

THE LIFE OF THE RIGHTEOUS

July 1

Forsake Not the Assembling

Hebrews 10:25

"Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching."

Paul by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit wrote this epistle to the Hebrews many, many years ago. The Word of God is living and it is as true today as it was when he wrote it. Apparently, the Hebrews had forsaken the assembling of themselves together. Today we would say they stopped going to church, they stopped gathering together.

What is the Church? There are two basic definitions. "Called out" and "called together" or "to gather together." The building that the church meets in is not the Church. It is important that you and I answered the call to believe on Jesus Christ, to serve Him, and to be a part of the Kingdom, to be a part of a local body, the Church. Every time you leave your home or wherever you are at and gather together with other saints, you answer the call. We are not just together in a building; we're together in believing the same thing about Jesus. We are called together in serving the Lord Jesus. The church is also called "The body of Christ." "The bride". There is nothing more important to the Lord than the Church and the building of His Church (**Matthew 16:13-18**).

In **Hebrews 10:24** it says, "And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works." Immediately after that he tells what the love and good works are. "Not forsaking the assembling of yourselves together..." We are to exhort one another, encourage one another to keep assembling together with others. Paul went on to say, "...so much the more, as ye see the day approaching." We are closer to the return of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ than we have ever been. So, would you say that **Hebrews 10:25** is for us today? Absolutely!!!! Reading on in **verse 26** Paul said by the Holy Spirit, "For if we sin willfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins." What is the knowledge of the truth that you have received? Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves

together. To know to do something and not do it, to you it is sin (**James 4:17**).

We are part of one another. Think with me for a minute. The Lord compared His body to the natural human body in several different scriptures but take time right now and read **I Corinthians 12:13-27**. If you separate your arm from your body, how long do you think your arm would remain alive? Not long. The same is true for the body of Christ. When you unhook from the body of Christ and try to live apart from the other parts of the body, you will dry up and die. Many people have thought, "Oh, not me." I can live this life on my own." Don't believe the lie of the enemy. If we could live without coming together, Paul by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit would not have written this verse to us.

Many times, people are needing direction for their lives, answers to questions, solutions to problems, healing for their bodies, etc. and people are sitting at home begging God to help them. God has not ordained you to get it that way. According to **Ephesians 4:8** the Lord has given us gifts and **verse 11** tells us that pastors are one of those gifts. God can give you direction through the anointed Word He brings through your pastor. He can answer your questions, and give solutions to your problems, but you have to be in the right place to get it. In **Acts 9:6** God told Saul (who later became Paul) to "...Arise, and go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do." What if he had decided, no I don't want to do that? He would have done without his healing, direction for his life, and without strength. He would never had gotten the revelation and written these letters to us. God saw fit to get him help through another part of the body of Christ.

Be wise and obey this word to assemble yourself together with other saints in serving the Lord in a local church family.

Faith Confession: *I am a doer of the Word of God and I am blessed, because I continue to assemble myself together with the body of Christ. I am bringing a supply to the body of Christ and receiving a supply from the body of Christ. I keep His commandment to believe on the name of His Son Jesus Christ and to love one another through the practical application of serving (**I John 3:23-24; Galatians 5:13**). I lay down my life for others. I am blessed! I am blessed to be a blessing.*

THE LIFE OF THE RIGHTEOUS

July 2

You Bless

Psalm 109:28
(NKJV)

"Let them curse, but You bless; When they arise, let them be ashamed, But let Your servant rejoice."

This verse is speaking about the Lord blessing when people curse. Do we have any examples of this happening in the New Testament? Yes, Jesus our greatest example, when hanging on the cross He said, "...*Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do.*" **Luke 23:34**. In **Acts 7:60 (NKJV)** after Stephen had been stoned "...*he knelt down and cried out with a loud voice, "Lord, do not charge them with this sin..."*

How could Jesus and Stephen do this? **Ephesians 6:12** says, "*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.*" Every person is an expression of the one they yield to. Even a Christian can yield to the Holy Spirit one minute and turn around and yield to the enemy the next minute (**Matthew 16:17-23**).

Ephesians 5:1 instructs us to be imitators of God, as dear children. If He blessed when they cursed, we also must bless when others curse (**Matthew 5:43-48; Luke 6:27-40**).

Luke 6:22-23 "*Blessed are ye, when men shall hate you, and when they shall separate you from their company, and shall reproach you, and cast out your name as evil, for the Son of man's sake. Rejoice ye in that day, and leap for joy: for, behold, your reward is great in heaven: for in the like manner did their fathers unto the prophets.*"

When was the last time you leaped for joy when you were hated and separated from someone, and your name cast out as evil because of your stand for Jesus? When this happens put this Word into practice. In **Ephesians 4:27** we are instructed not to give place to the devil. It is written in **James 4:6-7** "*But he giveth more*

grace. Wherefore he saith, God resiseth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble. Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you." We do this through humbling ourselves and submitting to God through doing His Word. When we submit to God and put Him over us and we put ourselves under His Lordship through doing the Word, then we can take our place over the devil and put him under our feet. **James 4:10** says that when we humble ourselves in the sight of the Lord, He will lift us up.

Faith Confession: *I am a doer of the Word. I give no place to the devil. I put the devil on the run as I submit to God through obedience to His Word. I bless when others curse and I am blessed when men hate and revile me, and cast out my name as evil, for the Son of Man's sake. I rejoice and leap for joy knowing that my reward is great in heaven.*

THE LIFE OF THE RIGHTEOUS

July 3

Build Yourself Up

Jude 1:20-21

"But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost, Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life."

Prayer is a privilege for the child of God. We have been given the right to pray and know that our prayers are answered. **I John 3:22-23** says, "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." This is true. God cannot lie.

There are two things that guarantee our prayers will be answered. 1) "... because we keep his commandments..." and 2) "...do those things that are pleasing in His sight..." As New Testament believers we have two commandments to keep and do. **Verse 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 two commandments are "faith" and "love".

God not only gave us His commandments but He gave us a way to keep (value, treasure) and do them. According to **Jude 1:20-21** when we pray in the Holy Spirit (praying in tongues) we build ourselves up in faith and keep ourselves in the love of God.

When Jesus was about to be crucified, He went to the Garden with His disciples to pray. He gave the disciples instructions to pray so they would not enter into temptation. Peter in his heart was ready to take a stand for Jesus even if it meant dying for Him. His spirit was willing but his flesh was weak **Matthew 26:41; Mark 14:38**. Because of sorrow they slept instead of praying. **Matthew 26:40-41** Jesus said to Peter, "...What, could ye not watch with me one hour? Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." Peter ended up denying Jesus because of the weakness of his flesh.

Jesus Himself knew it was necessary to pray in the time of a trial. If He had not prayed, He would not have been strengthened to go to the cross in our place. We are thankful today that He was strengthened as He prayed and passed the test.

Take time each day to pray in the Spirit. Do **Matthew 26:40-41** and **Jude 1:20-21**. Pray the Word of God and pray in the Spirit. Your faith will be strengthened and you will keep yourself in the love of God, not giving into the temptations.

Faith Confession: *I watch and pray every day keeping myself built up in faith and in the love of God. As I do this, I keep my spirit strong enabling me to resist temptations.*

THE LIFE OF THE RIGHTEOUS

July 4

What to Do in Difficult Times

II Corinthians 4:18

"While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal."

When we are experiencing difficult times in our life it is important not to look at the circumstances and just sit down and cry. It is not time to say, "Why is this happening to me?" In difficult times it is important to look unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith. To look at the things that are not seen, with the knowing that the things that are seen are temporal (subject to change).

There are many in the Bible who experienced difficult times. We can see in Paul's writings how he made it through. **II Corinthians 4:8-10** *"We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed; Always bearing about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our body."*

He did make mention that they were troubled but he did not stop at that. He went on to say, yet not distressed. He said, we are perplexed and then added, but not in despair..." How could he say that? It was because He knew God would deliver him out of it all.

In **II Corinthians 4:13** Paul said, *"We having the same spirit of faith, according as it is written (**Psalms 116:10**), I believed, and therefore have I spoken; we also believe, and therefore speak."* During the difficult times it is important to say the right things. This only happens as the result of looking at the right things. What are the right things? His Words! We are looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith.

In **II Corinthians 1:8-10** Paul writes, *"For we would not, brethren, have you ignorant of our trouble which came to us in Asia, that we were pressed out of measure, above strength, insomuch that we despaired even of life: But we had the sentence of death in ourselves, that we should not trust in ourselves, but in*

God which raiseth the dead: Who delivered us from so great a death, and doeth deliver: in whom we trust that he will yet deliver us."

Don't wait until troubles come your way to build your faith. Build your faith every day by reading the Word, speaking the Word, by praying in the Spirit, and hearing anointed teachings. When the troubles come, your spirit that is renewed day by day, will be built up and the Holy Spirit within you will bring scriptures to your remembrance enabling you to say as Paul said, "*For our light affliction is but for a moment...*"

Faith Confession: *I look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. I look at the Word that God spoke to me to do. The things which are seen are temporal, subject to change; but the things which are not seen are eternal. My inward man is renewed day by day, therefore when troubles come my way, I will always be prepared to look at the right things and to speak right words, and the afflictions will be light and only for a moment.*

THE LIFE OF THE RIGHTEOUS

July 5

Saved by Grace

Ephesians 2:4-5

"But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;)"

Grace is God's ability. He said, "by grace", or we could say, by God's ability we are saved. The Greek word for saved is "Sozo" and it means saved, is safe, to save, delivered or protected, healed, preserved, to do well, and to be made whole. This is all ours by grace through faith. Grace is God's part and faith is our part which comes from God's Word (**Romans 10:17**).

Ephesians 2:4-10 (NKJV) says, "But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them."

This salvation, safety, deliverance, protection, healing, preservation, doing well, and wholeness are all a gift to us, which we receive through faith. We cannot enjoy a gift unless we receive it. We receive it by faith, by believing. Paul said in **Romans 1:16-17** "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it (the gospel) is the power of God unto salvation (safety, deliverance, protection, healing, preservation, doing well, and wholeness) to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. For therein (the gospel – the Word) is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith."

Faith has a confession. How did you get saved? You believed in your heart and said with your mouth (**Acts 8:37; John 11:26,27**). The same is true for our safety, deliverance, protection, healing,

preservation, doing well, and wholeness. **Romans 10:8-10 (NKJV)** says, "But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith which we preach): that if you confess (say) with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved (Sozo). For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation (Sozo)." With your mouth confession is made unto salvation, safety, deliverance, protection, healing, preservation, doing well, and wholeness (**II Corinthians 4:13**).

To enjoy all of these gifts from God we simply need to believe that they have been given to us from God as a gift. What do you do with a gift? You receive it! Instead of speaking about trouble, bondage's, attacks, harm, injury, sickness, destruction, ruin, doing bad, incompleteness and need, speak the desired end result. You can have what you say (**Mark 11:23**). "For by grace ye are saved through faith..." (**Ephesians 2:8**).

Faith Confession: *I am saved by grace, God's ability through faith, which comes from His Word. I am saved, safe, delivered, protected, healed, preserved, doing well, and made whole. I receive this gift from God by faith. I tell others about this amazing gift. When I was dead in trespasses, He made me alive together with Christ. By grace through faith I have been saved.*

THE LIFE OF THE RIGHTEOUS

July 6

I Will Sing Praise

Psalm 61:8

"So will I sing praise unto thy name for ever, that I may daily perform my vows."

According to this verse a key to daily performing your vows or another way of putting it, keeping your word, is by singing praises to His name. As a child of God keeping your word is vital to your faith, which gives you the ability to receive His promises. As the body of Christ His Words are to be our words, so as we sing praises to His name, we will be able to be doers of His Word.

In **Psalm 61:5 (NKJV)** it says, "For You, O God, have heard my vows..." He hears everything we say. **Colossians 3:17,23-25** says, "And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him." "And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men; Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ. But he that doeth wrong shall receive for the wrong which he hath done: and there is no respect of persons." (See **Ephesians 6:6-7**).

Paul in his letter to the Romans in **Romans 13:7-10** said, "Render therefore to all their dues: tribute (taxes) to whom tribute (taxes) is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honour to whom honour. Owe no man any thing, but to love one another: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law. For this, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not kill, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear a false witness, Thou shalt not covet; and if there be any other commandment, it is briefly comprehended in this saying, namely, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. Love worketh no ill to his neighbor: therefore love is the fulfilling of the law."

As a believer there is one debt you will never pay off and that is the debt of love. **Numbers 23:19** says, "God is not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do it? Or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?" The answers to those questions are Yes! Yes, He

has spoken, and He shall do it and make it good. It is written in **Jeremiah 1:12** *"...for I will hasten my word to perform it."*

Keeping our word or we could say doing what we said we would do is important to our faith. When we say we will do something and do not follow it through it is a result of our believing. **II Corinthians 4:13** says, *"We having the same spirit of faith, according as it is written, I believed, and therefore have I spoken; we also believe, and therefore speak."* God created us to have dominion over all the works of His hands and the way we are to have dominion is by our words.

As we sing praise to His name, we are setting our affections upon Him. During these times He will remind us of things we've said in the past. As He brings things to your remembrance it is important to follow through with them. He is endeavoring to keep you blessed and protected.

Faith Confession: *So will I sing praise to His name forever, that I may daily perform my vows. I am like my Heavenly Father and hasten my words to perform them.*

THE LIFE OF THE RIGHTEOUS

July 7

Christ The Healer

Numbers 21:9

"And Moses made a serpent of brass, and put it upon a pole, and it came to pass, that if a serpent had bitten any man, when he beheld the serpent of brass, he lived."

In **Numbers 21:4-7** it is clear why the people were dying. It was not the Lord's will for them to die. In many scriptures it sounds like the Lord is the one putting the sickness on people and killing them but that is not true. In the literal translation when you read the phrase, "and the Lord sent", what it really means is that the Lord passed judgment, or He permitted it, but He does not do the killing, stealing, and destroying (**John 10:10**). The Lord has no pleasure in the death of anyone, not even the wicked. It does not please Him to pass judgment and turn people over to Satan for the destruction of their flesh. (**Ezekiel 33:11-20; Lamentations 3:22-23,31-33; Hosea 11:8**). The Lord actually held the devil, the fiery serpents off as long as He could, but if people continue in sin, He has to pass judgment. Sin, unholiness is infectious, but holiness is not infectious (**Haggai 2:12-13; I Corinthians 5:1-11**).

The Israelite's had already been in the wilderness for many days and they did not have any problems with the fiery serpents. The fiery serpents were in the wilderness all along. As long as the children of Israel obeyed the Lord, He was able to protect them.

Why was He not able to protect them now? Because of sin. The grippers (complainers) get the vipers. If you complain you will not be sustained. When we speak against God and those God placed over us it opens the door to the enemy to kill, steal, and destroy us by breaking things down. Satan can destroy us and our things. They were speaking against God and Moses when they were complaining that there was no bread or water. Yet it goes on to say that they loathed the light bread, so it was not that they did not have any bread, they just did not like what they had. It is written in **II Timothy 4:3 God's Word Translation** "A time will come when people will not listen to accurate teachings. Instead, they will follow their own desires and surround themselves with teachers

who tell them what they want to hear." That is a dangerous place to be!

In **Numbers 21:7** the people came to Moses and admitted that they had sinned by speaking against the Lord and him. Now God is able to do something because the people repented of their sin. When they repented Moses prayed for them and God gave Moses the plan to bring them out of danger. **Numbers 21:8** *"And the Lord said unto Moses, Make thee a fiery serpent, and set it upon a pole: and it shall come to pass, that every one that is bitten, when he looketh upon it, shall live."* Moses obeyed the Lord's instructions and when the people did what Moses said to do, they lived.

Imagine being in the wilderness and snakes all around your feet biting you. It took faith and obedience to look up at the serpent on the pole. This was a type of Jesus taking our sins on the cross. When He bore our sins, He also bore our sicknesses (**Isaiah 53:4-5**; **I Peter 2:24**).

The word "look" in **Numbers 21:8** does not just mean a glance; it means a steady gaze. Jesus is the Word and as we gaze into His Word, we can receive healing for our bodies today. His Word is medicine to all of our flesh. Proverbs gives us instructions for taking God's medicine (**Proverbs 4:20-23**).

Faith Confession: *I choose as an act of my will not to grip and complain. I choose not to speak against God, nor His ministers, or those God has placed over me, but to be thankful. I take God's medicine by attending to His Words. I incline my ear to His sayings. I do not let them depart from my eyes; I keep them (God's Words) in the midst of my heart. I find them, for in finding them they are life and health or medicine to all my flesh. I guard my heart, for out it are the issues of life.*

THE LIFE OF THE RIGHTEOUS

July 8

Thy Will Be Done

Matthew 6:10

"Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven."

If you want to know what God's will is concerning healing, sickness and disease, pain, prosperity, and other things in life, ask yourself this question. Does God allow this in heaven? As you do this and seek the answer in His Word you will keep yourself in His perfect will. God's perfect will is revealed in His Word (**Romans 12:1-2**).

We are told in **Matthew 18:18** *"Verily I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall bind (forbid) on earth shall be bound (forbidden) in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose (allow) on earth shall be loosed (allowed) in heaven."*

So, let's ask ourselves this question right now and find the Word to answer the question. Is it God's will for sickness, disease, pain, and poverty in heaven? Let's go to the Word of God and find our answer. **Revelation 21:4** says, *"And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away."*

In the beginning did God create man with sickness, disease, pain, and poverty? The answer to that is no. **Genesis 1:31** says, *"And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day."* No mention of sickness, disease, pain, or poverty. It is written in **Genesis 1:28** *"And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moves upon the earth."*

We see that God has blessed us. The word "bless" means "empowered to prosper". Every time you see the word "bless" you can read it this way, *"And God empowered them to prosper..."* His will is for us is to be fruitful and multiply, not decrease. It is written in **Revelation 21:21** *"And the twelve gates were twelve pearls; every several gate was of one pearl: and the street of the city was*

pure gold, as it were transparent glass." Does that sound like poverty? No! He said to pray that His will be done in earth as it is in heaven.

It is written in **John 10:10** *"The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly."* If it is stealing, killing, or destroying in anyway, God is not in it. God is a good God and He only does good. So, if it is not allowed in heaven, then we should not allow it in our lives. Symptoms may come, but we can stand against those symptoms in the Name of Jesus.

Faith Confession: *I pray that the will of God be done in earth as it is in heaven. I forbid sickness, disease, pain, and poverty in my life in Jesus Name. It is not God's will in heaven; therefore, it is not my will in the earth. His will is health, abundance, peace, joy, righteousness, and everything good. I accept His will for my life!*

THE LIFE OF THE RIGHTEOUS

July 9

Are You A Doer of the Word?

James 1:22

"But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves."

James 1:22-25 *"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."*

According to James the doer of the Word will have the blessing in their life. If we are not experiencing the blessing then we need to check and see where we have stopped doing the Word. Most of the time it has to do with our love walk. A step out of love is a step into sin.

Are we doing **Colossians 3:12-14**? *"Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering; Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel (complaint) against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye. And above all these things put on charity (love), which is the bond of perfectness."* (See **Mark 11:25-26**.)

Colossians 3:13 *"...if any man have a quarrel (complaint) against any..."* what are we supposed to do? Go and tell others about how we have been treated? No, we are to forgive them as Christ has forgiven us. How has Christ forgiven us? He forgave us before we ever came to Him. He forgave us when we did not deserve to be forgiven. When He forgives, He has no remembrance of the sin. His love and forgiveness are unconditional. It is available to every man, woman, and child, all we have to do is receive it.

Keep the blessings of God in your life by doing the Word. His blessings are health, prosperity, peace, joy, favor, etc. You'll be glad you obeyed the Word. The choice is yours.

Faith Confession: *I am a doer of the Word of God. I keep the blessings of God in my life by walking in forgiveness and love. I forgive and walk in love with others and myself. I do not complain against anyone.*

THE LIFE OF THE RIGHTEOUS

July 10

Redeemed from The Curse

Galatians 3:13

"Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree:"

Why was Christ made a curse for us? The answer is found in **Galatians 3:14** *"That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith."*

What is the curse of the law? It can be found in **Deuteronomy 28:15-68**. Christ has redeemed us in three areas. Spiritual death, sickness and disease, and poverty. As you begin reading in **Deuteronomy 28:16** through the end of the chapter you can say at the end of each verse, Praise God, according to **Galatians 3:13** I have been redeemed from that curse.

Let's take for example **Deuteronomy 28:61** *"Also every sickness, and every plague, which is not written in the book of this law, them will the Lord bring upon (allow upon) thee, until thou be destroyed."* Now what is your response to that verse? Praise God, according to **Galatians 3:13** I've been redeemed from the curse of every sickness, and every plague, which is not written in the book of this law!!! I am redeemed from destruction!

As you say you are redeemed, you are being a doer of **Psalms 107:2** *"Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, whom he hath redeemed from the hand of the enemy."* We are to say that we are redeemed from the hand of the enemy. **Revelation 12:11** says, *"And they overcame him (the devil) by the blood of the Lamb, (God's part) and by the word of their testimony; (our part), and they loved not their lives unto the death."*

Those who have accepted Jesus Christ as Lord have been, not going to be, but have been redeemed from spiritual death, sickness, disease, and poverty. All we have to do is believe His Word is true, and receive the promise that we have been redeemed here and now! We do not have to wait until we get to heaven to enjoy

freedom from the curse of the law. It is every believer's inheritance.

Just act upon His Word and you will experience life eternal. The Greek word for "life" is zoe. Zoe means the God-kind of life. He wants us to experience life like He has it!!! Through faith and patience, you will inherit the promises (**Hebrews 6:12**).

Faith Confession: Take time to read through **Deuteronomy 28:16** to the end of the chapter and after each verse say according to **Galatians 3:13** I am redeemed from that curse; thanks be to our good God!

THE LIFE OF THE RIGHTEOUS

July 11

Great Faith

Luke 7:9

"When Jesus heard these things, he marvelled at him, and turned him about, and said unto the people that followed him, I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel."

Take some time and read **Luke 7:1-10**. Jesus had not found great faith among those following Him. A follower is a disciple. Here is a centurion (A Roman military officer commanding one hundred men.), and he is not one of Jesus' disciples but yet Jesus is saying this man had great faith. What revealed this centurion's great faith?

It is written in **Luke 7:7-8** *"Wherefore neither thought I myself worthy to come unto thee: but say in a word, and my servant shall be healed. (The centurion recognized that Jesus was set under authority.) For I also am a man set under authority, having under me soldiers, and I say unto one, Go, and he goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth it."* You can see why this servant was dear to the centurion. When the centurion told his servant to do something, he did it.

It takes great faith to obey those who are in authority over you. Faith submits, fear resists. The first thing we see is that the centurion obeyed those over him and the result of his obedience was that those under him obeyed him. Now when Jesus came to heal the centurion's servant, the centurion was aware that the Master only needed to speak the word and it would be done. He understood the line of authority.

When we stay full of faith, humble and submitted to those over us, this enables us to speak to sickness and disease, and sickness and disease will have to flee. **James 4:6-7** says, *"But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble. Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."* As we submit ourselves to those, He has instructed us to submit to, then we can resist the devil and all he stands for and he has to flee from us.

What was the end result of the centurion's great faith? **Luke 7:10**
"And they that were sent, returning to the house, found the servant whole that had been sick."

Here are some scriptures concerning submission. **Romans 10:3; I Corinthians 16:14-18; Ephesians 5:20-24; Colossians 3:17-24; Hebrews 13:7,17; James 4:7; I Peter 2:13-15; I Peter 5:5-6**

Faith Confession: *I am a doer of the Word of God. I am a person under authority and I believe as I submit to those God has instructed me to submit to, then I can resist the devil and all he represents. And he and all he represents must flee from me, which includes sickness and disease, lack and poverty.*

THE LIFE OF THE RIGHTEOUS

July 12

Believe to See

Psalm 27:13

"I had fainted, unless I had believed to see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living."

Many people are waiting to see something before they believe it. David said that he believed to see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. This is God's way of doing things. We must believe first and then we will see. How do we believe to see something?

If there is something you desire to see different in your life, you must first take the Word of God concerning that which you desire to see and look at those scriptures. Speak those scriptures, and meditate on them day and night. As you do this you are changing the image on the inside of you. Take His Word concerning what He has promised you and paint the picture of you having that. The more you look at the scriptures, speak them, and meditate on them the quicker it will happen. The less you look at them, speak them and meditate upon them the longer it will take to have it. It is totally up to the individual.

Mark 11:23 says, *"For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith."*

The word "say" and "saith" are spoken of three times in this verse. The first word "say" means "to say", the second word "saith" means "to command", and finally the third word "saith" the Greek word is "lego".

You can buy Lego building toys from a store. Let's say on the box you bought there is a picture of a house. When you first pour the Lego pieces out it doesn't look like a house. It is only a mess of pieces, but as you begin building piece upon piece you can begin to see the house take shape. At this point you are believing to see the house. As you keep saying the same thing over and over, you

are building or painting an image on the inside of you of what you are believing God for until you can see you with it.

The last part of **Mark 11:23** says, "...he (the person that says) *shall have whatsoever he saith.*" Say what you want and not what you have. If you say what you feel and what you see you will keep that. So, keep saying the Word until the Word is manifested in your life. Believe to see!!!!

Faith Confession: *I believe to see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. I am a doer of the Word of God. I say about myself what God says about me. He says I am righteous (**I Corinthians 1:30**). I was and am healed (**Isaiah 53:4-5; I Peter 2:24**). I am rich (**II Corinthians 8:9; Revelation 2:9**). I walk in love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, and self-control. I live in the spirit, I also walk in the spirit (**Galatians 5:22,25**). You can write your own confession!*

THE LIFE OF THE RIGHTEOUS

July 13

Faithful in Another Man's

Luke 16:12

"And if ye have not been faithful in that which is another man's, who shall give you that which is your own?"

Faithfulness is of utmost importance to the Master. A person that is faithful is one you can count on to be there when needed and to do things the way they are asked. Faithfulness has to do with faith. It is written in **I Samuel 2:35** *"And I will raise me up a faithful priest, that shall do according to that which is in mine heart and in my mind: and I will build him a sure house; and he shall walk before mine anointed for ever."*

I Corinthians 4:1-2 says, *"Let a man so account of us, as of the ministers of Christ, and stewards of the mysteries of God. Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful."* A steward is a manager of someone else's business. Pastors and ministers are managers of God's business. The Lord is looking for those who will do things the way He wants them done. People are looking for people that will do things the way they want them done. That means you do not have a better idea.

Luke 16:10-11 says, *"He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much: and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much. If therefore ye have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon (natural things), who will commit to your trust the true riches?"* Before God gives you something big to do, He is going to give you small things. As God's sons, we should do things the very same way God does. If people, or your children are faithful with the small things, then you can give them something more. Depending on how faithful you are with those little things will determine whether you get the bigger things.

Many times, people make the mistake of entrusting the big things to people before they have been proven faithful in the small things. **I Timothy 3:10** says, *"And let these also first be proved; then let them use the office of a deacon, being found blameless."* How well do you do with a broom? Are you faithful and willing to do your

best with that responsibility? If you are, then He will give you the bigger responsibility.

Another part of being faithful is being able to tell someone something knowing that person would not tell anyone. If you are asked not to tell anyone something, how many can you tell it to? NONE! It is written in **Proverbs 11:13** "*A talebearer revealeth secrets: but he that is of a faithful spirit concealeth the matter.*"

What can the faithful expect? **Psalm 31:23** says, "*O love the Lord, all ye his saints: for the Lord preserveth the faithful, and plentifully rewardeth the proud doer.*" It is written in **Psalm 101:6** "*Mine eyes shall be upon the faithful of the land, that they may dwell with me: he that walketh in a perfect way (perfect in the way), he shall serve me.*" It is also said in **Proverbs 28:20** "*A faithful man shall abound with blessings: but he that maketh haste to be rich shall not be innocent.*"

Faith Confession: *I choose as an act of my will to be faithful in that which is least, therefore I will be faithful in much. I am a person that can be counted on to do things the way I am asked and to do it with all my heart and I do it as unto the Lord. I am of a faithful spirit and I conceal matters. Because I am faithful, the Lord will preserve me, I will dwell with Him because I walk in a perfect way, and I will abound with blessings!*

THE LIFE OF THE RIGHTEOUS

July 14

These Signs Shall Follow Them That Believe

Mark 16:17-18

"And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover."

These signs shall follow them that believe. Do you believe? If so then this is true for you, the believer. You shall cast out devils in the Name of Jesus. Jesus said in **John 14:12** *"Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto My Father."*

Luke 10:17-20 says, *"And the seventy returned again with joy, saying, Lord, even the devils are subject unto us through thy name. And he said unto them, I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven. Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you. Notwithstanding in this rejoice not, that the spirits are subject unto you; but rather rejoice, because your names are written in heaven."*

The believer shall speak with new tongues. God gives you a heavenly language. Many times, people fear getting something that is of the devil but that is not what God is giving you. **Luke 11:11-13** says, *"If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? Or if he ask a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent? Or if he shall ask an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? If you then, being evil (natural), know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask Him?"*

We have already seen in **Luke 10:19** that He has given us authority over serpents and scorpions so He is not going to give us something of the devil. He will give us the Holy Spirit, not an evil spirit. All you have to do is ask and He will give you what you ask for.

If you drink any deadly thing it will not hurt you. That does not mean that we are to go out and drink deadly things. It simply means that if you do drink anything deadly you can stand in faith knowing it cannot hurt you. I can testify to this being true.

I had gone on a mission's trip to the nation of Panama with the youth from Victory Fellowship Church to oversee the teenage girls that went. One day we were going to walk to a village to minister the Word of God. We were instructed before leaving the place we were staying how to drink our water so that it would last until we arrived in the village where we could get more water. It was very hot that day we went and some of the teenagers did not do as they were instructed and became dehydrated and passed out. I gave my water to those who needed it. When we arrived in the village, they told me to go first to get the water. So, I did and just as I was taking a big drink of this water someone ran out and said, "Don't drink that water it is poisonous!" Well it was too late to tell me! I remembered this scripture that if I drink any deadly thing that it would not hurt me and I stood on that scripture. I give thanks to God, because it did not hurt me in any way. His Word works when we believe it and stand on it.

You, the believer, shall lay hands on the sick and they shall recover. The Greek word for "recovery" is "to be well". Believe that His Word is true and when you lay hands on the sick you can expect them to be well. This is His promise to those who believe.

Faith Confession: *I am a believer and I believe that these signs shall follow me. In Jesus Name I shall cast out devils, I shall speak with new tongues; I shall take up serpents; and if I drink any deadly thing it shall not hurt me. I shall lay hands on the sick and they shall be well. I will remember to give God all the glory because it is the Father in me that does the works!*

THE LIFE OF THE RIGHTEOUS

July 15

An Example

I Peter 2:21

"For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps:"

I Peter 2:18-24 explains what suffering Peter is talking about. *"Servants, be subject to your masters with all fear (reverence, respect); not only to the good and gentle, but also to the froward (unfair, unreasonable). For this is thankworthy, if a man for conscience toward God endure grief, suffering wrongfully. For what glory is it, if, when ye be buffeted for your faults, ye shall take it patiently? but if, when ye do well, and suffer for it, ye take it patiently, this is acceptable with God. For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps: Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth: Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed himself to him that judges righteously: Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed."*

Is there a suffering according to the will of God? According to the verses we just read there is a suffering. We are to follow the Master's steps in suffering. What does that mean? Suffering means – to endure pain, discomfort or unpleasantness. Pain here means feelings of unpleasantness. We have to remember that these letters written by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit through Peter were not written in chapter and verse. It was a letter. Man added the chapters and verses making it easier to locate things. Peter is speaking about suffering in connection with subjection and submission. He is talking about suffering for something that you did not do. He is also talking about suffering for doing good.

Jesus suffered the punishment of sin even though He himself committed no sin. He did only good. Jesus suffered the punishment of sin for every man, woman, and child born into this earth. Even though Jesus paid the price for all mankind's sin, yet not all mankind will accept the free gift of eternal life, which includes healing that He purchased for us. Thanks be to our good God,

because Jesus endured suffering, today you and I can enjoy eternal life and divine health (**I Peter 2:24**).

He suffered doing the will of God. He was in total submission to the Father's will. The punishment He suffered did not feel good, but He bore it for us. Jesus did not consider His feelings. It is written in **Hebrews 12:2-3** *"Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God. For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest you be wearied and faint in your minds."*

This is the exact way we are to suffer, looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith. We suffer for the joy set before us *"...endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ"* (**II Timothy 2:3**).

Faith Confession: *I am called to suffer taking it patiently when I am buffeted for doing well. I will for conscience sake endure grief, suffering wrongfully. This is acceptable with God. I will follow in my Masters steps. When I am reviled, I will not revile again. When I suffer, I will not threaten, but I will commit myself to Him who judges righteously. I endure hardness like a good soldier of Jesus Christ.*

THE LIFE OF THE RIGHTEOUS

July 16

Acknowledging the Truth

Titus 1:1

"Paul, a servant of God, and an apostle of Jesus Christ, according to the faith of God's elect, and the acknowledging of the truth which is after godliness;"

The Greek word for "acknowledging" means recognition, full discernment, acknowledgment, knowledge. We want to recognize and fully discern the truth.

Let's read this verse from the Amplified Bible. *"Paul, a bond servant of God and an apostle (a special messenger) of Jesus Christ (the Messiah) to stimulate and promote the faith of God's chosen one's and to lead them on to accurate discernment and recognition of and acquaintance with the Truth which belongs to and harmonizes with and tends to godliness;"*

One of the responsibilities of a true apostle, a sent one, we often times call them missionaries, is to stimulate and promote the faith of God's chosen one's and to lead them into accurate discernment and recognition of and acquaintance with the Truth. To know the Truth is to know God, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit.

In Paul's letter to Timothy he wrote in **II Timothy 2:24-26** *"And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient (forbearing), In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth; And that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will."*

It is important that we acknowledge the Truth, which is the Word of God. **John 14:6** says, *"Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me."* It is the Truth that makes us free from the lies and bondage of the enemy. **John 17:17** says, *"...thy word is truth."* The more of God's Word we know, acknowledge, and do, the freer we will be. The less we know, the more in bondage to the lies of the enemy we will be.

When you see something in God's Word and understand it, if you choose as an act of your will to not receive the love of that Word, that truth, and to not obey it, the only thing left for you is a lie. I often hear "Separate from the Word." To separate from the Word of God, the Truth, is to separate from God Himself. God and His Word are one. In doing this you are separating to Satan, bondage, and lies (**II Thessalonians 2:10**). Some people think if they do God's Word they will be in bondage. That is a lie. The Truth or we could say, the Word of God that you believe and act upon is the only thing that can make you totally free (**John 8:31-32**).

It is written in **II Thessalonians 2:13**, "...God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth."

Faith Confession: *I acknowledge and receive the love of the Truth. The truth that I believe and do is making me free from the lies and bondage of the enemy. The Truth of God's Word makes me free from sin, sickness and disease, poverty, pain, lies, harm, danger, and from all the curse of the law. He whom the Son sets free is free indeed. That is me!!!!*

THE LIFE OF THE RIGHTEOUS

July 17

Acquaint Yourself with God

Job 22:21
(AMPC)

"Acquaint now yourself with Him [agree with God and show yourself to be conformed to His will] and be at peace; by that [you shall prosper and great] good shall come to you."

It is important that you and I get to know God now and come into agreement with Him. God is not going to change, because He is always right (**Hebrews 1:12; 13:8**). You and I will have to come into agreement with Him and be conformed to His will. He has promised that those who get to know Him, agree with Him, and conform to His will would experience peace, prosper, and great good shall come to them. I believe that is worth coming into agreement with.

Amos 3:3 says, "*Can two walk together, except they be agreed?*" The answer to that question is no. If you cannot come into agreement with God then you will not be able to walk together with Him. The same is true for people. When two people cannot come into agreement, then they cannot walk together. Here is the good news. If I am in agreement with God and you are in agreement with God then we will automatically be in agreement with each other. If we walk after the Spirit, we are going to agree with each other, because we are agreeing with the Holy Spirit. The Word and the Spirit agree. Now we can agree with the Word and the Spirit, and in agreeing with them we will agree with one another.

You will have to be willing to allow the Holy Spirit to change you to agree with God. If you are going after God and His will, you will learn to make adjustments quickly and cause your will to come into agreement with His. The degree that you agree with God will be the degree that you welcome the presence of God into your life. The degree you agree with God will be the degree you will walk with God. You can know Him better today than you did yesterday and progressively come into full agreement with Him in order that you may fully walk with Him. Will you make that decision today to agree fully with God? You will be blessed if you do.

Job 22:21 (AMPC) *"...be at peace..."* Peace is the reward! When people have problems in their marriages, in their home, with their children and finances, it is due to a lack of agreement with God at some level. When you agree with the Word and do it, peace is the result. You can measure your agreement by measuring your level of peace.

Job 22:21 (AMPC) *"...by that..."* by what? By agreeing and showing yourself conformed to His will, you shall prosper. The more you agree with God the more it will show up in your finances. You won't have to chase finances; it will just show up as the result of agreeing with God.

What next? *"...great good shall come to you."* Those who agree with God, great good just comes to them. If you do not agree with God, then no one can help you. It is very important that you agree with God. If you want to get into heaven, you must agree that Jesus Christ is Lord! That is how important agreement with God is.

Faith Confession: *I choose as an act of my will to acquaint myself with God. I agree with God and show myself to be conformed to His will and be at peace. By that I shall prosper and great good shall come to me. I am a doer of the Word of God and I am blessed.*

THE LIFE OF THE RIGHTEOUS

July 18

Furnished in Abundance

II Corinthians 9:8 (AMPC)

"And God is able to make all grace (every favor and earthly blessing) come to you in abundance, so that you may always and under all circumstances and whatever the need be self-sufficient [possessing enough to require no aid or support and furnished in abundance for every good work and charitable donation]."

Do you believe that God is able to do this for you? He is! **Mark 9:23** says, "...all things are possible to him that believeth." God is able to make ALL grace, EVERY favor and earthly blessing come to you. Notice He said that **He** would make it come to you. That is not you going after it. And how is He going to make it come to you? In abundance!

The definition of abundance means to be in excess, to exceed in number or measure, to have more than enough, to be left over, to remain, exceeding a number or measure which marks fullness, residue remaining after the needs were met, to super abound, to abound richly, to surpass.

What is the purpose of Him making all grace come to you in abundance? So that you may ALWAYS and under ALL CIRCUMSTANCES and whatever the need be self-sufficient [possessing enough to require no aid or support and furnished in abundance for EVERY good work and charitable donation. He is not talking about you doing it in and of yourself. He is saying He is making this come to you so you will not need any aid or support from the world, or from others. The world is limited, but God is our unlimited source of supply. God wants us blessed so we can be a blessing to others. It is written in **Acts 20:35** "...It is more blessed to give than to receive." I like being on the giving end, it is truly more blessed to give!!!!

II Corinthians 9:9-10 (AMPC) says, "As it is written, He [the benevolent person] scatters abroad; He gives to the poor; His deeds of justice and goodness and kindness and benevolence will go on and endure forever! And [God] who provides seed for the

sower and bread for eating will also provide and multiply your [resources for] sowing and increase the fruits of your righteousness [which manifests itself in active goodness, kindness, and charity]."

Jesus said in **Mark 11:23**, (it matters who says) *"For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith."*

Jesus is saying that you can have what you say. **You** are going to have what **you** say, good or bad, right or wrong, you are going to have. Notice He did not just say you are going to have the good things that you say, He said, you are going to have whatsoever you say. If you talk doubt, unbelief, lack, and sickness, busyness, I'm tired, and I don't know, that is what you are going to have, because that is the whatsoever you are saying. If you say that I don't have enough money or we can't afford this, that is the whatsoever you are going to have. You are going to have whatsoever you say. It is important to say **II Corinthians 9:8**. The more you say it, the more you will have it. The choice is yours, you can have what you say, so say what you want! Call things that be not as though they were (**Romans 4:17**).

Faith Confession: *I believe with my heart that **God is able to make all** grace (every favor and earthly blessing) come to me in abundance, so that I may always and under all circumstances and whatever the need be self-sufficient [possessing enough to require no aid or support and furnished in abundance for every good work and charitable donation]. God is blessing me and making me a blessing to others. It is truly more blessed to give than to receive!*

THE LIFE OF THE RIGHTEOUS

July 19

Kept from The Paths of The Destroyer

Psalm 17:4-5

"Concerning the works of men, by the word of thy lips I have kept me from the paths of the destroyer. Hold up my goings in thy paths, that my footsteps slip not."

It is written in **John 10:10** *"The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I (Jesus, the Word) am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly."*

By the Word of the Lord we are enabled to keep ourselves from the paths of the destroyer. This is good news!!!! If things in your life are being stolen from you and destroyed, check and see what you have been saying. Many times, we open the door to the destroyer by our own words. It is written in **I Corinthians 10:9-10** *"Neither let us tempt Christ, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed of serpents. Neither murmur ye, as some of them also murmured, and were destroyed of the destroyer."* (See **Exodus 16:2; Exodus 17:1-7; Numbers 14:36-37; Numbers 21:4-9.**)

The children of Israel opened the door to the destroyer by their own words. **I Corinthians 10:11** says, *"Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come."* These are written so we can avoid experiencing the same things in our lives.

When we say what He says, we keep that door shut and experience the abundant life. **II Corinthians 10:5** tells us, *"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 (The anointed Word and Spirit);"* The only way Satan can get us to sin is by giving us a thought and if we do not take that thought captive and line it up with the Word of God then we will begin to speak it and finally we will act upon it. So stop the wrong thoughts and replace them with an "It is written" and speak God's Word.

We have the Holy Spirit living inside of us and He is our Helper. Ask the Holy Spirit to help you each day by bringing scriptures to your remembrance (**John 14:26**). When we take each thought captive and ask, "What does the scriptures say?", the Holy Spirit will bring scripture to your remembrance for each thought the enemy brings to you. This will enable you to have an "It is written" to speak and defeat the enemy.

Faith Confession: *By the Word of His lips I keep myself from the paths of the destroyer. He upholds my goings in His paths that my footsteps slip not. With the help of the Holy Spirit I take every thought captive and bring it into obedience to His Word. The Holy Spirit is helping me by bringing scriptures to my remembrance so that I always have an "It is written" to answer the wrong thoughts. Now thanks be unto God, which always causes us to triumph in Christ!*

THE LIFE OF THE RIGHTEOUS

July 20

Out of The Abundance of The Heart

Matthew 12:34

"O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things? for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh."

Let's read **verses 33-37** *"Either make the tree good, and his fruit good; or else make the tree corrupt, and his fruit corrupt: for the tree is known by his fruit. 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, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned."*

According to this scripture our words will reveal our heart. What do we have stored up in the treasure of our heart? It is written in **Proverbs 18:20-21** *"A man's belly (inward man. heart, spirit) 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."* Whatever you have in your life today is the result of what you have been saying over and over in days gone by. It's the things in your heart that motivates your actions. Everything you are saying and doing is the result of what you believe in your heart. It is not what enters into a man that defiles him (speaking of foods and eating with unwashed hands), it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles (makes unclean, unhallowed, profanes) a man (**Mark 7:15-23**).

You can see an example of having what you say in **Numbers 14**. Moses at the Word of the Lord (**Numbers 13:1-2**) sent twelve spies into the land of Canaan to spy out the land that God had given them. God said it was a good land flowing with milk and honey (**Exodus 3:8**). These leaders went and spied out the land and ten came back with an evil report while two agreed with God and called it a good land flowing with milk and honey and believed they could go up and possess this land that God had given them.

In **Numbers 14:1-4** because of the ten leaders evil report the whole congregation was infected by their words and began to murmur against Moses and Aaron. Notice the words that they spoke in **Numbers 14:2-4** *"And all the children of Israel murmured against Moses and against Aaron: and the whole congregation said unto them, Would God that we had died in the land of Egypt! or would God we had died in this wilderness! And wherefore hath the Lord brought us unto this land, to fall by the sword, that our wives and our children should be a prey? were it not better for us to return into Egypt? And they said one to another, Let us make a captain, and let us return into Egypt."*

They had spoken words of death before, read **Exodus 16:2-3**. They were building this into their lives. Did their words come to pass? Read **Numbers 14:26-31. Verses 28-29** says, *"Say unto them, As truly as I live, saith the Lord, "as ye have spoken in mine ears, so will I do to you: Your carcasses shall fall in this wilderness; and all that were numbered of you, according to your whole number from twenty years old and upward, which have murmured against me."* They thought they were murmuring against Moses and Aaron when in reality they were murmuring against God. They thought they were only speaking in Moses and Aaron's ears, but the truth is they were speaking in God's ears.

God hears our words. These people were condemned by their own words. What if the congregation had not heard the words of the ten spies? If they had only heard the words of Joshua and Caleb which God spoke to them, they could have gone in and possessed the good land flowing with milk and honey instead of dying in the wilderness. Our words affect us the most, but we can also see that an evil report can infect others. It is important that we say only what we hear the Father say. In doing this we will experience life, and those around us have the ability to experience life too! It is also important to have faith friends.

Faith Confession: *I am a doer of the Word of God. I choose as an act of my will to fill my mouth and heart with God's words enabling me to speak words of life from my heart and mouth. I am a good man and out of the good treasure of my heart I bring forth good things, therefore I will be justified and not condemned!*

THE LIFE OF THE RIGHTEOUS

July 21

Your Words Will Come to Pass

Mark 11:23

"For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith."

We saw yesterday that life and death are in the power of the tongue. Today let's look at an example of good happening because of right words. **Mark 5:25-34** is the story of the woman which had an issue of blood for twelve years. She had gone to many physicians, and had spent all that she had and the result of that, she was broke financially and still was not better. But then she heard of Jesus. She had probably heard that people were being healed so she went to Him.

There was a crowd of people around Him and she could have thought, "Oh what's the use, I can't even get close to Him and according to the law I'm not even supposed to be out among other people, so I'd better just go home." Oh, but praise God, she had been saying something and because of her words it caused her to press into Him and receive her healing.

What had she been saying? It is written in **Mark 5:28** *"For she said, If I may touch but his clothes, I shall be whole."* The Greek word "said" in this verse is the word "lego". If you remember from a previous devotion, I had shared about the Lego building toys. When you first dump the pieces out of the box it looks like nothing, but as you build piece upon piece you eventually build the picture of what is on the box. This woman kept saying *"If I may touch but his clothes, I shall be whole."* She did not say it once, but she kept saying it until she built or painted a picture of herself touching His clothes and being made whole. The result of her words caused her to press through this crowd of people, even though she was probably weak from the loss of blood, and touch Jesus' clothes. When she touched Jesus' clothes the power of God went out of Him. **Mark 5:29** says, *"And straightway the fountain of her blood was*

dried up; and she felt in her body that she was healed of that plague."

Jesus asked who touched Him and this woman fearing and trembling came and fell down before Him and told Him the truth. She shared her testimony (**Revelation 12:11**)! And Jesus said to her in **Mark 5:34** "...Daughter, thy faith hath made thee whole; go in peace, and be whole of thy plague."

This is what faith filled words will do. You paint a picture of you doing something and then you act upon it and the result, you can have what you have been saying. Your words will come to pass whether good or bad.

Faith Confession: *I am a doer of the Word of God. I fill my mouth with His Word, because I want His Word to come to pass in my life. I can have what I say, therefore I say what I want! It is written in **Jeremiah 1:12** "Then said the Lord unto me, Thou hast well seen: for I will hasten my word to perform it."*

THE LIFE OF THE RIGHTEOUS

July 22

Come Out from Among Them

II Corinthians 6:17-18

"Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty."

These are the words of the Lord Almighty, our Master. What are we to come out from among? Let's read **II Corinthians 6:14-7:1** from the **New Living Translation**. *"Don't team up with those who are unbelievers. How can righteousness be a partner with wickedness? How can light live with darkness? What harmony can there be between Christ and the devil? How can a believer be a partner with an unbeliever? And what union can there be between God's temple and idols? For we are the temple of the living God. As God said: 'I will live in them and walk among them. I will be their God, and they will be my people. Therefore, come out from among unbelievers, and separate yourselves from them, (wickedness, darkness, the devil, unbelievers and idols) says the LORD. Don't touch their filthy things, and I will welcome you. And I will be your Father, and you will be my sons and daughters, says the LORD Almighty. Because we have these promises, dear friends, let us cleanse ourselves from everything that can defile our body or spirit. And let us work toward complete holiness because we fear God."*

Holiness simply means being like Christ. It is written in **Hebrews 7:26** *"For such an high priest became us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens;"*

Fellowship is based on what you share in common. As a child of God, you cannot truly fellowship with those who want to leave God out. We are not of this world but we are in this world and there is a lot of contaminating things out there. These are things that will contaminate you on the outside and the inside. God is telling us to separate from the devil and all his contamination's. In **II Chronicles 20:35-37** you can read about King Jehoshaphat joining himself with someone who did not have God in his life. He

did business with this person and the end result was that his business did not succeed. He lost his ships. The ungodly do not care about doing things honestly and upright. When you join yourself with this kind of person you can be drawn away from God and do things the way the world does them. Read **James 1:27**. We are to separate from sin. What is sin? Read **Romans 14:23; James 4:17; I John 3:4; I John 5:17; Proverbs 21:4; Proverbs 24:9**. Sin is violation of light (**I John 1:5-7**).

Even though we've been washed by the blood of the Lamb and made righteous, we have a responsibility. There are things we should not watch. God has pure eyes and He will not behold certain things. If Jesus were to come into your home today what would you invite Him to watch with you? What would you invite Him to do with you?

You are the temple of the Holy Spirit and He sees through your eyes. He is on the inside of you and there is nothing you can hide from Him. David said in **Psalms 101:3** *"I will set no wicked thing before mine eyes; I hate the work of them that turn aside; it shall not cleave to me."* Separate from that which He would not look upon.

Many believers do work around people of the world, but you cannot truly fellowship with them. We are not to participate with ungodliness, things that are not like God. We are not to go to the same places because we will end up yielding to the same spirits they yield to. Those spirits are not of God. Praise God, we are the light and we are salt. Be a light unto the world! Do not be ashamed of the Gospel of Christ: *"...for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth..."* **Romans 1:16**.

Faith Confession: *Having therefore these promises, that God will dwell in me and walk in me and be my God and I will be His. God will receive me and be a Father to me and I shall be His son/daughter, I cleanse myself from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness (Christ-likeness) in the fear of God. I separate from things that are ungodly, things that are not like God. I keep myself unspotted from the world. I walk in the light as He is in the light and I have fellowship with God and fellow believers.*

THE LIFE OF THE RIGHTEOUS

July 23

Severed

Leviticus 20:26

"And ye shall be holy unto me: for I the Lord am holy, and have severed you from other people, that ye should be mine."

The word "sever" in this verse means to divide, to separate, to sever utterly. In **Leviticus 20:24** it says, *"But I have said unto you, Ye shall inherit their land, and I will give it unto you to possess it, a land that floweth with milk and honey: I am the Lord your God, which have separated you from other people."*

Being holy does not mean that we are superior to others (**Isaiah 65:1-2,5**). Being holy means, we are like Christ. We are not to despise sinners; we are to hate sin and love the sinner. We are not called to hide from the world (**Matthew 5:13-16**). We have been called and given the ministry of reconciliation. It is written in **II Corinthians 5:20** *"Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christs stead, be ye reconciled to God."* Loving the sinner does not mean that we go to the same places they go to and fellowship with them in what they fellowship with. We are not to marry a sinner. That is being unequally yoked together (**II Corinthians 6:14-7:1**).

Ephesians 5:1 says, *"Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children."* Does God have fellowship with sinners? Can He have fellowship with sinners? No, it was sin that separated man from fellowship with God to begin with. God has made the way for sinners to come to Him and fellowship with Him through believing on the Lord Jesus Christ. We are called to be witnesses of what we have seen, heard, and learned concerning our Lord Jesus Christ (**I John 1:3**). We are to witness of the goodness of God. How He saved us, healed us, delivered us, provided for us, and gave us the victory. You were there when He saved you, healed you, delivered you, provided for you, and gave you the victory. That is what we are to be witnesses concerning.

We are called unto fellowship with His Son Jesus Christ our Lord (**I Corinthians 1:9**). We are to continue steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread and in prayers

(**Acts 2:42**). **I John 1:7** says, "But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another..." When we obey His Word, we keep ourselves in a safe place and we have fellowship with God and with the brethren.

Other scriptures: **I Corinthians 10:20-21** says, "But I say, that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to devils, and not to God: and I would not that ye should have fellowship with devils. Ye cannot drink the cup of the Lord, and the cup of devils: ye cannot be partakers of the Lord's table, and of the table of devils." **Ephesians 5:11** "And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them." **Proverbs 12:26 (NKJV)** "The righteous should choose his friends carefully, For the way of the wicked leads them astray." **Amos 3:3** "Can two walk together, except they be agreed?" It is important to God whom and what we fellowship with. We are called unto fellowship with His Son Jesus Christ our Lord (**I Corinthians 1:9**), and with fellow believers!!!!

Faith Confession: *I walk in the light as He is in the light and we (God and I) have fellowship one with another. The Holy Spirit is leading me and guiding me into the truth each day. He is leading me to fellowship with the right people and He is leading me to people whose hearts are prepared to receive the good news of the Gospel. I receive the love of the truth and I am saved and made free. I say as David said, "They that fear thee will be glad when they see me; because I have hoped in thy word. Let those that fear thee turn unto me, and those that have known thy testimonies"* **Psalms 119:74,79.**

THE LIFE OF THE RIGHTEOUS

July 24

Be Ye Followers of Me

I Corinthians 11:1

"Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ."

Paul said in his letter to the church of God at Corinth to be followers of him as he was of Christ (Christ is the anointed Word and His anointing, the Holy Spirit). It is possible to follow a man. However, it is important that we follow them AS they follow Christ. In Paul's letter to the saints at Philippi in **Philippians 3:17** he said, *"Brethren, be followers together of me, and mark them which walk so as ye have us for an ensample."* Again, in **Philippians 4:9** he said, *"Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you."* In **I Thessalonians 1:6** Paul wrote to the church of the Thessalonians, *"And ye became followers of us (Paul, Silvanus, and Timotheus), and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Ghost:"*

We are to follow others as they follow Christ. This means that we must come to know the Word and the Holy Spirit in order to follow properly. It is written in **Acts 17:11** *"These (of the synagogue of the Jews in Berea) were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so."* We must search the scriptures for ourselves so that we know whether we are being taught and believing the truth. Are they being an example of Christ? Are they doers of the Word of God? If not then we do not follow them in that way, but follow them in the ways they are following Christ.

Spend time reading in the Gospels to learn of Christs' ways. God's Word is truth and you can follow the Word of God! In the book of Acts you will notice that the disciples did exactly what they had seen Jesus doing in His earthly ministry during the time they served with Him. This is what we are to follow and as we do, our lives will be blessed and those around us will be blessed.

It is important that leaders today follow Christ so that others can follow and be as Christ. It is written in **Luke 6:40** *"The disciple is*

not above his master (teacher): but every one that is perfect (fully developed, that has completed the development and training) shall be as his master (teacher)." **Proverbs 22:6** says, "Train up a child (both natural and spiritual) in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it." Often times parents say, "Do what I say and not what I do." This will not work, because people will do what you do, therefore we should be doers of the Word and those under us will be doers of the Word. Making disciples of Christ!

Faith Confession: *I am a doer of the Word of God. I search the scriptures daily, so that I know whether the things being taught are so. The Holy Spirit is leading and guiding me into the truth that makes me free. I follow others as they follow Christ and as I follow Christ then others that follow me will be following Christ. The Holy Spirit is leading me, therefore I shall know how to follow. He will not lead me to do something contrary to the Word of God. I know the voice of the Good Shepherd and the voice of a stranger I will not follow.*

THE LIFE OF THE RIGHTEOUS

July 25

The Mouth of The Upright Shall Deliver Them

Proverbs 12:6

"The words of the wicked are to lie in wait for blood: but the mouth of the upright shall deliver them."

According to this scripture as the upright, your mouth can deliver you. You can be delivered out of bondage, out of bad habits, addictions, bad circumstances and out of everything you do not want. **Proverbs 6:2** says, *"Thou art snared with the words of thy mouth, thou art taken with the words of thy mouth."*

Your words can put you into bondage, to sickness, poverty, weakness, and to all kinds of bad things if you let wrong words come out of your mouth. **Joel 3:10** says, *"...let the weak say, I am weak?"* No, it says, *"...let the weak say, I am strong."* What should the sick say? I am healed. What should the poor say? I am rich. Some people say things like, my people just will not do anything I ask them, or I just can't find any good help. These are the words that hold you into the very thing you do not want.

What if you began saying, "I have the best help! People always do everything I ask them and they do it with excellence." "God is sending me the best help. I always have all the help I need." Because you are the righteous, you have right words, God's words. You have God's words to say for every situation, and you can be delivered out of what you do not desire.

I would like to share my own testimony of being delivered from bondage. There were some things that I had been in bondage to and I desired to be free from those bondage's. One day as I was working I began speaking to the Lord and telling Him I wanted to be free from everything that was binding me. After that a song rose up in my heart that I had heard. So, I began singing, "I'm free, I'm free, there's nothing binding me, by the blood of my Jesus I've been made free." I sang it over and over and then the Lord began giving me other words. Those words are, "I'm free, I'm free from sickness and disease, by the blood of my Jesus, I've been made free. I'm free, I'm free from lack and poverty, by the blood of my Jesus, I've been made free. I'm redeemed, I'm redeemed from the

hand of the enemy, by the blood of my Jesus, I've been redeemed." I give all the glory to our good, good God!

As I sang those words over, and over, and over again all day long, it got into my heart and I had such great joy. It is written in **Romans 10:17** "So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." According to **Romans 15:13**, when you are in faith you will know it because there will be joy. When I woke up the next morning things were different and I knew I was truly free. All the glory goes to our good, good God! I've been made free!!! According to **Revelation 12:11** we overcome Satan and all his junk by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of our testimony; and we love not our lives unto the death.

You too can be delivered by the words of your mouth. What do you want free from? What do you want changed? Begin saying or singing what you want instead of what you have, then give God all the glory.

Faith Confession: *I am a doer of the Word of God. I am the upright and my mouth shall deliver me. I say what I want. My mouth can deliver me from any bondage. Thanks be to God! Write your own faith confession for what you want changed in your life and begin saying it until it comes to pass.*

THE LIFE OF THE RIGHTEOUS

July 26

Faith

Luke 17:6

"And the Lord said, If ye had faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye might say unto this sycamine tree, Be thou plucked up by the root, and be thou planted in the sea; and it should obey you."

Faith has a voice. Jesus said, "...**if** you had faith you would say." **II Corinthians 4:13** says, "We having the same spirit of faith, according as it is written, I believed, and therefore have I spoken; we also believe, and therefore speak;" What we believe is what we speak, what we speak is what we will do, and what we do, is what we will have.

In **Matthew 17:14-21** a man came to Jesus asking the Lord to have mercy on his son. His son had a demon and the disciples could not cure the boy. Jesus rebuked the devil, and he departed out of him, and the child was cured from that very hour. The disciples came to Jesus later and asked Him why they could not cast the demon out. (The disciples never asked the Lord questions at the place of service or around the people the Lord was ministering to. They showed respect unto the Lord.) We can see Jesus' reply to them in **verse 20** "And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, **if** ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you."

The disciple's faith was not the size of a mustard seed, because He said "...if ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say, and it would remove." Many times, we are waiting to see something before we will believe it. Notice when Jesus cast the devil out it says that the boy was cured from that very hour. It does not say the boy was cured immediately.

In **Mark 11:12-14,20-21** Jesus spoke to a fig tree and said, "...No man eat fruit of thee hereafter for ever. And His disciples heard it." Jesus did not stand there and wait to see if the tree died. He did it by faith, simply by believing that what He said would come to pass. In **Mark 11:20-21** As Jesus and the disciples came back by the

tree, Peter remembered that Jesus had cursed the fig tree and he saw that it was withered away. Jesus uses this incident of the fig tree to teach the disciples about faith. It is written in **Mark 11:22-23** *"And Jesus answering saith unto them, Have faith in God (Have the God-kind of faith). For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith."*

It is what you believe in your heart and say with your mouth that will come to pass. If it is not in your heart and you say it, it will not come to pass. The way it gets in your heart is by saying it over and over and meditating upon it day and night (**Joshua 1:8**). It is written in **Romans 10:17** *"So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."* Everything Jesus did, He did it as a man anointed by the Holy Spirit, and you and I can do the same.

Faith Confession: *I am a doer of the Word of God. I can speak to demons, sickness and disease, to storms, and they have to obey me. I can speak to everything that Jesus spoke to and I believe that when I speak to them, they will obey me. I do it by faith and will not be moved by what I see or feel.*

THE LIFE OF THE RIGHTEOUS

July 27

Receive the Promise I

Hebrews 10:36

"For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise."

The will of God is revealed in the Word of God. After we have done the will of God, or we could say, after we have done the Word of God, then we need patience. **Hebrews 6:12-15** says, *"That ye be not slothful, but followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises. For when God made promise to Abraham, because he could swear by no greater, he swore by himself, Saying, Surely blessing I will bless thee, and multiplying I will multiply thee. And so, after he (Abraham) had patiently endured, he obtained the promise."*

Let's look at some of God's promises He has given us and see what the will of God is that must be done in order to receive the promise.

Ephesians 6:1-3 *"Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise; That it may be well with thee, and that thou mayest live long on the earth."*

What is the will of God you must do in order to receive the promise of *"it being well with you and living long on the earth"*? The will of God is that children (both natural and spiritual children) obey their parents in the Lord and honour their father and mother. Can they receive the promise without doing the will of God? No. Note, if you are 30 years old, 40 years old, or older, you are still your parents' children, so honoring your parents in the Lord still applies in your later years. That does not mean that you as a 30 or 40-year-old are to do everything they tell you to do, but you can still honor them.

Ephesians 6:5-8 *"Servants, be obedient to them that are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in singleness of your heart, as unto Christ; Not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but as the servants of Christ, doing the will of God from your heart; With good will doing service, as to the Lord, and*

not to men: knowing that whatsoever good thing any man doeth, the same shall he receive of the Lord, whether he be bond or free." The promise, *"whatsoever good thing any man doeth, the same shall he receive of the Lord, whether he be bond or free."* What is the will of God you must do to receive this promise? (I will let you answer that one.)

In **I Peter 3:8-12** The promise found in **verse 9** *".... ye should inherit a blessing."* The will of God that must be done to receive the promise of inheriting a blessing is *"Finally, be ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous: Not rendering evil for evil, or railing for railing: but contrariwise blessing; knowing that ye are thereunto called; that ye should inherit the blessing."* Some might say, it is impossible for us all to be of one mind. If God said to do it, then it is possible to do it. The Greek says, *"...all being single-minded..."* Being single-minded means to agree, this means living in one accord ("having the same mind"). This Spirit-produced unity (agreement) results from receiving God's inworkings of faith that means ("His persuasions"). Ask the Holy Spirit to help you and He will.

The promise – **Verse 10** *"For he that will love life, and see good days..."* The will of God that must be done – **Verse 10-12** *"...let him refrain his tongue from evil (bad), and his lips that they speak no guile: Let him eschew evil, and do good; let him seek peace, and ensue it. For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayers: but the face of the Lord is against them that do evil."*

There are thousands of promises in the Bible and they are all for us, our part is simply to do the will, the Word of God, and through faith and patience we shall receive the promise.

Faith Confession: *I am a doer of the Word of God. After I have done the will of God, through faith and patience I will receive the promise. The will of God is that I walk in the spirit and the promise is I will not fulfill the lusts of the flesh. I delight to do Thy will, Oh my God.*

THE LIFE OF THE RIGHTEOUS

July 28

Receive the Promise II

Hebrews 10:36

"For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise."

I want to speak to you about some things that keep you from receiving the promises. We see in this scripture that we have need of patience, that, after we have done the will, Word of God, we might receive the promise.

The opposite of patience is impatience. Impatience is a quitter. Impatience does not have time to wait, so it quits. If you quit the first time, the second time it becomes easier to quit. If you don't like something, you quit. Don't be a quitter. Patience is in it for the long haul whether it be your marriage, job, relationships, or whatever it might be. Be patient! See a thing all the way through! Being patient will make you fruitful. Be long-spirited. Have some endurance and consistency. You'll be glad!

According to **Hebrews 12:1** we are running a faith race. This is not a sprint, but a marathon. If you try to run a marathon like you do a sprint, you are going to burn out. Some Christians try to do this. When they begin a new work, they go at it hard and fast and before nine months are over, they are burned out. This is not God's way of doing things. It is through faith and patience that you inherit the promises. To inherit the promises means you are going to bear fruit. Faith is not in a hurry, faith is patient! It is important to find a pace, not too slow and not too fast. It's the person that releases faith and gets excited about what God has given them to do and stays excited day after day, month after month, and year after year. This person will inherit the promises, and be fruitful!

When you get impatient you open the door to the enemy. You begin questioning. Well why isn't this, and why isn't that??? I just don't understand. Why? Why didn't this work? Beware! You do that and you have opened the door of your mind to the evil one. He is the one that feeds the "Why." The devil is king of why and how's come? Questioning is unbelief. Questioning leads to more questioning. It leads to giving up. Faith is not frustrated! **Hebrews 4:3** says, "For

we which have believed do enter into rest, as he said, As I have sworn in my wrath, if they shall enter into my rest: although the works were finished from the foundation of the world."

Entering into rest sounds like patience doesn't it?! When you are worried and frustrated, you are not in faith. You might be thinking; well it has been ten years now since I began believing. What is ten years? It is such a short time! What is going to make you fruitful? Patience! It is important to get rid of impatience. Impatience is your enemy. We are a people that sees things through. Jesus is the author and the finisher of our faith race! Keep your eyes upon Jesus, you'll be glad you did.

James 1:2-4 says, *"My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, WANTING NOTHING."*

Faith Confession: *I am a doer of the Word of God. I practice patience! I am not a quitter. I patiently endure! I am running my faith race with my eyes upon Jesus. I will stay excited day after day, month after month, and year after year until I have inherited the promises. I keep the door of my mind closed to the enemy as I refuse questioning and unbelief! I will be blessed and those around me will be blessed because I choose to be a doer of the Word of God!*

THE LIFE OF THE RIGHTEOUS

July 29

The Willing and Obedient

Isaiah 1:19

"If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land."

We see another promise in this verse, "...ye shall eat the good of the land." The **Living Bible** says, *"If you will only let me help you, if you will only obey, then I will make you rich!"* The word that you must do to enjoy this promise is *"be willing and obedient."* You cannot just be obedient and expect to receive the promise. Many times, parents tell their child to go and do something and the child does it, but not willingly. Should you reward your child with the good of the land to eat, to wear, and to have if they just obey without doing it willingly? If you are going to imitate God as dear children you should not reward them (**Ephesians 5:1**). When you reward someone for just obeying you are causing them to believe God is this way with them, when the truth is He does not reward obedience alone.

The willing is the person that does it with the right attitude in their obedience. You can get willing very quickly, because it is a choice and not a feeling. You can decide to do something from your heart with joy. When you do, you can expect to receive the promise of eating the good of the land. God not only wants you to eat the good of the land, He also wants you to wear the good of the land, drive the good of the land, live in the good of the land, and have the good of the land in every way.

In **Isaiah 1:20** we are told what the person will reap if they refuse and rebel. *"But if ye refuse and rebel, ye shall be devoured with the sword: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it."* In the Old Testament the punishment for rebellion was death (**Deuteronomy 21:18-21; Joshua 1:18**). Thanks be unto God, Jesus took our place, and we will not be stoned, but if you refuse and rebel, there are things that die in your life. Rebellion and stubbornness are evil in God's eyes. **Psalms 68:6** says, *"...the rebellious dwell in a dry land."* That does not sound like eating the good of the land. The hand of the Lord is against those who rebel (**I Samuel 12:14-15**). It is also written in **I Samuel 15:23**, *"For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because*

*thou hast rejected the word of the Lord..." **Proverbs 29:1** says, "He that being often reproved hardeneth his neck, shall suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy."*

Let's purpose to willingly obey the Word of God, His Spirit, and those God has placed over us. As we do, we are promised the blessing of eating the good of the land. **Philippians 2:13** is a word I confess over myself and others every day. *"For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure."* **Isaiah 50:4-5** is another scripture to confess. *"The Lord God hath given me the tongue of the learned, that I should know how to speak a word in season to him that is weary: he wakeneth morning by morning, he wakeneth mine ear to hear as the learned. The Lord God hath opened mine ear, and I was not rebellious, neither turned away back."*

Faith Confession: *I am a doer of the Word of God. I willingly obey His Word and I eat the good of the land. For it is God which works in me both to will and to do of His good pleasure. The Lord God has opened mine ear, and I was not rebellious, neither turned away back.*

THE LIFE OF THE RIGHTEOUS

July 30

Hold Fast to The Head

Colossians 2:19 (AMPC)

"And not holding fast to the Head, from Whom the entire body, supplied and knit together by means of its joints and ligaments, grows with a growth that is from God."

Let's read **Colossians 2:18 (AMPC)** so we know what Paul was talking about. *"Let no one defraud you by acting as an umpire and declaring you unworthy and disqualifying you for the prize, insisting on self-abasement and worship of angels, taking his stand on visions [he claims] he has seen, vainly puffed up by his sensuous notions and inflated by his unspiritual thoughts and fleshly conceit."*

It is important that we hold fast to the Head, Jesus Christ our Lord. How do we do that? We hold fast to the Head by holding fast to His Word, the Truth (**Proverbs 4:11**). **Ephesians 1:22-23** says, *"And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all."* It is written in **Ephesians 4:15** *"But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ."* **Ephesians 5:23** says, *"For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ (the anointed Word and His Anointing, the Holy Spirit) is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body."*

Where does your natural body get its signals from? The head. The same is true for the body of Christ. He is our Head and we get our signals, our direction from Him and His Spirit. The Word and the Spirit agree. The body cannot function apart from the Head. When we do not hold fast to the Head, we stand in danger of being led to believe a lie. **John 16:13** says, *"Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into ALL truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will show you things to come."* It is written in **Matthew 6:24** and **Luke 16:13** *"No man (servant) can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon."*

Some hold to the traditions of men and lay aside the commandments of God, making the Word of God of none effect, making it powerless in their lives (**Mark 7:8-13**). **Colossians 2:8** says, "*Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.*"

There are traditions we are to hold to. It is written in **II Thessalonians 2:15** "*Therefore, brethren, stand fast, and **hold** the traditions which ye have been taught, whether by word, or our epistle.*" When we hold to the traditions which we have been taught, whether by word or by epistle, we are holding fast to the Head. As we hold fast to the Head, we will grow up.

Faith Confession: *I am a doer of the Word of God. I hold fast to the Head, Jesus the Word and His Spirit. I hold to the traditions which I have been taught, whether by word, or by epistle, those that are from His Word. As I hold fast to the Head, I am holding to the truth and I will not be led by a lie. As I hold fast to the Head I will be blessed and protected. I reject the traditions of men, that I may keep the commandment of God.*

THE LIFE OF THE RIGHTEOUS

July 31

Tell the Truth

Ephesians 4:15

"But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:"

It is important to your faith that you tell the truth at all times. When you tell the truth, you keep yourself free. When you tell a lie, you hurt your faith, and bind yourself. When you tell the truth, you are putting your trust in God who can deliver you.

In **Mark 4:3-25; Matthew 13:3-9; Luke 8:5-18** is the parable of the sower. In Luke's account you can see that he gave more details because he was a doctor, and doctors give details. Jesus spoke of four types of ground in this parable and only one out of the four types of ground, which is representative of the heart, will produce fruit. **Luke 8:15** says, *"But that on the good ground are they, which in an honest and good heart, having heard the word, keep it, and bring forth fruit with patience."*

It is the honest and good heart that will keep the Word that was heard, and bring forth fruit with patience. None of the other types of ground produces fruit. Many Christians do not grow because their heart is not good ground, but the good news is you can have an honest and good heart today and begin to produce fruit.

In **John 8:31-32** Jesus told the Jews that believed on Him, if they would continue in His Word, they would be His disciples and that they shall know the truth and the truth shall make them free. Reading on in this same chapter there were other Jews who did not believe on Jesus and they said they were not in bondage to any man (**Vs 33**). In **verses 34-35** Jesus said, *"...Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever commiteth sin is the servant of sin. And the servant (of sin) abideth not in the house for ever: but the Son abideth ever."* In **Verse 44** Jesus said, *"Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it."*

When you speak the truth, you are yielding to your Father God, and not to Satan, the father of lies. Telling the truth will keep you free from bondage and will keep you in the place to receive more truth. It is written in **Galatians 6:7** "*Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.*" When you speak the truth in love you will reap truth. When you tell a lie, you will reap people telling you lies and you won't even know it. When you speak the truth in love, the Holy Spirit, who is the Spirit of truth, will reveal more truth to you. He can also reveal to you when people are lying to you.

Keep an honest and good heart, which is a tender heart. God can help you when you tell the truth, even if it seems like you might get in trouble, He is able to deliver you. When you lie, God is no longer able to deliver you.

Prayer: *Father, I come to You in Jesus name, and I ask You to forgive me for not trusting in You and yielding to Satan the father of lies, by telling lies. You said in Your Word in **I John 1:9**, If I confess my sins, You are faithful and just to forgive me my sins, and to cleanse me from all unrighteousness. I confess lying is sin and according to Your Word, You hate lying. I repent, I turn from it and choose as an act of my will to always speak the truth in love. I receive Your grace and the help of the Holy Spirit to always speak the truth and I believe that no matter what, You are able to deliver me. Thank You for forgiving me and giving me mercy. I thank You that I am now cleansed and am in right standing with You. Amen!*