

# AN INTRODUCTION TO THE MATERIALS

The *CTO* materials present God's Word as the central focus around which a disciple of Christ is commanded to build his life. Practical tools are presented to assist in responding biblically to both personal sin and the sin of others. Through his decisions to obey Christ, the disciple will come to know Him more intimately.

## ***The Christian: Called To Obedience* Lesson Manual**

The *Called To Obedience* manual is the primary resource that is used in the discipling relationship. The Scriptures are filled with God's powerful truths, including His insights, mysteries, commands and promises. The lessons in *Called to Obedience* point the disciple to these truths in a way that gives him a greater awareness and understanding of his sin, which should lead to confession and repentance. As the disciple "puts off" sinful motives, attitudes, thoughts and behaviors, he is also offered many practical tools to "put on" scriptural teachings in his relationship to God and to others (Eph. 4:22-24).

The first part of the manual is designed to help the disciple strengthen his relationship with God through his obedience. It is sequential and developmental in design. The primary focus is on reconciling key relationships by forgiving, confessing sin and renewing the mind. The second part addresses key obstacles to obedience in the believer's life and gives practical steps in dealing with such things as emotional pain, fear and anger. The studies *Who's In Charge*, *Understanding the Controllers* and *When Rights Are Wrong* are included as part of the main CTO Manual.

*CTO* is filled with scriptures which the disciple is instructed to read and meditate upon. The Word of God is "***living and active and sharper than a two-edged sword...able to expose the thoughts and motives of the heart***" (Heb. 4:12).

*The Christian: Called to Obedience* manual should be utilized in a one-to-one or couple-to-couple setting. It is not designed for use in a small group, large group or seminar setting. If one chooses to use *Called to Obedience* as a tool to disciple another believer, it is imperative that he is first practicing the principles of obedience as a *lifestyle* before teaching them to someone else. The biblical philosophy of the CTO Ministry is to pass God's truths life to life rather than head to head. .

## **Bible Studies**

*Who's In Charge*, included in *The Christian: Called to Obedience* manual, is seven self-directed studies focusing on the sovereignty of God in all aspects of one's life. God's call upon the believer to suffer is explained from a scriptural perspective. This is also packaged separately and can be used independently of the *CTO* process. It is very appropriate for a small group Bible study. (Available as a free download in PDF format)

*Essentials of the Faith* is ten self-directed studies designed to establish a believer in the foundational truths of the Christian faith. This series can "stand alone" or can be used at any time in the discipling process. This study can be used for the unbeliever or for the new believer. (Available as a free download in PDF format)

## Additional Studies

*Setting Your Marriage on a Biblical Course* is a four-week study designed to address the initial struggles in a crisis marriage situation. It includes condensed excerpts from key studies on “Forgiveness” and “Reconciliation” from *The Christian: Called to Obedience*. It also contains studies on Marriage and the roles of the husband and wife, from *The Home: Called to Obedience*. This study is designed to resolve the current crisis and prepare the couple for more intensive Discipling through the main Called to Obedience study.

*The Home: Called To Obedience* applies the principles learned through *The Christian: Called to Obedience* in the context of the family and the home. The topics addressed are: the single Christian, courtship, marriage, sexuality, the husband, the wife, parenting and the use of the home for ministry.

*The Christian: Called to Brokenness* is a group of lessons related to living a broken life of dependence upon God. Brokenness is the gateway to a fuller life in the Spirit. The breaking of our self-will leads to confession, repentance, acceptance and submission to God’s authority and sovereign will. It is a humbling and often painful experience, but the breaking is needed so that the Holy Spirit can begin to work within us to strengthen and empower us to go forward in faith! This study includes topics such as: *Walking With God On His Terms, Being Overwhelmed, Thanksgiving and Persevering In Tribulation*.

*The Christian: Called To A True Identity in Christ* is a group of lessons that helps the disciple identify what living independently of God looks like and then describes how to live dependently upon God. The “wheel” is introduced as a practical tool to help discover one’s idols and false identities that are hindering living dependently upon God.

*The Christian: Called to Sexual Purity* is a study that sets forth God’s design for sexuality for the married and for the single. It also defines sexual sin from a biblical perspective. Other topics address dealing with motives and feelings, barriers to a God-glorifying marital relationship and redeeming sexual purity.

## ***The Christian: Called To Disciple Training Manual***

*Called to Disciple* is designed as a tool for the believer who has been personally disciplined with the *Called to Obedience* materials and who is implementing biblical principles in his life. This manual will expand on the principles already learned in *CTO* and will give guidance in discipling another in the same manner. It is designed to be taught in a small group setting. (Available as a free download in PDF format)

*Called to Disciple* offers a scriptural understanding of New Testament principles for discipleship and the use of the Bible as the primary resource for building a relationship with God and for providing solutions to problems. The manual presents concrete ways to encourage a disciple to establish his hope in God and His Word. With these foundations laid, the *CTD* materials then provide specific instructions for leading another through the discipling process. Detailed guidelines are given to help with preparation for each session including suggestions for homework.

The first section, which includes *Intimate Discipleship, The Role of the Discipled, God, the Counselor and Secular vs. Biblical Counseling*, is designed to address the biblical basis and the “*why*” behind the entire approach to *Called to Obedience*. Some lessons include a questions designed to be discussed in a small group setting in which interaction about key issues is encouraged.

The second section, which includes *The Initial Six Sessions, Hope, Data Gathering and Homework*, provide direction for the meeting time with the disciple.

The third section, which includes *Helping a Disciple Forgive, Confess Sin, and Reconcile*, gives guidance in implementing the principles of *Called to Obedience*. See the *Training Process For The Christian: Called to Obedience* diagram.

With the exception of Who’s In Charge and Essentials of the Faith, which are available as free downloads, all of the CTO materials are only available for purchase by those who being disciple or is planning to be discipled by a believer who has already been personally discipled though the CTO materials. To become a “registered user” to purchase materials as well as have access to the many discipling tools we have developed, you can register on the CTO web page at [www.ctoministries.org](http://www.ctoministries.org).