

“Growing 101”

“Introduction to Foundational Principles”

“Following a New Master: Our Lord”

“No one can serve two masters. For you will hate one and love the other; you will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and be enslaved to money.”

Matthew 6:24

A. What kind of a Master is He?

1. He is a Master worth selling everything.

“The Kingdom of Heaven is like a treasure that a man discovered hidden in a field. In his excitement, he hid it again and sold everything he owned to get enough money to buy the field.”

Matthew 13:44

2. He is a Master with incredible kindness.

“now that you have had a taste of the Lord’s kindness.” 1 Peter 2:3

3. He is a who Master is our greatest treasure.

“Sell your possessions and give to those in need. This will store up treasure for you in heaven! And the purses of heaven never get old or develop holes. Your treasure will be safe; no thief can steal it and no moth can destroy it.” Luke 12:33

4. He is a Master who gave everything for us.

“Though He was God, He did not think of equality with God as something to cling to. Instead, He gave up His divine privileges...”
Philippians 2:6-7a

5. He is a Master whose value far outweighs everything in this world!

“Yes, everything else is worthless when compared with the infinite value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For His sake I have discarded everything else, counting it all as garbage, so that I could gain Christ.” Philippians 3:8

6. He is a Master with a Name above all names!

“Therefore, God elevated him to the place of highest honor and gave Him the Name above all other names, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue declare that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.” Philippians 2:9-11

B. I have been awakened to a new relationship...

1. I am no longer my own. He has a right to tell me how to live.

“Don’t you realize that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who lives in you and was given to you by God? You do not belong to yourself, for God bought you with a high price. So you must honor God with your body.” 1 Corinthians 6:19-20

2. I have been called to obey His commands.

“So why do you keep calling me ‘Lord, Lord!’ when you don’t do what I say?” Luke 6:46

3. I have been called to be like the Master.

“Students are not greater than their teacher, and slaves are not greater than their master. Students are to be like their teacher, and slaves are to be like their master.” Matthew 10:24-25

4. I have been called into a new relationship with a new Master.

“Because of the weakness of your human nature, I am using the illustration of slavery to help you understand all this. Previously, you let yourselves be slaves to impurity and lawlessness, which led ever deeper into sin. Now you must give yourselves to be slaves to righteous living so that you will become holy.” Romans 6:19

C. I am servicing a new Master...

1. This new Master served me first.

“For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others and to give His life as a ransom for many.” Mark 10:45

2. This new Master has no needs.

“And human hands can’t serve His needs—for He has no needs. He Himself gives life and breath to everything, and He satisfies every need.” Acts 17:25

3. This new Master deserves all that I can do to bring glory to Him.

“Do you have the gift of speaking? Then speak as though God himself were speaking through you. Do you have the gift of helping others? Do it with all the strength and energy that God supplies. Then everything you do will bring glory to God through Jesus Christ. All glory and power to him forever and ever! Amen.”
1 Peter 4:11

4. I am a new person. The old is gone; the new has come!
This new Master lives in me!

“My old self has been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me. So I live in this earthly body by trusting in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.”
Galatians 2:20

D. So...this new Master served that I might be a servant...

“Students are not greater than their teacher. But the student who is fully trained will become like the teacher.” Luke 6:40

“He quoted a proverb: ‘Can a blind man guide a blind man? Wouldn’t they both end up in the ditch?’ An apprentice doesn’t lecture the master. The point is to be careful who you follow as your teacher.” Luke 6:39-40 The Message

1. I choose Jesus as my Master!
2. I do not serve out of obligation, but out of gratefulness.
3. I love because He first loved me.
4. I live because He lives in me!
5. This Master supplies everything this slave needs and is not served as if He needs anything. Rather, I have been equipped to joyfully serve.

“Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and He will give you everything you need.”
Matthew 6:33

Next Week:

“Experiencing A New Power: Filled by the Spirit”

Matthew 6:19-24, 33

A NEW MASTER: HOW TO BE LED BY GOD

When we become a Christian, we change masters and begin to live under new ownership. Because we have surrendered the control of our lives to Christ, He becomes the new ruler. Even though He becomes our Savior at conversion, He also wants to become our sovereign Lord and Master. We can only enjoy our New Life in Christ as we daily seek His will and walk in obedience to His leading.

WHY DOES A PERSON TRY TO BE HIS OWN MASTER?

COMPARE THE OLD LIFE TO THE NEW LIFE:

The Old Life:	The New Life:
1. Satan as ruler	1. Christ is Lord
2. Bondage	2. Liberty
3.	3.
4.	4.

When Christ is invited into our lives, He comes as a guest. However, it is possible to be forgiven and yet have a divided heart. It is only by making Christ LORD OF ALL that we will be led by our New Master. The key to the leadership of God is the Lordship of Christ. In this lesson, we will study what it means to have a New Master and follow His leading.

“UNTIL A COMMITMENT IS MADE TO ONE MASTER, THE EYE WILL ALWAYS BE ROVING TO FIND GREENER PASTURE.”

1. THE DISASTER OF TRYING TO SERVE TWO MASTERS

“We become miserable when a noble cause before us reveals a divided heart within us.”

1. What conflicting attitudes arise when we try to serve two masters?
_____ Matthew 6:24

2. What are some results of a divided heart?
 - a) _____ James 1:8
 - b) _____ Romans 7:15
 - c) _____ Romans 7:18
 - d) _____ Romans 7:19
 - e) _____ Romans 7:23

3. Why do we try to serve two masters?
_____ Matthew 6:22-23

“What we SEE is what we SEEK”

II. THE DECISION TO MAKE CHRIST LORD OF ALL

Life’s Living Option:

Every man has a choice to make.
Every man has the ability to make that choice.
Every man lives the life he chooses.
Every man receives the consequences of that choice.

1. What did Joshua challenge the people to do who were trying to serve two Masters?
_____ Joshua 24:14-15
2. How did Elijah deal with those who were undecided about which God to serve?
_____ 1 Kings 18:21-37

III. THE DESIRE TO KEEP CHRIST FIRST IN EVERYTHING

1. Our part in Matthew 6:33 is to

2. God’s part in Matthew 6:33 is to

3. What are the benefits of seeking first the kingdom of God?
_____ Matthew 6:33
4. How does our choice to make Christ Lord change our priorities?
_____ Matthew 6:33

5. In what way does “new ownership” lead us to “new relationship?”
_____ Revelation 3:20
6. How did Jesus deal with the temptation to serve two masters?
_____ Matthew 4:8-10

CHALLENGE: Follow Paul’s example in Philippians 3:7-14

1. Loyalty to the wrong master is useless. vs 7
2. Knowing Christ is of greatest importance. vs 10
3. Persistence does not ensure perfection. vs 12
4. Energies are narrowed to one direction. vs 13
5. Dealing with the past through forgetfulness. vs 13
6. Stretching toward the goal. vs 13-14

QUESTION: Is Jesus Lord of all your life?

APPLICATION: Apply the question above to the following areas of your life:

- a) Vocation plans
- b) Material possessions
- c) Affections & relationships
- d) Responsibility
- e) Spiritual gifts
- f) Sex life
- g) Habits
- h) Other areas

FOR FURTHER STUDY:

1. A good way to make Christ Lord of your life is to continually ask the question, “What would Jesus do in this situation?”

Situation	Jesus would:
a)	a)
b)	b)
c)	c)
2. According to 1 Samuel 7:3, what is the condition of God’s deliverance from the control of the enemy?

3. In 1 Peter 3:15, how does one make Christ Lord?

4. Discuss what is wrong with today's concept that "Man has finally become mature enough to be his own master."

5. Read Robert Munger's "My Heart- Christ's Home."

CONCLUSION: Every person eventually comes to the crossroads of choosing which master will claim his undivided loyalty. Blessed is the one that abdicates the throne and surrenders totally to the lordship of Christ. This simply means we are not our own—we belong to Him. Christ is fully in control. He calls the plays and we run with the ball. We depend totally on His resources for our spiritual victory.