

Love and faithfulness meet together
there is no longer
for the LORD has forgiven
any sacrifice for sin
In him we have redemption
abounding in love to all who call on you

BIBLE ENCOUNTER MANUAL

those who love his name will dwell
for the forgiveness of sins
the greatest of these is love
of the Lord shone forth
grace and truth
come through Jesus Christ
WHO IS THE
MAJESTIC HOLINESS
in the name of Jesus Christ
the Son of Man coming in a cloud
His love endures forever
And when you stand



S.E.A.N. (pronounced “say-an”) means
STUDY BY EXTENSION FOR ALL NATIONS

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Bible Encounter Manual

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Bible Encounter Manual

• Contents •

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to this Manual	9
The Bible Encounter Group	10
How to Start	11

INSTRUCTIONS & GUIDELINES

Part 1. How to Run a Bible Encounter Group

How to prepare for the Group	13
Preparation Sheet	15
Two Methods of running Bible Studies	16
How to lead the Study	17
Group Dynamics	20
How to check your performance	23
How to prepare your own Bible Studies	25

Part 2. How to Evangelize Through Bible Encounter Groups

Summary	28
Evangelism Through Personal Friendship	30
Evangelistic Encounter Groups	31
Preparing for an "Encounter with God"	34
The Nurture Group	35
The Discipleship Group	36
Groups for Growth and Pastoral Care	36

BIBLE STUDIES

NOTE: These studies are nearly always based on one Bible passage even though they refer to verses in other parts of the Bible. The studies are aimed at **Practical Christian Living**.

1. EVANGELISM

Encounters with Christ

Jesus and a frightened man, Peter	Matthew 14:22-33	37
Jesus and a social outcast	Mark 1:40-45	39
Jesus and a man with an evil spirit	Mark 5:1-20	41
Jesus and a materialist, Zacchaeus	Luke 19:1-10	43
Jesus and a dying man, a thief	Luke 23:32-43	45
Jesus and a religious man, Nicodemus	John 3:1-16	47
Jesus and an unsatisfied woman	John 4:5-26	49
Jesus and a doubting man, Thomas	John 20:19-31	51

The basis of Christianity

God, the Creator	Genesis 1,2	53
The fall of man	Genesis 3:1-24	55
The promised Messiah	Isaiah 53:1-12	57
Man's condition	Romans 1:16-32	59
How to find peace with God	Romans 5:1-11	61
Human nature and sin	Romans 7:7-25	63
God saves man	Ephesians 2:1-10	65
The blessings of God's children	Romans 8:1-17	67

ENCOUNTER WITH GOD (special meeting)

Leaflet: 'How can I get to know God?'	69
Evangelistic Prayer List	71
"Encounter with God" Study	72

2. NURTURE

How to be Jesus' disciples

Our relationship to Christ	John 15:1-27	75
Our commitment to Christ	Luke 14:25-35	77
The Bible	2 Timothy 3:14-17	79
Prayer (1)	Matthew 6:5-15	81
Prayer (2)	Luke 11:5-13	83
The assurance of salvation (1)	Romans 8:28-39	85
The assurance of salvation (2)	2 Peter 1:1-11	87
The Church	Acts 2:37-47	89

3. GROWTH AND PASTORAL CARE

How to cultivate:

Christian creativity	Genesis 1 to 2:3	91
Christian character (1)	Galatians 5:1-26	93
Christian character (2)	Ephesians 4:1,3,17-32	95
Changes in our Christian life	Colossians 3:1-17	97
Communicating with others	Ephesians 4:25-32	99
A new way of speaking	James 3:1-18	101

How to grow in:

Love (1)	1 Corinthians 13:1-13	103
Love (2)	Colossians 3:12-17	105
Love (3)	Luke 10:25-37	107
Joy	Philippians 4:1-9	109
Peace	Romans 5:1-11	111
Faith	Hebrews 11:1-6	113
Patience	Hebrews 12:1-11	115
Unity	Philippians 1:27 to 2:18.....	117
Humility	Philippians 2:1-11	119

How to cope with:

Anxiety (1)	Matthew 6:25-34	121
Anxiety (2)	Philippians 4:1-23	123
Suffering (1)	Romans 8:28-39	125

3. GROWTH AND PASTORAL CARE (contd.)

How to cope with:

Suffering (2)	2 Corinthians 12:1-10	127
Loneliness	Various	129
Depression	1 Kings 19:1-18	131
Fear	Matthew 10:24-39	133
Anger	Romans 12:14-21	135
Being wronged; Forgiveness	Matthew 18:21-35	137
The occult	Deuteronomy 18:9-22	139
Death	1 Corinthians 15:12-34	141
Bereavement	1 Thessalonians 4:13-18	143
Sexual impurity	1 Corinthians 6:13-20	145
Materialism and greed	1 Timothy 6:6-10	147
Discontent	Numbers 14:1-11, 26-35	149

The Christian family

Marriage (1) : God's purpose	Genesis 2:18-25	151
Marriage (2) : The husband's role	Ephesians 5:22-33	153
Marriage (3) : The wife's role	Ephesians 5:22-33	155
Sexual union	1 Corinthians 7:1-6	157
How to bring up children	Ephesians 6:4	159

The Kingdom of God

The coming of the Kingdom of God	Matthew 12:22-30	161
The authority and power of the Kingdom	Matthew 28:16-20	163
The promise of the Holy Spirit (1)	John 14:15-26, 16:7-15	165
The promise of the Holy Spirit (2)	Luke 11:9-13	167
The gifts of the Holy Spirit	1 Corinthians 12:1-13	169
Divine healing (1) : Jesus heals	Matthew 8:1-17	171
Divine healing (2) : Jesus' disciples heal	Matthew 10:1-8	173
Divine healing (3) : How can we heal?	Mark 8:22-26	175

Church growth

Evangelism (1) (church based)	Acts 8:1-8	177
Evangelism (2) (personal)	Acts 8:26-40	179
The body of Christ (1)	1 Corinthians 12:13-31	181
The body of Christ (2)	Ephesians 4:1-16	183

APPENDIX

Additional Explanatory Notes	185
1 Bereavement	20
2 Christian character (1)	21
3 Christian character (2)	22
4 Christian creativity	23
5 How to bring up children	24
6 Love (1)	25
7 Death	26
8 Fear	27
9 Unity	28
10 The Promised Messiah	29
11 Human nature and sin	30
12 Divine healing (1)	31
13 Divine healing (2)	32
14 Divine healing (3)	33
15 The gifts of the Holy Spirit	34
16 Authority and Power of the Kingdom	35
17 The promise of the Holy Spirit (1)	36
18 The promise of the Holy Spirit (2)	37
19 The coming of the Kingdom of God	
20 Anger	
21 Depression	
22 Our relationship with Christ	
23 God, the Creator	
24 Man's condition	
25 Communicating with others	
26 Peace	
27 The body of Christ	
28 Humility	
29 Suffering (1)	
30 Suffering (2)	
31 Evangelism	
32 The fall of man	
33 The occult	
34 How to grow in faith	
35 How to grow in joy	
36 Sexual impurity	
37 Changes in our Christian life	
Glossary	205
Biblical Index	209
Topical Index.....	212
What Next?	217

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JESUS AND A FRIGHTENED MAN

PETER

(MATTHEW 14:22-33)

SUMMARY Through this frightening experience of the storm on the sea of Galilee, Jesus taught his disciples how to overcome fear and other adversities, through faith.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Why were Peter and the other disciples frightened? (v.24,26)
How had Jesus' absence affected them?
2. What are the "storms" that make **us** afraid in our daily lives?
3. What did Jesus do to calm their fear? (v.25-27)
4. What important lessons did Peter learn about faith, doubt, failure and salvation? How would he have **felt** at each stage of this adventure? (v.28-32)

APPLICATION

What can we learn from these points about how Jesus can free us from our fears?

GUIDELINES TO ANSWERS

1. Sudden storm. Jesus was not with them. When he appeared, they thought he was a ghost; fear of the supernatural. Feeling abandoned, they were more afraid and insecure.
2. Sudden illness; matrimonial, family and economic crises; accidents; violent changes in the political arena, in our work or circumstances; loss of loved ones; upsets in our home, temptations, etc.
3. He came to them in their fear, he spoke and encouraged them. Through Peter, he showed how they could have victory over fear through faith, stepping out on his word.
4. He must keep his eyes on Jesus, not on the difficulties. Even if he failed, he could still trust Jesus to save and help him.

APPLICATION

When Jesus enters our life, we experience **faith** in the midst of the most difficult circumstances; He gives us his peace, and helps lift us up again when we fail or fall. (You can use the Leaflet "How can I get to know God?" on pages 69, 70)

EXPLANATORY NOTES

- (v.24) **"Battered by the waves"** - Even today, sudden violent storms are very common on the sea of Galilee. Fishermen fear these storms because they are so sudden and unpredictable.

OTHER BIBLE PASSAGES

Isaiah 43:1-5	John 16:33	2 Timothy 1:7	Hebrews 11:6
Joshua 1:6-9	Mark 9:23	Philippians 4:6	Psalm 23
1 Peter 5:7	Psalm 91	1 John 4:18	Romans 8:15, 37-39

THE BIBLE

(2 TIMOTHY 3:14-17)

SUMMARY Paul instructs Timothy, the pastor in the church, to continue to read the Scriptures that he has known since he was a child, so that he may be well qualified and equipped for right living and for Christian ministry.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. In these verses, what advice does Paul give to Timothy to strengthen him in his life and Christian ministry?
2. For what are the Holy Scriptures useful? (vv.15,16,17)
3. Why do we call the Scriptures "The Word of God"? (v.16 - see also 2 Peter 1:21)

APPLICATION

How can we establish a habit of regularly reading the Scriptures?

NOTE: This study is lengthened by a Special Bible Meditation (see **APPLICATION** on the following page).

GUIDELINES TO ANSWERS

1. He should continue (*persevere*) in the true teaching of the Scriptures; he should read it, understand it and apply it to his own life.
2. For a person to find salvation in Christ. To teach us, to uncover the secrets of our hearts, to correct our errors, to instruct us in God's ways. If we read and obey the Scriptures we shall become "men of God", well qualified and equipped.
3. The Bible was "inspired by God". In other words God caused it to be written by men of God. (Take time to flick through the pages of the Bible to *show* them both the Old and New Testaments).

APPLICATION

Emphasize the need to have a **daily habit** of reading the Bible. Advise where to start - Mark or John - how much to read and where to continue reading. Advise them to set a daily **time** and **place**, for this. Explain how to **pray, read, apply and pray again**, as they read. Have a short Bible meditation on Matthew 7:24-29 to **show how** to do this.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

- * (v.15) **"ever since you were a child"** - Read 2 Timothy 1:5.
- * (v.15) **"The Holy Scriptures"** - In those days it only consisted of the Old Testament, the Jewish Scriptures. During the **first years** of the church they started to use the Gospels and Paul's letters as "Scriptures" also (see 2 Peter 3:15,16); that is how the New Testament was soon added.
- * **Interesting facts about the Bible** ("Biblos" = Book - "God's book")
Facts:
 - World-wide bestseller every year.
 - 1980 - more than 500 million copies sold.
 - Translated into more than 2000 languages.
 - Written over a period of 1500 years, in 3 languages, in 3 continents by 40 authors.
 - Contains 66 Books - Old and New Testament.
 - One central theme: "Salvation by Christ".
 - It has changed lives, societies, nations, the whole world.**Its contents:**
 - 39 books in the Old Testament.
 - 27 books in the New Testament.
 - A LIBRARY of history, law, drama, poetry, prophecy, biography, songs, letters.