

# Jesus the Messiah

Whoever claims to live in him must walk as Jesus did  
1 John 2:6 (NIV)

## **BOOK FOUR: Jesus' Crucifixion, Resurrection, the Great Commission**

Based on the New Testament books of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John



A programmed instruction study on the life and teachings of Jesus the Messiah (the Christ):

*Suggested use: leadership training and small group Bible study*

**GRASSROOTS LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT**

**LIFE AND TEACHINGS OF JESUS THE MESSIAH**

# Jesus the Messiah

Live as Jesus lived (1 John 2:6)

## **BOOK FOUR: Jesus' Crucifixion, Resurrection, the Great Commission**

### **PREFACE:**

The last few days of Jesus on earth were full of emotional struggles for both Jesus and the chosen Apostles. Jesus knew He would be mocked, beaten and crucified. He also knew He would rise from the dead. Jesus tried to prepare his Apostles for the challenges ahead. He told them they would suffer before they saw the blessings. He did not want them to become discouraged when it seemed everything was lost. The Apostles were so concerned about the suffering, that they could not imagine the blessings. Above all, they could not imagine what Jesus meant when He said He would rise again.

Jesus had the courage to face persecution, terrible pain and death on the cross because He knew where He was going. When He told the Apostles He was leaving, they were confused and overwhelmed. They did not understand why He had to leave. They were convinced that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God. However, they could not imagine life without Jesus in their presence. They did not know how they could survive without Jesus. They could not understand how God would use them, just ordinary uneducated men, to carry on the work of Jesus. Jesus encouraged them to trust the Heavenly Father.

Jesus promised them an advocate, the Spirit of Truth. This Spirit of God would give them courage, remembrance of the teachings of Jesus and miraculous powers to confirm that their teachings were from Jesus. This Spirit would be within them and enable them to fulfill their special calling. The Holy Spirit working through them proved to the world that they belonged to Jesus and that they were his servants. It was not them working; it was God working through them. Read the Book of Acts.

Every Christian who has been baptized in the name of Jesus has been given a similar gift of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:38). The work of the Holy Spirit in our life is the sign that we belong to Jesus (Galatians 5:22-25). The Holy Spirit working in our life is the seal from God that we are his children (2 Corinthians 1:22; Ephesians 1:13). If we say it is impossible to live like Jesus lived then we are saying that the Holy Spirit has no power in our life. That is a dangerous view to take. God knows we cannot be perfect, but He also knows we can live like Jesus with the help of his Spirit within us (Romans 8:5-18).

Jesus became our servant when He died on the cross for our sins. Jesus overcame death when He rose from the dead. This was the greatest miracle of all. The bodily resurrection of Jesus was the final proof that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God. It proved that Jesus is the *way*, the *truth* and the *life* – the only way to eternal salvation (Acts 4:12). The Pharisees, Sadducees and teachers of the Law tried to deny it but there were too many witnesses. The Apostles became witnesses for Jesus to all the world. Their powerful teachings and the miracles that backed them up changed the world. The Holy Spirit working through the lives of his disciples today continues to take the Gospel to all the world.

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