

March 2022

Braman Foundation of Charities
presents

DISCIPLESHIP

A Devotional Magazine



Worship Service

Thursday 7pm-8pm

Our worship service is a time to meet to praise, worship, pray to God and receive a teaching (sermon) based on the Bible along with a weekly communion.



Email info@bramanfoundation.org for more information.

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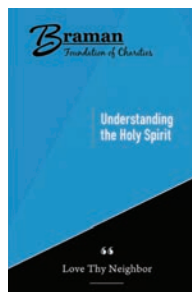
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Discover how to grow in your relationship with the Holy Spirit with BFC's book, *Understanding the Holy Spirit*.

Welcome

“The Brotherhood of Love”

Welcome to the March issue of Discipleship. We continue in the “Brotherhood of Love” and examine Peter’s work in 1 Peter 2:1-10.

“Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.”

My friend, if you Love Christ you are a chosen people. You are set apart and declared righteous. Though, you may be rejected by the world and those in this world God loves you. Know this deep down that all you value is this face that you are no longer your own and Christ is in you.

At some point you became His chosen people. Can you recall that event? You are and shall always be.

Therefore, love as Christ loves, love the Lord thy God with all your heart and all your mind and soul. Love the Lord for He dwells within you. You are His.

Open your heart to all others and bless them with Godly love. This is the love in you. And you know it is the warming balm of this love that makes us whole. Come in and ___ with He that is greater than all. The Lord seeks you in the secret place of the most high. Be ever joyful in this place!

Press into the loving kindness of the Lord and experience His presence, His healing and His ever “out reached” hand of kindness.

The 2022 Scripture:

The Living Stone and a Chosen People

Rid yourselves, therefore, of all malice, and all guile, insincerity, envy, and all slander. Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation— if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built[a] into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture:

“See, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious;
and whoever believes in him[b] will not be put to shame.”

To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected
has become the very head of the corner,”
and “A stone that makes them stumble,
and a rock that makes them fall.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people,[c] in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

Once you were not a people,
but now you are God's people;
once you had not received mercy,
but now you have received mercy.

BFC Devotional Magazine

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The Sermons of Richard W. Braman



In these sermons of RWB, we explore the “Theme of Brotherhood Love”, Christ’s compassion and Christ’s love with no conditions. Continue to press into Jesus as your savior, your best friend and your constant companion.

Regardless of your circumstances come into His presence through your undying devotions.

Again and again we speak of abiding in Christ. Only through Him can you abide. Regardless of your works, it is only through your endless devotion that you experience His Love and His presence. Therefore, my friend dive deep. His Love is ever present, waiting for you. Be at peace and understand this truth.

An Excerpt from RWB Sermons

“Anything to bring me to separation, to death, for a life of full fellowship with God and Christ.”

Come and cast this self-life and flesh-life at the feet of Jesus. Then trust Him. Do not worry yourselves with trying to understand all about it, but come in the living faith that Christ will come into you with the power of His death and the power of His life; and then the Holy Spirit will bring the whole Christ -- Christ crucified and risen and living in glory -- into your heart.

The Practice of Brotherhood

“Beloved, let us love one another; for love is of God, and he who loves is born of God and knows God. He who doesn’t love does not know God; for God is love.”

- 1 John 4:7-8

The time has arrived when talk and debate about human brotherhood is not enough. The time has come for us to put our beliefs into practice. For we can talk all of our lives but if we never do anything about it we might as well have not talked at all.

Nor is there too much need to consider how we may practice brotherhood. We know how more than we do, and by this fact some of us may have very bad consciences. We may carry guilt that needs purging.

The purpose of this sermon is to relate some of the values of the practice of brotherhood. And these are not to be considered as values of expediency, but as values at deeper and more fundamental levels. The practice of brotherhood is a reaffirmation of our Christian faith.

It really declares our faith in the Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man. The phrase falls completely and slightly from our lips. But talk and action are two different things. A handshake at the church door may express this Christian faith far more forcefully than

the mere recitation of a creedal sentence by the pulpit or the pew. A kind word and its kind deed may be even more effective.

Tradition gives us this story about one of the early saints. As he walked along the streets of his city, a beggar lifted his hands to him and asked for charity. The saint replied, “my brother, I regret that I have no coin to offer you.” Where upon the beggar, with tear-filled eyes, said, “but you have just given me the greatest gift you could have bestowed upon me. You called me brother.

The practice of brotherhood reaffirms our faith in the universality of Christ, who died for all man. His love is reaffirmed by the brotherly action of a single Christian at a definite place and at a particular time. Every man includes this man. The whosoever of the gospel includes the man farthest out.

Jesus Christ did truly die for all of us, regardless of our race or our creed. None of us can say that Christ died for me alone. If we do, we are reading something into his word for our own convenience. The practice of brotherhood in any land

would give that land an honored name among nations of the earth.

A single instance of unbrotherly attitude has brought enmity toward another people into the councils of a nation. Even a fictional deed of kindness, as in the Good Samaritan parable, has gone out into the world and given name to scores of houses of mercy.

If we are really Christians, which we claim to be, which principles of this country was established upon, then we must practice brotherhood to all people everywhere and above all we certainly need to straighten out the racial situation in our country before we try to convince other people in other countries that we really mean what we say we do. Don't believe for one moment that the people of other countries are not constantly looking at this racial situation, at how it is handled, what the results are going to be and whether or not we are going to settle it peaceably without bloodshed or violence.

There is no doubt about it, the practice of brotherhood will strengthen the country we love. Nor do we look at this as a matter of expediency. It may be expedient to take down the barriers between nationalities, race and classes but more fundamental than action for expediency sake is action because we hold in our hearts deep love for the country of which we are a part.

For pure patriotism's sake we might practice brotherhood. Since we are a part of this country, which was originally founded on Christian principles, I'm sure that all of us want our officials of this country; all of us want the policies of this

country to operate on the brotherhood principle. We certainly have to do more than talk about it. We have to show what we mean and believe in.

Above all we need to set a good example because we are one of the largest and most prosperous countries in this world. We have enough know-how, we have enough natural and material resources to help other people, less fortunate than we are, all over the world. Of course to help someone means to give more than material things. We desperately need to bring the Word of God to all people everywhere because I believe once a person has heard God's word and really comes to know him he will want to make progress and improve himself, his family, his friends and neighbors and finally his country. Knowing and loving is basic to all things.

I therefore believe that we definitely need to practice brotherhood now. We have talked too long without enough action in what we believe.

Thus we would reassert the declaration that, "all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

Are not these words from our Declaration of Independence precious to Americans? Are they not a charter of rights for all men, all over the world of ours? The practice of brotherhood in our land would overcome many divisions and heal many hurts. By this we would become a more united and happier people.

The practice of brotherhood in our world would certainly overcome many of the difficulties that separate men today; I'm coming that cause wars and results in many lost lives. And I truly believe it is the only way to overcome the threat of communism in the world. If people really come to know Jesus Christ as their personal Lord and Savior we will not have to fear communism or any other kind of political tyranny. For Jesus Christ can set us free, give us liberty and happiness that we have never known before.

"The eye can see a thousand things, a sunset cloud, a cardinal's wings. Would that the inner eye could find The bridge uniting all mankind."

The practice of brotherhood shows reverence for personality. Among resources, and one of the most important available to man of faith in their struggle to realize the ideal of human brotherhood, is that sometimes powerful, sometimes weak, but always inextinguishable and divine implantment in human nature—the veneration for that which is called personality. This is the common ground on which the most diverse may stand together; on this ground, if the issue is made clear enough, all kinds of men will stand with us. I believe the greatest skill is required in making clear the issue; and I believe that where Great skill issues, there will stand great numbers on the common ground, because of the irresistible power of this principle to move the human heart.

Let us remember that Discovery of personality is by some people and many persons a most recent experience. There our language is in which the equivalent

of the English word has only lately appeared.

We show reverence for the personalities of others by the practice of brotherhood. By this they achieve dignity and ambition. By this they gain a love for freedom and seek their own advancement. By being a brother we make brothers.

I wonder if the Negro in this country really think this is a land of freedom and liberty, a land of opportunity and advancement? How could he feel this when for many years he has been held back and held down because people (us white people) did not like the color of his skin? We figure he is different and less than we are. I wonder where our practice of brotherhood has been all these years? Apparently it has been in the talking stage with little or no action being spent since Abraham Lincoln freed the slaves.

I'm sure that many people of the backwood countries of our world feel the same way the Negro in this country feels. Many of the larger nations including our own have used in these countries, actually exploited them, by obtaining their national resources for our own advantage; hiring the people to work for them in the minds, oilfields, etc., at meager wages because they did not know any better while we and other countries made money at their expense.

Certainly we have not practicing brotherhood in these cases. By the practice of brotherhood, we show reverence for our own personalities. We recall Booker T.

Washington statement, "I will let no man drag me so low as to make me hate him."

It must be a terrible feeling to actually have hatred in your heart for someone. I think perhaps rather than letting person affect you this way, it would be much better to actually come right back stronger than ever with the practice of brotherhood. In other words we have to turn the other cheek. I know this isn't always as easy as it sounds.

Our first and most natural instinct is to strike back in the same way a person has dealt with us. But again I say that Christ can help us to turn the other cheek, he can help us to use the practice of 'brotherhood' instead of the practice of an eye for an eye and a tooth for tooth. I can assure you that if you do use the brotherhood approach you will sleep better at night, you will have no regrets and the results will be more satisfactory.

From the day that the Samaritan traveler became the good Samaritan, wherever the Christian gospel has gone, it is by the exercise of love indeed of kindness that men have exalted themselves. This truly was the way of Jesus and it should be our way also.

The practice of brotherhood reaffirms, not only the Fatherhood of God and the Saviorhood of Christ, but all that gospel which comes to us through the life, death and resurrection of Christ. Touch the gospel story at any point; it requires the immediate reaffirmation of actions in human brotherhood. If we believe in Jesus Christ and his ways, then we have to practice brotherhood. We have no other choice.

This Wednesday is Ash Wednesday and the beginning of the Lenten season. I believe this can be tied into a

brotherhood theme today.

Lent very often coincides with spring training for baseball players. The players gather in their various camps, located in warm climate. They start with running to loosen their muscles. Even a star player cannot afford to miss spring practice. So it is with Lent. It is the spring training of religion. Lent is a time for spiritual spring training, and, to mix our metaphors, a time for lubricating our souls. It is a time for resetting the gage in our spiritual spark plugs.

Jesus did not come to his mission unprepared. The 40 days of Lent are based on the story of Jesus is 40 days in the wilderness. He was tempted to misuse his power and he needed to make explicit his vocation as the one sent by God for a special task. The last week of Lent parallels Jesus' final preparation for his death. The whole drama from Palm Sunday to Good Friday is a pageant of preparation for the victory of the cross and the subsequent resurrection.

For us, also, Lent is a means of preparation for sharing in the resurrection power that comes from faith in Jesus as the Christ. First, we reaffirm our loyalty to God's will. Man's wholeness of being lies in God.

Without God, man is nothing. So we come to our second task, which is the realization of our own failures.

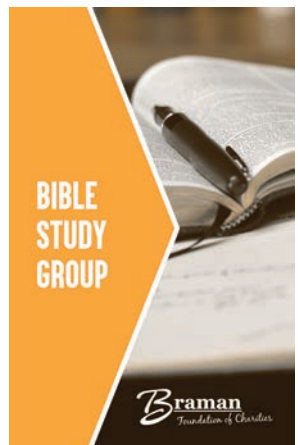
Lent is the time for the emphasis on the acknowledgment of sin. Lent is a call to repentance, when we turn from our past way of life and see the power of the Spirit to help us to do better. Our third task is to seek forgiveness. So we turn to

God. We confess our sinful motives and actions.

Then, this, is what Lent means: it is this special effort to be more devoted than ever before, more honest with ourselves and with God, and less central in ourselves. This takes time and effort. Lent provides the opportunity, but we must make the best of every moment of it.

Plus I believe we certainly need to prepare ourselves. We need to be right with God. First, before we can believe in and go out into our world in the practice brotherhood. I believe the Lenten season will help us to do this through Christ help. I also believe we must just stop talking about brotherhood and start acting.

“The time is now.” Our heritage of Christianity, our love of democracy, our respect for human personality—these call us this day to the practice of brotherhood according to the gospel of Christ. And so we again approach this season of Lent, let us take advantage of the opportunity to preface ourselves for the one great importance test of practicing brotherhood in our world.



Weekly Meetings at Queensbury Facility

LOCATION

**Bramer Foundation of Charities
Conference Room and Community Room**
49 Glenwood Ave. Queensbury, NY 12804

Phone: (518) 636-5930

Email: info@bramerfoundation.org

Discipleship

Every Tuesday, 6:30pm - 8:00pm

In the BFC Defined Discipleship Training literature, we examine the state of the church in America today. We spend time with the teachings of the great writings of: A.W Tozer, Thomas A Kempis, & A.B Simpson. There is time spent on the effects of Christ centered meditation, its scriptures and the significance of purifying the ego. We discuss regeneration, salvation, daily repentance and coming into a closer relationship with our creator. Finally we speak on a lifetime of devotion to God and Christ. Recommit your life as a Christ follower and continue your journey.

Worship Service

Every Thursday, 7:00pm - 8:00pm

Starting in September 2021, our worship service is a time to meet to praise, worship, pray to God and receive a teaching (sermon) based on the Bible along with a weekly communion.

Bible Study

Every Friday, 6:00pm - 7:00pm

Joining a small group is the best way to experience the incredible community here at BFC.

Healing & Restoration

Every Sunday, 7:00pm - 8:00pm

As a brief history, we will explore the program of Alcoholics Anonymous. Founded in June, 1935 the A.A. Program has helped millions recover from alcoholism. The essence and the backbone of the Program is the 12 Step Method. Healing & Restoration not only uses the 12 steps in a Christ centered format, it teaches CBT, meditation and has a focus on the body with nutrition and exercise.

AA Meetings

Big Book Step Study Every Saturday, 7:00pm - 8:00pm

12 Step Women's Group Every Wednesday, 7:00pm - 8:00pm

Big Book Step Study Every Thursday, 7:30pm - 9:00pm

The purpose of this meeting is to help alcoholics fully recover by the studying, discussing, and practicing of the twelve steps as they are laid out in the Big Book. It has been our hard-learned experience that other methods did not work with us. Some of us have tried other methods and our results were disastrous, until we looked at the basic and simple approach the Big Book offers.

The Garment of Compassion

“Put on the garments that suit God’s chosen people, his own, his beloved: compassion.”

- Colossians 3:12

Think of the men and women across the years, who have worn the garments of compassion. Of course, we think first of Jesus of Nazareth. It was a hard, hard world in which he lived. He relied relieved that hardness by his compassion for men and women of every class and condition. It is easy to list them. On one occasion he said, “I have compassion on the crowd.” (This is recorded in Mark 8:1-2) his death on the cross was an act of compassion, whenever we put on a garment of compassion we follow his example and we do this in response to his love. We might well do it for his sake.

Others have worn this garment. No one could make a list of the multitude so appropriately dressed. We think of the Good Samaritan in Jesus’s parable. Certainly he had compassion for the man who had been beaten and left half dead. For the Gospel of Luke says, “but a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was; and when he saw him, he had compassion.” Peter and John had donned this robe on the day when they met the lame man at the Gate Beautiful.

Adorned in this garment, St. Francis receives the reference of the centuries. We admire Florence Nightingale and all

her kind wearing cloth of compassions. The list of persons having worn or wearing the garment is endless.

Leaving the figure of a garment, what is compassion? Literally it means to “suffer alongside someone”. A Christian of the early church said that a compassionate man is one who, “puts his whole soul in the place of that of his neighbor, and to become, if it were possible, a double man; and he must suffer, and work, and weep, and mourn with him as if he himself had put on the actual body of his neighbor, and as if he had acquired his countenance and soul, and he must suffer for him as he would for himself.”

This is truly to become Christ-like. Not too many of us are willing to do this. We might show compassion for another person but only up to a certain point.

When Luna Brinker died in a great city, there must have been many for whom her death noticed carried a personal loss. She hadn’t been one of the great artists, but in the newspaper tribute was a line that even the most casual must have paused it to read it a second time. It said, “she played a thousand roles.”

Think what that meant in imagination, sympathy, understanding. A thousand roles! And so many people play only one—themselves. To enter to life as it is for another living, loving, struggling human being is an achievement. But a thousand! What a rich experience.

There is a definite need for Christian men and women to exercise compassion today. It was the need of men that sent Jesus into the towns and villages doing good. It was man's need that sent Jesus to the cross to redeem them. It was not only need in general, but need in particular.

In his parable of the Good Shepherd he affirms that his sheep are known by name. Jesus says, "I am the Good Shepherd; I know my own and my own know me, as the Father knows me and I know a Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. And I have other sheep that are not of this fold, I must bring them also, and they will heed my voice. So there shall be one flock, one shepherd." "Senior citizens" should not be an apt phrase by which we lose awareness of a certain particular person of advanced age who needs compassion. Many of us fail to realize that we are going to older soon and we will fit into the same category of "Senior Citizens". These people need our help, they need to feel wanted and useful and certainly everyone is useful. They have lived many more years than we. They had gained valuable experience that we can profit from. We certainly should not look upon these people as a necessary evil or burden that we have to take care of.

"Juvenile delinquents" should not

become a term inhibiting us from becoming friends with certain youth on our streets or even within our own households. If are young people do become juvenile delinquents, we had better look at ourselves. As parents, it is our responsibility to raise our children to be good Christians and useful citizens. Most of the youth of this country are good and they are searching for answers to questions pertaining to life.

We need to help and guide them to find the right answers. We might start by looking at our own lives and setting good Christian examples for them.

The need for compassion is all about us, and it is the need of individuals. We have to try to put ourselves in the other person shoes and try to understand their feelings, their needs and their desires. We all need this understanding and compassion sometime in our lives.

Compassion is a practical thing. Eric James points this out in these words: "Suppose this morning we were to take on the actual body of a prisoner for a moment. We are coming out of prison this very morning. Who is going to employ us? What employer is going to take the risk of trusting us? Who is going to help us catch up with things? Where can we get accommodations? What money shall we have to tide us over until we get a steady job?" These are real problems for the prisoners for we help to create them ourselves. Most of us are not willing to forgive and forget. We always have that doubt in our minds.

How many other categories of people

need help! How about the alcoholic?

The person that nearly everyone looks down his nose at except the person who hasn't been through it himself. We know that alcohol is a disease that same as TB or cancer but we still are not willing to accept it as such. We would rather stay our distance and let them take care of themselves or let someone else help them. We need to consider the plight of the individuals in each category.

On the chapel wall of the Peking Union Medical College is a tablet. It is in memory of Dr. Hall, who died of plague. It was a grim time, and Dr. Hall was identified with his people. When the tablet was ready to go up on the wall, they inscribed on it, most fittingly, some words spoken by a Chinese who knew him well.

“He took my sickness into his own heart.” Christian definitely need to wear the garment of compassion.

How can we be Christians if we don't have compassionate hearts? How can we get this garment? How can we learn to put ourselves in another's place? How can we become really compassionate men and women?

How can we become really compassionate men and women?

First of all—We can remember Christ's own compassion towards us and give response to his love. We can find Christ compassion for us by reading his word. The Bible will tell us all we want to know about it. Through reading the Bible we

will find how Christ gave his very life for our sakes, the greatest act of compassion ever performed. As we read the Bible, within ourselves we will want to respond to Christ's love by extending it to others. We can also take Christ into our hearts, into our own lives. Once we have really and truly have compassion for others.

During the taking of the 1950s census, one of the census takers reported a conversation with a woman who must have read these words of Jesus: “I have compassion on the crowd.” She lived in an apartment in a crowded section of her city. As she talked with a census taker, four or five children were clinging to her dress and apron. One of the questions was, “how many children have you?” The woman answered, “well let's see; there's Agatha and Jonathan and Cleo.” The man was a bit irritated and said, “never mind the names. Give me the number.” The woman drew up to her full height and with dignity said, “in our family, the children do not have numbers, they have names.” This is the gospel! In God's family—all 2 1/2 billion of them now; the children do not have numbers, they have names. And we who follow Christ will say with him, “I have compassion on the crowd”, until the blur of the crowd fades and we see faces, faces of persons who have names and who will claim and receive our compassion.

I have heard many people say why are we concerned about people in India, China, Africa, when there are thousands of people in our own country that need our help? This may be true but we have to remember the people in other countries are God's people; we have

much abundance and can well afford to help all people everywhere.

Christ told us that we have to go to all parts of the world proclaiming the Gospel and his Gospel in compassion for other people. We claim to be Christians and therefore must do everything that is possible to help.

Second, we can become real compassionate man and women by persistently praying for the grace to be given us. You notice I use the word persistence because we cannot pray once and forget about it or we cannot pray when we feel like it, but regularly. God will help us to become compassionate men and women, boys and girls, if we ask for his help. He will direct us towards people and he will show us how to show compassion, and at the right time. There is no more powerful force in the world in prayer. If we truly believe God will help us.

Third, we can cultivate and make use of our imaginations. By that we shall begin to put ourselves in another's place. Such is that of the prophet Ezekiel as recorded in the 3rd chapter, "The Spirit lifted me up and took me away, and I went in bitterness in the heat of my spirit, the hand of the Lord being strong up on me; and I came into the exiles at Telabib, who dwells by the river Chebar. And I sat there overwhelmed among them seven days." Putting ourselves in another's place is important for we need always to try to understand another's position if we are to help them.

Fourth, we can learn compassion by its

practice. Regardless of what we do— Play the piano, play baseball, drive a car, the practice of actually doing something helps us to know how to do it. And the more we do something the easier it becomes, the better we become at it. We can read all kinds of books about a subject but if we never do what we have been reading about, we will never know how to do it.

Practicing compassion whenever and where ever we have a chance helps us to learn it better.

We can begin and we shall begin that practice today. Someone needs our help right now. So why not begin now. Put on the garment of compassion that suits God's chosen people.



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March
2022

March 1, 2022

Tuesday

YOUR FAITH WILL MAKE YOU WELL

“Daughter, your faith has made you well, go in peace.”

– Luke 8:48

Where are you in your faith? Faith being the substance of things hoped for in the evidence of the unseen. This woman knew that the power in Christ would heal her. Therefore, she pushed, she shoved, she did what she needed to do to get whole. Sometimes we hear of these miracles yet we think this could not be me. Maybe you feel you are not worthy therefore why would God heal me? Friend let me encourage you to press in with your faith and know that you are loved by Christ, by God. There will be no greater relationship in which you can depend. In fact, in this earthly realm there no thing more important than you to establish your intimacy with Jesus. Remember you came in this world naked and alone and you will leave this planet alone. Get acquainted with the one that is above every name. Heal your life through your faith in Christ



March 2, 2022

Wednesday

YOUR SIN WAS TAKEN AWAY!!!

“They took Jesus, and led Him away.”

– John 19:16

“Now we see Jesus brought before the priests and rulers, who pronounce Him guilty. God Himself imputes our sin on Christ : ‘ The Lord hath laid on Him the iniquity of us all’; ‘He was made sin for us’ and as a substitute for our guilt, bearing sin upon His shoulders, represented by the cross we see Christ led away. In this final act God through His Son is taking away your sin. My friend, can you feel assured that He carried your sin? As you look upon that cross do you see your sin? Does the cross represent your sin? There is one way by which you can tell whether He carried your sin or not. Have you gotten down upon your knees and confessed your sin? Have you trusted Christ? If so your sin lies not on you, but on the King of Kings, the Lord of Lords. Jesus bears your sin. He bears it on a load heavier than that cross. Your life is not your own!!! Can you NOT feel it!! Rejoice!!!”

March 3, 2022

Thursday

REJOICE!

“Because He poured out Himself to death.”

– Isaiah 53: 12

Give praise to the One on High. Remember the Lord as He poured out Himself for the many. Today His Holy Spirit is here, guiding you, uplifting you and protecting you. Christ manifested in the flesh. God incarnate has come, and has died for all that confess and believe. Grow in knowledge of knowing this through time spent with the Almighty One. Be in prayer, in meditation and on bended knee. Know that He is was and shall ever be Lord over this age. He is the one and only King of Kings. Christ has gone to the cross for our redemption!!!!



March 4, 2022

Friday

LEARN IN YOUR SUFFERING

“ Though He was a Son, yet learned He obedience by the things which He suffered.”

– Hebrews 5:8

You too must suffer to remove the pangs of self from you. Though he was perfect and suffered for all, we must suffer through the removal of the gulf which separates us from union in God. Remember God wants all of you every day. Many times only through suffering do we gain the Grace and mercy to overcome. His suffering was the persecution of the many that dwelt in sin. Every time you allow self to rule you deny Christ. And although you know not; He will reveal that which you do not know through your confession. Self reliance is the sin that comes from fear. Fear reigns throughout this realm. You must not dwell on fear as you answer the call in Matt:28. My friend as Christ suffered, so must you to finally overcome. Rejoice in your suffering. Rejoice!!

March 5, 2022

Saturday

GROW IN THE LOVE OF CHRIST

“ And to grow in the love of Christ which surpasses all knowledge that you may be filled to all the fullness of God.”

– Ephesians 3:19

It is to understand the totality of Christ as seated in God that manifested as a man on this earth to suffer for all mankind for the forgiveness of sin is to begin to understand the love of God. God, Christ and the Holy Spirit are one in the same. This is why we refer to God in those three persons. So that your understanding increases with the knowledge of reading the word that God is Christ and Christ is God perfected as a man, manifested on earth. To understand the love of God that He should suffer so is beyond any human love we can fathom. Therefore, allow and seek God in all you do, allow God to be your first and last love in all you do. For further reading: Ephesians : 3:14-20. This is all of Paul's Prayer.



March 6, 2022

Sunday

HAVE YOU ABANDONED CHRIST

*“Then all the disciples left Him and Fled.”
– Matthew 26:56*

You may not have abandoned Christ consciously, but worldliness causes us to forget Christ. You are in a rush through your ministry, your work, your family yet you do not even think of Jesus. Does your life glorify Christ or self. Many of us are so self reliant through fear that we do not realize it because we measure up to a standard of the world: Financial success, education etc; that we, through mis-perception, mistakenly believe we are in Grace yet are only in self. I am saved through Grace and I put on the “new man” through abandoning self, the ways of the world. I yield to Christ for He is my King, my Salvation and my Way. Christ is my true teacher, the one that is always with me. Try not to let go of Christ and forsake Him. Just because His disciples did 2,000 years ago DOES NOT mean you have too.

March 7, 2022

Monday

GOD DWELT AMONG US

“And being in agony He was praying very fervently; and His sweat became like drops of blood, falling down upon the ground.”

– Luke 22:44

In this verse we realize Christ’s Divinity as He realizes that He is to take on the sin of the world. In Luke’s writing there is the lead up to this truth; almost as if it is an under current to His story. Yet we know that Christ was God incarnate that had come to save the world. There shall be no other. There will be wolves in sheep clothing that may claim divinity, but none that will come to take away the sin of each sinful soul. My friends realize this truth and thank Him for His sacrifice.



March 8, 2022

Tuesday

THE LORD WEEPS AS HE PRAYS

“And He went a little farther and fell on His face and prayed.”

– Matthew 26:39

Our Lord is coming into the realization of His fate on the cross. The realization of what must be done for all humanity. This is God incarnate coming to an understanding that going to the cross must occur. Can you imagine this fate, this realization, the burden that this must have been upon this Christ Child? Yet He says if it be Thy will so be it done. Again and again He goes it alone with the Father. So too we must develop this relationship with the Father alone. learn to spend time with your Holy Father.

March 9, 2022

Wednesday

GROWING IN GRACE

“ Rather you must grow in grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

– 2 Peter 3:18

Allow to grow in grace of Christ through seeking greater: Humility, faith and the love of God and others. To comprehend His wounds, why He suffered and how He sacrificed Himself for the many is to grow in humility. Grow in faith through exercising what may be impossible to you, but in God nothing is impossible. Grow in the love of Christ through renouncing self the enemy of God; the anti-Christ: You!!! As you submit yourself in God and repent for your condition you grow in love which is the essence of God. Thus you will love Thy Neighbor in all ways. Learn to grow in grace through these attributes and become more useful in building His kingdom here on earth.



March 10, 2022

Thursday

YOUR LIFE IS NOT YOUR OWN

“Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own.”

– 1 Corinthians 6:19

Paul continues: “For you have been bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body.” My body is a temple in which the Holy Spirit dwells. The decision to crucify self has occurred and while there is a struggle here; this is what is called regeneration. This process requires an effort of surrender unlike the process of Grace saving you. Here Christ has taken place in you yet you struggle with mental, emotional and physical struggles. In fact, you may even believe that you are not of His. Truly go deeper, spend more time in solitude with the Lord. This regeneration is between you and the Holy Spirit. Regardless press forward!!!! Press in resting in the truth of who you are in Christ.

March 11, 2022

Friday

MORE OF THEE LESS OF ME

“I am a stranger with thee.”

– Psalm 39:12

In my self I am a stranger to God. Though I am made in God’s image I am forgetful of this true nature as “the old man” continues on in my consciousness. Lord I seek to know Thee intimately. Through His Grace the old self is removed as I dive deeper in Thee. Show me how to love more and to be less. Less of the self and more of Christ. It is only this mystery that can remove self. Though we tarry in effort it is only through His grace that this shall occur.



March 12, 2022

Saturday

ALLOW ALL OF GOD'S GRACE IN YOUR LIFE

"You therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus."

– 2 Timothy 2:1

As a loving Father Christ yearns to give unto His children all his Grace. Do I accept that truth and understand its meaning? Can I believe that Christ loves me so much that He yearns to give me all abounding Grace? Or am I stuck in a continuing cycle of sin and defeat? Do I realize that the measure of Grace is directly proportional to the measure of my abiding in the Love of Christ? That my consciousness is changed into Thee. O Lord O Lord I thank you for Thy abundant grace. May I be strong in all Thy ways!!!!

March 13, 2022

Sunday

GOD IS WITH YOU

"Do not fear, for I am with you; do not be anxiously look about you for I am your God. I will strengthen you, surely I will help you, surely I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

– Isaiah 41:10

Some of us have been called through the Holy Spirit to serve at some level in building the kingdom of God. To serve the Lord in His work. Yet we have heard and we have NOT stepped into the calling. Fear has said to us, "Why me, what can I give that is not already being done? OR Who am I with such a broken past to be used in building the Kingdom?" Be reminded of this: Paul, Moses and David were all used mightily in God's Work!!! Really there is no dispute. Yet they were all three murders of people. All fell from Grace. All were deep sinners. My friend look how they stepped into their calling and were used for kingdom building. Always remember this: God is in control. He will accomplish His purposes with you are without you. To die and realize that you missed the mark through fear is dreadful. You who have ears to hear let you hear!!!



March 14, 2022

Monday

IT IS GOD THAT PROVIDETH

“Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall.”

– 1 Corinthians 10:12

The idea that you alone are responsible for your success must be overcome. The idea that I can “go it alone” too must be smashed. The spirit of a mere mortal that is proud of accomplishment is a folly. Why? For in an instant you or I am removed from this stage of life/ this realm of existence and remembered no more. Think of the name of your fore father 5 generations ago, less than 100 years. You know not. The idea that I do not need God’s Grace in all I do is just funny and pathetic. The Lord is the director of my life as I have committed it all unto the Lord. I am unable to go back wards in this heart-felt love and am moving forward in His unending counsel and love. Even when disciplined we know this is because of the love of Jesus. So continue on in your surrender.

March 15, 2022

Tuesday

ENTER THE KINGDOM THROUGH TRIBULATION

“Through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God,”

– Acts 14:22

Being christian does not mean you **WILL NOT** have tribulations, however you will be protected. Christ suffered greatly. Christ is our example. Do not avoid suffering, neither bring it upon you through wrong actions or thinking, but when it comes be aware of its lesson and leave your tribulation at the foot of the cross. it matters little what it may be only you know you are not God. God gives you your salvation. Cast all your burdens upon He that is greater than all. Always know that as you enter heaven these tribulations will leave you!!!!



March 16, 2022

Wednesday

JESUS LOVELY OF THE LOVELIEST

“His mouth is full of sweetness. And He is wholly desirable. This is my beloved and my friend. O daughters of Jerusalem.”

– Song of Solomon 5:16

The Admiration by the Bride of Christ. The church is the bride of Christ and in these verses we read of the description by the bride of the groom which is Jesus. “ His eyes are like doves besides the still waters, bathed in milk.....”. In your heart how do you see Christ? Is Jesus your Lord of Lords, your King of kings, your most lovely relationship? Is not Christ more precious than your spouse, your child, the one you love the most? Ponder your relationship with the father, the son and the Holy spirit. Is there none more important?

March 17, 2022

Thursday

HAVE FAITH

“Have faith in God.”

– Mark 11:22

Faith is knowing what you’re praying for is here even though you do not see the object yet. maybe you are praying for world peace, the end of all wars, no violence in America, all humans loving their neighbor. These prayers are lifted up knowing them to be true for we also know that no thing is impossible in God. It is easy to have faith when all is well and your bank account is flush and your job is good and the health of all your loved ones is well. Exercise your faith when you are struggling: Say to the demons, “ it may seem impossible now but I know that new job is coming in, I know I will pay my bills on time, I know my health will be well.” BELIEVE!!!!



March 18, 2022

Friday

BE BORN OF SPIRIT

"...Unless one is born of water and spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God... You must be born again."

– John 3:5-7

It would be wise to study all of Christ's words in those few verses. The process of being born of Spirit or born again is commonly referred to as "Being converted." There is an experience that occurs in one's consciousness that changes them and the individual is directed through the spirit in a way that produces a "God-consciousness." It is the mystery through Grace that this happens, however it does occur. Ask and you shall receive, knock and the door will open, seek and you will find. You must ask and seek this from the Lord. And then it is said that one's regeneration begins. So "are ye born again?"

March 19, 2022

Saturday

STIR UP YOUR FAITH

"And for this reason I remind you to stir up the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands. For God has not given you a spirit of fear, but of power, love and self control."

– 2 Timothy 1:6-7

God has given Timothy faith through Paul. And so we have been given faith through our confession that Christ is our Lord and we believe in our hearts that God raised Him from the dead we have been saved. Upon this confession you are adopted into the Kingdom of God. Your regeneration has begun and now Paul is telling Timothy to "Stir it up". In otherwise, exercise your faith. Do the things that God has asked you to do. Move forward on these plans. It may not be seen in the natural, but prepare for these blessings to come.



March 20, 2022

Sunday

YOU HAVE BEEN CALLED OUT OF DARKNESS

“But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God’s own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.”

– 2 Peter 2:9

In Christ you are chosen, protected, God is in control of your life. You are putting off your old self and Christ is in charge. For once you were not His people but now you are as your decision to ask Christ into your life. You are governed by his mercy, freed through his Grace. Can you not understand? You are set apart and as such you have a protection around you, not that you can take for granted, but rather you can know that you are protected as you are about the Lord’s work. Doors are open and others close that protect you and give you advantage. Therefore, know these truths and seek to work unto the Lord!!!

March 21, 2022

Monday

YOUR HOPE IN GOD

“My soul wait in silence for God only; He is my rock and my salvation, my stronghold I shall not be shaken. On God my salvation and Glory rest; the rock of my strength my refuge is in my God. Trust in Him at all times, o my people; pour out your heart before Him; God is a refuge for us.”

– Psalm 62:5-8

Yes wait on the Lord in all you do. He knows your heart cry and is a jealous God. He yearns for you to cry out for Him not His gifts, but He alone!!! He is your stronghold in which you can depend. He is your refuge!! Loved ones will come and go, money from business will come and go, money from careers will come and go. Your grand children will come and go. And all the darkness from depression will come and go. Yet God is the same today, tomorrow and for all times. Where is your dependence my friend? For if it is rooted in the “things” of this world you will be dismayed and sorry. Go to God through Christ who is your advocate



March 22, 2022

Tuesday

THE LORD IS YOUR TRUE PROTECTOR

“He who dwells in the shelter of the most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say to the Lord, “ My refuge and my fortress, My God in whom I trust!”

– Psalm 91:1

There is a super natural protection for God’s people. The Israelites knew this and where always under Gods protection , on the move and into the promised land. You are adopted as His own as the result of your conversion into the Kingdom. This super-natural protection is now your ownership, not to squander, but to own, to sew into. As you press into Christ in your abiding you grow not in God but you become less and He that dwells in you becomes more. You are, were and shall always be made in the image of God. You only need to know that this ever-changing world, its illusions , its darkness is not yours. This is not your final resting place. Therefore, go within and find the Lord. Dwell in God and He will dwell in you.

March 23, 2022

Wednesday

THE LORD IS EVER PRESENT

“Not that I speak from want; for I have learned to be content in all circumstances that I am in.”

– Philippians 4:11

Even though our circumstances may be difficult learn to be silent and work through them. The Lord DOES NOT like a complainer. Are you a disciple or not? If so then you have asked the Lord to reveal to you the darkness, the sin nature that blocks off the ability for the Holy Spirit to train you and use you. This discipline while to the world may seem difficult but for you; you can count it all joy. For the lord is at work in your life changing you into His image. In fact, learn to rejoice in your affliction. Say I thank you lord and I will ever be in Thy presence as Thy would wilt in me. Accept your training and move forward. May Thy will be done.



March 24, 2022

Thursday

GOD IS YOUR TRUE STRENGTH

“From the God of your father who helps you and by the Almighty who blesses you with blessings of heaven above, blessings of the deep that lies beneath, blessings of the beasts and of the womb. The blessings of your father have surpassed the blessings of my ancestors up to the utmost bound of the everlasting hills; may they be on the head of Joseph and on the crown of the one distinguished among his brothers.”

– Genesis 49:25-26

This is part of Jacob’s blessings to his 12 sons. The 12 tribes of Israel. Joseph is the brother that is distinguished among his brothers. It is in him that the blessing of Israel is transferred. It is this same power that is available to you to overcome the strong holds that are rooting you in the ways of this world. Are you struggling with temptation, struggling with negative thoughts, struggling with fear? Then allowing the sin to take hold? Even though you have given your life to Christ you are still struggling and stuck in these strong holds. Gain hold of the Power of the almighty God in your confession and ask the Holy Spirit to expose the root of the sin that causes you to be bound. You can overcome by the redeeming, freeing power of God. Yet you must learn to summon this power. Knock, seek and ask and the Holy Spirit, which is your advocate, to reveal to you the way.

March 25, 2022

Friday

HE SAITH IT SHALL BE

“ He Himself has said , “ I will never leave you nor forsake you so we can confidently say: “ The Lord is my helper, I will not be afraid. What shall man do to me?” (Psalm 118:6&7)

– Hebrews 13:5

The Lord has hidden treasures in His word just for you. Treasures that will sustain you, lift you up, heal you, strengthen you, and comfort you. You must spend the time in His word to find them, then you must meditate upon them and then you will believe. He hath said it. It shall be done and it is true. Press in to the truth of what God will do then respond. Shallow belief, weak prayer, leads to no change and unbelief. Make your bible study, your meditation, your prayer life the MOST important event of your day. Then you invoke the presence of God and you abide greater and these things shall come true. God waits for you. His Grace and Mercy are free. Go within and see for yourself.



March 26, 2022

Saturday

GOD OUR TRUE COMFORTER

“God that comfort those who are cast down.”

– 2 Corinthians 7:6

Another translation substitute depressed for cast down. Regardless, give all of you to God through surrender. Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal to you the sin that you have not confessed that causes the separation from the Light. Too many of us mask our lives with medication through treatment of psychology when we simply need to confess our sin nature and get to the root. Cast all your worries upon the Lord and He will sustain you. However, this means you need to be in relationship with the Holy Spirit. But how? Like all relationships it is time. If the I love the Lord Thy God with all my heart mind and soul then there is no thing more important than this relationship. You can give it all to the Lord and He will answer, comfort and relieve. Do not allow the ways of this world to dictate to you the answers that are found in a deep abiding relationship with Christ.

March 27, 2022

Sunday

TO GOD BE ALL GLORY

“ To Him be the glory, both now and forever to the day of eternity.”

– 2 Peter 3:18

Today say, “I will glorify Thee in all I do.” I have a mind in which I can think lovely, pleasant and kind thoughts of peace and joy. Therefore, I will extol Thee in my mind. I have a heart, a being an essence and I will love Thee with all Thine heart. I have a body in which I express in throughout this realm. And with my body I will glorify you, O Lord in what I eat, what I say and how I act. Whether I am sick, whether poor I will give Thine all the glory and let my life be an ever reflection of Thee. O Divine master thank you for your example



March 28, 2022

Monday

YOU ARE CHRISTS

“And you belong to Christ and Christ to God”

– 1 Corinthians 3:23

You have been adopted into the Kingdom through your decision to seek Jesus. Yes remember this fact. God has shed His blood for you. This is a personal relationship you develop through seeking Him in all you do. My friends go deeper in your relationship with Christ and seek Him all!!! All for Jesus!!! All for Christ!! You are forever protected. Praise God. Lift up your arms in praise. Shout this from the roof top. The Lord is now, was and shall always be your firm foundation that is built upon this rock!!! Say I am Christs!!!

March 29, 2022

Tuesday

DIG DEEPER

“And those on rocky soil are those who, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no firm root; they believe for a while yet in time of temptation fall away.”

– Luke 8:13

Receive this Thy word from God and examine yourself. As the word of God is implanting in you do you respond deep down? Or Do you doubt the word and cast it aside? Ask the Lord to plough and make your soil fertile so you can accept the word of God: You are made in His image. You have within you the ability to rise up above your current circumstances and be of use to the Kingdom of God. Stop trying to fulfill your selfish desires rooted in sin. You are wasting time identifying with your circumstances working out through your salvation the ability to change. You must go within and understand that the God of the most high is in you as your soul as the define image. Go deeper, ask the Lord to til your soil and get going!!!



March 30, 2022

Wednesday

YOUR FUTURE IS A CROWN

"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept my faith. In the future there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day; and not only to me but to all that have loved His appearing."

– 2 Timothy 7-8

Do not doubt as to your future, where you will be and in what state. Oh my Christian what a glorious thought. You are, and shall always be given the keys to the Kingdom. There is a crown for only your head, a throne only for you. You have confessed that Christ is your Lord, you have repented of the curse that plagued you. Therefore, know you are coming home. No one else shall have your portion. It has been laid up for Thee!! For there are no vacant thrones in glory when all the chosen are gathered.

March 31, 2022

Thursday

I WILL BE THEIR GOD

"I will put My law within them, and on their heart I will write it; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people."

– Jeremiah 31:33

"This is the covenant that I shall make with them after those days says the Lord. I will put my laws upon their hearts, and upon their mind I will write them and their sins and lawless deeds I will remember no more."

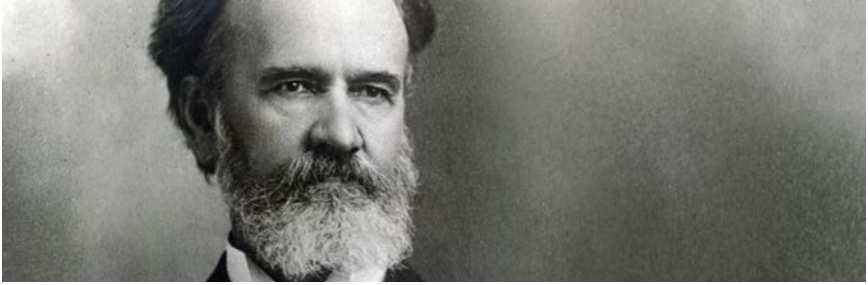
– Hebrews 10:16

O God you are our great God. Rejoice at this truth!!! That you have a God that is with you always, always forgiving and always loving you. Praise Him!!! Be ever joyful and tell others of this truth. Is there any other religion on this planet that indeed has such a loving, omnipresent God. Oh Lord O Lord we thank you that we are adopted into Thy Kingdom through Thy Grace. And this is an ever lasting covenant that the Lord has given His people for ever!! You are forever in His family, protected, forgiven with grace abound!!!



A Daily Devotional

By A.B. Simpson, Founder of C and MA Church



“By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep his commandments”

-1 John 5:2

“Lovest thou me?” the Master asks of each disciple. He expects our first and highest love for Himself, personally, and He has a right to it. More than all our service, more than all our work to build up a cause, He desires our personal devotion to Him. Mary’s gift was precious because it was personal. Ye have the poor with you always; but me ye have not always (Mark 14:7), was His tender suggestion of a danger which defeats His purpose-our being more occupied with the work of Christ than with Christ Himself.

We need the love of Christ in order to fit us for His work. Nothing else will give it its true aim and center; nothing else will sustain us amid its pressures.

When Jesus was about to send Simon to take care of His flock, He did not ask Him, “Lovest thou my sheep and my lambs?” He asked, “Lovest thou me?” Mere love for people will not enable us to be true to them; but love for Christ will give us a reflected love for others that will enable us to touch them for Him and to bless them as our direct touch never could.

Grow in your Daily Walk

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



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Love with No Conditions

“He is able to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him.”

- Hebrews 7:25

Some people have a prejudice against the word ‘save’. This word may be like an old coin that has been battered and become misshapen by rough usage, but nevertheless is pure gold, recognized by the dealer in precious metals. Let us not scorn the word.

“It is so easy to persuade men that the amount of forgiveness they can receive is measured by the quality of repentance they can offer.”

Christ is able to save. From what? Our text today suggests an answer to this question: it suggests that the saved man is moving toward God; the man who is not saved is moving away from God. The ultimate in salvation is being united with God. When the prodigal left home he was not saved; he was headed the wrong way; when he turned toward his father’s house he was on the road to salvation. There are many experiences that a man has when he is moving away from God. Here are some of them.

He is affected with a sense of guilt. There are all sorts of guilt, false guilt, repressed guilt, guilt that is a feeling of inferiority, guilt because you have not been true to yourself, guilt because you have not served well your fellow man, guilt

because you have hurt God. The form that guilt takes depends much upon the nature of the person involved. When a man moves toward God, Christ lifts the sense of guilt. Christ is able to lift the burden of guilt.

Movement away from God is movement towards darkness. Day by day the lights go out. Candles of idealism sputter and fail. Men walk in the plume of failure, futility, and frustration. All things begin to lose their luster. Life itself may become a dark alley. Jesus is able to save a man from the oncoming darkness of despair, even death. Jesus said, “I am the light of the world”. He turns men to God by the attractive brilliance of his light.

In movement away from God love diminishes and finally disappears. A man called upon a minister by night in despair because he was becoming loveless. “I do not love my children, I do not love my wife; I do not love my friends; I am becoming like a nut.” These were his actual words. To live in a loveless world is separation from God who is a god of love. Christ is able to restore love to a man’s heart.

Lost is a word that Jesus used to describe separation from God. Some men are lost

like sheep that have wandered from the fold. Some are lost like coins that have fallen into a dark corner. Some men are lost because they have deliberately left the house of light and love and joy. “Lost” has been called the most tragic word in the English language. There are so many places where men get lost—lost in pride, lasting ambition, lost in envy, lost in greed, lost in their own obstinacy. Christ is able to reclaim the lost.

All sorts of things happen to us when we move away from God, in fact, nothing seems to go right. Problems and conditions come to us and we have no one to turn to for help and guidance. We are actually alone and to be alone is a feeling that none of us enjoy. When we are moving away from God, I also believe that we imagine things are happening to us, our emotions run away from us and our thinking and conception of right and wrong have vanished. These are but a few of the experiences that come to men who are moving away from God.

What is this great salvation? It is much more than we have implied so far. It is often known as relief from bearing a great burden. A burden that is so heavy it holds us down and we are unable to rise above. It is walking in the light, which shineth more and more onto the perfect day. When we are in darkness everything is black, we cannot see where we are going. “We love because he first loved us.” If we could only love one another as Christ loves us, all of the misunderstanding, all of the prejudices, all of the fighting, all of the wars in our world would end and this piece that we are all concerned about would finally

come to pass. Love isn’t necessarily the showing of affection by physical acts, such as kissing or hugging but it can be a concern that is so deep that it moves us to show our concern by some kind of action.

Salvation is the prodigal’s joy of living in the Father’s house after experience as a swineherd.

Now the word “uttermost” becomes emphatic in our text. “To the uttermost”, reads the King James version; the new English Bible says, “absolutely” and “fully and completely” writes J.B. Phillips. “To the uttermost”, saved forever and ever, for this life and the next. “Absolutely” forgiven, our sinfulness is separated from us as far as the east is from the west. “Fully and completely” clean, like new fallen snow.

“Love with no conditions”, this phrase comes from Dr. Paul Tourner’s book, “Guilt and Grace”. He writes, “in every age, men have projected precisely the same idea on God. They picture God as one who loves them only on condition that they are good, and who refuses them his love if they become guilty. Fear of losing the love of God— this is the essence of our human problem and of psychology. Even a person, who does not believe in God, trembles to lose his love. This false idea of God, still so widespread among his people is just what Jesus came to remove. He shows us that God loves us unconditionally, loves us not for our goodness or our virtues but because of our misery and guilt.”

You don’t have to know theology to

accept the love of God through Jesus Christ.

You do not have to agonize in repentance for your sins in order to receive this great salvation.

You need not bring any merit of your own. You need bring no achievement, no accomplishment, no payment, no works, no service. Christ is able to save without these.

Is it not necessary for men to forgive others their trespasses against them, before God will forgive them? For we read in Matthew 6:14-15, “for if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you; but if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your father forgive your trespasses”. Will men who are moving away from God, children of darkness, on the road of lovelessness, do this?

This is the road they will take after they have turned, not before. Saved men will seek to forgive their brothers, not unsaved men. Christ is able to save to the uttermost, without conditions.

How is it possible for Christ to save us without our fulfilling certain conditions? That is a question worth asking and worth answering, but that is not the point of this sermon. To know how Christ saves us is not a condition of salvation. He is able to save us without that.

Martin Luther, an impetuous man, driven to despair by the feeling of guilt,

after vainly plunging into penances and mortifications, discovered afresh in his turn that salvation is not earned, but it is a gift of God, free and offered in advance to the sinner, and that it is sufficient to accept it by faith. From his cry of relief, the Reformation was born, like an explosion, at a time when the church was insisting on works, merits, and indulgences, all of which laid the cost of salvation upon man's own souls.”

In the Old Testament story, when a plague of snakes had come upon Israel wandering in the wilderness, the people were saved from death by the serpents' stings by looking upon a serpent of brass set upon a pole. This is recorded in Numbers 21: 8-9, “And the Lord said to Moses, make a fiery serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten, when he sees it, shall live.” So Moses made a bronze serpent, and set it on a pole; and if a serpent bit any man, he would look at the bronze serpent and live.” Jesus referred to the story in these words, “And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up: that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.”

“Look and live”, was an old gospel song that carried the message of the Old Testament symbol and the saving power of Christ.

Look and Live! It just doesn't seem possible. But all things are possible with God. “Jesus is able to save to the uttermost.”

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SPURGEON'S CORNER

"We love him because he first loved us."

1 John 4:19



There is no light in the planet but that which proceedeth from the sun; and there is no true love to Jesus in the heart but that which cometh from the Lord Jesus himself. From this overflowing fountain of the infinite love of God, all our love to God must spring. This must ever be a great and certain truth, that we love him for no other reason than because he first loved us. Our love to him is the fair offspring of his love to us. Cold admiration, when studying the works of God, anyone may have, but the warmth of love can only be kindled in the heart by God's Spirit. How great the wonder that such as we should ever have been brought to love Jesus at all! How marvelous that when we had rebelled against him, he should, by a display of such amazing love, seek to draw us back. No! never should we have had a grain of love towards God unless it had been sown in us by the sweet seed of his love to us. Love, then, has for its parent the love of God shed abroad in the heart: but after it is thus divinely born, it must be divinely nourished. Love is an exotic; it is not a plant which will flourish naturally in human soil, it must be watered from above. Love to Jesus is a flower of a delicate nature, and if it received no nourishment but that which could be drawn from the rock of our hearts it would soon wither. As love comes from heaven, so it must feed on heavenly bread. It cannot exist in the wilderness unless it be fed by manna from on high. Love must feed on love. The very soul and life of our love to God is his love to us.

"I love thee, Lord, but with no love of mine,
For I have none to give;
I love thee, Lord; but all the love is thine,
For by thy love I live.
I am as nothing, and rejoice to be
Emptied, and lost, and swallowed up in thee."

BRAMAN FOUNDATION OF CHARITIES

WORLD WIDE PRAYER CIRCLE

7:00PM - 8:00PM



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MUSTARD SEED CHAPEL

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BFC Thanksgiving Greetings

Thanksgiving
2 Corinthians 8:9 For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by His poverty might become rich.



It is 2 Corinthians 8:9 where we think about what our definition of the word rich is. Surely our Lord did not give His life so we might be rich in material blessings or even rich in safety or security. The Lord our God did not live a rich life of safety and security as He continuously placed Himself in harms way to do the work of His heavenly Father. Jesus was thankful for the little, knowing that His true riches would be with His Father in heaven. If you count your riches by who and how many love you it will still fall short of the riches from our heavenly Father. As Jesus traveled and spoke the word of Christ he was hated and feared.


Thankful to the Lord for His sacrifice

Thankful:
Thankful the Lord does not give us what we desire! He does however give us everything we need. When we live in the knowledge of need we acknowledge all the Lord has given us and we are: **Thankful**

Gratitude:
Gratitude is an act of faith - especially in the midst of life's challenges. Thank the Lord regardless of our circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Jesus. 1. **Thessalonians 5:18**
God's love is there always, even when we cannot feel it and He promises never to leave us. As we seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will give to you as well. **Mathew 6: 31- 33.**

Thankfulness Leads to Witnessing Psalm 91:
I will give thanks to you Lord, with all my heart; I will tell of all your wonderful deeds. When you cultivate a spirit of thankfulness, it will spill over into your relationships. When others see you credit God for His love in difficult situations/circumstances, they will begin to wonder why?
You need not even speak the words of praise and thanksgiving - you need only to be an example of Christ at work in your life. To be a living example of kindness, love, and forgiveness as a Christ like life.

Philippians 4:6-7
Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving presents your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Jesus Christ.



An Inspirational Quotation

"And whatever you do, whether in word or in deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him"
Colossians 3:17

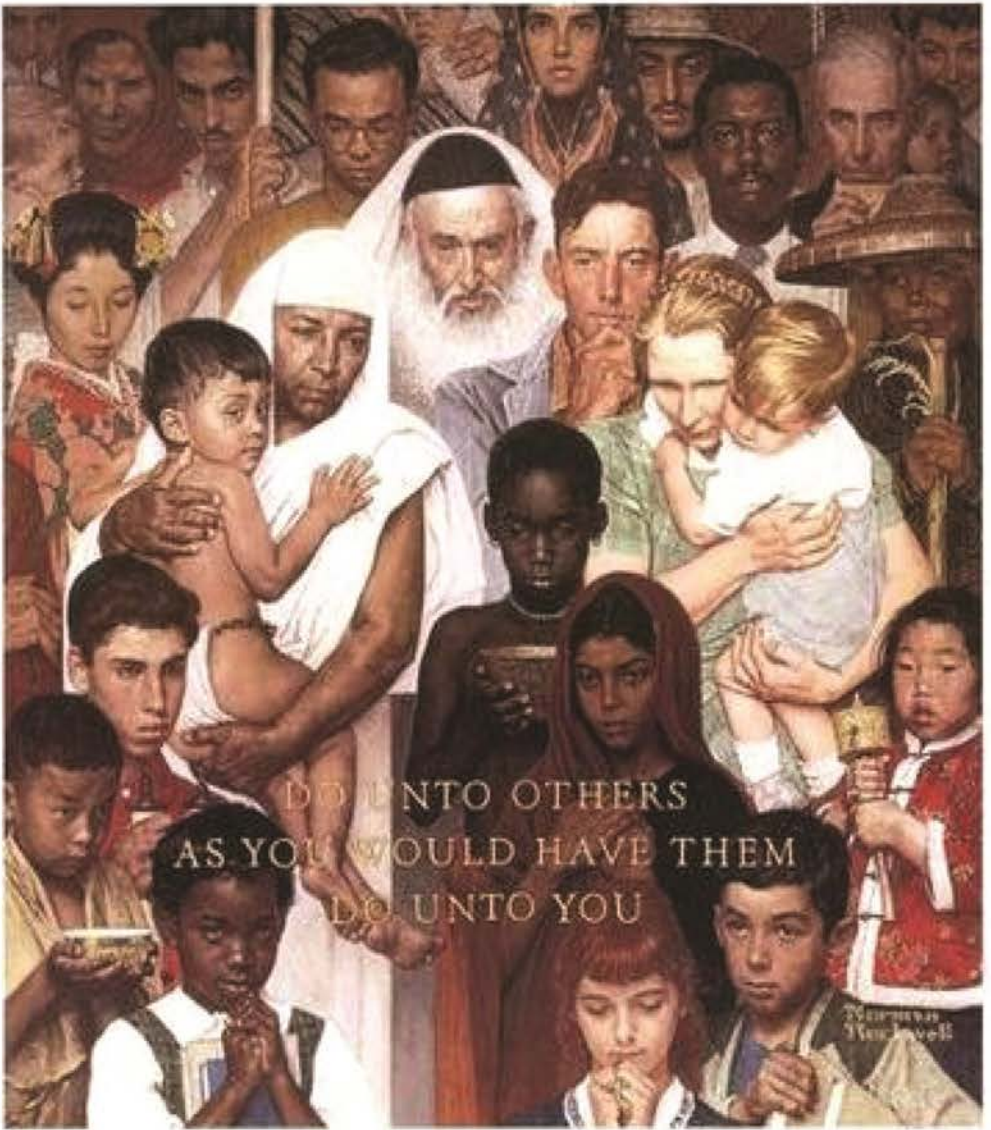
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“And whatever you do in words and deeds do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks and a grateful heart to God”

Colossians 6:17



NORMAN ROCKWELL
"DO UNTO OTHERS"

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