April 2024



Since 1984: Reconciling persons to God, families and society

Our Mindset on "Multiple Choice" Tests

We occasionally field various questions from license-holders, instructors, graders, and students about the standard ten "Multiple Choice" questions found at the end of NewLife Behavior lessons. These have been a tremendous help to graders in speeding up that process. Doing so decreases the workload and amount of *turnaround* time (sending the next lessons to students).

We are happy to expound on the overall philosophy behind this change. Since this curriculum is *cognitively oriented*, we expect the student to be able to think logically and possess basic discerning ability. The student's multiple-choice responses quickly demonstrate the presence or lack of these capabilities.

We ARE interested in the student's recognition of and ability to grasp how to appropriately apply practical lessons in everyday life. We are NOT interested in failing students. Since 1984, the primary audience of the NLB curriculum has been those incarcerated. According to the National Adult Literacy Survey (Match 16, 2024), 70% of all incarcerated adults cannot read at the Fourth-Grade level. NLB curriculum is not at the collegiate level. Still, as easy as the tests appear on the surface, one in ten score 70 or lower, two in ten score 80, and three in ten score 90. Four in ten score 100. You will never eliminate cheating. We are dealing with some who are dishonest and professional cheaters.

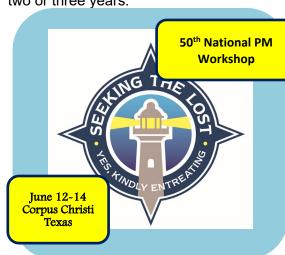
With this in mind, the following promises are made to the student:

- This is an "open book" test.
- We avoid asking "trick" questions.
- Questions flow from the start to the finish of each lesson.

Each question normally has two "throw away" options easily recognized as false. Even so, some will choose one of these illogical answers.

Each question normally has two responses that require deeper thought and discernment. Some questions have "two" correct answers. Other options are either all "false" or all "true." The student IS expected to read the questions and pay attention.

Please offer suggestions, point out typos, errors, and ideas for improvement. You do us a big favor by sharing these with us. Send them by email to nlbcasa@yahoo.com. Be specific. Our students in prison have helped us find most of our errors. Do not be surprised if others have already found them, reported them, and the corrections have already been made. This normally means that you have an outdated flash drive. We also make *content* adjustments (especially if more research or surveys are available). They may not change the overall conclusion, but they supply more contemporary data. For these reasons, we recommend that license-holders request updated versions every two or three years.



IN LOVING MEMORY ~ IN HONOR OF

Family Upreach expresses gratitude for remembering loved ones and honoring those cherished with gifts. With these remembrances, souls are being taught to transform their lives and discard destructive behaviors through the awesome power of Jesus.

Received from: In loving memory of: M/M Frank Maxey Alton McCollum Alton McCollum M/M Bob Wachtel Alton McCollum M/M Buck Griffith M/M Dale Underwood Renie Patty M/M Bob Wachtel Renie Patty M/M Frank Maxev Renie Pattv M/M Buck Griffith Renie Patty

<u>FROM THE "MAIL BAG"</u>

With 40,000+ students enrolled in NLB studies through the mail, perhaps you can imagine the notes and letters received. Most are requests for everything from money and legal aid to some sort of complaint. But every now and then, we receive a spectacular letter that expresses the student's gratitude or sharing some benefit received by the student or his/her family. We are simply cannot just toss these away. They are added to a special file. These are saved to pull out and read when we need encouragement. A few are shared below. We warn you that the grammar and spelling is imperfect but, it is the "thought" that counts—right? By the way, some

Thanks! #01234

also come from donors. The best letters and notes are not necessarily from larger donors. Again, it is the "thought"

that counts.

Dear New Life,

Your course on handling anger is a God-send. It's better than any I've seen. Anger has always gotten me in trouble and this is not my first time to be in here. I've hurt my family most.

For the first time I feel I can leave and not come back. I never had God on my side before. I'm not making a bunch of wild promises this time but if J get a chance, J'll prove that the same man that used to mess up died and a new man is coming out.

Thank you for helping me wake up. J see the light. My family thanks you too.

To my lesson grader,

I don't know how long it takes you to grade my lessons. I apologize for my scribbling. Im trying to do better. In spite of my messiness you say nice things about me. You don't know how I look forward to your notes.

I don't know if you're a man or woman and it really doesn't matter but doing what you do for me takes you away from your family and home.

Ges, I'm lonely but I put myself in this place. With your prayers and uplifting lessons, I will leave a better man.

To God Be the Glory!

To Family Upreach,

Lifting my family up is what your courses have done for me while I've been locked up. Most Bible lessons I've seen in here just teach what the Bible says. Don't get me wrong. I need to learn the Bible more. But the NLB courses have taught me the real meaning of the Bible and what a real Christian is. I've learned how to be a better parent. I never heard any of this growing up. I've ruined a lot of lives. I guess my mom and dad did the best they knew but it wasn't enough. I want to be a better husband to my wife and a better daddy to my kids.

Thanks for sending the lessons I'm taking to my wife. She brags when she gets a higher score than me. We talk about our studies when we write each other, call and when she gets to come visit. We try to build up each other. We never talked about any of these things before. It's new to us and a bit strange but we like it.

And I can't tell you what it means to us that your sending the children's lessons to our kids. Do you think I could get that course myself? It would give us something else good to talk about. My wife helps our kids out with the lessons as best she can. She says she learns from them too. When she's busy or working, her mom steps in and helps the kids learn their lessons. They really like the coloring pages.

Most of the guys here call you "New Life Behavior" but because how you've helped our family, we like "Family Upreach." We just started the course on how to handle our money better. We need it now and we'll need it after I go home. Don't ever stop what you're doing.