



Just A Minute with Scripture

Driven... But By What?

God instructs: *“And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap if we faint not.” (Gal. 6:9)* Weariness is a tired reluctance. Godliness empowers us to endure the fatigue of ministry to press *“toward the mark.” (Phil. 3:14)* Instead of allowing the flesh to rule, we can delight in service, being thankful: *“I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.” (Rom. 12: 1)* “The mercies” are the things taught to us prior to this passage. It refers to all God, for His unfathomable love sake, has and is continually providing us, such as His unsearchable, eternal compassion, love, and favor. *(Rom 5:8)* Joyful thankfulness puts aside the flesh, driving the believer as *“the love of Christ”* constrains us. *(II Cor 5:14)* All to *“the glory of God.” (I Cor. 10:31)*

Romans 12:1 is often seen as our ministry toward others, but actually it begins our service unto God: *“And that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again.” (II Cor. 5:15)* *Romans 1-11* develops our absolute confidence in His mercies, motivating service: *“O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out!” (Rom. 11:33)*

Why did God create the earth and give it to man? *“And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. (Gen 1:26)* He loved us, desiring man to work with Him as caretaker over the earth. Satan usurped the earth when he enticed Adam to fall, but God had a perfect plan through the Lord Jesus to fully deal with sin, enabling us to function as He designed in this glorious service role.

Think on This: God your Father greatly desires that you grow in spiritual understanding and thankfulness to live His Word. It is then you’ll be able to work alongside God, driven by love to live the “reasonable service” *(Rom. 12:1)* that you were designed to do as His dear sons and daughters. *(II Corinthians 6:18)*



Articles in This Issue

- [Driven... But By What? ...1](#)
- [More Than Just Reading..2](#)
- [Study of Galatians2](#)
- [Questions/Answers2,3](#)
- [Exalting God’s Way.....3](#)
- [Proverbs 2 Process4](#)
- [About Us.....4](#)

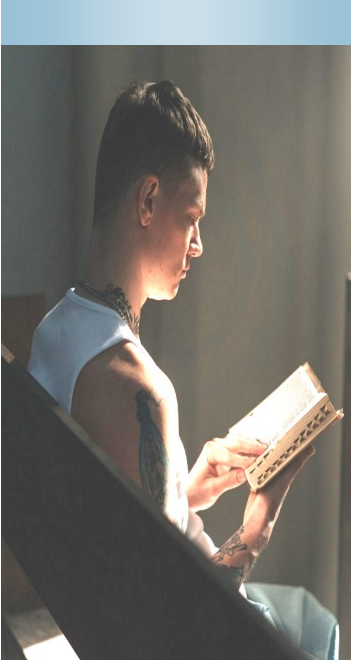
Feel free to call if you have questions with any articles.

Christ Did it All!

“But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.” (I Corinthians 15:57)

The Lord Jesus humbled Himself, becoming a fully satisfying sacrifice. By simple faith in His blood, which paid for sin, you are justified and have eternal life!

Study Devotional of the Book of Galatians



Verses this Month: *Galatians 5:22-25:*
²²*“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, ²³Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law. ²⁴And they that are Christ’s have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts. ²⁵If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.”*

1. Define any of the above listed “fruit of the Spirit” that are unclear. Now, reflect: Did you manifest any of the “fruit of the Spirit” today? Describe it.
2. What does it mean, “they that are Christ’s?” Is this anyone who has trusted

Christ’s blood or those who are walking as who they are in Christ? Give verses.

3. In this context, where do “the affections and lusts” reside? (*Rom. 7:17-20*)
4. It says we have “crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts?” Did this happen at the moment of justification or at another time, and, if so, when?
5. Explain what it means to “live in the Spirit.” Where else does Paul address this issue and does it help you understand?
6. What is the difference between living and walking “in the Spirit?” Can you find other verses that provide clarity?

“For the Love of Christ constraineth us...” // Corinthians 5:14

Questions & Answers With Deborah

Question 1: How do I pray and really talk with God?

To begin, you may need to adjust your thinking about God. Do you see Him as a distant, non-responsive divine being or a real person, who personally listens and cares about you? Make time to study this issue in the Scripture. God is your Father who has placed His Spirit within you. (*Rom. 5:5*) As you read and think about Christ the Word (*John 1:1,14*), you are listening to God talk to you (receptive communication). As you pray to God, you communicate your feelings, needs, and desires (expressive communication).

Reading and praying is an opportunity to develop your relationship with God. Being your Father, you have an intimate relationship with Him and can call Him “Abba Father.” (*Rom. 8:15, Gal. 4:6*) He wants to be your help and total provision by the Word. Talk to Him. He’s listening to every word.

More Than Just Reading to Know

When you listen to a teacher, read religious books, or study the Bible, is your main motivation to attain a new nugget of information to compile more Bible knowledge? “*Knowledge puffeth up, but charity edifieth.*” (*I Cor 8:1b*) If it is, you may be missing the opportunity God is offering. He desires you to be transformed, enabling you to apply doctrine to live.

Your Father desires that you grow up from a babe into a spiritual adult to work along side of Him as an adult saint (son/daughter) doing His business, that is, being a minister of God: “*We then, as workers together with him, beseech you also that ye receive not the grace of God in vain...but in all things approving ourselves as **the ministers of God**...Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.*” (*II Cor. 6:1,4,17-18*) So, how do you practically do this?

Ask yourself questions, like: Is the Word working in circumstances of my life? Also, as you read verses, ask, What would it look like in the details of my life? And finally, How can I be led by the Spirit to make it living and practical? “*...work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.*” (*Phil. 2:12b-13*) Our spiritual life is not to be mere religious activity, but to live in a new way, contrary to the flesh, conformed to Christ’s image so our “reasonable service” is acceptable! (*Romans 12:1*)



Questions & Answers With Deborah

Question 2: How do I know if I am living under the law rather than grace?

The simplest way to evaluate which system you are functioning under is by the fruit. *“Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.” (Galatians 6:7)*

If you’re experiencing frustration, heaviness, guilt, striving, etc., it’s likely the fruit of the flesh. *(Gal. 5:19-21)* Perhaps you make every effort to stop cursing, yet you continue to slip, causing anger and self-induced pressure to ‘try harder.’ You may have yourself under the law. Read *Romans 7* and ponder what you are doing.

Maybe you are yielding to the Spirit to live what you know to glorify God. Though you make mistakes, you still sense peace and rest, knowing it’s an opportunity to be humbled and learn to allow God to work in you... no condemnation. This is grace. Study *Romans 6 & 8* to understand further.

Question 3: I know a lot more than I live. How do I put the doctrine into my life?

Here are a few suggestions to help:

- Choose a verse or doctrine like *“To speak evil of no man...” (Titus 3:2)*

- Think about (meditate) what you currently are doing and what God instructs.

- Pray and think about how to be *“led by the Spirit” (Romans 8:14)* to yield unto God in a situation where you are likely to *“speak evil”* of someone. Prepare your heart and mind to live the doctrine and put aside the flesh i.e. *Romans 1:15*.

- When the opportunity or situation arises, visualize the “Y” in the road. Choosing to go to the left on the “Y” is allowing the flesh to rule, so think on a verse: *“Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof.” (Rom. 6:12)* Instead, yield to the right to obey the verse to live unto God: *“...but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God.” (Rom. 6:13b)* Think on this and reflect on what you’ve learned for next time.

Exalting God’s Way for Application

What can drive us to push through the grievous challenges Satan has designed for us in this sin-cursed world to be steadfast in our service to God? We’ve learned that it is thankfulness. Actually *Proverbs 1:7* gives us the groundwork for this thankfulness. We are to acknowledge God and all He provides. The context here is Israel’s program, yet much can also apply to the Body of Christ: *“The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction.”*

This verse can teach us the need to fear, that is, to have great respect/reverence unto our Lord God. To gain this attitude we are to be open to attain unto *“wisdom and instruction.”* The next step seems to be to *“hear”* or hearken to this instruction and *“forsake”* it not, applying it to life as we are led by the Spirit of God: *“My son, hear the instruction of thy father, and forsake not the law of thy mother.” (Proverbs 1:8)*

So then, being renewed by the Word is not just ‘knowing some things’ about God and His Word. It is attaining unto what God has designed for us to know, choosing to allow it to affect our inner being and every thought, conforming us to Christ: *“Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ.” (II Cor. 10:5)* This transformation of mind can enable us to set aside the flesh to serve Him, regardless of the ‘pushback’ from our flesh or this world. Read/study to understand, but more, apply it to live Christ. This mighty work is God’s process through Christ: *“...yet not I, but Christ liveth in me...” (Gal. 2:20)*



Fellowship & Bible Study
(Current Studies in Richmond Area)
Call or Email Us For Times and Locations:
(804) 519-1210 lifecoachesdjbj@yahoo.com



The Proverbs 2 Growing Process

Satan's course for this world has countless things that can interfere with spiritual growth. To stand resolute and consistent, Christ is to be your wisdom and power as you read and believe, and then walk it out in the details of life. *"But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God."* (1 Cor 1:24) The course of this world and the flesh will provide a battle. Be ready, being prepared to stay focused and allow the Spirit to lead.

Read *Proverbs 2:1-5* as it indicates an advancing, 4-stage process of growth, progressing you from being a saint with minimal investment, just showing up to listen as in *verse 1*, to attaining to be a relentless explorer of sound doctrine as if you were a treasure seeker in the Gold Rush of the 1800's. (*vs.4*) The result is *verse 5*, understanding the fear (reverence) of the Lord and finding His knowledge:

¹*"My son, if thou wilt receive my words, and hide my commandments with thee;*

²*So that thou incline thine ear unto wisdom, and apply thine heart to understanding;*

³*Yea, if thou criest after knowledge, and liftest up thy voice for understanding;*

⁴*If thou seekest her as silver, and searchest for her as for hid treasures;*

⁵*Then shalt thou understand the fear of the LORD, and find the knowledge of God."*

Think on this: Where are you and how will you progress?

About... Christian Life Coach Support Services

Writers/Editors/Coaches: Brian/Deborah Johnson

Request Newsletter Subscriptions/Past issues/Coaching. Questions Welcome!

Contact Us At (804) 519-1210 or lifecoachesdjbj@yahoo.com

Website: Christianlifecoachsupport.squarespace.com

Find Us By Our Name On YouTube

Books (Available on Amazon)

- *What to Appreciate As We Approach God's Word*
- *How the Bible is Practical & Able to Mature Believers*
- *Growing Up In Christ To Become A Mature Believer*
- *Romans Study Guide*
- *Discovering God's Glorious Treasure*
- *Exploring the Bible Using Study Tools*
- *Letter to the Colossians (New)*

Note: For all Publications the King James Bible is used. Verses may be made bold or numbered for emphasis.

