



CLI Leadership Bible Study: Lesson 1

How to positively influence the attitudes and actions of others for Jesus Christ

Welcome to CLI's Leadership Bible Study! You are taking an important step in order to positively influence the attitudes and actions of others for Jesus Christ. You are embarking on a never-ending journey to make a difference in your community and in our world.

No one is born a leader, but with God's grace, anyone can develop this gift to be used for good. However, leadership is not easy. It takes effort and sacrifice. It takes an undivided heart towards the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

With this right heart and motivation, God will provide all that you need, when you need it. But remember, you must trust and follow Christ. Your goal as a Christian leader is to allow Christ to work through you in order to bring glory to God. We pray God will draw you close and equip you for every good work. Amen.

This study is given and reviewed freely in the name of Jesus Christ. Your only cost will be stamps and envelopes necessary to return your completed answer sheets. When you finish each lesson, return the answer sheets to CLI for encouraging and helpful comments from a CLI "Bible Minister." Your new or next lesson will be automatically mailed to you upon receipt of your completed lesson.

Your answers will be mailed back to you after they have been reviewed. Please be patient. The process of mailing and reviewing may take 2-3 weeks. However, if you have not received your answer sheet back in 3 weeks, please write and let us know.

Since this study is offered to men and women, we will frequently use the pronoun "he" when referring to both genders. The term man/men can also refer to the whole human race in the Bible, so please take this into consideration. God's revealed Word is for every single person. The Bible contains God's commandments, promises, and warnings, which are essential for spiritual health and vitality (strength, energy). Bon Voyage! (French for "good journey")

God be with you now and forevermore!

Founder/Executive Director¹

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Lesson 1: Leadership Model (Day One) *Leadership Defined*

Words are interesting concepts. If I were to say banana and you understood English, most likely you would imagine a yellow, thick-skinned fruit. Other words that denote abstract (*not* concrete or physical) ideas are harder to grasp. Think how difficult it is to define happiness, love and other kinds of emotions or feelings.

Sometimes we have heard words so many times that we think we understand what they mean, but in fact we do not. Then again, we may have been taught incorrectly. Therefore as Christians it is beneficial to study the real or varied meanings of the words that define our faith. The simple act of clarifying a word's definition can have a dramatic effect on your walk with the Lord.

Words can also mean different things to different people. Even the name Christian may have different meanings for different people. For example, a Christian may be defined by some people as one who goes to church on Sunday or one who reads the Bible. In this way, a Christian may be labeled for what he does rather than for the One he serves.

Believers in Christ were first called Christians in Antioch (Acts 11:26). The Greek word *Christianos* (Χριστιανός) “originally applied to the slaves belonging to a great household.”² Looking at the name in this way, Christians are servants or slaves who belong to the great household of God through Jesus Christ. Later “the term *Christianos* came to denote the adherents of an individual or party.”³

Definitions: An adherent is someone who supports a particular party, person or set of ideas. “A Christian is an adherent of Christ; one committed to Christ; a follower of Christ.”⁴

When you live up to the real definition of Christian, others will know you are a follower of Jesus. You will seek God's will and glory. Your behavior, works, and attitudes will always point to the One you are serving rather than to yourself. Gradually you will also become more interested in serving others rather than yourself.

Sometimes people call themselves Christians but are excessively (extremely) involved in things for their own benefit or welfare. They are self-absorbed and engrossed in their own happiness, wealth or activities. Their primary focus is on themselves. Self-absorption is being overly involved with yourself.

****See end of lesson for repeat of questions and blank spaces for you to write your answers.**

When all the questions have been completed, return your answer sheets to CLI. You may keep this lesson for your own study or review. You may also pass it on to another or discard.

1. Read Philippians 2:5-8. How is being overly concerned with yourself (self-absorption) contrary (different; opposed) to being a follower of Christ (Christian)?

² Trent, Butler, Editor, *Holman Bible Dictionary*, (Homan Bible Publishers, Nashville TN, 1991), 252.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Ibid.

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In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: ⁶Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; ⁷rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. ⁸And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death-- even death on a cross! Philippians 2:5-8

Jesus was concerned with following God, His Father. Even though Jesus was God, and equal to God, He took on the nature of a human servant. Jesus was not concerned with power, riches or happiness, but only in obeying Father God. In obedience, Jesus was our sacrificial Lamb, taking the sins of the world into His body. Jesus lived a life of self-sacrifice, not self-absorption.

2. Have you been overly concerned with yourself (self-absorbed)? Yes No Maybe (Circle One)

Rachel Saint (1914-1994) was born in Pennsylvania and grew up in a large, devout Christian family. She had seven brothers and no sisters. Rachel was used to hard work and having little material possessions, including food. The family relied on God and many times their prayers centered on His provision of food and other basic needs.⁵

When Rachel was a teenager she was introduced to an elderly couple, Mr. and Mrs. Parmalee, who had no children of their own. The wife and Rachel got along so well that Mrs. Parmalee invited her on a trip to Great Britain for her 18th birthday. The Parmalees' net worth was probably around 18 million in today's dollars, so they traveled in grand style. Rachel had a fabulous time, although she was concerned about the extravagant amount of money being spent.

On the ship back to the United States, Mrs. Parmalee asked Rachel to be her companion, like a daughter, and she would make Rachel her heiress. In other words, Rachel would inherit a vast fortune. They agreed that Rachel would give her answer at the end of the voyage.

It was a hard decision at first, and Rachel could not sleep. Finally she "admitted to herself that the life of luxury was not for her. Deep in her heart she knew that God had a plan for her life and that it did not include sipping endless cups of tea and chatting idly. No, somehow Rachel knew that God was asking her to trust that He would lead her into some great adventure, not an adventure that would make her rich but a great adventure nonetheless."⁶

3. How was Rachel Saint God-centered and not self-centered?

4. Read 2 Corinthians 10:4-5. What can *you* do to become more God-centered?

The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. ⁵We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.
2 Corinthians 10:4-5

Definition: A stronghold is a place that is strongly defended so as to protect it against attack.

⁵ Janet and Geoff Benge, *Rachel Saint: A Star in the Jungle*, in *Christian Heroes: Then & Now* (Seattle, WA: YWAM Publishing, 2005), 18-29.

⁶ Ibid. 29.

In 2 Corinthians 10:4, a stronghold is anything that sets itself up against God, including pride, self-centeredness, selfishness and self-confidence. Our battle against such things does not end when we become Christians. Instead, we are more engaged in the battle. We strive to think *less* about ourselves and *more* about God and the needs of others.

Sound difficult? It certainly is. Satan and his demons are masters at tempting us into self-defeating thoughts and actions. The good news is that our victor, Jesus, helps us. Guidelines for victory are in 2 Corinthians 10:4-5. The Bible assures us that we have God's power to demolish our egotism (self-importance) and pride. In Christ, we can triumph over our fleshly self-centeredness and become God-centered. We need to pray, obey God's word and trust Him.

5. Read 1 Peter 4:16, 19. Why do you think Peter says that if you suffer as a Christian, praise God?

However, if you suffer as a Christian, do not be ashamed, but praise God that you bear that name. 1 Peter 4:16

So then, those who suffer according to God's will should commit themselves to their faithful Creator and continue to do good. 1 Peter 4:19

Suffering as a Christian means we are suffering because we are following Jesus. Even though we are walking as Jesus did and helping others, we may go through painful trials and persecutions (mistreatment). We praise God because our identity is in Christ and we have been found worthy to uphold His holy name by suffering in obedience to God's plan and purposes.

God's plan is to make Christ known (Ephesians 3:8-11). He gave His Son as a gift to the world so that none should perish but have eternal life (John 3:16). In order to fulfill God's plan for us, we must lead others to the knowledge of Christ, the ultimate Leader.

Definition: Lead is a verb (action word) with a variety of meanings: *First*, lead means to show the way by going in advance. *Second*, to guide or direct. *Third*, to serve as a route or a channel. *Fourth*, to guide the behavior or opinion of. *Fifth*, to direct the performance or activities of; to inspire the conduct of. *Sixth*, to be at the head of. *Seventh*, to be foremost in or among.

In a real sense, all of the meanings of the word lead apply to Jesus, the preeminent (most excellent) Leader. *First*, He showed the way by going in advance; He was born of a woman and lived on earth. He is the firstborn among many brothers (Romans 8:29). *Second*, He guides and directs Christians in the right course (John 10:14). *Third*, He is the path of life. He is the way or channel to God (John 14:6). *Fourth*, He guides us in all truth that affects our behavior and opinions (John 1:17). *Fifth*, He directs our works and activities (John 10:16). He inspires us to be pure and holy (1 Peter 2:5). *Sixth*, He is the head and at the head of everything (Colossians 1:15-18). *Seventh*, He is foremost in and among all men, women and all angels. (Philippians 2:10-11; Revelation 3:14).

As Christians, we have the great privilege of following the Son of God, the utmost (greatest) Leader of all time. In leading others, we receive our instructions from Christ. As we obey Him, we will lead by positively influencing the attitudes and actions of others for Jesus Christ.

6. Review seven ways Jesus leads per the definition of the word lead. Write the one that is most meaningful to you and why.

Personal Application: Pray the following leadership prayer in sincerity:

Lord Jesus, You are an excellent Leader. Everything You do is good. Your ways are far superior to my ways and I long to follow You completely. I pray that You lead me in *every* area of my life. Make me a leader totally identified with You, my Lord. May I lead with a pure heart, giving all the glory to our triune God. Amen.

7. I have prayed the leadership prayer. Yes No (Circle One)

Lesson 1: Leadership Model (Day Two) *The Model*

Building a house, computer system, or any other complex structure generally does not happen overnight. It is a process. Building takes time to develop and implement. You will need the right instructions or directions from the beginning. For example, if you want to build a house you would *not* use a model for a car. If you were making lasagna for dinner, you would *not* be following the recipe for a chocolate cake. Whatever you want to make or build, you must start with the right design or plan to assure the proper outcome.

In the same way, we do not become effective Christian leaders in an instant. It takes time to develop and implement a plan of leadership. And like anything else, we need the right instructions from the beginning to end up with the right results.

8. Read John 13:15-16. Who is the model or example for building a Christian leader?

I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. ¹⁶ Very truly I tell you, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him.
John 13:15-16 (Note: Jesus is speaking in these verses.)

9. Read 2 Timothy 3:16-17. Where do you find the instructions for following the *Model*?

All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, ¹⁷so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.
2 Timothy 3:16-17

Yes, Jesus is the Model and Scripture (Bible) is the blueprint.⁷ However, our Model and Blueprint are not stagnant or fixed objects. They are living: Jesus is our *living* Lord and our instructions are the *living* Word. Our relationship with both is dynamic and vibrant. Thus, we begin to build our skills by *actively* following our Model and *actively* studying His words.

⁷ A blueprint is a detailed plan of action. It is a photographic reproduction, such as of architectural plans or technical drawings, rendered as white lines on a blue background.

Every Christian is a leader. We are either leading people to Christ or away from Christ. There is no middle ground. Now, some people *do* have a special anointing or gift for leadership (Romans 12:8). Others may have a special anointing or gift from the Holy Spirit to evangelize (2 Timothy 4:5). There are different gifts from the Holy Spirit, but we are not talking about *spiritual gifts* right now. We are talking about what every Christian is called to do as a follower of Christ.

Our goal is to become like Jesus. He is the perfect leader and leadership Model. But how do we do this? How can we follow in Jesus' steps and become a leader of excellence?

Read John 14:26 and 2 Corinthians 3:18 and answer question 10:

But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. John 14:26

And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.
2 Corinthians 3:18

10. How can *you* follow Jesus and be a leader of excellence?

The Holy Spirit helps you to follow Jesus and become a leader like Him. You are being transformed or changed into His likeness throughout your life. It is a long building process, therefore keep your eye on the glorious face of Jesus. This is the face that you will look like in the end.

You might have thought Rachel Saint had made a big mistake. After all, she could have accepted Mrs. Parmalee's generous offer to be her heir and then given the money to the poor and needy. Think of all the good she could have done with such great resources. However, this was not the path God had chosen for her. Rachel was keeping her eyes fixed on Jesus.

God may call someone else to riches to further His kingdom, but this was not His plan for Rachel Saint. The Holy Spirit guided her decision and she gladly embraced it. The night Rachel made her decision she stood alone on the ship's deck wondering how to spare Mrs. Parmalee's feelings. All of a sudden she felt herself standing in a jungle clearing, looking at a group of brown-skinned people motioning for her to come.⁸

“Without thinking about it, Rachel fell to her knees and closed her eyes. ‘God,’ she prayed, ‘I will give my whole life to You and go and be a missionary to those brown-skinned people if You want me to.’”⁹

At 18, Rachel was being transformed into the likeness of Christ. She had begun her journey by submitting to God's will for her life. This is God's leadership plan for all of us: *not my will, but Yours be done* (Luke 22:42).

⁸ Ibid. 29.

⁹ Ibid. 29.

Personal Application: Ask God to speak to you personally through the following verses:

Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me. John 12:26 (Jesus is speaking.)

To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps. 1 Peter 2:21

11. What did God say or impress upon you?

Communication with God is pivotal (essential) in your role as a Christian leader. We pray that you are hearing regularly from God (in mind or heart). The following “Steps to Communication with God” may be helpful. Feel free to share with others as God leads.

Steps to Communicating with God

1. Prepare to talk with and listen to God. Find a quiet place with no or few distractions. Get your mind and heart in a neutral position. In other words, do not have any predetermined notion of what you want God to say to you. Desire His will and His words to and for you.
2. Focus on God and His attributes. You might think about Jesus as the risen Lord (Revelation 1:13-16) or the majesty of God’s throne room (Revelation 4:2-11).
3. Ask the Holy Spirit to guide you in your communication with God (Romans 8:26-27; Ephesians 6:18).
4. The Holy Spirit may lead you in thanksgiving, worship, confession, intercession, fellowship or help for a personal issue. These are all forms of communicating with God, and the Spirit will lead you in all of these at different times. There is no special order. Sometimes you will experience all of them in your time with the LORD. He will also lead you through prayer in the Bible or by another means (1 Samuel 2:1-10; Nehemiah 1:5-11; Psalm 51; Matthew 6:9-13).
5. Speak your heart to God and ask Him to speak to you (1 Samuel 3:10). God may speak to you first as He did with Samuel. If so, say, “Speak Lord, your servant is listening.” However, do not expect to hear an outside voice. Today, God usually speaks by impressing thoughts and ideas in our hearts and minds. Remember, Jesus’ Spirit lives within believers.
6. Write down what God says to you and obey His instructions immediately. Sometimes you may not be sure if you heard correctly. Was God speaking to me, or were these my own thoughts? Ask God to separate His words from your own thoughts. Trust and believe that He will answer your prayer. Remember, God will not ask you to do anything that goes against the Bible. He will not ask you to hurt or harm yourself or another person (Matthew 22:36-40). Satan and his followers always try to get you to have wrong thoughts. Be on guard.
7. Thank God for the gift of communicating with Him. Be patient in listening and know that He hears you. Keep trusting God even when He seems far away and not communicating with you.

Lesson 1: Leadership Model (Day Three) *The Chief Cornerstone*

Have you ever built anything? Perhaps you have been on a construction team and helped build a house or you might remember building something with your toys when you were a child. In order to build, one must take individual parts and place them together in a systematic way. The outcome will be a product or form that is far more useful than its individual parts. This is not to say that the individual parts cannot be useful for other purposes, but compare a concrete block with a completed house, a single thread with a shirt, or an aluminum panel with an airplane.

After you have your model or plan, the individual parts must be selected carefully. They must be compatible for the project. In other words, you must use the materials that the blueprint calls for if you want the final product to look like the model.

Would you want to lead a team attempting to build an airplane with concrete blocks? Of course not! You want to lead a team that is going to do something useful and make a difference. An aircraft that could not get off the ground would not be very beneficial. Of course you could make a restaurant in the shape of an airplane, but then you would have a restaurant that was not a flying machine, just shaped like one!

It is not only important to build with the correct parts, but also to use quality materials. Quality materials will last longer and function properly. With quality materials, the finished project will be more secure and safer to use.

12. What happens if you begin your project with faulty or defective materials?

13. Do you have a real life story to share of a project that was built with defective materials? What happened?

14. What would you do if you discovered your building materials were of inferior quality?

Without choosing our building materials properly, we would not only be wasting our time, but the time of others as well. Consider for a moment that Christian work or leadership is about everlasting benefits. It is about building a spiritual product that makes a *forever* difference.

When Rachel Saint returned home from her trip, she began preparing herself for the plan God had for her life. Rachel wanted to know God's word better so she attended and graduated from Philadelphia College of Bible. However, when she applied to become a missionary, she was turned down because of a weak back.

Waiting on God's timing, she worked at a local mission and years later took a course in linguistics. Linguistics is the scientific study of language and its structure. This course helped Rachel to listen to and then learn native languages.

Rachel began work with Wycliffe missionaries about 16 years after her vision of native people gesturing for her to come to them. She was having fruitful work among a tribe of South American natives but did not feel these were the same people calling to her in her vision. ¹⁰

¹⁰ Ibid. 30, 34, 40.

By now one of her younger brothers, Nate, was serving in Ecuador, South America. When she visited him, he told her of a tribe just a few miles away. He said the Aucas “have a reputation for killing all strangers who enter their territory. No one has ever been able to live with them.”¹¹

Even with this frightening picture, Rachel’s spirit was stirred. She believed in her heart that these were the people in her vision. She prayed for God to show her how to reach them with the gospel of Jesus Christ. She could not do it alone; she needed to bring others together for a plan of action.

Leading and building have a lot in common. Leadership is gathering together individuals and arranging them together in a way that births a greater purpose, a greater good. Like using the proper materials in a building project, the individuals must also be appropriate for the job.

After getting reassigned to an area near the Aucas or as they call themselves, Waoranis, Rachel began building or using her leadership skills. First, she needed to find someone who knew the Waorani language. This took awhile, but eventually she found a woman named Dayuma who had fled the Waoranis years earlier.¹²

Building is also used as a metaphor in various parables in the Bible. Jesus was skilled at using everyday occurrences in the lives of the people to illustrate a spiritual truth. His parables were entertaining yet extremely meaningful. (A metaphor is an imaginative way of describing something by referring to something else.)

Read Luke 6:47-49 and answer questions 15-20:

“As for everyone who comes to me and hears my words and puts them into practice, I will show you what they are like.⁴⁸ They are like a man building a house, who dug down deep and laid the foundation on rock. When a flood came, the torrent struck that house but could not shake it, because it was well built.⁴⁹ But the one who hears my words and does not put them into practice is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation. The moment the torrent struck that house, it collapsed and its destruction was complete.” Luke 6:47-49

15. Jesus gives an example of a person who hears His words and puts them into _____ (v. 47a) and a person who hears His words and does _____ (v.49a) put them into _____ (v.49a)?

16. The person who puts Jesus’ words into practice is like a man building a house who laid the foundation on _____ (v. 48a).

17. The person who does **not** put Jesus’ words into practice is like a man building a house on the ground without a _____ (v. 49b).

18. When the flood came, what happened to the house built on rock (v. 48c)?

¹¹ Ibid. 44.

¹² Ibid., 63.

19. When the flood came, what happened to the house built without a foundation (v. 49c)?

20. What is the moral or point of Jesus' story?

Jesus is making the point that we must listen and obey Him. If we only listen to Him and do not do what He says, we run the risk of falling apart during trials (Luke 6:47-49) or facing judgment (Matthew 7:26-27). The metaphor of the houses, either standing or falling, also vividly pictures Jesus' authority and the power of His teaching.

Floods or storms of life will come to all, but those who are following Jesus will not be shaken. He will give us the strength and hope to stand firm and make it through our earthly life and into eternity with God. Thus, we need to be like the house laid on the rock foundation and do what the Bible commands (Mark 4:20; Luke 8:21; James 1:22).

In biblical times, people would search for a sturdy cornerstone to use as a foundation for their house or building. The cornerstone was a stone that was laid at the corner of two walls to strengthen and bind them together. The cornerstone is used in the Bible as a symbol (metaphor) for strong leaders.

Read Ephesians 2:19-22 and answer questions 21-22:

Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of his household,²⁰ built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone.²¹ In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord.²² And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit. Ephesians 2:19-22

21. Who is the chief cornerstone and our strong leader (v. 20b)?

22. Believers are joined together in Christ as their leader in order to become a dwelling (home, abode, residence) in which God lives by His _____ (v. 22).

Our goal as a Christian leader is to become, and help others become, a holy dwelling place for the Holy Spirit. Like the temple in the Old Testament, we are to be a living place of worship (adoration, devotion). We are to glorify God and lead others to glorify God. The work, the team members, and the activities may all be different but the end result is the same: **Glorify God.**

Definition: Glorify means to give glory, praise, and honor. The Hebrew¹³ word for glory is *kabod* (כבוד). It means abundance, weight, burden, and honor. It is used in various ways in the Bible, but when it refers to God it means recognizing His importance (heavy weight) and majesty. Glorifying God is recognizing God's holy character, His goodness and tremendous worth. He is the most excellent, the greatest, and unsurpassed Supreme Being.

23. Is there anything keeping *you* from glorifying God by your total obedience to Jesus Christ, our Cornerstone and Lord? Yes No Maybe (Circle One) Please explain your answer:

¹³ The Old Testament was originally written in the Hebrew language and the New Testament in the Greek language.

Personal Application: Read 1 Corinthians 3:11-14 and answer question 24:

For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ. If any man builds on this foundation using gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay or straw, his work will be shown for what it is, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the quality of each man's work. If what he has built survives, he will receive his reward. 1 Corinthians 3:11-14

24. Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to bring to mind any wrong foundation or building block in your own life. Confess (agree with God that you sinned) and repent (turn away) from your wrong actions. Ask God to help you build your life on Jesus Christ and nothing else. Pray that all you build on from this day forward will survive for His glory. I have prayed. Yes No (Circle One)

Lesson 1: Leadership Model (Day Four) *Fully God and Fully Human* (Part 1)

Rachel Saint laid her foundation and work on Jesus Christ. At 42, she was patiently learning the Waorani language from Dayuma and sharing God's word with her. She did not know that her brother and four other missionaries had been contacting the Waorani Indians by means of an airplane. We do not know why her brother, Nate, and the others kept it a secret from her, but perhaps it was simply that God had a different plan for Rachel.

The five men had been dropping presents or treats from a small plane. They seemed to be making headway with this savage tribe and decided to land in their territory. All five were speared to death. Elisabeth Elliott, wife of Jim Elliot, one of the missionaries, wrote about their story in the book Through Gates of Splendor. It was also made into a movie.

Rachel was heartbroken. "Yes, her brother was dead, killed by the very people to whom she had devoted the rest of her life to reaching with the gospel, but Rachel would not look back or second-guess her calling. Something good would come from her brother's death. She had to believe that."¹⁴

She wrote to her parents, "May God yet give me the privilege of going to these same Indians and translating His precious Word for them and seeing the harvest from the five grains of wheat planted way down on the Curaray River in Auca Soil."¹⁵

25. Why do you think Rachel Saint still wanted to reach the Auca Indians after they had killed her younger brother?

Rachel laid her foundation on Christ, her chief cornerstone. Jesus' main ministry was about forgiveness. He died on the cross so that our sins could be forgiven and we could be reconciled with God. Rachel was following her *Leader* in seeking those who needed to repent and be forgiven.

¹⁴ Ibid.,101.

¹⁵ Ibid., 101.

CLI Leadership Bible Study Lesson 1: **Leadership Model**

In looking to Christ, our Model and Cornerstone, we must look to Him in the right way. Was Jesus simply a good man? No, He was not just a human person. Jesus was both God and man.

Jesus was completely God and completely human when He was born about 2,000 years ago. He was not part God and part man; He was entirely divine and entirely human. However, prior to Jesus' conception (origin) by the Holy Spirit, He was not human, but He was still fully God.

Jesus Is God: ...*Who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty.* Revelation 1:8

Read John 1:1-2 and answer questions 26-27:

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was with God in the beginning. John 1:1-2

26. Is the Word God (v.1c)? Yes No (Circle One)

27. Who was with God the Father in the beginning (vs. 1-2)?

Read John 1:14 and answer questions 27-28:

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. John 1:14

28. Who is the Word that became flesh?

29. Who made His dwelling (lived) with people as a human for a time?

God used words in powerful ways to bring the universe into existence and to make His existence known to mankind (Genesis 1:3). He reveals who He is, what He is like and how He wants us to live through His words. God made sure His words were recorded and preserved for all people.

In Old Testament times, the Word became identified with God. The apostle John was making this connection in John 1:14: the Word identified with God, is Jesus. Jesus *is* God walking in the flesh (human body). When we follow Jesus, we are following God and His plan for us.

Some scholars have stated that John used the Greek term *logos* (λόγος), translated *word* in English, to refer to the Greeks' idea of some kind of controlling principle or power in the world. That is, the Greeks would understand *word* as the concept of a god or a creating force in their own language. In this way, John's message about Jesus would be clear to Jews and Greeks.

30. Read Hebrews 1:3. Who is the exact representation of God's being?

The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven. Hebrew 1:3

CLI Leadership Bible Study Lesson 1: **Leadership Model**

Jesus claimed to be God. Recall in Exodus 3:14 when Moses asked for God's name. God said, "I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: 'I AM has sent me to you.'" I am in Hebrew is Yahweh (יהוה). In English, Yahweh is translated LORD in the Bible.

31. Read John 8:58. Explain in your own words what Jesus was saying:

"Very truly I tell you," Jesus answered, "before Abraham was born, I am!" John 8:58

Jesus was telling the Jews that before Abraham, the father of the Jewish people was born, He existed. Abraham lived about 2,000 years before Jesus was born. In addition, Jesus could have said, "Before Abraham was born, I was." But He wanted to be crystal clear that He was claiming to be God. Therefore, Jesus said He is Yahweh (I AM).

32. Read Colossians 2:9. How much of God lives in Jesus Christ?

For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form... Colossians 2:9 (Deity in Christianity is our Creator God and Supreme Being.)

Jesus, being God, has the exact same attributes or characteristics as God. This is explained through the fact that Jesus has two natures, divine and human. Nature is the basic quality or character of someone or something. Jesus is one Person with two natures. Each nature is distinct, and they do not merge together.

33. Read Matthew 8:27. Who did the winds and waves obey?

The men were amazed and asked, "What kind of man is this? Even the winds and the waves obey him!" Read Matthew 8:27 (Disciples' reaction when Jesus calmed the storm.)

The Scripture is clear that Jesus worked miracles, He is everywhere (Matthew 18:20), has all authority (Matthew 28:18), power (John 11:43-44) and knows everything (Luke 17). Although Jesus did not make use of all of His godly abilities, He still retained (kept) them.

If Jesus had set any of His divinity aside, He would not have been fully God. Instead He humbled Himself and took on the nature of a man (Philippians 2:5-7). Again, Jesus was 100% God and 100% man.

Personal Application:

34. Study the Scripture and evidence for the divinity of Christ in this lesson. Explain this doctrine to another Christian and write of your experience:

Definition: Doctrine¹⁶ is a principle, rule or body of beliefs that forms the basis of our faith. Doctrine is based on Scripture and passed down through teaching or instruction that is binding on the Christian community.

¹⁶ Church doctrine can fluctuate somewhat among Protestant and Catholic denominations. Indeed even among Protestant denominations there are differences of how Scripture is interpreted. However, there are certain tenets of the faith that must be in place for a particular congregation or group of people to be called Christian. The Trinity is

Lesson 1: Leadership Model (Day Five) *Fully God and Fully Human* (Part 2)

Rachel continued learning the Waroani language and sharing Bible stories with Dayuma. One day when Dayuma finished telling one of her friends a Bible story, she turned to Rachel and said, “If you teach her about God, she will come to love Him. Now she loves Him just a little bit. I will tell her lots, and then she will come to love Him lots...”¹⁷

Dayuma’s faith was growing as was Rachel’s grasp of this native language. They talked about reaching out to Dayuma’s tribe. In the meantime, two Waorani women had escaped from the jungle. A Waorani raiding party had come out of the jungle looking for them and killed a man with twenty-two spears. It is not surprising that the neighboring tribes called them Aucas, which means naked savages.

The Waorani women had made it to safety, so Dayuma was able to get news of her people. The killings and other atrocities had continued. They not only killed people from other tribes, but they continued killing each other.

When Dayuma heard of the death of her older brother, she became depressed, angry and bitter. She told Rachel that she would not return to the jungle. Rachel’s heart sank. She felt that Dayuma was an integral part of the mission. So she prayed and sought direction from the Lord.

One day Rachel said, “Dayuma, what if Jesus Christ has said, ‘I will not go to those horrible people on earth. They are too wicked and sinful, and I cannot be bothered with them. I will stay in heaven with My Holy Father. It is a much better place than down on earth with all of those evil people.’ What would have become of us if the Lord Jesus had said that?”¹⁸

35. Is there anyone or any group of people that you believe are too wicked and sinful and therefore, you do not want to be bothered with them? Yes No Maybe (Circle One) Explain your answer:

Jesus agreed to physically enter into our wicked and sinful world as a man. He became like us in every way. Jesus was born into a world where He could experience pain, heartache and death.

Jesus Is Human: ...*He had to be made like them, fully human in every way...* Hebrews 2:17

36. Read Luke 1:35. The angel told the Virgin Mary, “The Holy _____ will come on you, and the _____ of the Most _____ will overshadow you. So the _____ one to be born will be called the _____ of _____.”

The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. Luke 1:35

one such doctrine and others include the Fall of Adam and Eve, the Virgin birth of Jesus, Jesus being fully God and fully human, His death on the cross to pay for sins and His resurrection from the dead.

¹⁷ Ibid. 112.

¹⁸ Ibid. 127-127.

Definition: The Greek word we translate in English overshadow is *episkiasei* (ἐπισκιάσει). It means to cast a shadow or to cover. In the Bible, overshadow refers to the presence of God or His divine activity.

Jesus was not always human, but He has always been God. He has always existed in and with the Godhead: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Jesus is one with the Father and the Holy Spirit and has the same divine essence (substance) with them. This is known as the doctrine of the Trinity.

Definition: The Trinity is the Christian doctrine that defines God as an undivided unity expressed in the threefold nature of God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Jesus is of one substance (essence) with the Father and the Holy Spirit. Although the actual word trinity is *not* in the Bible, it expresses the truth of Scripture regarding our triune God.

Both the incarnation and the trinity are divine mysteries. A divine mystery is something that our human minds cannot fully understand about God. This does not mean that we give up. We need to seek Scripture and the Holy Spirit's guidance to understand as much as is humanly possible.

Definition: The word incarnation comes from Latin meaning to take on flesh. The doctrine of the incarnation describes God the Son becoming human while remaining divine (God).

The word incarnation is *not* in the Bible either but it describes one of Christianity's most important doctrines. The word *flesh* is a term used for humanity. Flesh is also another word for body. The incarnation states that God the Son became human with an earthly body.

The Bible makes it clear that Jesus, the Son of God, was fully human. In addition to being born of a woman, He experienced hunger (Matthew 4:2), thirst (John 19:28), sorrow (John 11:35) and fatigue (John 4:6). He was even tempted by the devil (Matthew 4:1-11) just like we are.

Read Hebrews 4:15 and answer questions 37-38:

37. The high priest in Hebrews 4:15 is Jesus. Was He tempted? Yes No (Circle One)

38. Although Jesus was tempted, did He sin? Yes No (Circle One)

For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are— yet he did not sin. Hebrews 4:15

Definition: Tempt is a verb that means to entice or encourage towards evil. Temptation can come from the devil or our own sinful desires.

39. Read James 1:13-14. Can God be tempted by evil? Yes No (Circle One) Can God tempt anyone to sin or to do wrong? Yes No (Circle One)

When tempted, no one should say, "God is tempting me." For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone; ¹⁴ but each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed. James 1:13-14

Scripture states that Jesus was God and man. It also states that Jesus was tempted and yet, God cannot be tempted. How can both statements be true? Both statements are true because Jesus has two natures.

Jesus Has Two Natures ...*all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form...* Colossians 2:9

The New Testament affirms that Jesus has two natures, human (Matthew 1:1-17) and divine (Colossians 1:19; John 20:28). The natures are separate. Jesus did things as a man and He also did things as God. His human nature would get tired and hungry, but His divine nature has no need of rest or food. In addition, Jesus, the man, could die; Jesus, the divine, cannot die.

40. Read Mark 13:32. Which of Jesus' natures did *not* know the date of His second coming?

But about that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Mark 13:32 (Jesus is talking about end times, when He will return to the earth.)

God is all-knowing (omniscient); this is one of God's attributes. Jesus has the exact same attributes and therefore, knows everything. In His divine nature, Jesus knows when He will return to earth. In His human nature, Jesus does not know.

Even though Jesus has two natures, He is still one Person. He is not two separate Persons, but He does have two distinct wills or minds. "The great majority of the church throughout its history has said that Jesus had two wills and centers of consciousness, yet he remained one person. Such a formulation is not impossible, merely a mystery that we do not now fully understand. To adopt any other solution would create a far greater problem: it would require that we give up either the full deity or the full humanity of Christ, and that we cannot do."¹⁹

For example, Jesus sustains all things by his powerful word (Hebrews 1:3) and knows everything. Yet, at the same time He was on earth, He grew in wisdom (Luke 2:52). His two natures remained separate and did not merge into a new kind of being. However, we do not know exactly how the two minds and wills worked together.

41. Read Luke 24:50-51. Jesus entered the world with a human body. Is Jesus returning to the Father with a human body? Yes No (Circle One)

*When he had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, he lifted up his hands and blessed them.
⁵¹ While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven.* Luke 24:50-51

Jesus returned to heaven with a body that could be seen. It was a human body His disciples could recognize. Of course, Jesus' body has been glorified and is different than when He walked the earth. Believers' bodies will also be transformed and glorified when Jesus returns.

Jesus entered the world to be a stand-in sacrifice for us. He paid the price for our sins by dying on the cross. He was a sinless, perfect and acceptable substitute. Only God could be perfect and assume the role as the one mediator (go-between) between God and man (1 Timothy 2:5).

¹⁹ Grudem, Wayne, *Systematic Theology*, Zondervan, Grand Rapids, MI. 1994, 561.

Jesus did not inherit Adam's sin nature like we did. He was completely sinless (Hebrews 4:15; 2 Corinthians 5:21). Recall, He was placed in Mary's womb by the power of the Holy Spirit and was always holy (Hebrews 7:26). Jesus never existed apart from His divine nature, so both God and man exist in one Person.

Jesus as God and man was the only one who could possibly fulfill this role. He was the perfect Lamb and substitute for our sins. Jesus took on this job and now will be fully God and fully man forever (Luke 24:39-43; Revelation 1:7-8).

42. Read John 14:23. Which of Jesus' natures lives within believers?

Jesus replied, "Anyone who loves me will obey my teaching. My Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them." John 14:23

Jesus lives in us (Galatians 2:20; Ephesians 3:17) by His Spirit. He lives in us through His divine nature. We do not have a human body or mind living in us but God Himself.

Having God's Spirit within her, Dayuma realized the importance of taking the gospel to her people. It was a dangerous journey but contact with her people went well. They were surprised that she had not been killed and eaten.²⁰

Rachel was invited to live among Dayuma's people and went to work on translating the Bible into their language. It was challenging to say the least. She struggled to find words to describe things they had never seen.

Dayuma explained to the people that Rachel had come to give them "God's Carvings" (carve on wood). Since they had no concept of writing on paper, this was a good explanation. Dayuma told them stories about Jesus' birth, life, death and resurrection. After 18 months, two of her people believed and decided to love Jesus and take God's trail to heaven.

Eventually, others gave their lives to Jesus, including those who had killed the five missionaries. Rachel's testimony and love of the tribe in light of the murder of her brother did not go unnoticed. They began to forgive and leave vengeance to the Lord. The murders stopped and their numbers gradually grew from 600 to 2,000.

The Waornai began living up to their name, which translated means, "True People." They began witnessing to other tribes and making a difference in their "communities." In 1966, one of the Waornais was invited, and spoke at the World Congress of Evangelism. He said:

"I say to you, take God's Carvings to all the people in your land. We will go home and take God's message to our downriver enemies. We will say to them, 'Believe in God and His Son Jesus, we live well. We have stopped spearing and choking babies. We live happily with our families.' This we will say and invite them to believe in God and live in peace with us."²¹

²⁰ The following material about Saint is gleaned from Janet and Geoff Bengé, *Rachel Saint: A Star in the Jungle*, 145, 161, 166, 170, 171, 207.

²¹ *Ibid.*, 189.

CLI Leadership Bible Study Lesson 1: **Leadership Model**

Rachel Saint died on November 11, 1994 and was buried beside the Waornai church, not far from her brother Nate’s gravesite. She gave up material riches, family, security and comfort to serve Christ. By her obedience to our Lord, one small part of our world is now praising and serving God.

Rachel followed Jesus and His example of obedience. Where Adam and Eve failed, Jesus succeeded. He always looked to the Father for direction and did all He was asked to do.

Personal Application:

43. Pray and ask God who you should tell about Jesus. Ask the Holy Spirit to lead you in planting seeds or sharing the full gospel of Jesus, born, died and raised for our sins. Write on your experience:

-End of Lesson One-

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS Lesson 1
CLI Leadership Bible Study

Fill out your contact information and answer each question. Return your answer sheets to CLI, Box 97095, Raleigh, NC 27624. Your answers will be reviewed and returned to you with helpful comments.

Name: _____ Number: _____ Date: _____

Name of Institution: _____ Street address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Lesson 1: Leadership Model (**Day One**) *Leadership Defined*

1. Read Philippians 2:5-8. How is being overly concerned with yourself (self- absorption) contrary (different; opposed) to being a follower of Christ (Christian)?

2. Have you been overly concerned with yourself (self-absorbed)? Yes No Maybe (Circle One)

3. How was Rachel Saint God-centered and not self-centered? _____

CLI Leadership Bible Study Lesson 1: **Leadership Model**

4. Read 2 Corinthians 10:4-5. What can *you* do to become more God-centered?

5. Read 1 Peter 4:16, 19. Why do you think Peter says that if you suffer as a Christian, praise God? _____

6. Review seven ways Jesus leads per the definition of the word lead. Write the one that is most meaningful to you and why. _____

7. I have prayed the leadership prayer. Yes No (Circle One)

Lesson 1: Leadership Model (**Day Two**) *The Model*

8. Read John 13:15-16. Who is the model or example for building a Christian leader? _____

9. Read 2 Timothy 3:16-17. Where do you find the instructions for following the Model? _____

10. How can *you* follow Jesus and be a leader of excellence? _____

Personal Application:

11. What did God say or impress upon you? _____

Lesson 1: Leadership Model (**Day Three**) *The Chief Cornerstone*

12. What happens if you begin your project with faulty or defective materials?

13. Do you have a real life story to share of a project that was built with defective materials?

What happened? _____

14. What would you do if you discovered your building materials were of inferior quality?

15. Jesus gives an example of a person who hears His words and puts them into _____

(v. 47a) and a person who hears His words and does _____ (v.49a) put them into

_____ (v.49a)?

16. The person who puts Jesus' words into practice is like a man building a house who laid the foundation on _____ (v. 48a).

17. The person who does **not** put Jesus' words into practice is like a man building a house on the ground without a _____ (v. 49b).

18. When the flood came, what happened to the house built on *rock* (v. 48c)?

19. When the flood came, what happened to the house built *without a foundation* (v. 49c)?

20. What is the moral or point of Jesus' story? _____

21. Who is the chief cornerstone and our strong leader (v. 20b)? _____

22. Believers are joined together in Christ as their leader in order to become a dwelling (home, abode, residence) in which God lives by His _____ (v. 22).

23. Is there anything keeping *you* from glorifying God by your total obedience to Jesus Christ, our Cornerstone and Lord? Yes No Maybe (Circle One) Please explain your answer:

24. Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to bring to mind any wrong foundation or building block in your own life. Confess (agree with God that you sinned) and repent (turn away) from your wrong actions. Ask God to help you build your life on Jesus Christ and nothing else. Pray that all you build on from this day forward will survive for His glory. I have prayed. Yes No (Circle One)

Lesson 1: Leadership Model (Day Four) *Fully God and Fully Human* (Part 1)

25. Why do you think Rachel Saint still wanted to reach the Auca Indians after they had killed her younger brother? _____

26. Is the Word God (v.1c)? Yes No (Circle One)

27. Who was with God the Father in the beginning (vs. 1-2)? _____

28. Who is the Word that became flesh? _____

29. Who made His dwelling (lived) with people as a human for a time? _____

30. Read Hebrews 1:3. Who is the exact representation of God's being? _____

31. Read John 8:58. Explain in your own words what Jesus was saying: _____

32. Read Colossians 2:9. How much of God lives in Jesus Christ? _____

33. Read Matthew 8:27. Who did the winds and waves obey? _____

34. Study the Scripture and evidence for the divinity of Christ in this lesson. Explain this doctrine to another Christian and write of your experience: _____

Lesson 1: Leadership Model (Day Five) *Fully God and Fully Human* (Part 2)

35. Is there anyone or any group of people that you believe are too wicked and sinful and therefore, you do not want to be bothered with them? Yes No Maybe (Circle One) Explain your answer: _____

36. Read Luke 1:35. The angel told the Virgin Mary, “The Holy _____ will come on you, and the _____ of the Most _____ will overshadow you. So the _____ one to be born will be called the _____ of _____.

37. The high priest in Hebrews 4:15 is Jesus. Was He tempted? Yes No (Circle One)

38. Although Jesus was tempted, did He sin? Yes No (Circle One)

39. Read James 1:13-14. Can God be tempted by evil? Yes No (Circle One) Can God tempt anyone to sin or to do wrong? Yes No (Circle One)

40. Read Mark 13:32. Which of Jesus’ natures did *not* know the date of His second coming?

41. Read Luke 24:50-51. Jesus entered the world with a human body. Is Jesus returning to the Father with a human body? Yes No (Circle One)

42. Read John 14:23. Which of Jesus’ natures lives within believers? _____

43. Pray and ask God who you should tell about Jesus. Ask the Holy Spirit to lead you in planting seeds or sharing the full gospel of Jesus, born, died and raised for our sins. Write on your experience: _____

Next Lesson 2: Triple Love Poured Out

CLI Leadership Bible Study

Lesson 1: Leadership Model

Lesson 2: Triple Love Poured Out

Lesson 3: Fruit and Leadership

Lesson 4: The Presence of God

Lesson 5: Leading by Example

Lesson 6: Be Filled with the Holy Spirit
(Part 1 and Part 2)

Lesson 7: The Name

Lesson 8: Active Leadership Mission
(Part 1 and Part 2)

Lesson 9: Prayer of a Leader

Lesson 10: Faith of a Leader

Lesson 11: Knowing God's Will

Lesson 12: The Leader's Fire of Holiness

Lesson 13: Spiritual Warfare

Lesson 14: The Tender Heart of a Leader

Lesson 15: The Leader in Worship

Note: *Certificate mailed after the completion of Lesson 15*

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