

*NewLife Series*  
**EVANGELISM, DISCIPLESHIP, MISSIONS**  
English, Tagalog & Cebuano Versions.

**By Pastor Bien Llobrera**

**BOOK 6-A**

***Chi Upsilon:***

*A Discipleship Course for Youth*

INTRODUCTION

*NOTE: Please, first read "APPENDIX" at the end of this book.*

**ORIENTATION MEETING**

**WHAT IS CHI UPSILON?**

1. The course is called CHI UPSILON.
2. You may ask, "CHI UPSILON – what's that?"
3. CHI and UPSILON are two letters from the Greek alphabet.

(1) CHI (shaped like the English letter X, has the sound of CH) is the first letter of the name of Christ in Greek: CHRISTOS. (Write the word CHI and equivalent letter X on the board; do the same thing with UPSILON, Y.)

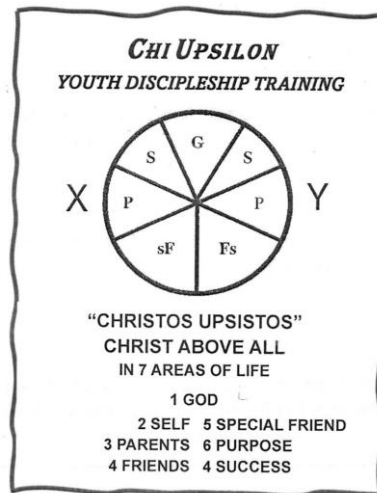
(2) UPSILON (shaped like the English letter Y, is equivalent to the English letter U) is the first letter in the Greek word UPSISTOS, which means ABOVE ALL. (Note: UPSISTOS is actually pronounced with the sound of H at the beginning: HUPSISTOS; however, Greek has no letter H,

just a rough breathing mark; hence, we write the word as UPSISTOS, without forgetting to make the sound of H at the beginning).

Hence: CHRISTOS (H)UPSISTOS = CHRIST ABOVE ALL!

4. CHI UPSILON is a Bible study course designed to help Christians, specially young people, to put CHRIST ABOVE ALL in every area of their life.

5. When a person receives Christ as Savior and Lord, this commitment is symbolized by superimposing the letters CHI (X) and UPSILON (Y) on the circle of life; this divides the circle of life into *SEVEN AREAS*. These seven areas are represented by the letters G – S – P – FS – SF – P – S.



6. When you join the CHI UPSILON course, you will learn how to PUT CHRIST ABOVE ALL in these seven areas of your life.

7. Is this a decision you wish to make today? To join this course in order to learn how to PUT CHRIST ABOVE ALL in all seven areas of your life? This decision means you will make every effort and make it your priority to attend the weekly training meeting. Attending all weekly sessions is a requirement for graduation. If for any reason you miss a session, we will arrange a make-up study meeting for you.

8. Do you have any questions? If not we shall proceed to our fellowship and refreshment time, while those who wish to join will sign the registration slip, full name, address, phone number, year and school you are attending or work place if you are no longer in school, and the person and phone number to contact in case of emergency.

**LESSON 1. G: GOD**

1. Our CHI UPSILON logo or diagram shows us the direction of our study in the coming several weeks. We hope that we will be able to finish one lesson a week.

2. Today, as our first lesson, we will discuss the first area: G: God. This area deals with our relationship with God.
3. Why is this area important? It is important because our relationship with God will determine whether or not we shall achieve a meaningful, happy, balanced and successful life.
4. Everybody is asking, “How can I have a meaningful, happy, balanced and successful life?”
  5. Christ gives us the key to the meaningful, happy, balanced and successful life. Christ said in John 10:10-11: “<sup>10</sup>The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have *it* more abundantly. <sup>11</sup>I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep.”
  6. In John chapter 10 Christ describes Himself as the Good Shepherd. In verses 10-11 He contrasts Himself with Satan, the thief. According to John 10:10, what are the three objectives of Satan, the thief, regarding your life?
    - (1) First, Satan’s objective is to steal from you – your peace, your joy, your moral standards, your health, wealth, and relationships.
    - (2) Second, Satan’s objective is to kill you.
    - (3) Third, Satan’s objective is to destroy what’s left.
  7. The clearest and most common illustration of Satan’s triple objective is the experience of the drug addict.
    - (1) First, Satan steals from the drug addict his moral standards; steals his ability to resist temptation; steals his health; steals his joy and peace and direction and ambition in life. Pretty soon, the addict himself has to steal in order to support his habit.
    - (2) Second, after stealing his health, Satan eventually kills the addict. But before he is killed, the addict may end up causing the suffering or death of other people as well.
    - (3) Finally, Satan will cause all kinds of destruction to fall upon what the addict leaves behind – family, friends, and others.
  8. In addition to drug addiction, Satan uses many other addictions to accomplish his deadly triple objective – addiction to money, food, sex, fame, power, gambling, etc. But whatever methods he uses, Satan remains true to his triple objective: to steal, to kill, and to destroy.
  9. But in contrast to Satan, the thief, Christ offers Himself to us as the Good Shepherd who came to give life and to give life abundantly. And Christ’s method is the complete opposite of Satan’s. Satan kills but Christ dies for us in order that we might live.
  10. In John 10:11 Christ describes Himself: “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep.” Christ gave His life on the cross in order to redeem – buy back – His lost sheep.
  11. Why was it necessary for Christ to die on the cross?

12. This is the reason. When God created our first parents, Adam and Eve, He created them sinless and they had a close relationship with God. But when Satan tempted them to disobey God, they yielded to Satan's temptation. As a result, their relationship with God was broken and they became slaves of Satan. The tragic thing is that all the children of Adam and Eve followed in the way of sin and so all humanity became enslaved to Satan.

13. God's holiness and justice demanded that all the sins of Adam and Eve and their children must be punished and paid for. As long as humanity's sin was not paid for, Satan could hold people hostage and retain them as his slaves. But God so loved the world that He gave His only Son Jesus Christ to become the Perfect Sacrifice. On the cross Christ took all of humanity's sins and paid for them with His death on the cross.

14. With the debt of sin paid for, Satan no longer has any hold on people. They are free to walk away from Satan's slavery.

15. Now, Christ offers people a choice – to remain Satan's slaves or to be free by receiving Christ as Lord and Savior of their lives.

16. To those who receive Christ, He promises to give them life and life abundantly. This means eternal life with God in heaven someday, and a life of balance, meaning and purpose here on earth, with true peace and true joy and victory in the midst of trials and tribulations.

17. We need to clarify what receiving Christ as Savior and Lord does not mean. We may compare our hearts to a kingdom; in this kingdom there is the throne room, and on the throne the king/queen sits on the throne. Because of sin, you have declared independence from God and you have declared yourself as the king/queen on the throne.

18. When you receive Christ as Savior and Lord, you surrender to Him the throne of your life. Many people have the mistaken idea that when they receive Christ they receive Him as a guest and they put Him in the guest room. They remain as the king/queen on the throne, and they don't allow Christ to interfere with their activities and plans; they don't allow Him to enter the other rooms of their life; they don't allow Him to know what's going on inside those rooms.

19. No, receiving Christ does NOT mean receiving Him only as guest.

20. In truth, when you truly receive Christ as Savior and Lord, you receive Him as the King of your life. You surrender the throne to Him. You give Him all the keys to all the rooms in your life. You bow down before Him and surrender your whole life – all that you are, all that you have, all that you hope to be – to love and serve Him, for the rest of your life. And you promise that with His help, you will put CHRIST ABOVE ALL in every area of your life: CHRISTOS UPSISTOS – CHI UPSILON!

21. Are you ready to answer a very personal question?

22. Have you truly received Christ as Lord and Savior? Have you truly committed yourself to put CHRIST ABOVE ALL – CHRISTOS UPSISTOS – in order to live the CHI UPSILON way?

23. If you have not done so in the past, are you ready to make this commitment today?
24. If you have done this in the past, are you ready to make a re-commitment today?
25. Pray this prayer:

"Dear heavenly Father, I now fully surrender my whole life to you, spirit, soul, and body, all that I am, all that I have, all my relationships, and all the days of my life. From now on I am yours alone and yours forever. From now on I will put CHRIST ABOVE ALL – CHRISTOS UPSISTOS – in every area of my life, and with your help I will always try to live the CHI UPSILON WAY. In Christ's name. Amen."

MEMORY VERSE ASSIGNMENT:

26. For purposes of uniformity, we will memorize our verses in the New King James Version.
27. On a card, write this verse, and memorize:

JOHN 10:10 - The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly. – JOHN 10:10

## LESSON 2. S: SELF

### INTRODUCTION

1. After you have received Christ as Savior and Lord and you have committed yourself to put CHRIST ABOVE ALL – CHRISTOS UPSISTOS – in order to live the CHI UPSILON way, the next area of life that Christ helps you to understand and to find balance in is the area of your SELF, your self-image, how you look at yourself.

(Let's look again at the CHI UPSILON diagram.)

2. Self-image is absolutely important. The way you look at yourself determines the way you look at others and at the world around you. The way you treat yourself affects the way that other people will treat you. The way you handle yourself determines how you handle the things and circumstances that you encounter.
3. The Israelites demonstrated the bad effect of a negative self-image. Let us read and meditate on what the Israelites said in Numbers 13:33: "There we saw the giants (the descendants of Anak came from the giants); and we were like grasshoppers in our own sight, and so we were in their sight."
4. Did you notice that? First they said, "We were like grasshoppers IN OUR OWN SIGHT." And as a result, how did their enemies look at them: "And SO WE WERE IN THEIR SIGHT." So their enemies easily defeated them.
5. That is the result of negative self-image. If you see yourself as a grasshopper, other people will agree with you and say, "Yes, indeed, you are a grasshopper!"

6. But contrast this with young David when he fought the giant Goliath. Let's read 1 Samuel 17:33-37, 42.

7. King Saul had a negative image of David. 1 Samuel 17:33: *And Saul said to David, "You are not able to go against the Philistine to fight with him; for you are but a youth, and he a man of war from his youth."*

8. Goliath agreed with King Saul and looked at David with the same negative image. 1 Samuel 17:42: *And when the Philistine look about and saw David, he disdained him; for he was but a youth, ruddy and good-looking.* In the eyes of Goliath, David was but a youth, rosy-cheeked and pretty like a girl.

9. But David had a divinely inspired self-image. Listen to his words in 1 Samuel 17:34-37:

*34 But David said to Saul, "Your servant used to keep his father's sheep, and when a lion or a bear came and took a lamb out of the flock,*

*35 I went out after it and struck it, and delivered the lamb from its mouth; and when it arose against me, I caught it by its beard and struck and killed it.*

*36 Your servant has killed both lion and bear; and this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, seeing he defied the armies of the living God."*

*37 Moreover David said, "The Lord, who delivered me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear, He will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine."*

10. David looked at himself as the bear-and-lion-killer with God's help. And with God's help he also looked at himself as a giant-killer. We know how the story ended. David, the youth, defeated Goliath, the veteran giant soldier.

#### WHAT'S YOUR SELF-IMAGE?

11. How do you diagnose your self-image?

12. To diagnose your self-image, a famous youth counselor suggested: Look at yourself in the mirror. If you were given the power to change anything about yourself, what would you change about the following ...

- Your physical appearance
- Your personality
- Your talents and abilities (or lack of them)
- Your family background
- Your social, economic, educational background
- Others

13. Let's take time now to write down our answers. Be honest with yourself; write down what you really think about yourself. You will not be asked to share your answers with anyone.

NOBODY'S PERFECT

14. Nobody's perfect. If we are honest we will admit that there are certain things about ourselves that we want to change.

15. With Christ the Savior and Lord on the throne of our life, He will help us to have a healthy, positive self-image. Through His Word, the Bible, we will be able to follow three powerful steps towards that healthy, positive self-image.

STEP 1: THANK GOD EXACTLY FOR HOW HE CREATED YOU.

- STEP 2: CHANGE THE THINGS THAT CAN BE CHANGED.
- STEP 3: GLORIFY GOD WITH THOSE THINGS THAT CAN'T BE CHANGED.

16. Let's carefully study Psalm 139:13-18. Let's answer the following questions:

(1) Who made us in our mother's womb?

(2) Because God made us, do you believe He actually decided every detail of our physical, emotional, intellectual characteristics? Explain your answer.

(3) Let's study Psalm 139:16 in different translations:

a. New King James Version: *Your eyes saw my substance, being yet unformed, and in Your book they were all written, the days fashioned for me, when as yet there were none of them.*

b. New International Version: *Your eyes saw my unformed body. All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.*

17. From a comparison of these translations, two things stand out:

(1) First, God made each part of our being and He recorded each part in His book – the color of our eyes and skin, our height, our weight, etc.

(2) Second, God also wrote down the number of days we shall live, the length of our life.

18. In addition to creating our physical life and personality, God also determined the time and place and circumstances of our life – where and when we will be born and live and grow up, including the social and economic backgrounds. Let's read Acts 17:26-27.

<sup>26</sup> *And He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings, <sup>27</sup> so that they should seek the Lord, in the hope that they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us.*

19. According to Psalm 139:17-18, what can we be sure about God's purpose for our life?

<sup>17</sup> *How precious also are Your thoughts to me, O God! How great is the sum of them!*

<sup>18</sup> *If I should count them, they would be more in number than the sand; when I awake, I am still with You.*

20. God has a great purpose for our life. Our imagination cannot even grasp everything God is preparing for us. Let's read:

1 Corinthians 2:9: *But as it is written: "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him."*

Ephesians 3:20,21: <sup>20</sup> *Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, <sup>21</sup> to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.*

21. What then should be your response to this fact that God created you and He has a great plan for you? Your response should be STEP 1.

- STEP 1: THANK GOD EXACTLY FOR HOW HE CREATED YOU.

22. The fact that God created us the way we are does NOT mean that we should not or could not change anything. A healthy, positive self-image includes the second step.

- STEP 2: CHANGE THE THINGS THAT CAN BE CHANGED.

a. For example, if you have a SHY, introvert personality, you can learn to be outgoing. You will not be as active and happy as the person who is naturally outgoing and extrovert. But you can learn to be more friendly.

b. Another example, if you are gifted in English but poor in math, this doesn't mean that you cannot learn to be a better math student and get a better grade in math. You need to work harder, but you can still learn to be better.

c. To change the things that can be changed, we can claim the promise in Philippians 4:13: I CAN DO ALL THINGS THROUGH CHRIST WHO STRENGTHENS ME.

23. However, we need to admit that there are things that cannot be changed. John 9:1-3 tells us about one such situation; let's study this scripture carefully. Let's note the following:

(1) Here was a man born blind from birth.

(2) The disciples were looking for someone to blame.

(3) But what did Christ say? Nobody is to blame. Rather, what was the true reason why this man was born blind? Christ said that this man was born blind for a purpose – to bring glory to God. And that is exactly what happened. When the man placed His blindness in the hands of Christ, Christ used it to bring glory to God.

(4) In your situation, God may or may not do a miracle to change things. But you can be sure of one thing: even when you cannot change things, you can be sure God will use your situation to bring glory to Himself.

(5) This was what happened to the apostle Paul. Let's read 2 Corinthians 12:7-10. God allowed Satan to afflict him with a thorn. He prayed fervently three times for God to remove the thorn. Did God remove it? No; instead what did God give Paul? As a result, what was Paul's testimony? (2 Corinthians 12:9-10)

24. This leads us to the final step in developing a healthy, positive self-image:

- STEP 3: GLORIFY GOD WITH THOSE THINGS THAT CAN'T BE CHANGED.

(1) All of us have certain things in our life and personality and circumstances that cannot be changed. What do we do with these things?

(2) We must place those unchangeable things in Christ's hands and ask Him to give us the grace to accept and bear them and, like the apostle Paul, let's ask God to use those things to glorify God in us and through us.

## CONCLUSION

25. Do you remember the story of the mouse and the lion?

*The lion accidentally stepped on the tail of a mouse and the mouse pleaded for his life, and promised that someday he might be able to help the lion. The lion laughed. How could such a tiny creature as the mouse help the lion who was the king of the forest? But the lion let him go anyway. One day the lion got caught in a net trap. The harder he struggled, the tighter the net became. Just then the mouse came by and offered to help the lion. "How can you help me, you tiny creature," the lion said. "If I cannot even break this net in spite of all my strength, how can you set me free?" "Just you wait, Master Lion," the mouse said and set to work with his teeth. And in no time at all, the lion was free. And the lion said, "Now I see that even small creatures can have their own secret strength. Thank you, friend mouse, for setting me free."*

26. God has given you life for a special purpose. He gave you exactly the combination of qualities that make you the kind of person He will use in a mighty way someday -- your background, your family, your parents, brothers and sister, where and when you were born, your personality, talents, abilities and even disabilities – you were all given these to bring glory to God.

27. Thank God for the gift of your self. And start walking in confidence -- not in yourself but in God. He made you and He will equip you and He will use you.

28. Shall we take time now and commit ourselves to these three steps to achieving a healthy, positive self-image?

- STEP 1: THANK GOD EXACTLY FOR HOW HE CREATED YOU.
- STEP 2: CHANGE THE THINGS THAT CAN BE CHANGED.
- STEP 3: GLORIFY GOD WITH THOSE THINGS THAT CAN'T BE CHANGED.

MEMORY VERSE ASSIGNMENT:

On a card, write this verse, and memorize: PSALM 139:16:

*PSALM 139:16 – Your eyes saw my substance, being yet unformed, and in Your book they were all written, the days fashioned for me, when as yet there were none of them. – PSALM 139:16*

**LESSON 3. P: PARENTS**  
(Part 1)

INTRODUCTION

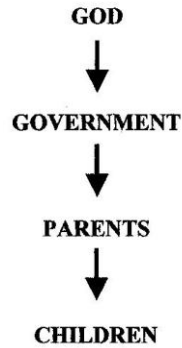
1. When you receive Christ as Savior and Lord and commit yourself to put CHRIST ABOVE ALL – CHRISTOS UPSISTOS – in your life, your relationship to your parents must also be guided by the CHI UPSILON way. (Display the CHI UPSILON diagram.)
2. Let's look at the mirror again, and let's answer this question honestly (please write down your answer):

IF YOU HAD THE POWER TO CHANGE ANYTHING, WHAT WILL YOU CHANGE IN REGARD TO YOUR PARENTS?

3. This lesson on parents consists of two parts. Part 1 covers the basic Bible principles on how young people need to relate to their parents. Part 2 seeks to help young people who have experienced disappointments in their relationship with their parents. (Note to discussion leader: We suggest that you teach this lesson in two sessions; discuss Part 1 in Session 1; discuss Part 2 in Session 2.)
4. Young people – and everybody else – need to develop a healthy, positive self-image. They also need to develop a healthy, positive image of their parents. How do they do that?

ORDER OF AUTHORITY

5. First, to have a healthy, positive image of our parents, we must understand the order of authority which God has ordained for managing human society.



6. Let's note the following facts about God's order of authority:

(1) God is the sovereign Ruler over all (Daniel 4:17; Matthew 28:18).

(2) God ordains governments to maintain law and order (Romans 13:1-4).

(3) God sets parents as authority over their children.

(a) Give reasons why children should obey their parents (Ephesians 6:1-3).

(b) According to Proverbs 30:17, what will happen to a child who disobeys his parents?

7. How does a son/daughter obey parents "in the Lord" (Ephesians 6:1; Luke 14:26-27)?

8. Only when parents directly and definitely demand that the son/daughter should deny Christ does he/she have the duty to disobey his/her parents in order to obey Christ. (Let's read Acts 5:29.) But if the parents' command is obviously for the good of the son/daughter and the family, he/she should obey the parents, even if he/she has to limit some of his/her "Christian activities". For example, the parent says, "I want you to stay home today and clean up your room." Today happens to be the youth meeting in church. In commanding the son/daughter to stay home, is the parent asking him/her to deny Christ? Not at all; the parent is simply asking the son/daughter to do a duty at home, and God commands him/her to obey his/her parent.

### THREE PURPOSES

9. We must understand that God ordained parents as authority over their children for at least three purposes.

#### (1) ROOF AND WALLS

(a) A child begins life as a helpless baby. How long does that helplessness continue? It continues until the time when he/she grows up and becomes able to provide for his/her own physical needs of food, clothing, and shelter. Most children achieve this financial, material self-support after they complete an education, which equips them to earn their own living.

(b) God ordained parents to be the roof and walls of protection and provision for their children. As long as a child lives under and within those roof and walls, he/she must remain obedient to his/her parents.

## (2) TRAFFIC POLICEMAN

(a) God ordained parents to serve as “traffic policeman” for the children. All children are born without any knowledge of right and wrong. Parents are God’s primary teachers of right and wrong to their children.

(b) We have to admit not all parents are good parents in this regard. Unfortunately, some parents have distorted or inadequate ideas of right and wrong. But generally God has endowed most parents with a basic sense of morality, which seeks to promote the safety and wellbeing of the children.

(c) We use the picture of the “traffic policeman” to bring out a fact that often causes children to rebel against their parents. Imagine a traffic officer at the intersection, directing traffic. On this particular day, for some reason, his uniform is all crumpled and soiled and his appearance doesn’t look very dignified. When he raises his hand and blows his whistle to order your side of the traffic to stop, do you ignore him because his uniform is dirty and he doesn’t look dignified? Or do you obey him? Of course, you obey him, whether he looks dignified or not, because the government has put him in that position of authority.

(d) Some children rebel against their parents because their parents have failings and weaknesses. But God has ordained them as authority over their children and the children must obey, so long as the parents don’t command them to do anything obviously wrong or against the laws of God and man.

## (3) THE DAM

a. Do you know how hydro-electric power is produced? Engineers make a dam that will collect the waters of a river or a waterfall. Then they will direct the water to turn the turbines that will turn giant dynamos that will generate electricity.

b. Imagine the waters of that same river or waterfall being released to flow anywhere and everywhere it wants to go. Will the widely spreading water produce electricity? No way.

c. As young people you are like a mighty river or waterfall. Your tendency is to be free to go your own way, anywhere and everywhere at any time. But your parents, who are wiser, provide the dam that will collect and guide your energy into something useful. For example, you just want to go and play basketball or soccer all the time. What are you doing? Like the river you just want your water to flow everywhere. But your dad tells you, “Son, stay home and study.” What is your dad doing? He is putting a dam around you and directing your energy to accomplish something important, lasting and worthwhile. He is training you to concentrate your time, talent, and energy to accomplish something worthwhile.

## THE EXAMPLE OF JESUS

10. Finally, children develop a healthy, positive image of their parents by following the example of Jesus. Let’s read Luke 2:51-52.

11. We know that Jesus was the Son of God. As Son of God He possessed the nature and all the powers of God. And yet when He came down to earth to be born as a human being He submitted completely to His earthly parents.

12. Luke 2:51: *Then He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was subject to them....*

13. According to scholars the word “subject” refers to the absolute submission and obedience which a soldier gives to his commander. As a result of such submission and obedience, Jesus developed into the kind of person God wanted Him to be.

14. Luke 2:52: *And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.* Jesus was enclosed by the “dam of authority” by his earthly parents and his life, like waters of a mighty river, were directed toward His full development in mind and body, in favor with God and with man.

**OBEY AND HONOR**

15. Please study Ephesians 6:1-3 again; write down the thought of the passage in your own words.

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16. Two commands are actually contained in Ephesians 6:1-3: (a) to obey, and (b) to honor our parents.

(a) Obedience applies to our relationship with our parents when we are still young and still under their complete authority. Of course, even as young persons we must honor (give proper respect) to our parents while we obey them.

(b) Honoring our parents applies to our relationship with them when we are already mature and grown-up and living our own independent lives. This doesn't mean that we do not honor our parents while we are still young. What this means is that as long as our parents live, even if we no longer live with them, we have a life-long obligation to honor. How do we honor our parents? Let's do the following actions.

**ACTIONS TO TAKE**

**ACTION 1: THANK GOD FOR OUR PARENTS.**

Thank God for everything that came about in your life because of the love and care and sacrifices that your parents made for you. They may not have given you everything that you wished for, but thank them for doing their best.

**ACTION 2: EXPRESS YOUR APPRECIATION TO YOUR PARENTS.**

Tell your parents that you thank God for giving them to you as your parents. Tell them, “I love you, dad and mom”, not only once or on special occasions; express your love to them as often as you have the opportunity. Here are some ways you may show your love and appreciation: personal visit, telephone, a “love letter” to them (please see Note at the end of this lesson); and remembering them on their birthdays and anniversary and other special occasions.

**ACTION 3: HONOR YOUR PARENTS MATERIALLY**

To honor our parents materially we must do what we can to help them in their old age. Some questions may arise:

*Question 1: With my limited income, how much should I give to my parents?*

Answer: Of course, you give only what you can afford, without neglecting your own primary responsibility toward your family. You don't have to do this alone; if you have siblings, think of a plan whereby together you can help your parents better.

*Question 2: My parents are well off, do I still need to give to them materially?*

Answer: Parents enjoy token gifts from their children to as expressions of their love. Give something meaningful, even though not expensive.

*Question 3: My parents are already dead, how can I honor them materially?*

Answer: Here a subtle danger must be avoided. Satan may use this lesson to make you feel guilty. Satan may say something like this, "You really failed your parents. You'll never be able to make up for your failure. You're a no-good Christian." Don't let Satan rob you of your peace of mind. ACTION 1 should be sufficient to honor the memory of your parents.

*Question 4: Is it only material support that I should give?*

Answer: Of course, not. Elderly parents need assurance and companionship. They need to know they are not forgotten, that they are still loved. If they live with you, have regular times to talk to them. If they live separate from you, regular visit, or letters, or phone calls are a way of honoring them.

#### CONCLUSION

17. Please write down specific things you plan to do to build up your relationship with your parents.

18. Note: At the conclusion of this course, for the CHI UPSILON graduation program, prepare a "love letter" to give to your parents. In this letter you will express your love and appreciation to your parents.

#### MEMORY VERSE

19. On a card, write this verse and memorize: EPHESIANS 6:1-3:

*EPHESIANS 6:1-3: Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and your mother, which the first commandment with promise: that it may be well with you and you may live long on the earth. EPHESIANS 6:1-3*

### **LESSON 4. P: PARENTS** (Part 2)

1. We continue our study on PARENTS, how we relate to them.

(Display the CHI UPSILON diagram.)

2. Some young people find themselves in the unfortunate situation of having a conflict with their parents. This lesson seeks to help you understand the nature of your conflict and, hopefully, with God's help you will find the courage and strength to resolve your conflict. For other young people who are fortunate not to experience this conflict, this lesson will help you understand your friends who are experiencing this conflict.

3. Parent-child conflict generally goes through the following stages:

- STAGE 1: DISAPPOINTMENT

A child is disappointed when:

1. The parent habitually fails to fulfill a promise made to the child.
2. There is favoritism in the family; the child who is not the favorite usually feels disappointed.
3. The child's expectations of his parents are not realized, particularly in the area of economic or material benefits.
4. The parents do not take time to understand or share in the child's experiences (his/her struggles or achievements).

- STAGE 2: DISILLUSIONMENT

Every child has a high image (illusion) of his parents. The child is disillusioned ...

1. When parents discipline him erratically or inconsistently; sometimes he gets punished, at other times he is ignored, for the same offense.
2. When he/she discovers a moral problem or failure on the part of his/her parents.
3. When parents themselves, by example or by command, force the child into a life of immoral or illegal activities.
4. When he/she discovers (rightly or wrongly) that his/her parents are not the "super-people" he/she imagined them to be. Parents are not to be blamed for being human and less than perfect; but unless the child gets timely and adequate counseling, he/she becomes disillusioned just the same.

- STAGE 3: DISTANCE

Disappointment and disillusionment create distance between the parents and the child. Distance is evidenced by:

1. The child feels uneasy in the house. If he/she is in the house he/she hides in his/her room; or he/she prefers to stay out of the house as often and as long as possible.
2. The child seeks and enjoys the company of his/her friends to the exclusion of his family.
3. The child shows reluctance or refuses to communicate with his/her parents about his/her feelings, activities, friends, etc.
4. The child seeks a substitute parent or a substitute family. This poses a special danger when the substitute parent or family encourages anti-social, even illegal behavior, such as those practiced in gangs.

- STAGE 4: REBELLION

Rebellion manifests itself in the following ways:

1. The child treats the parents merely as a source of financial and material support.
  2. The child consistently ignores the requests, commands, or advice of parents, and lives in habitual disobedience.
  3. The child develops the habit of cheating, lying to, and stealing from his/her parents; and he/she feels justified in “punishing” his/her parents in these ways.
- STAGE 5: HATRED

At this stage the child enjoys seeing his parents hurt.

- STAGE 6: BITTERNESS

Bitterness may be defined as a combination of all the accumulated negative attitudes from Stage 1 through Stage 5, and these attitudes are allowed to ferment inside the child’s heart over a period of time.

- STAGE 7: UNFORGIVING SPIRIT

The end result of unresolved parent-child conflict is an unforgiving spirit on the part of the child toward his/her parent. This is the most destructive stage of all. This unforgiving spirit usually lasts a lifetime, long after the parents are dead. The reverse often happens as well; the parents develop their own unforgiving spirit toward their problem son or daughter. The child’s unwillingness to forgive will hinder him/her from fully experiencing God’s forgiveness; this will also prevent him/her from fully accepting and forgiving other people who wrong him. In the case of parents, sad death-bed stories have been told that parents who have unforgiving spirit toward others (this may include problem children as well as other people who hurt them very badly) have a very difficult time dying. Some pastors lovingly but pointedly ask the dying person, “Is there someone you cannot forgive?” If so, the solution is to release the bitterness and, trusting in God’s power in Christ, to pray, “Father God, that person hurt me very deeply, and I ask You to forgive me for hating that person all my life. But now, because You have forgiven all my sins through Christ’s death on the cross, I also forgive that person and I now renounce my unforgiving spirit toward him/her.”

(The reverse is also true: The pastor may ask, “Is there someone you’ve hurt and you feel very guilty about?” If so, the solution is to help the dying person to claim God’s forgiveness by faith in Christ for hurting that person.)

#### RESOLVING PARENT-CHILD CONFLICT

4. How do you resolve your conflict with your parents? Forgiveness is the key to all healthy relationships, whether the relationship is with God, with friends, or with parents.
5. Let’s look at God’s commands regarding forgiveness. Please carefully study the following scriptures:

Matthew 6:14-15

Matthew 18:21-22

Ephesians 4:32

Matthew 5:44-48

6. This is God's standard of love and forgiveness. We must love and forgive in the same way that God has loved and forgiven us. God's forgiveness is continual and unlimited. When He forgives He forgets. God knows you have been hurt deeply, but He still commands you to forgive for your own spiritual good. If you do not forgive you will make it difficult for yourself to experience fully God's forgiveness.

7. You must treat the unforgiving spirit as poison. The longer you keep the poison in your heart, the more widely its deadly venom will spread in your life.

8. You must learn to forgive and forget. When God forgives us He looks at us as if we have never sinned. When you forgive someone, including parents who have hurt you, you must learn to forget all the things they did to disappoint, disillusion or wound you.

9. When you forgive you must also restore full relationship. This is how God forgives us; He accepts us back into His family. This is the true sign of forgiveness – full communication is restored between you and the person you have forgiven.

10. Are you ready to obey God in this matter of forgiving those who have hurt you?

11. Let's do something concrete and practical to dramatize this process of forgiveness. This little "drama" has been used by others in different situations involving the forgiveness of God.

WRITE, TEAR, BURN

STEP 1: WRITE

Take a piece of paper and write down all the hurts and disappointments your parents have caused you. Write down everything you can remember, specially those things that have been weighing on your mind for a long time.

STEP 2: TEAR

After making your list, lift the paper up to God and pray something like this:

*"Father God, these are the things that have hurt me deeply. Because You have forgiven me and because You have commanded me to forgive in the same way, I do now forgive my parents for what they have done to hurt me, and I do forget all these things that I have been holding against them for a long time. I ask You, Father, to forgive them. In the name of Jesus who shed His blood for our forgiveness. Amen."*

After your prayer, tear up the piece of paper into very small bits.

STEP 3: BURN

Put the bits of torn paper in a pile and burn them in a place where it is safe.

CONCLUSION

12. Let's go back to the end of Part 1 of this lesson. Let's review our earlier lesson regarding the ACTIONS that we can take to honor our parents.

MEMORY VERSE ASSIGNMENT:

13. Continue memorizing: EPHESIANS 6:1-3:

*Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and your mother, which the first commandment with promise: that it may be well with you and you may live long on the earth.*

### LESSON 5. FS: FRIENDS

#### INTRODUCTION

1. Everyone, specially young people, need friends. As a Christian who has committed to put CHRIST ABOVE ALL – CHRISTOS UPSISTOS – in your life, your relationship with friends is major area where you need to demonstrate the CHI UPSILON way.

(Display the CHI UPSILON diagram.)

2. The need for friends is intimately connected to three things young people are looking for.

- IDENTITY – Young people are asking, “Who am I?”
- SECURITY – Young people are asking, “Who will protect me?”
- ACCEPTANCE – Young people are asking, “Who likes me?”

3. Friends seem to supply these needs.

- Young people believe that they are somebody if they belong to a certain group of friends.
- Young people think they are secure with friends who will protect them against "enemies".
- Young people feel approved and accepted by their friends, although oftentimes they do crazy things just to maintain the approval of their friends.

#### BLESSING OR CURSE?

4. The Bible shows us that friendship can become either a blessing or a curse. Let's carefully read and study the following verses. Before each scripture passage below circle the letter B if “blessing” is indicated; or circle the letter C if “curse” is indicated; or you may circle both letters if both “blessing” and “curse” are indicated.

B C Ecclesiastes 4:9-10

B C Proverbs 13:20

B C Proverbs 27:17

B C John 5:44; 12:43

B C 1 Corinthians 15:33

#### WRONG FRIENDS

5. In Psalm 1:1-2, the Bible warns us against having the wrong friends. Wrong friends are classified under three categories.

##### (1) THE UNGODLY

These are people who break or twist God's law. We should never listen to seek the opinions and advice of the ungodly. We should not ask: "What will other people say?" Rather we should ask, "What does God say?" Once we know what God says in His Word, let's go ahead and do it, no matter what other people say.

##### (2) THE SINNERS

Sinners are people who miss the mark, people who fall short of God's standard; the "half-way" people; the "puwede na rin" people. We should not be friends with those who are not striving for God's best. We should always strive for God's best (Phil. 3:14).

##### (3) THE SCORNFUL

The scornful never take important things seriously; the scornful make fun of others who are serious with God; the scornful make a joke out of everything. There is a time for fun, but we should be serious about important matters (Eph. 5:15-18).

#### THREE HABITS

6. The Bible shows us three habits of true friends. Let's read Ephesians 4:15-16: *But speaking the truth in love, we may grow up in all things into Him who is the head – Christ – from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.*

7. The three habits of true friends are truth, love, and growth.

- First, TRUTH must guide all that we say and do with our friends.
- Second, there must be LOVE. Truth without love is brutal frankness and destroys friendship. Love without truth is flattery and dishonesty. Only truth spoken in love builds up friendship.
- Third, there must be GROWTH. Growth depends on a mutual commitment to a common goal, the goal of becoming Christ-like, becoming all that God wants us to be.

## ILLUSTRATION FROM CULTURE

8. Let's illustrate how these three habits apply within the Filipino culture.
9. Filipino friendship is determined by "pakikisama" (smooth inter-personal relationship or getting along at any cost) and by the avoidance of "hiya" (avoiding loss of face; avoiding putting oneself or others in an embarrassing situation). Because of "pakikisama" and "hiya" we may describe Filipino friendship as very loving.
10. We love our friends so much we will avoid telling them the truth, if we think that the truth will hurt their feelings or will embarrass them. We try as much as possible to speak only what pleases our friends, what we think our friends wish to hear. We usually soften or water down truth in order to avoid hurting our friends' feelings; or we simply go ahead and tell a "white" lie. A pleasant lie is preferable to an embarrassing truth.
11. Another strong influence upon Filipino friendship is called "leveling". Leveling refers to efforts made to remove or soften differences among friends, differences in economic, social, educational status, etc. Among Filipinos, it is considered bad taste to stand out above your friends; someone who wants to stand out is described as "mayabang" (proud). To be different is to give the impression that we are better than our friends. So we try to maintain some kind of friendly uniformity.
12. But leveling can prevent growth for the better. Leveling encourages the attitude of mediocrity, of being half-hearted, half-baked, and half-committed to goals that are not shared or supported by the group. Leveling causes us to adjust to the average mentality and average maturity of the group, instead of adjusting to the highest ideal, the goal of being perfect like Christ

## CONCLUSION

13. Evaluate your present circle of friends. Ask yourself two important questions about each friend:
  - IS THIS FRIEND HELPING ME TO GROW CLOSER TO GOD?
  - AM I HELPING THIS FRIEND TO GROW CLOSER TO GOD?
14. If your answer is no, then you need to learn how to develop genuine Christian friendship. How?
15. Let's follow three practical steps:
  - STEP 1: DEEPEN YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH CHRIST AS YOUR BEST FRIEND.

Let's read and study John 15:5, 14-15. As you abide in Christ and apply His Word in your life, you will be building your inner character. Let's use the illustration of a sack. How can you make a sack stand? By filling it with substance inside, like rice. A sack filled with rice will stand. An empty sack will collapse.

Many young people collapse under the pressure of their friends around them because they are like empty sacks, with nothing of substance inside of them. But a young person who is growing in knowledge of Christ and is developing in Christ-like qualities, that person can resist the negative pressures of bad friends.

- STEP 2: STRENGTHEN YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE OTHER FRIENDS OF CHRIST.

The other friends of Christ are other disciples, who are seeking to follow Christ more faithfully. Let's read and study John 13:34-35. The most conducive environment for true friendship is within the fellowship of the Body of Christ.

- STEP 3: BUILD UP THE CHI UPSILON FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE.

Maintain close fellowship and partnership with fellow Chi Upsilon graduates. Encourage one another to continue practicing the Chi Upsilon Way. And keep recruiting other young people to join in the Chi Upsilon course. This is one effective way to help your friends grow closer to God.

MEMORY VERSE ASSIGNMENT:

16. Write this verse on a card and memorize:

*PSALM 1:1 – Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stands in the path of sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scornful. – PSALM 1:1*

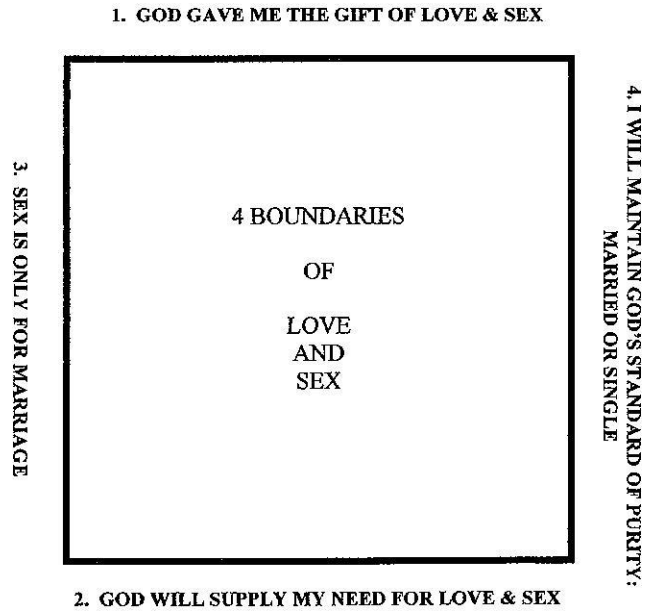
## **LESSON 6. SF: SPECIAL FRIEND**

### **INTRODUCTION**

1. All young people need friends.
2. But a time will surely come when each young person will awaken to the need of a SPECIAL FRIEND of the opposite sex. This is called “falling in love”. This experience is normal. But there is a right way and a wrong way to handle this experience.
3. For young people who want to put CHRIST ABOVE ALL – CHRISTOS UPSISTOS – the right way is the Chi Upsilon Way in handling the relationship with a SPECIAL FRIEND. (Display the CHI UPSILON diagram.)

### **BOUNDARIES OF LOVE AND SEX**

4. What is the Chi Upsilon Way?
5. The Chi Upsilon Way to handle the relationship with your special friend is to recognize and respect FOUR BOUNDARIES of love and sex, as illustrated in the diagram below.



- **BOUNDARY 1. GOD GAVE ME THE GIFT OF LOVE & SEX**

- a. God is the Creator, Author, and Giver of love and sex. This truth serves as the first important boundary that every teenager – and everyone else regardless of age – must respect.
- b. Genesis 1:31 tells us, “Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good.” All of God’s creation was very good; love and sex are part of God’s creation. Therefore, love and sex are normal, beautiful, and desirable in their proper place and their proper time.
- c. All living creation (plants, trees, animals, humans) follow their natural stages of development from seed to fruit-bearing stage. For humans, there is birth, then growth from childhood to adolescence (teenage years). The teenage years are like the time for bearing flowers; this time is the stage of falling in love and the awakening of the desire for sex. Then comes adulthood and with it marriage; this time is the stage of fruitbearing.
- d. Love and sex are God’s wonderful gifts. This truth is the first boundary.

- **BOUNDARY 2. GOD WILL SUPPLY MY NEED FOR LOVE & SEX**

- a. The second boundary is this: Because God created people with the need for love and sex, God Himself will supply these needs.
- b. Again we go back to the beginning. From our Bible, let’s read Genesis 2:18-25.
- c. Now, let’s look at the following verses:

*Verse 18:* Adam did not even know his need for a special partner, but God already knew. How did God know it? God created Adam, and God placed in him the need for love and sex.

At first, Adam did not know about his need, so he did not know how to find the solution to his need. But who took the responsibility of meeting Adam's need? God Himself! God made Eve to become Adam's special partner. And then God presented her to Adam at the right time.

Young people, always remember this: God knows your need for a special friend, a special partner in life. God Himself is going to supply your need for love and sex.

*Verse 21.* What did God do to Adam before giving him his life partner? God made Adam to sleep; and while he slept, God made Eve.

d. This is a very important principle: BEFORE GOD WILL GIVE YOU YOUR SPECIAL FRIEND AND LIFE PARTNER, you must be willing to "SLEEP" in regard to this matter. In other words, don't go about trying to find your special friend; rather, put this matter into God's hand, pray about it first, ask God's guidance and help, and wait for God's timing. And while you "sleep", God will prepare that special friend. Then when you are ready, and your special friend is ready, God will "awaken" you from your "sleep" and bring you together.

e. In the meantime, what do you do during your TIME OF SLEEP? Prepare yourself. This means you must finish your education; and then you must get a job, establish your career, save some money, and when you are ready, God will show you the person who will become your life partner.

f. This is the second boundary: TRUST GOD THAT HE HIMSELF WILL SUPPLY YOUR NEED FOR LOVE AND SEX IN THE RIGHT WAY AND THE RIGHT TIME.

- BOUNDARY 3. SEX IS ONLY FOR MARRIAGE

a. This is the third boundary: SEX IS ONLY FOR MARRIAGE.

b. This means, God forbids sex outside of marriage. One of the Ten Commandments declares: DO NOT COMMIT ADULTERY (Exodus 20:14).

c. This means, sex is only between husband and wife.

d. In our day and age, many people no longer obey the Ten Commandments, specially this command against adultery. Movie stars and other famous people ignore this commandment. Many unmarried people "live in" together as if they are husband and wife without the commitment of marriage. They say that it's all right, as long as you love each other.

e. But God's command is very clear: DO NOT COMMIT ADULTERY. In fact, you can commit adultery even without physical contact with the opposite sex. Let's read Matthew 5:27-30. In this passage, the Lord Jesus is speaking. He said, just imagining lustful thoughts in your mind toward the opposite sex is already committing adultery.

f. This means that you must always guard your thoughts. How do you guard your thoughts? By memorizing God's word and by meditating on God's Word. When lustful thoughts come to your mind, immediately think of a verse and memorize and meditate on it. This is the most effective way of guarding your thoughts. Let's read Psalm 119:9-11.

g. You must also be careful about the books and magazines that you read, and the movies and videos and music that you watch and listen to.

h. Young people, if you want to put CHRIST ABOVE ALL – CHRISTOS UPSISTOS – in your life, you must establish BOUNDARY 3: SEX IS ONLY FOR MARRIAGE.

i. You must determine to keep your mind pure from lustful thoughts. You must wait for God to reveal His will regarding your special friend, in His own way and in His own time.

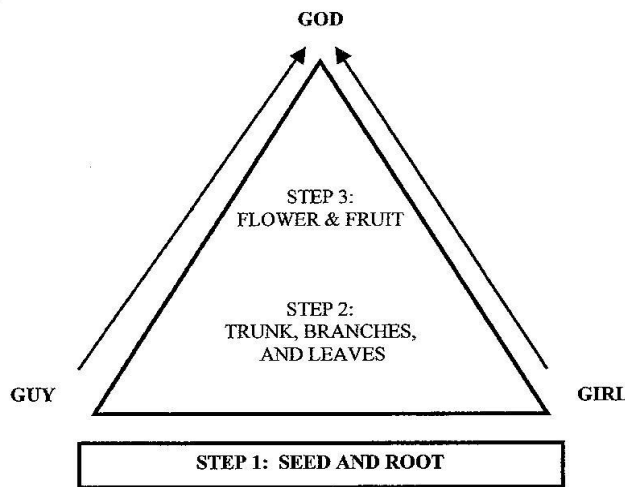
- BOUNDARY 4. I WILL MAINTAIN GOD’S STANDARD OF PURITY: MARRIED OR SINGLE

a. Finally, we must know and respect BOUNDARY 4. This means that God has a special plan for your life. For most people, God’s will is for them to get married. But for some people, God’s will might mean that they will stay single for life. Let’s read Matthew 19:11-12. In this passage, the Lord Jesus reveals to us that some people are intended by God to remain “eunuchs” (single, unmarried) all their life.

b. But whether God’s plan for you is to get married or to stay single, you must determine to obey God’s standard of purity in mind and body and relationships.

**STEPS IN DEVELOPING A RELATIONSHIP WITH A SPECIAL FRIEND**

6. How then should a Christian teenager go about developing a relationship with a special friend? The Chi Upsilon Way follows the ascending steps in a triangle, as shown below, and using the picture of the life development of a tree:



- STEP 1: SEED AND ROOT

a. First, you must plant the seed and develop strong roots.

You must make a definite COMMITMENT expressed in words similar to these:

“Lord, I believe You are preparing that SPECIAL FRIEND for me. I commit myself to seek Your will and to obey Your boundaries in this area of my life.”

- STEP 2: TRUNK, BRANCHES AND LEAVES

Before you get involved in a special friendship, you must grow and mature as a person physically, mentally, emotionally, socially, vocationally and spiritually.

- a. Physically – You must take care of your physical health.
- b. Mentally – You must keep working on getting your education and preparing for and getting started in a career.
- c. Emotionally and socially – You must develop normal friendship and relationships within the Christian family in church. Apply the principles of friendship learned in the lesson on FRIENDS.
- d. Spiritually – You must grow in discipleship and Christian maturity.

- STEP 3: FLOWER AND FRUIT

- a. This is the stage of SPECIAL FRIENDSHIP in preparation for MARRIAGE.
- b. It is normal for teenagers to fall in love or to feel attracted to someone of the opposite sex. When this time comes, we suggest the following actions:

➤ ACTION 1: PRAY BY YOURSELF.

When you fall in love, DON'T make known your feelings to the other person right away. Pray seriously about your feelings for at least six months. During this time, seek the advice of your spiritual leader (pastor or spiritual counselor). Meanwhile, just be a good friend, following STEP 2, section (c) above.

➤ ACTION 2: PRAY TOGETHER

FOR THE GUY: After you have sufficiently prayed and after your spiritual leader has given you the go signal, you may approach the other person and tell her about your feelings and ask her if she is willing to pray with you about having a special friendship. Whatever her response, you must respect her decision. Even if she says no, if you are convinced that she is God's will for you, continue praying for her anyway.

FOR THE GIRL: If you are approached by a guy and he asks you to pray about God's leading regarding a special friendship between the two of you, you may respond in one of three ways: (a) Sorry, but I have no feelings toward you; (b) I am not ready to consider your request; wait and ask me again after several months; (c) I am willing to begin praying with you about this matter.

FOR BOTH GUY AND GIRL: If you agree to pray together for this matter, continue to develop normal Christian friendship within the Christian fellowship (specially within the Chi Upsilon fellowship). DON'T start an exclusive relationship at this time; continue to develop Christian friendship with others. Concentrate on growing spiritually within your respective cell group or Bible study.

➤ ACTION 3: A-C-T

After praying for several months (Action 2), and after getting advice from your spiritual leaders, and you sense that the Lord is leading you in the direction of having a special friendship, then you may make a commitment to each other as SPECIAL FRIENDS.

As special friends, avoid these dangers: AVOID close physical involvement (such as embracing, kissing, petting); holding hands is okay. But absolutely avoid being alone together. Maintain purity in your relationship.

Your primary goal as special friends is to get to know each other as persons, apart from physical involvement. Follow the acronym A-C-T:

### (1) ACCEPTANCE

As you get to know each other in different situations, with each other and with other people, you will mutually discover both your good points and bad points, strengths and weaknesses, talents and lack of talents. Learn how to accept each other unconditionally. Realize that there are things in your personalities that can be changed and other things that cannot be changed. Your attitude should be expressed in this prayer that someone wrote: “Lord, give us the courage to change what can be changed; the grace to accept what cannot be changed; and the wisdom to know the difference.”

### (2) COMMUNICATION

During the period of special friendship you need to learn how to communicate the truth in love. Remember the previous lesson on FRIENDS regarding Ephesians 4:15, speaking the truth in love? We communicate by words and by actions (body language), by things we say and by things we don't say. Filipinos have the bad habit of speaking only what the other person wants to hear; they even tell lies (white lies) in order not to hurt their friends with the truth.

In order to develop genuine special friendship you must always try to speak the truth, but make sure that you speak in love and at the right time. Be honest with each other about what you really think and how you really feel.

### (3) TEAMWORK

Genuine special friendship grows as you learn to work together as a team in serving others. Don't simply spend time talking about yourselves and talking “sweet nothings” to each other. Together, do something that will help you in your personality development and in your spiritual growth. Together, be involved in serving the Lord by helping other people.

### LIFE PARTNER

7. After a sufficient period of special friendship, the time will come when you think you are ready for marriage. This time usually comes after you have completed your education or vocational training and you are established in your job. After seeking the advice of your trusted family members and spiritual leaders, you should make plans about your wedding. On the day of the wedding, your SPECIAL FRIEND will become your LIFE PARTNER. Then you will begin the stage of FRUITBEARING – the stage of preparing to have a family.

### CHALLENGE

8. Will you put CHRIST ABOVE ALL – CHRISTOS UPSISTOS – in this area of SPECIAL FRIENDSHIP? Will you commit yourself to seek and follow God’s will in this matter? Will you now pray sincerely the prayer suggested below?

*“Lord, I believe You are preparing that SPECIAL FRIEND for me. I commit myself to seek Your will and to obey Your boundaries in this area of my life.”*

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

MEMORY VERSE ASSIGNMENT:

9. Write this scripture on a card, and memorize:

*SONG OF SOLOMON 8:7: Many waters cannot quench love, nor can the floods drown it. If a man would give for love all the wealth of his house, it would be utterly despised.*  
*SONG OF SOLOMON 8:7.*

**LESSON 7:**

**A BIBLICAL PERSPECTIVE  
ON HUMAN SEXUALITY**

The issue of same-sex marriage has recently come into focus again through a statement made by Pope Francis in a documentary on his life. We quote from USA Today (October, 2020):

“Homosexual people have the right to be in a family. They are children of God,” Francis said in an interview for the documentary "Francesco." “What we have to have is a civil union law; that way they are legally covered.”

This quote seems to show that Pope Francis is going against a long-standing Roman Catholic Church position regarding homosexuality.

No matter what any so-called Christian church (Roman Catholic, Orthodox, Protestant, Evangelical) may teach or say about homosexuality and homosexual relationships and activities, God’s Word, the Bible, is unequivocal:

Leviticus 18:22: You shall not lie with a male as with a woman. It is an abomination.

Leviticus 20:13: If a man lies with a male as he lies with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination. They shall surely be put to death. Their blood *shall be* upon them.

1 Corinthians 6:9,10: <sup>9</sup> Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers,

nor <sup>[b]</sup>homosexuals, nor <sup>[c]</sup>sodomites, <sup>10</sup> nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God.

Romans 1:26,27: <sup>26</sup> For this reason God gave them up to vile passions. For even their <sup>[l]</sup>women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature. <sup>27</sup> Likewise also the <sup>[l]</sup>men, leaving the natural use of the <sup>[k]</sup>woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which was due.

Deuteronomy 22:5: “A woman shall not wear anything that pertains to a man, nor shall a man put on a woman’s garment, for all who do so *are* <sup>[c]</sup>an abomination to the LORD your God.

In this connection, the old legal maxim holds true: DURA LEX, SED LEX.

God’s law is hard, but it is God’s law.

God, the Creator, has established laws for His whole creation (both human and non-human). For example, in the inanimate world the law of gravity is hard and unforgiving. In the world of human relationships, God’s laws are equally hard and unforgiving, but they have been established by God for the proper ordering of life and society. All violations will receive their due penalties; first according to the natural principle of “what you sow, you reap”; every sin has in it the seeds of its own self-destruction. Second, according to the moral principle that God will judge and punish all sin in due time.

God's law is hard.

But, thank God, He has also given us the Gospel through His Son Jesus Christ. This Gospel offers forgiveness and a new beginning to anyone who believes in Jesus Christ and submits to His lordship.

#### WE MUST SHOW COMPASSION

Declaring God’s law does not mean we do not show compassion and understanding towards people who are truly struggling with the reality of homosexuality in its various forms.

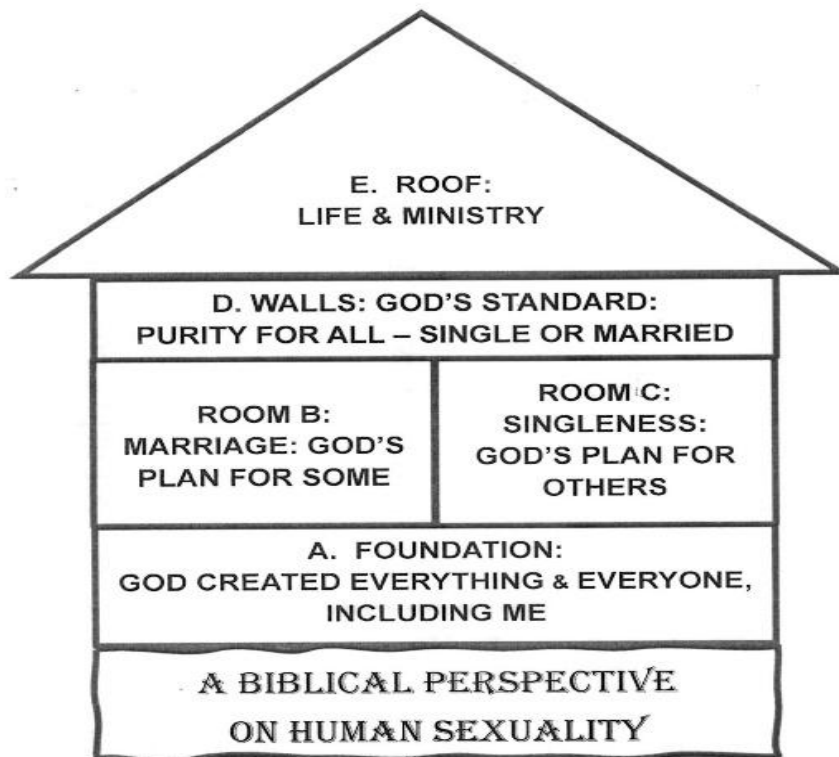
Let’s be clear about the following:

- Sexuality is probably one of the most powerful desires that humans deal with. Along with the desire for food, the sexual instinct is the engine that drives the continuation of the species.
- Human sexual desire is normally directed toward the opposite sex. But for reasons which we do not fully understand, some people possess sexual desire toward the same sex.

- The presence of sexual desire (heterosexual or homosexual) does not mean automatic license to satisfy the desire. Here is where God’s laws come in. Sex is God’s gift; He made humans (as well as animals and plants) as sexual beings for the continuation of the species. Animals and plants perform their sexual functions by instinct. In contrast, God imparted a higher moral nature to humans, by which nature they are to govern the proper use of their natural instincts (for food, sex, etc.).
- God’s law specifically set the boundary for human sexuality: Sex is only between a man and a woman within the bond of marriage. All sexual activity outside of the bond of heterosexual marriage is condemned by God and will receive due penalty. This law does condemn homosexual feelings of toward the same sex; what is forbidden is the actual physical sexual act between same sex partners, whether as lovers or as bound in so-called “same sex marriage”.

**TOWARD A BIBLICAL PERSPECTIVE**

This article seeks to provide you with a loving and biblical answer. However, we suggest that the best way to give this answer is not to “throw the book” at the person saying, “Here, read this!” Rather, you may suggest to the person, “Can we read and study this article together and find out God’s answer from the Bible?” Once the person agrees with your suggestion, go ahead and read the article together.



## **FOUNDATION**

First of all, let us lay down the foundation of all reality. Please study the diagram.

### **A. FOUNDATION: GOD CREATED EVERYONE & EVERYTHING, INCLUDING ME.**

**God is building a house on a sure foundation** (please see diagram).

Let's read some key scriptures:

*Genesis 1:1: In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.*

*Genesis 1:27: So God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.*

*Matthew 19:4: And He answered and said to them, "Have you not read that He who made them at the beginning, 'made them male and female'.*

We see from the above scriptures, that the foundation of the house that God is building is this truth: **GOD CREATED US ALL**. God created only two sexes, male and female, whether we think of ourselves as normal men or women, or whether we *think* or *feel* that we are gay.

Please note the words *think* or *feel*. Many times, what we *think* or *feel* does not necessarily represent what we really *are*. But it is important to acknowledge and respect the fact that some people may think or feel a certain way.

### **ROOM B. MARRIAGE: GOD'S PLAN FOR SOME**

*The house that God is building has two rooms: one room is for marriage; the other room is for singleness.*

The Bible teaches clearly that marriage is between a man and a woman as proved by the following facts:

- **Creation** – God created Adam and Eve, not Adam and Steve; not Eve and Bev;
- **Design** – maleness and femaleness are based on physical and biological design;
- **Purpose** – God's purpose for marriage is two-fold:
- **Procreation** – marriage is necessary for the continuance of the human race;

- **Completion** – for most men and women, marriage brings completion; through marriage the spouses supply what each other lacks, physically, emotionally, spiritually, even materially and financially.

## ROOM C. SINGLENES: GOD’S PLAN FOR OTHERS

However, in God’s plan marriage is not for everyone. Whether we explain it as God’s directive or permissive will, only a certain portion of the human population get married.

It follows, therefore, that God’s plan is for some people to live a life of singleness. Let’s read a key scripture:

*Matthew 19:4-12:*

*4 And He answered and said to them, “Have you not read that He who made them at the beginning, ‘made them male and female,’*

*5 and said, ‘For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh’?*

*6 So then, they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate.”*

*7 They said to him, “Why then did Moses command to give a certificate of divorce, and to put her away?”*

*8 He said to them, “Moses, because of the hardness of your hearts, permitted you to divorce your wives, but from the beginning it was not so.*

*9 And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another, commits adultery; and whoever marries her who is divorced commits adultery.”*

*10 His disciples said to Him, “If such is the case of the man with his wife, it is better not to marry.”*

*11 But He said to them, “All cannot accept this saying, but only those to whom it has been given:*

*12 For there are eunuchs who were born thus from their mother’s womb, and there are eunuchs who were made eunuchs by men, and there are eunuchs who have made themselves eunuchs for the kingdom of heaven’s sake. He who is able to accept it, let him accept it.”*

Based on this scripture we will use the term EUNUCH to refer to people that God calls to a life of singleness. There are three types of eunuchs.

### **Type 1: Born Eunuch**

A born eunuch is someone who possesses inborn qualities (maybe physical, maybe emotional) that prevent him/her from having a normal heterosexual relationship. A gay person who feels attracted to the same sex may be described as a born eunuch. We are not debating here the genuineness of such same-sex attraction; we are not making judgment whether such same-sex attraction is right or wrong.

We are simply saying that if a person claims to have this same-sex attraction, it means that marriage is not for him/her, since marriage, according to the Bible, is between a man and a woman.

***Type 2: Man-Made Eunuch***

A man-made eunuch is someone who is rendered incapable of normal marriage because of some human procedure or accident. In ancient times, males, particularly those who were assigned to serve as security guards of the king's harem, were castrated to make them incapable of sexual relations. But even apart from such an aberrant cultural practice as castration, accidents happen that result in a disability which hinders a person from fulfilling the sexual functions required by a normal marriage.

***Type 3: Missionary Eunuch***

A missionary eunuch is a person who possesses the abilities and opportunities for marriage but who decides to live a single life to devote himself/herself completely to missionary service. This single state may be temporary or permanent, depending on the person's missionary calling.

**D. WALLS: GOD'S STANDARD – PURITY FOR ALL**

***This house that God is building has walls, representing His standard: purity for all, single or married.***

- (a) PURITY means God planned sex to be enjoyed only within the bonds of marriage between a male and a female.

For married people, PURITY means sex only with your spouse. It means no adultery, whether in actual physical relationships or "in the heart" towards other people not your spouse; purity also means no involvement in pornography of any kind (Matthew 5:27-30)

For single people, PURITY means no sexual relations with another person, whether it be with the opposite sex or with the same sex.

- (b) According to God's standard, all SINGLE PERSONS (straight, gay, divorced, separated) must maintain PURITY in body and mind. Purity in the body means no physical sexual relations with another person outside the bonds of marriage. Purity in the mind means no sexual fantasies and no dwelling on sexual thoughts, and certainly no involvement in pornography.

OBJECTION: How can single people find fulfillment, satisfaction and completion?

ANSWER: 2 Corinthians 12:9: “My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.” God will give the grace needed to fulfill His call either to marriage or singleness.

### **DISTINGUISH BETWEEN PERSONALITY AND PRACTICE**

We must distinguish between PERSONALITY and PRACTICE. If a person believes he/she is gay (PERSONALITY), he/she is NOT sinning against God for feeling that way. It simply means that the gay person is not able to enter into normal marriage; as a single person he/she must maintain God's standard of purity. Let's always remember: straight persons, single or married, are equally required to maintain God's standard of purity at all times.

### **HOW ABOUT MY FEELINGS?**

When people say “I am gay” they mean “I am emotionally and sexually attracted to someone of my sex.” This feeling is similar to straight people saying “I am emotionally and sexually attracted to someone of the opposite sex.” The same rule applies to both straight and gay feelings: Maintain purity in thought and action; God designed sex to be enjoyed exclusively within the marriage relationship of a man and a woman.

OBJECTION: But straight people can marry, whereas gay people cannot marry; how then can gay people enjoy sexual happiness?

ANSWER: Many straight people do not have the privilege of marriage, either. So, again we say: God's rule for all single people (straight or gay) is purity.

As we stated above, having a certain PERSONALITY is not a sin. What God prohibits is the sinful PRACTICE of sex outside of marriage (Exodus 20:14; Leviticus 20:13; Romans 1:26-27).

However, FRIENDSHIP that does not involve sexual activities is not sinful, whether it's friendship between opposite sexes or friendship between same sexes. In most western cultures, it seems that same-sex friendship of the platonic (non-sexual) kind is now subject to all kinds of misunderstanding. In former centuries same-sex friendships were accepted, even idealized. For example, in the Bible, David and Jonathan had a friendship of this kind, which did not include sexual involvement (1 Samuel 18:1-4).

### **CROSS-DRESSING**

The Bible prohibits males from dressing and acting like females; and vice versa (Deut. 22:5). Unfortunately, modern fashion is so confusing now that often it is hard to tell which is masculine or feminine dress anymore.

**BODY LANGUAGE**

However, this doesn't mean that you submerge or deny your normal personality expression in your body language. In Tagalog we have a term "mahinhin" (meaning, refined, as opposed to masculine roughness). Some males are more refined in their expressions; that is not a sin. Some females are more rough and masculine-like in their ways; that is not a sin. It is the sexual practice outside of marriage that is sin.

**E. ROOF: LIFE AND MINISTRY**

*The roof of the house that God is building represents the life and ministry God has prepared for each one of us.*

God made us exactly as we are for a purpose – whether straight or gay. If you believe and feel that you are a Type 1 Eunuch, God made you that way for a purpose. Like Type 2 or Type 3 Eunuch, you are called by God to sacrifice the sexual joys of marriage. There is NOTHING SINFUL or SECOND-CLASS about being a life-long single person. Rather, there is a special reward for such single people.

We best express our response in a prayer that goes something like this:

"Lord God, thank you for making me exactly as I am for a purpose. Help me to live in purity in order that I might fulfill your purpose for my life."

*2 Timothy 2:20-22: "In a large house there are articles not only of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay; some are for noble purposes and some for ignoble. If a man cleanses himself from the latter, he will be an instrument for noble purposes, made holy, useful for the Master and prepared to do any good work. Flee the evil desires of youth, and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, along with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart."*

**FOR ALL OF US**

We should all learn to give as much love, respect and acceptance to GAY singles as we do to STRAIGHT singles, and let us all encourage one another to live in purity whether in marriage or in singleness.

As you build your life on these biblical principles for marriage and singleness, you will build a "house" (LIFE AND MINISTRY) that will become a blessing, a refuge, a shelter, for others, where they can find love, compassion, understanding and meaning.

And what is your reward, if God has given you the special call to a life of singleness?

You will have the rare joy and privilege of fully devoting yourself to a life of love and service with and for the Lord Jesus Christ who lived the pure single life.

“An unmarried man [or woman] is concerned about the Lord’s affairs – how he [she] can please the Lord” (1 Cor. 7:32). The apostle Paul was among these select servants of God. Look at what God accomplished through his total devotion to the Lord!

Throughout Christian history, so many men and women have accepted their single life as a gift from the Lord and they have been mightily used of God to accomplish great things to build and extend God’s kingdom here on earth.

This doesn’t mean that one state is better than the other. God calls some to MARRIAGE, God calls others to SINGLE LIFE. The important thing is to know what your calling is and to be faithful in that calling.

**Let’s memorize:**

**1 Corinthians 7:23-24: You were bought at a price; do not become slaves of men. Brethren, let each one remain with God in that state in which he was called.**

## LESSON 8. P: PURPOSE

### INTRODUCTION

1. In order to live the CHI UPSILON way, the next area where you need to put CHRIST ABOVE ALL – CHRISTOS UPSISTOS – is the area of PURPOSE or GOAL in life. (Show the CHI UPSILON diagram.)

2. Every teenager (as well as all persons of all ages) needs to answer FOUR QUESTIONS:

QUESTION 1: Who am I?

QUESTION 2: Where did I come from?

QUESTION 3: Where am I going?

QUESTION 4: Why am I here?

3. Questions 1 and 2 were answered in our lessons on GOD and SELF. Questions 3 and 4 will be answered in this lesson on PURPOSE.

4. Let’s take pen and paper and write down our own answer to this question: *What is my purpose or goal in life?*

### CHRIST IS OUR MODEL

5. Let’s study John 13:3: *Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into His hands, and that He had come from God and was going to God.*

6. From John 13:3 we note:

(1) Jesus knew who He was, the Son of God;

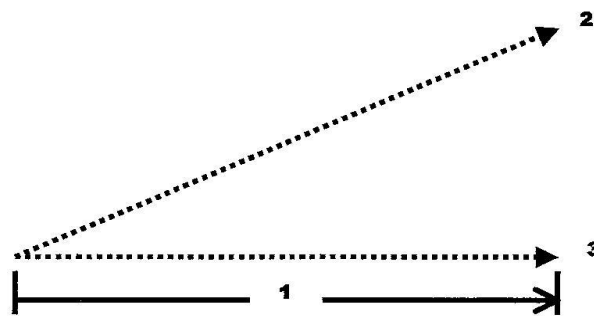
- (2) Jesus knew He came from God;
- (3) Jesus knew He was going back to God;
- (4) Jesus knew why He was on earth, to finish the work God gave Him to do (see also John 9:4; 17:4).

7. In the same way, as Christians we also know the following:

- (1) We know that we are children of God;
- (2) We know that our life came from God;
- (3) We know that we are going back to God;
- (4) We know that God has a special PURPOSE for giving us life here on earth.

**PURPOSE**

8. What is God's special purpose or goal for us? One thing is certain about His purpose for us – it is part of His over-all purpose. From the diagram below, please note the important elements of God's plan:



(1) THE LENGTH OF OUR LIFE.

According to Psalm 139:16, when we were born what did God decide concerning the length of our life?

- Because we have a divinely set time on earth, therefore, what should we seek to be sure of? (Ephesians 5:15-17)

(2) GOD'S WILL FOR OUR CHARACTER

- God's will or plan has two parts. First, God has a plan for our character. According to the following verses, God's will is for us to become perfect like whom? (Romans 8:29-30; Ephesians 4:13)

(3) GOD'S WILL FOR OUR WORK

- The second part of God’s plan concerns our work, what God wants us to do in life. God’s will is for us to use whatever profession or livelihood we have in order to help spread the Gospel to the whole world. Please summarize the following verses in your own words.

Matthew 28:19-20

.....

Mark 16:15

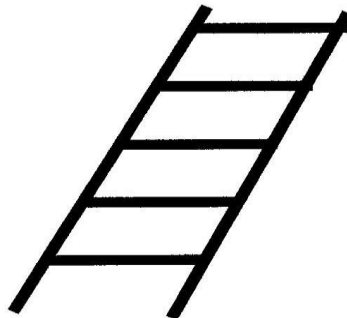
.....

Acts 1:8

.....

9. In order to fulfill God’s will for your CHARACTER and God’s will for your WORK you must use the LADDER PRINCIPLE. What is the ladder principle?

LADDER PRINCIPLE



10. You are familiar with the ladder or stairs, aren’t you? What’s the use of a ladder? Why and when do we need a ladder? The answer is very simple.

11. We use a ladder to get from a lower level (for example, ground floor) to a higher level (for example, second floor). We need a ladder when we cannot get to the higher level in one single step or single bound. A ladder provides us with smaller steps that we can take in order to reach the next level.

12. The TOP of the ladder is your PURPOSE or GOAL. The STEPS of the ladder are your ACTIVITIES arranged according to their proper sequence or TIMETABLE.

CHARACTER GOAL: TO BECOME LIKE CHRIST

13. Now, let’s look at God’s CHARACTER GOAL for us: to become like Christ. How do we use the LADDER to achieve this goal?

14. God has actually given us the LADDER. The more general one is found in 1 John 2:12-14; the more detailed one is found in 2 Peter 1:5-7. Let's read 1 John 2:12-14 first. In this passage, the LADDER to the goal of becoming like Christ has three steps or stages. To become like Christ every Christian must go through these three stages.

- STEP 1: SPIRITUAL BABY STAGE
- STEP 2: SPIRITUAL YOUTH STAGE
- STEP 3: SPIRITUAL PARENT STAGE.

15. Now let's read 2 Peter 1:5-7. In this passage, the LADDER to the goal of becoming like Christ requires the step-by-step development of eight qualities.

- STEP 1: Faith
- STEP 2: Virtue
- STEP 3: Knowledge
- STEP 4: Self-control
- STEP 5: Perseverance
- STEP 6: Godliness
- STEP 7: Brotherly kindness
- STEP 8: Love

16. The process of becoming like Christ is called DISCIPLESHIP. There are three stages in discipleship: Baby, Youth, Parent. There are eight qualities that disciples must develop: faith, virtue, knowledge, self-control, perseverance, godliness, brotherly kindness, love.

17. In practical terms, this means that you, as a Christian, must be involved in a continuing, progressive discipleship Bible study and training. At the end of our CHI UPSILON course, your trainer will recommend a discipleship training that you can join, such as the NewLife Discipleship Training (if you are not already involved in it).

#### PROFESSIONAL GOAL: YOUR LIFE WORK

18. Your professional goal will be determined by your answer to this question: What kind of profession will enable me to become most effective in helping fulfill world evangelism?

19. At your age, you may be saying, "But I'm not sure what course (career, profession) God wants me to take."

20. Actually, you don't need to know right away what course (career, profession) God wants you to take. What you can be sure of is this: GOD WANTS YOU TO GET AN EDUCATION.

21. In getting an education, the steps are laid out for you. The Department of Education now requires the completion of Grades 1-12 in preparation for college. In college, your chosen undergraduate degree will require you to stay in school for an equivalent number of years, and so on through graduate school.

24. The most practical use of the LADDER is to help you finish your projects and assignments required by your subjects. As we explained above, the TOP of the ladder is your PURPOSE or

GOAL. The STEPS of the ladder are your ACTIVITIES arranged according to their proper sequence or TIMETABLE.

25. As an example, let's use a simple, short term goal:

(1) GOAL: TO FINISH READING A BOOK FOR MY BOOK REPORT IN ONE WEEK.  
This will be the TOP of your ladder.

(2) ACTIVITIES AND TIMETABLE: The book consists of 105 pages; you only have one week or seven days to read the book. You can decide to read the book in one day (which is like jumping from ground floor to the second floor with one jump, which is difficult); or you can decide to read 15 pages a day (which is like taking smaller steps in order to reach the top of the ladder).

26. You can use the ladder for any goal (short term, long term or medium range). The idea is to break down your tasks into smaller steps and arrange them in their proper sequence and accomplish the steps one at a time.

27. Someone asked: How do you eat an elephant? Answer: One bite at a time. No goal is too big if you break the task into a LADDER consisting of small steps.

#### HINDRANCES TO YOUR GOAL

28. There are roadblocks in the way as you try to accomplish your goal. To enable you to overcome these roadblocks, we give the following suggestions:

- SUGGESTION 1: Value your time; don't waste your time.
- SUGGESTION 2: Drive out laziness from your body.
- SUGGESTION 3: Stop procrastinating! Stop saying "Mamaya na". Don't put off for tomorrow what you can do now, today.
- SUGGESTION 4: Get rid of the "bahala na" (come what may) attitude. Do your best, and trust God to bless your best. Don't expect God to bless your laziness.
- SUGGESTION 5: Avoid the line of least resistance; refuse to go along with the crowd. Remember the song, "Row, row, row your boat, gently down the stream"? If you're going along with the stream, you don't even have to row. You row against the stream, you struggle against the current. Be friendly, but do not let other people sidetrack you from your goal. When necessary, you must learn to say NO, even to your friends. Some friends will be offended; real friends will understand.
- SUGGESTION 6: But you must learn to rest and relax properly and sufficiently. Your mind and body need rest. Work hard, always do your best, but also take proper rest.
- SUGGESTION 7: Always ask God's guidance and help. Always follow the advice of Proverbs 3:5,6.

#### APPLICATION

29. At the beginning of our lesson we asked you to write down your purpose and goal in life. Let's look at what you've written down and design your LADDER to reach your goal. What are the steps that you need to take in order to achieve your goal?

30. Today, write down a commitment statement similar to the one below. Sign your commitment and date it; ask one trusted friend to sign it as a witness and request him to ask you regularly about your progress.

TODAY, WITH GOD'S HELP, I COMMIT MYSELF TO FULFILL GOD'S PURPOSE FOR MY LIFE – IN MY CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT AND IN PREPARING FOR MY LIFE WORK (PROFESSION).

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Witness: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

#### MEMORY VERSE ASSIGNMENT:

31. Write this scripture on a card, and memorize: PHILIPPIANS 3:13-14.

*PHILIPPIANS 3:13-14 – Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. – PHILIPPIANS 3:13-14..*

### LESSON 9. S: SUCCESS

#### INTRODUCTION

1. We now come to the final area of life that we need to deal with, the area regarding SUCCESS. (Let's look at the CHI UPSILON diagram one final time.)

2. What is your definition of SUCCESS? Who is the truly successful person, according to you? Most people spell success as \$UCCE\$. What did Jesus say about this definition of success in Matthew 16:26?

For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?

3. Jesus also gave a parable to illustrate the futility of earthly, material success. Let's read Luke 12:16-21.

4. To live according to the CHI UPSILON way – CHRIST ABOVE ALL, CHRISTOS UPSISTOS – you must follow the biblical view of SUCCESS.

#### TWO BIBLICAL EXAMPLES

5. Our first and highest example is Jesus. In His prayer to the Father in John 17:4 Jesus gives us His definition of success:

I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given me to do.

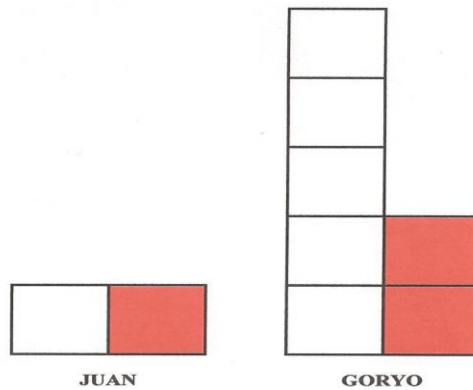
6. From this verse, we note two aspects of success:

- (a) Success is glorifying God;
- (b) Success is finishing the work God gave us to do.

7. The apostle Paul is our next example of success. Let's read his testimony in 2 Timothy 4:7-8:

I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.

8. Essentially, Paul is saying the same thing as Jesus. Success means glorifying God (keeping the faith), and finishing the work God gave him to do (fighting the good fight, finishing the race).



**MEASURE OF SUCCESS**

9. In CHI UPSILON, we must know and understand the measure of success. Success is not the amount of accomplishment; rather, success is the amount of accomplishment in direct proportion to the gifts, abilities and opportunities that God has given to us. As a simple illustration (above), compare Juan and Goryo. The white block means gift (ability); the colored block means accomplishments. Juan has one gift (ability); and he accomplishes the maximum with his one gift. Goryo has five gifts; he accomplishes twice as much as Juan, but he only uses two of his gifts. In God's eyes, which person is more successful, Juan or Goryo? Juan accomplishes only one block; Goryo accomplishes two blocks. In God's eyes, Juan is more successful than Goryo. Why? Because Juan used his one gift to the maximum, while Goryo used only two of his gifts and wasted the other three.

10. Let's read Luke 21:1-4. According to Jesus, who really gave the most to God, the rich people who gave a lot, or the poor widow who gave only two coins? What was the measure Jesus used?

11. This incident about the rich people and the poor widow shows us two dangers:

(a) Danger for rich people. They think that they please God simply because they give more compared to other people, even if they only gave from their surplus. In fact God is measuring them according to how much they give based on how much they really have.

(b) Danger for poor people. They think they are exempt from giving simply because they are poor. The poor widow shows that poverty is no excuse; the Macedonian Christians, like the poor widow, also give us a good example of not using poverty as an excuse (read 2 Corinthians 8:1-3).

12. Let's read Matthew 25:24-30.

(a) According to this parable, did the person with ten talents get a higher commendation and reward than the person with five talents?

(b) What was the reason why the master condemned the person with the one talent?

13. The parable of the talents gives an important warning to all of us.

(a) Warning for those who have many talents. They are tempted to think that they are successful because they accomplish more just by using a few of their talents. We must always remember, God expects us to use ALL our talents.

(b) Warning for those with only one or few talents. Many times, persons with one or few talents feel that they are not needed and so they hide their talents. This parable encourages us all to use our talents to the best of our ability, whether we have only one talent or many.

14. 1 Peter 4:10-11 gives us the foundational principles of success by using our gifts and talents for the Lord.

*As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God. If anyone ministers, let him do it with the ability which God supplies, that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.*

15. Let's analyze this scripture carefully:

(a) Every Christian has received at least one gift: *As each one has received a gift.*

(b) Gifts are to be used to serve others: *minister it to one another.*

(c) We are only stewards (managers), not owners of the gifts: *as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.*

(d) Gifts are given on the basis of God's grace, not human worthiness: *as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.*

(e) Gifts are to be used in the service of God, with God's ability, and for God's glory: *If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God. If anyone ministers, let him do it with the ability which God supplies, that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.*

AVOID COMPARISONS

16. One big pitfall that we must avoid is making comparisons. For example, who was greater, Peter who won 3,000 by one sermon, or Andrew who won only one person to Christ, his brother Peter?

17. A modern example is the evangelist Billy Graham. Almost everybody knows about Billy Graham, who preached to millions throughout the world. But who knows about the person who won him to Christ? And yet without that person who won him to Christ, Billy Graham won't probably have become a world-famous evangelist.

APPLICATION

18. In the end, there is only one measure of success – God's commendation. The apostle Paul expressed the proper attitude every Christian – and every CHI UPSILON graduate – should have in 2 Corinthians 5:9-10:

Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him. For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

19. Here is one poem that should continually challenge CHI UPSILON graduates:

**ONLY ONE LIFE**

**By C. T. Studd**

Two little lines I heard one day,  
Traveling along life's busy way;  
Bringing conviction to my heart,  
And from my mind would not depart:  
*Only one life, 'twill soon be past,  
Only what's done for Christ will last.*

Only one life, yes, only one,  
Soon will its fleeting hours be done;  
Then, in 'that day' my Lord to meet,  
And stand before His Judgment seat:  
*Only one life, 'twill soon be past,  
Only what's done for Christ will last.*

Only one life, the still small voice,  
Gently pleads for a better choice  
Bidding my selfish aims to leave,  
And to God's holy will to cleave:

*Only one life, 'twill soon be past,  
Only what's done for Christ will last.*

Only one life, a few brief years,  
Each with its burdens, hopes, and fears;  
Each with its claims I must fulfill,  
Living for self or in His will:  
*Only one life, 'twill soon be past,  
Only what's done for Christ will last.*

When this bright world would tempt me sore,  
When Satan would a victory score;  
When self would seek to have its way,  
Then help me Lord with joy to say;  
*Only one life, 'twill soon be past,  
Only what's done for Christ will last.*

Give me, Father, a purpose deep,  
In joy or sorrow Thy word to keep;  
Faithful and true whate'er the strife,  
Pleasing Thee in my daily life:  
*Only one life, 'twill soon be past,  
Only what's done for Christ will last.*

Oh let my love with fervor burn,  
And from the world now let me turn;  
Living for Thee, and Thee alone,  
Bringing Thee pleasure on Thy throne:  
*Only one life, 'twill soon be past,  
Only what's done for Christ will last.*

Only one life, yes, only one,  
Now let me say, "Thy will be done";  
And when at last I'll hear the call,  
I know I'll say "'Twas worth it all!"  
*Only one life, 'twill soon be past,  
Only what's done for Christ will last.*

**ISANG BUHAY LANG**

Ni C.T. Studd

Dalawang pangungusap narinig ko isang araw,  
Habang ako'y naglalakbay sa daan ng buhay;  
Na bumagabag sa aking kalooban,

At sa isip ko'y ayaw itong pumanaw:  
*Isang buhay lamang, oh kaydaling maglalaho,  
Tanging mananatili, paglilingkod kay Cristo!*

Isang buhay lang, oo, tanging iisa,  
Di maglalao't ito'y tiyak na matatapos na;  
At sa dulo nito'y haaharap ako sa Diyos,  
At sa kanyang hukuman ako'y magtutuos.  
*Isang buhay lamang, oh kaydaling maglalaho,  
Tanging mananatili, paglilingkod kay Cristo!*

Isang buhay lang, sa loob ko'y may isang tinig,  
Na nagsasabing dapat sundin ang daang matuwid,  
At dapat kong talikdan ang masasamang hilig,  
At sa salita ng Diyos lamang ako ay kakapit:  
*Isang buhay lamang, oh kaydaling maglalaho,  
Tanging mananatili, paglilingkod kay Cristo!*

Isang buhay lang, ang mga taon ay lumilipad,  
Sampun ng mga lungkot, saya, ginhawa at hirap,  
Sa tuwina'y sa akin isang pagpili ang inihaharap,  
Kalooban ba ng Diyos o sarili ang hangad?  
*Isang buhay lamang, oh kaydaling maglalaho,  
Tanging mananatili, paglilingkod kay Cristo!*

Pag sa aki'y malakas ang tawag ng sanlibutan,  
At tukso ni Satanas ay pilit na mangibabaw;  
At ang puso ko'y unti-unting naliligaw,  
Panginoon, tulungan po akong manindigan:  
*Isang buhay lamang, oh kaydaling maglalaho,  
Tanging mananatili, paglilingkod kay Cristo!*

Bigyan po ako, Ama, ng pasiyang taimtim,  
Sa hirap man o ginhawa ito'y lagi kong kimkim;  
Mananatiling tapat, makikibaka sa lahat,  
Mabigyan lang ang Diyos ng luwalhati't galak:  
*Isang buhay lamang, oh kaydaling maglalaho,  
Tanging mananatili, paglilingkod kay Cristo!*

O mangingas nawa ang pag-ibig ko sa Diyos,  
At sa lahat ng linlang ng mundo ako'y tatalikod;  
Tanging sa Panginoon, ngayon at kailan man,  
Tanging sa kalooban Niya ako'y mabubuhay:  
*Isang buhay lamang, oh kaydaling maglalaho,  
Tanging mananatili, paglilingkod kay Cristo!*

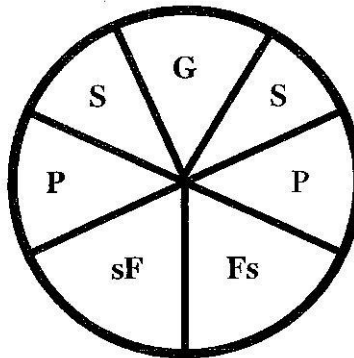
Isang buhay lang, oo, tanging nag-iisa,  
"Kalooban mo'y susundin ko," ito ang aking pasiya;  
At sa huling araw pagdating sa akin ng tawag,  
Ako ay sasagot, "Sulit lahat, aking mga paghihirap!"  
*Isang buhay lamang, oh kaydaling maglalaho,  
Tanging mananatili, paglilingkod kay Cristo!*

(Malayang salin ni Pastor Bien Llobrera)

20. As we finish our CHI UPSILON training, will you today commit your life to put CHRIST ABOVE ALL – CHRISTOS UPSISTOS – in order to live for Christ alone, always remembering: *Only one life, 'twill soon be past, Only what's done for Christ will last?*

21. Will you commit yourself, beginning today, to live the CHI UPSILON WAY in every area of your life? And will you actively be involved in a CHI UPSILON CELL GROUP, in order to encourage each other and to plan how to reach out to other young people in order to recruit them to join the Chi Upsilon training?

- GOD
- SELF
- PARENTS
- FRIENDS
- SPECIAL FRIEND
- PRURPOSE
- SUCCESS



MEMORY VERSE ASSIGNMENT:

22. Write this scripture on a card, and memorize:

MATTHEW 16:26 – *For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?* MATTHEW 16:26:

**LESSON 10:**

**FINAL CHALLENGE & PROMISE:  
YOUR COMMITMENT & GOD’S SUSTAINING GRACE**

**CHI UPSILON**  
*Youth Discipleship Training*

The Greek letters Chi (X) and Upsilon (Y), superimposed on the circle, divide life into 7 areas where the youth must put CHRIST ABOVE ALL!

**“CHRISTOS UPSISTOS”**  
**CHRIST ABOVE ALL**  
**IN 7 AREAS OF LIFE**

1 GOD	
2 SELF	5 SPECIAL FRIEND
3 PARENTS	6 PURPOSE
4 FRIENDS	7 SUCCESS

NOTE: FREE E-COPY OF CHI UPSILON COURSE available from [pastorbien@gmail.com](mailto:pastorbien@gmail.com)

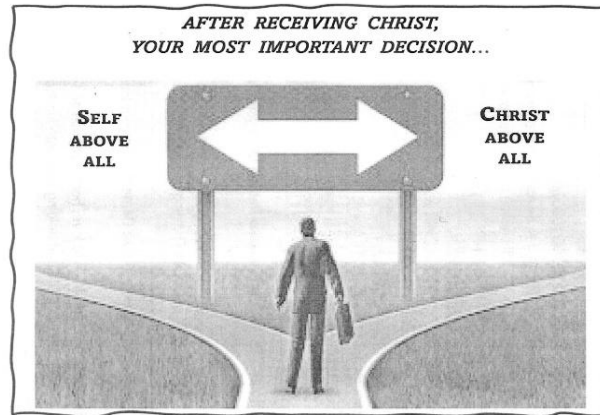
1 All glory to God! Congratulations for completing the CHI UPSILON COURSE!

2 You have been challenged, and you have responded to put CHRIST ABOVE ALL – CHRISTOS UPSISTOS – in every area of your life. This is in obedience to the command of the Lord Jesus in Matthew 6:33:

*But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.*

3 Through the Chi Upsilon course, you were brought to a FORK IN THE ROAD of your spiritual journey. The road to the right says: CHRIST ABOVE ALL. The road to the left says: SELF ABOVE ALL.

4 You made your decision: You chose the right road, the road to the right. Your decision to put CHRIST ABOVE ALL is the most important decision you can ever make, after receiving Christ as your personal Savior and Lord.



5 Praise the Lord! Congratulations! You made the right decision. You chose the ROAD TO THE RIGHT!

**FEELING VERY CONFIDENT**

6 Now that you've completed the course and now that you have made the commitment to PUT CHRIST ABOVE ALL, you may be feeling very confident. Like Peter, you are probably saying to the Lord:

“From now on, Lord, I will never deny You. Even if others deny You, I promise I will always remain faithful to You.”

With Peter you might be saying, “Lord, even if I have to die for You, I will never deny You.”

7 We read about Peter's very bold and confident declaration of his loyalty to the Lord Jesus in Luke 22:31-34.

Peter felt so confident in himself. But what happened? We know what happened. After making that confident, bold declaration of undying loyalty, sad to say, within just a few hours, Peter denied the Lord Jesus three times.

**PAUL'S ATTITUDE**

8 Instead of Peter's self-confidence, we should adopt the apostle Paul's attitude in 1 Corinthians 9:27:

***1 Corinthians 9:27 (KING JAMES VERSION):***

***But I discipline my body and bring it into subjection, lest, when I have preached to others, I myself should become disqualified.***

9 When did Paul write this? He wrote this as a mature disciple and a veteran missionary. He was already on his second missionary journey. He had already trained many disciples and planted many churches. And yet he was continually aware of the danger of self-confidence, the danger of becoming spiritually self-satisfied, the danger of feeling immune to the attacks of the enemy.

10 One thing Paul was afraid of was becoming disqualified; in the King James Version, the word is “cast away”, something or someone rejected as unfit and below standard, a “reject”. After a lifetime of seemingly successful missionary service, Paul was afraid of becoming cast away by Christ. This was a tragedy Paul was afraid of: after preaching to others, he himself would end up in hell; or, if not sent to hell, he would see all his lifetime work burn up and turn into smoke and ashes. And Paul knew that his greatest enemy was not someone or something out there, but and the most deceptive opponent was his own body, his old nature that resided in his old lifestyle which was embedded in his body, mind, emotion, will and memory.

### **THREE TACTICS**

11 The apostle Paul used two very powerful TACTICS regarding how he handled his body: discipline, put under subjection.

- (a) TACTIC #1: DISCIPLINE, put under subjection. Discipline is a word used for a boxer giving a powerful punch to the eye of his opponent in order to knock him out or to render him weak and powerless. This means we must give a knock-out punch to the sinful desires of our body.
- (b) TACTIC #2: PUT UNDER SUBJECTION is a term describing a big, strong and mean slave-driver beating his slaves with heavy blows so that they will be in terror of him and submit and obey him without question or delay.

### **THREE STEPS**

12 In practical terms, how can we discipline our body and put it under subjection? The THREE STEPS prescribed by Paul to his spiritual son, Timothy, will give us decisive steps to implement.

***2 Timothy 2:22 (KJV):***

***Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart.***

13 The three steps are in three words:

STEP #1: FLEE  
STEP #2: FOLLOW  
STEP #3: FELLOWSHIP

Let's analyze these steps one by one.

14 STEP #1: FLEE YOUTHFUL LUSTS.

This is how we discipline our body and bring it into subjection.

- FLEE, run away from, youthful lusts.

What are youthful lusts? These are sinful desires that tempt young people all the time. Not only young people, but also adults and much older people. When Paul wrote this advice, Timothy was a mature disciple and a pastor, most probably already with a wife and children of his own. And yet Paul strongly warned him to FLEE, run away from, youthful lusts. Temptation is no respecter of age or person, young or old, most specially teenagers. You must FLEE youthful lusts. How do you do that?

(a) GUARD YOUR MIND, GUARD YOUR THOUGHTS.

All actions begin in the mind. Remember what the Lord Jesus said.

Matthew 5:27-30:

*27 "You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not commit adultery.' 28 But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart. 29 If your right eye causes you to sin, pluck it out and cast it from you; for it is more profitable for you that one of your members perish, than for your whole body to be cast into hell. 30 And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and cast it from you; for it is more profitable for you that one of your members perish, than for your whole body to be cast into hell.*

How do you guard your thought life?

First, memorize verses from the Bible. Fill your mind with the Word of God. When an evil thought comes, immediately substitute it with verses from the Word of God. This is how to get rid of lustful thoughts; replace them with good thoughts from God's Word.

Second, pluck out your eyes and cut off your hands. What did Jesus mean? Stop reading or watching pornographic pictures, shows, magazines, books; stop listening to songs with pornographic words or suggestions. The internet is full of pornography. Avoid clicking on these sites. Stop going to places or doing things or being with people that lead to sexual sins.

(b) GUARD YOUR EMOTIONS.

Let me tell something about your emotions. As young people, you will be attracted or fall in love with someone many, many times. In the old times, we called this “infatuation”. This is not real love; this is just a powerful feeling of being attracted to someone. As a Chi Upsilon disciple, you must make a firm decision to put CHRIST ABOVE ALL in your love life. You will pray and you will wait for the SPECIAL FRIEND that God will prepare for you. Even if you fall in love with someone, surrender that feeling to Christ, and keep praying and waiting for God’s will, for the right person at the right time.

In the meantime, develop healthy friendships with everybody. But never allow your friendship to become romantic. Develop brotherly and sisterly friendship within the fellowship of Christians.

(c) KEEP PROPER DISTANCE.

BOYS, two things you must guard, in order to keep proper distance:

- (a) YOUR EYES. Always guard your eyes. Control your eyes and what you look at. There are so many tempting pictures all around, in your cell phone and on public signs and magazines and newspapers. And there are women who dress in very tempting ways. You cannot avoid the FIRST LOOK. But when you unexpectedly see something very tempting, turn your eyes away immediately. You must STOP THE SECOND LONG LOOK.
- (b) YOUR HANDS. Your hands are high voltage. Avoid touching and manipulating your private parts. Above all, avoid and stop unnecessary touching of girls.

GIRLS, two things you must guard, in order to keep proper distance.

- (a) YOUR WORDS. Your words are highly magnetic. Avoid saying words that boys might misinterpret that you allow them to touch you.
- (b) YOUR DRESS. Boys are easily tempted by what they see. So, don’t be a stumbling block to them. Dress properly, not too tight, not too short, don’t show too much of your body.

FOR BOTH BOYS AND GIRLS, two things:

- (a) EMOTIONAL INVOLVEMENT. We must repeat, it’s very easy to fall in love, to have a crush, to be infatuated. Always remember: CHI UPSILON CHRIST ABOVE ALL means God has already that special friend reserved for you. Don’t get emotionally involved with anyone while you are still in the process of

growing, learning, completing your education, and preparing yourself for your life work. Develop healthy brother-sister friendships, but no emotional commitments.

- (b) NEVER BE ALONE TOGETHER. This is an absolute rule. Strictly avoid being together with a friend of the opposite sex anytime, anywhere, never in a room or any secluded place where no one can see you. As friends always talk with each other in a place where there are people around who can see you. Girls, if a guy asks you to come with him to a secluded place where no one else can see you, run away immediately. That guy is a big bad wolf, he is not a real friend.

## 15 STEP #2: FOLLOW

*“Follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace”.*

- STEP #2: FOLLOW. This is very strong, meaning to RUN AFTER.

Notice the biblical order of victory:

- (a) First, you must FLEE (run away from) youthful lusts;
- (b) Second, you must FOLLOW (run after) the Christlike qualities of righteousness, faith, love and peace.

Victory and growth as a Chi Upsilon disciple require the negative step of FLEEING or running away from bad thoughts, bad actions, bad habits. But this negative step is not enough.

Victory and growth as a Chi Upsilon disciple require the positive step of FOLLOWING, running after, Christlikeness, intentionally, continually, energetically, passionately.

The apostle Paul expressed this powerfully in Philippians 3:12-14:

**Philippians 3:12-14 (NKJV):**

**<sup>12</sup>Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me. <sup>13</sup>Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, <sup>14</sup>I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.**

Notice what Paul said: “One thing I do” – I do one goal, one purpose, one passion, *“forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, <sup>14</sup>I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.”*

Chi Upsilon graduates, your graduation is only the beginning. You must keep growing, keep striving, keep moving forward and upward, to attain God's highest goal for your life in Christ Jesus.

### ONE DAILY DISCIPLINE

Intentionally, consistently, and effectively FOLLOW after Christ-likeness by strictly maintaining one daily discipline: DAILY DEVOTIONAL TIME.

You must maintain your daily personal time with God. Set aside at least 30 minutes a day in Bible reading and prayer. Read at least one chapter from your Bible everyday; spend at least 15 minutes in prayer after Bible reading. In your prayer, follow the pattern A-C-T-S:

- Adoration. Always begin by worshiping God.
- Confession. Ask the Holy Spirit to search your heart, and confess and forsake every known sin.
- Thanksgiving. Think of specific blessings that you thank God for.
- Supplication. Pray for your needs and for those of others.
  
- STEP #3: FELLOWSHIP.

A third important requirement is maintain FELLOWSHIP with other disciples.

First, you FLEE (run away from) youthful lusts.

Second, you FOLLOW (run after) Christlikeness.

But, third, you must continually be in FELLOWSHIP with other Christians. You do not FLEE and FOLLOW alone. You are not a Lone Ranger Christian. You are member of God's Family, you are vital part of Christ's Body.

You must FLEE and FOLLOW "*with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart.*"

Run with others who are going in the same direction. Do not fight alone. Do not grow alone.

How do you stay in FELLOWSHIP with other Christians?

- (a) Have a PRAYER PARTNER, same sex, about the same age. As partners, regularly keep in touch in person, by phone, through Messenger video chat, zoom. Share encouraging memory verses with each other; pray for each other; make a list of your non-Christian friends and regularly pray for them, and make a systematic plan on how and when to meet with them to share the Gospel.

- (b) Be a faithful member of a CELL GROUP for personal discipleship growth and for evangelistic outreach.
- (c) Be a fully functioning member of your LOCAL CHURCH, for worship, fellowship, for prayer, for ministry and missions.

**CLOSING CHALLENGE**

17 Yes, you must always strive to do your utmost and your best.

18 But always remember, victory ultimately does not depend on your commitment, not on your best intentions or not even on your most strenuous exertions.

19 You are not perfect; you will never be perfect in this life. You will fall, you will fail many, many times. Ultimately, victory depends on the Lord Jesus and on God's grace.

20 Let's go back to what the Lord Jesus said to Peter?

**Luke 22:31-34 (NKJV):**

**<sup>31</sup> And the Lord said, "Simon, Simon! Indeed, Satan has asked for you, that he may sift you as wheat. <sup>32</sup> But I have prayed for you, that your faith should not fail; and when you have returned to Me, strengthen your brethren."**

**<sup>33</sup> But he said to Him, "Lord, I am ready to go with You, both to prison and to death."**

**<sup>34</sup> Then He said, "I tell you, Peter, the rooster shall not crow this day before you will deny three times that you know Me."**

From this passage, remember three truths:

- (a) TRUTH #1: The Lord Jesus puts a limit to Satan's temptations and attacks against you.

1 Corinthians 10:13:

*<sup>13</sup> No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.*

The Lord Jesus is our Savior and High Priest. He is always praying for us. Whenever you are under attack or pressed by any problem or need, always call on the Lord Jesus Christ.

Hebrews 4:15, 16:

<sup>5</sup> For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. <sup>16</sup> Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

- (b) TRUTH #2: When you fall or fail, get up quickly, repent, ask the Lord's forgiveness and cleansing, and keep moving forward.

1 John 1:9:

*If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. <sup>10</sup> If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.*

- (c) TRUTH #3: The Lord will use your failure to make you wiser and stronger, and your experience will give you the understanding, sympathy and practical wisdom in counseling and mentoring younger disciples more effectively.

Luke 22:32:

*But I have prayed for you, that your faith should not fail; and when you have returned to Me, strengthen your brethren."*

### **THREE WATCHWORDS**

20 In closing, let me give you THREE WATCHWORDS that, with the Holy Spirit's indwelling presence and power, your growth and victory will be assured.

- WATCHWORD #1: CHRISTOS UPSISTOS – CHRIST ABOVE ALL.

Through the Chi Upsilon course, you have said a BIG YES to the Lord Jesus. From now on, you have to follow that BIG YES with daily SMALL YEESES, moment by moment, one step at a time, trust and obey – these are you two legs in the Christian life – just put one foot (TRUST) in front of the other (OBEY), trust and obey, right foot, left foot, keep walking. Just like Enoch, he enjoyed walking with God so much that they lost track of time, and then God said, "Enoch, we are closer to my house than your house, so why don't you come home with me tonight." Enoch answered, "Lord, thank You for the invitation." So God took Enoch to His home and they have been talking together every since. Enoch's family never found out what happened to him. All they knew was that Enoch went out walking with God one day and nobody saw him since. The Chi Upsilon lifestyle is simply this: KEEP WALKING WITH GOD EVERYDAY ON THE RIGHT ROAD THAT SAYS, "CHRIST ABOVE ALL"!

- WATCHWORD #2: CORAM DEO – IN GOD’S PRESENCE.

Always live BEFORE GOD, always live in the awareness of God’s presence with you, and always count on the power of the Holy Spirit to help you.

- WATCHWORD #3: SOLI DEO GLORIA – GLORY TO GOD ALONE.

Whatsoever you do, do all to the glory of God. Always say, “Lord Jesus, I am doing this for Your glory alone.”



**NOTE TO TRAINOR:**

You will hold a special graduation ceremony for those who complete the Chi Upsilon Course. Please see APPENDIX B (below) for suggestions.

After graduation, it is important that you involve Chi Upsilon graduates in a continuing discipleship cell groups. Use the NewLife Series Books 1-14. Mobilize graduates to actively participate in the evangelistic outreach of the church, reaching out to young people, using the Chi Upsilon training as part of the “recruiting” attraction. Only Chi Upsilon graduates must be allowed to wear Chi Upsilon tshirts. And graduates will wear their Chi Upsilon tshirt when they are doing outreach.

**APPENDIX A**

**CHI UPSILON:  
BACKGROUND OF THE COURSE**

1. The *CHI UPSILON* course was developed in the 1980s by Pastor Bien A. Llobrera at the First Baptist Church of Cavite City, Philippines, where he served as pastor from 1972-1988. The course contents are not original; other books and materials have presented these contents before. Originality is claimed only for the *CHI UPSILON* format, approach, and presentation. The Lord has graciously blessed the *CHI UPSILON* course in helping many young people to navigate the turbulent ocean called adolescence

2. How to use the CHI UPSILON COURSE. One way is to use it as a kind of a BOOSTER (or “CRASH”) COURSE, which you can insert for several weeks into your regular discipleship training schedule (after NewLife Book 5). Many times when working with young people you sense that they seem to lack the necessary motivation and commitment for serious discipleship training. This is because they are experiencing the turbulence of adolescence; their hormones are causing their personality to be fractured by conflicting emotions, which pull them this way and that. The CHI UPSILON COURSE will help them to pull these emotions together under the lordship of Christ, so that they will begin to think and act by one principle: PUTTING CHRIST ABOVE ALL IN EVERY AREA OF LIFE. This course seems to work best with young people beginning at ages 15-16 upwards, when they begin to experience “falling in love”, the experience which begins the turbulence that will shake them throughout their teen years. Singles 19 above, who are studying the NewLife Series, may also be encouraged to take the course; they are actually potential trainors for future Chi Upsilon batches.

3. Young people are looking for a banner to rally around and to march under. They are looking for a cause to live for – and, if God so wills, to die for. They are waiting to be challenged to pursue higher moral and spiritual standards, which can only be found in Jesus Christ and His Gospel. This *CHI UPSILON* course is one way to bring young people face to face with Jesus Christ and His Gospel... and to challenge them to become SOLDIERS IN CHRIST’S GREAT COMMISSION ARMY!

## **APPENDIX B**

### **NOTE TO TRAINOR**

#### **START BATCH 1:**

- 1) Make a prospect list and pray for 10-15 (more or less) Christian youth who are interested in growing spiritually.
- 2) Invite them to an ORIENTATION MEETING in which you introduce to them the Chi Upsilon Course.
- 3) At the end of the orientation, ask for a decision, who will commit to attend faithfully. On a sign-up sheet, have them write their name, address, grade level, phone number, parents’ name, contact person and phone in case of emergency.
- 4) Decide on a schedule, time and place for the once-a-week meeting; set the date of the first meeting. Move on from there.
- 5) After each graduation, plan for the next batch. Make this a continuing, multiplying, replicating discipleship training for youth. Mobilize graduates to recruit friends for the next batch.

## **APPENDIX C**

### **GRADUATION CEREMONY**

1. We suggest that you hold a Graduation Ceremony. Set a date, day and time for the graduation program.
2. Materials to prepare:

- (1) Special invitation card to parents and friends of graduates.
- (2) Chi Upsilon t-shirts with the Chi Upsilon logo.
- (3) Every graduate must write a “love letter” to his/her parents, signed and sealed in an envelope; in this letter, the graduate will express his/her love and appreciation toward the parents.
- (4) Registration cards for young people who are interested to join the next batch of Chi Upsilon training; this will be distributed at the end of the graduation program.
- (5) Form a committee to serve refreshments for all guests after the graduation.
- (6) Prepare Certificate to be awarded to every graduate (please see sample):

3. The GRADUATION PROGRAM should include the following:

- (1) Worship and Praise Time
- (2) Opening Prayer and Very Brief Words of Welcome by the Pastor (or Head Trainor)
- (3) Special Number
- (4) Brief Explanation by Trainor of what the CHI UPSILON TRAINING is about.
- (5) One graduate will give a 2-3 minute testimony about each lesson:
  - God
  - Self
  - Parents
  - Friends
  - Special Friend
  - Purpose
  - Success
- (6) All parents of the Chi Upsilon graduates will be requested to stand. The trainor will explain that the Chi Upsilon graduates will now give a special love letter to their parents; the Chi Upsilon graduates will then go their parents, give them a hug, tell their parents “Thank you for being my parents; I love you” and then give the love letter to them.
- (7) Chi Upsilon Graduates will sing the Chi Upsilon Theme Song.

***CHI UPSILON THEME SONG***  
***(Tune: Onward, Christian Soldiers)***

***Join the generation  
Of Chi Upsilon!  
Christ enthroned Above All  
Is our battle song.  
We shall raise an army  
That shall reach the world  
Till all nations come to know  
Jesus Christ is Lord!***

***Chorus:  
Join the generation***

*Of Chi Upsilon!  
Christ enthroned Above All  
Is our battle song.*

**AWIT NG CHI UPSILON**  
*(Himig: Onward, Christian Soldiers)*

*Halina't sumama  
Sa Chi Upsilon,  
Itanghal si Cristo  
Na Panginoon,  
Sa bawa't bahagi  
Ng ating buhay  
S'ya na lang ang tanging  
Susundin natin.*

**Koro:**  
*Halina't sumama  
Sa Chi Upsilon,  
Itanghal si Cristo  
Na Panginoon!*

(8) Awarding of Certificates and Chi Upsilon t-shirt.

The certificate should look something like this:

<p><b>CHI UPSILON</b>  <b><i>“Christos Upsistos – Christ Above All”</i></b></p> <p>This is to certify that</p> <p>_____</p> <p>has successfully completed the  <b>CHI UPSILON DISCIPLESHIP COURSE</b>  and, with the help of the Holy Spirit, has pledged to put  <b>CHRIST ABOVE ALL – CHRISTOS UPSISTOS</b>  in every area of life.</p> <p>Awarded on this ___ day of _____, 20___,  at First Baptist Church of _____  Province of _____, Philippines.</p> <p>_____</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; text-align: center; border: none;"> <p>_____</p> <p><i>Trainor</i></p> </td> <td style="width: 50%; text-align: center; border: none;"> <p>_____</p> <p><i>Pastor</i></p> </td> </tr> </table>		<p>_____</p> <p><i>Trainor</i></p>	<p>_____</p> <p><i>Pastor</i></p>
<p>_____</p> <p><i>Trainor</i></p>	<p>_____</p> <p><i>Pastor</i></p>		

The t-shirt should look like the sample below (or you can come up with your own design).



- (9) Graduates will read together the poem: ONLY ONE LIFE.
- (10) Short challenge by the pastor.
- (11) Challenge to those who are interested to join the next batch of Chi Upsilon Training: Those who want to join the next Chi Upsilon training will be challenged to come forward and receive a registration card while an invitation song is being sung.
- (12) Closing Prayer and Benediction

**NOTE TO TRAINOR:**

After graduation, it is important that you involve Chi Upsilon graduates in a continuing discipleship cell groups. You may use the NewLife books or some other discipleship studies. Mobilize graduates to actively participate in the evangelistic outreach of the church, reaching out to young people, using the Chi Upsilon training as part of the “recruiting” attraction. Only Chi Upsilon graduates must be allowed to wear Chi Upsilon t-shirts. And graduates will wear their Chi Upsilon t-shirt when they are doing outreach. Below is one strategy being implemented in the Philippines.

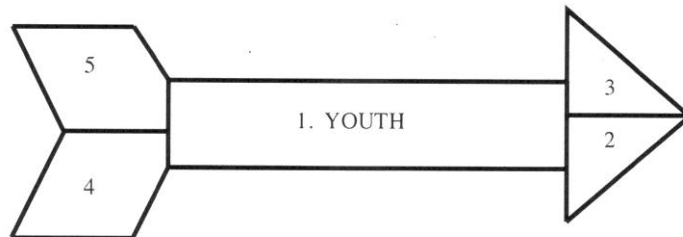
**APPENDIX D**

**CHI UPSILON STRATEGY**

NOTE: This strategy is a suggestion. Obviously this strategy needs to be contextualized and adapted to your local situation.

MISSION: CHI UPSILON  
GREAT COMMISSION ARMY

The strategy of MISSION: CHI UPSILON may be pictured as an ARROW:



GOD'S ARROW OF DELIVERANCE FOR THE PHILIPPINES  
(2 KINGS 13:14-19)

The parts of the arrow are as follows:

1. YOUTH
2. CHILDREN
3. ADULTS/PARENTS
4. PASTOR & ADULT LEADERS
5. PARTNER PASTORS AND CHURCHES

Let's describe how the different parts of the arrow work together.

**1. STEM OF THE ARROW: CHI UPSILON TRAINING FOR YOUTH**

Note: The pastor (or someone assigned by him) is in charge of this training. Initially, he will be the teacher of the first batch. Eventually, he will train others to serve as teachers/trainors for the succeeding batches.

- (a) Selected YOUTH will receive Chi Upsilon Training (10-15 per batch).
- (b) There will be a Graduation Service at the end of the training. During the graduation, each graduate will be awarded a certificate of completion and a T-shirt bearing the Chi Upsilon Logo.
- (c) After graduation:
  - **REQUIRED: CONTINUING DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING:** Chi Upsilon trainees will continue studying the NewLife Discipleship Training (Books 1-14) in small groups that meet weekly.
  - **OPTIONAL: IF & WHEN FEASIBLE: MINISTRY:** Chi Upsilon trainees will be mobilized to do CHILD EVANGELISM. Please see below.

**2. BOTTOM POINT OF THE ARROW: CHILD EVANGELISM**

Note: Chi Upsilon Graduates are in charge of the Child Evangelism Classes.

Divide the graduates into Children's Evangelism Teams (CETs), consisting of at least 4-6 members. Each team should have one main teacher, assistant teacher, song leader, guitarrist; the rest serve as assistants. Note: CET members will always wear their CHI UPSILON TSHIRT when they go out to teach. The CETs will open Backyard Children's Bible Clubs, following these steps:

STEP 1: Select one location, preferably where there is already a church member home, whose yard will serve as the location. Or where there is a sympathizer, a "person of peace" (Luke 10:5-7) who will make his yard available as location.

STEP 2: Visit and survey the surrounding homes in order to ask permission from the parents to allow their children to attend the Backyard Bible Club. Briefly explain to the parents, you will not teach religion to their children, but to teach them how to have the fear of God (takot sa Diyos) in order to be obedient children and to be good students at school. Announce the date, day and place of the first class.

STEP 3: Once a week Children's Bible Story Classes. The actual class time will follow this simple format:

- Open with singing time. (Teach the Gospel through songs. Explain the meaning of the song before and after teaching it.)
- Opening prayer.
- Teacher will tell the Bible Story (Children's Bible Stories & with coloring activity after the story has been found effective).
- Memory Verse Time: spend several minutes actually memorizing the verse.
- Coloring activity time. Every pupil will be given a copy of the coloring Bible story.
- Close with a song and prayer.

### **3. TOP POINT OF THE ARROW: ADULT EVANGELISM**

Note: The pastor and his adult leaders team will be in charge of the adult evangelism outreach.

- While the children are doing their COLORING ACTIVITY TIME, the pastor and his adult leaders will talk to the parents. They will explain to the parents: "The reason we are doing Backyard Bible Clubs is to give our children and youth INNER STRENGTH AND CONVICTION in order to resist the temptations around them. Let's use the illustration of two sacks – one empty sack, and one sack full of rice. What do you think, is the empty sack able to stand? No; why not? Because it is empty and has no inner strength. How about the sack full of rice, is it able to stand? Of course; why so? Because it has inner strength, it's got something inside. The same way with our children and youth. Through these Backyard Bible Clubs we want to put inner strength and conviction inside of them, so that they will develop the power to resist temptations. As parents we want to explain to you briefly what is this inner strength and conviction that we want the children and youth to have. It is RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD, not religion (RELASYON sa Diyos, hindi RELIHIYON). May we show you the simple illustration called the GOSPEL HAND (or an equivalent presentation such as THE BRIDGE TO GOD, 4 SPIRITUAL LAWS, etc.)"

- (b) As children's classes are held week after week, more and more parents and other adults will also be contacted and witnessed to. Parents and other adults who receive Christ will be followed up, by inviting them to attend the HOME BIBLE STUDIES that will be started in the area. Follow up materials to be used will begin with NewLife Books 1 (soft copy available FREE upon request from Pastor Bien Llobrera [pastorbien@gmail.com](mailto:pastorbien@gmail.com).)
- (c) As several home Bible studies are established in an area, they will be brought together to hold a monthly WORSHIP CELEBRATION, for mutual encouragement and inspiration. This celebration is actually preparation and training for the groups to organize as a local church.

#### 4. BOTTOM TAIL OF THE ARROW: PASTOR AND ADULT EVANGELISTIC TEAM MEMBERS

Note: The pastor and adult evangelistic team members will continue to train, support and encourage the CHI UPSILON GRADUATES.

#### 5. TOP TAIL OF THE ARROW: PARTNER PASTORS AND CHURCHES

Note: Neighbor pastors and churches will be contacted and the CHI UPSILON STRATEGY will be introduced to them. Each new partner pastor and church will be assisted to train and mobilize their first batch, after which they can continue the program on their own.

#### CHALLENGE

In 2 Kings 13:14-19 a very powerful incident is described when the prophet Elishah challenged the king of Israel to do something with his arrows.

<sup>14</sup>Elisha had become sick with the illness of which he would die. Then Joash the king of Israel came down to him, and wept over his face, and said, "O my father, my father, the chariots of Israel and their horsemen!"

<sup>15</sup>And Elisha said to him, "Take a bow and some arrows." So he took himself a bow and some arrows. <sup>16</sup>Then he said to the king of Israel, "Put your hand on the bow." So he put his hand *on it*, and Elisha put his hands on the king's hands. <sup>17</sup>And he said, "Open the east window"; and he opened *it*. Then Elisha said, "Shoot"; and he shot. And he said, "The arrow of the LORD's deliverance and the arrow of deliverance from Syria; for you must strike the Syrians at Aphek till you have destroyed *them*." <sup>18</sup>Then he said, "Take the arrows"; so he took *them*. And he said to the king of Israel, "Strike the ground"; so he struck three times, and stopped. <sup>19</sup>And the man of God was angry with him, and said, "You should have struck five or six times; then you would have struck Syria till you had destroyed *it!* But now you will strike Syria *only* three times."

The YOUTH are God's arrow of deliverance for our nation.

- We must SHOOT the arrow: We must train, equip and mobilize our youth.
- We must STRIKE the ground with the arrow five or six times or as many times as needed: We must continuously, consistently, persistently, passionately, forcefully

implement the CHI UPSILON STRATEGY year in, year out as new batches of young people are brought in through our evangelism and discipleship outreach.

The famous shoes Nike has a slogan. Let's out-NIKE Nike in implementing the slogan:

JUST DO IT!