

HOMWORK ASSIGNMENTS

These assignments are designed to a) point people to God's Word, b) give them hope, c) assess ownership, and d) provide measurable points of progress. These assignments can be given to the people in your small group or anyone you are currently discipling. They are practical and simple—anyone can work through them on their own.

All assignments help people “go vertical” by defining and focusing on their relationship with God. A vertical focus must be achieved before there can be success in improving horizontal relationships or circumstances. Each assignment consists of four simple steps: going to God, trusting God, obeying God, and waiting on God.

Step 1: Go to God – He gives grace to the humble.

Goal: For Scripture to bring conviction and you to get real with God.

- Examine yourself in light of God's Word (Psalm 139:23-24, Proverbs 28:13, 1 Peter 5:6-7).
- See your sinfulness, humble yourself, confess and forsake your sin (James 5:16; Proverbs 28:13).
- Ask yourself what a biblical response to your problem should look like.

Step 2: Trust God – He has the answers in His Word.

Goal: For Scripture to increase confidence in God as you trust Him for help and hope.

- Read through specific passages of Scripture.
- Underline key words or phrases that illustrate or point out:
 - Indicatives – What is God saying to me about who I am in my position in Christ?
 - Imperatives – What is God asking me to do in the power of Christ?
- Record thoughts and feelings about God's empowerment and your responsibility.

Step 3: Obey God – Apply His answers to your life.

Goal: For Scripture to bring clarity about what God says and for you to apply His counsel diligently.

- Learn to obey God's Word out of love for Him.
- Learn to approach Scripture personally by:
 - Memorizing accurately—What is the Scripture you need to remember right now?
 - Yielding quickly—How will you submit your will and emotions to this truth?
 - Meditating daily—How is God changing your mind through this Scripture?
 - Applying intentionally—What mindset or habits does this truth direct you to change now?
 - Praying dependently—How does this Scripture call you to depend on God in prayer?

Step 4: Waiting on God – Believe He works for your good and His glory.

Goal: For Scripture to bring hope and for you to believe God has your best in mind.

- Wait patiently on God (Psalm 27:13-14; 1 John 5:14-15).
- Persevering in God (James 1:2-4, 12; 1 Peter 1:6-7).
- Praying persistently to God (Ephesians 6:18; Philippians 4:6-7).

HOMWORK ASSIGNMENTS

Things to remember:

- We want to get people to God's Word quickly.
- Ministry is about people. We are about relationships, not checking off boxes on a list of things to do. People sense when we are disinterested or short with them. Show grace and love in all your interactions, especially when dealing with difficult people.
- When you hand out these assignments, pray with people. Try *never* to leave a conversation without praying for them.
- Give these assignments when you know someone is struggling with a particular issue and it has become clear that they need help.

Note: You don't have to know a person's ownership of the problem before giving one of these assignments. Part of the purpose of these assignments is to actually help you assess the person's ownership.

- When you connect with people to go over the assignments (whether in person or on the phone), remember again to pray. In those moments, prayer proves to be a blessing in these four ways:
 - You enter the throne room of grace together with someone who is hurting.
 - You can recap what you have talked about without being preachy.
 - You teach the importance of prayer in the believer's life by practicing it.
 - You demonstrate you are not their hope, but Christ is.

The following two assignments on anger and fear are samples for your review. To find the document containing all ten homework assignments listed below, please visit HarvestSmallGroups.com or connect with your flock leader or pastor.

- Anger
- Communication
- Conflict
- Deception
- Despair
- Fear
- Foolishness
- Forgiveness
- Pride
- Stress

HOMWORK ASSIGNMENTS

ANGER

1. **Go to God:** What specific sins do you need to confess and forsake in the area of anger? (See Ephesians 4:31.)

- _____
- _____
- _____

2. **Trust God:** Read through the passage below which addresses the issue of anger. Use the following approach:

- Read through specific passages of Scripture
- Underline key words or phrases that illustrate or point out:
 - Indicatives – What is God saying to me about who I am in my position in Christ?
 - Imperatives – What is God asking me to do in the power of Christ?
- Record thoughts and feelings about God's empowerment and our responsibility

Main Passage: Colossians 3:8-14

Additional Scriptures: Psalm 15, Proverbs 19:11, James 1:19-27, Proverbs 22:24-25, Ephesians 4:26-32

3. **Obey God:** Start with the main passage listed above and do the following:

- Memorizing accurately—What is the Scripture you need to remember right now?

- Yielding quickly—How will you submit your will and emotions to this truth?

- Meditating daily—How is God changing your mind through this Scripture?

- Applying intentionally—What mindset or habits does this truth direct you to change now?

- Praying dependently—How does this Scripture call you to depend on God in prayer?

4. **Wait on God:** Read the Scripture passages associated with each step and answer each question specifically.

a. Wait patiently on God (Psalm 27:13-14 and 1 John 5:14-15). What does waiting patiently look like in this situation?

b. Persevere in God (James 1:2-4;12, 1 Peter 1:7-7). How can you continue to remain under this trial/struggle?

c. Pray persistently (Ephesians 6:18 and Philippians 4:6-7). What can you commit to praying about daily?

HOMWORK ASSIGNMENTS

FEAR

1. **Go to God:** What specific struggles or sins do you need to confess and forsake in the area of fear, worry, or anxiety? (See Matthew 6:25-34.)

- _____
- _____
- _____

2. **Trust God:** Read through the passage below which addresses the issue of fear. Use the following approach:

- Read through specific passages of Scripture
- Underline key words or phrases that illustrate or point out:
 - Indicatives – What is God saying to me about who I am in my position in Christ?
 - Imperatives – What is God asking me to do in the power of Christ?
- Record thoughts and feelings about God's empowerment and our responsibility

Main Passage: 2 Timothy 1:7

Additional Scriptures: Psalm 27, Proverbs 29:25, 2 Corinthians 3:4-5, Exodus 20:20, James 1:2-4,

3. **Obey God:** Start with the main passage listed above and do the following steps:

- Memorizing accurately—What is the Scripture you need to remember right now?

- Yielding quickly—How will you submit your will and emotions to this truth?

- Meditating daily—How is God changing your mind through this Scripture?

- Applying intentionally—What mindset or habits does this truth direct you to change now?

- Praying dependently—How does this Scripture call you to depend on God in prayer?

4. **Wait on God:** Please read the Scripture passages associated with each step and answer each question specifically.

a. Wait patiently on God (Psalm 27:13-14 and 1 John 5:14-15). What does waiting patiently look like in this situation?

b. Persevere in God (James 1:2-4;12, 1 Peter 1:7-7). How can you continue to remain under this trial/struggle?

c. Pray persistently (Ephesians 6:18 and Philippians 4:6-7). What can you commit to praying about daily?

HOMWORK ASSIGNMENTS

COMMUNICATION

1. **Go to God:** What specific sins do you need to confess and forsake related to your speech? (See James 3:1-12)

- _____
- _____
- _____

2. **Trust God:** Read through the passage below which addresses the issue of communication. Use the following approach:

- Read through specific passages of Scripture
- Underline key words or phrases that illustrate or point out:
 - Indicatives – What is God saying to me about who I am in my position in Christ?
 - Imperatives – What is God asking me to do in the power of Christ?
- Record thoughts and feelings about God's empowerment and our responsibility

Main Passage: Ephesians 4:29

Additional Scriptures: Psalm 19:14, Proverbs 15:1, James 1:19, Proverbs 17:28, Proverbs 18:13

3. **Obey God:** Start with the main passage listed above and do the following:

- Memorizing accurately—What is the Scripture you need to remember right now?

- Yielding quickly—How will you submit your will and emotions to this truth?

- Meditating daily—How is God changing your mind through this Scripture?

- Applying intentionally—What mindset or habits does this truth direct you to change now?

- Praying dependently—How does this Scripture call you to depend on God in prayer?

4. **Wait on God:** Read the Scripture passages associated with each step and answer each question specifically.

a. Wait patiently on God (Psalm 27:13-14 and 1 John 5:14-15). What does waiting patiently look like in this situation?

b. Persevere in God (James 1:2-4;12, 1 Peter 1:7-7). How can you continue to remain under this trial/struggle?

c. Pray persistently (Ephesians 6:18 and Philippians 4:6-7). What can you commit to praying about daily?

HOMWORK ASSIGNMENTS

CONFLICT

1. **Go to God:** What specific sins do you need to confess and forsake in the area of conflict resolution? (see Romans 12:9-21)

- _____
- _____
- _____

2. **Trust God:** Read through the passage below which addresses the issue of conflict resolution. Use the following approach:

- Read through specific passages of Scripture
- Underline key words or phrases that illustrate or point out:
 - Indicatives – What is God saying to me about who I am in my position in Christ?
 - Imperatives – What is God asking me to do in the power of Christ?
- Record thoughts and feelings about God's empowerment and our responsibility

Main Passage: James 4:1-12

Additional Scriptures: Matthew 5:9, Matthew 18:15-20, Matthew 7: 3-5, Luke 6:27-36, Philippians 2:2-4

3. **Obey God:** Start with the main passage listed above and do the following:

- Memorizing accurately—What is the Scripture you need to remember right now?

- Yielding quickly—How will you submit your will and emotions to this truth?

- Meditating daily—How is God changing your mind through this Scripture?

- Applying intentionally—What mindset or habits does this truth direct you to change now?

- Praying dependently—How does this Scripture call you to depend on God in prayer?

4. **Wait on God:** Read the Scripture passages associated with each step and answer each question specifically.

a. Wait patiently on God (Psalm 27:13-14 and 1 John 5:14-15). What does waiting patiently look like in this situation?

b. Persevere in God (James 1:2-4; 12, 1 Peter 1:7-7). How can you continue to remain under this trial/struggle?

c. Pray persistently (Ephesians 6:18 and Philippians 4:6-7). What can you commit to praying about daily?

HOMWORK ASSIGNMENTS

DECEPTION

1. **Go to God:** What specific sins do you need to confess and forsake in the area of deception or defensiveness? (see Proverbs 28:13)

- _____
- _____
- _____

2. **Trust God:** Read through the passage below which addresses the issue of deception. Use the following approach:

- Read through specific passages of Scripture
- Underline key words or phrases that illustrate or point out:
 - Indicatives – What is God saying to me about who I am in my position in Christ?
 - Imperatives – What is God asking me to do in the power of Christ?
- Record thoughts and feelings about God’s empowerment and our responsibility

Main Passage: Genesis 3:1-24

Additional Scriptures: Numbers 32:23, 2 Chronicles 7:14, Psalm 32, Galatians 6:6-9, Hebrews 10:26-31

3. **Obey God:** Start with the main passage listed above and do the following:

- Memorizing accurately—What is the Scripture you need to remember right now?

- Yielding quickly—How will you submit your will and emotions to this truth?

- Meditating daily—How is God changing your mind through this Scripture?

- Applying intentionally—What mindset or habits does this truth direct you to change now?

- Praying dependently—How does this Scripture call you to depend on God in prayer?

4. **Wait on God:** Read the Scripture passages associated with each step and answer each question specifically.

a. Wait patiently on God (Psalm 27:13-14 and 1 John 5:14-15). What does waiting patiently look like in this situation?

b. Persevere in God (James 1:2-4;12, 1 Peter 1:7-7). How can you continue to remain under this trial/struggle?

c. Pray persistently (Ephesians 6:18 and Philippians 4:6-7). What can you commit to praying about daily?

HOMWORK ASSIGNMENTS

DESPAIR

1. **Go to God:** What specific struggles or sins do you need to confess and forsake in the area of unbelief or hopelessness? (see Psalm 42)

- _____
- _____
- _____

2. **Trust God:** Read through the passage below which addresses the issue of despair. Use the following approach:

- Read through specific passages of Scripture
- Underline key words or phrases that illustrate or point out:
 - Indicatives – What is God saying to me about who I am in my position in Christ?
 - Imperatives – What is God asking me to do in the power of Christ?
- Record thoughts and feelings about God’s empowerment and our responsibility

Main Passage: 2 Corinthians 4:7-18

Additional Scriptures: Psalm 86, Proverbs 13:12, 2 Corinthians 1:3-11, 2 Corinthians 3:4-6 +12-18, Hebrews 6:13-20

3. **Obey God:** Start with the main passage listed above and do the following:

- Memorizing accurately—What is the Scripture you need to remember right now?

- Yielding quickly—How will you submit your will and emotions to this truth?

- Meditating daily—How is God changing your mind through this Scripture?

- Applying intentionally—What mindset or habits does this truth direct you to change now?

- Praying dependently—How does this Scripture call you to depend on God in prayer?

4. **Wait on God:** Read the Scripture passages associated with each step and answer each question specifically.

a. Wait patiently on God (Psalm 27:13-14 and 1 John 5:14-15). What does waiting patiently look like in this situation?

b. Persevere in God (James 1:2-4;12, 1 Peter 1:7-7). How can you continue to remain under this trial/struggle?

c. Pray persistently (Ephesians 6:18 and Philippians 4:6-7). What can you commit to praying about daily?

HOMWORK ASSIGNMENTS

FOOLISHNESS

1. **Go to God:** What specific sins do you need to confess and forsake in the area of foolishness? (see Proverbs 14:16)

- _____
- _____
- _____

2. **Trust God:** Read through the passage below which addresses the issue of foolishness. Use the following approach:

- Read through specific passages of Scripture
- Underline key words or phrases that illustrate or point out:
 - Indicatives – What is God saying to me about who I am in my position in Christ?
 - Imperatives – What is God asking me to do in the power of Christ?
- Record thoughts and feelings about God's empowerment and our responsibility

Main Passage: 1 Corinthians 6:9-11

Additional Scriptures: Psalm 32 (esp. 9), 1 Peter 5:6-9, Philippians 4:5-7, John 16:33, Romans 15:13

3. **Obey God:** Start with the main passage listed above and do the following:

- Memorizing accurately—What is the Scripture you need to remember right now?

- Yielding quickly—How will you submit your will and emotions to this truth?

- Meditating daily—How is God changing your mind through this Scripture?

- Applying intentionally—What mindset or habits does this truth direct you to change now?

- Praying dependently—How does this Scripture call you to depend on God in prayer?

4. **Wait on God:** Read the Scripture passages associated with each step and answer each question specifically.

a. Wait patiently on God (Psalm 27:13-14 and 1 John 5:14-15). What does waiting patiently look like in this situation?

b. Persevere in God (James 1:2-4;12, 1 Peter 1:7-7). How can you continue to remain under this trial/struggle?

c. Pray persistently (Ephesians 6:18 and Philippians 4:6-7). What can you commit to praying about daily?

HOMWORK ASSIGNMENTS

FORGIVENESS

1. **Go to God:** What specific sins do you need to confess and forsake in the area of bitterness or resentment? (see Matthew 6:14-15)

- _____
- _____
- _____

2. **Trust God:** Read through the passage below which addresses the issue of unforgiveness. Use the following approach:

- Read through specific passages of Scripture
- Underline key words or phrases that illustrate or point out:
 - Indicatives – What is God saying to me about who I am in my position in Christ?
 - Imperatives – What is God asking me to do in the power of Christ?
- Record thoughts and feelings about God's empowerment and our responsibility

Main Passage: Matthew 6:14-15

Additional Scriptures: Matthew 6:12, Luke 6:37, Psalm 103:8-14, Ephesians 4:31-32, Col 3:13

3. **Obey God:** Start with the main passage listed above and do the following:

- Memorizing accurately—What is the Scripture you need to remember right now?

- Yielding quickly—How will you submit your will and emotions to this truth?

- Meditating daily—How is God changing your mind through this Scripture?

- Applying intentionally—What mindset or habits does this truth direct you to change now?

- Praying dependently—How does this Scripture call you to depend on God in prayer?

4. **Wait on God:** Read the Scripture passages associated with each step and answer each question specifically.

a. Wait patiently on God (Psalm 27:13-14 and 1 John 5:14-15). What does waiting patiently look like in this situation?

b. Persevere in God (James 1:2-4;12, 1 Peter 1:7-7). How can you continue to remain under this trial/struggle?

c. Pray persistently (Ephesians 6:18 and Philippians 4:6-7). What can you commit to praying about daily?

HOMWORK ASSIGNMENTS

PRIDE

1. **Go to God:** What specific sins do you need to confess and forsake in the area of pride? (see Proverbs 16:18)

- _____
- _____
- _____

2. **Trust God:** Read through the passage below which addresses the issue of pride. Use the following approach:

- Read through specific passages of Scripture
- Underline key words or phrases that illustrate or point out:
 - Indicatives – What is God saying to me about who I am in my position in Christ?
 - Imperatives – What is God asking me to do in the power of Christ?
- Record thoughts and feelings about God's empowerment and our responsibility

Main Passage: 1 Peter 5:5-8

Additional Scriptures: Philippians 2:3-4, Mark 9:33-35, Matthew 6:1, Galatians 6:3, Colossians 3:12-13

3. **Obey God:** Start with the main passage listed above and do the following:

- Memorizing accurately—What is the Scripture you need to remember right now?

- Yielding quickly—How will you submit your will and emotions to this truth?

- Meditating daily—How is God changing your mind through this Scripture?

- Applying intentionally—What mindset or habits does this truth direct you to change now?

- Praying dependently—How does this Scripture call you to depend on God in prayer?

4. **Wait on God:** Read the Scripture passages associated with each step and answer each question specifically.

a. Wait patiently on God (Psalm 27:13-14 and 1 John 5:14-15). What does waiting patiently look like in this situation?

b. Persevere in God (James 1:2-4;12, 1 Peter 1:7-7). How can you continue to remain under this trial/struggle?

c. Pray persistently (Ephesians 6:18 and Philippians 4:6-7). What can you commit to praying about daily?

HOMWORK ASSIGNMENTS

STRESS

1. **Go to God:** What specific sins do you need to confess and forsake in the area of striving or perfection? (see Psalm 46:10, especially in NASB)

- _____
- _____
- _____

2. **Trust God:** Read through the passage below which addresses the issue of striving or perfection. Use the following approach:

- Read through specific passages of Scripture
- Underline key words or phrases that illustrate or point out:
 - Indicatives – What is God saying to me about who I am in my position in Christ?
 - Imperatives – What is God asking me to do in the power of Christ?
- Record thoughts and feelings about God's empowerment and our responsibility

Main Passage: Matthew 11:28-30

Additional Scriptures: Philippians 4:10-13, Matthew 6:33, Philippians 2:14, Philippians 4:6-9, Deuteronomy 31:6

3. **Obey God:** Start with the main passage listed above and do the following:

- Memorizing accurately—What is the Scripture you need to remember right now?

- Yielding quickly—How will you submit your will and emotions to this truth?

- Meditating daily—How is God changing your mind through this Scripture?

- Applying intentionally—What mindset or habits does this truth direct you to change now?

- Praying dependently—How does this Scripture call you to depend on God in prayer?

4. **Wait on God:** Read the Scripture passages associated with each step and answer each question specifically.

a. Wait patiently on God (Psalm 27:13-14 and 1 John 5:14-15). What does waiting patiently look like in this situation?

b. Persevere in God (James 1:2-4;12, 1 Peter 1:7-7). How can you continue to remain under this trial/struggle?

c. Pray persistently (Ephesians 6:18 and Philippians 4:6-7). What can you commit to praying about daily?
