

[What's next]

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- Keep reviewing what you have learnt.
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"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly..." (Colossians 3:16a)



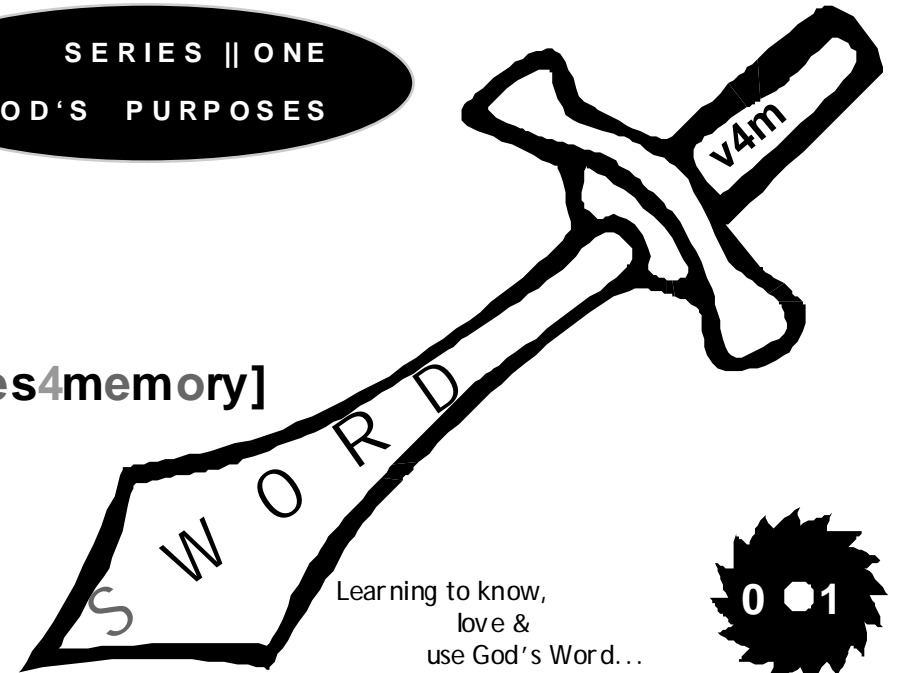
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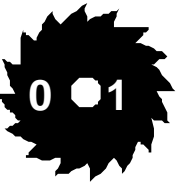
v 4 m

SERIES || ONE
GOD'S PURPOSES

[verses4memory]



Learning to know,
love &
use God's Word...



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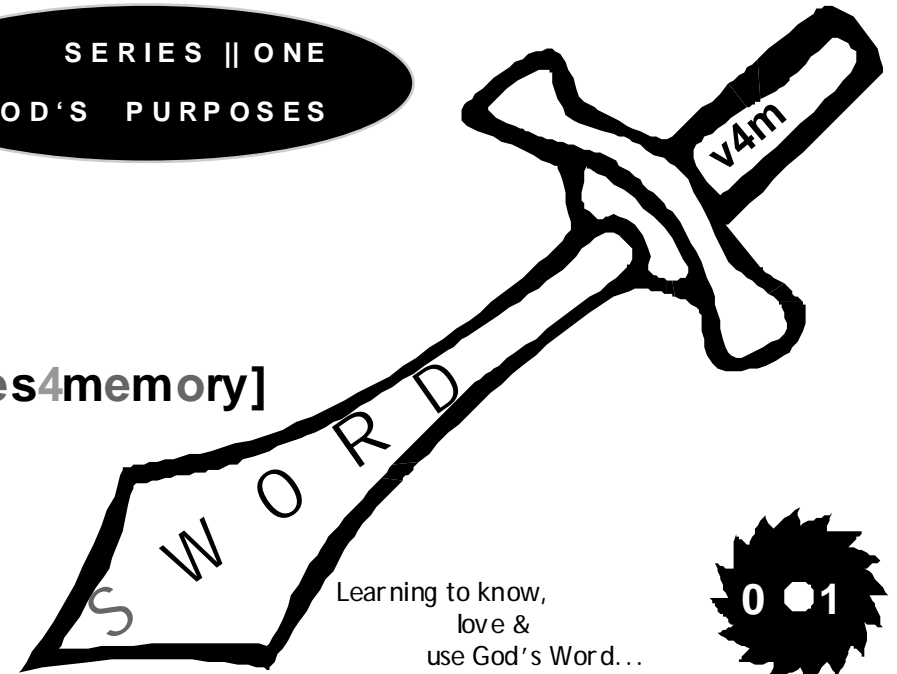
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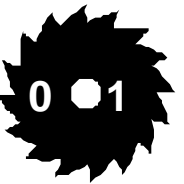
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GOD'S PURPOSES

[verses4memory]



Learning to know,
love &
use God's Word...





ccecYOUTH

The **S W O R D** [verses4memory] cards & booklets are produced by Central Coast Evangelical Church YOUTH Ministries.

*We exist to **GLORIFY** God in everything as we: **GATHER** to hear His Word; **GROW** in godliness; **GIVE** in service of others; and share the **GOSPEL** of Jesus' death & resurrection.*

[ccecYOUTH purpose statement]

ccecYOUTH is for high school students. We have two groups that meet on a Friday night [one for yr 7-9 & the other for yr 10-12]. Year 7-9 have growth groups on a Sunday morning while the year 10-12 growth groups meet at various times throughout the week.

For more info: [p] 02 4367-2100 [e] youth@ccec.com.au [w] www.ccec.com.au

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Use the space to jot down any notes...

[notes & comments...]



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[notes & comments...]





A-5 God's purposes

[share the GOSPEL of Jesus]

Acts 4:20

For we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard.

Read the passage: Acts 4: 13-20

Context: Acts is written by Luke. It is a picture of what went on in the early church, just after Jesus ascended back up to heaven. In Acts we see the radical Christian lives that the early church lived even in the face of persecution and death. In these verses we see Peter & John brought in to the court and told to stop speaking about Jesus. Yet they can't help but speak of what they have seen and heard in Jesus.

Questions: They were told to stop speaking of Jesus. How did Peter & John respond in v20? How would you respond in a similar situation?

Prayer: Pray for a friend that you can share Jesus with. Ask God that He'd help you to spend your life telling people about the great news of Jesus death and resurrection.

Similar verses: Romans 1:16; 1 Peter 3:15-16; Colossians 4:5-6

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[introduction]

"For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart." [Hebrews 4:12]

God's word, the Bible, is great and powerful! The Bible is sharper than a double edged SWORD. A double edged SWORD is one that cuts both ways. The Bible cuts right to our hearts: it gives eternal life to those who put their trust in Jesus but brings death to those who reject Him. [See John 3:36]. Therefore we need to take the Bible seriously.

In **Ephesians 6:17** the Bible is called the "SWORD OF THE SPIRIT." If we commit the Bible to memory we not only have a powerful weapon, but we also have an ever-present friend and protector against the enemy of our souls. If we lock the Bible into our minds we can be constantly reminded of the Wonderful God who has saved us by the blood of Jesus (Romans 5:9) and Him who will keep us and prevent us from falling (Jude 24).

With **S W O R D [verses4memory]** we hope that you will learn to:

Know,
Love &
Use God's Word.

[verses4memory]



[verses4memory tips]

- PRAY depend on God ask Him to help you know, love and use His word.
- Understand the verse in the context of where it fits in the Bible. Ask 4 help.
- Break the verse up and learn it bit by bit, over time add it together. Learn it word4word
- When learning & reviewing the verses, make it a habit to say:
 - The *topic* first [the heading];
 - Then the *reference* [where it is the Bible];
 - Then the *verse*;
 - Then the *reference* again at the end.
- Work at your own pace... it's not a race with others! Once you have finished come and tell them to your leader and we'll give you the next set.
- Continue reviewing the verses so that you don't forget them!
- Keep your **SWORD** near your bed so you can look at them in the morning & the night.
- Take your **SWORD v4m** cards with you in your pocket & pull them out during the day.
- REMEMBER we don't just learn the verses so we can know more... but learn them so that we will know God better, love God more, and remind each other of what the Bible says.

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[GIVE in service of others]

A-4 God's purposes

1 John 3:16

This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers.

Read the passage: 1 John 3:16-20

Context: The first letter of John was written by the apostle John. In it he shows us what an authentic Christian looks like in the face of lots of counterfeit Christianity. One of the themes that comes through in this letter is that Christians are to be those who walk in truth and love. Those who know the love of Jesus will live changed lives by loving others.

Questions: Reflect on how great the love of Christ is... that he laid down his life for you. How ought you respond to Christ's love? What are some practical areas that you can GIVE yourself in service of others?

Prayer: Thank and Praise God for Jesus, the one who showed us what love is by laying down his life. Ask God to help you love others in a self-sacrificial way.

Similar verses: Philippians 2:3-5; 1 Corinthians 10:24.

[verses4memory]



[verses4memory tips]

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[verses4memory]



[verses4memory]

[GROW in godliness]

A-3 God's purposes

Titus 2:12

It [God's grace] teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age,

Read the passage: Titus 2:11-14.

Context: Titus is a letter written by Paul to Titus. In it Paul encourages Titus to live a godly life and to keep teaching the truth. There seem to be people who are teaching lies and living ungodly lives in his midst. Paul points out that the key to godliness is the truth. In Titus 1:1 it says that knowledge of the truth will lead to godliness.

Questions: What do you think is meant by the words "the grace of God"? [see Romans 3:24; Ephesians 2:8-9; John 1:14]
We are saved by God's Grace [the showing of unmerited favour to us in Jesus], how will God's grace change the way that we live?

Prayer: Ask God that in His grace He would help you to live a godly life. Pray that God would continue to help you to remember the Bible verses you've been learning.

Similar verses: Ephesians 4:11-16; 2 Timothy 3:12.

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[intro to PURPOSE series]

God is a God who created us for a purpose. In Colossians 1:16 we see that we were made by Jesus *for* Jesus. Therefore the purpose of our life is tied up in the fact that we belong to Jesus our Creator. This is a helpful series to use as the first series for *sword v4m* as it helps us to understand some of God's purposes for our lives from the Bible and it also helps us to understand our youth ministries purpose statement:

*We exist to **GLORIFY** God in everything as we:*

GATHER to hear His Word;

GROW in godliness;

GIVE in service of others;

*and share the **GOSPEL** of Jesus' death & resurrection.*

All the way through the Bible we see that our main purpose in life is that we bring GLORY to God in everything. This purpose overarches the other four [GATHER, GROW, GIVE, GOSPEL] - and in doing them we see what it looks like to GLOFIY God with our whole life.

Pray that you would enjoy get to know, love & use God's word.

[verses4memory]



[verses4memory]

[GROW in godliness]

A-3 God's purposes

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[verses4memory]



A-1 God's purposes

[GLORIFY God in everything]

1 Corinthians 10:31

Whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God. [1 Corinthians 10:31]

Read the passage: 1 Corinthians 10:31 11:1

Context: The First Letter to the Corinthians was written to a church that was having lots of problems. It is a church that is doing some pretty stupid stuff. Paul is trying to help them with their problems, tell them how they ought to be living and continues to remind them of the gospel. Just prior to the passage you have just read out, Paul has been talking about what foods to eat and why or why not to eat them. His conclusion in v31 is our 1st verse4memory.

Questions: What is Paul's conclusion in v31?
What does v31 not include?
What makes Paul's example such a good one to follow? [11:1]

Prayer: Ask God that He'd help you to bring glory to him in everything!! Ask Him also to help you to remember His word and to live it out in every area of your life.

Similar verses: Colossians 3:17; 1 Peter 4:11; Romans 12:1-2.

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A-2 God's purposes

[GATHER to hear His Word]

Hebrews 10:24-25

²⁴And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. ²⁵Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another--and all the more as you see the Day approaching. [Hebrews 10:24-25]

Read the passage: Hebrews 10:19-25

Context: Hebrews was written to a bunch of Jewish Christians (Jews who became Christian) who were struggling to keep on striving in the Christian life. The writer of Hebrews keeps on reminding them of how great Jesus is and urging them not to give up being Christian.

Questions: In what ways does the writer encourage them in vv19-25?
What are they to do as they gather together? [vv24-25]
What will help you personally to "not give up meeting together"?

Prayer: Thank God that He has saved a people that can gather together to encourage each other while waiting for Jesus to return. Pray for the gathering that you are involved in and that you would be people who spur each other on.

Similar verses: Titus 2:14; Acts 2:42; Hebrews 3:13.

[verses4memory]



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