

*Raising Children of God*



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## Foreword

... Overview from a mother's perspective

As I was reading through my husband's meticulous content for this E-book, I sensed a prompting from possibly overwhelmed, heartfelt parents, (or the Holy Spirit lol ...), to put my wifely introduction here and validate our experience on this very important topic. We have had the privilege of raising 4 wonderful children and lived through the tragedy of losing one of them to the pressures of a world system that does not line up with the guidelines recommended in this teaching. We are all on a journey, and losing a child baptizes you into a club that no one ever wants to be a part of. Bill and I have different writing styles to be sure. Some of the statistics, scientific talk, and detailed lists presented here may possibly deter a few folks from continuing to the 'meat' of this writing. Please give yourself grace and permission to read through to the end. (And yes, he really does talk this way!) He is always asking questions that help us find ANSWERS. The summary itself at the end is worth hours of great God conversation. But my point is this ... we have invaluable experience on both sides of this vital issue. We know the absolute JOY of Godly family values, hysterical and 'laugh until you cry' games and prayers around our kitchen table, and we also have lived the tears and adversity of despair, and complete reliance and trust in God when everything seems to be going the wrong way. The keys we have found are contained in this E-book. Our prayer and calling is to help parents AND children see the truth of their beautiful identity in Jesus and to help anyone who is willing, to partner with everything He has already accomplished for each one of us on the cross.

The following pages are not meant to be read through and quickly absorbed. We have hours of teaching on each topic, verse, and subtopic. We have spent the last 20 years researching this information and seeing (and living!) what works and what does not work when it comes to parenting, healing, self-esteem, and finding a happy fulfilled life despite very difficult circumstances. The Word of God is meant to be fully experienced by each one of us. God's intentions are that we would KNOW HIM. As you read through these pages, remember how much He loves YOU, AND He loves your children. As HIS OWN. God has no grandkids, only sons and daughters. And YOU are HIS.

Thanks for taking the time ...

Be Blessed,

Daylyn

[www.RedeemingDay.com](http://www.RedeemingDay.com)

# Raising Children of God



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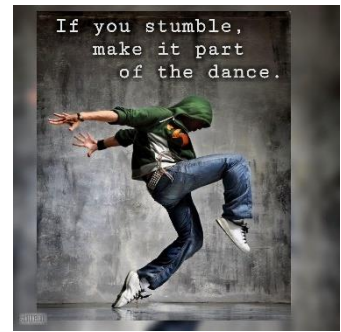
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## Preface

When someone asks me what we can do to help our kids, I must hold back excitement and solutions. First to know they really care enough to ask and second because there is so much we can do. While we do not want to “data dump” we do hope that through this information you can find solutions that will resonate with you and your family. Without writing a novel, some sections are very short and just reference the Bible verses to point readers in direction for further Bible study. Everything stated should be checked to scripture as final authority.

Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you will abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. Romans 15:13.

We are all a work in progress, and no one has it perfect. Sometimes we must draw a line in the sand to move forward. That is just what King Josiah did when they found the book of the law in 2 Kings 22. They all had lost their way because of the issues of life. When they found the gift of life they repented, changed direction, and pressed forward. That is exactly what we need to do as a society to move forward. Malachi 4:2 states, "But for you who fear (revere) My name, the sun of righteousness will rise with healing (health and restoration) in its wings; and you will go forth and skip about like calves from the stall." Hebrews 12:1 states, "...let us throw off everything that hinders us and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us".



As we read of solutions below we will have to choose how we will respond. Will we be angry and defensive or filled with joy and thanksgiving like the calves set free from the stall? We will have to choose if we are willing to give up the things of the past back to Christ where He already buried them for us and forgave us once and for all. It will be up to us if we choose to leave the old man Christ crucified behind in the grave or try to dig him up. For the sake of generations to come, I pray we move forward in our new creation with the understanding and wisdom of why it is so imperative we move forward in our new identity. We are set free from the bondage of sin and death in the law by the blood of Jesus, co-heirs with Christ Jesus, loved beyond our imagination. If you are willing, let us press forward in our new identity.

Please NOTE:

There is no condemnation toward anyone in this document. The goal is for healing, encouraging, and building up the body of Christ. I would rather we get excited about the hope and power we have through Jesus. However, some may get defensive, and pride has gotten in my way a few times too, but I ask you to consider if this feeling is a Holy Spirit led conviction of the truth, or from the one who comes to steal, kill, and destroy trying to take away your healing, our families, our lives? John 10:10



Often people ask, are you saying I do not have enough faith, or you are better than me? If we know scripture then we know God is no respecter of persons so no one can say they are better than others, all have fallen short so making comparisons has no value. The "faith" answer depends on if the person is a Christian or not. For the Christian the answer to that question is no. If you have any faith you have enough faith, but rather, the question is do you believe? The verse says, have faith and believe. What are the signs of the believers according to scripture? If you believe God made you worthy and believe in your new creation, then there is no defensiveness, rather love and compassion because peace and joy come in believing. God's Word also says His people perish for lack of knowledge, and there is a way that seems right to a man whose ways end in death. Even traditions of man make null and void the word of God. What we believe is core to how we live, and faith is just the first step. For the non-Christian the answer to the question above is yes, you need faith that Jesus is your Lord and Savior and the only one who can free you from condemnation.

## Why does the body of Christ struggle?

Simply put, we look to the world before turning to God.

How many of us turn to food, movies, or other escapes to relax? These are not necessarily bad but can be used incorrectly. It does not take a rocket scientist to know the volumes of information about the



importance of what we put into our bodies. If we do not put good food into our bodies our minds suffer. If we do not exercise regularly, our mind and body suffer. If we do not sleep well then again, our minds and body suffer. If we do not take time to laugh and give thanks then our mind and body suffers. If we do not meditate on what is good and praiseworthy our mind and body suffer. If the eye is the light of the body and faith comes by hearing, what do we see and hear more of than God’s word and plan? If “as

a man thinks so is he” is true, what are we programming ourselves to believe? How can we teach our kids to love themselves and to love others as themselves if they have no positive image of themselves? How can we positively lead by example if we do know what our new creation in Christ Jesus looks like?

If we look at most News and social media influencers, then consider “AI-Super Powers” of China and the USA plus “Surveillance Capitalism” we can see that the world is being manipulated by our own permission. Siri and Alexa are not just servants to us, they are servants to the world of data analysis and marketing. No, this is not a conspiracy theory, it is a fact. Nor did it start with Artificial Intelligence (AI) technology any more than words, body language, smells, or marketing with colors and images are used to influence our thinking. “AI” just added another layer that allows the wrong people to specifically target each person and leave the “victim” happy about the encounter. Even election votes have been proven influenced by targeted marketing research and basic psychology. I am all for technology and have designed collaborative robotics applications myself considering the positive advantages of AI. However, the fact is, a tool that could be used for just good is also being used to impact our mental health. Our kids are the most susceptible to these strategies and we are often too busy to consider who is influencing their minds.

Face it, our kids change every year. They battle hormone and chemical changes, and so do we as we age. This makes for a moving target for solutions. Boys think differently than girls and the majority of people are illogical by DISC<sup>1</sup> personality testing standards. Realizing our kids are working through their changes and acceptance while they are changing helps remove the “why would they do that” in some cases. It is not that they are bad, they are just trying to figure things out. Imagine how we feel every time we have a computer update that changes the user interface. Sometimes new hardware is installed that we have to get used to that changes the outward configuration – so to speak. This is similar to how kids experience all the changes in themselves, schools, and their friends. Some like the updates and some do not like change at all, but all have to deal with



<sup>1</sup> [www.discpersonalitytesting.com](http://www.discpersonalitytesting.com)

it regardless. Just like some appreciate knowing ahead of time what the changes will be, letting our kids know these changes are normal but will have to be handled appropriately can be helpful.

Decades ago in the USA, “First Aid” was not only the first responder, but being taught how to fix the problem as best we could, given our current circumstances and location. We were taught how to set a broken leg or treat life threatening issues because there were no other options. Because of our blessings, Americans have become ignorant and dependent on “professional” help as our first thought for help instead of the Holy Spirit, our God given helper and counselor to guide us in ALL things.

The same applies for Mental Health First Aid. Youth Mental Health First Aid (YMHFA) teaches the acronym ALGEE:

- Assess for risk of suicide or harm
- Listen non-judgmentally
- Give reassurance and information
- Encourage appropriate professional help
- Encourage self-help and other support strategies



YMHFA also teaches us, generally speaking for the USA, approximately 26 % of people have mental health challenges, and 6 % are critical. Frontiers in Psychology noted near 60 % of a thousand people interviewed viewed pornography, which led to a 17 % increase in severe depression, anxiety, and stress. The World Health Organization noted a 25 % increase in anxiety and depression in March of 2022. The Anxiety & Depression Association of America noted about 20 % of Americans with anxiety or mood disorders have and alcohol or substance abuse disorder. The Sidran Institute noted about 40 % develop PTSD if assaulted and 14.3 % with the loss of a loved one. Depending on the particular war, about 18 % of Veterans experience PTSD. “Verywell Family” notes about 16 % of kids have behavioral problems if their parents’ divorce.

Is it fair to say our actions speak louder than our words to our youth? And much of our life issues are self-inflicted?



According to Barna, 33 % of Christians strongly believe God can heal them and another 33 % believed God could heal them “if He wanted to”. 18 % of Christians identify with having had a miraculous healing at some point. Strangely, it was difficult finding statistics on those who believe God can heal them vs those who know God will heal them. In other words, people are double minded about God’s healing plan for them which brings uncertainty. ALL who came to Jesus were healed, but His own hometown could hardly receive anything because of their lack of belief – can our healing be hindered because we do not know if God wants to heal us? Yes! Scripture says those who are uncertain should not expect to receive anything. People know more about the world’s problems and the statistics than they know about God and having a relationship with Him. It even goes on to say in Revelation that though people were healing others in Jesus’ name they still did not enter the kingdom of heaven because God did not know them. How well do you know God as Abba, Father? How well do we teach this relationship with our kids?

Who would dare teach us to do like Paul in Acts 20:9 when Eutychus, a young boy who fell from the third story window and died but immediately raised from the dead by Paul. Who would dare walk up to a possessed man who cries out, breaks chains, cuts himself, and is filled with over a thousand demons, but simply speak to them and cast them out so the man is perfectly peaceful in seconds, then tell us we will do what He did and even greater things? What kind of man would say He came into this world to die for us to take away all our sickness and infirmities, all our sins, and then predict when He would rise from the grave, then do exactly as He said? He would even say for us to cast ALL our cares on Him. Much of the USA would say that is insane or those stories are not true, and then go talk to their counselor about their anxiety from being stressed from work or relationship issues. What if we looked to God as our “first aid”? Not just as our healer but as our first thoughts for everything. He has given us a counselor and helper in the Holy Spirit to guide us in ALL things. We have been given the same Spirit that raised Christ from the dead – for what purpose if not to do what Jesus did and even greater things as Paul performed?



Mental health statistics show the two best solutions for recovery are “Professional Counselors” and “Clergy”. Though I would beg to differ, as my parents and grandparents were my most important counselors. They gave me great advice and set me on the path to follow Jesus. My family did not have all the answers, but



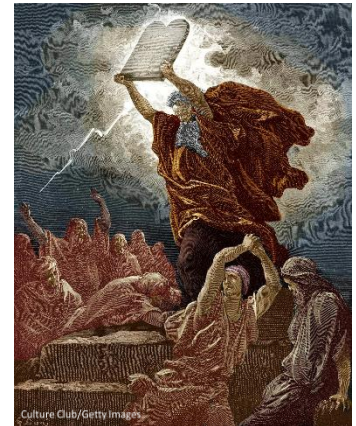
they did have something special about them, they loved me enough to guide me and spend time with me, just like Jesus. I did not have to wait three months for an appointment and pay them to talk with me. Do not misunderstand, professional counselors have great insight and can be very helpful. Psychology was one of my favorite courses. However, maybe what is missing in the first aid for mental health is the family bond, rooted and grounded in the knowledge and love in Jesus. Our first step may simply start by praying with our kids and spouses.

## Ephesians 4:10-16,

*“He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that He might fill all things. And He gave some apostles, and some prophets, and some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: till we all come to the unity of the faith, and the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: They we will no longer be immature children. We won’t be tossed and blown about by every wind of teaching. We will not be influenced when people try to trick us with lies so clever they sound like the truth. Instead, we will speak the truth in love, growing in every way more like Christ, who is the head of His body, the church. He makes the whole body fit together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing (to maturity) and full of love.”*

## Biblical suggestions for why people struggle:

- 1) God’s people perish or are kept in bondage for lack of knowledge. What knowledge?
  - a. What did Christ finish once and for all for us?
  - b. What is our new identity in Christ?
  - c. How does the perfect law of liberty (freedom) look to us, if we even know what it is?
  - d. What is every good thing already in us in Christ Jesus?
  - e. What vision do we have for our future, just like Abraham received about his descendants?
- 2) Traditions of men make null and void the Word of God. What traditions?
- 3) The Word was of no effect to them because they did not mix it with faith. What word and what faith was this verse talking about? Jesus was not physically around yet.
- 4) The Hebrews could not enter into the promised land because of the brutality of their slavery. Is it possible we don’t move forward as mature Christians because we are too focused on being broken or on our past abuse even though we have received the gift of salvation and redemption? This is hard in many cases, but it is a victim mentality and leaves us in bondage. Jesus was wronged more than any of us, but He still went to the cross for the joy set before Him. Do we think of the joy set before us or would we rather stay a victim like the Hebrews? Do we hold God in contempt for His goodness or judge Him unfaithful at His word (not meant in condemnation but for conviction)?
- 5) Jesus could not heal many in His own hometown because of their lack of belief. What beliefs do we have that hinder God from operating in our lives?
- 6) Life and death are in the power of the tongue. Can what we speak be hindering our success? What are we saying about our kids, or do we use the Lord’s name in cursing, and then want Him to help us the next second? Do we blame God for everything like insurance companies ignorantly calling storms “acts of God”?
- 7) Is it possible we misunderstand “God is in control” as:
  - a. We have no part in how things go around us.
  - b. We are not partakers of His divine nature or can speak with His authority?





- c. We may often wait too much on Him instead of putting His word into action as His ambassador's, taking authority over principalities with Holy Spirit guidance.
  - d. When we pray we say "if it be your will?" not knowing what His will is, therefore having uncertainty in our prayers becoming double minded and unstable?
- 8) God's children hear His voice, but we are not sure how and when we hear Him. We are surprised when "God shows up" instead of surprised when the miraculous does not happen. Is it possible we have it backwards? God's children hear His voice and we need His direction to guide our own kids.
- 9) We spend more time on things that do not inherit the kingdom of heaven. We ask God to fix things He already did, or we research sickness rather than researching the solution, our healer, seeking Him first. Most of the "Obstacles" fall into two categories:
- a. The love of God.
  - b. Our identity in Christ.

Both are about relationship. This includes relationship with the Bible that tells us what items interfere with that relationship such as:

- a. Strongholds that don't inherit the kingdom of heaven.
  - b. Things already addressed by Jesus on the cross.
  - c. Traditions of men such as poor doctrine or mixing law and grace.
  - d. Unbelief and lack of trust in God.
  - e. The body of Christ not working in unity and love.
  - f. Not battling in the Spirit or not even knowing about how to use prophecy, healing, tongues, interpretations, dreams, visions, etc..
  - g. We have a lack of knowledge in the Word (including our identity in Christ).
  - h. We have a lack of relationship with God and understanding of His love for us.
- 10) We need men and women who fill the following positions (1 Kings 18:44 and Ephesians 4:11-13) Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors, Teachers so that:
- a. The saints will be perfected for the,
  - b. Work of the ministry
  - c. For the edifying of the body of Christ
  - d. Till we come to the full unity in faith
  - e. Of the knowledge of the Son of God
  - f. Unto a perfect man
  - g. Into the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.
- Why?....(Ephesians 4:14-16)



When the Israelites came out of Egypt it says "...and there was not one feeble person among their tribes."

Psalms 105:37, How much more did Jesus do for us and what do we believe is for us now? Moses and Abraham would have longed for what we have now! We have the indwelling presence of Jesus and the Holy Spirit.

11) We also struggle because of:

a. Understanding Prayer:

- i. People are afraid or embarrassed to ask or come forward. This is selfishness because we are focused on ourselves instead of the power of God to help us do our part.
- ii. People do not want to pray with others. The body of Christ works together, so not all things can be handled praying by ourselves. Everyone has different gifts for the body of Christ.
- iii. Wrong understanding of how prayer works. Do we believe we will receive when we pray? Or do we ask in question or beg for God to do something He told us to do with Him?
- iv. Lack of understanding of how to pray. All prayers with God are good, but some require confident expectation in the miraculous, knowledge of the Word, and always a heart of love. Do we pray from a place of victory or slavery?
- v. It's not looked at as a common warfare tool, empowerment, or for guidance. People have a lack of relationship with the Father, Abba, made in His image, or as a child who has not matured yet perspective.



b. Understanding communion:

- i. The bread: We are to discern the body of Christ, not just remember.
  1. Christ's body given for us.
  2. His sozo over us: removal of sickness, infirmities, and healing physically and emotionally.
  3. We are the body of Christ. Our identity is in Him now, not the old man He crucified.
  4. The church is the body of Christ. Do we operate as Christ would as one body using our supernatural gifts to build each other up to His glory?
  5. Taking communion incorrectly can open the doors to sickness.
- ii. The wine:
  1. Christ's blood shed for us in love. He did it for the joy of restoring us.
  2. For our salvation. What does it mean to be saved? What is our new creation, our new identity? What does it mean to have ALL our sins forgiven, forgotten, and removed as far as the east is from the west?
- iii. Forgetting to bless, praise, and give thanksgiving. Christ blessed the communion and gave thanks. Do we do the same in remembrance of how great His sacrifice was and how great the restoration was for us? He is the bread of life! Do we step out into our strongholds, forgetting:
  1. Our reflection is in the perfect law of liberty.
  2. We have the same Spirit that raised Christ from the dead.
  3. We have already been given every Spiritual blessing in heavenly places.
  4. We are made to be partakers of his divine nature for His glory.
  5. We are loved beyond imagination as co-heirs with Christ.



6. We are ambassadors to the kingdom of heaven.
7. We are filled with hundreds of good things already in us in Christ Jesus to prove out his good, perfect, and pleasing will.
8. and hundreds more....Praise God!

12) Do we:

- a. Seek him first?
- b. Give him first fruits?
- c. Pray in all things and all circumstances, including our families (together if possible)?
- d. Pray for solutions, wisdom and guidance from the Holy Spirit, or stifle Him?
- e. Give thanks and praise and bless His name in the good and bad as our best friend?
- f. Step out in faith in joy and peace in spiritual battles?
- g. Truly trust Him and His word?
- h. Put His armor on daily?
- i. Stay standing after having done everything to stand?
- j. Speak blessings or curses over family, finances, and health?
- k. Love Him, ourselves, our wives (he who loves his wife loves himself – aka not quite happy wife happy life but better than living in the corner of an attic than in a room with a contentious woman), and our neighbors? Without love, even though we can move mountains, heal the sick, etc. there is no relationship with Christ. Contrast 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 with Matthew 7:21-23. While anger and frustration in the world are easy to come by, we need to teach how to walk in love as Jesus did, standing in the knowledge of the Father, doing what He saw the Father doing, seeing with the vision of the Father.
- l. BELIEVE Him and take His word as it is, the word of God and not man?



## Definitions

“Discipline” is often translated as “train”.

- *In Proverbs 22:6, The Hebrew word for “train” means dedicate, setting aside, narrowing, or hedging in. Similar to Egyptian word for “to give to the gods” or “to set up something for divine service”. Exercise or train a child for adulthood. (Ref: Bible Knowledge Commentary)*
- *In Hebrews 12:6, “paidea” or “child-training” is being prepared by an educational training or teaching process.*

Examples:

- *1 Cor 9:24-25, Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training (discipline -NIV). They do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a crown that will last forever.*
- *Hebrew 12:4-11, In your struggle against sin, you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. And have you completely forgotten this word of encouragement that addresses you as a father addresses his son? It says, “My son, do not make light of the Lord’s discipline, and do not lose heart when He rebukes you, because the Lord disciplines the one He loves, and He chastens everyone He accepts as his son.”[a] Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as his children. For what children are not disciplined by their father? If you are not disciplined—and everyone undergoes discipline—then you are not legitimate, not true sons and daughters at all.*

*Moreover, we have all had human fathers who disciplined us and we respected them for it. How much more should we submit to the Father of spirits and live! They disciplined us for a little while as they thought best; but God disciplines us for our good, in order that we may share in his holiness. No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it.*

“Fear” can sometimes translate as “revere” or “reverent awe”.

Example: **Proverbs 9:10**, *The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.*

“Obedient” is sometimes translated as “trust” or “believe”. Not believing God is not being obedient.



## Overcoming

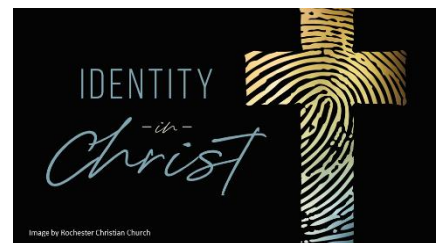
NOTE: These verses to follow are just short reminders. God desires mercy not sacrifice. God wants us to operate in our new creation, our identity in Him. God wants us to operate out of love as His sons and daughters in a relationship with Papa, not legalistic memorized scripture.

- **2 Timothy 3:16**, *All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness.*
- **Matthew 6:33**, *but seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.*
- **Matthew 22:37-40**, *Jesus replied: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.” This is the first great commandment. And the second is like it: “Love your neighbor as yourself.” All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commands.”*

Here are 12 Thoughts to consider in seeking Him first:

1. **Love God and love others.** In doing so fulfills all the laws of the prophets. That means forgive one another too.
2. **Believe in the love and kindness of Jesus**, and what it did for us in our new creation. Forget not all God’s blessings. We are grafted into the blessing of Abraham.
3. **Cast all your cares on Him.** Make Jesus your rock, your stronghold. Take everything to Him.
4. **Take every thought captive.** If you don’t like the thought you are having, have a different thought. Your chooser is not broken.
  - a. Life was created by thought and speech.
  - b. You can change your physical situation with thought – lemon example
  - c. Think about what is good and praiseworthy.

- d. The battlefield is in the mind.
- 5. **Be careful what you speak.** You will reap what you say so speak what Jesus would speak. We are accountable for every idle word spoken.
  - a. Life and death are in the power of the tongue.
  - b. Blessings and curses are in the power of the tongue.
  - c. Finish every sentence with, “and that’s the way I’ll have it.”
- 6. **Acknowledge every good thing already in you in Christ Jesus.** This stirs up the Spirit within you.
- 7. **Give thanks, praise, and bless His name.**
- 8. **Start the day with Him.** Ask the Holy Spirit “What do I get to do with you today?”
  - a. Meditate on His word. People know how to meditate - if you are in fear and watch more news than read the Bible, I love you, but that’s making the wrong choice. The eye is the light of the body. Constant use of solid food trains for discernment (Heb 5:13-14).
- 9. **Look on the perfect law of liberty (freedom), your true identity.**
  - a. You have a body, soul, and spirit – The soul prospers by looking at the perfect Spirit, not the body! The body prospers by the soul looking into the perfect law of liberty in the Spirit.
  - b. **James 1:25** “But whoever looks into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it-not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it-they will be blessed in what they do.”
- 10. **Walk by faith and not by sight.** The fig tree Jesus spoke to did not look any different the first day. We need to speak to our situations and believe in our authority. Just like Peter with the cripple, you have what Peter has and the authority to speak in Jesus’ name. Joy and peace come in believing. Mix the word with faith!
- 11. **Know your calling and know His will.** You are a “spirit being” called and equipped by God to prove out what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God. The same is true for our kids. What is helpful to understand our calling is to know God’s will for us:
  - a. **1 Thessalonians 5:16-18**, rejoice always, pray constantly, give thanks, for this is God’s will...
  - b. **John 10:10**, He came for us to have life and have it abundantly.
  - c. **John 15:7-12**, abide in Him and keep His commandments...
  - d. **3 John 1:2**, to prosper and be of good health as the soul prospers
  - e. **1 Timothy 2:3-4** is for you to be saved
  - f. **1 Thessalonians 4:3** is for you to be sanctified
  - g. **Ephesians 5:17-18** is for you to be spirit filled
  - h. **1 Peter 2:13a,15** is for you to be submissive
  - i. **1 Peter 3:17, 4:19** is for us to suffer at times
  - j. **1 Thessalonians 5:16-18** is for you to give thanks
  - k. **Matthew 22:37**, love Him with all our hearts
  - l. **Matthew 22:39**, 1 John 4:7-8, John 13:34-35 love one another as ourselves...do you love yourself as God loves you?
  - m. **Romans 8:37-39, John 3:16, Ephesians 2:4-5** understand how great His love is for us
  - n. **Philippians 2:2**, united in love, spirit, and purpose
  - o. The Bible, departs nature and character to have a relationship with Him
  - p. **Galatians 5:1, John 8:36**, be free from sin and bondage
  - q. **Matthew 9:13**, show mercy
  - r. **Luke 13:3**, repent
  - s. **James 5:16**, confess your sins to one another



- t. **John 14:9-14**, believe in Jesus
- u. **John 3:16**, be forgiven
- v. **Philippians 4:8, Isaiah 26:3, 2 Timothy 2:7** study and meditate on His word
- w. **Ephesians 4:32**, forgive one another
- x. **1 Corinthians 6:2-3**, judge those inside the church with wisdom
- y. **1 Corinthians 16:13-14**, Stand firm in Him
- z. **Philippians 4:4**, Rejoice in the Lord always
- aa. **1 Thessalonians 5:16-18**, Pray in all things, give thanks and rejoice
- bb. **Philippians 4:8**, Think about what is good and praiseworthy.
- cc. Put the scriptures into practice, listen to Jesus, encourage each other, Give to the poor, Speak His Word, have no guilt in life or fear in death, Live with Him in eternity, Live in the spirit, Be bold and confident, Spread the gospel.

Let me ask this question; When we accepted Jesus as our Lord and Savior did we say “Lord save me if it be thy will” or did we know it is His will for us to be saved? Obviously we know it is His will because He said in 1 Timothy 2:4, “who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.” Let alone, why would Jesus have gone to the cross if He was not serious about saving us?

12. **Walk by Spirit and not by flesh.** We are to live in the spirit. God communicates to us Spirit to spirit. Often we turn from the Holy Spirit because we don’t know how to live there, how to talk to Him, wondering why the flesh issues don’t go away. The battle is in the spirit. God is always talking, always guiding. The Holy Spirit will guide us in ALL things. Pursue spiritual gifts like prophecy, they are a gift to help and build the body of Christ.

God tells us we are to live in the Spirit:

- a. **John 3:5**, We must be born of water and Spirit.
- b. **John 4:24, Eph 5:18**, We are to be filled with the Spirit.
- c. **Galatians 5:16**. We walk in the Spirit.
- d. **Galatians 5:18**, We are led by the Spirit.
- e. **2 Corinthians 3:6**, The Spirit gives life.
- f. **John 14:26**, We are given the Holy spirit.
- g. **Romans 8:11**, We are given the same Spirit that raised Christ from the dead.
- h. **Romans 8:14**, For as many are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.
- i. **Galatians 5:25**, We are to keep step with the Spirit.
- j. **Ephesians 6:12**, The battle is in the Spirit.
- k. **2 Timothy 1:7**, We have been given a Spirit of power, love, and sound mind.
- l. **Romans 14:17**, the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.
- m. **Hebrews 4:12**, God is spirit, the Word of God is living and active.
- n. **2 Corinthians 3:17-18**, The Lord is Spirit. We are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, even as from the Lord the Spirit.
- o. **John 4:24**, God speaks to us in Spirit, Spirit to Spirit.



Are we teaching our kids how to live in the Spirit or are we walking by sight? Are we embarrassed to ask how to live in the Spirit or do we have a church that even teaches on the subject? Most including myself would say yes to this at one time or another. Just as with King Josiah, sometimes we just need to forget about being

embarrassed and solve the elephant in the room. If God communicates to us Spirit to Spirit, we want to hear from God, and we want to train our children up in the way of the Lord, then we have no choice but to seek and ask.

## Direction for our Children and all God's Children

**Ephesians 6:1-3**, *Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. <sup>2</sup>“Honor your father and mother”—which is the first commandment with a promise “so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.”*

**Proverbs 1:8-9**, *Listen, my son, to your father's instruction and do not forsake your mother's teaching. <sup>9</sup>They are a garland to grace your head and a chain to adorn your neck.*

**Exodus 20:12**, *“Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the Lord your God is giving you.*

**1 Timothy 5:4**, *but if any widow has children or grandchildren, they must first learn to practice piety in regard to their own family and to make some return to their parents; for this is acceptable in the sight of God*

**Proverbs 31:28**, *Her children rise up and bless her; Her husband also, and he praises her*



## Direction for Parents and for Children to Know a Fathers Heart

**Ephesians 6:4**, *Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.*

**Proverbs 29:15**, *A rod and a reprimand impart wisdom, but a child left undisciplined disgraces its mother.*

**Proverbs 13:24**, *Whoever spares the rod hates their children, but the one who loves their children is careful to discipline them.*

**Psalms 127:2-5**, *Children are a heritage from the Lord, offspring a reward from him. <sup>4</sup>Like arrows in the hands of a warrior are children born in one's youth. <sup>5</sup>Blessed is the man whose quiver is full of them. They will not be put to shame when they contend with their opponents in court.*

**Colossians 3:21**, *Fathers, do not embitter your children, or they will become discouraged.*

**Genesis 18:19**, *For I have chosen him, so that he will direct his children and his household after him to keep the way of the Lord by doing what is right and just, so that the Lord will bring about for Abraham what He has promised him."*

**Deuteronomy 6:7**, *Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.*

**Proverbs 23:13**, *Do not withhold discipline from a child; if you punish them with the rod, they will not die.*

**Deuteronomy 11:19**, *Teach them to your children, talking about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.*

**Deuteronomy 4:9-10**, *Only be careful, and watch yourselves closely so that you do not forget the things your eyes have seen or let them fade from your heart as long as you live. Teach them to your children and to their children after them. <sup>10</sup> Remember the day you stood before the Lord your God at Horeb, when He said to me, "Assemble the people before me to hear my words so that they may learn to revere me as long as they live in the land and may teach them to their children."*

**John 16:21**, *A woman giving birth to a child has pain because her time has come; but when her baby is born she forgets the anguish because of her joy that a child is born into the world.*

**Proverbs 3:12**, *...the Lord disciplines those He loves, as a father the son He delights in.*

**Proverbs 22:6**, *Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it.*

**Matthew 19:14**, *Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."*

**1 Timothy 5:8**, *Anyone who does not provide for their relatives, and especially for their own household, has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.*

**2 Corinthians 12:14**, *Now I am ready to visit you for the third time, and I will not be a burden to you, because what I want is not your possessions but you. After all, children should not have to save up for their parents, but parents for their children.*

**Proverbs 29:15**, *A rod and a reprimand impart wisdom, but a child left undisciplined disgraces its mother.*

**Psalms 37:25**, *I was young and now I am old, yet I have never seen the righteous forsaken or their children begging bread.*

**Isaiah 54:13**, *All your sons will be taught of the Lord; And the well-being of your sons will be great.*

**Psalms 78:6**, *We will not hide them from their descendants; we will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord, his power, and the wonders He has done. He decreed statutes for Jacob and established the law in Israel, which He commanded our ancestors to teach their children, so the next generation would know them, even the children yet to be born, and they in turn would tell their children. Then they would put their trust in God and would not forget his deeds but would keep*





his commands. They would not be like their ancestors— a stubborn and rebellious generation, whose hearts were not loyal to God, whose spirits were not faithful to him.

**Matthew 18:10**, “See that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you that their angels in heaven continually see the face of My Father who is in heaven.

**Romans 9:8**, That is, it is not the children of the flesh who are children of God, but the children of the promise are regarded as descendants.

**Psalms 112:2**, His descendants will be mighty on earth; The generation of the upright will be blessed.

**Acts 13:33**, ....that God has fulfilled this promise to our children in that He raised up Jesus, as it is also written in the second Psalm, ‘You are My Son; today I have begotten You.

**Psalms 127:4**, Like arrows in the hand of a warrior, so are the children of one’s youth.

**Proverbs 29:21**, He who pampers his slave from childhood will in the end find him to be a son.

**1 John 3:10**, By this the children of God and the children of the devil are obvious: anyone who does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor the one who does not love his brother.

**1 Thessalonians 5:5**, for you are all sons of light and sons of day. We are not of night nor of darkness;

**John 1:12**, But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name,

**Galatians 4:7**, Therefore you are no longer a slave, but a son; and if a son, then an heir through God.

**1 John 3:1**, See how great a love the Father has bestowed on us, that we would be called children of God; and such we are. For this reason the world does not know us, because it did not know Him

**Galatians 3:7**, Therefore, be sure that it is those who are of faith who are sons of Abraham

**Romans 8:14**, For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.

**Joel 1:3**, Tell your sons about it, And let your sons tell their sons, And their sons the next generation.

**2 Corinthians 6:18**, “And I will be a father to you, And you shall be sons and daughters to Me,” Says the Lord Almighty.

**Galatians 4:6**, Because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!”

**Psalms 82:6**, I said, “You are gods, And all of you are sons of the Most High.

**Romans 9:26**, “And it shall be that in the place where it was said to them, ‘you are not My people,’ There they shall be called sons of the living God.”

**1 John 3:2**, Beloved, now we are children of God....

**John 1:13**, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God

**Matthew 18:3**, and said, “Truly I say to you, unless you are converted and become like children, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven.

**Matthew 5:9**, “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.”

**Romans 8:17**, and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him so that we may also be glorified with Him.



**John 11:52**, and not for the nation only, but in order that He might also gather together into one the children of God who are scattered abroad.

**Isaiah 54:13**, "All your sons will be taught of the Lord; And the well-being of your sons will be great.

**1 John 5:2**, By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and observe His commandments.

**Romans 8:16**, The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God

**Ephesians 5:1**, Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children;

**Ephesians 5:8**, for you were formerly darkness, but now you are Light in the Lord; walk as children of Light

**Psalms 115:14**, May the Lord give you increase, You and your children.

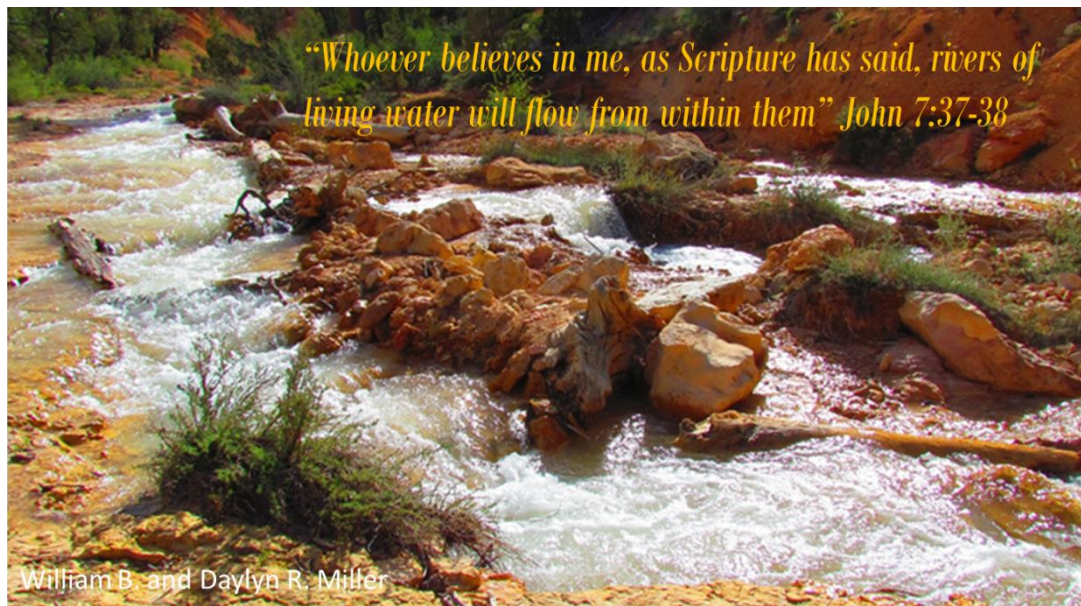
**Romans 8:21**, that the creation itself also will be set free from its slavery to corruption into the freedom of the glory of the children of God.

**Romans 8:19**, For the anxious longing of the creation waits eagerly for the revealing of the sons of God.

**Psalms 53:2**, God has looked down from heaven upon the sons of men to see if there is anyone who understands, Who seeks after God.

**Colossians 3:6**, For it is because of these things that the wrath of God will come upon the sons of disobedience

**2 Timothy 1:6-7**, fan into flame the gift of God...which gives us power, love and self-discipline



## Our Identity in Christ

If we do not know our identity in Christ we will have challenges we will not be able to overcome. We might think of our identity as the under armor when we put on the armor of God. We may wear the clothing of a soldier but not believe or have the confidence in our calling. Granted the word of God is our sword but it also tells us the heart of who and whose we are. This short list is something we as parents and our kids should know by heart each day. Put your name in the blank space and say out loud:

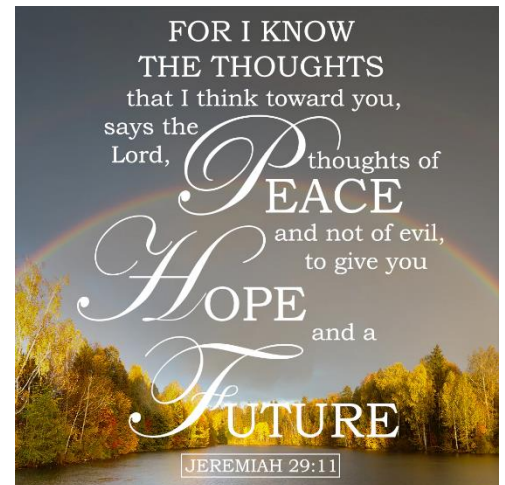
1. \_\_\_\_\_ has been created by God in the image of God. (Genesis 1:26-27)
2. \_\_\_\_\_ has been made a little lower than the angels; crowned with glory and honor (Hebrews 2:7)
3. \_\_\_\_\_ has been given dominion over the works of God's hands (Genesis 1:26, Psalms 8:6-8)
4. As Jesus is on this earth, so is \_\_\_\_\_.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ has been given a Spirit, soul, body (Proverbs 20:27, 1 Thessalonians 5:23).
6. \_\_\_\_\_ has a perfect spirit!
7. \_\_\_\_\_ has been given hope, a guarantee, a confident expectation.
8. \_\_\_\_\_ is called and equipped. To be God's messengers, imitators of Christ.
9. \_\_\_\_\_ has been given dominion over God's creation.
10. \_\_\_\_\_ has been given the same Spirit that raised Christ from the dead.
11. \_\_\_\_\_ has been given everything necessary for life and godliness.
12. \_\_\_\_\_ is a son of God. (Romans 8:14, For as many are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.)
13. \_\_\_\_\_ has been given the Holy Spirit to counsel and guide me in all things, a helper.
14. \_\_\_\_\_ has been given a power that works within me through God's living Word, which is spirit and life.
15. \_\_\_\_\_ has been given complete forgiveness of all sin. There is no condemnation left for those in Christ Jesus.
16. \_\_\_\_\_ has been given the power of life and death in his tongue.
17. \_\_\_\_\_ has been redeemed from the curse of the law.
18. \_\_\_\_\_ has been given great and precious promises, to be partakers of the divine nature.
19. \_\_\_\_\_ has been blessed with every spiritual blessing in heavenly places.
20. \_\_\_\_\_ has been given a spirit of love, power, and sound mind.
21. \_\_\_\_\_ has been given the living Word of God, which is Jesus.
22. \_\_\_\_\_ has been called to persevere to the end to receive a crown of life.
23. \_\_\_\_\_ has been set free by the blood of the Lamb, made a slave to righteousness.
24. \_\_\_\_\_ has been made the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus.
25. \_\_\_\_\_ is loved beyond comprehension.
26. \_\_\_\_\_ was created by God.
27. \_\_\_\_\_ was formed by God.
28. \_\_\_\_\_ is summoned by God.
29. \_\_\_\_\_ belongs to God.
30. \_\_\_\_\_ is God's servant whom God has chosen.
31. \_\_\_\_\_ is God's witness.
32. \_\_\_\_\_ walks by faith and not by sight.
33. \_\_\_\_\_ has access to God's throne with boldness and confidence in humility.
34. \_\_\_\_\_ has been made an ambassador to the kingdom of heaven.
35. \_\_\_\_\_ is not alone for God never leaves me nor forsakes me.

36. \_\_\_\_\_ is protected by God's Angels.
37. \_\_\_\_\_ has been given spiritual gifts already within me.
38. \_\_\_\_\_ has been given eternal life.
39. \_\_\_\_\_ has the fruit of the Spirit within.
40. \_\_\_\_\_ has been made an overcomer.
41. \_\_\_\_\_ has been made a witness to all the people.
42. \_\_\_\_\_ is the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus.
43. \_\_\_\_\_ has been given the armor of God.
44. \_\_\_\_\_ has been given courage.
45. \_\_\_\_\_ has been given grace by God.
46. \_\_\_\_\_ has been given the faith of God.
47. \_\_\_\_\_ has been grafted into the promise of Abraham.
48. \_\_\_\_\_ is accepted by God.
49. \_\_\_\_\_ has been adopted into the kingdom of heaven.
50. \_\_\_\_\_ has been given authority over the devil.
51. \_\_\_\_\_ has been made blameless.
52. \_\_\_\_\_ has been made dead to sin.
53. \_\_\_\_\_ is far from oppression.
54. \_\_\_\_\_ is cherished by God.
55. \_\_\_\_\_ is a fellow citizen with the saints.
56. \_\_\_\_\_ has been made more than a conqueror.
57. \_\_\_\_\_ is God's handiwork.
58. \_\_\_\_\_ is justified.
59. \_\_\_\_\_ is a light in the darkness.
60. \_\_\_\_\_ has been made Holy.
61. \_\_\_\_\_ has been made a royal priesthood.
62. \_\_\_\_\_ is prosperous.
63. \_\_\_\_\_ has been given shalom.
64. \_\_\_\_\_ has been given good health (sozo'd).
65. \_\_\_\_\_ lives in victory.
66. \_\_\_\_\_ has been made a temple of God.
67. \_\_\_\_\_ has been created for His glory.
68. \_\_\_\_\_ has been renewed, made a new creation.
69. \_\_\_\_\_ has been made unafraid.
70. \_\_\_\_\_ has been given wisdom.
71. \_\_\_\_\_ is the salt of the earth.
72. \_\_\_\_\_ has been predestined by God for good things.
73. \_\_\_\_\_ is saved!
74. \_\_\_\_\_ has been given the words of eternal life.
75. \_\_\_\_\_ has been made the head.
76. \_\_\_\_\_ is healed!
77. \_\_\_\_\_ is born again.
78. \_\_\_\_\_ is able to overcome fear, worry, and anxiety by casting all my cares on Jesus.
79. \_\_\_\_\_ is able to do what Jesus did and even greater things than these shall \_\_\_\_\_ do.

80. God wants \_\_\_\_\_ to reign in life! “For if by one man’s offense death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.” (Romans 5:17)

## Comments/Thoughts/Questions

1. Do we believe what the Bible says is true, or pick and choose what we want to believe?
2. Raising up kids starts with us learning about Christ and our identity in Him, then teaching our kids.
3. What does a child of God look like for ourselves? Can we teach our kids what we do not know about ourselves?
4. Do we magnify God and His solution for our circumstances? Replace worry and anxiety with faith in our relationship with God by taking every thought captive. Joy and peace come in believing.
5. Replace “I have to” with “I get to” pray and walk with God today. I get to go to school or work today.
6. Do we give God thanks and praise, meditating on His word day and night?
7. They aren’t just our kids, they are God’s creation, our brothers and sisters in the body of Christ.
8. Do we show our kids how to apply God’s principles, reading stories to them or real applications?
9. What kind of an example do we as fathers and husbands show to our kids by how we treat our wives?
10. Do we use substance abuse, excessive video games, or pornography as an escape which damages our marriages and family?
11. Do we use divorce as an excuse if the relationship does not work out or sleep around breaking down the blessing of marriage?
12. What happens when our kids turn to their friends for advice instead of wise counsel? Reference 1 King 12:8, the story of Rehoboam, the King’s son who listened to his advisors instead of his dad’s.
13. Do you pray about everything, in all things and all circumstances, giving thanks and praise as well as lifting up our concerns?
14. How well do we know and work with our “Guide”, “Counselor”, and “Helper”?
15. Kids need to experience life (Scouts/outdoors/jobs/chores/jobs/etc.). It gives them self-worth and confidence.
16. Kids need to know they are valued, cared for, needed, have security, and empowered.
17. Keep kids active but not overwhelmed – They feel better physically, emotionally, and will sleep better (serotonin release boosts self-confidence)
18. Kids need accomplishment so they have a story of their own.
19. Teach responsibility and accountability
20. Are we ready to heal the sick, raise the dead, and cast out demons, doing what Jesus said or do we not believe that part of the Bible?
21. Are we ready to believe who God created us to be, to believe who Jesus died for us to be, to walk as God called and equipped us to walk as it is written, or will we neglect the goodness of God and what Jesus died for us to have in our new creation?



## Summary:

Two primary solutions for all of us fall into these categories:

1. How well do we understand the love of God for each of us?
2. How well do we know our new identity in Christ Jesus?

We are all a work in progress growing in wisdom and understanding. But we press forward toward the goal set before us, renewing our minds in His living word and teaching our kids the same. We are not striving for forgiveness and to overcome brokenness as Christians. We are striving to understand His love for us, our new creation, every good thing already in us in Christ Jesus. We need to know our identity in Christ to prove out His good pleasing and perfect will for our lives. We are His ambassadors given “kingdom of heaven” authority on earth to be His hands, feet, speaking His words with His faith. We are never alone, rather children of God. We need to know this. Our children need to know this. To know that we are loved beyond comprehension. That we are filled with His glory and partakers of His divine nature. Our confidence is in Him alone. You are already made worthy through grace. You have already been made the righteousness of God through Christ Jesus. You have already been given everything for life and godliness. You have already been given every spiritual blessing in heavenly places. You have already been given a Spirit of power, love, and sound mind. As Jesus is on this earth, so are you. Christ came that we might have life and have it more abundantly.

**He sets before us life and death, blessings and curses, choose life so that you and your offspring shall live.**

Ephesians 3:16-21:

*“<sup>16</sup> I pray that out of his glorious riches He may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, <sup>17</sup> so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, <sup>18</sup> may have power, together with all the Lord’s holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, <sup>19</sup> and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.”*

*<sup>20</sup> Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, <sup>21</sup> to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.*

