

WINNERS ARE NOT THOSE WHO NEVER FAIL BUT THOSE WHO

NEVER QUIT

MAJORING IN MEN[®]
The Curriculum for Men

Edwin Louis Cole



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Southlake, Texas

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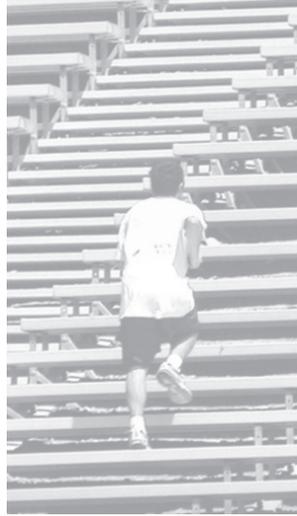
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

LESSON	TITLE	PAGE
Lesson 1	God Will Make a Way & God Will Be Faithful to You	5
Lesson 2	God Will Speak to You	13
Lesson 3	God Will Restore All	19
Lesson 4	God's Pattern for Change	25
Lesson 5	Steps to Entering and Leaving (Part One)	33
Lesson 6	Steps to Entering and Leaving (Part Two)	41
Lesson 7	Mid-Life Crisis	49
Lesson 8	The Way to Victory	55
Lesson 9	How to Move from Failure to Success	63
Lesson 10	The Power of Your Confession of Faith (Part One)	71
Lesson 11	The Power of Your Confession of Faith (Part Two)	79
Lesson 12	Speaking God's Word	87
	Final Exam	95
	Bible Reading Charts	101



Lesson 1

**God Will Make a Way
&
God Will Be Faithful to You**

Lesson 1

God Will Make a Way & God Will Be Faithful to You

I. God Will Make a Way (Chapter 1)

A. Fill in the statements below with the following words: *(pages 9-10)*

success outcome normal crisis part

1. _____ is generally the reason behind feelings of wanting to give up.
2. Facing the crisis can lead to our greatest _____.
3. Change and crisis are _____ to life.
4. The _____ rests not in the nature of the issue but in what we do with the crisis.
5. We do our _____.

B. Crisis is common in life. *(page 11)* ___ True ___ False

1. Christians should not experience crisis. *(page 11)* ___ True ___ False
Read 2 Corinthians 11:23-29.

For Further Study:

Change produces crisis. Change is normal, so crisis is normal to life – *“In the world ye shall have tribulation”* John 16:33. Crisis has sorrow in it, but sorrow is life’s greatest teacher – Ecclesiastes 7:3; *“It is good for me that I have been afflicted; that I might learn thy statutes”* Psalm 119:71.

All true joy is born out of sorrow – *“Weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning ... Thou hast turned for me my mourning into dancing: thou hast put off my sackcloth, and girded me with gladness”* Psalm 30:5, 11; *“They that sow in tears shall reap in joy”* Psalm 126:5.

God wants every change in the lives of His children to be good – Romans 8:28. Let God take you through each crisis to the next stage of life – Romans 8:38, 39.

Always remember that God is for you, not against you – Psalm 56:9.

Be careful not to waste your youth brooding over what someone else has done to you – Isaiah 43:14, 18.

2. What is the factor that makes a crisis seem so unbearable? (page 11) _____

3. Stress is a modern phenomenon that should be avoided at all costs. (page 11)

____ True ____ False

C. What can you learn from Apostle Paul's ordeal with a ship captain's poor decision? (pages 13-14)

II. God Will Be Faithful to You (Chapter Two)

A. Read: "Know therefore that the Lord thy God, He is God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep His commandments to a thousand generations" Deuteronomy 7:9.

Circle the words that assure you that God can be trusted with your life.

B. What are believers really saying when they ask, "If God exists, why does He allow wars, birth defects, disease, etc."? (page 18)

For Further Study:

Apostle Paul's crises were many and varied – "Are they ministers of Christ? ... I am more; in labours more abundant, in stripes above measure, in prisons more frequent, in deaths oft. Of the Jews five times received I forty stripes save one. Thrice was I beaten with rods, once was I stoned, thrice I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day I have been in the deep; In journeyings often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils by mine own countrymen, in perils by the heathen, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren; In weariness and painfulness, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness. Beside those things that are without, that which cometh upon me daily, the care of all the churches. Who is weak, and I am not weak? who is offended, and I burn not?" 2 Corinthians 11:23-29.

Apostle Paul's ordeal with the ship's captain – Acts 27:9-44

1. When believers ask, “Will God work,” are they asking if God is powerful enough to do it?

(page 18) ___ Yes ___ No

What are they really asking? (page 18) _____

2. Men hardly ever doubt God’s ability, but they do doubt His _____. (page 18)

3. The victory of the redeemed is not that they transform the world, but _____

_____. (page 19)

- C. Read aloud 2 Timothy 2:2.

1. Talent cannot compensate for a lack of _____. (page 19)

2. Faithful men are the _____ of the Church. (page 20)

Read aloud 1 Corinthians 4:2.

Define “faithfulness.” (page 20) _____

For Further Study:

God is faithful! – “*Know therefore that the Lord thy God, he is God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations*” Deuteronomy 7:9.

Faith in God honors Him; unbelief dishonors Him – “*But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him*” Hebrews 11:6.

God’s Word is the source of faith – “*Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God*” Matthew 4:4.

D. Faithfulness is a mark of _____. (page 21)

1. List the evidences of faithfulness. (page 21)

a. _____ b. _____ c. _____

2. God is faithful toward some when He feels like it. (pages 21-22) ____ True ____ False

E. Read Hebrews 1:3. With what does God uphold the world? (page 22)

1. God never varies. (page 23) ____ True ____ False
Read James 1:17.

2. What is the difference between worry and faith? (page 25)

3. When we worry about ourselves, we are really worrying about God. (page 25)
____ True ____ False

For Further Study:

Renew your mind – “*Lie not ... seeing you have put off the old man ... And have put on the new man*” Colossians 3:9, 10; “*And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God*” Romans 12:2.

God transforms our whole lives with His love – “*Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new*” 2 Corinthians 5:17; “*And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us*” Romans 5:5.

Heart change – “*Circumcision is that of the heart, in the spirit, and not in the letter*” Romans 2:29; “*A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh*” Ezekiel 36:26.

Faithfulness – “*And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also*” 2 Timothy 2:2.

4. When we worry about an outcome after we've prayed, what are we basically saying about God?

(pages 25-26) _____

- F. Read: *"Even when we are too weak to have any faith left, he remains faithful to us and will help us, for he cannot disown us who are part of himself, and he will always carry out his promises to us"*
2 Timothy 2:13 TLB.

1. To make God the _____ for our failures is to _____ His ability to be the _____. (page 29)
2. To accuse God of _____ is to accuse Him of not being God. (page 30)
3. God takes what is meant for evil and turns it _____
_____. (page 32)

For Further Study:

Lay a right foundation for your character – 2 Corinthians 7:1. Character is built in private. It develops out of a lifetime of individual decisions which either enhance or diminish it – *"I have chosen the way of truth: thy judgments have I laid before me"* Psalm 119:30; *"If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, and prepared unto every good work"* 2 Timothy 2:21.

Personality is not the same as character – Proverbs 26:23. Personality is after the outward man and is temporal – 1 Samuel 16:7.

Obedience to His Word honors God; disobedience dishonors Him – 1 Samuel 15:22, 23; Proverbs 14:2.

Creator God – *"Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high"* Hebrews 1:3; *"And he is before all things, and by him all things consist"* Colossians 1:17; *"Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created"* Revelation 4:11.

Practical:

What has God spoken to your heart in studying just these first two chapters?

Repeat this prayer out loud:

Father, I never realized how much I haven't trusted You. I have blamed You, accused You, worried about You, but today I want to truly trust You. Please forgive my past, and let me start today anew. Amen.

For Further Study:

God never changes – James 1:17; “*God is not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do it? or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?*” Numbers 23:19; “*For I am the Lord, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed*” Malachi 3:6.

Pray – “*Don't worry about anything; instead pray about everything; tell God your needs and don't forget to thank him for his answers*” Philippians 4:6 TLB; “*It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord*” Psalm 92:1.

God cannot be unfaithful – “*If we believe not, yet he abideth faithful: he cannot deny himself*” 2 Timothy 2:13.

God's transcendent glory – “*But as for you, ye thought evil against me; but God meant it unto good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save much people alive*” Genesis 50:20.

God's Word is the source of faith – “*I have inclined mine heart to perform thy statutes always, even unto the end*” Psalm 119:112.

Self Test *Lesson 1*

1. Crisis is normal to life.
 True False
2. Stress is never good for us.
 True False
3. Men often doubt God's ability but never His faithfulness.
 True False
4. What are three evidences of faithfulness in a man?
a. _____ b. _____ c. _____
5. What is the main difference between worry and faith? _____

6. If we experience failure, God can and will disown us. True False
7. What is one way to eliminate God as the source of our solutions? _____

8. To accuse God of failure is to accuse Him of _____
_____.
9. Failure can be the _____ of success.
10. God is faithful even when we are _____.

Keep this test for your own records.