**What has Jesus done for us on the Cross?2**

# The message of the Cross by Jesus 2

**Living by the principle of the Cross of Jesus.4**

# In Christ Jesus 1Cor 1:30 6

**What does it mean to live in Jesus? 8**

# Lesson 1 Heavenly Discipling! 12

# Lesson 2 The purpose of discipling! Turning from Idols to Christ! 18

Where do we begin in discipling?25

**What does it mean to live in Jesus? 32**

To live in Christ is to live with a totally new identity

**To live in Christ is to live as a son God**, 35

# Living the Christ life: Abide in Christ 36

**How to live the Abiding Life; The Christ Life 38**

**Five practical steps toward abiding in Christ 40**

**The fruits of walking in the spirit,44**

You are complete in Him 45

This talks about maturity in God47

#### **Warring in Christ 49**

The reality of life for God’s Children on Earth31

The hope in Christ Jesus!55

When we see Him, we will be like Him! 57

**We see Him as an obedient Son 60**

**The keys of the Kingdom of Heaven. 66**

**What has Jesus done for us on the Cross?**

The message of the cross of Jesus is central to the Gospel of Jesus Christ we proclaim. The cross is only meaningful because of the resurrection of Jesus from the dead. We know for sure the work that is accomplished because of the victory demonstrated in His resurrection. As we celebrate His resurrection, let’s see what this resurrection means to us by looking at what He has dine for us on the cross.

**1Cor 1:18** The message of the Cross---Being saved---**power of God.**

**We need to come to the cross to experience the power of God for our salvation. It is continues Salvation.** **2Cor 2:15** (Salvation is past Eph 2:4,5,8 and Future Rm 5:9,10 13:11)

**Catch hold of the message,** the word itself has the power of God to set you free! Do not despise it as foolish**; if you receive it with faith, it has power to save you.**

The cross deals with man’s 4 major problems: Sin-himself, Satan-enemy, God and the world.

1. **The cross is the power of God to save us from sin. Cor 2:14-15, Rm 7:7**

The laws that God has set over man to govern this earth, protecting us from being harm and ensnare through sin is working against us. They are supposed to bring us light but we have broken those laws. As a result, **they work against us and they condemn us because of our failure to perform.**

**Rm 6:23** The bible calls it **the wages of sin** is death.

**Sin:** we have to pay either now or in the future. Sin is breaking God’s command, not able to reach God’s standard. It make us feel worthless and shameful, we feel that we are a failure.

1. **Now**, we suffer from guilt and condemnation, emotional torture and even destruction to our lives.
2. **Death,** eternally separate from the source of life, living in eternal hell and condemnation.

**On the Cross, Jesus Canceled our debts.**

On the Cross, Jesus fulfilled all the requirement of the law for us. He cross out the requirement of the law that was working against us, he paid it in full for us and cancelled once and for all the laws that is working against us.

He **was naked, shameful**: He took our shame and makes us **worthy.**

He hung there like a **failure**: He took our failure and gives us **victory.**

He was **rejected:** we can be **accepted.**

He was **condemned** that we are **set free**.

Rm 4:25 Justification of sinner.

The cross did not just take our sin, but also brings us victory over sin. Rm 6:1,2 7 Died to sin. Gal 5:24

**2. The cross defeated our enemy, the devil.**

Another consequence of sin is that we open door for the enemy to have the right to bind us, to keep us in slavery to him. He is armed with power to keep us in bondage and destroy us. On the cross, Jesus disarmed their power and took back the authority Satan had over our lives. He set us free from the dominion of darkness and brings us into His Kingdom.

**Heb 2:14,15** The enemy rule over us **by fear**: death, separation, hurt.

**The enemy accuse us: Rev12: 10**

**Liar Jn8: 44 Murderer, took life Jn 10:10**

**Col 1:13**

**1Jn 2:1 He is our advocate, defense lawyer.**

Judge: young man, sentence, took off robe, pay the fine, set young man free.

**4. He restored our relationship with the Father. Col 1:20**

Whenever we appeal to the work of the cross of Jesus, we are reconciled to the Father.

He reconciled all things to himself by his blood. Invite us to come to Him father than angry with us.

Heb 4: 14 Priest, boldness to come to the throne of grace.

**4. The Cross-brings us Victory over the world. Gal 6:14**

**The world system** says that the best, the strongest, the most beautiful, and the most talented are “in”. So we make false judgment of our worth. They continue their efforts to try to earn approval, but the inevitable rejection by others prompts them to believe that they really are unlovable and reject able. We are plagued by feelings of worthlessness, inferiority and self-condemnation.

The cross takes us into God’s rest. Jesus said, come to me, all you who are heavy laden, take my yoke upon you. Take us into another world of joy, peace and love.

**The Cross redeem us from:**

Redeem: to loose, to free through paying a price, to buy back.

The cross tells us that Jesus paid a very high price to set us free!

1. **The spiritual area: Gal 3:13 He took our curse**

Man lost its position of blessing with God.

The cross removes the curses from our lives.

Curses that came as a result of breaking the law of God. Sin that open the door that allow a spirit to come in.

Gal 3: 14 Blessing of multiplication, fruitfulness, of Abraham.

Acts 10:38 Heal us from oppression of the devil. Heb 2:14-15 power of death.

1. **The physical area:**

Death came after sin came. He too our sickness and brought us healing. 1pet 2:24 Is 63:9

1. **Financial Curse:**

**Gen 3 God intended man should work and have time for intimate relationship with him.**

The ground was cursed. Now it is a struggle for man to survive because man wanted to trust his own knowledge and strength to do things.

2Cor 8:9

He took our poverty and brings us into the source of **His eternal riches**. We are rich because we have the **resources of heaven** open for us. We need to get connected to Jesus and draw from Him the grace we need.

**Come to Jesus by faith,** repent and confess our sin, the work that Jesus has done for us on the cross will set us free from spiritual bondage, sickness, financial poverty.

# Jesus cried: It is finished!

Who could possibly add to what Christ has accomplished on the cross? It is completed! We live by faith believing all that is has done foe us. We await His return for the fulfillment of all that he promised.

1. 2Cor 5:1-5, 7 Mortal- lives, eternal dwelling with God.
2. 1Jn 3:1-3 Like Him, full manifestation of son ship.
3. Rm 8:19-25 Adoption as son, redemption of the body- decay V21, 23

Freedom of the Children of God.

Resisted. Don’t presume you are living in the power of God unless you are believing in the message of the Cross and living under the power of cross.

# 1.The message of the Cross by Jesus

In order to help peter get the right message, Jesus preached the message of the cross that we will have to carry in order that we might receive life. We receive life by believing and following Him. You can’t believe Him without following Him.

Mt 16:24 if anyone would come after me, he **must deny himself, take up his cross and follow me**. Whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever **loses his lower**, natural life for me, will **find God’s higher** spiritual life, eternal life.

**The message of the Cross by Jesus** is a message of deny your own desire; our selfishness, our pride, **a message of sacrifice, a message of suffering and dying for the right motive**, for the right person Jesus **in order that every hindrance to the life and power of God will be removed**. This is not as literal cross but it is to live by the principle of the Cross of Jesus. **This is what it means for us to enter into the Cross life of Jesus.**

**When we let go for God’s sake, we will find life, by losing we gain, by dying, we receive life.**

To take up the cross is to suffer for what others has done wrong for the sake pf Christ, just like Jesus. When it is our own sin, we just come to the cross of Jesus.

E.g.: when you have a miss-understanding with some one, you are angry with the person, but when you let go of your pride and take up the cross, you humble yourselves and apologize to the person, you gain life and peace instead of misery.

2 Cor 4:10-12, 2:14, 15

Jn 20:27 the prove of resurrection is the make of death.

If you do it, it will save you, it will bring profit to you, you will find life, the power of God will flow through you and bring the finished work of Jesus into your life.

**Many Christian are still living by principle of this world.**

We still live by the same value and knowledge and principle as this world, this has causes us to lose the salvation of God. We are living by our **own strength**. We can’t live sacrificially because it means we are losing out. We can only live by sight but not by faith.

Yes, **you will gain this world because it comes by hard work and toil, it is all self-effort**. The worst deception for Christian is to equate what they gain living to please them as the blessing from God.

## Let’s look at message of the Cross that Jesus preached

**Jn 12:24 Corn of wheat** must die- the beautiful outer shell or coat, hard. Life is locked within. When it loses that outer beauty, it will bring forth fruits 30 fold.

When you lose your life for him… gain life Mt 16:24

Give … given to you, press down

Humble … lifted up

Weak … strong with his grace and power

Not my will … your will, Father

Seek his righteousness … all your needs will be met

Rm 6:5 Grafted into his death.

Cuts the bark of the stock, sips the graft into its place in the cut bark, bind it up and leave it for some tome. The tree and graft will have become united into one life. The message of the cross is the power of God for those who are being saved. Yes, we need to come back to what Jesus has done for us on the cross to stayed delivered.

**There is also the other aspect of where we need to live in the principle of the cross of Christ**, to deny ourselves, to pay the price to follow Jesus so that we might be able to stay under the power of the Cross **and received life. Jn 6:54-57 Eat flesh, drink blood.**

**Gal 2:20** in letting go, denying ourselves, dying by caring our cross, we are living by faith in Jesus and believing the message of the Cross, and therefore enter into His life and His power, saving our souls by entering into His salvation.

# In Christ Jesus 1Cor 1:30

God did more than sending Jesus to die for us on the cross and tool our sin with Him and accepts us. He took hold of our life, and put it in His Son Jesus. He did not only send His son to die on the cross for us, he also took us to the cross and nailed us with His Son, that we also die in Him (I have been crucified with Christ. )

This is also truth that cannot be understood by **human wisdom**! It is mature wisdom, wisdom that comes by the revelation of the Holy Spirit. This wisdom came in Jesus!

W**hen God put us in Christ, what ever is true of Jesus now true of us**. He went to the cross, we went with Him. He die, we also die. He was buried, we are also buried with Christ through Baptism, He rose again, and we are also resurrected with him to new life in Christ Jesus. He then placed His Holy Spirit in us enable us to live this new life that we already have.

### Our experiences

We can quite easily those truth but the problem is that there are things in our live that we have try to overcome and fail again and again. We know they are sin in our life. As a result, we struggle in our conscious, we doubt in our heart whether the cross is really so powerful! We have no more faith to believe it is possible to live. Some just give up and we just maintain a religious life but without the power of God in it. To some of us, it sis even better if we have not believe Jesus, because we were more happy then. Now we feel so bad that we have failed and there is just no way we can live that life. Instead of living in hope, we live in hopelessness because we just can’t see how we are going to make it.

We try to believe we are accepted, but we FEEL rejected. Full of fear, fear of further rejection, unacceptable, we expect to fail, sees ourselves as failure. Fear dominates our life, not the Holy Spirit. Dare not step out in faith for we are sure to fail God!

1:26-29

If we continue to live a defeated life, we continue to be weak, to be foolish to believe the power of the cross that has not been working so well in our life. To nullify the things that are or to change our circumstances around us, which we didn’t and we couldn’t, we are stuck! With this sort of life, do you think we will shame the wise, shame the strong, to causes them to realize that they need what we have? No way!

The wise thinks that they are clever, they know what is right and they can make it by their own wisdom. (Greek) The strong think that they don’t need help. They depend on their performance to win approval and God’s favor! (Jews: Keeping the law)

**We cried to God for help and expecting Him to do something! He will do nothing for He has already done all He could for us! We are still trying to be what we have already become in Christ by our spiritual birth. Jn 3:3,36**

He has already made us Holy, acceptable, righteous.

To be a Christian is not a matter of getting something but it is being someone.

What did God have to do to transform us, so that we can put the wise and the strong to shame?

He put us IN Christ Jesus! Jesus become our power V24 and became our wisdom! We talk about the power of God cam as we believe the message of the Cross and living by the message of the Cross.

We are put In Christ Jesus, Christ does not just give us wisdom. He is our wisdom.

God know that if He save us from our sin, give us a new life and give us his righteousness, he knows we will be hopeless right from the star. He know that we will sin and fail. Yes, in His mercy, He will forgive and restore us to His righteousness.

1. So, in His wisdom, he gave Jesus to be our righteousness.

When we are put in Christ Jesus, we are clothed with Jesus all over, His virtue has become our virtue, we are accepted before God because Jesus is accepted before the Father, he pleases the Father in all thing. We are in right relationship with God, not because we have succeeded in living without sin, but because Jesus cleanses me from all sin and is my righteousness.

Jesus is my righteousness and he never sins. He never fails. He is never unrighteousness. My righteousness doesn’t not depend on my performance, but on my position in Christ! I am righteousness only because God has made His son my righteousness. I will never ever for one moment be able to stand before God because it is my righteousness, even through out eternity, no matter how much God has been using me.

**3. Jesus is my holiness**.

If we strive to be holy on our own, we will definitely fail. Our heart becomes harden to God’s grace. We become very legalistic. How holy can I be before God will accept me? But God consider me Holy because I am in Christ. Col 1:22

The Holy Spirit was not given to me to make me Holy nor was he given when I become holy! I am being changed from glory into glory by the working of the Holy Spirit in my life.

How can it be that I need to be changed to be more like Him and yet be regarded as holy?

Because Jesus Christ is my Holiness.

**Call to be saints**, 1 Cor 1:2 Phi 1:1 not by hard work, but tells me that I am rightly to God. I am beloved, Rm 1:7 Chosen, holy Col3: 12 2Th 2:13 sanctified by the Holy Spirit/ holy Brethren Heb 3:1

**The Holy Spirit is given to enable my performance will match my position more closely.**

**The only standard of righteousness and holiness acceptable to God is perfection!** The only way we can be accepted by God is in Christ Jesus. If you still work to be accepted, you will condemn your life to be one of striving and living by legalism. We can only be considered perfect in God’s sight because of our position in the perfect one, on His performance.

It is not true that God accept you as you are! If that is true, Jesus would not need to die. He accepts you completely, fully, perfectly in Jesus Christ.

We do not have a righteousness of our own; we do not need one because Jesus is my righteousness. My relationship with God does not depend on my, but because of God’s mercy, he place me in Christ. Christ standing becomes my standing.

## What about our performance?

Does it means that it doesn’t matter if I sin? No.

God wants us to live in Him, to abide in Him; He wants us to live in righteousness. The more I trust in my position in Christ, the more I will able to live in righteousness. When I fail, I know that can be sure of God’s forgiveness because of my position in Christ, the righteousness one. When I fail, I am not cut off or separated from Christ. God sees me in Him, clothed with His righteousness though he sees my nakedness inside. He close to put me in Christ, so He sees me clothed with Jesus and Jesus is my righteousness.

God knows that even with the Holy Spirit living inside us, we are not going to attain perfection in the way we live. He ensures that we are always acceptable in His sight because it depends on Jesus, not on us.

**The more our performances match our position Christ, the more effective we are as His witnesses to confound the wise and the strong of this world!** His life will flow more freely and he is able to use more to bear fruits for His Glory.

3. He is my redemption.

Jesus did not just redeem me with His blood and life, he is also my redemption**. I stayed redeemed because He is my redemption**. I belong and always will belong to God’s eternal Kingdom because I am in Him. None shall snatch me from His hand.

Satan will try to prevent us from living the life that we have in Christ by falsely accusing us. To cause us to think that we are a failure, sinful, to take our eyes away from Jesus and away from the position that we are in Christ onto ourselves, to live under the burden of guilt and condemnation, to rob you of joy and life in Jesus. To keep us living in defeat rather than in victory.

**The more we look at the facts and not at the truth of God**, your feeling will remain negative and all that Jesus has done for you will be so unreal. As you focus on the truth, your felling about yourselves will change supernatural and truth is able to change the facts. We need to take the focus off ourselves and put our freedom that Christ has set us free.

What a Blessing to be in Christ! We need to be aware of our position in Christ and live in victory in Christ by keeping our eyes on Jesus who is the power of

**Living by the principle of the Cross of Jesus.**

**1Cor 1:18 the message of the Cross of Jesus--- Being Saved-Power of God**

**The cross of Jesus deals with man’s major problems; sin, Devil and God, world.**

It has power to deliver us from sin, failure, guilt and shame.

It’s power of God to deliver us from the rule and power of Satan through fear of death.

It is the power of God to restore us to the Father in intimate relationship.

As a result, it redeems us from the curse of those problems and brings Salvation and deliverance, to our spirit and soul, healing to our physical body and financial freedom to serve him and fulfill His calling and purpose in our life.

This power comes, as we believed the finish work of Jesus on the cross for us.

For those who are being saved, tells us it has the power of saved, to set free but it has also the power to keep. Keeping power of the cross!

**2 types of people who could not enter into the power of the cross of Jesus.**

**1Cor 1:22 Jews ask for miraculous sign:**

There is no lack of miracles but they just could not believe Jesus is the Son of God, making himself equal with God. They were also looking to see what power he has as the King of the Jews to deliver them. The wanted a Messiah who can **instantly deliver** them their **physical oppressor**.

Mt 12:38 **Sign of Jonah:** They want instant Kingdom: **Stop them enter in by faith from tradition**. Unless you allow yourself to be thrown into the sea; if you stay at the comfort zone, it will causes others to perish because we are not being responsible to the message of the cross by preaching and living in it.

When we experience death in the deep belly, resurrection power will come.

Today, many Christian despise the finish work of Christ on the cross. We see it in History, we believe it in our mind but it has no real power in what we are going through. We are constantly demanding for miraculous sign. If we don’t see it now, if we don’t experience it now, we say it doesn’t work; we begin to look to the world for answer.

We don’t realize it is **by believing, by faith** that God’s power is going to continue **to save us and keep us** as we realize what the cross has already done for us, though we might not experience t just yet.

The Greek: It is foolishness to believe the Cross-could accomplish all these.

**1:20 Greek: wise in the eye of this world.**

**Let’s look at the message of the Cross-on what Jesus has accomplished**

Became sin… we might have his righteousness. 2Cor 5:21

Curse… His blessing Gal 3:13-14

Poor… Rich 2Cor 8:9

Suffer… Healed 1Pet 2:24

Shame… Dignity Col 2:14

Rejected by God… Accepted by God

Loser… Victor Rm 8:37

Bruised… Whole

This world is saying: if you want life, you must save it, and you must do everything for your self. That is the message of the world, the message that is based on the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. That fruit will bring death no matter how right logical it sounds.

The idea if the cross doesn’t go down well with **Peter**. How could Jesus go to Jerusalem and die, if he is to rule over Israel? Mt 16:**23 Peter, who has work miracles, who has just confessed that Jesus is the Christ, still resisted the message of the Cross-.** If through dying, the kingdom of God has arrived, Peter would not have resisted. Don’t presume you are living in the power of God unless you are believing in the message of the Cross and living under the power of cross.

# The message of the Cross by Jesus

In order to help peter get the right message, Jesus preached the message of the cross that we will have to carry in order that we might receive life. We receive life by believing and following Him. You can’t believe Him without following Him.

Mt 16:24 if anyone would come after me, he **must deny himself, take up his cross and follow me**. Whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever **loses his lower**, natural life for me, will **find God’s higher** spiritual life, eternal life.

**The message of the Cross by Jesus** is a message of deny your own desire; our selfishness, our pride, **a message of sacrifice, a message of suffering and dying for the right motive**, for the right person Jesus **in order that every hindrance to the life and power of God will be removed**. This is not as literal cross but it is to live by the principle of the Cross of Jesus. **This is what it means for us to enter into the Cross life of Jesus.**

**When we let go for God’s sake, we will find life, by losing we gain, by dying, we receive life.**

To take up the cross is to suffer for what others has done wrong for the sake pf Christ, just like Jesus. When it is our own sin, we just come to the cross of Jesus.

E.g.: when you have a miss-understanding with some one, you are angry with the person, but when you let go of your pride and take up the cross, you humble yourselves and apologize to the person, you gain life and peace instead of misery.

2 Cor 4:10-12, 2:14, 15

Jn 20:27 the prove of resurrection is the make of death.

If you do it, it will save you, it will bring profit to you, you will find life, the power of God will flow through you and bring the finished work of Jesus into your life.

**Many Christian are still living by principle of this world.**

We still live by the same value and knowledge and principle as this world, this has causes us to lose the salvation of God. We are living by our **own strength**. We can’t live sacrificially because it means we are losing out. We can only live by sight but not by faith.

Yes, **you will gain this world because it comes by hard work and toil, it is all self-effort**. The worst deception for Christian is to equate what they gain living to please them as the blessing from God.

## Let’s look at message of the Cross that Jesus preached

**Jn 12:24 Corn of wheat** must die- the beautiful outer shell or coat, hard. Life is locked within. When it loses that outer beauty, it will bring forth fruits 30 fold.

When you lose your life for him… gain life Mt 16:24

Give … given to you, press down

Humble … lifted up

Weak … strong with his grace and power

Not my will … your will, Father

Seek his righteousness … all your needs will be met

Rm 6:5 Grafted into his death.

Cuts the bark of the stock, sips the graft into its place in the cut bark, bind it up and leave it for some tome. The tree and graft will have become united into one life. The message of the cross is the power of God for those who are being saved. Yes, we need to come back to what Jesus has done for us on the cross to stayed delivered.

**There is also the other aspect of where we need to live in the principle of the cross of Christ**, to deny ourselves, to pay the price to follow Jesus so that we might be able to stay under the power of the Cross **and received life. Jn 6:54-57 Eat flesh, drink blood.**

**Gal 2:20** in letting go, denying ourselves, dying by caring our cross, we are living by faith in Jesus and believing the message of the Cross, and therefore enter into His life and His power, saving our souls by entering into His salvation.

# In Christ Jesus 1Cor 1:30

God did more than sending Jesus to die for us on the cross and tool our sin with Him and accepts us. He took hold of our life, and put it in His Son Jesus. He did not only send His son to die on the cross for us, he also took us to the cross and nailed us with His Son, that we also die in Him (I have been crucified with Christ. )

This is also truth that cannot be understood by **human wisdom**! It is mature wisdom, wisdom that comes by the revelation of the Holy Spirit. This wisdom came in Jesus!

W**hen God put us in Christ, what ever is true of Jesus now true of us**. He went to the cross, we went with Him. He die, we also die. He was buried, we are also buried with Christ through Baptism, He rose again, and we are also resurrected with him to new life in Christ Jesus. He then placed His Holy Spirit in us enable us to live this new life that we already have.

### Our experiences

We can quite easily those truth but the problem is that there are things in our live that we have try to overcome and fail again and again. We know they are sin in our life. As a result, we struggle in our conscious, we doubt in our heart whether the cross is really so powerful! We have no more faith to believe it is possible to live. Some just give up and we just maintain a religious life but without the power of God in it. To some of us, it sis even better if we have not believe Jesus, because we were more happy then. Now we feel so bad that we have failed and there is just no way we can live that life. Instead of living in hope, we live in hopelessness because we just can’t see how we are going to make it.

We try to believe we are accepted, but we FEEL rejected. Full of fear, fear of further rejection, unacceptable, we expect to fail, sees ourselves as failure. Fear dominates our life, not the Holy Spirit. Dare not step out in faith for we are sure to fail God!

1:26-29

If we continue to live a defeated life, we continue to be weak, to be foolish to believe the power of the cross that has not been working so well in our life. To nullify the things that are or to change our circumstances around us, which we didn’t and we couldn’t, we are stuck! With this sort of life, do you think we will shame the wise, shame the strong, to causes them to realize that they need what we have? No way!

The wise thinks that they are clever, they know what is right and they can make it by their own wisdom. (Greek) The strong think that they don’t need help. They depend on their performance to win approval and God’s favor! (Jews: Keeping the law)

**We cried to God for help and expecting Him to do something! He will do nothing for He has already done all He could for us! We are still trying to be what we have already become in Christ by our spiritual birth. Jn 3:3,36**

He has already made us Holy, acceptable, righteous.

To be a Christian is not a matter of getting something but it is being someone.

What did God have to do to transform us, so that we can put the wise and the strong to shame?

He put us IN Christ Jesus! Jesus become our power V24 and became our wisdom! We talk about the power of God cam as we believe the message of the Cross and living by the message of the Cross.

We are put In Christ Jesus, Christ does not just give us wisdom. He is our wisdom.

God know that if He save us from our sin, give us a new life and give us his righteousness, he knows we will be hopeless right from the star. He know that we will sin and fail. Yes, in His mercy, He will forgive and restore us to His righteousness.

1. So, in His wisdom, he gave Jesus to be our righteousness.

When we are put in Christ Jesus, we are clothed with Jesus all over, His virtue has become our virtue, we are accepted before God because Jesus is accepted before the Father, he pleases the Father in all thing. We are in right relationship with God, not because we have succeeded in living without sin, but because Jesus cleanses me from all sin and is my righteousness.

Jesus is my righteousness and he never sins. He never fails. He is never unrighteousness. My righteousness doesn’t not depend on my performance, but on my position in Christ! I am righteousness only because God has made His son my righteousness. I will never ever for one moment be able to stand before God because it is my righteousness, even through out eternity, no matter how much God has been using me.

**3. Jesus is my holiness**.

If we strive to be holy on our own, we will definitely fail. Our heart becomes harden to God’s grace. We become very legalistic. How holy can I be before God will accept me? But God consider me Holy because I am in Christ. Col 1:22

The Holy Spirit was not given to me to make me Holy nor was he given when I become holy! I am being changed from glory into glory by the working of the Holy Spirit in my life.

How can it be that I need to be changed to be more like Him and yet be regarded as holy?

Because Jesus Christ is my Holiness.

**Call to be saints**, 1 Cor 1:2 Phi 1:1 not by hard work, but tells me that I am rightly to God. I am beloved, Rm 1:7 Chosen, holy Col3: 12 2Th 2:13 sanctified by the Holy Spirit/ holy Brethren Heb 3:1

**The Holy Spirit is given to enable my performance will match my position more closely.**

**The only standard of righteousness and holiness acceptable to God is perfection!** The only way we can be accepted by God is in Christ Jesus. If you still work to be accepted, you will condemn your life to be one of striving and living by legalism. We can only be considered perfect in God’s sight because of our position in the perfect one, on His performance.

It is not true that God accept you as you are! If that is true, Jesus would not need to die. He accepts you completely, fully, perfectly in Jesus Christ.

We do not have a righteousness of our own; we do not need one because Jesus is my righteousness. My relationship with God does not depend on my, but because of God’s mercy, he place me in Christ. Christ standing becomes my standing.

## What about our performance?

Does it means that it doesn’t matter if I sin? No.

God wants us to live in Him, to abide in Him; He wants us to live in righteousness. The more I trust in my position in Christ, the more I will able to live in righteousness. When I fail, I know that can be sure of God’s forgiveness because of my position in Christ, the righteousness one. When I fail, I am not cut off or separated from Christ. God sees me in Him, clothed with His righteousness though he sees my nakedness inside. He close to put me in Christ, so He sees me clothed with Jesus and Jesus is my righteousness.

God knows that even with the Holy Spirit living inside us, we are not going to attain perfection in the way we live. He ensures that we are always acceptable in His sight because it depends on Jesus, not on us.

**The more our performances match our position Christ, the more effective we are as His witnesses to confound the wise and the strong of this world!** His life will flow more freely and he is able to use more to bear fruits for His Glory.

3. He is my redemption.

Jesus did not just redeem me with His blood and life, he is also my redemption**. I stayed redeemed because He is my redemption**. I belong and always will belong to God’s eternal Kingdom because I am in Him. None shall snatch me from His hand.

Satan will try to prevent us from living the life that we have in Christ by falsely accusing us. To cause us to think that we are a failure, sinful, to take our eyes away from Jesus and away from the position that we are in Christ onto ourselves, to live under the burden of guilt and condemnation, to rob you of joy and life in Jesus. To keep us living in defeat rather than in victory.

**The more we look at the facts and not at the truth of God**, your feeling will remain negative and all that Jesus has done for you will be so unreal. As you focus on the truth, your felling about yourselves will change supernatural and truth is able to change the facts. We need to take the focus off ourselves and put our freedom that Christ has set us free.

What a Blessing to be in Christ! We need to be aware of our position in Christ and live in victory in Christ by keeping our eyes on Jesus who is the power of God and our wisdom.

2 Timothy 2:2 NIV

[2] And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others.[2] 你 在 許 多 見 證 人 面 前 聽 見 我 所 教 訓 的 ， 也 要 交 託 那 忠 心 能 教 導 別 人 的 人 。

We are to reproduce what we have received and multiply it.

# THE DEFINITION OF DISCIPLESHIP

# Lesson 1 Heavenly Discipling!

**We are looking for methods, Jesus looks for relationship to mentor.**

**When we think of discipleship, we think of methods:**

I do, you watch. We do together. You do, I watch. You do by yourself

How to read the bible, pray, witness, give, meeting, fellowship, heal, cast out demons, faith, obedience.

Jesus focus the major part of His ministry on earth by discipling His disciples

so that they will continue the work after He has gone!

He sums up what He has accomplished with them in His last report to the Father about His work.

John 17:4 I have brought you glory on earth by completing the work you gave me to do.

[4] 我 在 地 上 已 經 榮 耀 你 ， 你 所 託 付 我 的 事 ， 我 已 成 全 了 。

John 17:25-26 NIV

[25] "Righteous Father, though the world does not know you, I know you, and they know that you have sent me. [26] I have made **you known to them**, and will continue to make you known in order that the love you have for me may be in them and that I **myself may be in them."**

約 翰 福 音 17:25-26 CUV

[25] 公 義 的 父 阿 ， 世 人 未 曾 認 識 你 ， 我 卻 認 識 你 ； 這 些 人 也 知 道 你 差 了 我 來 。 [26] 我 已 將 你 的 名 指 示 他 們 ， 還 要 指 示 他 們 ， 使 你 所 愛 我 的 愛 在 他 們 裡 面 ， 我 也 在 他 們 裡 面 。

The final result of His discipling is they know the Father, therefore, they know who they are. They know they are one with Jesus. They know what Jesus has done for them on the cross.

They may have what Jesus had, the love of the Father. What ever Jesus received from the Father!

**Discipleship is being before doing!**

As a result, they are willing to die to themselves. They are able to do what they do by His life am

And power, the power of the Holy Spirit.

For them to Live in Him!

# DISCIPLESHIP is bringing Christ to the people and the people to live totally in Christ.

**How did He do that?**

**a. Jesus' primary call** to His disciples is to come to Him!

"**Come to Me"** 到 我 這 裡 來

Know who He really is and through Him to know the Father..

Know who the Father is, Love, forgiveness , grace, riches, patience.

Know who you are in relation with him, it is a love relationship.

Matt. 11:27 “All things have been committed to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

Matt. 11:28 “Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.

[27] 一 切 所 有 的 ， 都 是 我 父 交 付 我 的 ； 除 了 父 ， 沒 有 人 知 道 子 ； 除 了 子 和 子 所 願 意 指 示 的 ， 沒 有 人 知 道 父 。 [28] 凡 勞 苦 擔 重 擔 的 人 可 以 到 我 這 裡 來 ， 我 就 使 你 們 得 安 息 。

Matt. 11:29 Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

Matt. 11:30 For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.” 馬 太 福 音 11:27-30 CUV

[29] 我 心 裡 柔 和 謙 卑 ， 你 們 當 負 我 的 軛 ， 學 我 的 樣 式 ； 這 樣 ， 你 們 心 裡 就 必 得 享 安 息 。 [30] 因 為 我 的 軛 是 容 易 的 ， 我 的 擔 子 是 輕 省 的 。

When we have the law and we try to live by the law, walk according to it, we fall short.

How much holier, more commitment, read the bible.

We have more knowledge, but we live out very little.

**1.1 When we entered into His rest**, **we will do greater things!**

We become one with Him by being yoked together with Him. His strength, His plan and purpose becomes ours.

Oxen yokes together to drag the cart to accomplish the mission,

There is the stronger one yoke with a weaker animal.

The weaker one just follow the leading of the stronger!

When we trust Him and allow Him to live through us, we rest in Him.

That is when we enter into His abundance! We partake of His glory! We have His strength.

I in them and you in me.

**b. It is being before Doing!**

Mark records: "He appointed twelve, that they might be **with Him**, and that He might **send them out** to preach, and to have authority to cast out the demons" (Mark 3:14, 15) [14] 他 就 設 立 十 二 個 人 ， 要 他 們 常 和 自 己 同 在 ， 也 要 差 他 們 去 傳 道 ， [15] 並 給 他 們 權 柄 趕 鬼 。

Spend time with Him to know who He is, Who He represent, His mission. Watch what He does and How He lived.

Then receive His life and authority and do like wise.

1. **The whole issue of discipleship is “Faith In Him”.**

**Faith in Him: His life is in us!**

Jesus did what He did because He believed the Father is living in Him

The Father do all the work!

John 14:10 Don’t you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me?

The words I say to you are not just my own. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work.

John 14:11 Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the miracles themselves. [10] 我 在 父 裡 面 ， 父 在 我 裡 面 ， 你 不 信 麼 ？ 我 對 你 們 所 說 的 話 ， 不 是 憑 著 自 己 說 的 ， 乃 是 住 在 我 裡 面 的 父 做 他 自 己 的 事 。 [11] 你 們 當 信 我 ， 我 在 父 裡 面 ， 父 在 我 裡 面 ； 即 或 不 信 ， 也 當 因 我 所 做 的 事 信 我 。

# John 14:12 I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. 約 翰 福 音 14:10-12 CUV

# [12] 我 實 實 在 在 的 告 訴 你 們 ， 我 所 做 的 事 ， 信 我 的 人 也 要 做 ， 並 且 要 做 比 這 更 大 的 事 ， 因 為 我 往 父 那 裡 去 。

Out of that relationship, come the word and work, the miracles.

Everything hinges on how much we believe the Jesus living in us!

**We follow Him, obey Him**

**What has Jesus been doing?**

**He has been revealing the Father to the people .**

**and telling them that they are one with the Father and with Him!**

**All that He did is because of this reality!**

**How much we believed in His life in us will determine what we will do.**

**The greatest miracle is we become a child of God! The Father is in us.**

**It is not the spectacular miracles Jesus is talking about.**

**Raising the dead.**

**We are not imitating him in what He did, but**

**His life in us will continue to do the things He has been doing.**

**Greater things than these; reaching out just the Jews but the Gentiles, the nations.**

**The world will know Him when we , the Christian, truly know He is in us. Every one of us has this life flowing in and out of us.**

**Do what He wants, we allow His life to manifest through us.**

John 17:20 “My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, [20] 我 不 但 為 這 些 人 祈 求 ， 也 為 那 些 因 他 們 的 話 信 我 的 人 祈 求 ，

John 17:21 that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. **May they also be in us** so that the world may believe that you have sent me.

John 17:22 I **have given them the glory** that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one: [21] 使 他 們 都 合 而 為 一 。 正 如 你 父 在 我 裡 面 ， 我 在 你 裡 面 ， 使 他 們 也 在 我 們 裡 面 ， 叫 世 人 可 以 信 你 差 了 我 來 。 [22] 你 所 賜 給 我 的 榮 耀 ， 我 已 賜 給 他 們 ， 使 他 們 合 而 為 一 ， 像 我 們 合 而 為 一 。

John 17:23 I in them and you in me. May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.

[23] 我 在 他 們 裡 面 ， 你 在 我 裡 面 ， 使 他 們 完 完 全 全 的 合 而 為 一 ， 叫 世 人 知 道 你 差 了 我 來 ， 也 知 道 你 愛 他 們 如 同 愛 我 一 樣 。

What is this unity?

V21 May they also be in us! This unity is unity with God the Father , the Son and one another!

V22 we may have the same glory as Jesus has been given!

**The power of being one with one another and one with God, living in God!**

**The goal of Jesus mission is that the disciples will know the Father through Him.**

**Our goal is even greater, the world might believe that God sent His son!**

* 1. **It is only when we know we are In Christ, will the world know Jesus through us!**

**The magnitude of the fullness of the Life in Christ can only be fully know when we are one as a Church!**

**One individual body cannot contain the fullness but together,**

**we will be able to make such an impact that the world will come to see Him!**

Eph. 1:23 which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way. **以 弗 所 書 1:23 CUV**

**[23] 教 會 是 他 的 身 體 ， 是 那 充 滿 萬 有 者 所 充 滿 的 。**

**We are the Gospel read by all man!!**

Jesus is manifested through our lives. The same love of God in Jesus is in us! We are truly sons of God!

**2. We are discipling People in their identity!**

**2.1 We do not deal with behavior but our belief system!**

**If we believe He is in us, we are truly sons of God, we will seek the Father, do the Father’s work.**

**Pro 23:7 As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he.**

Greatest discovery of recent time: when you change a man’s belief, you changed the person.

Dealing with behavior is trying to change by the work of the flesh!

Gal. 3:1 You foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? Before your very eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed as crucified. Gal. 3:2 I would like to learn just one thing from you: Did you receive the Spirit by observing the law, or by believing what you heard? Gal. 3:3 Are you so foolish? After beginning with the Spirit, are you now trying to attain your goal by human effort?

[1] 無 知 的 加 拉 太 人 哪 ， 耶 穌 基 督 釘 十 字 架 ， 已 經 活 畫 在 你 們 眼 前 ， 誰 又 迷 惑 了 你 們 呢 ？ [2] 我 只 要 問 你 們 這 一 件 ： 你 們 受 了 聖 靈 ， 是 因 行 律 法 呢 ？ 是 因 聽 信 福 音 呢 ？ [3] 你 們 既 靠 聖 靈 入 門 ， 如 今 還 靠 肉 身 成 全 麼 ？ 你 們 是 這 樣 的 無 知 麼 ？

**We need to keep coming back to the position we are in Christ**

**and trust Him to lead and work through us.**

**We yoked with Him and rest.**

**Our focus is not on the problem but on Him, on following Him!**

**Peter: Walking on water, eyes off Him, no faith.**

**2.2 The major thing we want to accomplish in discipling: Who we are In Christ!**

It is to bring people into understanding of what have already happened to us when we have Jesus.

We have everything we needed in Jesus and we can live to the fullness in Christ.

We are to reveal to them what they already have!

* 1. **We are bringing them into the revelation of their identity in Christ. “Who am I ?**

**i. In Christ:** Christ in you, the hope of glory.

Col. 1:27 To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. 歌 羅 西 書 1:27 CUV

[27] 神 願 意 叫 他 們 知 道 ， 這 奧 祕 在 外 邦 人 中 有 何 等 豐 盛 的 榮 耀 ， 就 是 基 督 在 你 們 心 裡 成 了 有 榮 耀 的 盼 望 。

The abudance and riches and glory are in Christ! We disciple people to know this and believed what Jesus has done and to live out this life that we have!

### ii. COMPLETE IN CHRIST

In Him you have been made complete.

Col. 2:9 For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form,

Col. 2:10 and you have been **given fullness in Christ**, who is the head over every power and authority. 歌 羅 西 書 2:9-10 CUV

[9] 因 為 神 本 性 一 切 的 豐 盛 都 有 形 有 體 的 居 住 在 基 督 裡 面 ， [10] 你 們 在 他 裡 面 也 得 了 豐 盛 。 他 是 各 樣 執 政 掌 權 者 的 元 首 。

We do not need to look to others but by keep coming to Him to meet all of our needs.

**Discipleship simply put, it is Christ!**

# Lesson 2 The purpose of discipling! Turning from Idols to Christ!

**1 When we are discipling someone, we are taking the person**

1. out of Egypt , a position of slavery and bondage!
2. into the promise land: a position of rest and abundance in Christ.

1.1 To enter The promise land is to enter into **the rest we have in Christ and his abundance.**

Heb. 4:9 There remains, then, a Sabbath-rest for the people of God;

Heb. 4:10 for anyone **who enters God’s rest also rests from his own work**, just as God did from his.

Heb. 4:11 Let us, therefore, **make every effort to enter that rest, so** that no one will fall by following their example of disobedience. 希 伯 來 書 4:9-11 CUV

[9] 這 樣 看 來 ， 必 另 有 一 安 息 日 的 安 息 為 神 的 子 民 存 留 。 [10] 因 為 那 進 入 安 息 的 ， 乃 是 歇 了 自 己 的 工 ， 正 如 神 歇 了 他 的 工 一 樣 。 [11] 所 以 ， 我 們 務 必 竭 力 進 入 那 安 息 ， 免 得 有 人 學 那 不 信 從 的 樣 子 跌 倒 了 。

It does not mean do nothing when we rest from our work, we now obey and do His work by His strength.

The Jews were still seeking for things to satisfied their needs rather than looking to God to meet their needs. They are still not trusting!

When we deal with the behaviour rather than deal with the heart,

We try by our effort to be righteous, to be holy, to gain the acceptance of the Father. To please Him. We find that we fail again and again

John 10:10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full. [10] 盜 賊 來 ， 無 非 要 偷 竊 ， 殺 害 ， 毀 壞 ； 我 來 了 ， 是 要 叫 羊 （ 或 作 ： 人 ） 得 生 命 ， 並 且 得 的 更 豐 盛 。

The thief will have us to strife by our performance , self effort to get accepted. The praises of man to feel we are worthy. We lose the rest of God.

1.2. **The purpose of discipling is to bring the unique self under the control of the flesh to become the unique self under the control of the Spirit.**

**The goal of discipleship**: We disciple people into the rest of Jesus!

Trust in Jesus. Live in the abundance of Jesus!

**Rest of God**: **He is doing the work through me.**

Jesus is the author and finisher of our faith. He gives us faith to start and to finish.

**All I have to do is to trust him enough for Him to do it through me.**

He who has entered into the rest of God has stopped from his own work.

We stop doing our work but not stop doing His work in us.

We stop doing soulish work.

**We are given access into His Life through faith!**

John 17:3 Now this is **eternal life:** **that they may know you,** the only true God, and **Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.**

Eternal Life comes by knowing the Father and the Son, Jesus Christ, what the son has done for us.

It comes by relationship.

**2. The New Testament believers are a Royal priesthood, given access into the Holy presence of God.**

The veil into the most Holy Place is rented into two and we are to enter in the most Holy Place.

We entered by faith in what Jesus had done. His blood was shed.

We have entered into His rest and are seated with Christ in heavenly places.

Jesus has become our rest and our Sabbath.

2Cor. 3:13 We are not like Moses, who would put a veil over his face to keep the Israelites from gazing at it while the radiance was fading away.

2Cor. 3:14 But their minds were made dull, for to this day the same veil remains when the old covenant is read. It has not been removed, because **only in Christ is it taken away.**

2Cor. 3:15 Even to this day when Moses is read, a veil covers their hearts. 13] 不 像 摩 西 將 帕 子 蒙 在 臉 上 ， 叫 以 色 列 人 不 能 定 睛 看 到 那 將 廢 者 的 結 局 。 [14] 但 他 們 的 心 地 剛 硬 ， 直 到 今 日 誦 讀 舊 約 的 時 候 ， 這 帕 子 還 沒 有 揭 去 。 這 帕 子 在 基 督 裡 已 經 廢 去 了 。 [15] 然 而 直 到 今 日 ， 每 逢 誦 讀 摩 西 書 的 時 候 ， 帕 子 還 在 他 們 心 上 。

Veil: They see the law as an end to itself. They are still trying to come to God by keeping the law.

The law is our school master .

They do not see that the law was leading them to Christ.

Galatians 3:24 KJV

[24] Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith.

[24] 這 樣 ， 律 法 是 我 們 訓 蒙 的 師 傅 ， 引 我 們 到 基 督 那 裡 ， 使 我 們 因 信 稱 義 。

When ever we live by the law, by our effort to gain approval and acceptance to God, the veil is over us.

2Cor. 3:16 But **whenever anyone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away.**

2Cor. 3:17 Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is **freedom.**

歌 林 多 後 書 3:[[16] 但 他 們 的 心 幾 時 歸 向 主 ， 帕 子 就 幾 時 除 去 了 。 [17] 主 就 是 那 靈 ； 主 的 靈 在 那 裡 ， 那 裡 就 得 以 自 由 。

**2.1 Unbelief** has become the new veil ( Our flesh) that has stopped us from entering in.

**The Israelite wonder in the wilderness for 40 years.**

We can move but not moving forward.

Many Christian also wonder in worry, fear, strife, work by their own strength.

They never enter into their rest in God. We are trying to be what Christ has done for us!

That is why we can cry for Jesus to save us and help us in our sin, he did not listen.

He has done it.

When we lived in **unbelief**, we do not understand what God has done for us,

**We turn to idols** of worries, work, relationship, pleasure, wealth, or

**anything we trust to meet our needs for Significance, love and acceptance, security other than God!**

We are not free until we turn to God and know who we are in Christ.

**2. 2We turn to idols when we live in unbelief to help me get through life.**

Jer. 2:5 This is what the LORD says: “What fault did your fathers find in me, that they strayed so far from me? They followed **worthless idols** and became worthless themselves. 耶 利 米 書 2:5 CUV

[5] 耶 和 華 如 此 說 ： 你 們 的 列 祖 見 我 有 甚 麼 不 義 ， 竟 遠 離 我 ， 隨 從 虛 無 的 　 神 ， 自 己 成 為 虛 妄 的 呢 ？

Ezek. 20:8 “ ‘But they rebelled against me and would not listen to me; they **did not get rid of the vile imag**es they had set their eyes on, nor did they forsake the **idols of Egypt.** So I said I would pour out my wrath on them and spend my anger against them in Egypt.

[8] 他 們 卻 悖 逆 我 ， 不 肯 聽 從 我 ， 不 拋 棄 他 們 眼 所 喜 愛 那 可 憎 之 物 ， 不 離 棄 埃 及 的 偶 像 。 我 就 說 ， 我 要 將 我 的 忿 怒 傾 在 他 們 身 上 ， 在 埃 及 地 向 他 們 成 就 我 怒 中 所 定 的 。

They did not enter because they did not forsake the idols of Egypt.

Unbelief will cause us to go back to Egypt. We want it our ways, what we are used to.

The veil represents the work of the flesh.

Ezek. 20:12 Also I gave them my Sabbaths as a sign between us, so they would know that I the LORD made them holy. 12] 又 將 我 的 安 息 日 賜 給 他 們 ， 好 在 我 與 他 們 中 間 為 證 據 ， 使 他 們 知 道 我 ─ 耶 和 華 是 叫 他 們 成 為 聖 的 。

**Jesus has becomes our Sabbath!**

**Instead of the 8 days walk to get to the promise land, they took 40 years.**

**Eg:** Jacob’s wife Rachel has to follow the God of her husband but still want the household god of her father. Genesis 31:17-19 NIV

[17] Then Jacob put his children and his wives on camels, [18] and he drove all his livestock ahead of him, along with all the goods he had accumulated in Paddan Aram, to go to his father Isaac in the land of Canaan. [19] When Laban had gone to shear his sheep, Rachel stole her father's household gods.

[17] 雅 各 起 來 ， 使 他 的 兒 子 和 妻 子 都 騎 上 駱 駝 ， [18] 又 帶 著 他 在 巴 旦 亞 蘭 所 得 的 一 切 牲 畜 和 財 物 ， 往 迦 南 地 、 他 父 親 以 撒 那 裡 去 了 。 [19] 當 時 拉 班 剪 羊 毛 去 了 ， 拉 結 偷 了 他 父 親 家 中 的 神 像 。

**Our idols!** When we enter the Holy Place, where the Spirit of the Lord dwells, we are free!

Eph 5:18 Be not drunk with wine but be filled with the Spirit.

[18] 不 要 醉 酒 ， 酒 能 使 人 放 蕩 ； 乃 要 被 聖 靈 充 滿 。

**We are using wine to dull our pain and misery instead of God.**

**The wine represents the work of the soul this is due to our unbelief that** Jesus can meet our need.

**The wine is the work of the flesh, our idols consist of**

**good behavior**, my self effort or good work or fear or worry, withdrawal, fantasy,

I don’t care( it doesn’t matter), self hatred ( I am bad: how I cope with my hurt) .

They are all as bad as the wine or immoral behavior of the unbeliever.

**Eg: anger** justifies what we do and our rebellion.

It makes us feel good. It gives us enough courage to do what we are not supposed to do.

**Addiction** coveys the message that we are stupid and make us feel hopeless to make sure we will do it again.. You stop growing emotionally. We still need to grow or else, we will still go back to drug thinking we are hopeless.

**Idols that take care of pain or rejection**: Obsession on sex. I have pleasure instead of pain, acceptance instead of rejection. It will cause more pain eventually. It is a cycle.

2.3 Idols stop us from entering into the rest.

**We are to disciple people in order to bring them into the promise land.**

Phil. 2:12 Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed—not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence—**continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling,** Phil. 2:13 for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose.

[12] 這 樣 看 來 ， 我 親 愛 的 弟 兄 ， 你 們 既 是 常 順 服 的 ， 不 但 我 在 你 們 那 裡 ， 就 是 我 如 今 不 在 你 們 那 裡 ， 更 是 順 服 的 ， 就 當 恐 懼 戰 兢 做 成 你 們 得 救 的 工 夫 。 [13] 因 為 你 們 立 志 行 事 都 是 神 在 你 們 心 裡 運 行 ， 為 要 成 就 他 的 美 意 。

**2.4. We are in Christ, we already had the revelation of living in the Spirit**.

**Discipling is to do with the walking in the spirit, walking in Faith in what Jesus had already done.**

**Faith means something hope for! I believe I have it though I had not enter into it but I continue to hold on to the promise.**

Phil. 2:13 for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose.

**1 Corinthians 13:10-11 NIV**

**[10] but when perfection comes, the imperfect disappears. [11] When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put childish ways behind me. [10] 等 那 完 全 的 來 到 ， 這 有 限 的 必 歸 於 無 有 了 。 [11] 我 作 孩 子 的 時 候 ， 話 語 像 孩 子 ， 心 思 像 孩 子 ， 意 念 像 孩 子 ， 既 成 了 人 ， 就 把 孩 子 的 事 丟 棄 了 。**

We know we have the Spirit of God.

**God will bring me to the place where we will let him take the idols away.**

He takes us to something better.

When we lift Christ up in our lives, the idols will be done away with.

**iii. Continue to live in Him!**

Col. 2:6 So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, **continue to live in him,** Col. 2:7 **rooted and built up in him**, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness. **[6] 你 們 既 然 接 受 了 主 基 督 耶 穌 ， 就 當 遵 他 而 行 ， [7] 在 他 裡 面 生 根 建 造 ， 信 心 堅 固 ， 正 如 你 們 所 領 的 教 訓 ， 感 謝 的 心 也 更 增 長 了 。**

**Galatians Church moved away from this. We need to continue to live in this truth no matter what had happened to us!**

**Rooted, going deeper in Him so the wind and storm will not be able to uproot us. The failure, the discouragement.**

**Instead, it cause our faith to be even stronger now we know the fullness of His grace! Our weakness drive us to Him.**

**Peter’s faith was strengthen by his failure. Now he knows the acceptance of God no matter how big time he failed, the love of God.**

**It is rooted in Christ, not his performance.**

**The thief will come and accuse you of being a hyprocrite.**

**The guy just proved that he is a man. Without Christ, there is no hope of glory.**

**2 Corinthians 12:7-9 NIV**

**[7] To keep me from becoming conceited because of these surpassingly great revelations, there was given me a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me. [8] Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. [9] But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness. " Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me.**

**歌 林 多 後 書 12:7-9 CUV**

**[7] 又 恐 怕 我 因 所 得 的 啟 示 甚 大 ， 就 過 於 自 高 ， 所 以 有 一 根 刺 加 在 我 肉 體 上 ， 就 是 撒 但 的 差 役 要 攻 擊 我 ， 免 得 我 過 於 自 高 。 [8] 為 這 事 ， 我 三 次 求 過 主 ， 叫 這 刺 離 開 我 。 [9] 他 對 我 說 ： 我 的 恩 典 夠 你 用 的 ， 因 為 我 的 能 力 是 在 人 的 軟 弱 上 顯 得 完 全 。 所 以 ， 我 更 喜 歡 誇 自 己 的 軟 弱 ， 好 叫 基 督 的 能 力 覆 庇 我 。**

Rooted : **Growing in Christ.**

**We are connected to Christ and grow in Christlikeness. which is possible when our identity and maturity are in Christ.**

**iv. Our identity is firmly rooted in Him.**

We need to grow in maturity in Christ. We keep focusing on Him, so we can draw from Him to do what He wants. We need others to help us through.

### Col. 1:28 We proclaim him, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone perfect in Christ. 歌 羅 西 書 1:28 CUV

### [28] 我 們 傳 揚 他 ， 是 用 諸 般 的 智 慧 ， 勸 戒 各 人 ， 教 導 各 人 ， 要 把 各 人 在 基 督 裡 完 完 全 全 的 引 到 神 面 前 。

There is nothing that is outside Jesus that we need. We just need to dig deeper!

v. We become what we are in Christ! Perfect in Christ.Mature in Christ!

**There is a process of working towards it .**

Growing can be an individual thing which does not require the dynamics of others (although it helps). For example if I am living on an island all by myself, I can still grow through my own study of the Word and prayer.

**BUILDING: being built up in Him" (verse 7).**

But building is something that requires the dynamics of others.

It is the rubbing together of different individuals and as **Proverbs 27; 17** says: *“As iron sharpens iron so one man sharpens another.”*

Eph. 4:16 From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work. 以 弗 所 書 4:16 CUV

[16] 全 身 都 靠 他 聯 絡 得 合 式 ， 百 節 各 按 各 職 ， 照 著 各 體 的 功 用 彼 此 相 助 ， 便 叫 身 體 漸 漸 增 長 ， 在 愛 中 建 立 自 己 。

Note also that **Ephesians 4: 16** did not just say *“building”* but *“building itself up”.*

Instead it means that when we all come together, we may come weak but walk away strong because of our togetherness.

* 1. **We want to establish people in their identity in Christ Because every person lives out off their identity.**

What we believe is what we will live out off.

**My belief system rules m**e and it is **born out of my emotion.**

Christian knows in their mind but not **in their heart**.

**John 13:3,4 Jesus knew who He was**.

He wash the disciples feet.

The old ways or idols does not suite me. I am a child of God.

# Lesson 3 Where do we begin in discipling?

When we disciple them, we have a goal and we have a plan.

No one size fit all.

We take you from where you are to where you should be!

**When we come to Christ, we bring with us two bags!**

Colossians 3:1-5

[1] Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, **set your hearts on things above**, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. [2] **Set your minds on things** above, not on earthly things. [3] For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. [1] 所 以 ， 你 們 若 真 與 基 督 一 同 復 活 ， 就 當 求 在 上 面 的 事 ； 那 裡 有 基 督 坐 在 神 的 右 邊 。 [2] 你 們 要 思 念 上 面 的 事 ， 不 要 思 念 地 上 的 事 。 [3] 因 為 你 們 已 經 死 了 ， 你 們 的 生 命 與 基 督 一 同 藏 在 神 裡 面 。

We have His identity. Our lives hidden in Him!

[4] When **Christ, who is your life, appears,** then you also will appear with him in glory. 5] Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry.

[4] 基 督 是 我 們 的 生 命 ， 他 顯 現 的 時 候 ， 你 們 也 要 與 他 一 同 顯 現 在 榮 耀 裡 。[5] 所 以 ， 要 治 死 你 們 在 地 上 的 肢 體 ， 就 如 淫 亂 、 污 穢 、 邪 情 、 惡 慾 ， 和 貪 婪 。 貪 婪 就 與 拜 偶 像 一 樣 。

You know who you are and what you have, then you put away what you are not!

**We brought into this new life two bags.**

**We just deal with the two bags.**

1.1 **Unique self :** How God made them and their temperament.

1.2 **The flesh bag or The history bag**: **Any man who die, leave behind baggage.**

**A. The unique self bag:**

When I was born, I have no identity because I was dead to God in sin. I was looking to others to tell me who I am. Those messages are received different by different temperament**.**

**The unique self**

Psa. 139:13 For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother’s womb. Psa. 139:14 I praise you because I am fearfully and **wonderfully** made;

your works are wonderful,I know that full well. 詩 篇 139:13-14 CUV

[13] 我 的 肺 腑 是 你 所 造 的 ； 我 在 母 腹 中 ， 你 已 覆 庇 我 。 [14] 我 要 稱 謝 你 ， 因 我 受 造 ， 奇 妙 可 畏 ； 你 的 作 為 奇 妙 ， 這 是 我 心 深 知 道 的 。

**1.1.1 The unique self consists of our inmost being, that part of us that possesses the temperament, talents, abilities, and intellect**.

**1.1.2 The unique self is given by God before birth and begins to manifest itself shortly after birth; it ‘s seat is the soul.**

**1.1.3 Our unique self bags** **which has all the distortion of our self images in it;**

our old identity messages and therefore identity.

We were created in the image of God with all the characteristic of God in us.

We are created for His love.

1John 4:8 Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.

[8] 沒 有 愛 心 的 ， 就 不 認 識 神 ， 因 為 神 就 是 愛 。

When sin entered, the **God image in us is distorted**.

Now, I don’t know who am I.

We can only base our knowledge of who we are from the identity message we get from significance people, teacher, world, surrounding, life experiences.

**1 Living with our lying emotion**.

**1.1 Emotional identity**

**I** live with it for so **long and the message comes from significant others** in my life that I believe it is real. If you are told the lie long enough, it becomes truth to the person.

If my mother, father, sibling,( teacher, friends added to it, ) do not tell me the truth, who will?

The truth is all these people are born dead in their spirit, insane and out of control!

Why do I believe the negative identity messages they are sending to me?

All I need is someone to tell me something that is similar to the identity messages that remind me of my emotional identity, I will react aggressively.

1.2 My behavioral pattern.

My behavioral pattern proves my **emotional identity**.

Now, I do not only have an **emotional identity** born out of my emotion from the **identity messages** that comes from significance people in my life passing through the unique self filter, ( different person react differently to the messages given)

my behavior proves it.

**1.3 My belief system**

Now, I have a cognitive understanding of who I am from my behavior.

This therefore becomes my **belief system**.

**Our emotional identity** which is borne in our emotion,

is proven by our behavior

and it formed our belief system.

**Our belief system rules them.**

**The wolf boy**. The baggage of being a wolf was so strong in his mind, will and emotion that he could not believe the truth he is a boy. Even the image in the mirror does not convince him.

It took years for his **lying emotion to agree with the reality**. The adopted parent did not give up on him.

**1.4 Am I willing to buy the truth by bowing to the lord Jesus**

**and forsaking my selfish and self-centeredness?** Many people argue, live in denial about themselves. Justify, I am like that.

In the process of working it out, we need to buy truth for truth set us free!

We **receive grace which is free but we need to buy truth**.

Revelation 3:18 [18] I counsel you to buy from me gold refined in the fire, so you can become rich; and white clothes to wear, so you can cover your shameful nakedness; and salve to put on your eyes, so you can see. [18] 我 勸 你 向 我 買 火 煉 的 金 子 ， 叫 你 富 足 ； 又 買 白 衣 穿 上 ， 叫 你 赤 身 的 羞 恥 不 露 出 來 ； 又 買 眼 藥 擦 你 的 眼 睛 ， 使 你 能 看 見 。

In order for us to experience the discovery of our true self worth (**pure Gold**), I am loved, precious!

**Rich** : to enter into the abudance of the life Jesesu came to give,

to be free from the accusation and condemnation of the devil ( **Naked**)

White clothes : and be **clothed** in His righteousness, to be able to see God and all that He has done for us,

Salve on my eyes so I can see the truth:

There is a price, trial, we need to buy the Truth

! It cost me my life in exchange for His!

* 1. **Renew our mind, our thinking pattern. Rm 12:2**

Romans 12:2 NIV

[2] Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is---his good, pleasing and perfect will.[2] 不 要 效 法 這 個 世 界 ， 只 要 心 意 更 新 而 變 化 ， 叫 你 們 察 驗 何 為 神 的 善 良 、 純 全 、 可 喜 悅 的 旨 意 。

**We disciple people in their identities!**

We disciple people into what God has already changed for them in their lives **through the renewing of their mind!**

It is a progressive process. Caterpillar, slowly develop and struggles to come through to be a batterfly.

We are dealing with the belief system of the person and not the behavior.

John 8:31-32 NIV

[31] To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, "If you **hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples.** [32] Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."[31] 耶 穌 對 信 他 的 猶 太 人 說 ： 你 們 若 常 常 遵 守 我 的 道 ， 就 真 是 我 的 門 徒 ； [32] 你 們 必 曉 得 真 理 ， 真 理 必 叫 你 們 得 以 自 由 。

**The belief system of the person rules them**.

I lived with the Identity messages from significant people in my life for so long, I believe it is real.

Our belief system is revealed in our every day situation and circumstances.

How we react to what happens to us?

This reveals why we behave the way we did.

**We can not put off until we have become!**

We disciple them into becoming a new person!

**Law of Psychology: You can only possess by dispossessing.**

**Discipling them in who they are so they will be able to live out who they are!**

Enter to possess the land as you dispossess the land from the enemy stronger than yourselves.

There are giants occupying the promise land. Nations greater than them.

**1.5 I need to fill my mind and heart with the truth so people will not be able to control my life**!

I know my identity in Christ. I am Christ control. It frees me to love others at my choice.

Eg: **Marriages** did not create the problem.

Marriage exposes the problem.

The purpose of marriage is to make you miserable to drive out the self-centerness out of my life.

**To the degree you want to live out your selfishness, to that degree it will make you miserable.**

Pastor who has a wallet with photo of the wife, encounter difficult problem, took out and praise God! If I can handle this difficult problem, what else is there to deal with.

Marriage is for us to grow as a person.

People who walk out off their mirage are similar to people who commit physical suicide.

Emotionally, they have already committed suicide.

Their mind have already been separated from their emotion.

**2. My soul needs to walk by faith in my new identity.**

**The ability to Live the new Life is a Faith issue!**

Rom. 6:11 In the same way, **count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ** Jesus. 羅 馬 書 6:[11] 這 樣 ， 你 們 向 罪 也 當 看 自 己 是 死 的 ； 向 神 在 基 督 耶 穌 裡 ， 卻 當 看 自 己 是 活 的 。

Am I willing to buy the truth with my selfishness and self-centeredness by bowing to the Lordship of Jesus?

**2.1 The only answer to lying emotion is Faith!**

Faith in what Jesus has done; in the truth**, faith in my new identity!**

**2.2 The wrong belief system has to be put down!**

**You learn to bow before Jesus and allow Him to be the Lord of your life by putting down self.**

1. **It is the truth that set us free!**

**ii. Truth will cost you some thing.**

Rev. 3:18 I counsel you to **buy** from me gold refined in the fire, so you can become rich; and white clothes to wear, so you can cover your shameful nakedness; and salve to put on your eyes, so you can see.

We pay the price for the truth by bowing to Jesus

and allow Him to be the Lord of each circumstances in life.

**We apply the truth into our real life situation, only then, the truth is truly ours and we have indeed brought the truth!**

**Until you have brought the revelation which you see by your spirit through the circumstances of your lives,**. Until then, you will not experience the abundance that Christ has come to give you.

The truth is now store up in the storeroom of your soul.

**iii. It is only then you have received the truth in your heart**

**The heart is only allowed to believe and not to talk**.

**Not in what I feel but what the truth says!**

Rom. 10:10 For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.[10] 因 為 人 心 裡 相 信 ， 就 可 以 稱 義 ； 口 裡 承 認 ， 就 可 以 得 救 。

The heart is not allowed to doubt, ask question, fear. I bow to the claim of the cross.

**We disciple the New man to walk in obedience to the truth! We need to know the truth!**

Rom. 6:17 But thanks be to God that, though you used to be slaves to sin, you **wholeheartedly obeyed the form of teaching to which you were entrusted.**

Rom. 6:18 **You have been set free from sin** and have become slaves to righteousness.

17] 感 謝 神 ！ 因 為 你 們 從 前 雖 然 作 罪 的 奴 僕 ， 現 今 卻 從 心 裡 順 服 了 所 傳 給 你 們 道 理 的 模 範 。 [18] 你 們 既 從 罪 裡 得 了 釋 放 ， 就 作 了 義 的 奴 僕 。

The soul is the center of operation for the mind, will and emotions.

**The soul became the mediator between the spirit and the body.**

**It determines how we will live in this body.**

# Where Change Begins, By Dr. John C. Maxwell

# 1) When you change your thinking, you change your beliefs.

# 2) When you change your beliefs, you change your expectations.

# 3) When you change your expectations, you change your attitude.

# 4) When you change your attitude, you change your behavior.

# 5) When you change your behavior, you change your performance.

# 6) When you change your performance, you change your life.

We need to disciple them in their true identity in Christ!

When we were under the old Adamic nature, we were slave to sin. We have no choice.

**What does it mean to live in Jesus?**

**Gal 6:14 it is by faith you know that you are already crucified with Christ**. You can’t put yourself to death, crucified yourself and now you have a new life. You are in Christ, now you don’t have an **identity** outside Jesus, you can’t have acceptance outside Jesus. He is your righteousness, holiness, and redemption. You can live the rest of your life in Him. **Because Christ life is eternal, there is no beginning and end. When we area in Christ, we have always been in Him**.

**Col 2:6 Continue to live in Him.**

**i. Don’t move away** from this position you have in Christ Jesus.

We are to be rooted and built up Him. All the external growth that you have from now may have the strong support in the earth or the foundation that you are in Christ Jesus. We must be rooted with the death of Jesus because we are in Christ so that life of the cross can flow in and through us. Rm 6:11 Reckon yourself dead to sin.

**All temptation** is our attempt to meet our needs **independent of God.**

The temptation of Jesus is an attempt to meet his legitimate need independent of God the Father.

Physical need; Bread. Soul; Temp God: if you are the Son of God, prove yourself! Trust God. Spirit; Glory of this world; Worship me

# Jesus total dependence on God; Jn 5:30, 6:57, 8:42, 14:10, 17:7

**Struggling Christian** do not know who they are in Christ and what it is to be a chilled of God. We struggle because

1. We are ignorance. Hosea 4:6
2. Carnality; the lack of repentance and faith in God.
3. Deception; by the fathers of lies. We believe what we do determine who we are. When we fail, failure. Sin: sinner.

**We need to resolve our inner conflicts** before we are able to receive the solid food of God’s word. 1Cor 3:2,3 In Christ, we have the mind of Christ. 1Cor 2:16 We are able to know God personally.

**ii. V8 don’t allow the wisdom of the world deceive you;** by **facts!**

This world’s method of judging who you are depends on performance. The Pharisees saw Simon as uneducated fisherman. Jesus saw him as Peter, who is going to build church. He became Peter not because he follow Jesus, but when the truth came to him, that Jesus is the son of God, the Christ.

In Christ Jesus, **we are who we are by birth by our relationship with God in Jesus**. Now, we will live out who we are with the help of the Holy Spirit. It is by my birth I am related to my father. What ever I have done will not change that fact. When I live in disobedience, it will not change the fact that I am his son, it will however destroy the harmony I have with Him.

What we do does not make us what we are. **What we are will determine what we do**. We can’t consistently behave in a way that is not consistent with who we are. Eph 2:10, 1Pet 2:9,10 1Jn 3:1,2.

**The enemy** will try his best to get you away from this position of victory that you have in Christ Jesus. Eph 6:10,13

**How to continue to live in him?**

**A. This is done by strengthening of your faith** through the **truth** taught to you:

You came into Christ by faith in Jesus and His word. You need faith to believe when tested by your failure and sin.

**The test of the depth of a man’s faith** is whether he can believe in God’s forgiveness in his deepest failure. Peter fail: strengthen the brethren. His faith is stronger than those who did not fail. God can still use him. He was restored within 50 days.

2Th 1:3 Every experience in life prove our need of the work of the cross.

Heb 12:2 Author and finisher of our faith. It is a moment by moment experience.

Fix your eye on Jesus and put your faith on what Christ was done for you.

Eg. Peter walking on water.

**B. Living in thankfulness for what HE has done for you.**

The sinful women who wipe Jesus feet with her tears. Love much!

We will not want to go back into bondage. We live in righteousness because we love Him and we are thankful to him for making us righteous. Gal 3:1-3

We don’t serve God to gain accepted, we are accepted, and so we serve God. Loved- follows. We are not motivated by guilt Rm 8:1 or by fear 2Tim 1:7.

Eph 2:18 3:12 The problem is we got it wrong way round, we thought our life need to get right with God by being more closer to God before he is please with us, love us. So we try to pray more, read the bible more, serve more. The truth is we are already closed to God. He is inviting us to come boldly. Heb 10:22,23

**Gal 5:1 it is for freedom that Christ has set us free; remain in freedom.**

**1.To live in Christ is to live with a new identity! 2Cor 5:17**

**A. How many of us like our old identity?**

We were insecure, have such low self-esteem, and we feel inadequate, inferior because it was build by the system of performance. We were looking for love, approval and acceptance.

We have been looking to the world, to man hoping to hear that we are not what we know we are on the inside. We work very hard to hope to hear that we are lovable, accepted, done well. This might work well for a little while but eventually, we are disappointed. Our worst fear has come true. We feel rejected, unlovable, worthless. We try to change our identity from the outside, our appearance but deep within, we don’t like what we are inside. **We are not to look at others and ourselves from the world’s point of view.**

**When we enter into Chris.**

The old identity that was identify with Adam, sin, failure is gone as we are fully identify with who we are in Christ… What has happened to the old man is gone, it has not happened to the new man.

The reason God did not try to heal the old you is because the old is utterly sinful and beyond repair. It can’t be improved. It is absolutely fallen. The Cross brings an end to the old and brings us into Christ to begin the new.

**B. We are a New creation in Christ**! Not Half Light Eph 5:8

My spirit which was held in the grip of the soul and flesh, and totally cut off from God’s life and spirit was set free by The cross. They Holy Spirit regenerate my spirit, cleansed it by the blood of Jesus and make my spirit His dwelling place. Eph 3:16,17 well in your inner man. In Christ you are a partaker of the divine nature (2Peter 1:4) ; in Christ you are **in the Spirit** (Romans 8:9) ; in Christ you may choose to walk after the Spirit or after the flesh.

# Unity of Spirit

**The same Spirit that was and is in Christ, His inmost self, becomes my inmost self**.

1Cor 6:17 When we joined with the Lord, we are **one Spirit with Him**. A new you with Christ living inside of you. You are totally identifying with Jesus! You are totally a new creature. We take on a new identity after Christ! What is true of Him is true of us.

I am now free from guilt. 1Cor 6:11

I am acceptable.

**C. The new creation living.**

The Holy Spirit is within me as a personal power with a will and a purpose of his own. The Holy Spirit begins to reveal to my spirit and through my mind, make know the will of God of my life. I begin to experience the leading of the Holy Spirit and intimate knowledge of Christ 1Cor 2:12 I begin to understand God.

As I yield my personality to Him and kept in a place of death in union with the death of the Lord Jesus so that the is such a union with the risen Lord that moment by moment, we rely upon Him as our source of action **as we are taught by Holy Spirit**. Instruction 1Jn 2:27. **Jn 5:19,30** I can do nothing of myself!

2Cor 6:16 God dwells in them and walks in them and we walk with Him.

## I begin to sense the leading of His Holy Spirit by

**His peace Col3: 15**,

2Cor 3:17 freedom

Rm8: 5,6 life and peace,

Acts 16:6 restraining,

Rm 8:16 inward witness

Assurance in prayer Rm 8:26,

Impression or conviction. 1Th 5:19

## Soul and Spirit

We don’t hear very well what the Holy Spirit is saying because we need the preaching of the cross to divide the soul from the spirit. When our spirit is stronger, we have less mixture with our mind and emotion, we will be able to hear clearly. Heb 4:12

**The wolf boy**. The baggage of being a wolf was so strong in his mind, will and emotion that he could not believe the truth he is a boy. Even the image in the mirror does not convince him. It took years for his lying emotion to agree with the reality. The parent did not give up on him.

**Rm 12:2 Renew our mind, our thinking pattern.**

**1Jn 1:7 We need the blood of Jesus** to cleanse all those contamination away and the feeling of defilement that sin brings.

**Eph 4:13 we are who we are by birth**, but we need to grow up into him. The life of Christ needed to manifest and expand within me.

**D. The new creation will live with a new purpose: to live totally to God.**

### 2Cor 5:13-14

Ministry of reconciliation, Christ ambassador. 6:1 Don’t receive God’s grace in vain.

The finished work of Christ on the cross, his resurrection as a witness to the completeness of His finished work.

## Our union with Jesus

We are identified with the **crucified Christ** in the co-crucifixion of our old man! Rm 6:3,6

We are identified with his death Rm 6:8, Col 3:1-3, Gal 2:20

We are identified with Jesus in **His buria**l with the burial of the old things or sin! Rm 6:4 Col 2:12

We are identified with the **resurrection Christ** in the new creation! Rm 6:5,8,11

We are identified with **His life** Rm 6:10,11

We are identified with His power Eph 1:19,20

#### We identified with His inheritance Rm 8:16,17 Eph 1:11,12

All these had their outcome **in the outpouring of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost.**

The work of the cross is to establish His Kingdom through the Church. We have a new purpose, ambassador for Christ, how are we do represent him effectively and with authority.

We are identified with the ascended Christ in the bosom of the father by the baptism of the Holy Spirit in union with his body. Jn14:20

I am in the father, you are in me! The union in Christ through the Baptism is so powerful that they will know that Jesus is in the father.

At His ascension, the disciple knew that he had gone up to God. The Holy spirit would they are in God also, Jesus had taken them in the spirit back to God, reunited as with God. We are seated in heavenly places. Eph 2:6

Now, we look at the world from the throne of God. Jn 20:21 We are sent to proclaim the message to the world.

Lk 24:49 Now, the Holy Spirit is able to work through us all that he wanted us to do because of our union with Christ! So the Baptism of the Holy Spirit is the baptism into death of Christ, so our spirit is released to be in union with God and also for our spirit to be a channel for the outflow of the Holy Spirit.

The holy Spirit doing the work of placing the believers into Christ.

In union as members of His body, the Church, giving gifts according to His will **1Cor 12:12,13**V18.

# The endowment of power. Acts 1:5, Lk24:49

**Dynamism, power possessed, ability, capability to do the will of God.**

**1.Effevtive utterance**

Peter was given clarity of mind, quickened memory and made capable to be the messenger.

2. Boldness of testimony as the Holy Spirit confirms it Acts 4:31

1. Skillful in Business. Acts 6:3
2. In our life. Eph 5:18-19 Acts 9:22 Effective in conversation.
3. Confront demonic power. Acts 13:8-12

**To live in Christ is to Live in unity as one new man in the Spirit.**

1Cor 12:13 Baptize by one Spirit into one body.

Eph 2:18 Excess to the father.

We are the presence of God in this world. The Church, the body is what God has left for this world to see.

To live in Christ is to live with a totally new identity

2Cor 5:16-17

so from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this war, we do so no longer. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation, the old has gone, and the new has come!

1. **NEW CREATION IN CHRIST!**
   1. **Spirit Cleansed 2Cor 7:1**

Therefore, having these promise, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

* 1. **Holy Spirit Dwell In Our Spirit. Eph 3:16-17**

That he would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man, that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love.

**1.3 Partake God’s Nature. 2Pet 1:4**

By which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that

through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the

corruption that is in the world through lust.

**1.4 New Sprit Ezk 36:26-27**

“I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone our of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. “I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and to them.

**1.5 One Spirit With God! Cor 6:17**

But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him.

1. **NEW CREATION LIVING: -Led by the Holy Spirit within**

**2.1 Understand God 1Cor 2:12**

Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God,

that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God.

**2.2 Depends On God Jn 5: 19, 30**

Then Jesus answered and said to them, “most assuredly, I say to you, the Son can do

nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son

also does in like manner.

“I can of myself do nothing. As I hear, I judge; and my judgment is righteous,

because I do not seek My own will but the will of the Father who sent Me.

**2.3 Holy Sprit Walks In Me 2Cor 6:16**

And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the

Living God. As God has said: ‘I will dwell in them and walk among them. I will be their God. And they shall be My people.”

1. **HOW DOES HOLY SPIRIT LEADS ME?**

**3.1 By His Peace Col 3:15**

And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful.

**3.2 Freedom Within 2Cor 3:17**

Now the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.

**3.3 Life and Peace Rom 8:5-6**

For those who live according to the flesh seek their minds on the thing of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. For to be carnally minded [is] death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.

**3.4 Restraining. Act 16:6**

Now when they had gone through Phrygian and the region of Galatia, the Holy Spirit forbade them to preach the word in Asia.

**3.5 Inward Witness. Rom 8:16**

The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God

**3.6 Assurance In Prayer. Rom 8:26**

Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groaning which cannot be uttered.

**3.7 Conviction And Impression. 1Thess 5:19**

Do not quench the Sprit.

**3.8 Instruction. 1Jn 2:27**

But the anointing which you have received from Him abides in you, and you do not need that anyone teach you, but as the same anointing teaches you concerning all things, and is true, and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, you will abide in Him.

1. **CLEARITY IN HOLY SPIRIT’S LEADING**

**4.1 The Preaching of the Cross. Heb 4:12**

For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

**4.2 Renewal Of Our Mind. Rom 12:2**

And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove that is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

**4.3 Cleansing of the blood of Jesus. 1Jn 1:7**

But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.

**4.4 Maturity by growth. Eph 4:13**

Till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

1. **NEW CREATION LIVES IN NEW PURPOSE**

**5.1 Live Totally For God. 2Cor 5:15**

And He died for all, which those who live should live no longer for themselves, but for Him who died for them and rose again.

**5.2 Christ’s Ambassadors 2Cor 5:20**

Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ’s behalf, be reconciled to God.

**To live in Christ is to live as a son God**, Jn 1:12-13, 1Jn 3:1 Gal 3:26

**It is God who initiate to make us His sons in Christ.**

**To** relate to God as your father. You can think as a Son of God, speak and act as a Son of God, in Faith, in Love with true spiritual authority and power.

## A. Live in intimacy with God as your Father. Rm 8:14,15

God did not want our relationship with Him to be one Bound by fear as when we were worshipping idols: Fear deal to insecurity, retribution, and destruction.

1Jn 4:18 Fear- Punishment.

But one the is out of love and choice. **Not as slave who are bound, with no choice**, who had to do things ordered by the master or else, he will get punishment.

Lk 13:34 Not willing: God respect human will.

He is helpless when man would not want to respond to His cry. Hen calling and drawing the chick when she saw the danger looming in the sky as the eagle circle in the sky looking for its prey or she saw the dark cloud and thunder coming. The chicks respond out of trust and love of the mother hen.

## B. God free us by giving us the position of a son

When we enter into Father-son relationship, and not position of a slave. Now we are to choose and make decision 8:13 We are free, not obligated to serve sinful nature. When we do, we are cut off from the resources and blessing of the Father’s house.

E.g.: Lost Son.

The father knew what the son is up to, but still allows the son to do what he wants, to suffer lost. **He did not withhold the money to control the son. Manipulation**

**Circumstances**… He does not pester the son to come back.

He waited for him to come to his senses. **Not outward constrain, but inward transformation**.

E.g. Job, Satan’s accusation.

## He knew Peter would fail. Lk 22:28-34

He didn’t prevent that but allow Peter to suffer humiliation, until he can say, Lord I love you from the heart. Not trying to prove how good he is to impress or gain Jesus love. When you love, then feed my sheep.

**C. The Holy Spirit Led, He does not force**, but lead the obedient child of God.

So gently that when he is quiet and still, and then he is conscious of it. That is why we need **to mind the things of the Spirit** or we will not hear what he is saying. Rm 8:5.6 He wants you make a **conscious decision to obey** God Led by the Spirit is never an accident but choice.

He wants us to live in **intimate** relationship. We obey because we are His sons. It is a relationship of love. We have no fear to come to him. **Abba Father**. Simple love and trust as a litter child.

E.g.: **My son has no fear in coming to me**. He has no fear to come in and sleep in our room, sit on our lap and ask me to carry him!

## B. Every son has inheritance! Rm 8:17 Heb 1:2 Heir of all thing!

Many live like **the elder son**, who doesn’t know his right and the **Father’s heart**. E.g. Beggar: money inherited.

**Favoritism**.

**As Father, we love to give to them** when what they ask is right. When they ask, daddy, are you free tonight? It is my pleasure to say, yes, what do you want? I remember when I get older, when pride gets in the way, I don’t feel like asking my parents for money. I sort of expect them to know my need and give me. We want to earn that we can get form them just like the elder son. **You have not because you ask not!**

We are join heirs with the Son.

Our children have no fear in asking things from us. They know it is their right to ask and they are not ashamed to ask too. Lk 11:13 Father gives good gifts.

## The Holy Spirit is our greatest inheritance

From the father so that we will have access to the Father and the resources of the Father.

Gal 3:14 Promise of the Holy Spirit Lk 24:49 Promise of the Father. Not as **orphans**, leading you, comforting, teach you in the truth to protect you from deception.

Jn 4:23 Father seek worshipper in the spirit. Eph 2:18

**B. To live as sons is to be assure of the Father’s acceptance**.

It is based on our relationship not our performance.

The prodigal son **remained a son**, even though he deserted the Father and wasted his inheritance. When return home, his father accept him as a son and not as one of the servants.

**Jer 3:19** God desire is that we have a good heritage: when we keep that relationship as Father and son. Even if we do wrong, we are assured of this relationship because we are His Sons. He always accepts us, love us but will also **discipline us in love** as and when necessary.

We have the freedom to fail.

The only way out of our failure is faith. God wants us to come to Him in weakness. He doesn’t want us to wait till we have changed or improve.

## D. To live as son in Christ is to live with the hope of Glory. Col 1:27 1Jn 3:2

Not by our own effort, not by us doing something for God but by Jesus living through us.

Ever son is in the process to be like his Father because he shares the life of the Father.

**1Jn 3:10** We will not continue to live in sin.

# Living the Christ life: Abide in Christ

**1.how do I relate to god?**

When we related to the Father by faith through His son, we have a solid relationship. We do not come on the basic of **worthiness, my behavior, my work or performance but** on the basic of **our relationship** with Him; **by the righteousness of Jesus**. God looks at me as righteous, just as if I never sin through faith in Christ. I come in humility, in faith and appreciation to what God has done for me. Col2:6,7 That is how I keep my relationship with God.

**Our mistake is try to do things for God**. We try to work to help God out instead of allowing ourselves to be the vessel of life that flow our the life within us.

**Gal 3:3 received the spirit, work miracles**………. **By faith in Jesus, justified 2:15**

After the flesh………….. by work of the law, human effort

**2. What about sin and weakness?**

**Sin is not my biggest problem** to God because Jesus has atoned for sin. No bodies go to hell because of sin. They don’t **drive me from Jesus**. They drive me to Jesus because I know that the cross of Jesus Christ is my only hope! **2Cor 12:9 Gal 6:14** Glory in the cross! **Col 1:27** Christ in me, the hope of Glory.

Although my behavior is wrong, it has nothing to do with my right standing before God!

I may be a naughty son, but I am still a son. Gal 3:26 1Jn 1:9 He is faithful

**Rm 11:17 Grafted into the vine** 9:30 pursue righteousness by **faith**. 10:2 based on **knowledge** of God. Door to the life of the vine is closed by pride and unbelief. 11:20

**i. Pride is our biggest hindrance**; God oppose the proud.

It keep us away from God. Pride **blinded our eyes** from seeing we are wrong but we take offence and feel hurt, than we counter attack! “ I may have my faults, but being wrong is no one of them. “

Pride causes us to **refuse to acknowledge we need help**; see that as failure, weak, unacceptable. Prayer of the Pharisee vs. sinner’s prayer

### Pride

### Pride is the first of the seven deadly sins. One falls into pride when one lacks trust in God and his mercy and becomes arrogant, hypocritical, and self-centered.

### Our unwillingness to acknowledge our creatureliness, our self-elevation--in one word, PRIDE.

### The four types of pride:

### 1. The pride of power wants power to gain security for self or to maintain a power position considered to be secure.

### 2. Intellectual pride rises from human knowledge that pretends to be ultimate knowledge. It presumes to be final truth.

### 3. Moral pride claims that it's standards for virtue test and measure all righteousness. Niebuhr observed that most evil is done by "good" people who do not know that they are not good.

### 4. Spiritual pride is self-glorification. It claims that "self's righteousness" conforms to God's righteousness.

### Humility is not putting yourself down when God is trying to build you up.

### Self-abasement has the appearance of wisdom, but it has no value against fleshly indulgence according to Colossians 2:23.

### Humility is confidence properly placed. We need to be like Paul and "put

### no confidence in the flesh" (Philippians 3:3). Let's put our confidence in God: "For it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure" (Philippians 2:13).

**ii. The second thing is unbelief**, you need to **repent! The cross did not cover unbelief!**

The bible tells us that we can never by our effort, by obeying the law please God. We can never shine for Jesus but it is the Holy Spirit living in us and through us who will shine. The only way we can relate to God is in the spirit, by faith. We can’t see Him but we need to belief He is there. We can’t see what He is doing but we need to trust Him.

Faith to believe that **greater is he** that is in me than he that is in the world. 1Jn 4:4

Faith to believe that **nothing will stop the plans of God** in my life being fulfilled is I love him and go after Him. Rm8:28

Faith to believe that by **His life in me, I am victorious** as I identify with the cross. R8:37

He is with me and is **faithful**, even when time I blow it, he **still loves me** and accept me. Heb 10:19-23 Col 2:9-10 I am complete in Christ! Fill with His fullness.

**3. The door to God is always open for me.**

Through our relationship with Him in Christ, we know that this door is always opened. Gal 2:15-17 We are justified by faith by faith in Christ. Justified means just as if I have never sin. **Rm 4:5 2Cor 5:21**

**My position in Christ:**

Gal 2:20 The old I was crucified with Christ. 2Cor 5:17 1Cor 6:9-11

What has happened in the old man has not happened in the new man, my born again spirit life. Now, a New I living in the flesh is a life that live by faith in the Son of God.

Paul says, I no longer live. I no longer try to please God by my own effort, by trying to be good obeying the law, by human effort.

**Christ is now living in me**. That is living in the Spirit.

**I live by faith in the Son of God**: I trust that life of Christ in me, that is why I stop living my own life.

## In Christ, I am

Jn 3:3-7 Born of God.

1Jn 3:1,2 A child of God.

Jn 17:21 We are one with God.

Eph 2:10 We are God’s workmanship

2Cor 6:14 You are righteous

1 Pet 2:9 Chosen race, royal priesthood, Holy nation

Heb 10:10 We have been made holy

Col 2:10 I am complete in Christ.

**Gal 1:15,16 in order for us to be able to manifest the life of Christ, Christ got to be revealed in us**. It comes through a process when God allow situations, problem and people to show us where we are at so that we can follow the Christ life in us to be released. All things work together for good for those who love God and are called according to His purpose. Rm 8:28

**1Jn 3:9,10** Life of god within. We have a new nature that longs to live in harmony with God’s love and holiness. When we sin, it brings such conflict within that we just do not want to keep sinning. Now, we know the door to God is always open to us, **we can keep running to Him and receive His grace and life. It is not excuse to sin, but He is our only hope of freedom.**

**4. How to live the Abiding Life; The Christ Life**

**How do we continue to live in this open door to God?**

**Walking in the Spirit Gal 5:16.18.25**

Led by the spirit, walk in the Spirit or **keep in step.**

This descried a moment-by-moment experience. It is not once and for all. We fail sometimes and begin to doubt whether we are really crucified with Christ. V25

Walk: It describes the dominant characteristic of a person’s life.

We allow the Holy Spirit to exercise control over our lives. Our mind is the control room that decides whether we will walk in the Spirit or after our flesh. Rm 8:5

**i. Only possible when we see God at the end of all our experience.**

Eph 3:1 Prisoner of Christ. Phil 1:12-18 Preaching out of envy,

Paul’s thorn in the flesh: humility

**ii. It begins with an attitude of the awareness of God’s presence.**

He is our life and we are absolutely dependence on him.

**iii. Walking in the Spirit is a moment-by-moment experience.**

**We are walking into what we are already in Christ** as we follow the desire of the spirit. We are not **working to become but working to reveal who we really are in Christ**. I am growing or expanding into what I am already in Christ.

**Phil 3:12 Paul seeks to be what Christ has already done for him**. He wants to live out what he already is in Christ!

**This is the Growing process**. **We are expanding in our life into what we always have**. Phi 3:8-11 The effect of this process is that the cross would be applied to the flesh life. The resurrection life of Jesus would be able to flow out of us.

**What is my responsibility to keep me sensitive to the H.S.**

1. **Right focus** or input decides the right decision! Rm 8:5-9

Fix our eye on the desire of the Spirit

The Holy Spirit is dwelling inside me and I am not looking for Him from somewhere but he is within. 1Cor 2:9,13

God will plant idea within y spirit will communicate it to my intellect. It is an idea, a though or a sudden moment of inspiration. God will gives a desire as a means of communicating His will for our lives.

### My flesh also has desires, strong thought. Gal 5:17

The chief characteristic of the flesh is **learned independence**. When we were born physically alive but spiritually dead, we have not the presence or the knowledge of God. We learned to live our life independent of God. We have developed **coping mechanism** in order to survive. This are what the bible called idols that we trust in order to get our needs met.

Gal 5:19-21 Bad work of the flesh, Acceptable work of the flesh: good work ect.

**The flesh is defined as existence apart from God**, a life dominated by sin or a drive opposed to God. The flesh is self-reliant rather than God dependent, it is self- centered rather than Christ centered.

We need to know the word of God and have the revelation of the Holy Spirit to understand the word so that we can discern what is of God. The Holy Spirit will lead us into life. Whenever the dire we have with leads us into life, it is from the Holy Spirit.

**Heb 12:2** The author and perfecto of our faith! If we were to look at others, compare ourselves with others, or depending on our own strength, we will only function in the flesh and loses the life from Jesus.

Ifthe **input my mind** comes from the flesh, and then **my decision** will be after the flesh, there fore my live style. When you keep fighting it through discipline and self-control, you are filling your mind with it rather than in Christ.

## You dispossess by possessing. Lk 11:24

**It takes a thought to move me out of the Christ life**. **The good news is that it takes a thought to bring us back into Christ life.**

If I continue to fill my mind with the things of the Spirit, my lives will reflect that.

**b) Don’t fight the flesh Rm 8:9**

**When we focus on the problem**: when we are not, we will deceive ourselves, we will rationalize even though deep in our spirit, we know it is not right. We justify what we are doing. We want to test the limit of what we can do.

**Reckon yourself dead to sin**. Rm 6:11-14 We bring the specific area of the flesh to **the cross** and reckon it crucified. **The cross is also a moment-by-moment experience.**

We allow the spirit of God to take over and work. Gal 2:20 He will do some house cleansing, removing some old baggage from the old nature and allow the new life in Christ to surface. Keep focusing on Jesus and the thing of the Spirit.

Rm 12:12 My mind will be renewed through this process.

Gideon: Mind change or God can’t use hi. He acted out from his believe of who he is.

### When we focus on the Lord, we are also building the right relationship with Jesus!

Relationship first! We will make the right choice!

Focus on God’s love, grace, faithfulness, greatness, and holiness

Relationship will produce trust or faith.

When we love God, we desire to please Him. “ Peter, Do you love me more then these!”

AGAPE; Love till you are willing to sacrifice these for me. **The choice** we will make to follow the spirit of God will be easy. It is motivated by love, not out of trying to obey the law.

**Five practical steps toward abiding in Christ**

Jesus called his disciples to “come, follow me” (Matt. 4:19). More than anything else, he wanted to spend time with them. He knew that being with him in all kinds of situations would equip the disciples to do that for which he had chosen them. They soon learned the truth of Jesus’ declaration, “I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing” (John 15:5, NIV).

A disciple is one who follows Jesus, learns from him, and obeys him as Lord. God loves you and wants to have fellowship with you. Your remaining in him is of utmost importance to God. His plans for you include spending time with him. Only by staying in communion with him can you be and do all for which he called you.

Spending time with the Father

For a child, love is spelled T-I-M-E. God gave you 24 hours a day. As his child, what portion of the day do you think he wants to spend with you? All of it! He said, “Surely I will be with you always, to the very end of the age” (Matthew 28:20, NIV). He is with you every waking and sleeping hour. Spending time with the Father is not a question of God’s making time for you but of your making time for him.

We love God as a response to his love (1 John 4:19). You know that he loves you because he sent his son to die for you. Failing to return God’s love does not influence the way he feels about you. But your love for him diminishes and grows stale if you do not have the nourishment of daily fellowship with him. A daily time together is important so you and the Father can enjoy the close relationship made possible by Jesus’ sacrifice.

Paul summed up what it means to fellowship with God when he wrote to the Philippians:

[My determined purpose is] that I may know him -- that I may progressively become more deeply and intimately acquainted with him, perceiving and recognizing and understanding [the wonders of his person] more strongly and more clearly. And that I may in that same way come to know the power out-flowing from his resurrection [which it exerts over believers]; and that I may so share his sufferings as to be continually transformed [in spirit into his likeness even] to his death. (Philippians 3:10, Amp)

# A daily appointment with God

As a young adult, I began trying to have a “quiet time,” a time set apart for the Lord. I read about Christians who got up at 4 a.m. to read the Bible and pray for an hour or two before breakfast. I tried to do that, but I could not be consistent. Following that schedule for a day or two, I would be so tired that I could not get up, and I would promise myself that I would try again the next day.

I felt guilty because I was not consistent. I almost endangered my health before I realized that the Christians I was reading about were going to bed at 8 or 9 p.m. while I was going to bed at 1 or 2 a.m.!

Then I read a tract that emphasized spending seven minutes a day with God. It stressed consistency and suggested a simple plan to achieve that goal. I decided no matter what the circumstances, I could spend seven minutes with God every morning. Of course, I soon realized seven minutes was not enough and continually set the alarm earlier to have enough time with the Lord. I learned a quiet time is more than a mere habit. It was an appointment at the beginning of the day with Jesus Christ, the center of my life.

A daily quiet time helps develop your relationship with Christ. In this intimate time, he speaks with you through his Word, and you speak with him through prayer as you bring your needs before him. He provides direction and guidance for your daily decisions and helps you to bear fruit for him. If you are to have a personal, on-going relationship with Christ, you must hear him. The Word of God is the primary way to hear him. Your time with him and in his Word ensures that you have a time every day to get your orders from headquarters.

# How to Develop a Quiet Time

First, if you are not already doing so, find a regular time to spend with God each day that fits your schedule. Having that time in the morning begins the day with a recognition of your dependence on God and his all-sufficiency. Spending time with God gives you an opportunity to yield your will to him and consciously dedicate the day to his glory.

Second, prepare the night before. If your quiet time is in the morning, set your alarm. If it is difficult for you to wake up, plan to exercise, bathe, dress and eat before your quiet time.

Select a place where you can be alone. You will find that you can concentrate best when you have an established place away from noise, distractions and other people.

Gather materials, such as your Bible, notebook and a pen or pencil, and put them in the place you selected so you will not waste time in the morning.

Develop a plan. Unless you consciously follow a pattern for your quiet time, you may get off track or your mind may wander.

Pray for guidance. During your time with the Lord, you may want to include any number of these elements: prayer, Bible reading or study, memorizing Scripture, quietly waiting on him, worship and intercession.

Follow a systematic plan for your Scripture reading. For example, you may read from one of the Gospels as well as another book of the Bible so that you can see Christ live out what the Scripture is teaching. You may choose to read through the Bible a chapter a day or choose one psalm, one proverb and one chapter of the Old or New Testament each day.

Allow enough time to read his word reflectively. Do not try to read so much Scripture at one time that you cannot meditate on its meaning and let God speak directly to you and your situation.

Third, make notes of what God says to you through his Word. Your journal will become a living testimony to your relationship.

Pray in response to the Scriptures you have read. As you pray, use various components of prayer. Using the acronym ACTS -- adoration, confession, thanksgiving, supplication -- helps you remember the components.

You should develop your own procedure. Choose what is helpful and manageable within the time you have. The important thing is to have a plan so you do not waste this precious time with the Lord wondering what to do.

Fourth, be persistent until you are consistent. Strive for consistency rather than length of time spent. Try to have a few minutes of quiet time every day rather than long devotional periods every other day.

Expect interruptions. Satan tries to prevent you from spending time with God. He fears even the weakest Christians who are on their knees. You should plan around interruptions rather than being frustrated by them.

Fifth, focus on the person you are meeting rather than on the habit of having the quiet time. If the president of the United States were scheduled at your house at 6 a.m. tomorrow, would you be ready? Of course! Meeting God is even more important.

My personal procedure is to kneel first in prayer and renew my relationship with God after the night’s rest. Often I incorporate adoration/worship, confession of sin, thanksgiving and supplication (putting my requests before God). After having fellowship with God, I sit or kneel and read Scripture. I usually read a chapter a day as I read consecutively through a book of the Bible.

# Being Led by the Spirit

Once you have established a daily quiet time, begin working on being led constantly by the Spirit. If you receive and meditate on Scripture daily, you will be aware of him and his thoughts. He has constant access to you when you remain in his Word.

You have constant access to him by praying without ceasing. Imagine a husband and wife or two close friends taking a Sunday drive through the countryside. They do not have to talk constantly to enjoy each other’s company. Even if others are along, they are aware of that special person’s presence.

Likewise, as you go through your day with the Lord, you can have conversations about what is important to you and to him. As you grow in maturity, you will spend more and more time with the Father, just as Jesus did, and your knowledge of him and your intimacy with him will deepen. You will experience the fruit of abiding in Christ

**The fruits of walking in the spirit,**

# When we are walking in the light

1. **Right relationship with people! 1Jn 1:7**

Fellowship means **sharing of our lives**, which enrich each other. It is **not a self-centered life**! Some people just want get from others. They expect you to go to them, to take care of them. In fellowship, there is the give and take. We feel fulfilled and peaceful and love.

What are you prepared to give and to whom are you sharing with this morning or cell group? Or have you come to fulfill your religious duty to God. God put this before our relationship with him.

1. **Right relationship with God. 1Jn 1:7**

Keeping the door to God open! Even though we fail and sin, we have the **blood of Jesus** to cleanse us and get us back to right relationship with God. The blood of Jesus is so precious, so costly that God the Father wants us to take the full benefit for what the blood has done for us.

**Walking in the Spirit is a moment-by-moment experience**. It takes a thought to take us out of the Spirit realm but also a thought to take us back into the Spirit. The Key is still humility and faith.

1. **Bearing fruits Rm 7:4 to God v6 through serving in the new way of the Spirit.**

**Jn 15:1**

When we are walking by faith with Jesus, the Holy Spirit is production fruits in our Life. Fruit is not generated; a fruit is a natural result of relationship.

**Jn5: 17 We are working and not passive. True faith will produce work.**

**Abiding in Christ is a position of Faith; fruit will come forth from the relationship.**

**No fruit**: if there is no fruit, you question whether there is a relationship. 2Cor 13:5 examine you. Mt 7:20 know them by the fruits.

**Bad fruit**: If the fruit is bad, then something is **wrong in the relationship**. It means something wrong with the faith. God is more interested in what we are than in what we do. He looks for fruits but we try to produce works. Jn 15:4

Faith pleases the Lord and faith produces relationship. The relationship produces the fruit. **Gal 5:6** The only thing that count is faith express in Love. (In Christ)

When we are having problem in shinning for Jesus in certain area of their life, it doesn’t mean that they do not have Jesus in their live, **but it means they have problem in believing Jesus to meet their needs over that area**. It is a problem of relationship.

**a. By our fruits of our live.** We are to manifest Jesus!

The fruit is the natural result of life within as the tree mature. If the tree is not producing fruits, something is wrong.

Gal 5:22 Fruits of the Holy Spirit

Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.

Col 1:8 Love in the Spirit

**b. Fruits of our labor: Ministry**

**1:29 Striving according to His energy**

Where is he getting all this energy from God? From being fill with the spirit and walking by the spirit. Gal 5:16,25 live by the spirit, keep in step with the Spirit. This energy came the out-flow of this relationship with Jesus and life in Holy Spirit.

2Cor 3:4-6 **Ministry of the spirit**

1. **Reaping the right benefits!** There is joy, peace, understanding, and patience, kindness that comes from walking in the Spirit. Rm 14:17

## When we walk in the flesh, we forfeited the benefit. Gal 5:21

Though we are righteous in Christ but we are not walking in righteousness and joy and peace that come through the life in the Holy Spirit.

# You are complete in Him. Col 2:10

They very weakest saint is included in the apostolic ‘you’. All the people of God are complete in Christ. The apostle does not say, ‘you will die’, ‘you may be’, ‘hope that you may be’, or ‘pray that you may be’, no – he, by the Holy Spirit, states in the most absolute and unqualified manner, that ‘you are complete’

This is the true Christian starting-post, and for man to make a goal of what God makes a starting-post is no upset everything.

This is the order for the Christian life! Everything is based and comes out of, what God has done for you. **Don’t allow your Christian life be an endless struggle to become what you already are!** Apply faith and believe what God has said! Col 3:3 Life hidden with Christ, he is your life!

2Pet 1:3 His **Divine power** has given us everything we need for life**. It comes through the truth of God’s word**. The power is in the truth of God’s word!!!

Jn 1:14 **His glory** Jn 17:22

Mk 5:27 17:2 **Authority** give to Him by the Father was given to us. Jn 20:33

Jn 5:26 He has life in Him, Jn 6:53 we too through Him.

Learn of your position in Christ, and then, in view of this position, the exhortation is given to live a life consistent with your position. We learn from the word of God what this new life that is in us and then allow this life to be manifested. In other words, the Christian life is becoming (in your experience) what you already are (in your position in Christ).

If at the outset we try to do anything, we miss everything. For Christianity begins not with a big DO, but with a big DONE. Jesus said, **It is finished!**

**Through faith**, it will enable you to rest in the finished work of Christ and your exalted position in Him!

1. These positions are not experienced, **but are facts of the new life** out of which precious experiences may grow.
2. The Christian positions are not progressive. They do not grow or develop from a small beginning. They are as perfect and complete the instant they are possessed as they ever will be in the ages to come. For example, **son ship** does not grow, as an old man is not a son of his father at his death than he was at the day of his birth.
3. These positions are in no way related to human merit. They are made to stand on the unchanging Person and merit of the Son of God. The consciousness and personal realization of these positions may vary the daily walk of the believer.
4. These positions are known only through divine revelation. They defy human imagination, and since they are not experienced, their reality can enter into only believing the Word of God. These eternal riches of grace for the lowliest sinner who will only believe.

**1. Perfect!**

Heb 10:14 By one sacrifice, he has **made perfect forever** those who are being made holy.

We need not be reminded by our sin because His sacrifice has dealt with all our past, **present** and future sin. **Sin will affect our relationship with God** if we do not recognize it and confess to God.

1Jn 1:9. Jn 13:3-10 We are completely clean but while we walk in this world, our feet might get dirty and we need the continue cleansing of our feet by acknowledging our wrong ways.

## About maturity in God. Gal 4:1-7

**We are sons and not just Children of God. Sons who can enter into our inheritance that the Father has for us. V4 Christ has come to make us Sons.**

Gal 5:1 It is for freedom that Christ has set you free. Gal 5:6 Only thing that count is **Faith** express through love. 5:7 It is Faith that will help you to be able to express the life of Christ that is within us.

**2. How near to God has Jesus brought the believer?**

**Eph** 2:13 ‘But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.’ 2Cor 5:18 ‘Now all thing are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ.’ Eph 2:18 ‘For through Him we both have access by **one Spirit to the Father**.’

**In our position, just as near as Christ is himself!** – In our experience, just as near as we wish to go! His blood has been poured out for the sins of the world and the temple curtain has been torn in two!

We need to cultivate the consciousness of His presence, which is already here for us.

**1. How acceptable are we to God?**

Rm 5:1 Justified by faith

Eph 1:6 The Christian is accepted (now and forever) in the beloved.

**2. How Bless are we in Christ Jesus?**

Eph 1:3 ‘blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ ‘ and we are invited at the outset to sit down and enjoy what God has done for us; not to set out to try and attain it for ourselves.’

These marvels of grace constitute that “good work” which He has but begun in those who trust Him. To this much more is yet to be added according to Phil 1:6 “**He that hath begun a good work in you**, will perform it, until the day of Jesus Christ.” The ‘riches of grace” are the beginning; the final presentation in glory in the likeness of Christ will be the completion.

## We are one with Him and become His body, His manifest presence on earth!

God has placed His Holy Spirit in human body and made us the body of Christ on earth so that those who are suffering in this earth will be able to feel his love, touch him through our presence. Heb 13:3 1Jn 3:16-18

When he ascended to heaven, he left behind his actual presence in the form of his body the Church in which His presence dwells.

Our goodness becomes His goodness. Mt 25:40

Our suffering becomes His. Rm 8:17 share in his suffering.

Our action becomes His action. Mt 10:40 received you, receive me,

What happens to us happens to Him. Acts 9:4 Persecute me!

The ordinary acts of charity and goodness can become nothing less that the incarnation of God on the earth. We are his mouthpieces. Christ undergoes the humiliation as the head due to our misrepresentation, and also the exaltation that he **allows us the member of his body.** **The Church is the entire reason for the human existence**, to let creature other than God bears the image of God. He deemed it well worth the risk and the humiliation.

# This talks about maturity in God. Gal 4:1-7

Not just in his glory. It is talking about the cross life again. When we let go, we will be able to enter into His life and our inheritance.

Gal 5:1 it is for freedom that Christ has set you free. Gal 5:6 Only thing that count is Faith express through love. 5:7 It is Faith that will help you to be able to obey the truth.

**3. To live in Christ is to continue to live where God has placed you, which is in Christ Jesus.**

Jn 15:4 Remain in me, and I will remain in you. To remain, abide, it s to live in His presence. Your life and strength depends on Him moment by moment.

**A. Live in a position of blessing.**

Eph 1:3 Every spiritual blessing is found in our position in Christ. Eph 2:6

It is a position where the window of heaven is opened to us.

Jn 1:14 Full of grace: there is no room for anything that is a contradiction to grace. Jn 1:16 Blessing after another. 2Cor 9:8 make all grace abound in us at all time.

1. **Chosen us in Him- Holy, Blameless. V4**

We are made in **His image** to be able worship Him. **Spirit man** able to worship God who is Spirit. We are higher than the animal’s kingdom. We are able to commune with God and Know His will and serve Him

1. **Adopted us as sons. V5**

God is not ashamed to identify with us even though at times we shame Him through our actions. He still love is and take pride in us. We have significance and values.

1. **Redemption V7 We have belonging and security**

We were lost in sin. We were separated from God.

He sends his son Jesus, into this world, to identify with us as man yet without sin, so he can die for our sin. He paid the price of sin to redeem us back to God. To belong to God.

**Make know to us the mystery of God’s will**. V9 3:8 Unreachable riches of Christ.

This did not come by study, even religious education.

**Saul** was an educated man; he was a religious man but didn’t know God until reveal to Him the mystery of God’s will

**B. Live in a position of fullness.**

**He is your life and in Him, you are already complete! Col 2:19,10**

It is a position, which is above the realm of the enemy. There is no obstruction to receiving and there is no lack!

## C. Live in the position of His victory. Eph 6

If you live away from this position, you will live in dependence of your own strength and into bondage again.

**Col 3:5 2Cor 4:10-11** The members of the must be brought in harmony with the position that we are dead in Christ Jesus, it must not be energized by the fallen life of Adam but brought under the power of the cross. It is a progressive putting to death, which is done day by day through the help of the Holy Spirit.

**i) All thing are under Christ, head for the Church. 1:10, v22**

1:18-22 Reign, hostile world

**Eph 6:10 We reign with Him. We can have victory over Satan.**

**ii) 3:10 Manifold wisdom of God: made know to the demon spirits.**

1Cor 1:30 Christ: our righteousness, sanctification, and redemption.

Man sin, **Jesus crucified, Satan though he won but through the resurrection, sin and death and Satan were all defeated.**

Now Satan schemes to remove you from your position in Christ, attack us, accuse us and condemn us. Christ: our wisdom in God. Christ becomes our righteousness, our sanctification, our redemption. We are love by God. He doesn’t understand that. The world system, which is very much control by Satan says that you need to perform in order to be accepted but God’s system is Grace in Jesus.

Just like our batter we fought in the physical is spiritual batter, heavenly place is where Jesus is. When we turn to Jesus, we enter into the heavenly realm where victory belongs to us moment by moment.

### D. To live in Christ is fruitful living Jn 15:7 Lk 2:40,52

We continue to grow in Him, to expand into what we already are in Christ by our spiritual birth. Eph 4:15

**You have all you need.** It is the fruit of an on going relationship that you have in Christ. As you continue to live in Him and allow the word of God to live in you, you have all that you need so that you can abound in good work.

## You will bear much fruit to the Father’s glory. Jn 15:4,8

The wise and the strong will be amaze at what Jesus can do in your life.

**You are free to live in the Spirit**, walking in the Spirit and bearing fruit of the Spirit. Gal 5:16.24 you are free to express the live of Jesus who lives in you.

#### **Warring in Christ**

### Rev 12:12

**Eph 2:5 men are a spirit being. God’s creation.**

If we just war in the natural realm, you be defeated!

## THE FULL ARMOR OF GOD

Therefore, take up the full armor of God, that you may be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm (Eph 6:13).

When you read through Eph 6:10-20, you will notice the emphasis on the active part we must play on behalf of our own spirit defense: “**be strong’** (verse 10); Devil will attack the weak. 1Pet 5:8

# “Put on”

When we put on the armor of God, we are really **putting on Christ** (Romans 13:12-14).

And when we put on Christ, we take ourselves out of the realm the flesh, where we are vulnerable to attack, and we place ourselves within the dominion of Christ, where the evil one cannot touch us.

Satan has nothing in Christ (John 14:30), and to the extent that we put on Christ, the evil one cannot touch us (1John 5:18). He can only touch that which is on his own level. That’s why we are commanded, “Make no provision for the flesh” (Romans 13:14), meaning “don’t live on Satan’s level.”

“**stand firm**” (verse 11); “take up,” “ be able,” “resist,” and “stand firm” (verse 13); “stand firm” (verse 14);

the enemy will challenge us on every inheritance we have in Christ. We fight by standing firm on what Jesus has done for us.

**Character will be formed.** Judges 6 Gideon.

“taking up” (verse 16); “take” (verse 17); “pray at all times” and “**be on the alert**” (verse 18).

**This warfare is fought in the midst of people.**

**Schemes of devil:**

Liar: belt of truth: Jn 8:31,32

Condemnation, unforgiving: Breastplate of righteousness. Pro 4:23

Circumstances: shod your feet with Gospel of peace

“having” signifies that the action it refers to was completed before we were commanded to stand firm.

**Protection made possible when you receive Jesus Christ.**

Slander: shield of faith Heb 12:15

Accusation Rev 12:10-11: Helmet of salvation.

Counter the attack of the evil spirits with discernment: Sword of the Spirit, the Rhema word of God. Heb 4:12 the temptation of Jesus!

1. Discern the attack: Not against flesh and Blood.
2. The blood of Jesus: stand on the finished work of the Cross.
3. The word of our testimony: refuse to agree with the devil. Faith! 1Jn 4:4 5:4
4. Love not their life: live in the cross life.

**Who am I?**

I have an outer man, which you see. We often cover up our negative feeling about ourselves. The outer man relate to the world through the 5 senses. The real me is inner man. The inner man relates to God and is created in the image of God. Gen 1:26,27 this gives us the capacity to fully think, feel and choose.

The original Creation. Gen 1,2

Physical Alive means in union with my soul/spirit and spiritual Alive means my soul and spirit in union with God. Alive means in union die means separation.

1. Significance: man has a divine purpose. Gen 1:28 Dominion.
2. Safety and security: all of Man’s needs were provide for. Gen 1:29 in the Garden, presence of God.
3. Belonging: Man has a sense of belonging. Gen 2:18 intimate, one on one communion with God and also with each other. Community: meaningful, open, sharing relationship with one another.

# The reality of life for God’s Children on Earth! Rm 8:17-39

**1. For us, to be co-heirs with Christ also come with sharing in his suffering.**

Heb 5:8 As a Son, learned obedience from what e suffered.

**What did Jesus suffer as a Son in obedience to the Father?**

**In the garden**, often, he would go alone and prayed. This time, he wanted the three close friends to be with him. He feels alone, he needed support. When he found them sleeping, he show his disappointment. Could you not keep watch for one hour?

As he faced death, he experienced extreme sorrow, fear, and desperation.

He prayed: let this cup of suffering pass from me.

He experienced the suffering of **unanswered prayer**, he experience abandonment, God forsaken. The cup of suffering was not removed.

**When he was on the cross:**

My God, my God, why have thou forsaken me? This is the time he refers to His Father in heaven as God. He always prayed: Abba, Father. Now, he feels abandon by His Father and the relationship has gone strange and distance.

It is finished! Father, into your hands I commit my spirit. He is still trusting in the Father despite what he felt and has just gone through. The terrible pain hurts. He still goes through it because he know, at the center of this Universe live His Father, a God of love that he could trust regardless of how things appeared at the time.

In what way are we sharing in the suffering of Christ as co-heirs of the Father who will enter into His glory?

The suffering tells us that we are living in two different Kingdoms.

One is physical and the others are spiritual. One that is bound by time and space, the other is not.

One is earthly and the other is heavenly.

**Our spirit man is totally made new and our spirit is un union with God’s spirit, the Holy Spirit lives in us and led us. But all these takes place in a boy that is still waiting for its redemption. V23.20**

**Now we face some frustration in this world. V22,23**

This body of ours is still facing the same bondage to decay. We can get sick, weak, and lustful and faces all sorts of temptations and even sin because of the desire of the body. We who have received the down payment, the first fruit of the Holy Spirit also groan because we also face some of these frustrations. We might cry out to God like Jesus. There will be time we will feel like him, will we still trust? Will we learn obedience in suffering as our lord Jesus?

**2. We live in Hope for the revelation of the sons of God. V19**

We live in hope because we **have a future**. The glory to be revealed in us. **Not around us! The glory of who we are as sons of God!**

1Jn 3:2 Now, we might not look like the son of God, when people look at how we are from outside, when they judge us by our performance, when they judge us by what happens to us in this life, by our wealth. But we are the Sons of God and totally the Sons of God on the inside!

**V24 We are certain of who we are and waiting for this hope that are set free from the present frustration into the glorious freedom of the Children of God. V21** Hope is needed in the midst of problems that don’t seem to have solution in the immediate present.

So, if you are going through some struggle or suffering because of our faith in Jesus, that is normal. It is because of the corruption of the present world we are living in and the hostile world against God. The solution is on the way!!

## How are we to deal with our present problem? V26

**3. The Holy Spirit is given to help us in our weakness!**

We are baffle by some of the things that happens to us, things we believe should never happen because we are God’s children. We don’t know what to make out it and therefore, don’t know how to pray. The Holy Spirit is our greatest inheritance!

The **Holy Spirit intercedes** for us because **he is inside us** and knows all that we are going through. He is also God and knows the mind of the Father. He is able to **unite our spirit that is torn apart from God into oneness as he prayed the will God into our spirit**. He prays with groaning because he knows the frustration of the present situation. V22 just like the world groan to be delivered from the bondage, the Holy Spirit groan for our deliverance and help us to pray until we are deliver, until the will of God is fulfilled in our life. He helps us to pray in faith, in hope knowing the will of God and in the spirit realm, it has already happened though in the natural, it might have to wait.

3. Why Has God allowed all these things to happen? Did he will all these things to happen to us? What is He doing about it in our life?

1. **God has giving us a free will.** When we abuse that freedom, we face the consequences. It wasn’t His but yours, when we are taught to pray, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven shows that all that is going on is not all God’s will. **Jesus grieves** over many things and never tell us suffering is the will of God but rather he goes about healing. We must not think that God approve all that has happened.

## How are we to deal with our present problem? V26

3. The Holy Spirit is given to help us in our weakness!

If our life as sons of God is so straight forward, when we have a need or problem, we just cry to God and he will always answer the way we have wanted it, we will have no problems in prayer. We are weak and do not know how to pray because of the frustration and groaning we faced while living in this corruptible body.

We are baffle by some of the things that happens to us, things we believe should never happen because we are God’s children. We don’t know what to make out it and therefore, don’t know how to pray. The Holy Spirit is our greatest inheritance!

**The Holy Spirit living inside us help us in our weakness**! He convicts us of any sin, help us to understand the will of God for that situation and give us strength to follow the way of Jesus. **1Cor 2:9-12**

The **Holy Spirit intercedes** for us because **he is inside us** and knows all that we are going through. What our flesh wanted. He is also God and knows the mind of the Father. He is able to **unite our spirit that is torn apart fro God into oneness as he prayed the will God into our spirit**. E.g; Jesus in the Garden: if possible, let it go. Not my will but yours.

He prays with groaning because He knows the frustration of the present situation. V22 just like the world groan to be delivered from the bondage, the Holy Spirit groan for our deliverance and help **us to pray until the will of God merges in our life**. He helps us to pray in faith, in hope knowing the will of god and in the spirit realm, it has already happened through in the natural, it might have to wait.

Praying in the Spirit, Spirit moved emotion (tears, trouble or aggression in the spirit) and sigh!

**4. What is he doing about it in our life? Why has God Allowed all these things to happen? Did he will all these things to happen to us?**

1. **God has given us a free will**. When we abuse that freedom, we face the consequences. It wasn’t His will but yours. When we are taught to pray, **your will be done on earth as it is in heaven shows that all that is going on is not all God’s will**. **Jesus grieves** over many things and never tells us suffering is the will of God but rather he goes about healing. We must not think that God approval all that happened.
2. **Is He is control then?** Yes, he has a timing in what he will do. His plan is already revealed to us, and the outcome is absolutely certain that Jesus will come at the appointed time to reveal the full glory in us and set us free from this corruption.

**There are things that happen according to the natural process. Mt 10:29 Death comes according to natural law** but he will not allow His creation to die without His presence there and be the comfort, strength and hope and support of that which dies. We must recognize there are **other forces** working our there! When a thing that happens that is contrary to the nature of God, we must look for explanation!

We always think about the good of those we trust but explain the bad in other power at work. Eg: some one is late for an appointment. Rm 8:22,23 We are also caught up in it, as long as we are in this body.

**Satan, Body World. Our choice and responsibility.**

**What ever the source of the problem, God is a God who will work out his redemptive work if we trust him. He is there to share our burden and give rest.**

1. For we know! Certainty of faith, we know the nature of our Father!

He promised He is there to work in us and with us, to bring **something good out of the bad. Rm 8:28** Condition: For those who trust God and Love God!

Paul and Silas can praise in prison. No rooms for complain but just thanks giving.

He picked up the pieces and work out for good. Good is not view from a materialistic, temporal viewpoint: comfort, success, and pleasure. But in the purpose of God. Eg: **Missionary killed by the native.**

Jn 9:1,2 Even tragedy can push a man towards God. Rather than asking why, Jesus directs us to the future and see the redemptive work of God. Suffering offers an opportunity for God to display the work of God.

**He uses the situation to allow the likeness of Jesus** **to show forth in our life**. V29

**Joni:** Trust God, only use her month to draw. Peace, joy**. 17yrs old, diving accident.**

**Mike and Katharine:** Chin Chin, love and hope in Jesus. Jesus cares!

**Don’t isolate things**, many bad things are blessing in disguise. Eg: Joseph’s exp Gen 50:20

**There will always be problem in life**. Jn 16:33 1jn 5:4

We face it **with understanding**; know this is part of life experience even as Christian while in this body. We face it **with hope** knowing that we will be delivered and enter into the fullness of the freedom of who we are in Christ as the Children of God.

**We know that in all things, God is there and He is working with us together for good. The purpose in all of our pain**, it is to drive us to Jesus and enter in His glory.

Rm 8:31-39 what then shall we respond to this? How shall we face life and all its problem?

1. He is for us. V3

The **situation** may work against us, **people** can work against us, **demons**, our **failure**, our sin can work against us but he is always for us. The trouble may seems to tell you God doesn’t love you, doesn’t care for you. He is our Father and **we are His children**. That is where we begin our message. We are the sons of God!!

1. He graciously gives us all things. V32

We may not deserve it but because of His love, he will not withhold any good things from us. The giving and provision **does not depend on** us but on who He is. He is gracious! He is a **giving** God. He **loves us sacrificially**. He is **generous i**n His giving. He loves to give to meet our needs.

This is not saying he will not allow pain to come to us. if going through pain is necessary, he will give us **grace to face the situation** because God has plan for our life. He is not just out their meeting needs.

Eg: New Economic Policy: Bumiputera, over dependence, unrealistic.

1. He does not condemn us but justified us in Christ even if we have fallen in sinned. V33, 34
2. Jesus is interceding for us. Heb 4:14-16 Receive grace and mercy.
3. **His love for us is unchangeable no matter what happens to us. v35**

His love for us is assured in Christ Jesus to the contrary of what seems to happen.

His love has the power to keep us. We are hold together by His Love. V37 V39

Trouble, hardship, persecution, famine, nakedness, danger, sword, death, demons, what will happen to us, power, **anything else in all creation.**

We are more than conqueror through him. Our security is in Him.

V37 To knows that what ever happens, He always loves us and we are already sons, we are assure of our destiny in glory, however bad the finish of our Faith.

# The hope in Christ Jesus! 1 Tim 1:1

**Man’s greatest fear is not death but hopelessness!**

1Cor 15:19 it is a hope that goes beyond this life.

## In this life, we have hope

**The foundation of this hope** some people, they only have hope in this life. Their hope is built on their study, job, friends, family, health and even religion. This life is just evolved around themselves. They live to an old age that feel that what more could they ask for in life? They are satisfied and they never look seriously at life to realize that their hope is for this life and **there is still a hope that they don’t have, which goes beyond this life. They call this a blessed life.**

### The scope of this hope: this life

**This is most dangerous**, because they are like a frog that is put into a pot of cold water to be boiled. They never jump out.

#### Put hope in this life but faces major crisis like sickness, accident, death

**Crisis that is big enough** to make crash the hope they have, to realize that they need a hope that goes beyond this life.

**Hot water**; so that the frog will jump out be saved!

**Crisis is indeed a blessing**! My grandmother 93 has longer time to face death even through there is no major crisis! My mother, accident! My brother, sickness! Many others!

##### The Christian hope is a hope that last beyond this life

**The foundation of this hope: 1Tim 1:1**

It is not based on thing and circumstances or normal person, but on Christ.

**Who he is: Solid Rock**. If your hope is based on something that is changeable, you will have problem. Jesus, the son of God Jn1: 1 was before the creation of the world.

Creation is changeable.

**The same** yesterday, today and forever.

**What he has done for us**: **Resurrection: Over comes sin, death**. Not base on performance.

###### The scope of this hope

1Cor 15:19 **in this life, we have hoped**. This hope gives us **so much strength**, that we are willing to pay a high price for it. We are willing to endure much pain because our hope tells us that God is with us, he helps and comfort us.

This hope will help us to go **against the trend and value** of this age. Those are building on what they have and their value on these things is so important.

**Hope before God.** Gal 5:5 Hope of righteousness. We are not standing before God to face judgment that comes from the law. We stand by faith in the hope of righteousness that comes through Christ. All our actions our labor comes as a result of love for Jesus and not hoping to achieve righteousness from it.

**Hope beyond this life** Tit 1:2, 3:7 Hope of eternal life.

It is a hope that gives meaning to life. It doesn’t depends on know how long we live but we have done what is required of us in this life by our creator.

Rm 8:31-39 that is how Paul describe this hope!

## Hope in Jesus: Hope in His Coming. 1JN 2: 28 13: 3

The hope we have in Jesus will come into reality at His appearing or His coming. What happens then, when he appeared?

Mt 16: 27 Comes to reward each one according to what he has done. To judge!

1. **We will be like Him** for we will see Him as He is. Full of power and glory, majesty, Holy and righteousness.1Cor 13:12 All that we have been longing about Him.
2. **The full revelation of who we are as sons of God** will be revealed. 1Jn 3:1,2

**We are already the son of God**. We are called son of God by the Father who loves us. yet, we are still greedy, we are still bad temper, sin, liar, still have many of the old baggage from the old man with us. The world doesn’t believe we are sons of God because they see all the faults that is still in us.

We who has the hope believes that because we have know him, know His grace, mercy, his love, his forgiveness.

1. **There is the reality of a new heavens and new earth**. Rev 21: 1 Earthquake, flood, discomfort of the climate etc.
2. **We will be with Him**. 1Th 4:17, delivered from the bondage of the present system.
3. Is 65:17 No more tears, sorrow, and pain, no more separation.

**How should we live in the hope we have?**

**1Jn 2:28 Continue in Him.**

We know just a litter of what He will be like, at the appearing of our hope, we need to prepare ourselves to meet Him. If not, we will be so fearful, ashamed before Him. There will be many, who will feel so shameful and fearful.

Instead, we can be **confident.**

We can be like those who say, **come Lord Jesus**, not because we are so good for none will boast before Him. But as those who maintain an intimate relationship with Him. Those who desire for Him.

### How do we continue in Him? 1Jn 3: 3

**A. We purify ourselves.**

Everyone: we do not want to continue in sin. We are responding to the great love that the Father has lavished on us.

3:6 As we **continue in Him**, as we grow in maturity and in His grace, He appeared the first time to dealt with sin, the penalty of sin. As I continue in Him and let Him appear in my life by the indwelling of His spirit, He will take away my sin. As I continue in Him until he appear again, al that is still bothering me in this physical body will be remove, because we will put on a new resurrection, immortal body without sin.

### B. Walk as Jesus walk 2:6

**i. He walk in prayer.**

45 times in the scriptures you see Jesus getting away to pray. His ministry began with 40 days of prayer and it ended with prayer. Luke 5:16 tells us Jesus “ often slipped away to pray.”

**ii. He walk in the word of God**

**Mt 4:1-11** Det 6:4,13 Worship God only. 6:16 Do not test the Lord your God. 8:3 Man shall not live by bread alone.

The scriptures was central to all of life and ministry for Jesus. Over 90 times Christ quoted from the Old Testament, referring to over 70 different Old Testament chapters. He knew the Word of God and used the Word of God. He was most grieved by the Sadduccees when he stated “you are in error because you do not know the Scriptures” (Mt 22:29)

**iii. He walk in submission to the Father**

He remember all that His Father had done and was doing. In every way Jesus exalted His Father saying that “the words I say to you are not just my own. Rather it is the Father, living in Me, who is doing His work” (Jn 14:10).

Jesus constantly exalted His Father with statements like “ everything you have given me comes from you” ( John 17: 7 ), and “ everything I have learned from my Father, I have made known to you” ( john 15:15 ), “for my Father who sent Me commanded Me what to say and how to say it, for whatever I say is just what the Father has told me to say” (John 12:49-50). Jesus was reverently submissive to His Father (Heb 5:7).

iv. **He walk in developing loving, caring relationship with His disciples and the people around Him**. Jesus “ spent time with them” (john 3:22), poured His life into them as a friend, he rebuke and correct them as their master.

##### When we see Him, we will be like Him! 1Jn 3:2

What we are and who we are show how much we know or don’t know God! How we live is only a respond to what we see in Him. Eg: Proud and godless man.

**Are 6:** He sat the holiness of God in its fullness. It is more than just right action; it is also the right language.

###### How can we see Him? 2Cor 3:12-18

Veil is there because they have set a limit to how far they want to know God. Israelite wanted what God can do for them and not what God will do in them.

Eg. Think of knowing God as going to heaven or hell. They can’t receive the word and grow deeper with God. God cares about a people call His own, who are like Him.

1. **The mind** got to be totally open to God. Cf. mind made dull. They can still know the law in their mind. It is knowledge and perception in the spirit that brings change.
2. The Spirit of God is able through the word minister to the spirit or **heart** of man, bringing freedom and life. 3:6

See His face, changed from glory to glory.

**B. 4:16, 17 in this world, we are like Him. Because we see Him.**

**2. We see Him as a God who judges,** we will want to live accountable to him. We want to be living Him.

1. **1Cor 4:2-5** He will not judge others as well as himself.

He lives carefully, even if his conscious is clear, he doesn’t think he necessary right.

1. Because God judge the motive. That we are given v2, 3, we are steward, must prove faithful.
   1. Time, Money.
   2. Talents and gift to serve God.

Def: faithfulness, parable of the talents. God demands fruitfulness and multiplication.

**2. We see Him as personal, and a Father. 1:1,3**

What we **have seen**:

How Jesus has brought them into fellowship with 12 in community living, in the cell. Jesus has said, you have seen me, you have seen the father, and the closed fellowship they had with Jesus.

We have fellowship with Him and with one another, **the family member.**

**Fellowship: to have communion, to deposit, partnership, to be joined, to become a partaker with,**

V5 you can’t experience fully the fullness, joy, of Jesus without living in community.

“If we are to use the word **commit** meaningfully, we must restrict it to a group of individuals who have learned how to **communicate honestly** with each other, whose **relationship go deeper** than their masks of composure, and who have **developed some significant commitment to rejoice together, mourn together, and to delight in each other.” –** Scott peck

“First of all, **community really isn’t forged apart from things like conflict and suffering**. **Confessing sin and working through struggles together builds a powerful community**. For instance, if you study a word like “compassion” in the New Testament is means “pain partner,” to come alongside someone in pain. **In moments like that, true community develops**.” – Bill Donahue, Willow Creek

**3. We see Him as righteous 2:29**

We do what is right. **Righteous will gladly serve God.**

Mal 3:13 we think and our attitude towards God is also right. God would not do such a thing. We might not see the right scenario to show that He is righteous.

**4. We see Him as pure 3:3**

Mt 23:25,26 The **Blind Pharisee** only sees purity as outward behavior and ceremonial cleansing, instead of seeing God.

Ps 139:1, 23, 24. Purity goes beyond the outward, God sees the thought.

Greed, self- indulgence.

**Search me O God!**

**5. We see Him as sinless. 3:5,6**

He has no sin; we do not keep on sinning.

The thief on the cross, so close to Jesus: two different responds because both see differently.

1. Save yourself, you must be guilty.
2. Remember me in paradise. This man has done nothing wrong.

We will be humble before him, asking for mercy, seeking his favor.

**6. We see Him as love, 4:8**

## We love one another. 4: 16-19

Christ demands that the driving force in your life must be love. All other things, although important, are secondary. Love is the sign of true discipleship. – Solly Ozrovech

**We love him**. Lk 7:47 Her sin is forgiven, she loves much.

**We love the lost**. See His love for the whole world.

We will **trust Him.** Rm 8:32 He will not withhold any good thing.

**7. We see Him as perfect. Mt 5:48**

We will live beyond what is required and reasonable. We go for perfection. **Love our enemy.**

**We can never see that we have arrived. The proof of spiritual maturity is not how pure you are but awareness of your impurity.**

The rich young rule: go and sell all you have and give it to the poor.

**8. We see Him as the God of mercy and forgiving.**

My 18:33,35 Unmerciful servant. We will show mercy.

Mt 9:10-13 The Pharisee know Him only as the lawgiver, but he is a friend of sinner. The law is only to show us our need of the mercy of God.

Jn 8:1-11 Women caught in adultery.

2 types of people: those who acknowledge they are guilty or those who deny their guilt.

God asks us to forgive because that is what he is like. Forgive as he forgives you.

**9. We see Him as full of Grace. Jn 1:14**

Prodigal son: He saw that he is unworthy but the father is full of grace. **We will come back to him in repentance**. Repentance is the open door for grace, for restore relationship. Grace is not what we can earn but we must receive with open hands.

Acts 6: 8 &:54-60 Steven: we will be full of grace. We will be gracious.

Titus 2:11-14 Grace of God teach us to live worthy of Him.

When we see the grace of God, we will not abuse it will respond.

**10. He is God compassion. Mt 9:36,37 Pain partner, come along side.**

We will **move** with compassion. We will take the initiative and begin to help.

Jesus said: when I was naked, you didn’t cloth me.

Compassion for the people, you feed the multitude.

**11. We see Him as an obedient Son. Heb 5:8-10**

Born a babe: God of the universe in a manger. Humble.

Age 12: through the feast of Passover received the revelation of the Father’s purpose for his life. 12 the age of manhood. He took the opportunity to equip himself with the best of teacher in the temple in Jerusalem. **Obedience.**

Water Baptism: **obedient.**

Leadership: came to serve and not to be served. Washing feet. Humble and obedient.

Death: Peter tells him not to go. He didn’t want to but was obedient. Not my will.

# Only the Humble will be obedient. Phil 2:8

Humility is a spirit and so is pride. It is an attitude of the heart. Pride insists on own will and can’t see what others are saying. Pride causes the heart to be hardened. Humility causes our spirit to be softened. We will be able to accept the ideas of others especially those who have authority over us. We will be able to obey.

**To obey:**

1. **He laid aside His will for the will of the Father.**

He was willing to be send, came to do the will of the Father

1. **To obey, it means the dying to the self-life. He lay down His life.**

To obey the Father means suffering death. Was he very happy or feel the burden to die for the world? Mt 26:37-39 Not my will. Heb 5:8 Learned Obedience in suffering.

Obedience is not part of our human nature. Jesus need to learn obedience in through suffering, how much more do we need to!

1. **He obeys even the death on the cross.**

Cross-: shame, misunderstood, naked, ridicule and rejected, cursed!

## Who are we to obey? 1Pet 2:13, 18:21

To every authority: government, Home, School, and Church.

Heb 13:17

To those who seems unreasonable but who are your boss!

**V21 Christ suffered leaving us an example. We don’t talk about burden or no burden**.

**11. See Him face to face: come to penile, the place of brokenness. Gen 32:22-32**

**An encounter with God: Key to receive God’s blessing!**

Jacob has always wanted to be No 1. God also wanted Him to be the read of his household, the head of the nation of Israel. Rm 9:11-13 God has a plan for Jacob.

Jacob didn’t trust God to bring it to past! When they were still in the womb, he wanted to be the first born, to hold the position as eventual head of the family with all the privilege. He grasped the heel of the brother.

In order for God blessing to be fulfilled, it takes the process of God. In order for Abraham to be the Father of Nation:

1. Live a **life of faith**: tasted again and again until he got it right.
2. He needed the **promise** of a son, Isaac. The bible repn God’s promises to us now. 9:8
3. Jacob: 12 sons repn the **government** of 12 to form the Nation of Israel.

He eventually cheated the birth- right by taking advantage of his brother’s weakness. He is an opportunist in the bad sense.

**People in church, love God** but took advantage of our brothers, **small indiscretion**. When the brother is innocent, we try to use them to support our selfish cause and cause them to lose the blessing as sons in the family. We see those who seem to be hurt. Instead of ministering healing, we who were offended try to pour oil in the fire instead of pour oil into the wound to bring healing by killing all the poison in the wound.

He eventually cheated Esau’s blessing from the Father **but he tithes**. Our character needed to be tested outside the Church, in the home.

As a result of his sin, he needed to run from Esau. He receives what he had sowed when he was **cheated twice by his father in law**. The 1st time, when he worked for Rachel but ended up with Leah. **The 2nd** is when the father in law removes all the animals that was promised as his wages and took them and give it to his son. **Jacob had to learn to trust God for His promise to be fulfilled. Gen 28:3,4 and the blessing of Abraham. V13-15.**

On his way back to Canaan, he heard that Esau is coming with 400 man to met him. **32:7 Esau repn the curse of the past** that is coming to attack him. This is the hindrance for him to come into the promise of God.

**Jacob needed brokenness.** He needed **an encounter with God** that will change his they are afraid of the curse. The truth is, the blessing is closer than the curse. He needed to be alone with God and that is when we are broken. We needed to come before God in prayer and go to the cross. One night of prayer brought victory. Many people just seek for deliverance ministry to pray for them. They want quick solution without bearing responsibility for their own deliverance.

**The angel had what Jacob needed. He fought with the angel. It was after he was broken, he still persist in prayer to ask for God’s blessing.** Trusted in God to bless him hanging on to the angel rather than depending on his own strength. He knew he can’t depend on his own strength, he is broken. The first and foremost blessings deliverance from the curse.

**Have you seen broken man who gave up?** In pain and weakness, they wonder who was it that causes them pain. The think it is demons and wicker people.

**What is your name?** Jacob needed to confess his own situation and sin. He is saying I am the cheat, the schemer. It is like Jesus asking the blind man, what do you want me to do for you? He needs to confess his sin. Trials bring us to the death of our bad attitude, our self, pride, so the power of God can flow is us. Growth is the result.

**You are Israel. The prince of God.** He didn’t know he is a prince. And live a cheat. The encounter with God changes that. **Seeing the face of God broke the curse and changes it into blessing**. At that moment, an angel was sent to cause Esau to change his thinking, bitterness towards **Jacob. 32:30 33:10 True deliverance comes by encountering God and not cast out demons, but encounter with God that bend our character, break us.**

If we don’t feel that we are worst of sinner, there will be no deliverance. God doesn’t answer prayer until we die to self and depend on Him.

**What is God’s name?** God didn’t answer his request as if to tell him, you will trust me as the God of Jacob, to lead you, to be what you need. So often, we want to know His name, we want to know how he can bless us and what he can do for us.

After the broken experience, the 12th son came and completes the seed of the 12th trip of Israel and the first concrete sign of the fulfillment of the blessing to Abraham.

**E) The gates of Hades can’t prevail over the rock, the Petra, Jesus is victorious over the over the Devil and has destroy the work of the devil. But the devil can always prevail over the Simon. That is why we see weak churches, defeated Christian.**

Many of us are Simon Peter. V16

Sometimes we are Simon, sometimes. V21-23. The reason why Peter could fail almost immediately was when because when he had the revelation, he was still Simon. But the revelation will work into him that eventually when he had the revelation, he was still Simon. But the revelation will work into him that eventually he even dies for Jesus. That is why it is important to understand how revelation came to us, many time is progressive in nature. We are change from glory into glory.

We know the church will triumphant because of which our head is, Jesus. Who have already defeated the devil?

**F) The keys of the Kingdom of Heaven.**

**Give keys to those you trust!**

**Keys are only useful only if you know which door to open.**

1. **Where is the door: Gates of hell.**

**Where is Jesus building His church?**

**Bind on earth.**

**It is the anti dote to attack of the evil one!**

1. **The Obvious: Demonic bondage.**

**Man kept by demons behind bar to prevent them from coming to Jesus or be set free.**

**Sickness, stronghold of the mind 2 Cor 10:3-6, sin**

1. **Not so obvious Mt 18: 15-20**

**Spiritual warfare: how Satan work in the church?**

**Eph 6:11 Not against flesh and blood: see behind the person whom Satan is using.**

**Eg: Peter.**

**IT IS IMPORTANT WE OPERATE IN THE HEAVENLY PLACE**

Rev 12:12 Dwell in heavens. Those who live in the heavenliest.

Because salvation has come. THEY LIVE IN THE POWER AND AUTHORITY AND THE VICTORY OF Jesus.

The inhabitants of the earth: The carnal, the unbeliever.

The spiritual battle is very fierce on earth. Woe: none will escape.

The way of the cross. Mt 16:21-28

Jesus has been waiting for 3 years for the disciple to get revelation who He is. For so long, he was not able to share with anyone about His suffering. That is why He is elated when Peter got the revelation. Blessed are you! If He were to share before then, they would leave Him.

People can take a glorify Messiah but no one can take a suffering Messiah. The way of the cross is a foolishness to those perishing. It is a curse a shame to the Jews. It is not the message people want to hear. We need to move from knowing Jesus as the Messiah to the knowledge that he is the suffering Messiah. It is in this that we know we need to share in the suffering of Christ. We too will need to carry the cross. We just want to know the blessing, not the suffering. If you want to have victory over satan, you need to know this or else, you will fall into the trap of satan in accusing God when suffering comes.

**God is preparing His church to be ready to carry the cross and follow Jesus. There is no other way to follow Jesus. V24.**

If we have not carry the cross, we have not follow Jesus yet. We might believe in Jesus.

1. **What is the cross?**

The cross isn’t suffering you receive because you are foolish, or family problem. Non- Christian has to suffer the same too.

V25. The cross is what you have sacrifice for the sake of the Gospel, the salvation of souls and the kingdom of God.

1. **Who are those willing to carry the cross?**

Those who know Jesus as the Christ, the Son of the Living God. V16.

* 1. The Christ: Man’s only hope for salvation.
  2. The God: submitting all to worship Him.

Only those who knew Jesus as the messiah are those who are prepare to carry the cross. V21

V13 Jesus is going to ask you when everything is fine who do you say that I am not. When you are sick or dying. You will say anything then! Mt 14:33

1. **To have the revelation but not willing to go to the cross will mess up the plan of God.**

a) We will stand in the way of God.

**Preventing the greatest miracles from taking place, Jesus die to save the whole world.**

**b) 16:22-23 You are the prime target of Satan.**

With the revelation comes power and authority.

**Power in the hand of man and women who have not die to self is divesting.**

Apostle: call fire from heaven to destroy the sSamaritan Village.

Hitler, Idi Amin, Lenin.

1. **He will not give the Kingdom to those who are not preparing to give their life for it.**

We will not be able to win if we are not preparing to die. It is the cross plus the power He has given us that will give the victory. Are you “petros”? 1Pet 2:5

**Jesus, the word become flesh, did no miracles until he die to self and was baptized in the Jordan by John the Baptist. Until he has victory over self in the wilderness tempted by the devil.**

There is no short cut for Jesus.

Paul: waited 13 years.

1. **The power of the cross**

Cross-: suffering, humiliation, shame, death. You can put it down if you don’t like it. Jesus says, I lay down my life.

There will be struggle, your will against God’s will. E.g. Jesus praying in the garden of Gethsemane.

1. Victory over self
2. Victory over Satan V23

There is an intense spiritual battle: sweat drops of battle, most intense turmoil.

Many never fought such battle, conscience is harden by self and sin.

**E.g.: Vietnamese** **lady pastor** of a few thousand people. Kill me: stirrup others, prison: turn prisoner into Christian, isolation: interceded, She is already dead.

1. **What will stop us from carrying the cross? V22**
   1. Satan: he knew the power of the cross. He will use those closest to us. Eg: Peter, our family
   2. Mind the things of man

What we can get in this world!

Save our life; then we need to take extra step of faith, we turn back. V25

1. **We need the mind of God in every situation**

Man wants the easy, comfortable way.

Jesus had the mind of God, the salvation of the souls of man. We need a changed value system. V26 The priceless ness of the man.

1. **The way to the cross: self-deny Mt 16:24-27**
   1. **What are we denying? V24**

We are denying ourselves: what our senses is telling us about the situation if it contrary to the word of God.

* 1. *Then do we need to deny ourselves? V25*

When our own security is threaten. We want to save ourselves. It has to do with the Lordship of Jesus in our life. Not so much to do with believes. The self will hinder us from going one step further.

* 1. **Why do we deny ourselves V25 For Jesus sake?**

1. The salvation of our soul as well as for the Kingdom of God.

2Cor 4:18 Invisible: Faith, patience e.g. Abraham Heb 11:8

Our security is in God.

1. V27 Gain the eternal reward over the temporal.
   1. **Follow Me: Jesus is with us and leading us.** V24

Mt 16:21 resurrections, 27 reward.

The only sign we are coming after Jesus is the cross life, not the cross you wear on your neck. 2Cor 4:10-14

Phil 3:10 it is only in death will the resurrection life be able to flow through us.

Each step is a step of faith and self- deny.

1Pet 4:12,13. Share suffering, glory comes in the morning.

**Resurrection gives us the keys to the Kingdom of Heaven.**

Rev 1:18, Heb 2:14, Eph 4:10

Mt 16:18,19

Remember the death of Jesus. Rev 1:18

He who lives: who He is before He came to earth.

Was dead.

Alive for evermore. Keys of Hades and death.

Heb 2:14 Satan has the power of death and his domain of influence is in the heavenly places (prince of the air) with his headquarter in hell. Rev 9:1 E.g. Gates of Hades.

The keys of Hades and death were with him. Men were waiting for the unveiling of the messiah. They knew from the progressive revelation of God that the messiah is to come. Satan was very much controlling, deceiving and destroying man.

Where is the heavenly places; they are just the spiritual, unseen realm.

Where is the gate of Hades? Hades is the lower part of the earth. The gates of Hades are on earth. It is where man and women are kept in captivity by evil one. They are in prison needing to be set free.

Mt16: 19 Jesus is building His church on earth. That is also where the enemy is at work.

Rev 1:18 Col 2:14,15 By the cross, the power that the enemy has over man was removed because death was the result of sin and the power of Hades over man was broken. Man use to follow the devil. Mt 25:41

At the resurrection, Jesus took with Him the key of Hades and death. He has given these keys to the church. Mt 16:18,19.

These keys are keys into the unseen realm. We can now break the power of the devil over the life of people by using the key to unlock the chain or prison door over their life.

e.g. sickness, deception of the mind, unbelief, sin.

Death: The legal hold that Satan has over us is now broken. All we need is to use the key to unlock that power. The fear.

Life is found in Him.

Alive for evermore.