

## THE LIFE OF THE RIGHTEOUS

March 1

### *The Prayer of Faith Shall Save the Sick*

#### **James 5:14**

*"Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord."*

We have been studying about giving God's Word first place in our lives. This Word is speaking to specific people. If we are going to obtain the right results, we must apply the Word of God correctly. So, let us take a closer look at the verses in **James 5:14-16**. "*Is anyone among you sick?*" Who is being spoken of here? The sick. This is written to the Church first and then to those who have faith to obey this Word. "*...let him call.*" Who is supposed to call? The person who is sick. This is implying that the person is unable to get out of bed to go to the elders themselves, but they are able to call. Now if the person is unable to call themselves, such as a child or an unconscious person, that is a different situation.

There have been times when people have had a sick family member or friend and have asked the elders to come and pray for this person. When the elders arrived, they have found that the ill person did not want someone to come and pray for them. In that case, you cannot help that person. We also read in this verse that there are specific people whom they are to call on. "*...for the elders of the church...*" Who are the elders? The pastors or people in the church who are more mature in their faith. Be sure that the elders you contact believe in divine healing.

There have been times when people have called the elders, they would come, and tell the sick individual, "Just hang on, it will all be over with soon." Or they would pray, "If it is Your will Lord, please heal this person." That ill person did not get healed! Thus, be certain that the elders have faith to believe that those they pray for will be healed. There is only one place where we are to pray, "Lord if it be Your will," which is the prayer of commitment. Jesus only prayed this in the garden of Gethsemane when He was seeking the will of God (**Matthew 26:42**). You do not have to take my word for it. Search the Scriptures for yourself, and let it be settled in your heart.

**James 5:14** instructs, *"...and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord..."* You need to let the elders pray over you and anoint you with oil. The oil is not what heals you but is a point of contact for your faith which represents the Holy Spirit (the anointing). The elders are to pray in the name of the Lord. The Lord is our healer, and His name is Jesus!

We notice in **James 5:15** what heals or saves you. *"And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up..."* The word "raise up" in the Greek means "to awaken, to raise up." When the prayer of faith is prayed, the sick will be saved. This word, "save," means "safe, deliver, or protect, heal, preserve, save, do well, be made whole."

The prayer of faith is found in **Mark 11:23-24**. Therefore, the prayer of faith will save, or we could say heal the sick and make them whole. What next? *"...The Lord will raise him up..."*, which means you no longer need to be in bed, because you are not only healed, but you are raised up. Glory be to God! Let us continue reading, *"...And if he have committed sins, he will be forgiven."* Sometimes, the reason people become ill is because they have sinned. Sickness is the offspring of the father Satan and the mother sin. However, the good news is that when the prayer of faith is prayed by the elders, the sins are forgiven. It is written in **Isaiah 38:24**, *"And the inhabitant will not say, 'I am sick'; The people who dwell in it will be forgiven their iniquity."*

**Faith Confession:** *I give the Word first place in my life. I am a doer of the Word of God, and I am blessed. If necessary, I will call on the elders and have them anoint me with oil and pray the prayer of faith. I will be saved, raised up, and my sins shall be forgiven me. Glory to God!*

## THE LIFE OF THE RIGHTEOUS

March 2

*Pray One for Another*

**James 5:16**

*"Confess your trespasses (faults) to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much."*

We have been discussing about giving God's Word first place in our lives. We began looking at **James 5:14-16**. Today, I want to continue with **James 5:16**. What instructions are we to follow? "*Confess your trespasses (faults) to one another.*" The word "faults" means "a side-slip (lapse or deviation) (unintentional) error or (willful) transgression, fault, offense, sin, trespass." So, confess any side-slips, lapse, deviation from the Word or what you knew to do and did not do, or what you knew not to do but did (including unintentional or intentional errors). Confess to one another any offenses. Confession is important to receiving your healing and keeping your health.

After you have confessed your faults to one another, then what? "*...Pray for one another, that you may be healed.*" "*The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.*" What does **1 John 1:9** tell us? "*If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*" If He has cleansed us from all unrighteousness, then we are righteous, and our prayers avail much! **James 5:17-18** state, "*Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed earnestly that it would not rain; and it did not rain on the land for three years and six months. <sup>18</sup> And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth produced its fruit.*"

You can command sickness, disease, and pain to leave your body and they must obey you. It is written in **Romans 5:17**, "*For if by the one man's offense death reigned through the one, much more those who receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.)*" Simply receive what He has given you as a gift, and reign over sickness, disease, pain, and all that the enemy would try to bring against you.

Jesus proclaimed in **Mark 11:23-24**, *"For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be removed and be cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says. <sup>24</sup> Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them."* These are not my words or another man's words. On the contrary, these are the words of Jesus, the Master, the Son of the living God. Believe what He said is true and obey them. Then, you will experience answered prayer.

Let us read the rest of **James 5:19-20**. *"Brethren, (He is speaking to believers, not the world.) if anyone among you wanders from the truth, and someone turns him back, <sup>20</sup> let him know that he who turns a sinner from the error of his way will save a soul from death and cover a multitude of sins."*

**Faith Confession:** *I am a doer of the Word of God. I put God's Word first place in every situation and every circumstance in my life. I ask myself the question, "What does the Word say?" If I do not know, then I seek, and I will find the answer! I know the voice of the Good Shepherd. I will not follow the voice of a stranger. To follow Jesus, the Good Shepherd, is to follow the truth which is the Word. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. He never changes, but I am being changed from glory to glory!*

## THE LIFE OF THE RIGHTEOUS

March 3

### *Fight the Good Fight of Faith*

#### **I Timothy 6:12**

*"Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, to which you were also called and have confessed the good confession in the presence of many witnesses."*

We have been talking about the importance of giving the Word of God first place in our lives. We are in a fight which the Lord calls a good fight of faith. The devil wants you to be without faith. If you are faithless, he can defeat you. Thus, he wants to keep you so occupied with daily activities, that you do not have time to look into the Word from which your faith comes (**Romans 10:17**). Satan wants to keep you from speaking God's Word. A key to winning the good fight of faith is through our profession (confession). In **I Timothy 6:12-13**, God told us clearly how we are to fight the good fight of faith which is through our profession or confession just as Jesus did.

**Joshua 1:8** instructs us not to let the Word depart from our mouths. **Proverbs 4:21** commands us not to let the Word depart from our eyes. Applying these verses to our lives is vital to winning the good fight of faith. In **Hebrews 3:1**, Jesus is called the Apostle and High Priest of our profession (confession). It is written in **Hebrews 4:14**, "Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession." It is also stated in **Hebrews 10:23**, "Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful."

Make time for the Word of God. Give it first place in your life! If you obey **Proverbs 4:20-23**, He has promised that His Word would be health, healing, and medicine to all your flesh. Whatever you give your attention to is what is most important to you.

Many people are seeking a quick fix so they can continue to do what they want. People with terminal illnesses have come to my healing classes, and their physical condition begins to improve. Then summer comes, and they suddenly have something better to do. Guess what happens? The Word that was getting into them and

healing them suddenly stopped. Initially, their symptoms do not appear to become worse, but then suddenly the enemy attacks them. Satan was just waiting for them to become weak in their faith. The only way Satan can defeat you is when you are weak in faith. Feed your faith daily by giving the Word first place in your life. Speak it, meditate on it constantly, and obey it. Then you will prosper and have success (or we could say have good health).

Many Christians are waiting for God to heal them. The truth is that God has already healed every man, woman, and child over 2,000 years ago. At the same time, He paid the price for all mankind's sins, He bore man's sickness in His body so we would not have to suffer (**Matthew 8:17**). We simply need to believe that **Matthew 8:17** is true. All we must do is to have faith which comes from God's Word. His Word is medicine, so His Word is like taking pills. Thus, give God's pills first place!

***Faith Confession:*** *I am fighting the good fight of faith. I am laying hold of eternal life which I am called to. I do this by making a good confession based on God's Word. I do not have to fight the devil, because Jesus already defeated him. I do not have to fight sin, because Jesus already dealt with the sin problem. I am fighting the good fight of faith as I give God's Word first place in my life. I call things that are not as though they were. I humble myself before the Lord. I believe that Jesus took my infirmities and my sicknesses. By His stripes, I am healed and made whole. I will continue confessing this no matter what I feel or see, and surely His Word will be true for me! Thank You, Jesus!*

## THE LIFE OF THE RIGHTEOUS

March 4

### Standard of Vision

#### Jeremiah 23:16

*"Do not listen to the words of the prophets who prophesy to you. They make you worthless; They speak a vision of their own heart, Not from the mouth of the LORD."*

The standard of vision comes from the mouth of the Lord. We have been studying about giving the Word first place in our lives. It is so important to line up everything we believe with the Word of God even what is prophesied to us. We are instructed in **I Thessalonians 5:19-21**, "*Do not quench the Spirit. <sup>20</sup> Do not despise prophecies. <sup>21</sup> Test all things; hold fast what is good.*" We are to prove all things. Prove means "to discern, examine, to try." What are we to examine "all things" in light of? In light of God's Word. It is written in **I Corinthians 14:29**, "*Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others judge.*"

We have seen from **Romans 12:2** that we are to renew our minds in order to prove what is the good, acceptable, and perfect will of God. (That word "prove" is the same word used in **I Thessalonians 5:20**.) According to **Jeremiah 23:16**, people can prophecy visions of their own heart. If you want something bad enough and are unwilling to hear something different than what you thought you wanted, you can open yourself up to a deluding spirit (**II Thessalonians 2:10-12**). Paul wrote to Timothy in **II Timothy 4:3**, "*For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers;*" They were looking for people who will tell them what they want to hear. I believe you are not one of those individuals!

When I was a young Christian, I prayed and asked God for something that I really wanted. What I asked for came to pass. Even though, I did not line up my request with the Word of God, I still believed that it was God who heard and answered my prayer. To my dismay, I found that I had believed a lie. I saw from God's Word that it was not His will.

Did you know that Satan will move and cause things to happen to lead you to believe it is God when in reality it is not? We are not to be led by our physical senses. Sometimes, we believe something is God because it looks like we are prospering in it. What are we being led by? Our senses, what we see. On the contrary, we are to be led by what the Holy Spirit reveals to our spirit and not by what we see. The Holy Spirit, who indwells our spirit, will always lead us in accordance with God's Word.

**II Peter 1:19** explains, *"And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts;"* **Proverbs 29:18** states in God's Word Translation, *"Without prophetic vision people run wild, but blessed are those who follow God's teachings."* We can understand the importance of keeping God's Word first place in our lives. By the mouth of two or three witnesses, every word will be established (**II Corinthians 13:1**). Be sure you have at least two Scriptures to back up what you believe. You will be blessed! God's Word will come to pass!

**Faith Confession:** *My standard of vision is the Word of God. I give God's Word first place in my life. I let everything be established in the mouth of two or three witnesses (**II Corinthians 13:1**). I follow God's teachings. I do not quench the Spirit. I do not despise prophesying. I prove all things in light of God's Word. I hold fast to what is good. I judge prophecy in line with the Word of God. I have the prophetic Word confirmed, which I do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place until the day dawns and the morning star rises in my heart. I am spiritually minded resulting in life and peace. I obey God's Word, and I am blessed!*

## THE LIFE OF THE RIGHTEOUS

March 5

### *Search the Scriptures Daily*

#### **Acts 17:11**

*"These were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so."*

It is important that we are doers of God's Word. It is good to receive the Word with all readiness of mind, but do not stop there. We must obey the rest of this verse. We must search the Scriptures daily in order that we might know whether the things which are being taught are in line with the Word. I love my pastor, but I am still going to be certain that what my pastor says is in accordance with the Word. When I share it, I am believing for people to receive it with all readiness of mind. I also expect them to search the Scriptures daily to see if what I said is true. You do not have to take my word for anything, but you would be wise to believe His Word. Jesus said in **John 12:48**, "He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him—the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day." We will be judged by the Word of God with His truth (**Psalms 96:13**).

It is written in **III John 2**, "Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers." Our prosperity (success) and health in life are attached to the prosperity of our soul. We have been talking about the importance of renewing the mind to the Word of God which enables us not to be conformed to this world but transformed to be like Christ. Then, we can prove what is that good, acceptable, and perfect will of God. Every day we should become more like Christ.

John continued to write in **III John 3-4**, "For I rejoiced greatly when brethren came and testified of the truth that is in you, just as you walk in the truth. <sup>4</sup>I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth." John walked with the Master who is the way, the truth, and the life (**John 14:6**). It is not enough to have the truth in us, we must also walk in it. In other words, we could say to be a doer of the truth. His Word is truth (**John 17:17**). To do the Word is to walk in truth. As we continue in His Word, which is truth, then are we His disciples. We will know (experience)

the truth, and the truth shall make us free (**John 8:31-32**). Make us free from what? Free from the lies of the enemy! The truth will set us free from sin, sickness, and disease, poverty, pride, and all the works of the enemy.

**John 4:23-24** explained, *"But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. <sup>24</sup> God is Spirit, and those who worship Him **must** worship in spirit and truth."* Notice that the Father is seeking those who will worship Him in spirit and in truth. We must possess both the spirit and the truth. When we search the Scriptures daily, we are searching for the truth which makes us free from all the lies of the enemy. **Psalms 51:6** states, *"Behold, You desire truth in the inward parts, And in the hidden part You will make me to know wisdom."* In **Proverbs 23:23** we are instructed to *"Buy the truth, and do not sell it, Also wisdom and instruction and understanding."* **Ecclesiastes 12:10** expresses, *"The Preacher sought to find acceptable words; and what was written was upright—words of truth."*

**Faith Confession:** *I am a doer of the Word. I receive the Word with all readiness, and I search the Scriptures daily to see if what is being said is true. The truth is in me, and I walk in truth. I worship the Father in spirit and in truth. As I obey His Word, I am His disciple. I will know by experience the truth, and the truth is setting me free. I buy the truth, and I do not sell it!*

## THE LIFE OF THE RIGHTEOUS

March 6

### *Walking in Truth*

#### **II John 4**

*"I rejoiced greatly that I have found some of your children walking in truth, as we received commandment from the Father."*

We have been learning about the importance of giving the Word which is truth, first place in our lives. This is important to the developing, training, and educating of our human spirit. Jesus is truth! It is written in **II John 2**, "because of the truth which abides in us and will be with us forever:" Jesus, the truth, dwells in us. The Holy Spirit, which is the Spirit of truth, dwells in us (**John 14:17,23;17:23**).

John wrote to the elect lady and her children in **II John 4**, "I rejoiced greatly that I have found some of your children walking in truth, as we have received commandment from the Father." Notice it says, "...as we have received commandment from the Father." What is the commandment we have received from the Father? That we walk in truth. To walk in truth is to walk in love, which means we are to obey the Word. We read in yesterday's devotion in **III John 3-4** that John wrote: "For I rejoiced greatly when brethren came and testified of the truth that is in you, just as you walk in the truth. <sup>4</sup>I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth." When you walk in truth joy results. Obeying the Word brings joy to the Father and others.

**II John 5** reads, "And now I plead with you, lady, not as though I wrote a new commandment to you, but that which we have had from the beginning: that we love one another." John is talking about us, the church, loving one another. He continues to emphasize in **verses 6-11**, "This is love, that we walk according to His commandments. This is the commandment, that as you have heard from the beginning, you should walk in it. (Read **Psalms 119:151**.) <sup>7</sup>For many deceivers have gone out into the world who do not confess Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist. (Read **I John 4:1-6**.) <sup>8</sup>Look to yourselves, that we do not lose those things we worked for, but that we may receive a full reward. <sup>9</sup>Whoever transgresses and does not abide in the doctrine of Christ does not have God. (Read

***1 John 2:15-24.***) He who abides in the doctrine of Christ has both the Father and the Son. <sup>10</sup> If anyone comes to you and does not bring this doctrine, do not receive him into your house nor greet him; <sup>11</sup> for he who greets him shares in his evil deeds.”

There are people who believe in God, but do not believe and confess Jesus is the Son of God and that He came in the flesh. If they were to die today, they would not have eternal life. There have been people who have had loved ones in the hospital who have been told that their family members have only a short time to live. I have asked them if their loved ones are saved, and they would answer, “They believe in God.” According to ***1 John 2:21-24, 1 John 4:15,*** and ***Romans 10:9-13,*** you must believe and confess that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God and that He has come in the flesh. When a person follows these verses, they will have eternal life.

***Faith Confession:*** I believe and confess that Jesus Christ is the Son of the living God, that He died and was raised again, and that He came in the flesh. Then, I am saved, safe, delivered, protected, healed, preserved, doing well, and made whole. To God be all the glory! I walk in the truth, as I have received the commandment from the Father. All of His commandments are truth. Truth dwells in me and will always be with me.

## THE LIFE OF THE RIGHTEOUS

March 7

***Instantly Obey the Voice of Your Spirit***

***Proverbs 20:27***

*"The spirit of a man is the lamp of the LORD,  
Searching all the inner depths of his heart."*

We have been studying about developing, training, and educating our human spirit. We are a spirit, we possess a soul, and we live in a body. Four actions are necessary to develop your human spirit. Firstly, meditate on the Word. Secondly, practice the Word. Thirdly, give the Word first place. Finally, instantly obey the voice of your spirit. The human spirit has a voice which we call "conscience." Sometimes, it is called "intuition" or an "inner voice". It is your spirit speaking to you. Every person's spirit has a voice whether they are saved or unsaved.

When you are born-again your spirit becomes brand new (***II Corinthians 5:17***). So, the new birth is the rebirth of your human spirit. Everything which was old in your spirit (the old nature) is removed, and everything becomes new. Now you have the nature of God. As you meditate upon the Word of God, it becomes the source of your information. This is why it is so important to meditate on God's Word. Your spirit will become strong, and the inward voice of your conscience (educated in the spirit) will become a safe guide. As our text says, *"The spirit of a man is the lamp of the LORD."* God will enlighten us through our spirit by the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit dwells within your spirit (***I John 4:4***). He does not dwell in your head. God communicates with you through your spirit because that is where He lives. Thus, your spirit receives its information through Him. It is important to obey your spirit which is led by the Holy Spirit. Your conscience is the voice of your spirit. Since you are born-again, it is safe to follow your spirit, because it has the life and nature of God. When you have taken time to meditate on His Word, your spirit can now become the voice of God speaking to you.

**Mark 4:24** (Amplified Bible) explains, *"And He (Jesus) said to them, Be careful what you are hearing. The measure [of thought*

*and study] you give [to the truth you hear] will be the measure [of virtue (moral excellence) and knowledge] that comes back to you – and more [besides] will be given to you who hear.” Notice that He said to be careful what you are hearing. We need to be hearing the truth. **John 17:17** states, “...thy word is truth.” The more we value and honor His Word, the more virtue and knowledge we receive. It is possible to be just as led by the Spirit as Jesus was led. He was always in the right place, at the right time, and doing the right thing. He always knew what to say and how to say it. He knew the right questions to ask. This kind of life is also possible for us.*

As you give your spirit the privilege of meditating and feeding upon the Word of God, your spirit becomes increasingly a safe guide, since it is trained in the Word of God. He speaks to us with this inward voice (the voice of our own spirit speaking) not only with the voice of the Holy Spirit (**Romans 8:14-16**).

***Faith Confession:*** *My spirit is the lamp of the Lord, searching all the inner depths of my heart. As I meditate upon God's Word, it becomes the source of my information. My spirit is becoming strong. The inward voice of my conscience, which is educated in the spirit, is becoming a safe guide. I am careful what I hear. The measure of thought and study I devote to the truth will be the measure of virtue (moral excellence) and knowledge that I receive. I speak and meditate upon God's Word day and night. I practice the Word. I give God's Word **first place** in my life. I quickly follow the voice of my spirit. I am led by the Spirit, and I am blessed!*

## THE LIFE OF THE RIGHTEOUS

March 8

### ***A Still Small Voice***

#### ***I Kings 19:12***

*"And after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a still small voice."*

We have been focusing on the importance of developing, training, and educating our human spirit. We do this by meditating on God's Word, following the Word, giving the Word first place in our lives, and instantly obeying the voice of our spirit. The human spirit has a voice which we call "conscience." Some people refer to it as "intuition" or an "inner voice". It is your spirit speaking to you.

***I Kings 19:12*** speaks of a still small voice. There is a difference between the inward voice of the Holy Spirit speaking to our spirits and that still small voice which is the voice of our own spirit speaking to us. When the Holy Spirit within us speaks, it is more authoritative. The still small voice is not one that is authoritative. It will not be a big and booming voice. In order to hear that still small voice, it is good to become quiet and simply listen.

One day I lay down on the sofa and spent some time praying in tongues. (As you pray in tongues, you are being sensitive to the inner man.) After I prayed for a while, I just closed my eyes and took a short nap. When I woke up, I heard that still small voice reminding me of something that I needed to do. So, I got up and immediately took care of it.

It is important not to override the promptings of the Holy Spirit. Every time you override the promptings of the Holy Spirit, you become dull of hearing. ***I Timothy 4:2*** warns about people having their conscience seared with a hot iron. I used to work at a factory putting plastic tubing together for air conditioning in cars. When I first started, I had blisters on my fingers. After a few weeks of doing this work, my fingers became calloused resulting in not feeling anything where those blisters once were. This is an example of how we override the promptings of the Holy Spirit. We become dull of hearing. The good news is that you can become sensitive to His promptings again. After I quit working at the factory, over a

period of time my fingers became soft and tender again where I once had callouses.

When you realize that you have overridden the promptings of the Holy Spirit, be quick to repent. Simply go to the Father in Jesus Name and ask Him to forgive you for every time you have overridden the Holy Spirit's promptings. Receive your forgiveness by faith (**I John 1:9**). When you obey the promptings of the Holy Spirit, you keep a tender heart, and He can continue to lead you and guide you. Look to the inner man.

**Faith Confession:** *My spirit is the candle of the Lord which searches all the inward parts of my heart. As I meditate upon God's Word, it becomes the source of my information. My spirit is becoming strong, and the inward voice of my conscience (which is educated in the spirit) is becoming a safe guide. I am careful what I hear. The measure of thought and study I give to the truth I hear, will be the measure of virtue (moral excellence) and knowledge which returns back to me. I speak and meditate upon God's Word constantly. I practice the Word. I give God's Word **first place** in my life, and I quickly obey the voice of my spirit. I am led by the Holy Spirit, and I am blessed!*

## THE LIFE OF THE RIGHTEOUS

March 9

**Be Not Afraid**

**Mark 5:36**

*"As soon as Jesus heard the word that was spoken, He said to the ruler of the synagogue, "Do not be afraid; only believe."*

It is written in **Mark 5:22-24**, *"And behold, one of the rulers of the synagogue came, Jairus by name. And when he saw Him, he fell at His feet <sup>23</sup> and begged Him earnestly, saying, "My little daughter lies at the point of death. Come and lay Your hands on her, that she may be healed, and she will live." <sup>24</sup> So Jesus went with him, and a great multitude followed Him and thronged Him."* When this ruler came to Jesus and asked Him to come and lay hands on his daughter, we read that Jesus went with him.

**John 4:46-50** describes a nobleman who had a dying son. This nobleman asked Jesus to come and heal his son; however, Jesus did not go with the nobleman. Jesus said to him in **John 4:48**, *"Unless you people see signs and wonders, you will by no means believe."* In **Verse 49** we notice again that the nobleman tells Jesus, *"Sir, come down before my child dies!"* Both men had a confession. One of faith and the other of fear and unbelief.

I was seeking the Lord regarding the difference between the ruler of the synagogue and the nobleman. As you read the two instances, it is very clear what the difference is: honor, respect, and humility. What was the first thing the ruler of the synagogue did when he saw Jesus? *"...And when he saw Him, he fell at His feet."* (**Mark 5:22**) This man came and worshipped Jesus first. Worship has to do with honor and humility (meaning you are lowering, or humbling yourself). **James 4:6** states, *"But He gives more grace. Therefore He says: "God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble."* The nobleman did not honor Jesus through worship. He simply came and demanded Jesus to come and heal his son. That is not being humble; therefore, Jesus resisted him.

Another difference between the ruler of the synagogue and the nobleman is that the ruler of the synagogue came in faith. Faith and humility go hand in hand. This man came and worshipped Jesus and then said, *"Come and lay Your hands on her, that she*

*may be healed, and she will live.*" He spoke what he believed. Faith has a confession. Fear, doubt, and unbelief also have a confession, but they do not move God. God is moved by faith (**II Chronicles 16:9**). This ruler's heart was perfect toward God. He did not just go to Jesus and demand that He come and heal his daughter. Jesus was being merciful to the nobleman. He was helping the nobleman to have faith. As we continue to read **John 4:50-54**, we see the nobleman did obtain faith and obey the Word. His son did live, and thus he received his miracle.

Let us go back to Jesus and the ruler of the synagogue. As they were going on their way to his house, Jesus was stopped by another person who had faith (**Mark 5:25-34**). Therefore, Jesus was delayed from going to heal the ruler's daughter. As you continue to read **Mark 5:35**, someone from the ruler's house comes and tells the ruler not to bother the Master any further because his daughter was dead. Remember, we previously read in **James 4:6**, that the humble receive more grace. Now we observe this man obtaining more grace. Jesus encouraged him in **verse 36**, "*Do not be afraid; only believe.*" The man obviously obeyed the Master, since his daughter was healed and made whole (**Mark 5:37-43**). Be a person of honor, humility, and faith.

**Faith Confession:** *I honor the Master and His Word. I humble myself and believe what He says in His Word and obey it. As I do this, I receive more grace. I am not afraid. I only believe, and my belief is revealed in my confession and actions. I believe to see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living!*

## THE LIFE OF THE RIGHTEOUS

March 10

***I Have Manifested Thy Name***

**John 17:6**

*"I have manifested Your name to the men whom You have given Me out of the world. They were Yours, You gave them to Me, and they have kept Your word."*

Just before Jesus was going to the cross, He prayed for His disciples (**John 17**). Jesus is speaking to the Father, and He says that He has manifested the Father's name to the men whom God gave Him out of the world. As a disciple (a follower of Christ), this is exactly what we as His disciples should do. We should manifest His name to those God has given us out of the world. Has God given you any out of the world? If you want to know what He manifested to those God gave Him out of the world, read the Gospels and you will know what you should be manifesting. Often people think they cannot do what Jesus did. However, according to **John 14:12**, if you believe in Him, you can. *"Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father."*

Christ is our example of what we should do. Everything that He did, we can do too. He did His works as a man anointed by the Holy Spirit. This is the way we are to do the same works Jesus did. As you read the New Testament, you will notice that the disciples did indeed do the same works that Jesus did. So, we also have them as our example. What did they do? Read Acts and the Epistles. It is important to look into His Word and to meditate on it. As you read through the New Testament, picture yourself being one of the disciples with Jesus seeing what He did. Then visualize yourself doing the same things Jesus did. We can, in fact, do exactly the same things! The only thing we do not have to do, is die on the cross and pay the price for the sins of mankind. Only Jesus could do that. Jesus, the Lamb of God, takes away the sin of the world (**John 1:29**).

What do you see Jesus doing? What do you see His disciples doing? We are New Testament believers; therefore, we are to do those things we see the New Testament believers doing that are like

Christ. Paul commanded in **I Corinthians 11:1**, "Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ."

In earlier devotions, we looked at the names of God. We will again mention them so we know what we are to manifest to those God has given us out of the world.

One of the names of God is Jehovah-Jireh, our provider. Do we see Jesus manifesting that name? Yes, we do! When He and Peter had taxes to pay, Jesus manifested that name (**Matthew 17:27**). He also fed the multitudes (**Mark 8:1-9**). He is Jehovah-Rapha, the Lord our healer. There are many places in the Bible where we read about Jesus healing the sick (**Acts 10:38**). He is Jehovah-Nissi, the Lord our victory. He had victory over Satan, sin, death, and all the works of the enemy (**John 11:1-44; Matthew 9:18-26**). He is Jehovah-Shalom, the Lord our peace. Jesus spoke to storms (**Mark 4:37-41**). He is Jehovah-Tsidkenu, the Lord our righteousness (**I Corinthians 1:30**). He lived a life free from sin. He was totally righteous and did righteous deeds. He is Jehovah-Shammah, the God who is present. He was always in the right place at the right time. Before He left to go to the Father, He sent another one just like Himself, the Holy Spirit. He never leaves us nor forsakes us (**Hebrews 13:5**)! He is Jehovah-Raah, the Lord our shepherd. He was and is the good shepherd (**John 10:11**). Everything He did is what the good shepherd does! These are just a few examples of what Jesus did, and we can also do them as the Spirit leads.

**Faith Confession:** *I am a follower of Christ. I am to manifest His name to those the Father gives me out of the world. I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. I have the same Holy Spirit Jesus had, and He is helping me to do the same works. I believe in Jesus, and I shall do the same works He did. To God be all the glory!*

## THE LIFE OF THE RIGHTEOUS

March 11

*He Will Manifest Himself*

**John 14:21**

*"He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him."*

In yesterday's devotion we read that Jesus prayed to the Father, and that He manifested the Father's name to them whom the Father had given Him out of the world. In today's text (**John 14:21**), we see what enabled Jesus to manifest His name. He explained, *"He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me..."* "... and I will love him and manifest Myself to him." The person who has Jesus' commandments and keeps them is the one who truly loves Him, and He manifests Himself to that person. Often, people are crying out to God, "God, please show me something. Show me Yourself." Those are not the instructions which He has given us to make it possible for Him to manifest or show Himself to us. He tells us very clearly what allows Him to manifest Himself to us.

Did the disciples love Jesus? Yes, because they did have His commandments and His Word, and they kept them. The word "keep" in this verse means "to watch, to guard, to keep the eye upon, to prevent from escaping, to fulfill a commandment, to hold fast, to keep." This word, "keep," concerns value, to treasure them in order that you remember to do them.

In **John 14:23** Jesus also stated, *"...If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word."* What are the instructions which we have been given enabling us to have His commandments, His words and keep them? **Joshua 1:8** and **Proverbs 4:20-23** contain some instructions as to how we can do this. Speak His Word and meditate upon it day and night that you may observe to do them.

Let us take a look at the disciples' lives and notice how they showed their love to Jesus that enabled Him to manifest Himself to them. The first commandment He gave the disciples was *"Follow me..."* (**Matthew 4:19-22; Matthew 8:22-23; Matthew 9:9**). The disciples quickly obeyed the Master and followed Him. They did not

ask any questions such as, "How much will I get paid?" We can all think of a lot of questions that they could have asked, but they simply left everything and followed Him.

In **Luke 5:2-7** Jesus entered Peter's boat and asked him to push it out into the water which Peter did, and Jesus taught the people. When Jesus was finished speaking, He told Peter to go where the water was deeper and let down his nets to catch some fish. When Peter obeyed, he and those with him received a miracle of provision!

The Bible says that the first miracle which Jesus performed was turning water into wine. Jesus' mother told the servants in **John 2:5**, "... *Whatever he says to you, do it.*" Obedience is the key to miracles! Whatever He says to you (and He can say something through your pastor or a minister), and if you will do it, you will receive a miracle. The disciples fully obeyed the words of the Master, and a miracle took place (**John 2:4-11**). It is written in **John 2:11**, "*This beginning of signs (miracles) Jesus did in Cana of Galilee, and **manifested His glory**; and His disciples believed in Him.*"

Every time the disciples obeyed the Master, they were proving their love to Him. The same is true for us today, in that every time we obey His Word we are showing our love to Jesus and to one another. Obedience to His Word is the number one way I show my love. When I tell Him that I love Him, my love for Him will grow.

**Faith Confession:** *I have His commandments and keep them. I am showing that I love Him and His body by obeying His Word. Because I love Jesus, the Father loves me. Jesus loves me and will manifest Himself to me. I am a doer of the Word of God, and I am blessed!*

## THE LIFE OF THE RIGHTEOUS

March 12

### *The Anointing*

#### **Luke 4:18-19**

*"The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me, Because He has anointed Me  
To preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the  
brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives And recovery  
of sight to the blind, To set at liberty those who are oppressed;  
To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD."*

Jesus stated, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, Because He has anointed Me." (**Luke 4:18**) Jesus was anointed to preach the gospel to the poor. He was sent to heal the brokenhearted. Jesus did not come to break people's hearts as we have sometimes heard. He came to preach deliverance to the captives, recover sight to the blind, free those who are bruised, and preach the acceptable year of the Lord! The purpose of the Holy Spirit, the anointing, is to perform the above works. It is written in **Isaiah 10:27**, *"It shall come to pass in that day That his burden will be taken away from your shoulder, And his yoke from your neck, And the yoke will be destroyed because of the anointing oil."* If we will yield to the Holy Spirit and respond to Him, He will manifest His goodness, His power, and His glory wherever we are.

We have this same Holy Spirit living inside of us. When we were born-again, He came on the inside of us. **Acts 1:8** promises, *"But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."* If you have been baptized in the Holy Spirit, you too can say what Jesus said. The Holy Spirit desires to manifest the goodness of God, the power of God, and the glory of God. All He needs is for someone to desire Him to move and then to respond to Him. The question is, "Will you yield and respond to Him when He moves on you?" Jesus quickly obeyed the Holy Spirit, and people were blessed because of His obedience.

Jesus said in **John 17:1**, *"Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son, that Your Son also may glorify You,"* We know that the Father always heard Jesus' prayers and answered them. The way the Son glorifies the Father is through His body here on earth when the

gospel is preached to the poor, they believe it, and receive it. He is glorified when the brokenhearted are healed, when the captives are delivered, the blind receive their sight, when the bruised are set free, and the acceptable year of the Lord is preached through us, His body. (Read **John 15:8**.)

It is time for us, as the body of Christ, to take our place and do the same works that Jesus did which is the way to reach the harvest today. In order for this to happen, we must pursue love (**I Corinthians 14:1**). The Holy Spirit desires to manifest the gifts through the body of Christ, but those gifts must be wrapped in love. Love is the insulator of the power of God. Perfect love casts out fear. You will not fear preaching the Gospel and stepping out in faith when you are perfected in love. In the next devotion, I will share more about love.

**Faith Confession:** *The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because He has anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor. He has sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, to recover sight to the blind, to set free those who are bruised, and to preach the acceptable year of the Lord. The Father is glorified when I allow the Holy Spirit to manifest Himself through me. I will yield to Him and respond to Him. I will let Him have His way, and He will manifest His goodness, His power, and His glory. We are workers together with Him. We are working together to bring in the precious fruit of the earth. To God be all the glory!*

## THE LIFE OF THE RIGHTEOUS

March 13

Love

### ***I Corinthians 14:1***

*"Pursue love, and desire spiritual gifts, but especially that you may prophesy."*

In ***I Corinthians 14:1***, we read that we are to follow after love and to desire spiritual gifts (Desire things pertaining to and of the Spirit.). There is a stirring and hunger within the body of Christ for the manifestations of the Holy Spirit. For a long time, we have read about the spiritual gifts in the New Testament, and we have heard others share about what the Holy Spirit is doing.

God wants the whole body to flow in the gifts of the Holy Spirit. The first thing we need to do is follow after love. There is an order which is necessary to follow. Just before the first verse in ***I Corinthians 14***, Paul instructed us to follow after love. In fact, the New Testament includes an entire chapter about love. Then in ***I Corinthians 12:31*** he wrote, *"But earnestly desire the best gifts. And yet I show you a more excellent way."* Next, he tells us what that more excellent way is. The more excellent way is love!

In ***I Corinthians 13*** we see how God, who is love, deals with us. We must come to know the love of God for ourselves, knowing how much He loves us. So many Christians do not know how much He truly loves them. Many people have only heard as they were growing up, "If you do this bad thing, God will get you for it." That is simply not true! God is the one who loves us and is wanting to protect us. The devil is the one who is out to get us (***John 10:10***).

The love of Christ is in each believer. The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of Christ, and He is in each believer (***Romans 8:9-11; Colossians 1:27***). The Holy Spirit is the one who has poured out the love of God in our hearts (***Romans 5:5***). This love that is spoken of in ***I Corinthians 13*** is the God-kind of love. This is the kind of love that Jesus our Lord and Saviour walked in. This is how He loves you. This is the exact same love that we are to love one another who are in the body of Christ.

We are instructed in **Jude 1:20-21**, "*But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit, <sup>21</sup> keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.*" We are the ones who are to keep ourselves in the love of God. How do we do this? By building up ourselves in our most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit.

It is also important to meditate on Scriptures about love. You will obey them when you meditate on them. As we keep ourselves in the love of God and operate in this God-kind of love, then the power gifts will have the insulation of love around them which is very important.

Another reason it is essential to know His love for us and to walk in this love is because our faith will not operate apart from love (**Galatians 5:6**). As we walk in this God-kind of love, the love of Christ, the Holy Spirit will have a vessel through which He can manifest the gifts of the Spirit. We must remember that the gifts are manifested as the Spirit wills (**I Corinthians 12:11**). We cannot operate in them at any time we want. However, we can desire for the Holy Spirit to manifest them through us. When this happens, people will be blessed, and it will benefit everyone. (**I Corinthians 12:7**)

**Faith Confession:** *I earnestly desire the best gifts. I am patient and kind. I am not envious. I am not proud nor rude. I do not demand my own way. I am not irritable. I do not keep record of wrongs. I do not rejoice about injustice, but I rejoice with the truth. I never give up, I believe all things, I hope all things, and I endure all things. God's love in me never fails nor comes to an end. Faith, hope, and love abide, but the greatest of these is love. I follow after love and desire spiritual gifts.*

## THE LIFE OF THE RIGHTEOUS

March 14

### *Established in Righteousness*

#### **Isaiah 54:14**

*"In righteousness shalt thou be established: thou shalt be far from oppression; for thou shalt not fear: and from terror; for it shall not come near thee."*

When we are established in righteousness, we will be far from oppression; for we shall not fear: and from terror; for it shall not come near us. According to this verse when we fear we open the door to oppression and terror to come into our lives. This happens because we are not established in righteousness. I like the Voice Translation of **Isaiah 54:14** *"This time, you will be founded and grounded on right thought, speech, and action. And no one will trouble you, abuse or oppress you; you will know no fear and have no worries."*

Praise God, that is good news! *"This time, you will be founded and grounded on right..."*. That sounds like a person that is established in right. Righteousness means "rightwiseness". This person knows they are made righteous in Christ Jesus. They are found in Him, not having their own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith (**Philippians 3:9**). This person is one who is not ignorant of God's righteousness. This person is not trying to be established in his own righteousness but is submitted to the righteousness of God (**Romans 10:3**). This person can boldly come to the throne of grace (**Hebrews 4:16**).

To be established in righteousness means we will be founded and grounded in right thought, speech, and action. If we will think right thoughts, the result of right thoughts will be right words, and the result of right thoughts and words will be right actions. It all begins with the thoughts. Where do we get right thoughts from? If you said the Word of God, that is the correct answer. It is written in **II Corinthians 10:3-5** *"For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;) Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself*

*against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ."*

We are instructed to bring every thought into the obedience of Christ. Some might say, that is impossible. According to the Lord, it is not impossible. It will take discipline. If He said to do it, then we know that it is possible to bring every thought into the obedience of Christ. Ask yourself, what does the Word say? The Holy Spirit will lead you into the truth concerning those thoughts you are to bring into obedience. God knows what we can and cannot do. He is always right. We are to cast down imaginations, and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God. The knowledge of God is found in the Word of God. Our goal is to think God's thoughts, which are right (righteous) thoughts.

This is where it begins, with the thoughts. As we take our thoughts captive and line them up with the Word of God, then we will speak right words. **Matthew 6:31** starts off, "*Therefore take no thought, saying...*" The way you take a thought to yourself is by saying. We want to be sure to say the right words, so we have right actions following. The result, we will be established in righteousness. When we think like God, speak like God, and do like God, things will come into line in our lives.

***Faith Confession:*** *I am the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus. No one will trouble me, abuse or oppress me and I will know no fear and have no worries, because I am founded and grounded on right thought, speech, and action. I cast down imaginations, and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, found in God's Word, and bring every thought into the obedience of Christ. I am a doer of the Word of God and I am blessed!*

## THE LIFE OF THE RIGHTEOUS

March 15

***Established in Righteousness -Words***

**Isaiah 54:14**  
**(Voice Translation)**

*"This time, you will be founded and grounded on right thought, speech, and action. And no one will trouble you, abuse or oppress you; you will know no fear and have no worries."*

We are talking about being established in righteousness. We need to be established in knowing we have right standing with God through Jesus Christ and being founded and grounded on right thought, speech, and action. As we are established in being right with God and doing right, we will be far from oppression, because we will not fear, and from terror, for it shall not come near us. Fear comes as the result of disobedience, which is unrighteousness. When we do right, we keep the door closed on fear. I remember when I was a child, I wouldn't have any fear until I had disobeyed my parents. When I disobeyed them, I was afraid because I knew I was in trouble with them. Disobedience opens the door to the fear.

Adam and Eve walked with God in the garden every day without fear. They were established in right standing with God. They knew no fear. They never experienced fear and they didn't even know what fear was until they disobeyed God's Word (**Genesis 3:6-10**). Their disobedience to God's Word opened the door to fear, and hiding. The good news is that God sent Jesus to buy back for us what Adam and Eve experienced in the Garden with God in the beginning. Now you and I can walk with God without fear, because Jesus brought us back into right standing with God. We can boldly go before Him unashamed. Thanks be to God!

It is important to be founded and grounded in right (righteous) thought, speech, and action. We already talked about bringing every thought into the obedience of Christ. As we do this we will be founded and grounded on right speech. Our words are very important. It is written in **Matthew 12:34-37** "O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things? for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh. A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things: and an

*evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things. But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment. For by thy words thou shalt be justified (righteous), and by thy words thou shalt be condemned."*

When you think righteous thoughts, you will speak righteous words. God's Word is righteous. It is also written in **Proverbs 18:20-21** *"A man's belly shall be satisfied with the fruit of his mouth; and with the increase of his lips shall he be filled. Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof."* Take time every day to look into His righteous Word. Read it out loud and think upon it. Allow it to get down into your heart so that the treasure of your heart is righteous words.

It is written in **Proverbs 8:6-9** *"Hear; for I will speak of excellent things; and the opening of my lips shall be right things. For my mouth shall speak truth; and wickedness is an abomination to my lips. All the words of my mouth are in righteousness; there is nothing froward or perverse in them. They are all plain to him that understandeth, and right to them that find knowledge."* You can trust God's Word. He speaks of excellent things, He speaks only righteous Words.

**Faith Confession:** *This time, I will be founded and grounded on right thought, speech, and action. And no one will trouble me, abuse or oppress me; I will know no fear and have no worries. I will purpose to speak of excellent things. The opening of my lips shall be right things. For my mouth shall speak truth. All the words of my mouth will be in righteousness. Nothing froward or perverse in them.*

## THE LIFE OF THE RIGHTEOUS

March 16

### ***Established in Righteousness - Actions***

#### **Isaiah 54:14** **(Voice Translation)**

*"This time, you will be founded and grounded on right thought, speech, and action. And no one will trouble you, abuse or oppress you; you will know no fear and have no worries."*

We are talking about being established in righteousness and the result of being founded and grounded in right thought, speech, and action. I put you in remembrance that we are not made righteous by what we do, but our right doing comes out of our being made right in Christ Jesus (**II Corinthians 5:21**). When we were born-again, we received God's nature (**II Corinthians 5:17**). It is written in **I John 2:28-29** *"And now, little children, abide (live, stay, remain) in him; that, when he shall appear, we may have confidence, and not be ashamed before him at His coming. If ye know that he is righteous, ye know that every one that doeth righteousness is born of him."* **I John 3:7** says, *"Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as he is righteous."* Our spirit is made new in Christ Jesus, but we have to renew our minds to think like God thinks lest we think more highly of ourselves than we ought (**Romans 12:1-3**). We do not know more than God.

It is written in **James 1:21-25** *"Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls. But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed."*

The Word of God is able to save your souls. Your soul is made up of your mind, will, and emotions. When we receive with meekness the engrafted Word it will save us from making wrong choices in life. **I Corinthians 15:33-34** says, *"Be not deceived: evil*

*communications (bad company) corrupt good manners. Awake to righteousness, and sin not; for some have not the knowledge of God: I speak this to your shame."* Awake to righteousness! Awake to knowing who you are in Christ. Awake to thinking in line with God's Word, speaking God's Word, and doing God's Word. Don't let yourselves be deceived. Do not follow the people that have not the knowledge of God. There are people who have plenty to say, but have no knowledge of God.

***1 Samuel 2:2-3*** says, "*There is none holy as the Lord: for there is none beside thee: neither is there any rock like our God. Talk no more so exceeding proudly; let not arrogancy come out of your mouth: for the LORD is a God of knowledge, and by him actions are weighed.*" He weighs our actions. Look into God's Word, come to know His thoughts, so that you think like He thinks, speak like He speaks, and you do what He did. We are to become like Christ. Jesus said what He heard the Father say (***John 12:49-50***) and He did what He saw the Father do (***John 5:19***). Jesus said if you have seen Me you've seen the Father (***John 14:9***). We should be able to say if you have seen me you have seen Jesus, because we think like Him, talk like Him, and act like Him.

***Faith Confession:*** *I am the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus. I do righteousness and I am born of Him. I have the life and nature of God inside me. Because I am righteous, I do righteousness. Jesus is my righteousness! I am established in righteousness. I am far from oppression; for I shall not fear: and from terror for it shall not come near me. I am a doer of God's Word and I am blessed!*

## THE LIFE OF THE RIGHTEOUS

March 17

***His Name is Jehovah-tsidkenu***

**Jeremiah 23:6**

*"In his days Judah shall be saved, and Israel shall dwell safely: and this is his name whereby he shall be called, THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS."*

The Lord is our righteousness. It is written in **I Corinthians 1:30-31** *"But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption: That according as it is written, He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord."* **II Corinthians 5:17-21** says, *"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. And all things are of God, who hath reconciled (restored) us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation; To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation. Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God. For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him."*

The good news to the lost is that God is not holding their sins against them. Jesus paid the price for all mankind to be restored back into fellowship with the Father, the creator of the universe. All mankind was made righteous by what Christ Jesus did. All that is necessary to be made righteous is to call upon the name of Jesus. We are not made righteous through our works. It is written in **Ephesians 2:8-9** *"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God. Not of works, lest any man should boast."* **I John 3:7** says, *"Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as he is righteous."* So, we do righteous things because we are righteous in Him.

It is written in **I John 1:5-2:1** *"This then is the message which we heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: But if we walk in the*

*light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another (meaning the person who walks in the light has fellowship with the Father), and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin (From the things we do not see and know is sin. Revelation is progressive. As we walk in the light we have, we will see more light.). If we say that we have no sin (When light comes to a person and they decide they do not want to walk in it, to that person it is sin), we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (When we sin after being made righteous, we step back into unrighteousness, but through confession of that sin He forgives us and cleanses us from all unrighteousness.) If we say that we have not sinned (Again meaning when a person is aware that they have sinned and say they have not), we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:" Magnify His name! His name is THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS!*

***Faith Confession:*** *I am the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus. I walk in the light as He is in the light and I have fellowship with the Father. I am an ambassador for Christ and I share with the lost that God is not holding their sins against them so that they can be restored to God!*

## THE LIFE OF THE RIGHTEOUS

March 18

### ***Believe unto Righteousness***

#### **Romans 10:10**

*"For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."*

Paul wrote here in Romans his heart's desire and prayer. **Romans 10:1-2** *"Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved. For I bear them record that they have a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge."* There are people today that have a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge. Paul went on to say in **Romans 10:3-5** *"For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God. For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth. For Moses describeth the righteousness which is of the law, That the man which doeth those things shall live by them."*

Israel was made righteous by keeping the law. **Romans 10:6** says, *"But the righteousness which is of faith speaketh..."* **Romans 10:8-10** *"But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach; That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."* There are other people today that believe if they go to church they will be saved. If they were to die today, they would go straight to hell. That sounds hard, but it is still true (**Romans 8:9**). We are made righteous, in right standing with God by believing with the heart and confessing with the mouth that Jesus is Lord and that God raised Jesus from the dead.

We have an example of a man, Cornelius, that feared God with all his house. He gave much alms to the people, and prayed to God always, yet the Lord sent an angel to him to send for Peter that he might tell him what to do. Peter came to Cornelius and began to preach the Gospel and the Holy Ghost fell upon the people that

heard the Word and they began to speak with tongues and magnify God (**Acts 10**).

I remember a time when a man was telling me that he had seen God. The Lord showed me he was not saved. I asked him if Jesus was Lord. He said I believe in God. I told him it was good that he believed in God. I asked him if he believed that Jesus was the Christ and he said I believe in God. He would not acknowledge the Lord Jesus (**I John 5:10-13**). Finally, I shared with him these verses in **Romans 10:9-10** showing him the way to be saved and left because I could see that he was not ready to receive the truth at that time. I pray that he did call upon the name of Jesus and that I will see him in heaven. People believe there are many ways to get to God, but according to scriptures there is only one way and that is through Jesus, through doing His Word (**John 14:6**).

It is written in **I John 2:22-25** *"Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist, that denieth the Father and the Son. Whosoever denieth the Son, the same hath not the Father: [but] he that acknowledgeth the Son hath the Father also. Let that therefore abide in you, which ye have heard from the beginning. If that which ye have heard from the beginning shall remain in you, ye also shall continue in the Son, and in the Father."* According to this if you do not have the Son you have not the Father. The person that calls upon the name of the Lord Jesus shall be saved (**Romans 10:13**).

It is written in **Philippians 2:9-11** *"Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."* If you have never confessed that Jesus Christ is Lord, today is a good day to do it. Don't wait. You will be glad that you made Him Lord.

**Faith Confession:** *I believe with my heart that God raised Jesus from the dead and I confess Jesus Christ is my Lord. Jesus is my righteousness. I rejoice that I have right standing with God because of what Jesus did for me at Calvary. Jesus is my Lord, I do His sayings!*

## THE LIFE OF THE RIGHTEOUS

March 19

### *The Righteous Are Bold I*

#### **Proverbs 28:1**

*"The wicked flee when no man pursueth: but the righteous are bold as a lion."*

The righteous are bold as a lion. When I think about a lion, I think of boldness. They do not run from their enemy. They overtake their enemy. Boldness comes from being right with God. It is written in **Hebrews 4:16** *"Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need."* How are we to come unto the throne of grace? Boldly! When you know you are in right standing with God, you can come boldly to the throne of grace. When you come to obtain mercy and find grace in the time of need, you will believe you can receive that help.

One of the things that hinders a believer from coming boldly to the throne of grace is sin. When your purposes are His purposes you have boldness. When you come to the throne of grace you are coming to receive what He has already provided, because you see it in His Word, that it is part of your inheritance. You know He has already promised it to you. Our boldness comes from His Word when we mix it with faith. Boldness and faith go hand in hand. Where does faith come from? It comes from His Word (**Romans 10:17**). It is written in **I John 5:14-15** *"And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us: And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him."*

How do we know if something is God's will? Thanks be to God, He has given us His will in a book called the Bible. When we know His Word, we know His will, then we have confidence. Confidence is another word for faith. When we have confidence or faith, there will be boldness. It is written in **Ephesians 3:12** *"In whom we have boldness and access with confidence by the faith of him:"* Our confidence, our boldness is not in man and what man sees and knows, but it is in Him and by the faith in Him!

Let's look at some more New Testament scriptures that speak of boldness. **Acts 4:13** says, *"Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marvelled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus."* Peter and John had not been to their school of theology or any other school. The priests and Sadducees took knowledge that Peter and John had been with Jesus. How can we be with Jesus today? Every time you go to the Word, you are with Jesus! We also see that Peter was filled with the Holy Ghost (**Acts 4:8**). Boldness comes from being filled with the Holy Spirit.

In **Acts 4:29-31** *"And now, Lord, behold their threatenings: and grant unto thy servants, that with all boldness they may speak thy word, By stretching forth thine hand to heal; and that signs and wonders may be done by the name of thy holy child Jesus. And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness."* They asked the Lord to grant them boldness to speak the Word. We too can ask the Lord to grant us boldness to speak the Word of God. We can have confidence that He will grant it because we asked according to His will. When they were filled with the Holy Spirit, they spoke the Word of God with boldness. Be filled with the Holy Spirit and the Word. Be bold!

**Faith Confession:** *I am the righteous and I am bold as a lion. I can come boldly to the throne of grace, that I may obtain mercy; and find grace in the time of need. Lord grant us Thy servants that with all boldness we may speak Thy Word. Thank You Lord, I believe I receive!*

## THE LIFE OF THE RIGHTEOUS

March 20

### *The Righteous Are Bold II*

#### **Proverbs 28:1**

*"The wicked flee when no man pursueth: but the righteous are bold as a lion."*

The righteous are bold as a lion. We have seen that we are the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus. He has made us righteous, so we now have boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus (**Hebrews 10:19**). It is written in **Revelation 5:5** *"And one of the elders saith unto me, Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Juda, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof."* Jesus is the Lion of the tribe of Judah. Jesus is the root and offspring of David (**Revelation 22:16**). Our boldness comes from Him, the Lord our Righteousness.

Why do we need to be bold? We began to see yesterday that Peter and John spoke the Word of God with boldness (**Acts 4:29-31**). We also saw that we can come boldly to the throne of grace and we can boldly enter in the holiest (**Hebrews 4:16; 10:19**). It is also written in **I John 4:17** *"Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is so are we in this world."*

Paul and Barnabas preached boldly in the name of the Lord (**Acts 9:27, 29**). It is written in **Acts 13:46** *"Then Paul and Barnabas waxed bold, and said, It was necessary that the word of God should first have been spoken to you: but seeing ye put it from you (reject it), and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, lo, we turn to the Gentiles."* There are people who after hearing the Word reject it and judge themselves unworthy of everlasting life. There are also those who accept Jesus as Lord but stop there and won't receive the Word on healing and judge themselves unworthy of healing. Then there are others who receive the Word and accept Jesus as Lord, and receive Jesus as their Healer but reject the Word concerning prosperity and they judge themselves unworthy of prosperity. Healing, prosperity, the Baptism in the Holy Spirit, and all the things God has provided for us in Christ Jesus are a part of

everlasting life. Everlasting life means that you will live forever. It also includes having life like God's life.

Whatever you decide you do not like about the Word of God, you judge yourself unworthy of that which you reject. In reality it is a portion of God that people are rejecting, because God and His Word are one. We should desire all of the Word! I thank God for ministers who are bold to proclaim the full Gospel like Paul and others did. They did not fear what man thought of them.

We are talking about the righteous are bold as a lion. Jesus, Peter, Paul, and the Apostles were righteous and they were bold to declare the Word of God. Paul wrote in **Ephesians 6:17-20** *"And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints; And for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel, For which I am an ambassador in bonds: that therein I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak."* What is the mystery of the gospel Paul is speaking of? It is written in **Colossians 1:27-28** *"To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus."* The mystery is Christ in you the hope of glory!

**Faith Confession:** *I am the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus. I am bold as a lion. The Holy Spirit empowers me to be bold and to speak the Word of God in boldness. I pray for my pastor and the ministry gifts that God has given the Church, that God would give them utterance that they may open their mouths boldly, to make known the mystery of the Gospel. Christ in us, the hope of glory! I am a doer of the Word of God and I am blessed!*

## THE LIFE OF THE RIGHTEOUS

March 21

### *Hunger and Thirst After Righteousness*

#### **Matthew 5:6**

*"Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled."*

Who is the blessed? Those which do hunger and thirst after righteousness. The blessing of being hungry and thirsty for righteousness is, they shall be filled! **Psalm 106:3** says, *"Blessed are they that keep judgment, and he that doeth righteousness at all times."* It is said of Jesus in **Hebrews 1:9**; **Psalm 45:7** *"Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity (wickedness); therefore God, even thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows."* Have you ever been really hungry and thirsty for something? Sure, we all have been. What happens when a person really gets hungry and thirsty for something? They will do whatever is necessary to get it. This is the way we have to be concerning righteousness. "Righteousness" means "rightwiseness". We want to be wise in the right way (**Proverbs 3:5-7**).

We have already seen that we are made right in Christ, meaning the man on the inside. There must be a renewing of our mind to the "right wiseness". Even though we are born-again, our spirit is made right, we still have to do something with our unrenewed minds and our flesh. This happens as we look into the Word of righteousness and apply our lives to doing it (**Psalm 119:123**; **Hebrews 5:13**). The Word of God is called the Word of righteousness. **II Timothy 3:16-17** says, *"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works."* All scripture is profitable for instruction in righteousness. We have to take the time to seek and we shall find. After we find it, we must do it. It is written in **Proverbs 8:8** *"All the words of my mouth are in righteousness; there is nothing froward or perverse in them."* Praise God, we can completely trust His Word.

**Psalm 138:2** says, *"I will worship toward thy holy temple, and praise thy name for thy lovingkindness and for thy truth: for thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name."* What does that

mean? That means that God has put His name on His written Word the way we would put our name at the bottom of a contract. He has given us His Word as a covenant and signed it in the Name of Jesus by the blood of Jesus. This contract (covenant) cannot be broken on God's part. He has chosen to put Himself under the authority of His own Word. You can completely trust that He will be faithful to do His Word when we are faithful to do our part. His Word is forever settled in heaven (***Psalm 119:89***).

It is written in ***Isaiah 32:17-18*** "*And the work of righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of righteousness quietness and assurance forever. And my people shall dwell in a peaceable habitation, and in sure dwellings, and in quiet resting places.*" When we work or do righteousness, the blessings are peace and the effect of righteousness is quietness and assurance forever. Praise God, it is available to those who hunger and thirst after righteousness. We shall be filled. Filled with peace, quietness, and assurance forever.

***Faith Confession:*** *I am blessed because I hunger and thirst after righteousness and I am filled. I read the scriptures for they are profitable for instruction in righteousness. The work of righteousness shall be to me peace; and the effect of righteousness quietness and assurance forever. I am a doer of the Word of God and I am blessed!*

## THE LIFE OF THE RIGHTEOUS

March 22

### *The Fruits of Your Righteousness*

#### **II Corinthians 9:10**

*"Now he that ministereth seed to the sower both minister bread for your food, and multiply your seed sown, and increase the fruits of your righteousness."*

We are coming to the time of year when people begin planting gardens. They will be sowing seeds, and why would they do that? They desire a harvest of food. Those who sow seed will have a harvest as long as they watch over that seed they have sown and are expecting a harvest. The first thing that has to happen is the ground needs to be prepared to receive the seed. After the ground is prepared, the seed is sown. Is that the end of what needs done to insure a harvest? No, the seed needs light. It needs water and the weeds need to be kept out of that garden. From time to time they may need to dig around the plants to soften the soil so that it can receive the water. This is exactly the way the kingdom of God works (**Mark 4:2-20**).

Our heart is the garden of the Lord and He desires to sow His incorruptible seed, the Word of God, in the garden of our hearts that He might receive righteous fruit, a harvest (**Matthew 13:8; 13:23**). He has also given us an opportunity to sow seed in order that we might receive a harvest, fruit that will abound to our account (**Philippians 4:17**). According to **II Corinthians 9:10** there is fruit from doing right. He is talking about money here in **II Corinthians 9**. He said that He gives seed to whom? To everybody? It says specifically that He gives seed to the sower. If you are not a person that sows, then you do not need seed to sow. The seed that He is talking about giving the sower in this chapter is money seed. Every seed produces after its own kind.

Also notice that He not only gives seed to the sower, He also gives you bread to eat. In other words, there is something for you too. And finally, He multiplies, not adds, but multiplies your seed sown. Isn't that what happens when you sow natural seed? You get seed to sow, you get to eat some of the fruit of your harvest, and your seed is multiplied that you have sown. You have some to put in

store for the winter and you have more to sow. That is God's economical cycle for His Heavenly kingdom.

I know what some of you are thinking. We have heard this already why are you telling us again. Well, if it is real to you, you will be rejoicing to hear it again because you have put it into practice and are enjoying the fruit of doing it. When the Word is real to you, you enjoy hearing it again and again. If you want a good harvest, it is important to sow your seed into good ground (**Luke 8:15; Mark 4:20**). The same is true concerning the financial seed that we sow. We want to be sure we are sowing it into the good honest ground that is doing righteousness. The ground that will bring forth fruit, some thirtyfold, sixty, and some an hundred.

It is important how you sow your seed. This will determine the outcome of your harvest. **II Corinthians 9:6-7** says, "...He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver." You are the one who determines how much you sow. This is talking about offerings and not the tithe. God has already set the standard for the tithe. Tithe means tenth. You cannot truly give an offering without first tithing (**Malachi 3:8-12**).

**Faith Confession:** *I am born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the Word of God, which lives and abides for ever, therefore I am the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus and I am bold as a lion. I am a doer of the Word of God. I sow bountifully and I reap bountifully. I am a cheerful giver. God is making all grace abound toward me that I having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work. God ministers seed to me the sower and He ministers bread for my food, and multiplies my seed sown, and increases the fruits of my righteousness. I am blessed to be a blessing!*

## THE LIFE OF THE RIGHTOUS

March 23

### *Your Protection Against Deception*

#### **James 4:6**

*"But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble."*

It is written in **James 4:6-10** *"But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth more grace unto the humble. Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded. Be afflicted, and mourn, and weep: let your laughter be turned to mourning, and your joy to heaviness. Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up."* Our protection against deception is our humility. Concerning everything we believe we should humbly ask ourselves, "What does the Word say about this?" In the mouth of two or three witnesses a matter shall be established (**Deuteronomy 19:15; Matthew 18:16**).

The humble person will submit themselves to God, to His Word and His Spirit. Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden could not resist the devil after they submitted themselves to him. **Romans 6:16** says, *"Know ye not, that to whom you yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?"* Adam and Eve did not just decide they wanted to yield to Satan. Satan tempted them through the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and finally the pride of life (**I John 2:15-17**). He caused them to doubt God's Word to them. This is how he does with us. When Adam and Eve were tempted what should have happened? They should have gone back to the Word God spoke to them. They did not have the Word in written form like we have today. Anytime something comes up we should ask ourselves, what does the Word of God say about what I believe? You only have two sources for belief. What men think and what God said. So, anything you think or believe about something, examine yourself, what scripture am I basing my belief on? Where is it at in the Bible? I don't care if you have always done it that way or your grandma or parents did or your denomination

or group, what scripture did they have? Where is the scripture, I base what I believe on?

Humility will go to the scriptures to be sure the believing is in line with God's Word. We can humbly go before the Father and ask Him to establish something for us from His Word. It delights the Father when we ask Him to do this. Usually He will give you more than three scriptures from both the Old and New Testaments, if you are willing to hear something different than what you thought. God gives more grace to the humble. God's Word is called the Word of His grace (**Acts 14:3; Acts 20:32**). The Holy Spirit who leads us and guides us into truth is called the Spirit of grace (**Zachariah 12:10; Hebrews 10:29**).

Sometimes things come up in life that you are unsure whether you should do it or not. Often times people just say well I don't know if I should or not, the Lord will show me. Then people go on and do what they think they should do. That is being proud and irresponsible. God has given us His Word and He does expect us to go and search the scriptures to find His direction. It is written in **John 8:31-32** *"...If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."* What will knowing the truth make you free from? From the lies of the enemy, Satan.

The prouder a person is the more off a person's doctrine will be. Why? Because the only way you are going to get light and understand truth is by the grace of God, by Him revealing it to you by His grace. The Holy Spirit is the only one who can reveal truth. He only gives His grace to the humble. Pride won't go to the Word. Humility will. Humble yourself by going to God's Word. Seek and you will find. He will give you the grace you need in that situation. When He gives you the Word of grace obey it. Remember, your protection against deception is your humility. As you humble yourself and submit to God and His Word, then you can resist the devil and he has to flee from you.

**Faith Confession:** *I continue in God's Word and the truth makes me free from the lies of the enemy. I reverence God's Word. I reverence God's wisdom. God is always right no matter what man says. He is true and righteous. God's Word is always right. He does not need to change, but I must be humble and change. As I do this, I will get more grace. I will be able to resist the devil and he will have to flee from me. I submit myself to the authority of God's Word just like Jesus did and I'm blessed!*

## THE LIFE OF THE RIGHTEOUS

March 24

### *The Love of Christ*

#### **Ephesians 3:19**

*"And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God."*

Paul was praying that the saints would come to know the love of Christ for themselves. He was praying that we would not just have head knowledge of the love of Christ, but that we would have revelation, heart knowledge of His love for us. To know how deep, wide, high, and long is His love for those who are born-again, through believing and calling upon the name of Jesus (**Romans 10:9-10, 13**).

How did He love us? He loved us when we were unlovely. We were not loving Him but yet He was willing to lay down His life for us. He had never sinned but out of His love for the Father and for us He went to hell in our place. We are the ones that should have gone there but He chose to go in our place. That is love! He died so we could have life and have it more abundantly. He did not come to kill, steal, and destroy us (**John 10:10**). He became poor that we through His poverty might be rich (**II Corinthians 8:9**). He took our infirmities and bare our sickness so that we could enjoy life and health (**Isaiah 53:4-5; Matthew 8:17**). That is the love Christ has for us! This is what we need to have revelation of.

This love that He has for us is on the inside of us. **Romans 5:5** says, *"And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us."* When we come to know for ourselves the love God has for us then we will be able to love others the same way. It is written in **Ephesians 5:2** *"And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet smelling savour."* He gave Himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God. He did that just for us!!! As you read through the Gospels you can see very clearly the love of Christ. Everything Jesus said and did was in and of love. This love is in us. How do we draw that love out from inside of us? We do that by praying in tongues. The more you pray in tongues the more revelation of His love you will have. Paul said in **I Corinthians 14:18** *"I thank my*

*God, I speak with tongues more than ye all."* Paul had much revelation and it was because he gave much time to speaking in tongues. As you give more time to praying in tongues you too will find that you have more revelation.

The more you pray and meditate upon the scriptures of the love of Christ, the more you will walk in the love of Christ. It is written in **II Corinthians 5:14** *"For the love of Christ constraineth us, because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then all were dead."* I like the J. B. Phillips translation of **verses 14 and 15**. *"The very spring of our actions is the love of Christ. We look at it like this: if one died for all men then, in a sense, they all died, and his purpose in dying for them is that their lives should now be no longer lived for themselves but for him who died and rose again for them."*

We should no longer live life for ourselves, but for Him who died and rose again for us. To love Christ means to love the body of Christ too. You cannot separate the Head from the body. It is time to yield ourselves fully to Him and let Him live His life through us just as Jesus allowed God to live His life through Him. He desires to manifest His love to the body of Christ and to the world through us. He promised that we would do the same works that Jesus did and greater works (**John 14:12**). Will you make yourself available to Him and allow Him to manifest His love through you? The Word of God is the standard of vision!

**Faith Confession:** *I am coming to know for myself the love of Christ that passes sense knowledge, that I might be filled with all the fullness of God. I no longer live life for myself, but I live my life for Christ and for the body of Christ. I make myself available to Him and allow Him to manifest His love through me. I am a doer of the Word of God and I am blessed!*

## THE LIFE OF THE RIGHTEOUS

March 25

**God Is Good**

**Psalm 73:1**

*"Truly God is good to Israel, even to such as are of a clean heart."*

Truly God is good to Israel, to His people! He is good to those who have a clean heart. Those who have accepted Jesus as Lord have a clean heart. It is written in **Psalm 119:68** *"Thou art good, and doest good; teach me thy statutes."* God always, not sometimes, but He always does good! Jesus is the revealed will of God. Everything He did was good. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed of the devil (**Acts 10:38**). He never put any sickness on any person. The devil is the one who steals, kills, and destroys. That's not us, we are not on the devil's side, we are on God's side, we do good!

It is written in **Psalm 103:1-6, 10-13, 17-18** *"Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits: Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases; Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies; Who satisfieth thy mouth with **good things**; so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle's. The Lord executeth righteousness and judgment for all that are oppressed."* *"He hath not dealt with us after our sins; nor rewarded us according to our iniquities. For as the heaven is high above the earth, so great is his mercy toward them that fear (reverence, honor) him. As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us. Like as a father pitieth his children, so the Lord pitieth them that fear (reverence, honor) him."* *"But the mercy of the Lord is from everlasting upon them that fear (reverence, honor) him, and His righteousness unto children's children; To such as keep his covenant, and to those that remember his commandments to do them."*

**Psalm 34:8** says, *"O taste and see that the Lord is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him."* Our trust must be in Him and not in man, which includes ourselves (**Psalm 118:8; Psalm 146:3**). It is written in **Micah 6:8** *"He hath shewed thee, O man, what is*

*good; and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?"* The Lord requires this of us His people and He says it is good, to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with our God. We can do it, because the power is in His Word to do His Word. He would be unjust to require us to do something we could not do. God is truly good and He is good all the time! Everything He does is good! I am sure some may have a lot of questions about the bad things that happen to people and there are clear answers to our questions in His Word. Just know that He never does anything bad. We have already seen that the devil, the thief is the one who steals, kills, and destroys.

It is written in **Psalm 143:10** *"Teach me to do thy will; for thou art my God: thy spirit is good; lead me into the land of uprightness."* **Psalm 109:21** says, *"But do thou for me, O God the Lord, for thy name's sake: because thy mercy is good, deliver thou me."* Everything about God is good. His Spirit is good, His mercy is good. The good news is our good God, who does only good, lives on the inside of us. We have His nature now that we are born-again. Jesus our Lord and Savior who went about doing good lives on the inside of us, and the good, Holy Spirit lives on the inside of us (**John 17:23; John 14:17**). We truly have the capacity to always do good just like God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit. He never changes (**Hebrews 13:8**), *"But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord"* (**II Corinthians 3:18**).

**Faith Confession:** *My God is truly good and He is good to me. He only does me good. The Lord requires me to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with our God. I do good to others because I am like Christ.*

## THE LIFE OF THE RIGHTEOUS

March 26

### *Faith and Forgiveness*

#### **Mark 11:25**

*"And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses."*

Our faith will not work if we have unforgiveness and ought against any person. Jesus is speaking here in **Mark 11:22-24** about prayer and then He says this in connection with prayer. Let's read **Mark 11:25-26** *"And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses. But if ye do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses."*

Jesus always spoke about forgiveness in line with prayer, in what we know as the Lord's prayer. This is found in **Matthew 6:9-13** and in **Luke 11:2-4**. Jesus said in **Matthew 6:12, 14-15** *"And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors."* *"For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses."* It is written in **Galatians 5:6** *"For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision; but faith which worketh by love."* A step out of love is a step into sin and when there is sin in your life, your faith which receives the promises of God will not work. Your prayers will not work with unforgiveness in your heart. Unforgiveness opens the door to sickness.

It is written in **1 John 3:20-23** *"For if our heart condemn us, God is greater than our heart, and knoweth all things. Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, then have we confidence (faith) toward God. And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight. And this is his commandment, That we should believe on the name of his Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, as he gave us commandment."*

It is important to remember who our enemy is. People are not our enemies. It is written in **Ephesians 6:12** *"For we wrestle not*

*against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.*" Satan is the one that influences people for evil and we have all yielded to him at one time or another, but it is important that we be quick to believe, quick to repent, and quick to forgive. As we do this, we keep ourselves in the place of faith where we can quickly receive the answer to our prayers. **Ephesians 4:32** says, *"And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you."* How did He forgive us? He had forgiveness in place before we ever came to Him. When He forgives, He forgets. I like what **Zephaniah 3:17** says in the Amplified Bible. *"The Lord your God is in the midst of you, a Mighty One, a Savior [Who saves]! He will rejoice over you with joy; He will rest [in silent satisfaction] and in His love He will be silent and make no mention [of past sins, or even recall them]; He will exult over you with singing."* This is how we should be with one another. Maybe that hasn't been us, but we can be doers of the Word of God and become proficient at it with God's grace and the help of the Holy Spirit. There is freedom in forgiveness.

**Prayer:** *Father, I come to you in Jesus name. I choose as an act of my will to forgive others even as You and Christ have forgiven me. I will not hold their sins against them. Now I believe that You forgive me of my sins even as I have forgiven others their sins. Now devil in the name of Jesus I command you take your hands off of me and my relationships. Take your hands off of my money. Sickness, leave my body in Jesus Name. Thank You Father for hearing and answering my prayers. Amen!*

## THE LIFE OF THE RIGHTEOUS

March 27

### Faith and Love

#### **I John 3:23**

*"And this is his commandment, That we should believe on the name of his Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, as he gave us commandment."*

The doing of this scripture is important to answered prayer. Let's read **I John 3:21-24** *"Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, then have we confidence toward God. And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep His commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight. And this is his commandment, That we should believe on the name of his Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, as he gave us commandment. And he that keepeth his commandments dwelleth in him, and he in him. And hereby we know that he abideth in us, by the Spirit which he hath given us."*

Faith believes and love obeys. We are to believe on the name of His Son Jesus Christ and we are to love one another. As we do these two things, He said that we would have confidence toward God. Then whatsoever we ask we receive of Him, because we keep these two commandments and do those things that are pleasing in His sight (Read **I John 3**.) Faith is like curtains and love is like the rod that holds the curtains up. When we walk in love with our brothers and sisters in Christ, we have the rod of love in place that holds the curtains of faith up. One time the Lord spoke to my heart (I don't mean I heard an audible voice, I heard it in my spirit.) and He said, "The curtains are going to drop to the floor tonight." I knew immediately what that meant to me. It meant that the love for one another was not in place to hold the curtains of faith up. When you pull the rod of love out from the curtains of faith, the only thing left for faith to do is drop to the floor and then faith can't do what it was designed to do. It can't receive the promises of God.

Faith believes on the name of His Son, Jesus Christ, and love does the Word. Jesus was the Word made flesh (**John 1:1-3**). Did you know you cannot believe on the Lord Jesus Christ apart from His Word? **Romans 10:14-17** reveals this truth to us. To truly love one another means that we will do what He, the Head of the Church

has told us to do in His Word and also what the Holy Spirit is telling us to do. This is speaking about the love of Christ. The love of Jesus Christ, the head of the Church, and the love for His body. We, the Church, are the body of Christ. We cannot truly believe on the Lord Jesus Christ without believing in His body. The two are one. You cannot separate the head from the body. You cannot love Christ without loving His body.

It is written in **I John 3:16** "*Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the world?*" No, it does not say that we ought to lay down our lives for the world. It says, "...and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren (the body of Christ)." Reading on in **I John 3:17-19** "*But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother (speaking of our Christian brother or sister) have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him? My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth. And hereby we know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our hearts before him.*" This goes both directions, me towards you and you towards me. Do that which is pleasing in His sight and be blessed!

**Faith Confession:** *I walk in the commandments of faith and love because I believe on His Son Jesus Christ and love my brothers and sisters in Christ. Then whatsoever I ask of Him, I receive. My faith works by love because I love, I lay down my life for my brothers and sisters in Christ. I love in deed, and in truth and my heart does not condemn me. I have confidence towards God. I am blessed.*

## THE LIFE OF THE RIGHTEOUS

March 28

***That Your Prayer Be Not Hindered I***

***I Peter 3:7***

*"Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honour unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered."*

We have recently seen some things that hinder our prayers from being answered. Unforgiveness and not walking in love with our brothers and sisters in Christ causes our faith not to work. Today let's look at another hindrance to prayer. It is written in ***I Peter 3:1*** *"Likewise, ye wives, be in subjection to your own husbands; that, if any obey not the word, they also may without the word be won by the conversation (lifestyle) of the wives."* Peter is writing to Christians. Many do not like that word "subjection", but it is the Word of God. Subjection is good and when we submit ourselves to whom God says to submit, our lives and marriages will be blessed (***I Peter 3:7-9***).

Let's read ***I Peter 3:2-7*** *"While they (your husband) behold your chaste conversation coupled with fear (reverence). Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel; But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price. For after this manner in the old time the holy women also, who trusted in God, adorned themselves, being in subjection unto their own husbands: Even as Sara obeyed Abraham, calling him lord: whose daughters you are, as long as you do well, and are not afraid with any amazement. Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honour unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life, that your prayers be not hindered."*

Wives, this is not saying that you cannot dress up for your husband. If that is what is meant then you could not put any cloths on either (***Verse 3***), so we know that is not what he meant. What he is saying is to let the hidden man of the heart be the most important. A meek and quiet spirit is of great price in the sight of God. A meek

and quiet spirit is one that is humble and submissive. Wives, you might be thinking, well what if he is not obeying the Word? If you will submit to your husband, as long as it is not sin, then God can work with your husband as you obey God in submitting to your husband. God can deal with his heart as you trust God. The holy women of old time *who trusted in God*, adorned themselves, being in subjection to their own husbands. This is what makes a wife beautiful to their own husbands. Your submission to your husband shows you trust God. Even Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord. Wives you are called the daughters or children of Sarah, as long as you do well by submitting to your husbands, so do as she did (**1 Peter 3:6**).

Husbands, your part is not to make your wife submit to you, but to dwell with your wife according to knowledge, giving honour unto your wife, as to the weaker vessel. When the wife does her part and the husband his part remembering that you are heirs together of the grace of life, then you can be assured that your prayers will not be hindered and you will be blessed!

**Faith Confession: Wife:** *I trust God and submit to my husband. I call him lord as Sarah did. Jesus is the Lord of lords! As I submit to my husband, if he is going the wrong way, I trust God and enable Him to deal with my husband and change him. I am a doer of the Word of God and I am blessed. Husband:* *I dwell with my wife according to knowledge, giving honour to her as the weaker vessel, for we are heirs together of the grace of life. I am a doer of the Word and our prayers are answered. We are blessed!*

## THE LIFE OF THE RIGHTEOUS

March 29

### ***That Your Prayer Be Not Hindered II***

**I Peter 3:7**  
**(AMPC)**

*"In the same way you married men should live considerably with [your wives], with an intelligent recognition [of the marriage relation], honoring the woman as [physically] the weaker, but [realizing that you] are joint heirs of the grace (God's unmerited favor) of life, in order that your prayers may not be hindered and cut off. [Otherwise you cannot pray effectively.]"*

The Lord has revealed to us things in His Word that will enable us to receive the answers to our prayers. In the last devotion we saw what is the wife's part and what is the husband's part. This is speaking about Christian wives and husbands. Sometimes questions are asked, "What if my spouse does not obey the Word? What do I do?" The Lord has been so good to reveal to us what to do. Wife you are simply to adapt yourself to your husband, through submission, as long as it is not sin. How are you to do this? It is written in **Ephesians 5:22-24** "*Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and He is the saviour of the body. Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing.*" You are not to do it as unto your husband. If you try to do it as unto your husband, you will grow weary of doing good. So, do it as unto the Lord.

Wife, by applying your life to doing this Word, you are first submitting to God. As you obey God's Word, this enables God to deal with your husband if he is not seeing right or doing right. Wife, it is not your job to make your husband love and honour you. If he does not honour you, then it is between him and the Lord. All you have to do, is do your part by submitting, casting your care upon the Lord, and trusting the Lord to deal with your husband. Your husband can be won over without you having to try to talk him into believing and doing something different. The Lord has revealed that he can be won over by your godly lifestyle of submitting to him, not by your trying to talk him into something or out of something.

Husband, if your wife does not submit to you, it is not your job to make her submit. If she chooses not to submit to you, then it is between her and God. It is God she is disobeying. As you do your part of God's Word, that will enable God to deal with your wife. We saw in the last devotion that your part is to honour your wife. How are you to honour her? Your honour, which has to do with value, is shown by your love. It is written in **Ephesians 5:25,28,29,33** *"Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it..."* He did not have to have His own way, He chose the Father's way by submitting to God and doing what He said. *"So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself."* *"For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church."* *"Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she reverence her husband."*

It is so important to value one another. If you do not value one another you stand in danger of losing that person. Many times people do not realize it until they have lost that person. Then suddenly they become aware of how much that person meant to them. Often times it can be too late to get them back. Be a doer of the Word of God and be blessed. Make your prayers effective!

***Faith Confession:*** *I am a doer of God's Word. I submit to God and as I submit to God through obeying His Word, I enable God to have His way in my spouse's life. Our prayers are effective because we are doers of the Word of God. We value one another and love one another, and we are blessed!*

## THE LIFE OF THE RIGHTEOUS

March 30

Pray

### ***I Thessalonians 5:17***

*"Pray without ceasing."*

Prayer is a vital part of our life. Here in ***I Thessalonians 5:17*** we are exhorted to pray without ceasing. This does not mean that you are to be on your knees praying twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. God knows you have things to do. What it does mean is that prayer is to be a way of life for you. Prayer is simply fellowshiping with God. God is talking to you and you are talking to God. This is something you do all throughout your day. God dwells in you (***I John 4:12***) and He desires to fellowship with you all through the day.

Many times, people do not pray because they don't know what to pray. Throughout the Word of God, you can find many prayers that the saints prayed. Below are three prayers that Paul prayed for the saints so I encourage you to pray these daily for yourself and your loved ones. You will begin to see changes take place as you obey the Word to pray without ceasing. Notice the first thing Paul said in his prayer in ***Ephesians 1:16 (NKJV)***, "*I do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers...*" Again, in ***Colossians 1:9*** Paul said, "*For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you...*" As you pray these prayers every day, you will be enlightened!

***Ephesians 1:16-20 (NKJV)*** "*I do not cease to give thanks for (insert your name and your loved ones names here) you, making mention of you in my prayers: that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places,"*  
***Ephesians 3:14-19 (NKJV)*** "*For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, from whom the whole family in*

*heaven and earth is named, 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, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height— to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God."*

**Colossians 1:9-14 (NKJV)** *"For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, for all patience and longsuffering with joy; giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love, in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins."*

**Faith Confession:** *I am a doer of the Word. I pray without ceasing.*

## THE LIFE OF THE RIGHTEOUS

March 31

### *The Will of The Lord*

#### **Ephesians 5:17**

*"Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is."*

We are told not to be unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is. God has shown us His will in His Word. Just after He spoke those Words through Paul, He said in **Ephesians 5:18-21** *"And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled (Original translation, "be being filled") with the Spirit; Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord; Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ; Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God."*

The Lord has given us a key to submission. As we do **Ephesians 5:17-20** it becomes easy to submit ourselves to one another. It takes faith to submit and faith comes from God's Word. In the following verses He goes on to tell us who is to submit to whom. The wife submits to the husband as unto the Lord. For the husband is head of the wife (**Ephesians 5:22-23; Colossians 3:18; I Peter 3:1**). The church is to submit to Christ because He is the head of the Church (**Ephesians 5:24**). Children are to obey their parents, because God has given the parents the place over the children (**Ephesians 6:1-3; Colossians 3:20**). Parents are to teach their children obedience, by precept and example. Parents, if your children are running your lives, then Christ is not and you are in disobedience. Parents often wonder why their children do not obey. Disobedience in children comes right back to disobedience in parents. If your children are being disobedient, check up on yourself. Are you obeying God and those you are to submit to? Be honest and be willing to make adjustments. You and those under you will be blessed!

It is written in **I Corinthians 11:1-3** *"Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ. Now I praise you, brethren, that ye remember me in all things, and keep the ordinances, as I delivered them to you. But I would have you know, that the head of every man (mankind, husband) is Christ; and the head of the woman*

(speaking of the wife) *is the man; and the head of Christ is God.*" God is Christ's head. He is submitted to God. Notice this is said in line with prayer. **1 Corinthians 11:4** says, "Every man praying or prophesying, having his head covered, dishonoreth his head." Who is the head of man, meaning the husband? Christ **verse 3**. A covering is a sign that the person is under the authority of their head. When you are not submitted to the person God has made head over you, you dishonor your head. For example, if the husband does not submit to Christ, then he dishonors his head, Christ. If the wife is not submitted to her husband, she dishonors her head, Christ and her husband. If Christ did not submit to God, He would have dishonored His head, God. But thanks be to God, He fully obeyed and submitted Himself and now we can do the same.

It is submission and authority (**Matthew 8:9-10**). Without submission there will be no authority over Satan, sin, and the curse, or those under you. Husband in Christ, if you do not submit to Christ (the anointed Word and His Spirit) you take away the ability for those under you (your wife and children) to submit. Wives, if you do not submit to Christ and your husband, you take away the ability for those under you (your children) to submit. People will do what you do and say, not what you say. That was God's plan from the beginning.

So, what is the will of the Lord we are to understand? "*And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be being filled with the Spirit; Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord; Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ; Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God.*" Then He goes on to tell us who is to submit to whom (**Ephesians 5:21-6:9; Colossians 3:17-25; 1 Peter 3:1; 2:13-23**). Submission is the will of the Lord!

**Faith Confession:** *I am a doer of God's Word. I willingly submit myself to those God has instructed me to submit to. Because I obey those over me, I enable those under me to submit. Because I love Christ (His Word, His Spirit, and the body of Christ), I keep His Word by doing it! As I do God's Word, I am submitting myself to God and now I can resist the devil and he has to flee from me!*