

Writing Student Learning Contracts

By Dave Batty

What are Contracts?

1. Contracts are a **written plan** for student class work.
2. A plan for growth.
3. Personalized outlines for study in the PSNC curriculum.
4. A specialized **tool** to **help** each student.
5. An organized plan to help students study the various units in the PSNC.
6. A **treatment plan** that includes-
 - goals for growth
 - expected outcomes
 - time limits (3 -5 weeks)
7. Students are given contracts that are custom designed to address their needs and interests as well as it allows you to work with them within their learning abilities.

Why Contracts?

1. **Focused** study on major themes
2. Sense of accomplishment
3. Provides flexibility for different students
 - academic abilities
 - **needs**
 - interests
 - **levels** of spiritual growth
4. Complements your counseling ministry.

What's included in a Contract?

1. Studies on major themes and minor themes
2. **Goals** for growth
3. Lessons and Bible Studies
4. Scripture Memorization Class

5. Character Qualities Class
6. Personal Reading Class
Books , CD's, DVD's, Articles, etc.
7. Bible Reading Class
8. Special Projects

Writing Contracts

A. Develop Tools

1. PSNC Library
 - Lessons
 - Books with Study Guides
 - Videos, DVD's, Audio tapes, CD's etc.
 - Tracts
2. Contract Questionnaires

Use questionnaires provided in PSNC materials or develop your own.
3. Contract Writing Book

This is a notebook is used by the teacher for help in writing contracts.
It lists the materials available in your ministry that can be used for each Unit.

B. Unit 1 Salvation

- Use Contract form or develop one
- Use lesson 301 to get to know the student
 - Is a reading test needed?
 - Introduce Students to the PSNC
 - Lessons– 101, 102, 103* – 106, 108 *(depends on answers in 102)
 - Character Qualities Class
 - Scripture Memorization Class
 - Personal Reading Class
 - Bible Reading Class
 - Explain purpose of lessons to student

C. Overview of Contracts for Units 2 & up

1. For all contracts from Unit 2 and higher, we will write a specific contract for each student.
2. Gather information prior to writing contract
 - Use Unit Questionnaire form
 - feedback from staff, counselors, work supervisors, and evaluations
3. Meet with student
4. Pray
5. Write the contract

The **Student Learning Contract** is used for planning the work that will be included on this contract. It also includes places for the students to track their progress on each assigned part of this contract.

6. Prioritize their work

Always counsel with the student and go over each assignment thoroughly. Discuss with them how to prioritize their workload and manage their time. Staff and student should ALWAYS sign the contract when the counseling is complete.

7. Track their progress as they work on their contract.

Students should use their **Daily Goal Sheet** to keep track of their work. In addition to the regular discussions the teachers have with the student as they are doing their daily studies, one teacher should have a specific discussion with the student at least one time a week to assess the general progress being made on the contract work.

- Is the student making progress on all the different parts of their contract?
- Is the student on track to complete all the contract work in the one month time period for this contract?

8. End of contract evaluation

When the student has completed all their work on the contract, they should write an evaluation of how this contract work helped them. Have them use the goals from page 1 of the **Student Learning Contract**.

9. Certificate of achievement

Celebrate their completion of the contract by awarding them a **Certificate of Achievement**.

Sample Questionnaire Form #1

*Note: This form is to be filled out by the student prior to the writing of the contract.

UNIT 2 Self Image **Contract Questionnaire**

Theme: Self Image

PURPOSE: To come to a dear awareness of how God wants us to ourselves.
To become more aware of how we presently see ourselves.

Instructions:

1. List five new character qualities that will help you that you would like to work on.
 2. Fill out the **Personal Self-evaluation Worksheet**.
 3. Answer the following questions.
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1. Where in the area of self-image do you need improvement?
2. What struggles or questions do you have with your self-image?
3. Where in the area of dealing with authority do you need improvement?
4. What struggles or questions do you have with authority?
5. In which areas of relationships with others do you need to improve?
6. What questions or struggles do you have with relating to others?
7. In your relationship with God where do you need to improve?
8. List any questions or problems you have with your relationship to God.
9. Do you need to improve in the area of forgiveness? How?
10. What questions do you have about forgiveness?

Sample Questionnaire #2

Preparing for Student Learning Contract on *Unit 2: Self Image*

Instructions

Please give careful consideration to the following questions and write your answers on a separate sheet of paper. The purpose of these questions is to give you ideas on what to study in this contract.

Once you have completed your answers, you will meet with your teacher to plan your studies for the next few weeks. This is not a test—there are no right or wrong answers. We just want your honest feedback.

Questions for personal reflection

1. How did your parents encourage you as you grew up at home?
2. How did your parents and other close relatives discourage you as you grew up?
3. What was your parent's attitudes toward your grades in school?
4. What did your father say about your physical appearance?
5. How do you see yourself? How would you rate your physical beauty?
Rate yourself using a scale of 1 to 10, where one is ugly and ten is beautiful.
Put an "x" where you would rate yourself.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Explain the reasons why you rated your physical beauty with this number.

6. How do you think Jesus sees you? How would Jesus rate your physical beauty if He were here today? Using a scale of 1 to 10, where one is ugly and ten is beautiful, put an "x" where you think Jesus would rate your physical beauty.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Explain the reasons why you think Jesus would rate your physical beauty with this number.

7. Who are the most important people in your life?
What did they think about you before you came into the Teen Challenge program?
8. How has your opinion of yourself changed since you came into Teen Challenge?
9. What kind of a person do you see yourself being five years from now?
10. How do you respond when people criticize you?
11. In what ways do people intimidate you?
12. What memories do you have of people putting you down?
How often did you have these kinds of experiences?
13. How do you feel inside when people put you down?
14. What other questions would you like to study in this contract related to your self image (how you see yourself, how you feel about yourself)?

Personal Self Evaluation Worksheet*

Name _____

Date _____

In the Personal Studies for New Christians classes we want to make sure the work you do is going to help you grow. Please complete this worksheet, making your answers as clear as you can. We will use these ideas to plan what lessons and other activities you will be working on in the next few weeks.

Part One Please check the following ones that describe you.

- I have serious problems for which I need or want help.

<input type="checkbox"/> Alcohol abuse or addiction <input type="checkbox"/> Broken home life <input type="checkbox"/> Confused or hurtful sexual experiences <input type="checkbox"/> Drug abuse or addiction <input type="checkbox"/> Smoking <input type="checkbox"/> Emotional downs and changes	<input type="checkbox"/> Life goals absent: confused about the future <input type="checkbox"/> Legal charges <input type="checkbox"/> Many people conflicts <input type="checkbox"/> Pregnancy <input type="checkbox"/> Runaway <input type="checkbox"/> Other
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- Briefly describe on a separate piece of paper how you see each problem. Give at least a one paragraph description for each one.

Part Two Please check the following ones that interest you.

- I have some areas in my life that I am interested in studying and I want practice and support in finding new alternatives.

<input type="checkbox"/> Emotional stability
<input type="checkbox"/> Family life: what should I do with my past?
<input type="checkbox"/> Finding my life-potential
<input type="checkbox"/> Handling conflicts with others
<input type="checkbox"/> Knowing God's will for me
<input type="checkbox"/> Overcoming fear, anger, guilt, or loneliness
<input type="checkbox"/> Friendships, male & female
<input type="checkbox"/> Principles of a Christian family
<input type="checkbox"/> Sexuality, single or married
<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____
- Briefly describe on a separate piece of paper how you see each area you checked. Give at least a one paragraph description of each area you checked and what you would like to learn.

**This worksheet is a modified version of the Personal Life Evaluation Form of the Contract Worksheet of Teen Challenge, Columbus, Ohio. Used by permission.*

Personal Studies for New Christians

Student Learning Contract for Unit _____

Student Name _____ Date entered program ____

Date Contract Written _____

Projected Completion Date _____

Date Contract completed & approved _____

Unit Title _____

Major Theme _____

Minor Themes _____

Areas of my life where I want to grow as I work on this contract

Goals 1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

Student Learning Contract

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Lessons and Bible Studies

Title	Date Started	Date Completed
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Scripture Memorization Class

Specify what is to be done with each verse.

_____ Complete the SMC Worksheet

_____ Complete the SMC Final Test

Verses to memorize	Special Projects To be Completed	Date Started	Date Completed
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Student Learning Contract

3

Character Qualities Class

Specify what work is to be done with each character quality in addition to the 8 regular activities.

Character Qualities	Special Projects to complete	Date Started	Date Completed
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Personal Reading Class

Daily summaries are to be completed with the books and/or tapes used in this class. Write a book report at least _____ pages long after you finish reading the book.

Give an oral report to the whole class on _____ (Date)

Titles of the books or tapes	Date Started	Date Completed
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Special instructions for additional activities for the Personal Reading Class

Student Learning Contract

Bible Reading Class

Read the following books in the Bible. List the activities (either written or oral) to be completed with each book.

Book	Activity to be Completed	Date Started	Date Completed
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Special Projects

	Date Started	Date Completed
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Notice:

After you have completed all the work you have agreed to do on this contract, you will need to write a report explaining how you have grown and benefited from this work. Be sure to describe your progress in the areas listed in the goals of this contract.

Student's signature _____ Date _____

Teacher's signature _____ Date _____

Note: This information is to be used by the teacher when writing the student learning contract.

Contract 2 Self Image

Contract Length

Contract should be 4 weeks long

Goals

Set the students goals according to their Contract Questionnaire, Contract Title, and what you have discerned by watching their behavior.

Examples are...

1. I will learn why an independent spirit is an enemy toward God.
2. I will keep a journal of how I am opening up to others I live with.
3. I will learn why I fear and do not trust people.
4. I will begin to develop a sense of God's approval on my own so I won't be so sensitive to rejection.
5. I will learn how to accept criticism better.
6. I will stop thinking of myself as a "Born-loser" and stop negative comments against myself. I will begin to see myself as a son of God.
7. I will begin to trust God with who I am and what I see myself as being in my future.

All the following are suggestions for what you can include in the contract in each of these areas of study.

Lessons and Bible Studies

Books (choose 1)

1. Improving your Self Image, by H. Norman Wright
2. See Yourself as God Sees You, by Josh McDowell
3. Healing For Damaged Emotions, by David A. Seamands

Lessons / Projects from the 200 or 300 series

Choose ones you feel will be most helpful.

Project 201: Showing Kindness

Project 202: Forgiving Others

Project 205: Showing Respect

Worksheets

These are suggestions from **The Bible in Counseling** by Waylon Ward.

1. Luke 15 (God's love—Parts 1-3)
2. Ephesians 1:3-14 (God's love and control, individual's worth)
3. God Child (Parts 1-5)
4. God loves you (Parts 1-4)
5. God's forgiveness
6. Understanding Yourself as a Divine Original

Character Qualities

Choose at least two, check student's list. - If a student is having major trouble with one in particular area we can choose one for him even though it's not on his list.

Scripture Memorization Class

(Choose two or more depending on the students' ability—here are a few suggestions)

- Philippians 1:6..... he who has begun a good
- Philemon 1:6 pray you will be active
- Jeremiah 19:11-13 for I know the plans I have for
- 1 Corinthians 10:13 no temptation has seized you
- Proverbs 4:23..... above all else, guard you heart
- Romans 12:16..... live in harmony with one another
- Ephesians 4:22-24 put off the old self
- 1 Peter 2:13..... submit yourselves to every authority
- Hebrews 13:17 obey your leaders submit to
- Romans 13:1-2..... submit because God has ordained
- Ephesians 5:21 submit yourselves one to another
- James 4:7-8 submit to God, resist the devil
- 1 Peter 2:16..... live as a free man

Personal Reading Class

Books (choose 1)

- Bruchko, by Bruce Olson
- The Tale of Three Kings, by Gene Edwards
- The Father Heart of God, by Floyd McClung
- Rebel With A Cause, by Franklin Graham
- The Cry of the Soul, by Dan B. Allender and Tremper Longman

Tracts-(Last Days Ministries Discipleship Teachings) (Choose 2 or 3)

- Father Heart of God
 - Theater of Your Mind
 - Forgiveness: Forgive or Forget It
 - Restoration through Forgiveness
 - But I Can't Forgive Myself
 - Openness and Honesty
 - Hurt & Bitterness
-
-

CD's, DVD's etc.

Restoration Through Forgiveness, by Doug Easterday

Special Projects

Articles with Study Guides - By Dave Batty

1. The path to pure joy: Facing your problems
 2. Are you living with guilt that doesn't belong to you?
 3. Overcoming Depression
 4. Overcoming fear
 5. How to respond when people hurt you
 6. Dealing with Shame: How do I know if it is from God?
 7. Training your brain for the life skill of returning to joy
 8. The power of secrets in your life
 9. Seeing God's potential in your life
 10. Are you trying to change without changing?
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