, Jesus uses the analogy of the vine and branches; we are to abide in Him. In Colossians 3, Paul speaks of the Word dwelling in us richly, highlighting the importance of Scripture in this process. In Ephesians 5, Paul speaks of the filling of the Spirit, indicating the Holy Spirit is our “power source” for this process. In Romans 6, Paul shows how we have “died” to sin and have been resurrected, given a new heart and life, with a new ability to trust and obey God.

In this module we will be looking at the book of Romans to learn about growing in godliness. We will use John 14-15, and also will look at an example from the life of Paul as described in his Second Letter to the Corinthians. In 2 Corinthians 2-6, as Paul is defending and explaining his ministry, we will see “The Exchanged Life” in action.

God called CLC into existence!

Here’s the calling ...

*To equip men to initiate and lead for Christ in the home,
church, community, and marketplace.*

Leaders need to be equipped. Leaders must initiate and lead. ***Who is following you?***

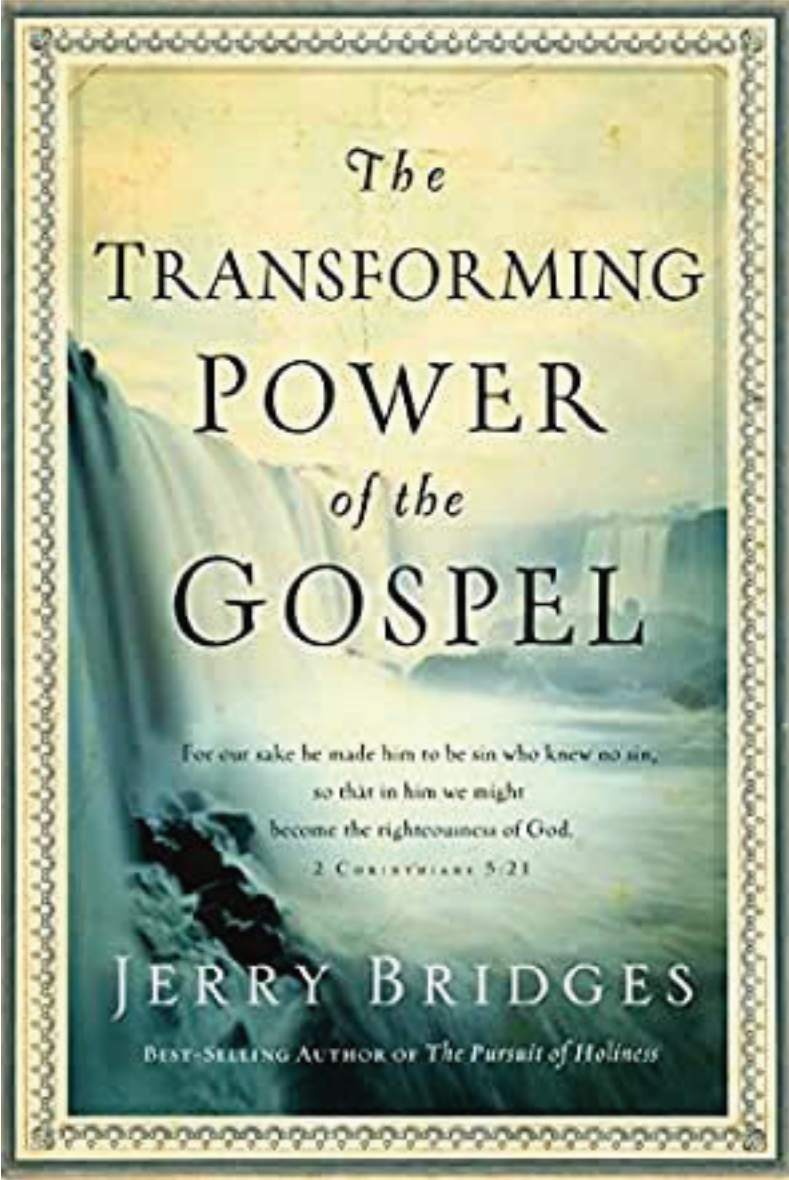
In this module you will have to learn to say something that is tough for many men: “I can’t do it.” But the good news is, “God can do it within me by His power.” You must initiate and lead yourself by saying “no” to self and “yes” to God. Even in your strengths and weaknesses, you must call on God to empower you (the Exchanged Life).

The leadership truth for this module is:

SURRENDER YOURSELF AND ASK THE SPIRIT OF GOD
TO FILL YOU WITH HIS POWER.

Brothers, the remaining modules are all based in the truths that you read and studied in *A Man After God’s Own Heart* (doing all we do out of our love for Jesus) and will read in *The Exchanged Life* (doing all in His power).

Home Study	Outside Reading	Verse
Week 1	<i>The Transforming Power of the Gospel</i> , Chapter 1	Phil. 4:13
Week 2	<i>The Transforming Power of the Gospel</i> , Chapters 2 & 3	Galatians 2:20
Week 3	<i>The Transforming Power of the Gospel</i> , Chapters 4 & 5	2 Cor. 2:14
Week 4	<i>The Transforming Power of the Gospel</i> , Chapters 6 & 7	Review verses
Week 5	<i>The Transforming Power of the Gospel</i> , Chapters 8 & 9	Romans 8:28
Week 6	<i>The Transforming Power of the Gospel</i> , Chapters 10 & 11	Review verses
Week 7	<i>The Transforming Power of the Gospel</i> , Chapter 12	2 Cor. 4:7
Week 8	<i>The Transforming Power of the Gospel</i> , Chapter 13	2 Cor. 4:17-18
Week 9	<i>The Transforming Power of the Gospel</i> , Chapter 14	Review verses. Be ready to write The Exchanged Life verses in class.



The
TRANSFORMING
POWER
of the
GOSPEL

For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin,
so that in him we might
become the righteousness of God.

2 CORINTHIANS 5:21

JERRY BRIDGES

BEST-SELLING AUTHOR OF *The Pursuit of Holiness*

WEEK 5

Buried and Raised with Jesus

*His divine power has given to us all things
that are necessary for life and godliness*
—2 Peter 1:3

The Parable of the Glove

I have a gardening glove. I love my glove and I want him to fulfill the purpose I have for him and become the greatest gardener there ever was. So how do I make this glove into a great gardener?

First, I tell him it is his destiny to be a great gardener, and I tell him the basics of gardening. He is to break up the soil, plant the seed, fertilize and water the plants, and keep the weeds out of the garden. My little glove nods and says he understands. So I set him in the garden and tell him to go do it. But he just lies there, and nothing happens.

Then I think maybe a good book on gardening will help. So I go down to my favorite bookstore, The Tattered Cover, and ask an expert to give me the best book on gardening. I bring it home and have him read it daily for weeks on end. His knowledge of gardening is growing immensely. When I think he is ready, I put him in the garden again. But still, he can't seem to do it.

Hmmm . . . What about some positive reinforcement? Maybe I just need to

explain the joys of gardening and motivate him to action. He seems to be very excited, and he's motivated to try harder to please me. But still, when he goes into the garden, he can't seem to do the job.

OK, maybe it's time for some tough love! Maybe it is time to explain to him that if he doesn't garden right, he will be sent to glove hell. My little glove is duly afraid, and tries even harder in order to avoid possible punishment. But he still can't garden!

That was hardly a success. Maybe a week-long gardening seminar will be the answer. Maybe he needs more concentrated attention on the subject, with all the principles of gardening presented in one week. So I send him to the best seminar I can find, welcome him home, and send him to the garden with great hope. But he still can't garden!

I'm nearing my wit's end. What about consistent weekly gardening meetings with gardening songs, announcements, and good speeches on gardening? I take him to a meeting. But still the little glove comes home limp and useless.

Aha! This surely will do it! I enroll him in an accountability group with other gardeners

who “hold his feet (or his fingers!) to the fire.” It gets off to a promising start, but in the end, he still fails as a gardener.

All right then. What about a small group meeting of good gardeners to encourage him? At least he can see good examples of a garden at their homes and have a few good role models. He gets excited for a while, but again he fails.

Finally, I try the last hope: “Gardeners Anonymous.” His failure is so acute that it’s time for him to confess and try again. But this, too, fails! He still can’t seem to be a good gardener.

Then one day, I decide that since I know how to garden, I will put my glove on my hand and do it myself. It works! On my hand, my glove responds as an excellent gardener. He has the strength of my arm. He has the knowledge of my mind. He has the motivation of my heart. He has my life. He has everything he needs to be a good gardener, because I am in him!

And so it is with us. We can’t live, love, or walk like Jesus. In fact, Jesus says, Apart from me you can do nothing (John 15:5). He knows we are helpless to live supernaturally without Him. So He says we can invite Him to take up residence in

us and be our life. Now we can have His strength, mind, heart, and life. We are in Him.

*Quoted loosely from Living at His Place
by Jim May*

Day 1: Scripture Memory

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose.—Romans 8:28

1. Can you give an example in how God worked together for good in what seemed a disaster?
2. What does it mean for “those” who love God and are called to His plan?
3. Having practiced the verse, write it out from memory.

Day 2: Leaving the Past Behind

Read Romans 5:20–6:10 and respond below.

1. Describe in your own words the reasoning of the apostle Paul in Romans 6:1-4.
2. How does Paul’s reasoning relate to his logic as expressed in Romans 5:20–21? Why might the Romans think they should sin more?
3. In what ways is it easy to take God’s grace for granted?

Read Romans 6:5-10. In our union with Christ through His Spirit, something like His death and Resurrection has taken place within us. Because of our separation from God as Adam's descendants, we were formerly enslaved to sin with no possibility of pleasing God. But now in Christ our old hearts have been removed. We have been given new hearts, with a new capability to depend on and obey God. This is called newness of life.

4. How does it impact your attitude toward your present and your future to realize that the power of sin in your life has been broken?

5. When the power of sin over you is broken, you are a newly sanctified person. In what ways is sanctification an ongoing process and not a one-time event?

Think of a job you had in the past. When you left that job and took another, you no longer were employed at the first one and you received no benefits from it. You also no longer had your old boss as your authority. Your old working relationship was, in effect, "dead." You now have a new boss, new benefits, and a new contract.

You have a new covenant and a new Master with all the privileges and benefits thereunto appertaining, and you cannot be fired. That's security!

The problem comes when we go back to our old employer (sin, Satan), and try to reap the benefits. He doesn't tell us we are no longer employed—in reality, enslaved—and that we now belong to Christ. No, he tries to have authority over us by making our lives miserable.

Therefore choose to serve your new Master, Jesus Christ. He is the one who has bought (redeemed) you and raised you in newness of life.

6. Why do we tend to go back to our old employer? What bogus benefits do we gain from it? What fears keep us tied to our old master?

Besides the death of our old relationship with sin, something like Jesus' Resurrection also took place within us through our union with Christ. That is, we have been given a new life and power through the Holy Spirit.

Think back to that gardening glove. In its hand is a root. The root is Christ and the newness of life He brings. That root is the foundation of all that CLC stands for. It is the Exchanged Life—a name that embodies a concept so important that we chose it as the name of this module.

The starting point for our two-year journey already begun is the recognition that we have exchanged our old lives for new lives over which Christ reigns. Every module after this will require that you draw on the Resurrection power of Christ to live a

dependent life. In and of ourselves, we are weak, but in this weakness God's strength is revealed through the Resurrection life in the power of the Holy Spirit.

7. Summarize in your own words the truths contained in Romans 6:1-10. What is so important about them? What do they tell you about the process of sanctification?

Day 3: The Decision is Ours

... *Make every effort to add to your faith goodness.*—2 Peter 1:5

We do have to do something. The instructive word *add* contains expected action on our part. We must not forget that we cannot do what God does, and that God will not do what we can do.

We cannot save or sanctify ourselves-- God does that. He gives us newness of life through grace and not the work that we do to earn it. But God will not force us to walk correctly before Him. We must *work out our own salvation*—not earn it, but flesh out day by day the work He has accomplished in us (Philippians 2:12). In this sense the word *add* means that we must get into the habit of doing things, and in the initial stages that is difficult.

To take the initiative is to make a beginning—to instruct yourself in the way you must go.

Beware of the tendency to ask the way when you already know what it is. Take the initiative--don't hesitate--take the first step. Determine to act immediately in faith on God's leading, and be strong of purpose. If you hesitate when God leads you to do something, you are spurning the grace in which you stand. Take the initiative yourself, make a decision of your will right now, and do not allow yourself to go back.

Burn your bridges of doubt and hesitation behind you. Resolve, "I will write that letter," or "I will pay that debt." And then do it! Make your decision irrevocable.

When you cultivate the habit of carefully listening to God about everything, finding out what He is leading you to do, and then doing it, something remarkable will happen. That blessed day will come when a crisis arises and you find yourself turning instinctively to God. You'll know then that the habit of working out your salvation has been formed in you.

It starts now. We have to take the initiative **where we are**, not where we have not yet been.

Read Romans 6:11-14.

1. What is the decision we need to make according to verse 11?

2. What proactive actions do we need to take when we count ourselves alive to God? See verses 12-13.

3. Describe the role of human choice in living the Exchanged Life.

4. How does obedience fit in?

5. See John 14:15, 21. How is affection for God interrelated with both obedience and choice?

6. What parts of your body have you explicitly offered to God, and what parts have never been offered to God? Take time now to offer your whole life and body to Jesus. How does this action please God?

7. What does the change of ownership, according to Romans 6:14, mean to you in relation to your physical body?

Read Romans 6:15-18.

1. Why should we not take for granted the grace of God while pursuing our sinful desires?

2. What contrasting pictures does the apostle Paul present in verse 16 as an argument in favor of taking a proactive stance against sin?

3. What triggered the release of the Romans from the slavery of sin and freed them to righteousness (v. 17)?

4. The “self life” does not die easily. Write some thoughts that you can share with your brothers about the areas where you find it especially hard.

5. What specific act or acts of obedience can you do each day to establish the habit of listening to God?

Day 4: The Identity that Leads to a Victorious Life

Read Romans 6:19-23.

1. What does Paul contrast in verses 20-22?

2. What, according to verses 22 and 23, are the benefits and gifts of our union with Christ?

3. Do you remember what your attitude was like when you were a slave to sin? Describe some elements of it as a reminder.

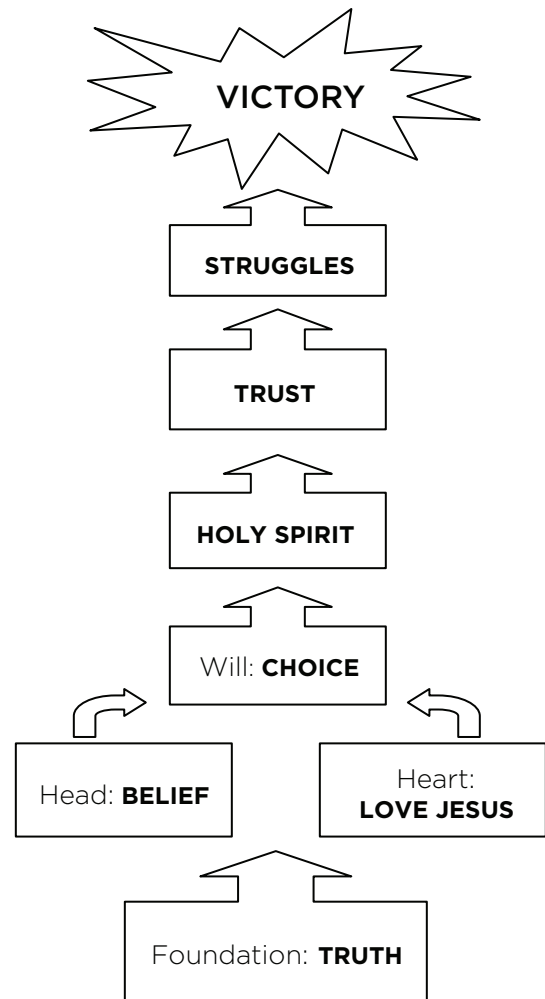
4. What is it like to have changed ownership and become a slave to righteousness?

5. Look back over Romans Chapter 6 and record five basic truths about God, Jesus, sin, or humanity that you notice in the book along with their reference.

(Example: All have sinned.—6:23)

6. How will the Holy Spirit empower you to choose to walk in righteousness?

THE EXCHANGED LIFE OVERVIEW



8. THE VICTORY! Do I desire to THANK and TRUST God for the results whether they are positive or negative? TRUSTING in VICTORY!

7. THE STRUGGLES: Do I realize there will be STRUGGLES in this trusting process? These may include disappointments, feelings of failure, attacks, frustrations, and times I don't understand why God doesn't answer as I want Him to.

6. THE TRUST: Do I TRUST God to work through me in my weaknesses and strengths as I choose to obey with the power of the Holy Spirit?

5. THE HOLY SPIRIT: Do I realize that even in my strengths, I am weak? I need to ask the HOLY SPIRIT to give me understanding and the power to obey.

4. THE WILL: Do I CHOOSE to obey the truth?

3. THE HEART: Do I LOVE God enough to respond to his revealed truth with obedience? (Love is a motivation for obedience.)

2. THE HEAD: Do I really BELIEVE that the truth is true and from God. (Belief is a motivation for obedience.)

1. THE FOUNDATION: Do I base everything on the TRUTH from Scripture?

The Christian faith is meant to be lived moment by moment. It isn't some broad, general outline – it's a long walk with a real Person. Details count: passing thoughts, small sacrifices, a few encouraging words, little acts of kindness, brief victories over nagging sins. —Joni Eareckson Tada

Day 5: The Transforming Power of the Gospel

Read Chapters 8 and 9 and be prepared to discuss the questions at the end of each chapter.

Taking My ALL IN Brothers to Jesus

Luke 5:17-26

Record the prayer needs of your ALL IN brothers: