

## UNTO A PERFECT MAN

### Notes for the Instructor

Purpose of Lesson 7: Many who accept Christ (as in lesson 6) find much confusion when they find themselves confronted with many of the same temptations after their conversion. Many also find guilt difficult to handle even though they have asked, and believed in, forgiveness. It is the purpose here to deal with these problems, and to see that Christian growth involves "steps" in a sense just as accepting Christ involved "steps."

During the study itself: In connection with question 1, Ellen White uses the story of John 5:1-9, to illustrate how the sinner is made whole spiritually. Read Steps to Christ, pages 50, 51. The idea is excellent to give strength to what the new Christian did in the previous lesson. You do not need to reveal the source of your idea. The same book contains an excellent discussion on growth in connection with question 4 and 5.

Appeal: After reading the Scriptures of questions 7 and 8, it is important that we help the student to know that it is far more important to know what to do when we make a mistake, than to sit and mourn the mistake itself. Teach people to get rid of the sin immediately. And help them to be patient as God polishes the stone through testing and trial.

Illustration: In connection with the appeal, and as a final illustration, you might draw a tree on the transparency. Label it "sin." Then add a shadow, and label it "guilt." When we claim forgiveness, God cuts the tree down. And when a tree is cut down, what happens to the shadow? The point: In the lifelong following of Christ, and with the tripping of the toe at times, God always forgives in answer to the sincere request, and leaves us with no need to carry guilt when we have been forgiven. This is, in itself, a powerful dynamic to further and more rapid growth.

