The Lamplight Project – Study Guide
To be used alongside the multimedia presentation on DVD or download
See www.thelamplightproject.tv where you can also view the project trailer

Section 8 - What is a Christian? (Approx. running time 18 mins)

("By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another" – John 13:35)

Widely known as 'the father of India', Mahatma Gandhi (1869-1948) once said: -

"I like your Christ, I do not like your Christians. Your Christians are so unlike your Christ."

Within the context of that statement, Gandhi was often on the receiving end of brutal treatment by individuals who went under the title of "Christian" because of their association with Western civilisation. The word Christian means different things to different people. In general, it will mean that someone has a belief in God**.** Of course, that tells you very little and to quote the half-brother of Jesus in the letter of James:

"You believe that God is one. You do well; the demons also believe, and shudder." (James 2:19)

Often, people will make much of being a member of a particular Christian organisation or group, yet the Bible is clear that there is only one body, and that is the Body of Christ (1 Cor. 12:27) and that the Lord's people are aliens or strangers passing through this world (1 Pet. 2:11). Certainly, there are a number of warnings given throughout the New Testament. Jesus warned that on the day of judgement many will come claiming to know and even have done service and miracles in Christ's name but He goes onto to teach: -

"For the gate is small and the way is narrow that leads to life, and there are few who find it." (Matthew 7:14)

"I never knew you, depart from me" (Matthew 7:23)

"For many are called, but few are chosen" (Matthew 22:14)

The apostle Paul warned the believers in the Corinthian Church: -

"Test yourselves to see if you are in the faith; examine yourselves!" (2 Cor. 13:5)

In the video film presentation we have a number of questions before us: -

- What is a Christian?
- What does the term 'Born Again' mean?
- What is repentance and obedience?
- What are water and Spirit Baptisms?
- What about the study of scripture?
- What about prayer?
- What about traditions?
- A faithful witness for the Gospel

Interactive links connect to additional short films on our **Global Vision** YouTube channel:
www.youtube.com/GlobalVisionTV
You may have watched some of these in earlier sections but they are also pertinent here.

- **Apologetics/D. Harris – Is Christianity true or false? (2.39)**
- **Deception/D. Harris – How can I know true Christianity? (2:57)**
- **The Bible/P. Williams – What is a Christian? (1:02)**
- **The Bible/D. Bock – What is a Christian? (1:18)**
- **The Bible/A. Fruchtenbaum – Why did Christ have to die? (8:01)**
- **The Bible/S. Bhayro – What is the Gospel message? (1.23)**
- **DCL-Series/S. Menelaws – Salvation (14.00)**
- **The Bible/P. Williams – Repentance and obedience (1:16)**
- **The Bible/D. Bock – Biblical Christianity? (0:57)**
- **The Bible/D. Bock – What is a Disciple? (0:43)**
- **DCL-Series/S. Menelaws – Discipleship introduction (14.00)**
- **DCL-Series/S. Menelaws – Water baptism (14.00)**
- **The Bible/A. Fruchtenbaum – Traditions: Christmas + Easter (7:47)**
- **Apologetics/D. Harris – What is truth? (3.00)**
- **Spiritual Deception/D. Harris – Falling away from Biblical truth (2.35)**
- **The Bible/P. Williams – Following God's word (1.48)**
- **DCL-Series/S. Menelaws – Warnings (14.00)**
- **Faith groups/D. Harris – The New Age in the church (3.12)**
- **Spiritual Deception/R. Oakland – Deception – Another gospel (2.13)**
- **The Bible/D. Harris – The early Christian church (1:40)**
- **The Bible/A. Fruchtenbaum – What is prayer? (6:45)**
- **The Bible/D. Bock – Prayer (2:10)**
- **Deception/D. Harris – Contemplative prayer or babble? (3:03)**
- **WeekendShow/Ep54 – Types of Biblical Prayer (30:00)**
- **WeekendShow/Ep55 – Men of prayer (30:00)**
- **DCL-Series/S. Menelaws – Prayer & Study (14.00)**
- **The Bible/A. Fruchtenbaum – Tithing (8:14)**
- **The Bible/A. Fruchtenbaum – Law and Grace (7:45)**
- **The Bible/P. Williams – Baptism of the Holy Spirit (1.28)**
- **DCL-Series/S. Menelaws – Baptism of the Holy Spirit (14.00)**
- **DCL-Series/S. Menelaws – Gifts of The Holy Spirit (14.00)**

Scripture is clear that the disciple of Jesus Christ must remain in Him and His Word and the promise is that He will remain in you.

Scripture references in regard to staying close to the Lord and His Word: -

"I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. "Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit, He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit, He prunes it so that it may bear more fruit. "You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. "Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it abides in the vine, so neither can you unless you abide in Me. "I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing. "If anyone does not abide in Me, he is thrown away as a branch and dries up; and they gather them, and cast them into the fire and they are burned. "If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. "My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be My disciples"
(John 15:1-8)

Scripture references to keep close to your heart: -

"There are six things which the LORD hates, Yes, seven which are an abomination to Him. Haughty eyes, a lying tongue, Hands that shed innocent blood, A heart that devises wicked plans, feet that run rapidly to evil, a false witness who utters lies, and one who spreads strife among brothers." (Proverbs 6:16-19)

"A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. "By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another." (John 13:34-35)

"You shall love The Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind" (Matthew 22:37)

"You shall love your neighbour as yourself" (Matthew 22:39)

Worksheet - can be used alone or within a group (with space for Notes if using the printed version):

1. Think about / discuss – what is a Christian disciple as explained in the Bible and why are you called to be one?

2. Think about / discuss - Religion or relationship?

3. Think about / discuss – What is meant by the term – Born Again?

4. Think about / discuss – Repentance and obedience

5. Think about / discuss – water and Spirit baptism

6. Think about / discuss – the need to study scripture

7. Think about / discuss – prayer

8. Think about / discuss – the purpose of spiritual gifts

9. Think about / discuss – What place does tradition have in the church - if any?

10. Think about / discuss – What is meant by being a faithful witness of the Gospel?

Continued on next page

11. Think about / discuss – What is 'fellowship'?

12. Think about / discuss – The bread and the wine - The Lord's Supper - Communion.

13. Think about / discuss – The encouragement, rebuke and exhortation to the 7 churches

14. Think about / discuss – Well done good and faithful servant / away from me - I never knew you

15. Think about / discuss – Are your answers Biblical or opinion?

In **Section 9** - We take a look at the Biblical world of supernatural beings, angels and demons - are they real or imagined?