



The
FLOW
Adult CURRICULUM

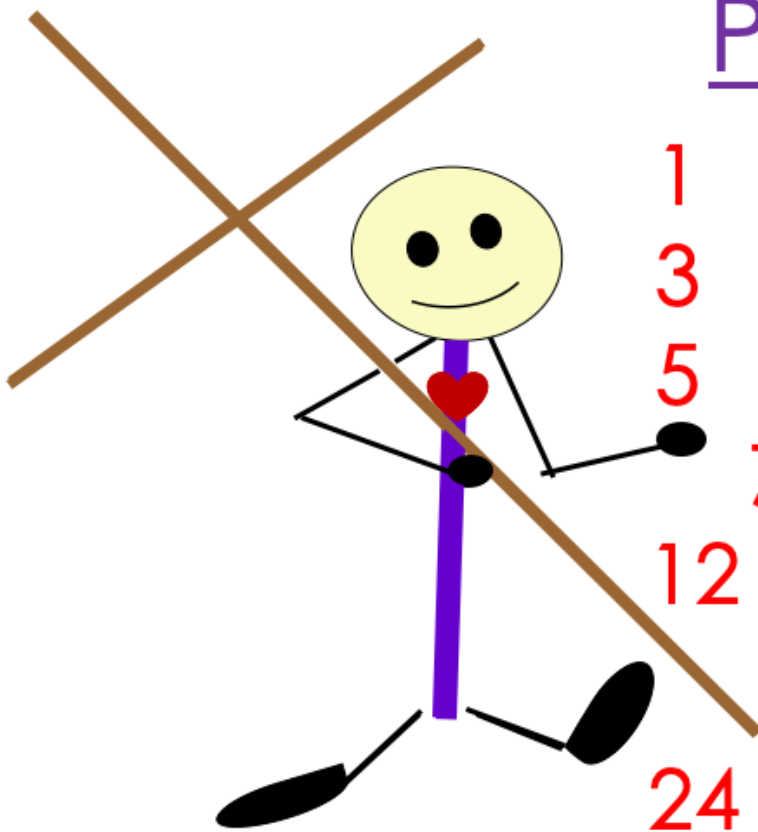
#2

HEAD

Psalm 119:149a

(Come And See Christianity book pages 10-15)

The FLOW



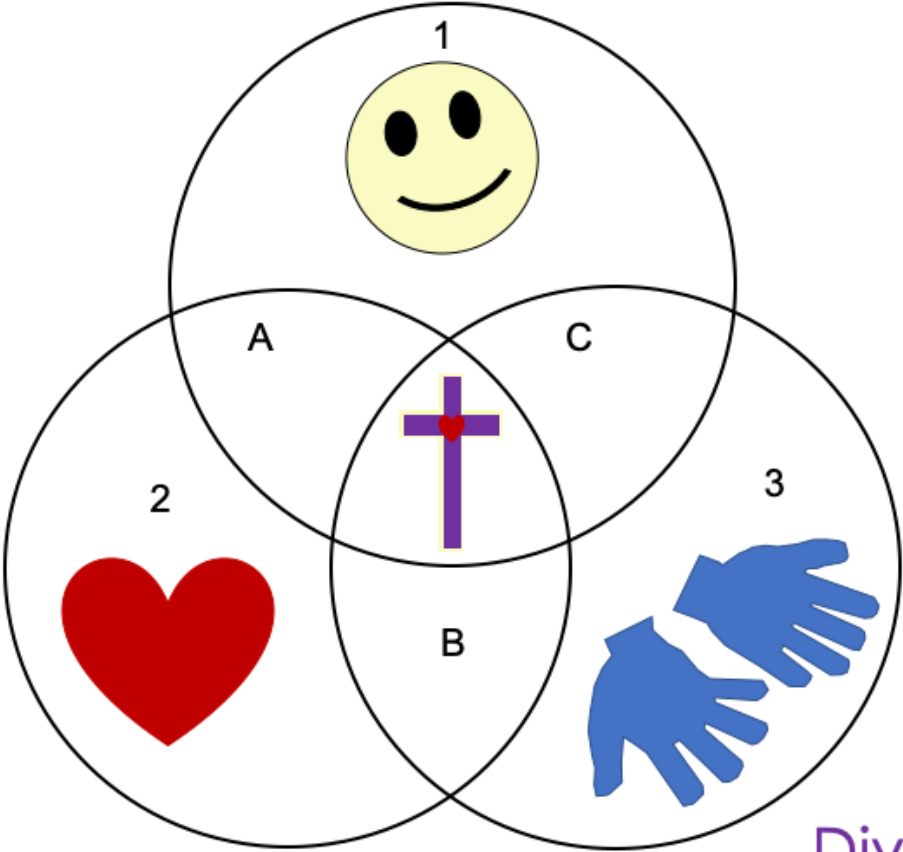
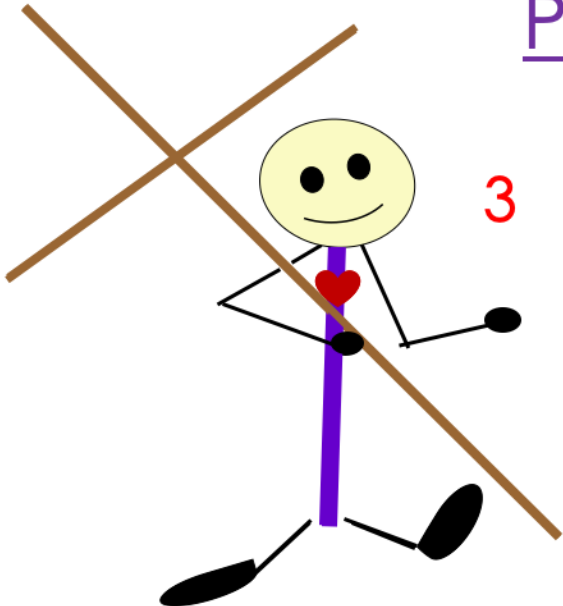
PREVIEW:

- 1 Design
- 3 Divisions
- 5 Disciples
- 7 Details
- 12 Disciplines
- 24 Distinctives

SECTION TWO: 3 Divisions

PREVIEW:

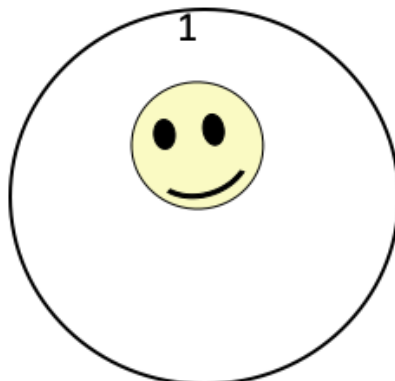
3 Divisions



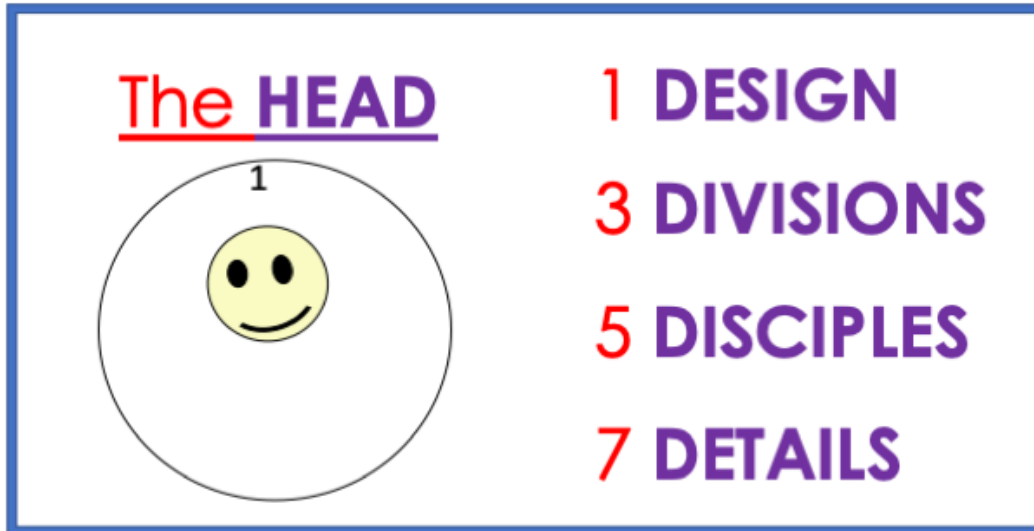
3
Divisions

3 DIVISIONS: ALL people, everywhere, have 3 internal “divisions”... The **Head, Heart, & Hands** unite to define & describe our lives. That’s why healthy Christianity & biblical **discipleship** intentionally informs, inspects & inspires all 3 divisions.

The HEAD



“The **HEAD**” represents a person’s ability to understand & believe the Bible’s key truths



[2 Timothy 3:16-17](#)

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for rebuking, for correction, and for training in righteousness, 17so that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

INTRO:

Have you ever considered or thought through what life would be like if there were no absolute truths that could be trusted? Just try to imagine, what if nothing could be truly known in this world? No dependable consistencies - none. No reliable realities - zero. If creation were that way, core beliefs and life-shaping convictions could not exist. Think about it. Think about it on a personal level... What would you do with your inner emotions and life experiences if there were no knowable truths, no defining definitions, no trustworthy means for true understanding? It is hard to even speculate... Surely, such an existence would be unimaginably chaotic, unsustainably dangerous, and immeasurably tragic.

Where I found truth, there found I my God, who is the truth itself.

- Augustine

PRAYER:

LORD, we seek to bless You with all that is within us. Help us here, we pray, to be that blessing as we come to better understand You and Your eternal truth in love (Ephesians 4:15). Help us to see with Your eyes and love with Your love, all that You would reveal to us through Your Word, Your will, and Your ways. May we grow in our grasp of Your realities, Your means of restoration, and Your mission of reproduction. In the holy name of Jesus we pray. Amen and Amen

CONTEXT:

Macro

Our lesson's introduction was designed to get you, the reader, to think about a world in which human thoughts and life experiences could never be grounded in knowable truth. What a nightmare that would be. Fortunately, by God's grace, that idea only exists in the realms of scary books, horror movies, and some sad subsets within the dilutional world of mental illness.

By direct contrast, the blessed reality regarding reality is: truth does exist! Moreover, and again, by God's grace, we can know truth in its most absolute and purest Source. In short, from the broadest, macro perspective, God and His Word are absolute and authoritative Truth.

***"I am the way, the truth, and the life.
No one comes to the Father except through Me."***

- Jesus, The Christ (John 14:6)

For our purposes here, let it be known that truth is real AND that real truth needs to be known, loved, obeyed, and shared.

Micro

The knowability of truth has two micro components to be considered and contemplated... The first aspect of micro-truth has to do with content. Whereas the macro content of biblical truth is rooted in the acceptance of such categories as: Almighty Truth, absolute truth, and authoritative truth, the categories for truth's micro focus include: specific biblical points, passages, and principles. At the same time, truth's micro categories also include the individual (person, family, church, etc.) aspect.

Message

The Bible tells us that all people, everywhere, need to hear and heed the truth in love of God's Word, will, and ways (Matthew 28:18-20).

The man who thinks he can know the Word of God by mere intellectual study is greatly deceived. Spiritual truth is spiritually discerned.

- Samuel Chadwick

BIG IDEA: God wants you to know and remember what you should never forget.

A sacred regard to the authority of God ought to lead us to reject any error, however old, sanctioned by whatever authority, or however generally practiced.

- Charles Spurgeon

PREVIEW:

1. Everyone needs to know.
2. Learn what you need to know.
3. Remember what you know.

TEXT:

Psalm 119:149

***Remember Your word to Your servant,
In which You have made me hope.***

1. Everyone NEEDS to know.

Illustration

There is an old joke that centers on one man asking another man if his dog bites... With the dog in question laying by his side, the second man says without flinching: "No, my dog does not bite." With that said, the first man advances forward, thereby triggering the laying dog to quickly raise up and bite the approaching man. At that point, the now hurt and bitten man angrily barks: "I thought you said your dog does not bite." Next comes the punch line and the principle for our first point. The first man smugly replies: "That is not my dog."

Sometimes, ignorance (a lack of knowing and understanding) can really hurt! Moreover, there are times when ignorance becomes far more costly than a dog bite. Take note reader, being clueless can be dangerous, even deadly – both physically and spiritually. Think about it, while ignorance has been famously called “bliss,” in reality, ignorance can, and often does, contribute to eternal damnation.

Explanation

Remember...

To begin with, every human being needs to know that there are truths that they need to know... Like it or not, believe it or not, there is a divine design that is perpetually unfolding and defining reality. For example, absolute and authoritative truth exists (John 17:17), Creator Christ created and sustains all things (John 1:1-18), and there is a sovereign God whose power, purposes, promises, and plan cannot be stopped or thwarted...

Job 42:2: *“I know that You can do all things,
And that no purpose of Yours can be thwarted.”*

Daniel 4:35: *“All the inhabitants of the earth are accounted as nothing, But He does according to His will in the host of heaven And among the inhabitants of earth; And no one can ward off / hold back His hand Or say to Him, ‘What have You done?’*

Isaiah 46:9-10: *“Remember the former things long past, For I am God, and there is no other, I am God, and there is no one like Me,
Declaring the end from the beginning, And from ancient times things which have not been done, Saying, ‘My purpose will be established,
And I will accomplish all My good pleasure’;*

The next thing that people need to know is that there is a truth-filled explanation for why they do not know (or want to know) what they “need” to know... In short, the answer is sin. However, the Bible offers significantly more definitive insight and spiritual inspection.

2 Corinthians 4:4: *“in their case, the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving so that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.”*

1 Corinthians 2:14: *The person without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God but considers them foolishness, and cannot understand them because they are discerned only through the Spirit.*

God never made a promise that was too good to be true.

- D.L. Moody

Application

God and His Word say it best. May we be a people who biblically pray and obey God's truth.

*Lord, where we are wrong, make us willing to change;
where we are right, make us easy to live with.*

- Peter Marshall

1 Timothy 4:16

*Keep a close watch on yourself and on your teaching/doctrine.
Persist/persevere in this, for by so doing you will save
both yourself and your hearers.*

2. Learn WHAT you need to know.

Illustration

The Bible's eternal and missional truth in love is what we all need to know. Be blessed in the realization that ignorance is a condition that can be, by definition, remedied with the proper addition of information, inspection, and inspiration. To that end, when it comes to God's divine design, there are core truths that need to be learned, loved, and lived out. This lesson will serve as an introduction to some of those macro and micro essentials that we will press into with upcoming sessions.

A man may imagine things that are false, but he can only understand things that are true, for if the things be false, the apprehension of them is not understanding.

- Isaac Newton

Explanation

Remember...

Macro -

God is a God of order (1 Corinthians 14:33). While this verse and its message were directed at a church whose worship services were becoming disorderly, the teaching principle is universal. God IS a God of order. One look at creation and how incredibly “ordered” creation’s interconnected relationships are reveals the intentionality of God’s architecture and applications.

Consequently, it is with God’s constructive example in view that we outlined the 5 focal points of “The HEAD” in our Come And See Christianity discipleship materials. In short, at the macro level, all people would be blessed to learn of the progressive and developing relationships between the following five insights.

1. Truth is truth: God & His Word = Truth (John 14:6 & 17:17)
2. One Design: The Gospel AND its inherent biblical worldview
3. Three Divisions: HEAD, HEART, & HANDS
4. Five Disciples: Lost, Lover, Learner, Leader, Lifer
5. Seven Details: Foundations, Framework, Facts, Fight, Faith, Family, & Forever

NOTE: Each of the above categories will be unpacked and explained in upcoming lessons.

Micro -

For starters, again, by way of introduction, everyone in the world needs to know these 7 fundamental truths, shared in love.

a. **God is perfectly holy.**

Leviticus 19:2

*“Speak to all the congregation of the people of Israel and say to them,
You shall be holy, for I the LORD your God am holy.”*

b. **Man is inherently sinful.**

Romans 3:23

“for all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.”

c. **The cost of sin is death.**

Romans 6:23

*For the wages of sin is death,
but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

d. Dead souls need a miracle.

John 6:44

"...no one comes to Me (Jesus) unless the Father draws them."

e. Life comes thru Messiah alone

John 14:6

*"I am the way, the truth, and the life,
no one comes to the Father except thru Me (Jesus)."*

f. Humanity is at war.

1 Peter 5:8

*Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil
prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.*

g. Heaven and hell are real and eternal.

Matthew 25:45-46

*"Truly, I (Jesus) say to you... these (non-Christians) will go away into eternal punishment,
but the righteous (biblical Christians) into eternal life."*

*Truth always carries with it confrontation.
Truth demands confrontation; loving confrontation nevertheless.
If our reflex action is always accommodation
regardless of the centrality of the truth involved,
there is something wrong.
- Francis Schaeffer*

Application

In the famous, closing words and missional commands of Christ in the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus told His followers to go make disciples, in part, by teaching ALL nations to obey ALL that He had commanded. Do not miss the subtle but essential message of The Messiah... Embedded in the disciple's call to teach is their need to learn. So it is with all of humanity – we ALL need to learn ALL that Christ commanded – ALL of God's Word, will, and ways. In the end, an ever-growing, deeper understanding, and refined application of The Bible should be a life-defining goal, and Gospel centered journey, for you and all who genuinely love and biblically follow Jesus.

3. REMEMBER what you know.

Illustration

An old friend once shocked me when he abruptly ended our conversation by forcibly saying: “Stop! You are bumping penguins!” Bumping penguins? In that moment, I had no idea what my friend meant by “bumping penguins” or why he had become so energized, as evidenced by his highly charged outburst.

Today, by contrast, I not only know what my friend meant, but I too, with great zeal and enthusiasm, want to pass along to you the invaluable principle that comes embedded in the exhortation to take care and be wise when it comes to your penguins and their bumping.

My friend’s wisdom was found in his valuing and prioritizing of truth.

However, to understand his illustration, one needs to visualize a floating iceberg covered with penguins. Further, in your mind’s eye, imagine the swimming penguins, (those not currently on the iceberg) as they approach and seek to get a spot on that same iceberg. In nature, the way it works is quite simple and predictable. The submerged penguins swim at high speeds and approach the iceberg, ultimately launching themselves onto the outer edge of the ice. In that moment, as the new resident penguin gets its spot, on the opposite side of the iceberg, after a chain reaction of penguin bumping, an unsuspecting penguin gets bumped off the iceberg, into the frigid and dangerous waters.

Herein we find the principle of “bumping penguins.” In short, it is not enough to know what you need to know... You also need to keep, guard, and remember what you know. Do not let deceptions, distractions, or dilutions bump any of your essential penguins (truths) off the iceberg of your mind.

Know what you need to remember and remember what you need to know.

If Jesus, the sinless and perfect Son of God, limited Himself to speaking nothing during His incarnation except the truth He received from His Father, how much more should those who have been called into ministry speak only on the authority of divine Scripture.

- John MacArthur

Philippians 4:8

Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

Explanation

Remember...

The opening verses of the short, one chapter letter of Jude, (the second to last book in the Bible) offer a wonderful example of the biblical call to “remember what you know.”

As Jude points out, much of Christian remembering is for Christian sharing – be it in the form of encouragement or warning.

Jude 1:3-5

3Beloved, although I was very eager to write to you about our common salvation, I found it necessary to write appealing to you to contend for the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints. 4For certain people have crept in unnoticed who long ago were designated for this condemnation, ungodly people, who pervert the grace of our God into sensuality and deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ. 5Now I want to remind you, although you once fully knew it, that Jesus, who saved a people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed those who did not believe...

In a similar way, as seen in the progressive and majestic exhortations of the New Testament Book of Hebrews (cf. 13:22), Christians are eternally blessed to have been given the opportunity to remember the forever covenant that the God of the Bible has made with the everlasting family of God.

1 Chronicles 16:15

*Remember His covenant forever,
The word which He commanded to a thousand generations.*

Application

- a. **Pray** When your heart is right, it is always helpful to pray the promises and purposes of Almighty God. In fact, we are commanded in 1st Thessalonians 5:17 to pray without ceasing. To that end, ask the LORD to help you to hear, heed, and hold on to all the truths that you need to learn, love and live out.

John 14:26

“But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you.”

- b. **Obey** Take to heart the clear & defining teaching of God & His Word.

John 14:15

"If you love Me (Jesus, The Christ), you will obey My commands."

1 John 3:18

"Let us not love with word and tongue but in action and in truth."

- c. **Repeat** Remembering, by definition, requires repetition. When it comes to understanding Christianity and living the Christian life, obeying God's truth in love is to be repeated... moment by moment, day by day, week by week, month by month, year after year and decade after decade...

Matthew 24:13

"...the one who endures to the end will be saved."

*Just because someone is sincere in his conviction
does not mean that it is true. It is possible to be sincerely wrong.
- Alistair Begg*

REVIEW:

God wants you to know and remember what you should never forget.

CLOSE:

For What?

Why does it matter that God IS Truth (John 14:6)? Why did God create truth? Why did He create humans in His own image (Genesis 1:27)? Why were we given minds to think and truths to trust?

The simple answer to all these "for what" questions is grounded in two words: glory and relationship. God has given His created beings the opportunity and privilege to know Him and His truths... for His glory! At the same time, there is arguably no greater evidence of God's amazing grace and glory than His miraculous mercies, as displayed in His loving relationships with the biblical Church – God's family of redeemed sinners.

When a man argues for victory and not for truth, he is sure of just one ally that is the devil. Not the defeat of the intellect, but the acceptance of the heart is the only true object in fighting with the sword of the spirit.

- George Macdonald

So What?

*For right is right, since God is God
and right the day must win.
To doubt would be disloyalty,
to falter would be sin.*

- Frederick W. Faber

*If I speak what is false, I must answer for it;
if truth, it will answer for me.*

- Thomas Fuller

Now What?

Deuteronomy 4:9

“Watch out! Be careful never to forget what you yourself have seen. Do not let these memories escape from your mind as long as you live! And be sure to pass them on to your children and grandchildren.

*Where truth goes, I will go, and where truth is I will be,
and nothing but death shall divide me and the truth.*

- Thomas Brooks

Peace if possible, but truth at any rate.

- Martin Luther

John 8:32

*“You will know the truth
and the truth will set you free.”*

PRAYER

Dear heavenly Father, thank You so much for the Truth and Love of Your Word, will, and ways. Please help us to absorb and apply ALL that You have shared and commanded in the Bible. May our heads be infilled with Your defining Scriptures, for the express purpose of informing, inspecting, and inspiring our sanctified hearts and serving hands.
In Jesus name we pray.
Amen and Amen

Related SERMON:

"Remember"
Psalm 119:149a
April 3, 2022
Sermon Series: Perspective