

CONSOLIDATOR'S GUIDE
FOR
YOUR NEW LIFE WITH JESUS
By Lawrence Khong

COPYRIGHT © 2011 FAITH COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH

Published by Faith Community Baptist Church

Email: info@fcbc.org.sg

Website: www.fcbc.org.sg

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, translated, stored in retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise, without the prior written permission of the publisher.

Printed in the Republic of Singapore

Table of Contents

	Introduction	3
Lesson 1	Your New Relationship with God	5
Lesson 2	Building Your New Relationship – Daily Devotional	7
Lesson 3	Building your New Relationship – Praying	9
Lesson 4	Your Relationship with God's Family – The Church	11
Lesson 5	Your New Life – Victory Over Your Sins	13
Lesson 6	Your New Life – Following Jesus Your Lord	15

Introduction

As a Consolidator, you are the most important person in the new believer's life. You are the person to whom God has entrusted the new believer. Your role is to hold his hand and help him know the Lord. You act as a spiritual parent to him.

Your commitment and love for him will determine whether he would stay for the long haul. Take this responsibility as a consolidator very seriously as the Lord commands in 1 Peter 5:2-3, "Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, serving as overseers—not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not greedy for money, but eager to serve; not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock."

The **Consolidator's Guide for Your New Life with Jesus** has been specially designed to help you to succeed in consolidating the new believer. Use it together with the Bible and **Your New Life with Jesus**. If the new believer you are consolidating does not have a Bible, help him get one.

Each lesson guide has the following:

1. Lesson objectives – keep these in mind as you review the lesson with the new believer
2. Suggested format for the weekly meeting – follow it so as to achieve the lesson objectives
 - a. **Catching Up** – helps to create a more conducive environment for the discussion
 - b. **Lesson Overview** – provides a transition into the main discussion by reviewing the progress of the new believer and giving an overview of the lesson
 - c. **Discussion** – helps you review and emphasize the Application Section of the lesson
 - d. **Prayer & Ministry** – gives you the opportunity to share a word that the Lord has given you for the new believer and pray a blessing for him
 - e. **Commitment** – reminds the new believer of what he should do before the next meeting and confirms the date, time and venue of the next meeting

Refrain from spending too much time re-teaching the lesson during Review or Discussion.

Introduce the new believer to your open cell as soon as possible. If your open cell is not suitable for him, e.g., it is not appropriate for his age or his special needs, inform your cell leader and he will help you find a more suitable open cell. You then need to attend that open cell with the new believer until he feels at home with the people in that open cell.

Over the period of 6 weeks, meet with your new believer on a weekly basis to discuss what he has learnt from each lesson. Give yourselves at least an hour for each meeting. Do not rush through the lesson, as time is an essential factor in building a relationship with one another and with God. Always prepare yourself for the weekly meeting by familiarising yourself with the material and the focus of the lesson, and also by prayer.

In order to make the meeting meaningful, make sure you have personally answered the questions in the Application Section of **Your New Life with Jesus**. As the new believer shares what he has written in his book, you can share your answers too. This makes the meeting a time of sharing your life with one another.

If memorising Bible verses is not your lifestyle yet, take this opportunity to start memorising Bible verses. You cannot tell the new believer to embrace this practice unless you are doing it too. Model for the new believer that you too have hidden God's word in your heart!

The success of consolidation does not depend on the weekly meetings alone. You need to pray for him daily. At the same time, in order to show that you care, make it a habit to keep in touch with him by regularly encouraging him through an email or SMS text.

God bless you with a successful and exciting time consolidating the new believer.

Lesson 1

Your New Relationship God

Objectives

1. The new believer will have assurance that he is a child of God.
2. The new believer can list some benefits of being a child of God and will thank God for them.
3. The new believer will tell someone about his new relationship with God.

Catching Up

1. If the new believer is new to you, spend some time getting to know each other.
2. If you are already familiar with each other, ask how his week was and encourage him to share either a high point or a low point in the last week. Reciprocate by sharing about your week too.
3. Thank God for any high point of the week that either of you have experienced and for being with us through every low point. Pray for a meaningful and fruitful time together.

Lesson Overview

1. Ask if he has read Lesson 1. If he has not, read the lesson with him. If he has read it, ask if there is anything he has read that he does not understand.
2. Give or solicit a summary of the lesson he has read:
 - a. You experience a new birth when you accept Christ
 - b. The new changes in your life are:
 - You are a new creation
 - You are a child of God
 - You have a new relationship

Discussion

Refer to Page 8 to Page 10

1. Review Memory Verses

John 1:12-13

Enquire if he has memorised the two verses. If he has not, memorise the verses with him, using the instructions given on page 8 of the book. If he has memorised them, ask him to recite the verses to you and gently prompt or correct him when necessary.

The most important thing to focus on in this review is accuracy. Help the new believer to be word perfect as he develops the discipline of memorising verses. By insisting on word perfection, you are helping him to form a good habit.

2. Questions To Think About

Turn to page 9 and ask him to share what he has written in his book. Ask appropriate open-ended questions to help him clarify his sharing. Encourage him by telling him that the changes demonstrate that he is indeed a new creation. Suggest some possible changes if he is unable to list any changes. After his sharing, you may share one change you yourself have experienced since becoming a Christian.

For the question on father-child relationship, note that not everyone has a good relationship with his father. Therefore, let him tell you about his father, if he wants. If he does not want to talk about his father, do not push it. Do not fall into the temptation of giving him advice on how to improve his relationship with his father.

No matter what his relationship with his father is like, ask him what he thinks the benefits of being a child of God are. You may share some of the benefits you have personally experienced.

Ask him to share his answers to the questions on page 9: "What do you think you should do to develop this relationship further? How do you think you can get to know God better?" Conclude the sharing by introducing him to the Bible and telling him to start reading the Gospel of Mark on a daily basis.

Turn to the Appendix on page 41 and introduce him to the Suggested Bible Reading Guide. Teach him to find the passage for Day 1 and read it with him. Help him to think about what is read and help him to find the key lesson for the passage. Encourage him to write it down.

Ask if he has shared his conversion experience with a friend or family member. Ask him to relate what happened if he has done it. If he has not shared with anyone, encourage him to do it in the coming week.

Prayer & Ministry

1. Share a word the Lord has given you for the new believer.
2. Encourage him to share any prayer need and close the session by praying for him. When praying, remember to thank God for the benefits of being a child of God.

Commitment

1. Remind him to read Lesson 2 and memorise the new verse.
2. Remind him to review John 1:12-13.
3. Make arrangements for the next meeting.
4. Encourage him to attend the worship service and join your open cell if he has not done so.

Lesson 2**Building Your New Relationship – Daily Devotional****Objectives**

1. The new believer will know the importance of a daily devotional.
2. The new believer will know how to have a meaningful daily devotional.
3. The new believer will start having a daily devotional.

Catching Up

1. Share with each other how the week has been for both of you. Be sensitive to any of his needs or struggles that may surface through his sharing.
2. Enquire about how he is doing with regards to the daily Bible reading. Affirm him if he has made any efforts in Bible reading and encourage him to keep working at it.
3. Thank God for His love and interest in developing a relationship with us and for the Bible through which He speaks to us. Pray for a meaningful and fruitful time together.

Lesson Overview

1. Ask if he has read Lesson 2. If he has not, read the lesson with him. If he has read it, ask if there is anything he has read that he does not understand.
2. Give or solicit a summary of the lesson he has read:
 - a. To build our relationship with God, we need to spend time daily to listen to Him.
 - b. God uses the Bible to talk with us.
 - c. As we read the Bible, we need to meditate on it. We can do this by asking 3 questions as we read the Bible – What does this passage say about God? What does this passage teach me about Christian living? What does God want me to do?
 - d. We also need to develop the habit of obeying what He tells us.

Discussion

1. Review Memory Verses

Take out the memory cards and ask him to recite the following verses:

John 1:12-13

Luke 11:28

2. Questions To Think About

Take a look at the Bible Reading Guide on Page 41 of the new believer's book. Ask if he has set aside a specific time and place for the daily devotional. Ask also if he has any problem reading the Bible every day.

Model a devotional time

Turn to page 41 and do a devotional with him.

- Pray the suggested prayer in page 12 "Lord, open the eyes of my heart that I may see and know You. Open the ears of my heart that I may hear and obey You."
- Choose one passage and confirm that he knows where in the Bible to turn to. If not, show him how to locate a Bible reference.
- Read the passage with him. Ask him to read it a second time.
- Ask the question: "What does this passage say about God?"
- Write down the answer in the space provided (blank column entitled "Lesson" in page 41).
- Ask the next question: "What does this passage teach me about Christian living?"

- Let him give you an answer before you give your answer.
- Ask the next question: "What does God want me to do?"
- Give him time to think about how he can apply this lesson to his life. If he is unable to give an answer, share how you would apply the lesson, as an example to help him make a personal application. Do not be too quick to give any suggestion. Allow the Holy Spirit to speak to him. Trust that the Spirit will guide him in this area. Affirm him as he shares.
- Ask if he has a notebook on which to record what he has learnt in his Bible reading. If not, encourage him to get one; or better still, give him one. Encourage him to record briefly what he has learnt and especially his answer to "What does God want me to do?"

Review the questions on pages 15-16. Encourage him to share what he has written in the book.

Find out if he has shared with someone about the benefits of reading the Word of God. Ask him to share his experience with you. Affirm him and encourage him to keep talking to his friends and relatives about God.

Prayer & Ministry

1. Share a word the Lord has given to you for the new believer.
2. Encourage him to share any prayer need and close the session with a prayer for him, especially that he will be able to put into practice his answer to "What does God want me to do?" Pray also for needs or struggles surfaced during the Catching Up segment at the beginning of the session. Pray too that he will exercise discipline and experience delight during his daily devotional in the coming week.

Commitment

1. Remind him to read Lesson 3 and memorise the new verse.
2. Remind him to review John 1:12-13 and Luke 11:28
3. Remind him to do his devotional every day.
4. Make arrangements for the next meeting.
5. Encourage him to attend the worship service and join your open cell if he has not done so.

Note

Before your next meeting with the new believer, find out more details about the next Encounter. If possible, bring an Encounter brochure with you to your next meeting with him.

Lesson 3**Building Your New Relationship – Praying****Objectives**

1. The new believer will learn how to pray using the ACTS acronym.
2. The new believer will have the experience of praying in tongues.

Catching Up

1. Ask how his week was. Talk about his work, his family and any other thing he likes to update you on. Update him on your week too.
2. Enquire how he is progressing in his efforts to have a daily devotional. Affirm him if he has been consistent in his daily devotional. If he has not been consistent, find out what is hindering him and encourage him to persist in developing this discipline.
3. Thank God for blessings that both of you have experienced in the past week and for the privilege of prayer. Pray for a meaningful and fruitful time together.

Lesson Overview

1. Ask if he has read Lesson 3. If he has not, read the lesson with him. If he has read it, ask if there is anything he has read that he does not understand.
2. Give or solicit a summary of the lesson he has read:
 - a. Praying, or talking with God, does not require any special format. We can talk with him like we talk with another person.
 - b. Praying can be done anywhere, anytime and in any posture.
 - c. We need to develop the habit of talking with God constantly as this will help to build our relationship with Him.
 - d. The ACTS acronym is only a format to help us start the habit of prayer. It is not the only way to talk with God.
 - e. Remember to pray for yourself and others during your daily devotional time.
 - f. Speaking in tongues is another way to pray.

Discussion

1. Review Memory Verses

Take out the memory cards and ask him to recite the following verses:

John 1:12-13

Luke 11:28

John 16:24

2. Daily Devotional

Take a look at the Bible Reading Guide on pages 42-43 of the new believer's book. Scan to see if he has read the suggested passages in the guide. Ask him to share one lesson he has learnt from his Bible reading.

After the new believer has shared, share a lesson you have learnt in your own daily devotionals. This helps him to know you are also well disciplined in keeping a daily devotional.

3. Questions to Think About

Turn to page 21 and read the prayer he has written in his book. Affirm him on what he has written and gently highlight anything that may need more explanation. If he has not done it, help him do it there and then.

Model how you would pray, using the ACTS acronym.

- You say a few sentences for Adoration and then encourage him to say a few sentences in adoration of God.
- Next, confess your sins and encourage him to do likewise.
- When you come to the part on Thanksgiving, ask him if he has anything to thank God for. If he does not have anything, help him to identify something to thank God for. Share a few of your own items for thanksgiving. Then pray together.
- Before you model on Supplication, ask if he has any prayer needs, other than those surfaced during the Catching Up segment at the beginning of the session. Ask if he knows of anyone who has a need. Share your prayer needs too. If he has attended the cell, you may highlight a few prayer needs from the cell that both of you can pray for. This will help him to learn not only to pray for himself but also for others.

When modelling for him on how to pray, keep your prayers short and simple. Otherwise he might feel inadequate, overwhelmed or frustrated.

After the prayer, ask him what he has learnt from the experience and ask if he would be able to pray in this manner whenever he does it on his own.

Go through the questions on page 22. Encourage him to share what he has written in the book. Enquire if he would like to receive the prayer language. Pray for him to receive tongues if he is open to receiving it. If he is not open, do not push it. He will have other opportunities to do it.

Find out if he has shared any answered prayers with a friend. Also check if your prayers for him have been answered. Encourage him to share the answered prayers spontaneously with as many friends or family members as possible. This will help him to recognise and acknowledge God's goodness in his life. It will also develop a spirit of gratitude in his heart.

Prayer & Ministry

1. Share a word the Lord has given you for the new believer.
2. Close the session by praying for him. Pray for discipline in maintaining a daily devotional and a sense of delight in praying and reading the Bible.

Commitment

1. Remind him to read Lesson 4 and memorise the new verse.
2. Remind him to review all the memorised verses.
3. Remind him to do his devotional every day and to pray all the time.
4. Make arrangements for the next meeting.
5. Encourage him to attend the worship service and join your open cell if he has not done so.
6. Talk about the Encounter and give him details of the next one. Give him an Encounter brochure and encourage him to sign up for the next one.

Note

In order for the new believer to complete the questions for Lesson 4, he would need to talk with a cell member and a cell leader to find out about what the open cell means to them. If he has not attended an open cell yet, you should introduce him to your cell leader and a cell member. If possible, bring along a cell member or your cell leader to the next meeting.

Lesson 4

Your Relationship with God's Family – The Church

Objectives

1. The new believer will start attending weekly worship services.
2. The new believer will start attending weekly open cell meetings.

Catching Up

1. Ask how his week was. Talk about his work, his family and any other thing he likes to update you on. Update him on your week too.
2. Enquire how he is progressing in his efforts to develop a daily devotional, to pray and memorize Bible verses. Affirm him if he has been consistent. If he has not been consistent, encourage him to persist in developing these disciplines.
3. Thank God for blessings you both have experienced in the past week and for providing us with a spiritual family. Pray for a meaningful and fruitful time together. (NB: By now you should try to let the new believer be the one praying. Be encouraging and affirming towards his every effort.)

Lesson Overview

1. Ask if he has read Lesson 4. If he has not, read the lesson with him. If he has read it, ask if there is anything he has read that he does not understand.
2. Give or solicit a summary of the lesson he has read:
 - a. The church is the new believer's spiritual family. Attending an open cell and the worship service is an opportunity for him to get to know his new family.
 - b. The worship service is like the gathering of the extended family while the open cell meeting is the gathering of the immediate family.
 - c. An open cell meeting is a more intimate time with other Christians and it will enable him to witness the truth of God lived out in the lives of other Christians.

Discussion

1. Review Memory Verses

Take out the memory cards and ask him to recite the following verses:

Luke 11:28

John 16:24

Hebrews 10:24-25

2. Daily Devotional

Take a look at the Bible Reading Guide on pages 43-44 of the new believer's book. Scan to see if he has read the suggested passages in the guide. Ask him to share one lesson he has learnt from his Bible reading.

3. Questions To Think About

Turn to page 26 and ask him to share what he has found out from your cell leader and a cell member.

If he had no opportunity to meet either of them, bring a fellow cell member or your cell leader to this meeting or call one of them so he can talk to him.

Discuss the benefits of attending a worship service and joining an open cell. Ask him to share one lesson he has learnt at a worship service. If he has not attended a worship service or visited

a cell, try to solicit his commitment to make **ONE** visit to each of them. Share with him how attendance at the worship service and the open cell has benefitted you and your family.

Ask if there is anyone he can invite to the open cell or the worship service. Let him talk about the person(s) he would like to invite to the open cell or the worship service. Ask him to pray for the person(s) there and then. After he has prayed, pray for him to have success in this invitation.

Prayer & Ministry

1. Share a word the Lord has given you for the new believer.
2. Encourage him to share any prayer needs and close the session with a prayer of blessing for him. Pray also for other needs that may have been surfaced during the Catching Up segment at the beginning of the session.

Commitment

1. Remind him to read Lesson 5 and memorise the new verse.
2. Remind him to review all the memorised verses.
3. Remind him to do his devotional every day and to pray all the time.
4. Make arrangements for the next meeting.
5. Make arrangements to meet him for a worship service and/or an open cell meeting.
6. If necessary, talk about the Encounter and encourage him to sign up for the next one.

Lesson 5

Your New Life – Victory Over Your Sins

Objectives:

1. The new believer will know he has power over sin.
2. The new believer will know the steps to overcoming sin.
3. The new believer will know the way back to God when he has sinned.

Catching Up

1. Ask how his week was. Talk about his work, his family and any other thing he likes to update you on. Update him on your week too.
2. Enquire how he is progressing in his efforts to develop a daily devotional, to pray and memorize Bible verses. Affirm him if he has been consistent. If he has not been consistent, encourage him to persist in developing these disciplines.
3. If he has attended an open cell or a worship service, ask him how he felt about it and encourage him to be regular in attendance.
4. Thank God for blessings you both have experienced in the past week. Pray for a meaningful and fruitful time together. Encourage the new believer to be the one praying.

Lesson Overview

1. Ask if he has read Lesson 5. If he has not, read the lesson with him.
2. Give or solicit a summary of the lesson he has read:
 - a. We have a sin nature within us and a natural bent towards sin. Before accepting Christ, we were powerless over sin but because of Jesus' death on the cross, we now have the power to conquer sin. Though we still have the propensity to sin, we now have a choice not to sin.
 - b. In addition to the sinful nature, we have an external adversary, Satan, and his demonic forces, that will tempt us to sin. Despite that, we still have the power to make the choice not to succumb to temptation.
 - c. There are 3 steps to conquering sin daily:
 - i. Rely on the Holy Spirit
 - ii. Resolve to obey God's Word
 - iii. Resist the Devil
 - d. In the event we sin, the Lord has given us a way back to him. We can:
 - i. Confess our sins
 - ii. Repent from our sins
 - iii. Accept God's forgiveness and cleansing

Discussion

1. Review Memory Verses

Take out the memory cards and ask him to recite the following verses:

John 16:24

Hebrews 10:24-25

1 John 1:9

2. Daily Devotional

Take a look at the Bible Reading Guide on page 44 of the new believer's book. Scan to see if he has read the suggested passages in the guide. Ask him to share one lesson he has learnt from his Bible reading.

3. Questions To Think About

Turn to page 33 and ask him to share an area of weakness he would like to have victory in. Using the truth taught in this lesson, help him to recognise the authority he has over sin and this area of weakness.

Ask him what he would do when he faces a temptation. Using the area of weakness shared, help him through the process of relying on the Holy Spirit, applying the Word of God and resisting the devil.

Ask him if he has ever failed in trying to obey God's Word. Ask him how he feels whenever he knows he has failed. Help him to confess his failing and receive the forgiveness and grace of God.

Prayer & Ministry

1. Share a word the Lord has given you for the new believer.
2. Encourage him to share any prayer needs and close the session with a prayer of blessing for him. Pray also for other needs that may have been surfaced during the Catching Up segment at the beginning of the session.

Commitment

1. Remind him to read Lesson 6 and memorise the new verse.
2. Remind him to review all the memorised verses.
3. Remind him to do his devotional everyday and to pray all the time.
4. Make arrangements for the next meeting.
5. If necessary, talk about the Encounter and ask him to sign up for the next one.

Lesson 6

Your New Life – Following Jesus Your Lord

Objectives

1. The new believer will make the decision to acknowledge Jesus as Lord of his life.
2. The new believer will make the commitment to attend the Encounter Weekend, leading to his baptism.
3. The new believer will make tithing part of his lifestyle.

Catching Up

1. Ask how his week was. Talk about his work, his family and any other thing he likes to update you on. Update him on your week too.
2. Enquire how he is progressing in his efforts to develop a daily devotional, to pray and memorize Bible verses. Affirm him if he has been consistent. If he has not been consistent, encourage him to persist in developing these disciplines.

Lesson Overview

1. Ask if he has read Lesson 6. If he has not, read the lesson with him.
2. Give or solicit a summary of the lesson he has read:
 - a. Jesus is the Lord of all and, as a Christian, it is important to make Him the Lord of our life.
 - b. We demonstrate that Jesus is Lord of our life by obeying Him in everything He tells us.
 - c. Making the decision to be baptized and giving our tithes faithfully are 2 practical ways to respond to Jesus' Lordship;

Discussion

1. Review Memory Verses

Take out the memory cards and ask him to recite the following verses:

Hebrews 10:24-25

1 John 1:9

Galatians 2:20

2. Daily Devotional

Take a look at the Bible Reading Guide on page 45 of the new believer's book. Scan to see if he has read the suggested passages in the guide. Ask him to share one lesson he has learnt from the daily reading.

3. Questions To Think About

Turn to page 37 and let him read silently the Lordship Prayer. Ask him if he is willing to say this prayer with you. Then read the prayer together with him. Remind him that having Jesus as Lord of his life means he has to involve Jesus in every aspect of his life. Nothing is too mundane for Jesus as He is interested in every aspect of his life.

Turn to page 39 and ask him for his decision concerning baptism. Let him share what he has written in the book. Whether he chooses to be baptised or not, tell him about the Encounter Weekend and encourage him to attend it.

Share your own Encounter Weekend experience to give him an understanding of what to expect.

When he has decided to attend the Encounter, help him fill in the dates in the statement found on page 40:

"I have made the decision to be baptised and will attend the next Encounter Weekend held on _____"

Explain to him the importance of tithing. Encourage him to tithe 10% of his gross income. Share your own experience in tithing. If he has problem in tithing, challenge him to test God as instructed in Malachi 3:10

Prayer & Ministry

1. Review all the 6 memory verses.
2. Share a word the Lord has given you for the new believer.
3. Encourage him to share any prayer needs and close the session with a prayer of blessing for him. Pray also for other needs that may have been surfaced during the Catching Up segment at the beginning of the session.
4. Congratulate him on having completed the 6 weeks with you.
5. Remind him to complete the Bible Reading of the Gospel of Mark.
6. Make an appointment to have a meal together to celebrate.