

# HAMILTON SQUARE BAPTIST CHURCH

## DISCIPLESHIP LESSON #16

### ***BLOOM WHERE YOU ARE PLANTED!*** ***STAYING IN THE CITY***

As you go through each lesson, look up the Bible verses and answer the questions in the blanks provided. When you are finished with this lesson you and your mentor will meet to discuss your answers and any questions you may have. This is not a pass/fail test, so answer honestly as you understand things. We want you to understand, not just to give the “right” answer.



One of the world's greatest mission fields is right here in San Francisco.

People from all over the world have paid good money to come here for even a visit this city for a short time, let alone live here!

God has placed you here! Have you considered your mission?

In the year 1996, 46% of the world's population resided in cities. Then it was estimated that by 2030, 61% of all people will be city-dwellers.

In 2023 some 56% of the world's population – 4.4 billion inhabitants – live in cities. This trend is expected to continue, with the urban population more than doubling its current size by 2050, at which point nearly 7 of 10 people will live in cities.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/urbandevelopment/overview>

While we did see an exit from the cities during the 2020 Covid Crisis, the trend is moving swiftly to relocate into the great cities of the world.

Since New Testament days, the city church has been the only hope for millions of people who had no hope in these crowded cities. Godly men and women who have committed themselves to minister through the city church have been used by the Lord to reach millions for the Lord.

**1. Read [Matthew 9:36](#). Cities are made up of great crowds of people. What did Jesus see when He looked at the great crowds?**

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**2. Read [Matthew 11:1](#). Where did Jesus go first to teach and preach?**

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**3. What was Jesus' attitude toward crowded cities?**

● Read [Matthew 14:14](#). \_\_\_\_\_

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● Read [Luke 19:41](#). \_\_\_\_\_

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**4. Read [Matthew 23:37](#). What was Jesus' heart's desire for the great city of Jerusalem?**

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**5. Read Luke 10:1. Where did Jesus send the seventy to minister?**

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**6. Read Acts 1:4 & 8. To what city did Jesus send the apostles of the early church to begin the spread of the Gospel?**

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**7. The early church started in the cities and later spread to the countryside. Today there are many country churches and very few city churches.**

- **Why do you think more Christians who live outside of cities are not called to the cities?**

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- **Why don't you think more Christians who already live in the cities feel called to spread the Gospel in the cities?**

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**8. Read Acts 17:16. In what condition did Paul find the city of Athens?**

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**9. Read Acts 17:16-17. What was Paul's response to what he saw in Athens?**

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**10. Read Acts 20:22-23. What kind of dangers and difficulties faced Paul and the Christians in the early church?**

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**11. Read Acts 20:24. How did Paul encourage those early Christians to respond to the dangers and difficulties they faced?**

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**12. Re-Read Acts 20:24. What was the goal of the early Christians?**

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**13. Read II Corinthians 11:26-27. What kinds of problems did Paul have to overcome to follow God's will for his life?**

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**14. Re-read II Corinthians 11:26-27. Did the cities pose serious dangers for Christians like Paul?**

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

**15.** Read **Acts 18:9-10**. Can God secure our safety in the city?

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

**16.** Should you and I respond to the needs of the city just as the Lord Jesus, the apostles, and the early Christians did?

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

**CONSIDER WHAT OFTEN HAPPENS  
TO PEOPLE WHO ARE SAVED IN THE CITY:**

- A.** They are converted, they are saved.
- B.** They begin to grow and learn to live a life pleasing to the Lord.
- C.** They experience spiritual healing and begin to leave behind the sins which had devastated their lives.
- D.** They begin to advance in every area of their lives: employment, education, relationships, marriage, and the rearing of children.
- E.** Then something dramatic begins to take place.
  - They begin to question why they are living in such an ungodly place.
  - They notice how expensive it is to live in the city.
  - They find better employment opportunities elsewhere.
  - Suddenly, the city has lost its attractiveness, and they begin to think that perhaps God is leading them to "the better life" in the suburbs or the countryside.

**17.** Read **Matthew 88:19-20**. Has God really called us to find and live "the better life"?

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

**18.** Read **II Timothy 4:10**. Why did Demas give up serving with Paul in mission work?

**19.** Was Demas' excuse for deserting Paul a legitimate reason?

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

**20.** Read [Luke 8:7 & 14](#). Why can too much concern about comfort, pleasure, or the pursuit of wealth be dangerous?

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**21.** Read [II Timothy 3:1-4](#). In *The Last Days* what will people love more than they love God?

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**22.** Read [Psalm 16:11](#). Where should Christians seek for pleasures that truly satisfy?

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**23.** Read [John 15:18-20](#) and [John 16:33](#). Should Christians expect a life of service for the Lord in this world to be an easy life of luxury, pleasure, or wealth?

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

Why or why not?

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**24.** Read [Luke 14:16-19](#) and [Luke 14:33](#). What types of excuses do people often have or not following the Lord?

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**25.** Read **Luke 9:23-24**. Should Christians be willing to make the necessary sacrifice to make the ministry of the city church possible?

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

**26.** Re-Read **Luke 9:24**. Can we really be a follower of Christ if we are not *willing* to sacrifice to serve Him?

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

**27.** Read **Romans 12:1-2**. What does God want us to present to Him?

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**28.** Have you ever made such a commitment to Him?

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

**29.** Have you ever recognized your own personal indebtedness to those who, at great cost and sacrifice, kept the city church alive and active so that you could hear the Gospel, be saved, grow in the Lord, and find the spiritual nurturing and encouragement you so desperately needed?

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

**30.** Read **Isaiah 6:8**. Have you seriously considered dedicating the rest of your life to the ministry of the Gospel in this city? Others have. Are you willing to do so?

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

**31.** Read **John 6:26-27** and **John 6:66**. Why did many leave Christ and not really follow Him?

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What did they really want? \_\_\_\_\_

We should be grateful, not only to God, but to those believers that He used to deliver and to help us. Though we owe our lives and our destinies to the Lord Jesus, we also owe a great debt to the church which God used to lead us to Christ and to help change our lives. Leaving the city church for "greener pastures" is not consistent with God's ways.

**32.** Re-Read [Luke 9:23-24](#). In contrast to doing what we most desire to do, what does Jesus require us to do?

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**33.** Read [Matthew 6:33](#). Which should come first: our careers or the ministry of the Gospel in the local church?

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**34.** Re-Read [Matthew 6:33](#). What will be the result if our priorities are right?

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**35.** What kind of price have others paid that you might have the blessing of this local church?

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**36.** Will you make a commitment to stay here in the city unless the Lord *definitely* moves you elsewhere?

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_



**37.** What did you learn from this lesson that you did not know?

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**38.** How can you make this a part of your everyday life?

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## HAMILTON SQUARE BAPTIST CHURCH



## MEMORIZE THESE VERSES for Lesson 16

(Choose the translation that works best for you)

Title to verses: **STAYING IN THE CITY**

**Acts 1:8 (KJV)** But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

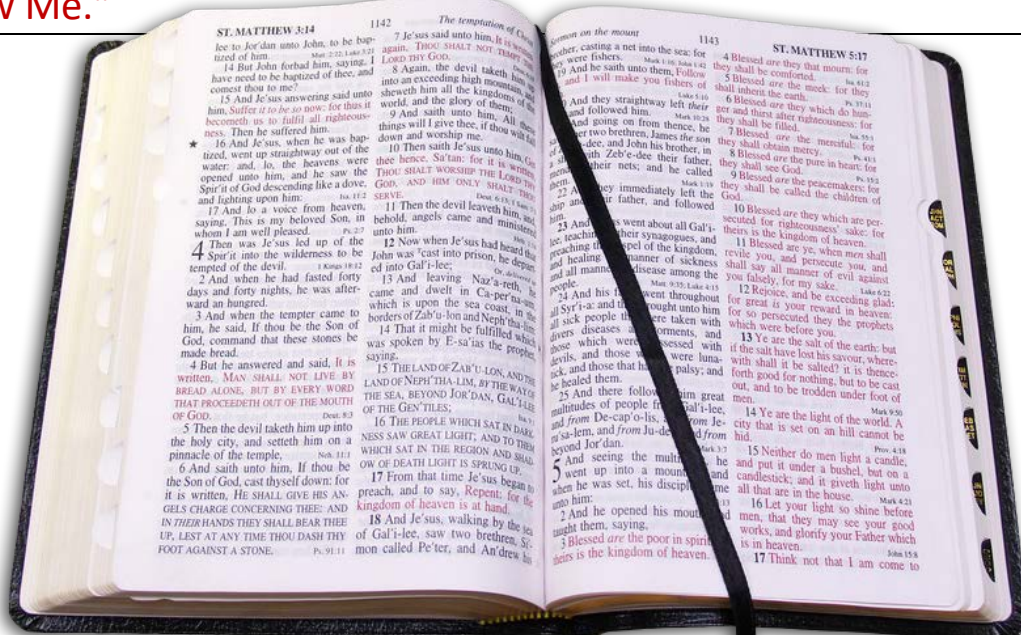
**Acts 1:8 (NASB)** But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth."

**Isaiah 6:8 (KJV)** Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me.

**Isaiah 6:8 (NASB)** Then I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for Us?" Then I said, "Here am I. Send me!"

**Luke 9:23 (KJV)** And He said to them all, **If any man will come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me.**

**Luke 9:23 (NASB)** And He was saying to them all, **"If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross daily and follow Me."**



# ACCOUNTABILITY PAGE

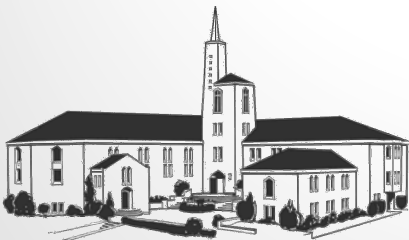
My Name: \_\_\_\_\_

My Mentor's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date I completed Lesson Two: \_\_\_\_\_

My Mentor's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

A Pastor's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



HAMILTON SQUARE  
BAPTIST CHURCH

**Remember:**

*It's important to be at church whenever you are able, so you can continue to grow in the Lord!*

**SUNDAYS**

9:45 am – Bible Study or Sunday School

10:50 am – Morning Worship Service

*Lunch & Mingle*

1:30 pm – Afternoon Church Service

**WEDNESDAYS**

7:00 pm – Midweek Bible Study & Prayer Meeting



HAMILTON SQUARE  
BAPTIST CHURCH

**THE DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING COURSE**

*Lesson Schedule*

Lesson #1	What Happens When One is “Born Again?”	Salvation
Lesson #2	What to Do When You Fall	Confession of Sin
Lesson #3	What About Baptism?	Baptism
Lesson #4	How to Pray & Why Should I?	Prayer
Lesson #5	Bible Study: Making it Personal	Bible Study
Lesson #6	Obedience Brings Blessing	Obedience
Lesson #7	Church Membership Matters	Membership
Lesson #8	Tithes & Offerings: Bible Principles	Giving
Lesson #9	Overcoming Sexual Sin & Temptation	Victory
Lesson #10	Our Lord’s Commission	Witnessing
Lesson #11	Putting Anger & Bitterness to Rest	Bitterness
Lesson #12	Alcohol & Other Addictive Substances	Addictions
Lesson #13	Music and the Christian	Music
Lesson #14	Social Media, TV, Movies, The Internet & The Future	Media
Lesson # 15	Biblical Separation: The Dangers of Compromise	Separation
Lesson #16	Bloom Where You’re Planted! Staying in the City	City Ministry
Lesson #17	Happiness Forever: The Fruit of Faithfulness	Heaven

If you have questions, ask your mentor to help you.

If he or she can’t help you,

they will help you set up an appointment with a pastor at our church.

They are here to help you!