the FOURFOLD gospel
Jesus Only

Jesus only is our message,
Jesus all our theme shall be.
We will lift up Jesus ever,
Jesus only will we see.

Jesus only is our Savior,
All our guilt He bore away.
All our righteousness He gives us,
All our strength from day to day.

Jesus only is our Sanctifier,
Cleansing us from self and sin.
And with all His Spirit’s fullness,
Filling all our hearts within.

Jesus only is our Healer,
All our sicknesses He bears
And His risen life and fullness,
All His members still may share.

Jesus only is our power,
He the gift of Pentecost.
Jesus, breathe Thy power upon us,
Fill us with the Holy Ghost.

And for Jesus we are waiting,
Listening for the Advent call;
But ’twill still be Jesus only,
Jesus ever, all in all.

Jesus only, Jesus ever,
Jesus all in all we sing;
Savior, Sanctifier and Healer,
Glorious Lord and Coming King.

—A. B. Simpson
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The vision of A. B. Simpson to establish a deeper-life movement that would take the “whole gospel to the whole world” is being realized today through The Christian and Missionary Alliance (the C&MA, The Alliance). For more than 120 years, Alliance workers in the United States and around the world have followed God’s call to enter into a deep, abiding relationship with our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, and take His good news to people who have yet to hear His message of hope—it’s all about Jesus!

Through this video series and study guide, you will learn of Jesus’ everlasting love for you and His desire for you to experience the deeper life that He promises to give. In the C&MA, we have come to understand this deeper life as the Fourfold Gospel: knowing Jesus as Savior, Sanctifier, Healer, and Coming King. Our understanding of Jesus Only is the genetic structure of The Alliance—our spiritual DNA.

As you go through this five-week study, you will hear me discuss the deeper-life attributes of Jesus and then be able to dialogue about what you have learned, using the questions in each chapter as a discussion guide. Also, there are pages provided for personal journaling.

It is our prayer that when you have completed your C&MA DNA journey, you will have a deeper understanding of who Jesus is and what He has done, is doing, and will do for you in eternity. It is our desire that you identify with the mission and vision of The Christian and Missionary Alliance and join us in our quest to bring back our King—Jesus Only!

John Soper
Vice President, U.S. Church Ministries
The Christian and Missionary Alliance
The Fourfold Gospel

The Cross: Jesus—Our Savior
Jesus’ death on a cross was the fulfillment of Old Testament law, which required blood atonement for sin. By His death and resurrection, we are redeemed from eternal separation from God, justified, made righteous, and accepted in His Name.

The Laver: Jesus—Our Sanctifier
The laver represents the daily cleansing from sin by the power of the Holy Spirit.

The Pitcher: Jesus—Our Healer
The pitcher represents a vessel containing oil to anoint the sick for healing that comes only through obedience to God’s Word.

The Crown: Jesus—Our Coming King
The crown represents Christ’s royalty as the King of Kings. His coming will be a visible, personal appearance.
Leader Instructions

As you prepare, ask trusted friends or family members to pray for you during the five weeks that you will facilitate.

**Time:** Schedule a day, time, and meeting place for the weekly study. Plan sessions to last approximately one hour.

**Prepare:**
- Complete the “Dig Deeper” section and review discussion questions before each session. This will equip you to facilitate the discussion and answer questions that arise.
- Determine if you will use the provided video teaching segments or present the content yourself using the PowerPoint presentations included on the enclosed disc. If you elect to use the PowerPoint presentations, you may find the transcripts of the video teaching segments helpful as you prepare. These transcripts can also be found on the enclosed disc.
- Distribute the Participant’s Guide to attendees prior to the first class.
- Remind participants to bring Bibles to each session. Keep a few extras on hand, along with pens or pencils.
- Download supplemental resources you feel would be helpful as session handouts from the enclosed disc or from www.cma-dna.com.
- Secure a DVD player that is compatible with the enclosed disc, along with a large television or projection system with audio.
- Have enough chairs for everyone. Make sure participants are arranged in a way that they can see, hear, and engage in discussion.

**Participant’s Guides:** All content from the Participant’s Guide is contained in this Leader’s Guide. Additional copies of the Participant’s Guide can be purchased through www.cma-dna.com.

**Video Segments:** The enclosed disc contains five main teaching segments (approximately 15 minutes each), as well as five 60–90 second intro clips. These clips should be used to start each session. They also can be used to give participants a sneak peak of the next session’s subject matter or to promote the study series to your congregation.
**Supplemental Resources:** Articles, video segments, and other resources pertaining to the Fourfold Gospel can be found on the enclosed disc or downloaded from www.cma-dna.com. The articles can be printed and distributed as session handouts at the leader’s discretion.

**Prayer:** How to incorporate prayer into the sessions is also left to the discretion of the leader. In small group settings that are less constricted by time, the leader may choose to initiate an extended time of prayer where participants are given opportunity to divide into pairs and pray for one another. In larger settings where time is limited, the leader may simply choose to lead the group in a corporate prayer. Please make an effort to learn participants’ names and pray for them throughout the week.
Session 1:

It’s All About Jesus

He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.
Colossians 1:17
**Before the Session**

Read and study Colossians 1:15–20 and Hebrews 1. The content in these passages may be helpful as you prepare for this session.

**Begin the Session**

Greet participants. Show the 90-second intro video. Next, begin Session 1 with an “icebreaker” or some exercise that will allow participants to begin to get to know one another.

**Pray**

for God to “enlighten our understanding” before watching the teaching segment.

**Video Teaching Segment**

The Session 1 teaching segment is entitled “It’s All About Jesus.” Throughout the segment, key words will appear on the screen. These words are the answers to the fill-in-the-blank section below. Participants may choose to fill in these blanks as they watch the segment or wait until it is over to do so. Assure them that you will review the answers (below, in red) after the segment.

1. Jesus Christ—the ____________________________ Savior, ____________________________ Sanctifier, ____________________________ Healer and ____________________________ Coming King—that is what we in The Alliance have come to call the Fourfold Gospel.

2. The first promise of a ____________________________ savior—the serpent will bruise his heel, but he will crush the serpent’s head. (Genesis 3:15)

3. God tells Abraham to take his only son, the ____________________________ son of promise and to sacrifice his son on Mount Moriah. (Genesis 22:2)

4. The Israelites were required to sacrifice a ____________________________ Passover lamb and to place its blood in three places on the door frames—in the shape of a cross. (Exodus 12:7)

5. Even as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so also must the ____________________________ Son of Man be lifted up (Numbers 21:4–9, John 3:14)
6. A fourth man [was in the furnace] as well—one “like unto a **Son of God**.” (Daniel 3:25, NASB)

**Jesus Revealed As:**

1. The **author** and **finisher** of our salvation (Hebrews 12).
2. The **heir** of all things (Hebrews 1).
3. The **radiance** of God’s glory (Hebrews 1).
4. The exact **representation** of His being (Hebrews 1).

**Group Discussion:**

The following questions are meant to help initiate meaningful dialogue about Christ as our all-sufficient Savior. Use any that you feel would help participants gain a more comprehensive understanding about this topic. Some of these questions are answered in detail in the document entitled “Leader Helps” in the Supplemental Resources folder on the enclosed disc. Feel free to develop your own questions to guide this discussion.

1. Can you think of other Old Testament stories and events that point ahead to Christ? Why do you think God put these “signposts” into His Word?

2. Many people express the view that Jesus was a good man and a great moral teacher but not the incarnate Son of God. In light of what we have learned, how would you respond to that view?

3. How does what we believe about Jesus “connect” with our commitment to fulfill the Great Commission?

4. The New Testament passages we examined emphasize the “preeminence” of Jesus. What impact does this have on the way we are to live our lives?

**Key Memorization Verse:**

*He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.*

(Colossians 1:17)
The Toscanini Effect:

Arturo Toscanini was for many years the brilliant but temperamental conductor of the Philadelphia Philharmonic Orchestra. Famous for his mastery of the “art” of negative motivation, he would often berate and belittle his musicians in his passionate quest for symphonic perfection.

One night, after an almost flawless performance of Beethoven’s Fifth Symphony, an enraptured audience applauded enthusiastically through several curtain calls. It was one of those magical performances that all professional musicians live for. As the final curtain fell and the orchestra was basking in the warmth of the listeners’ accolades, the maestro grew somber and then began to speak in a hoarse whisper. “Ladies and gentlemen,” he began, “you are nothing.” That did not surprise them because he often reminded them of that. But then he said something that caught them completely off guard. “And I am nothing.” That was something they had never heard before. Then he continued, “But Beethoven . . . Beethoven is everything!”

In The Alliance, Jesus is Everything. It’s all about Jesus!

Supplemental Resources (see pages 32-33)

• For further study on the subject of the deity of Christ, you may wish to read one of the following books:
  • *Mere Christianity* by C. S. Lewis
  • *More Than a Carpenter* by Josh McDowell
  • *The Case for Christ* by Lee Strobel

• Additional articles and video segments highlighting *It’s All About Jesus* are provided on the enclosed disc or online at [www.cma-dna.com](http://www.cma-dna.com).

• Play or suggest the YouTube clip featuring Rev. Shadrach Meshach (S.M.) Lockeridge entitled “That’s My King.”

• Close in prayer. Invite participants to return for Session 2: *Jesus—Our Savior.*
  (Optional: If time permits, play the introduction video for Session 2.)
Dig Deeper

Suggest that participants complete this optional Dig Deeper section, and explain that there will be a brief Q&A/review at the opening of Session 2.

Background on Colossians 1: The church at Colossae began during the time that Paul was living in Ephesus, but Paul had never visited the Colossians. Several years later, some false teachers had begun to trouble the Colossian believers with teaching that cast a cloud over the glory of Jesus. They suggested that there were other angelic beings that also deserved their worship. They also taught that while His death on the cross was important, there were other activities and observances that were necessary for salvation.

The use of the word “firstborn” in Colossians 1:15 has led some to teach that Jesus Christ is not eternal and not fully divine or equal to the Father. (In our day this is the teaching of the Jehovah’s Witnesses.) That view is contradicted by the passage here in Colossians and by the rest of the New Testament in passages like John 1:1–3. A better way to understand the word “firstborn” here is as a way of emphasizing the idea of “preeminence.” For an example of the word used in this way, see Jeremiah 31:9 where Ephraim (Joseph’s younger son) is said to be the “firstborn” because he was the preeminent one.

Read Colossians 1:15–20 and answer the following questions:

1. Make a list of at least 10 things that this passage tells us about Christ. What additional truths are noted about Christ in Colossians 1:22, 2:3, and 2:9?

2. In one or two sentences, summarize the main idea of this passage.

3. Which concept or idea about Christ was most meaningful to you? Why?

Read Hebrews Chapter 1.

4. How does this chapter fit with Paul’s description of Christ in Colossians 1:15–20?

5. What similar ideas did you find in the two passages?

Key Scripture References

- Colossians 1:15–20; 2:3
- Hebrews 1
Session 2:

Jesus—Our Savior

This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe.
Romans 3:22
Before the Session

Complete the inductive Bible study on Romans 3:21–26. It will be important for the leader to review this passage carefully in order to explain it clearly. Pay special attention to the ideas of justification, propitiation, and redemption. Explanation of terms and phrases are available in the participant’s guide. (Hint: the Book of Hosea provides a very powerful backdrop for explaining the concept of redemption.) Plan your time so that you have at least a few minutes during the session to answer questions about this pivotal passage of Scripture.

Begin the Session

Greet participants. Briefly discuss the Dig Deeper section from Session 1. Ask if there are any questions/comments on the study.

Show the 90-second intro video

Next, begin Session 2 by having one or two participants briefly share their own salvation stories. Ask them to be sure to share about what is different now that Jesus is their Savior.

Pray

for God to “enlighten our understanding” before watching the teaching segment.

Video Teaching Segment

The Session 2 teaching segment is entitled “Jesus—Our Savior.” Throughout the segment, key words will appear on the screen. These words are the answers to the fill-in-the-blank section below. **Participants may choose to fill in these blanks as they watch the segment or wait until it is over to do so.** Assure them that you will review the answers (below, in red) after the segment.

1. Ancient Hebrews chose names that would speak prophecy about the character or the __________ of their children.

2. “You are to give to him the name __________, because he will save his people from their sins.” (Matthew 1:21)

3. “The Son of Man came to __________ and to __________ what was lost.” (Luke 19:10)

4. He didn’t come to be served but to __________. (Mark 10:45)
5. Because Jesus is my Savior:

- My sins have been __________________________. (Colossians 1:14)
- I have __________________________ peace with God. (Romans 5:1)
- I have been declared __________________________ righteous. (Romans 5:19)
- I am a __________________________ new creature. (2 Corinthians 5:17)
- I have __________________________ eternal life. (John 3:16)
- I have been __________________________ adopted by God. (Ephesians 1:5)
- His __________________________ Holy Spirit lives in me. (Galatians 4:6)
- Jesus is my __________________________ advocate. (1 John 2:1)
- Nothing can separate me from __________________________ God’s love. (Romans 8:35)
- __________________________ Death has no more power over me.
  (1 Corinthians 15:54–57)
- I have an __________________________ inheritance that can never perish. (1 Peter 1:3–5)

6. Jesus is a __________________________ universal Savior and an __________________________ exclusive Savior.

**Group Discussion**

The following questions are meant to help initiate meaningful dialogue about the work of salvation through Christ. Use any that you feel would help participants gain a more comprehensive understanding of this topic. Some of these questions are answered in detail in the document entitled “Leader Helps” in the Supplemental Resources folder on the enclosed disc. Feel free to develop your own questions to guide this discussion.

1. Which of the eleven things that are true “because Jesus is my Savior” impacted you the most? Which do you think you need to learn more about? Why?

2. What do we mean when we say that Jesus is a “universal Savior”?

3. How would you respond to the statement that “A loving God would not exclude a sincere Muslim or Hindu from heaven?”

4. In light of today’s political, social, and religious issues, should we continue to send workers into cultures that may be hostile to the gospel? Why?
Jesus—Our Savior

Key Memorization Verse:

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!

(2 Corinthians 5:17)

Supplemental Resources (see pages 32-33)

- Distribute the bookmark entitled “Because Jesus Is My Savior” (available in bulk quantities at www.cma-dna.com). Encourage participants to review the list daily, thanking God for Christ’s provision.

- Additional articles and video segments highlighting Jesus—Our Savior can be found on the enclosed disc or online at www.cma-dna.com.

- Close in prayer. Invite participants to return for Session 3: Jesus—Our Sanctifier.
  (Optional: If time permits, play the intro video for Session 3.)

Dig Deeper

Suggest that participants complete this optional Dig Deeper section, and explain that there will be a brief Q&A/review at the opening of Session 3.

Note to Leaders: Review Romans 3:21–26 carefully in order to explain it clearly. Pay special attention to the ideas of justification, propitiation, and redemption. Explanation of terms and phrases are available in the Participant’s Guide. (Hint: the Book of Hosea provides a very powerful backdrop for explaining the concept of redemption.) Plan your time so that you have at least a few minutes during the session to answer questions about this pivotal passage of Scripture.

Two Compelling Questions: If all we had were the gospel accounts, we would know that Jesus died and that, in some way, His death was “for us.” For example, read His words in Mark 10:45 and John 10:11. It would be clear that His death was both voluntary and necessary (John 10:17–18). On the basis of the gospels alone, however, we would be without any clear explanation as to why He had to die or what His death accomplished.

Fortunately we are not left to wonder about these matters. In many different places, the New Testament Epistles supply us with answers to these two compelling questions. One of the most important of those passages is found in Romans 3:21–26.

This paragraph is full of difficult language and deep theological concepts. As a result, most readers do not really understand what is being said. However, in the opinion of many Bible scholars, it is one of the most important paragraphs in the Bible, because it answers both of those “compelling questions.” It tells us why Jesus had to die, and it explains what really happened on the cross. For these reasons it will be worth extra effort on our part to understand what Paul is saying.
1. What terms and phrases in Romans 3:21–26 would you need to understand better in order to explain this passage to someone else?

2. Using the explanations in the notes below and any other helps that you might choose to consult (Study Bible or Bible dictionary), write a short explanation for each term you investigated.

3. Briefly answer the question: “Why did Jesus Christ have to die?”

4. From this passage, list and explain the things that Paul says happened when Jesus died on the cross.

Read Ephesians 2:8–9

5. What does it mean to say that salvation is “all of grace.”

Notes on the words and phrases in Romans 3:21–26

**The Law:** When Paul speaks of “the Law,” he is talking about the moral law given to the nation of Israel through Moses. The centerpiece of the law was the Ten Commandments. In Romans, chapter 2, Paul showed that the Jewish people had utterly failed to keep the Law.

**The righteousness of God** (in some translations “the righteousness from God”): This expression is used eight times in the Book of Romans. It appears for the first time in Romans 1:17 and is a key to understanding the book. It is a righteousness or holiness that God has—He is righteous. It is also a righteousness that is demanded of humans. “Be holy, for I am holy” (See Leviticus 11:44, Matthew 5:48, and 1 Peter 1:15). Finally, it is a righteousness that God gives to those who could never earn it on their own.

**Justified:** This is a legal word, a verb that comes from the noun “righteous.” It is used in some form 30 times in the Book of Romans. It means to declare a person “righteous” or “not guilty.”

**Redemption:** This is a commercial or economic word. It means “to buy back” through the payment of a price. It was commonly used to describe the transaction to secure the freedom of one who had fallen into slavery through war or through debt.

**Propitiation** (in some translations “sacrifice of atonement”): This is a religious word from the language and culture of ancient Greece. It is used to describe the offerings or sacrifices made to appease the wrath of an offended god. In its original context, it would always be the responsibility of the worshiper to bring the “sacrifice of atonement.” This word is used only a few times in the New Testament (see 1 John 2:2).

**Forbearance:** This word means “to hold back” and is often used to describe God’s patience in holding back judgment (see Romans 2:4).
Key Scripture References:

• Romans 3:21–26
• Ephesians 2:8–9
Session 3:

Jesus—Our Sanctifier

I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.

John 15:11
Before the Session

Prepare for the class by completing the Inductive Bible study on John 15:1–18.

Begin the Session

Greet participants. Show the 90-second intro video.

Briefly discuss the Dig Deeper section from Session 2. Ask if there are any questions/comments on the study.

Next, begin Session 3 by asking one or two participants to share the story of “their best day ever” as a Christian. Find out what made that time so special.

Pray

for God to “enlighten our understanding” before watching the teaching segment.

Video Teaching Segment

The Session 3 teaching segment is entitled “Jesus—Our Sanctifier.” Throughout the segment, key words will appear on the screen. These words are the answers to the fill-in-the-blank section below. Participants may choose to fill in these blanks as they watch the segment or wait until it is over to do so. Assure them that you will review the answers (below, in red) after the segment.

1. ________________—God declared us to be not guilty.

2. ________________—God wants to make us in reality what we’ve already been declared to be in Christ.

3. ________________—We will be as much like Jesus as a created being can become.

4. The crippling result of not experiencing sanctification is lack of

   ________________, ________________, and ________________.

5. Four reasons people don’t experience sanctification:

   ________________, ________________, ________________, and ________________.
6. Four things needed to experience sanctification:

thirst, ask, surrender, and abide.

**Group Discussion**

The following questions are meant to help initiate meaningful dialogue about the work of sanctification. Use any that you feel would help participants identify essential next steps and potential roadblocks in their journeys. Some of these questions are answered in detail in the document entitled “Leader Helps” in the Supplemental Resources folder on the enclosed disc. Feel free to develop your own questions to guide this discussion.

1. What is the difference between the “indwelling” of the Holy Spirit and the “fullness” of the Holy Spirit?

2. After watching the video, what would you say are the “marks” or the evidence that a person is filled with the Holy Spirit?

3. The video mentioned four obstacles to experiencing the fullness of the Holy Spirit. Which is the biggest obstacle for you?

4. What are some of the things that we can do to strengthen our relationship with Jesus? What would need to change for that to happen?

**Key Memorization Verse:**

*But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.*

(Galatians 5:22–23)

**Supplemental Resources (see pages 32-33)**

- Additional articles and video segments highlighting Jesus—Our Sanctifier can be found on the enclosed disc or online at www.cma-dna.com.

- Close in prayer. Invite participants to return for Session 4: Jesus—Our Healer. (Optional: If time permits, play the introduction video for Session 4).
Dig Deeper

Suggest that participants complete this optional Dig Deeper section, and explain that there will be a brief Q&A/review at the opening of Session 4.

**Note to Leaders:** John 15:6 speaks of those who do not “abide” as being thrown away, cast into the fire, and burned. This may raise the issue of whether a believer can lose his salvation. Such a question needs to be decided on the strength of “non-metaphoric” teaching passages, so it might be wise to save that discussion for another time (there are passages in the New Testament that can be used to support both sides of the debate). For now, it may be enough to note that it is certainly possible to be “cast aside” in terms of our usefulness to the Kingdom and the King without losing our salvation. Abraham’s nephew Lot, who is described in the book of 1 Peter as a “righteous man,” is a good example of that dynamic.

Verse 7, which tells us that if we “abide,” we may ask for whatever we wish and it shall be done, can be the start of a very interesting conversation. Bear in mind that if we are “abiding in Christ,” we will desire only the things what He wants to give us. This verse, which certainly contains important teaching about prayer, must be taken in the context of everything else the New Testament has to say on that subject.

**Read John 15:1–18:** The clearest and most extensive teaching about the Holy Spirit and His ministry to us is found in the instruction that Jesus gave to His disciples at the Last Supper. On that night, Jesus promised His followers that, even though He would physically leave them to return to His heavenly Father, He would come to them in the Person of the Holy Spirit, who would live within them (John, chapters 14–18).

In John 15, using the metaphor of the vine and the branches, Jesus taught them about the “mechanics” of living a Spirit-filled life.

1. What are some of the things that the person who truly “abides” or “remains” in Christ can expect?

2. What kind of “fruit” was Jesus talking about in verses 7 and 16?

3. What clues does this passage give to show us how we can maintain this “abiding” relationship?

4. What should we expect to happen if we do not stay connected to Jesus?

5. In a few words, describe the current state of your relationship with Jesus.
Read Romans 6:11–14

6. In this passage, Paul calls on Christians to make a decisive commitment, surrendering every part of their lives to the power of the indwelling Christ. Have you ever made a commitment like that?

Key Scripture References

- John 15:1–18
- Galatians 5:22–23
- Ephesians 5:18–6:9
Session 4:

Jesus—Our Healer

He touched her hand and the fever left her, and she got up and began to wait on him.

Matthew 8:15
**Before the Session**

Complete the Inductive Bible study on Matthew 8:1–17 and James 5:13–15, making certain that you are familiar with the passages and prepared to briefly answer questions during the session.

**Begin the Session**

Greet participants. Show the 90-second intro video.

Briefly discuss the Dig Deeper section from Session 3. Ask if there are any questions/comments on the study.

Next, give one or two participants the opportunity to share their own experience with Christ the Healer. You also could show the video segment entitled “Rise Up and Walk,” a testimony of an Alliance college student who was healed of cerebral palsy. This segment can be found on the enclosed disc.

**Pray**

for God to “enlighten our understanding” before watching the teaching segment.

**Video Teaching Segment**

The Session 4 teaching segment is entitled “Jesus—Our Healer.” Throughout the segment, key words will appear on the screen. These words are the answers to the fill-in-the-blank section below. Participants may choose to fill in these blanks as they watch the segment or wait until it is over to do so. Assure them that you will review the answers (below, in red) after the segment.

“Is any one of you in trouble? He should pray. Is anyone happy? Let him sing songs of praise. Is any one of you sick? He should call elders of the church to pray over him and anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord.” (James 5:13)

1.  God is still a healing God who delights in meeting the ________ physical ________ as well as the ________ spiritual ________ needs of His people.

2.  The ________ power ________ to heal comes from Jesus.

3.  The purpose of divine healing is to ________ glorify ________ Christ.
4. Jesus healed to:

- Authenticate the message and the messenger
- prove He had authority to forgive sins
- show His compassion
- show that salvation starts now

5. The goal and purpose of God’s action, whether in giving or in withholding, is always His glory.

Group Discussion

The following questions are meant to help initiate meaningful dialogue about the work of divine healing. Use any that you feel would help participants gain a more comprehensive understanding of this topic. Some of these questions are answered in detail in the document entitled “Leader Helps” in the Supplemental Resources folder on the enclosed disc. Feel free to develop your own questions to guide this discussion.

1. How is the subject of healing addressed in our church, and when should we ask for prayer from the elders?

2. Why do you think that we see less evidence of God’s healing power in our day than in the Book of Acts?

3. If, after receiving prayer, we are healed, our response ought to be to give God glory. But when healing does not occur, what should we do?

4. How can the glory of God be served when He chooses NOT to heal?

Key Memorization Verse:

This was to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet Isaiah: “He took up our infirmities and carried our diseases.”

(Matthew 8:17)
Supplemental Resources (see pages 32-33)

- Additional articles and video segments highlighting Jesus—Our Healer can be found on the enclosed disc or online at www.cma-dna.com.

- Close in prayer. Invite participants to return for Session 5: Jesus—Our Coming King. (Optional: If time permits, play the introduction video for Session 5.)

Dig Deeper

Suggest that participants complete this optional Dig Deeper section, and explain that there will be a brief Q&A/review at the opening of Session 5.

Read Matthew 8:1–17: This passage focuses on three healing miracles performed by Jesus. (From the other gospel accounts, we may be fairly certain that these healings did not occur at the same time, and Matthew indicates that there were at least two different locations involved.)

1. What similarities and differences can you notice in these three “cases”? What conclusions can you draw from your observations?

2. Healing was a very prominent part of the ministry of Jesus. Large portions of the gospel accounts are taken up with telling us about these miracles. Take a few minutes to think about why Jesus spent so much time healing people. Write down your conclusions.

3. In verse 17, Matthew links Jesus’ healing activity to a passage in Isaiah 53. Read Isaiah 53:1–6, and write a brief statement about the significance of the connection that Matthew has made between the two passages.

4. Now read James 5:13–15. What instruction does this passage give regarding prayer for the sick? What questions does it raise for you?

Key Scripture References

- Matthew 8:1–17
- James 5:13–15
- Isaiah 53:1–6
Session 5:

Jesus—Our Coming King

And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.

Matthew 24:14
**Before the Session**

Complete the Inductive Bible study on 1 Thessalonians 4:13, 5:11, and Matthew 24:14; be prepared to answer questions and discuss the passage with them.

**Begin the Session**

Greet participants. Show the 90-second intro video or you may wish to show the scene from *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* that shows nature beginning to “wake up” as the curse of the White Witch is being removed in anticipation of the return of Aslan the King.

Briefly discuss the Dig Deeper section from Session 4. Ask if there are any questions/comments on the study.

Begin Session 5 by having one or two participants briefly answer the question, “What would you do if you knew that the Second Coming of Christ would occur next week?”

**Pray**

for God to “enlighten our understanding” before watching the teaching segment.

**Video Teaching Segment**

The Session 5 teaching segment is entitled “Jesus—Our Coming King.” Throughout the segment, key words will appear on the screen. These words are the answers to the fill-in-the-blank section below. Participants may choose to fill in these blanks as they watch the segment or wait until it is over to do so. Assure them that you will review the answers (below, in red) after the segment.

1. History is moving toward a culminating event: the **return** to earth of Jesus Christ.

2. I need to govern my personal **choices** in light of that fact.

3. When He returns, every human being will face what the Bible describes as the **judgment seat** of Christ (2 Corinthians 5:10).

4. Jesus Christ will be **vindicated** in the eyes of the entire race that saw Him crucified (Revelation 1:7).
5. The whole of creation will be ________liberated_______ from the curse (Romans 8:20–21).

6. God’s righteous reign will be ________________
   (Revelation 20:1–6).

7. There will be a ______new heaven_________ and a
   ______new earth_________, and we will be forever with the Lord
   (Revelation 21:1).

8. This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached to all the world as a
   testimony to all the nations, and then ______the end__________
   shall come (Matthew 24:14).

9. Because Christ is coming, we need to __________be ready__________, and
   we need to __________finish the task_________ that He has given us to do: the
   preaching of the gospel to all the nations (Matthew 28:18–20).

Maranatha! The Lord is coming! Are you ready?

Group Discussion

The following questions are meant to help initiate meaningful dialogue about the imminent return of Christ. Use any that you feel would help participants gain a more comprehensive understanding of this topic. Some of these questions are answered in detail in the document entitled “Leader Helps” in the Supplemental Resources folder on the enclosed disc. Feel free to develop your own questions to guide this discussion.

1. How would you respond to the following comment: “It has been two thousand years and Jesus Christ has not returned. The Bible is wrong. He’s not coming back!”

2. How does the story of Lord Shaftesbury relate to the way in which we frame our priorities?

3. The Bible teaches that when Christ returns, the “curse” imposed on all of Creation by the Fall will be removed. What do you think that will be like?

4. What does the doctrine of the Second Coming have to do with our commitment to make disciples in our neighborhoods and the nations?
Key Memorization Verse:

And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.

(Matthew 24:14)

Supplemental Resources (see pages 32-33)

• Additional articles and video segments highlighting Jesus—Our Coming King can be found on the enclosed disc or online at www.cma-dna.com.

• Ask the participants to summarize what they most enjoyed about the five sessions. Close in prayer.

Dig Deeper

Suggest that participants complete this optional Dig Deeper section, even though this is the last session.

Note to Leaders: As you discuss 1 Thessalonians 4:13, 5:11, and Matthew 24:14, some participants may wish to engage in discussion about the “rapture” of the church and its timing in the sequence of events related to the return of Christ. This passage does speak about the rapture, but it does not give us any indication of its timing, nor does it clearly identify the rapture of the church as a separate event from the Second Coming (a topic of much dispute). It would therefore be better to postpone that discussion until another more suitable time, especially in light of the main goal of this study and the limited time available.

Read Thessalonians 4:13 and 5:11 and answer the following questions:

1. Paul says in 4:13 and in 5:11 that he is writing about this subject in order to give “hope” and “encouragement” to the early Christians. How does the fact of the Second Coming of Christ work in our lives to give us hope and encouragement?

2. In what ways would our lives change if we were to focus more intentionally on the Second Coming of Christ?

3. What does the 1 Thessalonians passage teach us about the timing of the return of Christ?
4. Read the words of Jesus in Matthew 24:14. (This verse has been very important in shaping the mission and the priorities of The Christian and Missionary Alliance.) How does this passage impact your thinking about the return of Christ?

Key Scripture References:

- 1 Thessalonians 4:13–5:11
- Matthew 24:14
“On the last morning of camp, I had the opportunity to briefly address the youth. As I looked out at the group of young people, my heart exploded with joy. I was seeing in these young people what I imagine was experienced in the beginning days of this great movement called The Christian and Missionary Alliance.

“This new generation of Dominican youth is living ‘all for Jesus.’ Their heart’s desire is to be fully devoted to Christ and to take His message to the world. I think this may be the generation that brings back the King.”

—Julie Stutler, serving in Dominican Republic

“What I saw in Louisville, Kentucky, was truly a miracle. It isn’t normal to see thousands of students take over an expo center, multiple hotels and a baseball stadium, only to see God’s love and mercy displayed through their actions. It isn’t normal to have bus drivers and waitresses overwhelmed by the amazing character of such a large group of kids. It isn’t normal to see students faithfully promise to give a quarter of a million dollars to Great Commission ministries. It isn’t normal to gather 6,500 high school students in one city and have them focus on God’s will for their lives . . . Pray that we would do well with this great deposit that God has given by way of a generation that longs for the heart of God in this world.”

—Jason Ostrander, C&MA National Youth Director, on the LIFE 2010 conference

“Nearly 125 years after The Alliance was birthed, our DNA remains unchanged. We still rest in Jesus as our Savior, Sanctifier, Healer, and Coming King. We remain as committed as ever to taking His message of hope and redemption to the last unreached corners of our neighborhoods and the nations, until the whole world sees: It’s all about Jesus!

—Gary Benedict, President, U.S. C&MA

To learn more about the Fourfold Gospel and CMA|DNA, visit www.cma-dna.com.

To learn more about The Christian and Missionary Alliance, visit www.cmalliance.org.