

A photograph of a sunset over a mountain range. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright glow and casting long shadows. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and light blue. The mountains are dark and silhouetted against the sky.

June/July 2021

Braman Foundation of Charities  
presents

# DISCIPLESHIP

A Devotional Magazine



# DISCIPLESHIP

A Devotional Magazine

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Many of us struggle because we do not understand why God is not moving in our lives or why God does not seem to use us. Let's learn together to show.

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Discover how to grow in your relationship with the Holy Spirit with BFC's book, *Understanding the Holy Spirit*.



# Welcome

Dear Friends of BFC,

Welcome to our new magazine and devotional called: Discipleship.

As we at BFC begin to prepare for the work of the Lord we know that discipleship is the cornerstone of this work.

One soul talking to another in the love of Christ! Sharing the love of Jesus. Sure its inconvenient. Sure your hands may get dirty, but you are welcome to serve Him through loving others.

Press into what He would do through you and then do it! Take the action and do not stop. Derive your energy from Jesus for He is, was and shall always be your great God.

Remember in Matthew 28:19, Christ is telling us "To go therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe everything I have commanded you."

Friend, now is the time to go and serve the Lord. Make the decision to step out in faith.

## *BFC Devotional Magazine*

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## Lesson 1

# Ephesians 4:22-24

*“In reference to your former manner of life you lay aside the old self, which is being corrupted in accordance with the lusts of deceit, and that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and put on the new self, which in the likeness of God has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth.”*

**D**o you realize that your power to overcome now resides within you? You can overcome and you do have a choice to stop “the self”. You can be renewed in your mind.

What does Paul mean by old self and new self? What are they? In your new self there is power given to you.

Ask the Lord,” Reveal to me my old character traits that are not of thee? “ Lord show me! Seek and be sincere. God will reveal.

You have tendencies rooted in self that, even though you have been born again, even though you are saved, continue to manifest rooted in generational strong holds, worldliness, or there may be a “demonic” oppression stronghold. Seek greater debts of Christ.

Paul is saying to persevere, keep striving in setting yourself apart from the world. Keep praying, praising and practicing

the presence of God and keep serving. So you do have the power of choice now. You can, because you now are a son of God and chose not to give into temptation. You can now overcome strongholds of behaviors and thought patterns that are continuing to the block goodness of Christ. You can do this. Sure it takes effort and persistence, but know that the Lord is with you all the way. Seek the Lord.

Get surrounded by like minded people that will strengthen your inner Christ child.

You can become renewed in your mind by first seeking Christ and asking that your mind be renewed . Follow your thought life and allow Christ’s grace to renew you. Do no allow fear, unforgiveness and traits of this world to persist. Choose not to entertain those tendencies and God will meet you. God will honor your effort. Remember it will require effort on your part. But always

# OVERCOME THROUGH ADDICTION

JOIN US WEDNESDAY NIGHTS, 7PM, AT THE QUEENSBURY FACILITY COMMUNITY ROOM

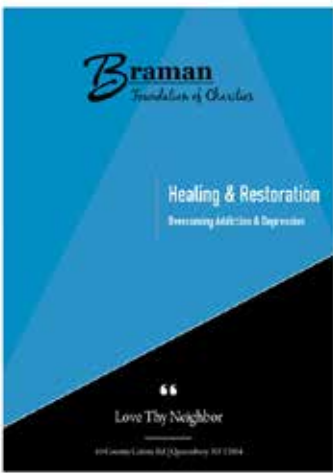


Millions of us suffer needlessly from addiction and depression. The reasons for this are many. In this program we emphasize the Affirmation Prayer, 12 step Christ centered work, meditation, CBT, nutrition guidance and other techniques to overcome addiction.

We also rely on God's grace to help you be lifted from your dilemma. If you or a friend or loved one suffers from difficulties surrounding addiction or depression please join us.

All of the principles really are not new, but when presented together in one workbook and when applied in one's life, miracles can occur.

May you be blessed as you seek greater joy and a truly happy life.





remember it is His grace that opens doors and shuts door, your effort to follow His plan and your perseverance. Keep striving.

A saint is a sinner that never gave up. What are traits of the likeness of God. We know that in Galatians 5:22 Paul tells us the fruit of the Spirit is: Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness and faithfulness. Are you seeing, exhibiting those tendencies in your daily life?

Your new self is Christ within, as you have been born again. You have taken on Christ within. This is not you, but He that dwells in you that is, the Lord. He, Christ, was gone on to dwell in God and has sent in his stead the Holy Spirit that is in you. The characteristics of the Holy Spirit that is in you. The characteristics of the Holy Spirit are unlike, different than your natural self. Galatians 5:22 best describes the fruit of the Spirit. Take time to read Paul's writing. Ask yourself if you are manifesting those characteristics or

not. If not, confess your sin nature, your natural self and ask God to reveal to you His nature, Christ's likeness. Put on this nature and work daily to shed your "old self".

In addition, Paul is asking you to be renewed in the spirit of you mind. Your mind is the seat of all thought, it hosts the subconscious, your memories, the unconscious and super conscious mind or your mind when it is illuminated by the Holy Spirit. You must learn to use your mind as a tool, as a computer always remembering that you in Christ are spirit, all holiness, perfect in every way. You are not your thoughts nor you feelings. You are simply viewing your thoughts and feelings as on a movie scene. They come and go, but are not truth. You are, in your new Christ like nature, the fruit of the spirit. So learn to be renewed in the spirit of you mind. Practice those techniques and learn to overcome.

### A saint is a sinner that never gave up.

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Finally, righteousness and the holiness of truth is final and one. There is only one truth: Christ. In truth, pluralism, can not exist nor can human secularism. There is only one Christ, one truth. Stay steadfast in you study of the Holy Bible and grow in in keeping His command to love the Christ in you. Amen!



JOIN OUR

# *Group Discipleship*

BFC Queensbury Facility  
49 Glenwood Ave  
Queensbury, NY 12804

Tuesdays at 6:30pm

[bramanfoundation.org](http://bramanfoundation.org)

## Lesson 2

# John 3:30

*“He must increase, but I must decrease.”*

So what is God saying through John here exactly?

John the Baptist, one of Christ’s friends, came before Christ and preached repentance. Yet as John noticed His follower moving towards Christ he knew that must be so. John knows Jesus is the messiah, the incarnation of God.

And so, as in your own life, this too can apply to you. So your life in self must decrease but Christ must increase. This is much the same as Paul’s writing in Ephesians 4:22. You must allow Christ to increase and you, as self, decrease. Just what does this mean? How do you achieve this process?

First of all, are you reborn, born again,

have you committed your life to Christ? If so, when, around what date? This should have been one of the single most important events of your life!

Read and study Romans 10:9. Say, “Lord have I committed my life to you? Now listen, be quiet and in the deep still small voice He will speak to you. Perhaps you, at one time, were on the path, but through the last few years have been drawn away, worldly concern, sin, etc. The point is you’re back. Recommit you life, your essence in Christ. Even do this on your knees. It’s easier to be submissive when on your knees. Now ask Him to come into your life. Ask Christ to reveal the gulf that exists between you and Him. Now He must increase, and you, as the old self





must decrease. Do this daily!

## Here you grow in understanding of your true nature, your divine nature that is in you.

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First, make a daily appointment with God. Whether in the morning or evening, make this effort. A part of your bedroom or place that you go that is your sanctuary. This is where you will read, pray, meditate, and listen to the Lord. Grow in this understanding.

Most importantly, do not think you do not have to do this, just because many others you are associated with do not do this practice. Here you grow in understanding of your true nature, your divine nature that is in you. You must come into realization that you were made in His image. You are from Him. He is in you. Jesus makes this possible.

It is this divine nature through Christ within that must increase as you grow in clarity, understanding and realization. There are generational curses that are in you from your former generations.

Learn what these curses and strongholds are and pray for their deliverance, Much addiction, depression and other forms of mental illness come up through the generations. Strongholds of pride with those of wealth and strongholds of

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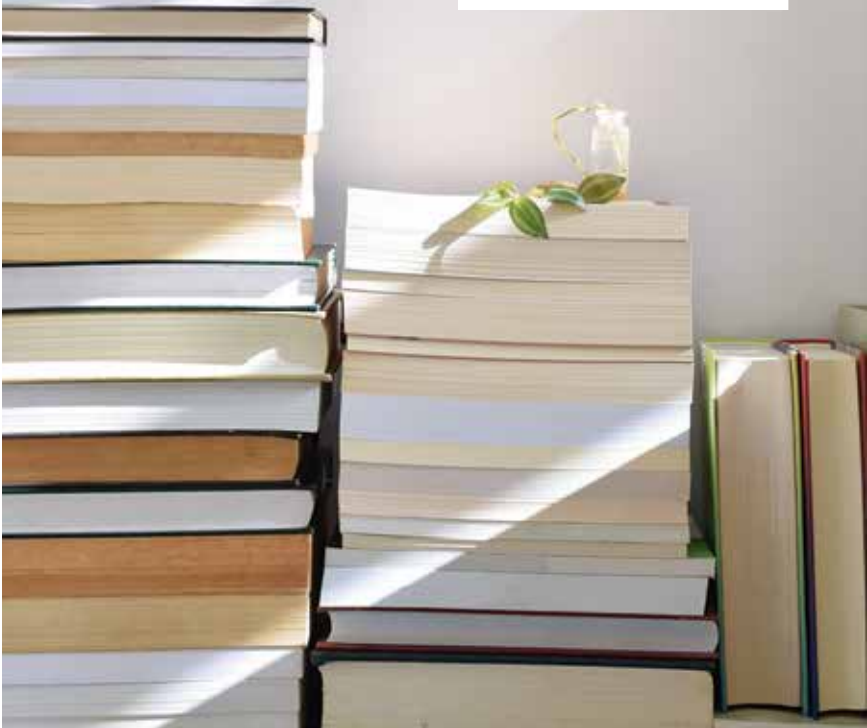
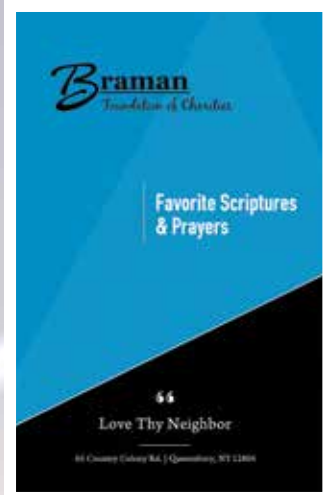
Learn what these curses and strongholds are and pray for their deliverance, Much addiction, depression and other forms of mental illness come up through the generations. Strongholds of pride with those of wealth and strongholds of poverty for the poor. Either way you must not pass those on to the next generation. Break the curse in the name of Christ. Some are in the DNA and some are behavioral. Either way , today this must be broken! Amen.

Your life is no longer your own. You have not come to Christ to maintain a certain level of God consciousness. Do not measure your life in Christ the way unbelievers measure their ability to retire and save money for retirement. No, you have give all of you self to Christ. This is a daily journey of devotion to Christ.

When is that going to produce fruit? Why are you not in the business of discipling others?

Press into this work my friend. A saint is a sinner that never gave up! Surrender more and learn to “lose” your self. Do this through confession and repentance

*BFC announces our first published work in the Library of Congress. We are grateful for this opportunity and hope this short book will benefit others.*



— get to work on this. Soon you will notice a difference. Confess, repent and be renewed.

The still small voice becomes more constant. You will begin working with others. More grace, will be abound in your everyday life. And a deeper level of peace will ensue. Praise God! Study His word and make it yours daily.

## Confess, repent and be renewed.

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Much can be said of the prosperity gospel message and the grace alone ministry. Make no mistake God's grace comes through this process of surrender. Learning to rely on the mystery of grace is done through no effort but stopping, listening and learning to grow in a servants willingness to surrender. Many believe that through grace alone they are saved, sanctified and going to heaven. Yet many do not understand the deep nature of sin. This nature normally dies hard. Just look around you today. Isn't it true that you and your church friends really lack power to make true difference in other's lives? Why can you not, through Christ, bring others to Christ? or why is Christ not actively using you? Answer these questions, ask them. Why do you lack power of the resurrection? It is available today as it was when Christ walked the earth. Worldliness is the number one reason the church lacks



power and unconfessed sin. Your heart has grown dark and hard as you have conformed to the world. Dig deeper and overcome the world.

Yet look around, all of the unbelievers are doing the same! in fact, in truth today, it is very difficult to discern a Christian vs an unbeliever. We place bumper stickers on our cars to identify our beliefs, yet look at the landscape of our society today and it appears society is changing the church. Not the church changing society.

Regardless friend, grow in an understanding of shedding your self. Let go of you and commit all of you self, your children, your finances, "all in" to Jesus and become His true disciple.

Learn to shed worldliness and be a Christ follower. Make a difference for the society in which you walk, live and participate.

Less of you and more of Him!! Peace!!



June 2021

June 1, 2021

Tuesday

## KNOW HIS WAY

*"Make me know Thy ways, O Lord; teach me Thy paths. Lead me in Thy truth and teach me, for thou art the God of my salvation; for Thee I wait all the day"*

– Philippians 4:11

**I**t is difficult to know Thy ways when your mind is affixed on the "things" of this world. We know the way of the Lord is loving kindness for those that abide in him. For many; His ways are the way of discipline for our lives are steeped in sin. Do not expect peace, inner joy and a connection to your true self when your life is steeped in habitual sin. It is an illusion that you will ever chase. To truly know the Lord there needs to be a churning away of the "Things" of this world. Whether good or difficult. The closeness, the nearness of His ways are only met through the sacrifice of being on your knees in repentance, the being alone in solicitude, the hours of forgetting self for Him. There must develop within you a resolve to be nearer to God as if a drowning man gasping for air. Then and only then will He reveal Himself to you.

June 2, 2021

Wednesday

## MY STRENGTH COMES FROM THE LORD

*"I Love Thee, O Lord my Strength. The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge; my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold. I call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised, and I am saved from my enemies."*

– Psalm 18:1-3

**I**t is so important to realize self VS the Spirit of God with in me. The Lord is always on my side, it is I that leave the Lord. It is me who turns my back and decides to open doors that I believe should be open. Examine your life: Are your failures, your set backs do to self will? Do you even understand that you need to put on your new self, the likeness of Christ? The Lord is always my defender, always my rock and always my shield. Let us not, then, reason contrary to the evidence. How can we ever be so ungenerous as to doubt our God?

June 3, 2021

Thursday

## MEDITATE ON GOD

*"I will meditate in Thy precepts"*

– Psalm 119:15

**M**y friend, are you abiding more and more in Christ? You need to go deeper in Christ, with Christ. Are you identifying with this broken world? Then shut it out: Turn off the Smart TV, The Smart phone, back off your social media posts and spend time with me, says the Lord. In fact, more than your gathering in church the daily appointment with Christ is most vital. In this time spent with the Lord you grow in abiding. Christ cannot love you more than He does now, however it is in churning away, the sin nature of self and putting on "your new self" in Christ; (Read Ephesians 4:24) that will cause you to blossom and overcome.

June 4, 2021

Friday

## BLAMELESS

*"Now to Him who is able to keep you faultless and to make you stand in the presence of His Glory blameless with great joy."*

– Jude 24

**Y**ou are faultless before God because of your salvation in Christ Jesus. He has made you blameless when you stand in judgement before God. He is your emissary. He will make us holy that we no longer have a tendency to sin.

We shall be holy as God is holy and dwell in His house forever. Sin gone, Satan shut out, temptation past forever and we faultless before God!!! Oh is that not heaven that awaits those that are in Christ Jesus. Deep upon deep!!! Abide in Christ and abandon your self.

June 5, 2021

Saturday

## DRINK OF THE FOUNTAIN OF LIFE

*" But who so ever drinks of the water I give him shall thirst no more. The water that I give shall become a well of water springing up to eternal life."*

– John 14:14

**T**here is true satisfaction in Christ. Yield yourself in Christ. True contentment comes to those who abandon themselves to the Christ within you.

Those that seek Jesus discover the bread of life and hunger no more. Abandon yourself in Christ and you shall have the true friend that will never leave you nor forsake you. Fix your heart on Jesus and you shall find the rock of ages. A foundation on which you shall always stand.

Are your desires satisfied in any "thing" of this world? Then come continually to the fountain and drink the water of life. Jesus will never think you take too much, but He will ever welcome you saying, " Drink yea drink abundantly O beloved.

June 6, 2021

Sunday

## ARE YOU SAVED?

*"He who has believed and has been baptized shall be saved; but he who disbelieved shall be condemned."*

– Mark 16:16

Confession and turning to the Lord may seem simple yet the most important decision of your life. Friend it is so hard to believe in America today.

Self is prompted so much; it is the fabric of our society. You can do it!!! Make it happen!!! Self improvement everywhere; yet look at our landscape.

The Lord's commandment is to love Him; love Thy neighbor as you love your self. This type of love is an abiding love of the Holy Spirit. This love is rooted in your conversion. It is not a worldly love, but a love from within your divine nature. To activate this deep love you must turn to the Lord, turn back within and begin this intimate relationship with He that created you. It is this turning within that is meant by being: "Born Again". All who have been born again realize this process. The Lord awaits you. Simple ask and listen to the still small voice.

June 7, 2021

Monday

## YOU HAVE AN ADVOCATE

*"I am writing these things to you that you may not sin. And if anyone does sin we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the Righteous."*

– 1 John 1:2

Define Advocate: "A person who argues for the support of or the cause of another person OR A person who speaks in support or defense of a person."

Jesus Christ is your personal advocate. Christ goes before you and is the propitiation of your sin nature. Through Christ you are made righteous. Christ is the King of our current age.

Our Father has incarnated through the Son of God Christ and through Him you are reconciled to God. This is Christ's mission that all that believe in Him shall be reconciled. John goes on to say for those that keep His commandments which as we know are to Love the Lord, Love thy Neighbor as one's self.

Praise to the one that has gone before us for we are not only saved, but sanctified, reconciled in God!!!!!!

June 8, 2021

Tuesday

## STEP UP INTO YOUR CALLING

*“For if I preach the gospel I have nothing to boast of for I am under compulsion for woe to me if I do not preach the gospel.”*

– 1 Corinthians 9:16

**M**y friend, you too are being called to witness, in some cases to preach, most of all you are called to love your neighbor. Paul is under a compulsion through the inner presence of The Holy Spirit to share, to preach the truth.

Christ came, he died and rose again for all mankind in this age. This is the gospel message. That through Christ we are reconciled, we are whole again in full relationship with God. Christ has taken our sin away!!!! My friend does this not ignite your spirit??? All ministries should bring the individual back to this fundamental truth of their salvation. Then they are saved.

Are you stepping up when prompted through the Holy Spirit to share the Gospel? Remember God will accomplish his purposes fully with you or without you. You are to make disciples of all the nations. Go forth and spread the good news.

June 9, 2021

Wednesday

## THE LORD KNOWS YOU

*“The Lord looks from heaven; and knows all the sons of men; from His dwelling place He looks out on all the inhabitants of the earth.”*

– Psalm 33:13

**I**t so wonderful to rest in the knowledge that our great God that created the earth, the majestic mountains, the sunrise and the sunset, the oceans deep is a God that is personally involved with all we do, all we think and all we are. God is omnipresence, God is impotence. God is the Alpha, the Omega the beginning and the end. Most of all God yearns for you to turn to Him. He yearns to give you the desires of your heart. God loves can not be described through words. God's love is greater than a mother's love for its new born babe. Press in my friend and cast all your cares upon the Lord. Know this!!!



June 10, 2021

Thursday

## BLESSED ARE YOU!

*“Blessed are you, O Israel, who like you a people saved by the Lord who is your shield of your help and the sword of your majesty!! so your enemies shall cringe before you, and you shall tread upon high places.”*

– Deuteronomy 33: 29

**Y**ou are blessed and protected those that have sought the blessing of Christ through salvation. If you have asked Christ into your life then you need to grow in confidence that Christ is with you, guiding you, opening and closing doors that no man can do. That Christ through the Holy Spirit resides in you has transformed you and is directing your path. Therefore, know the truth of having a direct relationship with God through Jesus Christ. Seek to grow more through abiding and you will not BELIEVE the inner joy that will transform your life. You are truly blessed, saved and protected super naturally.

June 11, 2021

Friday

## YOU ARE A CONQUEROR

*“In all things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.”*

– Romans 8:37

**I**t is Christ who has gone before you and shed His blood. Abide in Me and I in you, Christ says. Jesus is the way out of all your troubles. In fact, here Paul is telling you that you are a conqueror through Christ who loves you.

There no thing that can separate you from His love. Through Christ you can do all things. Whatever your struggles are give them to the Lord. Surrender and win this battle. It matters little because He has already given you the victory.

What ever your destiny is step up into that victory and claim it. Take back the territory the enemy has previously stolen. You can do this!!!! Press into Christ, surrender and step up into your higher calling!!!

June 12, 2021

Saturday

## BE GLAD

*"Rejoice, O sons of Zion, and be glad in the Lord Thy God."*

– Joel 2:23

**T**he world will try to steal your joy. Yet get this: The Lord has died for all your sins. Rejoice in this freedom. The Lord is ever making your crooked paths straight. The Lord Thy God is ever with you, guiding you and your every thought. The Lord has given you a hedge of protection. You are ever in His Grace and His mercy is freely given. The Lord is opening doors for you that no man can close. REJOICE!!! Though you may wither like the grass or the lilies of the field your God is everlasting; All in All; the Alpha the Omega that beginning and the end.

Though your body fades you are going to a heavenly realm. Rejoice my friend!!! Rejoice!! Though your circumstances are difficult REJOICE for your God is greater than any worldly concern. Amen!!! Believe!!!

June 13, 2021

Sunday

## GOD'S PROVIDENCE

*"And I will make an everlasting covenant with them that I will not turn away from them, to them good; and I will put the fear of Me in them so that they shall not turn away from Me."*

– Jeremiah 32:40

**B**eliever you are in an everlasting covenant with God. He has promised to never cast you aside and his promise is AMEN!!! Many times we know that there is no thing in this world that is everlasting but God.

Everything is fleeting: Your family, your spouse, your children etc. This is why God says: Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these things shall be added unto you. Where are you seeking? In whom do you trust? Are you building a world that has a foundation of sand Or is your foundation built on the everlasting word of God?

June 14, 2021

Monday

## THE LORD FIGHTS FOR YOU

*"The Lord will fight for you while you keep silent."*

– Exodus 14:14

*"If God be for us who can be against us?"*

– Romans 8:31

**T**o all the believers in Christ Jesus. The Holy Spirit knows all your battles. The Lord goes before you and knows your path. In fact, the Lord is making your crooked path straight. The Lord is preparing a way in which you may believe impossible. It is your unbelief that causes failure. Believe in the impossible.

Claim victory in your mind over the difficulties that seem insurmountable. Allow God to go before you and claim your victory. What ever the case may be. Nothing is too small nor too large for our God. He is the God of Noah, Moses and Paul. Remind yourself how God worked through those men to claim His victory. He can do the same for yours!!!

June 15, 2021

Tuesday

## CHRIST HAS SET US FREE

*"It was for freedom that Christ set us free, therefore keep standing firm and do not be subject again to the yoke of Slavery."*

– Galatians 5:1

**Y**ou know your freedom was bought for a price, the death and resurrection of Jesus. Christ loves us so that He bore the sins of the world so that we in Him may declare freedom. We are made whole, white as snow. Christ has given us sanctification, redemption. Christ has made a way for us that was not there and on our own will was impossible to claim. Yet now we have arrived. The Lord has given us this freedom. Paul is writing in this verse that we must stand firm, strong and continue to grow into our sanctification and not fall back into slavery. For Christ has given us the freedom to stand firm and press into our future that is filled with His promises. O, Jesus be the Glory that we do not have to do this on our own.

June 16, 2021

Wednesday

## BE NOT AFRAID

*"He shall not be afraid of evil tidings."*

– Psalm 112:7

*"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you; not as the world gives, do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, nor afraid."*

– John 14:27

If God is in your life than stand up and be of good courage. Do not be as worldly men when confronted by difficulties; they cower and retreat. Rather be bold knowing that God is on your side going before you, opening doors that no man can close. Be bold my friend. And as difficulties arise do not blame God and be despondent. Rather go within and seek repentance. Correct what is wrong with in you. Wait on the Lord as Moses did at the Red Sea. Wait!! Listen to the still small voice within you. The ungodly will toil in their own strength and fail. You are bold as the Lord Thy God goes before you. How can you glorify God if you play the coward? Fear lurks in this fallen world. But remember whose you are and be courageous.

June 17, 2021

Thursday

## ALLOW GOD TO GUIDE YOU

*"But for you who fear My name the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its wings; and you will go forth and skip about like calves in a stall. And you will tread down the wicked, for they shall be ashes under your soles of your feet on the day which I am preparing."*

– Malachi 3:2-3

Strength comes to you who wait upon the Lord. Let us not go forth on our own self, which may have some success, but rather wait, yield to the temptation to do it on your own. The Lord will go before thee and you will be strong for He is with you working through you. The Lord knows your battles.

Do you count on the Lord or do you run your own show? Greater would your life be if you allow God to control you and your circumstances. There is much freedom knowing that you are not responsible for your life; you are not your own. Go within and listen to the still small voice.

June 18, 2021

Friday

## DO NOT FRET

*"Why art Thou cast down, O my soul?  
And why are you disturbed with in me?"*  
– Psalm 43:5

**F**riend, o friend in this world we will tribulations. Fear will surround us and dismay will knock on our door. Circumstance may seem dire. Darkness may befall us; yet you are an adopted son. You are part of a royal priesthood. It may seem that the suffering is unending yet God is in control.

Temptation may seem constant, but press in. God is providing for you a way. A way through which His son has given you peace, love, joy and way out. Remember this is not your world. As a believer you have been given the solution to overcome this world. And in the end you will live in Glory. Yet while here press into Christ and be a overcomer. Exercise your faith and claim victory over the "mountains" that have snared you all these years. You are NOT the sin nature, you are not a fallen lot. You are part of the royalty of Christ. Put on your true nature in He that is greater than us all. Put on the inner man. Turn to Christ.

June 19, 2021

Saturday

## OUR GOD IS A JEALOUS GOD

*Nahum 1:2 "A jealous God is our Lord."*  
– Bible Chapter, Quote

**I**t is your love that God protects, yearns for and is jealous when you put others, or idols before your love for Him. One of the great mysteries of this realm is the fact that: While God loves you and has sent His only begotten to forgive all your iniquities He CANNOT force you to love Him. Yet, once you do, once you ask the Lord in your heart He does so to completion. The Lord wants all of you, all your desires, all your hurts and all your cares. The Lord wants you to surrender all to Him and in turn the Lord will never forsake you. YET, when you place other desires above or between Him; the Lord is jealous. The Lord can be avenging. Do not put the world or things of this world above your relationship of the Lord. In fact, seek ye first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these "things" shall be added unto you.

June 20, 2021

Sunday

## KNOW CHRIST

*"From Me comes your fruit."*

– Hosea 14:8

**Y**ou can do no thing separate from God, but that which dwells out of self. In the natural and to the world your works may seem good, righteous and well-intentioned ; yet it is not the best. When we yield to Christ, surrender into His grace we are given a deep abiding connection in which He uses us to love others. Then your fruit will blossom. The sweetness of your work is fragrant as the dew on a morning rose. Your work is done with little effort for He that is in you doeth these things. Your toil is not in vain. Therefore, press into the Lord and allow Him to work through you. For it is God who is the commander of your ship whether you believe or not. Soon you will leave this realm; of what power do you possess for you can not even control that fate?

June 21, 2021

Monday

## GO TO ANY LENGTHS TO FIND GOD

*" And when they could not come nigh because of the crowd, they removed the roof above Him; and when they dug an opening they dropped down the pallet on which the paralytic was lying."*

– Mark 2:4

**W**here is our desire to find God? Think of the trouble these people went through to get the poor, suffering soul in front of Christ. During each day; how much of your time is spend on seeking the Lord, in serving others in finding the Lord? If the presence of Jesus excited this fellow to use any means to be with Christ where is my effort to be in His presence? We know Christ is here. Is our faith taking us deeper in Christ, more abiding, more living in truth?

June 22, 2021

Tuesday

## LET YOUR LIGHT SO SHINE

*"That you may prove yourselves to be blameless and innocent, children of God above reproach in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you appear as lights in the world"*

– *Philippians 2:15*

In today's society this is more and more on point. In a society in which whatever "feels right" you must allow your light to shine. Today our nation struggles as millions are never even exposed to the Gospel. You are called to be the light that shines in the midst of this perverse nation. How do you do this? Through love. Love that is infused through the Holy Spirit as you ask: "More of you and less of me." Ask the Lord: "May Thy light shine through me as Thy wilt. Remove from me the iniquity that blocks off Thy light so that Thy light may shine through me." Press in my friends and do not stop. Ask you will find. Seek!!!

June 23, 2021

Wednesday

## DO NOT QUIT

*"Be alert, stand your ground, be firm in your faith, be of courage and be strong." Do everything in love.*

– *1 Corinthians 16:13*

The landscape of America is changing rapidly. As a believer in Christ whether you are in a struggle of your own sin, a family members' sins, or you are on the front lines in a ministry to help others overcome strongholds, the fact remains more than ever you must stand your ground. The message of repentance is the same today as it was when John preached it as the forerunner of Christ. Regardless if America legislates sin as a law you must carry on with a message of purity in truth and love. If you believe this will not effect you you are mistaken. Be on alert for our nation IS NO LONGER a Christian nation. Christians are seen as intolerant because most of us do not know the scriptures as we did decades ago. Families are being raised in an atheistic and agnostic environment. What was once sin is now an accepted lifestyle. Therefore, be strong, stand your ground and do not be lost in conforming to the standards of this world. You have been set apart. Carry on in love. Love is our code. Love is the answer. You can not convict others only the Holy Spirit can convict. Do everything in love, but be firm stand your ground.

June 24, 2021

Thursday

## THE WORD OF GOD COUNSELS

*"With Thy counsel Thou wilt guide me,  
and receive me to glory."*

– Psalm 73: 24

**T**he word of God in scripture is the surest truth to counsel us. Many a believer say they hear counsel from God, or through the Holy Spirit yet their lives do NOT produce the fruit to provide the evidence that they are truly hearing. WE believe that many folks are hearing what they want to hear through self. Therefore, to take instruction from God's word is the surest path to truth. And through this counsel you are received into glory. O how sweet the Lord is to the believer that believes and conforms his or her life to not what the world says, but to the guidance of the word of God. "He who trusts in His own heart is a fool;" (Proverbs 28:26). Lean not on your own understanding. Trust in the word of God. You are deeply flawed. If not you would not be here.

June 25, 2021

Friday

## ALLOW THE LORD TO GO BEFORE YOU

*"I will go before you and make the rough places smooth; I will shatter the doors of bronze and cut through their iron bars. I will give you treasures of darkness, and the hidden wealth in secret places....in order that you may know I the Lord God of Israel who calls you by your name that I am the Lord your God!!!!"*

– Isaiah 45:2-7

**W**e struggle to move forward in our own strength. We have set backs that cause us to question whether we are moving in the right direction. Over and over we see a fallen world and we think retreat. As we age we lose momentum. Yet recall Paul, he worked for the Lord all his days and never stopped. Paul was mocked, beaten, jailed over and over again and again yet he persevered. It is the Lord Thy God that can take your natural effort and make it super-natural. The Lord goes before you and opens doors and makes your paths straight. You are forgiven so do not allow the past to effect your present and yield to the mighty presence of the Holy Spirit that is ever-present. Step up in Faith and press in and look not to what you can do but rather how the Lord can move through you. Seek ye first the Kingdom of God. Stay with God and press in.



June 26, 2021

Saturday

## WAIT UPON THE LORD

*"Wait upon the Lord; be strong and let your heart take courage; yes wait upon the Lord."*

– Psalm 27:14

**W**aiting is NOT the American way. In fact, even in general we want to take charge, get it done and move on to the next task. Yet as we examine our lives: How many times have you made a decision, only upon looking back realize it was a wrong turn and you continued down the path anyways? Sometimes what is good, that may seem right is not God's best. Think of that waste. And, of course, God can make our crooked paths straight, yet the heart ache, the stress of not waiting upon the Lord can be difficult. "Lean not on your own understanding but wait upon the Lord for He is your rock your fortress your deliverer, my shield and the horn of my salvation, my high tower." Waiting is difficult, however we just do not know what God is doing in the heavenly realms. Seek the Lord in all you do.

June 27, 2021

Sunday

## O LORD HAVE MERCY

*"Be merciful to me, O God, according to Thy loving-kindness; according to the greatness of Thy compassion... Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me."*

– Psalm 51:1,10

**O** Lord forgive my forgetfulness of Thee. As I go about my days I forget that I am to put on the new man yet I continue to run the show. O Lord forgive me as I forget to pray for my neighbor, as I am short of loving all. O Lord I am a wicked person with a heart that needs cleansing, O God. Father I live in this fallen world and though you ask me to live in this world but not of this world; I fall back into my ways of iniquity. Lord forgive my forgetfulness and help me to resolve through Thy Mercy and Grace to make the effort to increase my devotion in Thee. O Lord I pray for our nation. O Lord I weep over our hatred of one another. O Lord forgive us and show us the way back to Thee. O Father allow my life to be a life of humility and a life that is according to Thy will.

## Lesson 3

# Matthew 10:37

*“He who loves his father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me; and he who loves his son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me.”*

**T**hrough the years we have seen and read scholars write about what Jesus said, as a metaphor, that He really did not mean hate your mother, father, brother or sister. It is remarkable how many can take or leave verses in the bible and make them “fit” in their lifestyle or their concept of what Christ was thinking what He said through the verses. As if man knows what Christ was thinking.

The fact is in Matthew 6:33 Christ said to seek first the kingdom of God and His righteous and these things will be added unto you.

God is a jealous God. He does not like so called, followers or disciples to put family members or worldly things before Him. You are to worship Christ and His kingdom and not be more excited about your new car or your big raise at work or the new baby that is coming, than Christ.

Over and over again, Christ speaks of the “Narrow Gate” to heaven, yet in our churches today we “think” we are going to this place of eternal peace, heaven.

Really, are we?

So ask yourself, are you more excited about paying off your mortgage than you are about the fact that Christ brings a true Spirit of liberty? It’s in your heart. You must learn that being a “good” wife and husband has little to do with the path of righteousness in Christ. Ask yourself those hard questions. Am I really in love with Christ as His bride knowing truly that the church is His bride? Do I even understand this concept?

We are growing in an understanding that true discipleship is the enemy of





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this world. Are you truly ready to follow Christ? Where is your sacrifice? How, do you not even tithe 10% of your earning and you call yourself a follower of Jesus? He wants all of you! All in is the phrase! Are you “all in” for Christ?

So what heaven do you think you are going to? Do you really believe you are going to a place of bliss, of eternal rest, yet look at your condition! You can no doubt, describe your spirituality as shallow. Feelings change your beliefs and moods based on your level of peace. Christ is seeking you to go deeper and deeper still. Go to the place when you can hear His still small voice speaking to you, “I love you”. You are the apple of my eye!

So, what is it, who is it, why is it that there are idols between you and Christ? Why have you not understood His inner call: Grow in the understanding that in you, somewhere deep, is the kingdom of God as you are made in His image. You right now can not get any closer to God than you are right now. God is omni-present. You train your mind, your intellect, purify ego and do not give into your 5 senses. None of which will not be here in a few short decades. Read Genesis 1:27. Much of what you are experiencing is ever changing.

**Go to the place when you can hear His still small voice speaking to you, “I love you”. You are the apple of my eye!**

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Therefore, learn to go within and go deeper to hear His voice, His calling, for you. Learn to grow in understanding of His word, and mostly learn to take any thought that comes in front of or in between you and Christ. Captive to Christ, Jesus wants all of you and all of your attention.

Try not to be so “small minded”. In the Christian faith there are many modes or type of worship that Christ has used to bring His flock in a deeper relationship with Him. One is silence, yes silence. Learn to grow in your relationship with Christ in the stillness of your divine nature, the Christ with in you.

You are born again, correct. Then He is alive in you! Believe it, in fact know the date you were born again. Be excited that you are “set-apart” for His work. The Lord seeks to use you.

But remember, put “no thing” in front of your relationship with Christ!

Believer!

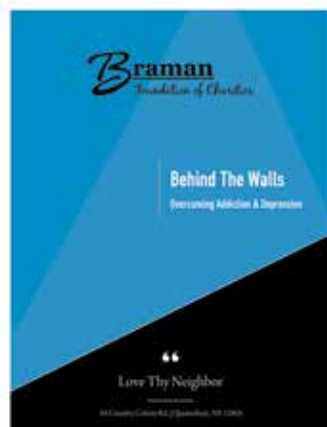
# ARE YOU BEING CALLED INTO PRISON MINISTRY?

Do you understand what Christ was saying in Matthew 25:36 " I was in prison and you visited me"



Lifeline is BFC's Program to help transition men & women from incarcerated back into society. Sponsor, mentor, or just be a great listener. Pray with a soul coming out of prison. Respond! Christ is calling!

Be part of an in-house prison program in which you participate weekly in a facility BFC Behind the Walls Program. The 12 Step Christ centered method, affirmative prayers, CBT, Christian meditation, and many nutrition guidelines.



## Lesson 4 | The Great Commission

# Matthew 28:18-20

*“And Jesus came up and spoke to them saying ‘All authority has been given to me in heaven and on earth.’ Go therefor and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit.”*

Where does it say in the above verse that you must go out and “save” people. The current church is great at getting people saved.

Work to “save” people, when in truth He wants us to bring people into relationship with Him through discipleship. One man or woman working with another. Growing in the love of Christ, spreading the God news: That where Christ is, liberty freedom exists.

**He wants us to bring people into relationship with Him through discipleship.**

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Teaching others about Christ is our fundamental calling as followers of Jesus. But how? First of all, in Christ, in God, what is your gifting? Refer to 1 Peter 4:10-11. Ask and you will receive, search and you will find, knock

and the door will open. Ask the Lord what you are to do in discipleship. He will put others in your path in which you can teach or in which can learn from. Either way, be prepared to serve humbly. Friend, go deeper and be still to hear from the Holy Spirit. We, of course, must assume you are born again. Remember with out being born again, you will lack the power of God to change others. Therefore, you must know when you came to Christ. Please recall this as is part of your testimonial to demonstrate the power of the risen Christ!

Christ is alive!! Christ is in full control!! Christ is the beginning of the end, the alpha and the omega! He too will move mountains if you allow Him to. So learn to talk about your relationship with Jesus. You should be excited about your freedom, your liberty.

Remember just as Jesus loves you, you are to love others. Love is His greatest command. One way of showing love is getting your hands dirty. You need to

# WHY DOES FEAR RULE YOUR LIFE?

Learn to memorize the most powerful scriptures in dealing with fear.

*“For God has not given us a spirit of fear but of power, love, and self control.”*

*2 Timothy 1:7*

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*“Behold God is my salvation, I will trust and not be afraid; for the Lord God is my strength and song, and He has come my salvation.”*

*Isaiah 12:2*

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*“Do not fear, for I am with you, do not anxiously look ahead for I am your God, I will strengthen you.”*

*Isaiah 41:10*



learn to love the broken, the afflicted, the widows, the orphans. The Lord, despises pride, complaining and laziness. Be prepared to go to the end of the earth to serve the Lord. Of course, He wants all your family members into the kingdom, but He may want you to go to the ends of the earth . Be prepared to help! Be prepared to be used. Remember you are called to be His, your life is no longer your own.

Discipleship is real, this is most important if you are raising children. Train your children to know the Lord and as they grow they will read the word, pray and find the Lord. Bring them to the Lord. He will do the rest.

Do no waste your time for each day is a time in which you are to serve, Today, is all you have, learn to rejoice and be glad now. For yesterday is gone and tomorrow but a dream. Therefore, live today. In Christs, message in the sermon on the mount, in Matthew's chapter six, He ends His preaching teaching about one day at a time. Learn to live as He did not know what will become of tomorrow and forgetting the past. Live righteously! Be not anxious for today is the day! Rejoice my friend in this day! Rejoice of nothing.

Build upon each day and grow in serving. There shall be no greater joy than in serving your fellow man through this calling of discipleship. Do not doubt. Doubt negates His power and stalls blessings. The Lord is a gentleman. He will not impose His will on others. Instead, He is seeking all to live a life of

humble surrender in Him.

Remember you agreed upon your quest to be born again to serve the Lord. Get to work! Exercising your will along these lines is His will! Maybe the timing is off, but none-the-less keep striving to serve. The Lord is seeking those who love Him and want to serve Him. Will you answer the call to serve?

Remember the harvest is plentiful but the working few. Worldliness, the self, and darkness are the desires in which can destruct you, take you off the course. God protects you from darkness and the world but self dies hard and the sin nature runs deep. Therefore, being mindful of your "old man". Keep striving, remember that God's grace, and the love of Jesus will provide protection, yet you must keep striving. 25% is of your effort.

Grow in this fundamental principle of being along with Christ. You can always stop and start your day over but be grounded in the truth of Christ. He lived, He preached and He died for you so that He would provide for you a direct path to God.

Do you believe? Do you understand? Be about the Lord's work and serve His people. God Bless you! Be ever joyful.

Amen.

# *Grow in your Daily Walk*

*All of us grow in deeper understanding with Christ  
as we grow in solutions with Jesus.*

*Daily Reflections helps you grow in reflections  
with a daily theme for each day.*

*Grow in understanding. Be quiet and see a  
deeper relationship with Christ.*

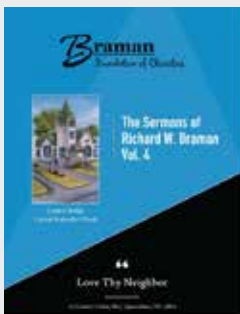
*“Behold, I knock at your door, open  
up and comesit with me.”*

*Christ is asking you to be still and know I am God.*



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# RWB Sermons



Richard W. Braman served at United Methodist Church from 1956 – 1984. He served congregations in New York, Ohio, and Illinois. Take time to learn his inspiring messages presented in book form and digitally.



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