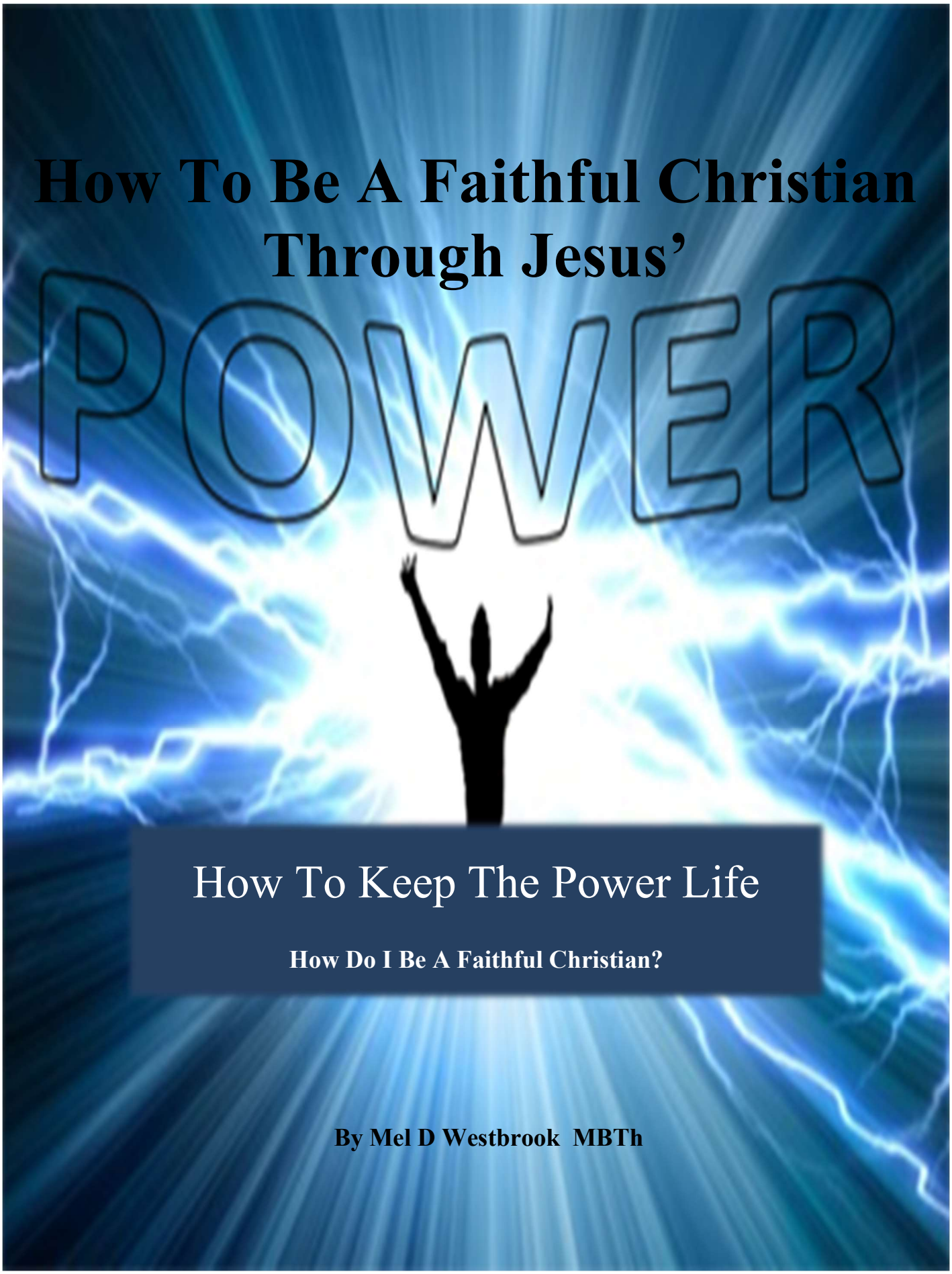
# How To Be A Faithful Christian Through Jesus'




## How To Keep The Power Life

**How Do I Be A Faithful Christian?**

**By Mel D Westbrook MBTh**

# Welcome To "Instruction For The Power Life"

**Power To Be Eloquent**
**1 Cor 13:1 (NIV) If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal.** Christianity isn't about being able to convince people of your point of view. The power to manipulate people is satanic. It is God's will that you and everyone else have a God-given free will. You are looking at the power to help people see how great Jesus is and how great Christianity is.

**Power To Be Wise**
**1 Cor 13:2 (NIV) If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing.** Christianity isn't about the power to impress people with your power. Prophecy is the power to know things about people that you couldn't possibly know. But, Jesus would give you that information so you could help them be healed rather than be impressed. Faith is the channel through which God's power flows. But, Jesus wants you to yield to His power so you can bring healing, blessings, and miracles into the lives of hurting people.

**Power To Make Sacrifices**
**1 Cor 13:3 (NIV) If I give all I possess to the poor and surrender my body to the flames, but have not love, I gain nothing.** This is a hard one to grasp! This looks so loving and serving; but, it is all done just to impress people with how loving and self-sacrificing you are. Jesus is giving you the power to really care about hurting people. It is the power to feel the suffering, confusion, desperation, and pain others are going through. It is the power to love them with a compassion that leads them into getting those things Jesus has for them.

**Power To Win**
**Eph 6:10 (NIV) Finally, be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power.** Christianity is about you learning how to win in life and *then* take every victory and breakthrough you get and share the procedures with others. Jesus will be teaching you power-techniques that are sharable with all your loved ones and friends. You will be getting power-truths that set you free and can be taught to others so they can know how to be free. Christianity is all about power; but, it is all about love-power that heals and blesses you and as many as will be open to Jesus.

**Power Of Protection**
**Eph 6:11 (NIV) Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.** Christianity is you experiencing Jesus' love and protection over your life. He surrounds you with Himself as your **full armor of God.** Then He helps you stand in front of the new and untrained Christians, so you can protect them while they learn how to get the power of protection on themselves. You will have the power to help them fight their battles. You will be able to keep them on tract with the truths of the Bible. You will help them see traps of their body, the world, and the devil. You and they will experience great protective power.

**Going From Power Introduction To Power Instruction**
Jesus wants to teach you how to yield to His *power*. In **"The Power Studies"** books, Jesus exposes you to His power through the **"Introduction Into The Power"** book. That is in the hope that you will be convinced that He and His power are what you need. He deals with **"Why Become A Christian?"**, **"How Would I Become A Christian?"**, and **"How Do I Become A Christian Now?"** Now that you are a Christian, you are ready to start living on the basis of Jesus' power.

In this study and prayer book, Jesus will help you look at four issues. First, He will help you learn the steps into *getting* His power flowing in and through your life. In the second issue, He will deal with those things that have been resisting you from being successful in life by *keeping* that power flowing. In the third one, He will help you *live* that power by letting Him live His life through you. And, in the fourth one, He will show you how, through *maturing* you will be able to experience miracles, supernatural manifestations, and gifts of the Holy Spirit.

**Instructions For The Power-Life**
Here are the names of the four studies: The first one is, **"How Do I *Get* The Power Life?"** The second one is, **"How Do I *Keep* The Power Life?"** The third one is, **"How Do I *Live* The Power Life?"** and the fourth one is, **"How Do I *Mature* In The Power Life?"** Through these four subjects, Jesus will give you the step-by-step instructions from the Bible for *how* to *get, keep, live,* and *mature* in His power-life.

**Truth Produces Results**
There are a lot of "theories" about how to get, keep, live, and mature in the power-life. The important thing isn't a matter of thinking or believing that you have taken the right steps, the important issue is *making sure* you *have* taken the right steps. One of the main things about going with Jesus and His Bible is, His principles, truths, and words bring results.

If you aren't getting the results you should be getting, then you may need to allow Jesus to use these studies to help you make sure you have been born again; you need Him to help you make sure you are following a day-by-day walk with Him; and, you need Him to help you make sure you are working on your future with Him. If you find yourself struggling with having the power to *do* what you know you should be doing, then it is important to make sure that Jesus' Biblical steps have been fulfilled. Take a quick look at Jesus' purpose for these four courses.

# Jesus' Four Power-Life Instruction Studies

## 1. "How Do I Get The Power Life?"

**Taking Steps Into An Experience**

**John 3:3 (NIV) In reply Jesus declared, "I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again."** This is a very important study; Jesus not only uses it to deal with the instructions for *how* to get His power in your life, He uses it to take you step by step into actually *getting* that power. Many people have been given training on Christianity; but, they haven't been given the steps into *experiencing* a new *birth* into salvation that produces Christianity. We can all learn how to "act" like a Christian; we can even learn how to talk "like" a Christian; but, acting like and talking like a Christian doesn't make us a Christian; only Jesus and His power can do that.

**It Happens At An Exact Moment**

**John 3:5-6 (NIV) Jesus answered, "I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit. Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit.** Jesus, in the first two sections of the **"Introduction Into The Power"** book, introduced you into information "about" Christianity; that made you knowledgeable and informed; but, it didn't make you transformed. You met Nicodemus, as Jesus explained being born again in the **"Why Become A Christian?"** section. Nicodemus was *very* knowledgeable *about* God and the things of God; but, Jesus knew he had not yet been *born* again.

The thing everyone must realize is, only those who have taken the steps with Jesus into the new birth *experience*, get born into God's family, get the new life, and get Jesus' power to live life. Being born again is an experience that Jesus gives; it happens in a moment of time, *not* over a long period of training; it is an actual, supernatural, spiritual *birth*. It's like a human birth.

**GETTING An Actual Spiritual Birth**

**Rom 8:15 (NIV) For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by Him we cry, "Abba, Father."** Just like there is a moment when a baby is born into this world, there is an exact second when a person is *born again* into the family of God. Jesus will use this study to take you right up to and through the *moment* when you were *born* as a child in the family of God. If you have never experienced a moment where Jesus, through the Holy Spirit, told you that you *are* a child of God, then you need to take a look at this study.

**Confirmation Of A Successful Birth**

**Rom 8:16 (NIV) The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children.** This is the same Holy Spirit that spoke to your conscience for most of your life. He is now also speaking to your spirit in Spirit-to-spirit communication. He is helping you *know* your prayers for salvation worked. He is telling you that you *are* God's child, a member of His family, and a citizen of His eternal Kingdom. Listen carefully to His assurances in your heart. They help you *feel* His confirmation that Jesus *did* do what He said He would do, when you prayed His prayer.

# 2. "How Do I Keep The Power Life?"

**Power Resistors**

**Gal 5:19-21 (NIV) The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery (excessive indulgence in sensual pleasures); idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that <u>those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God</u>.**

Just like there are diseases and dangers that try to kill you as a human, there are spiritual diseases and dangers that try to destroy the power Jesus gave you when you were born again. There are three major areas where you can be attacked and damaged in your power source. If you react in the wrong way to these attacks, it will hurt you. However, Jesus wants to give you one reaction to all the events of life; He and it will help you *keep* the power flowing in and through you.

**Power Reactions**

**2 Tim 2:15 (AKJV) Study to show yourself approved to God, <u>a workman that needs not to be ashamed</u>, rightly dividing the word of truth.** Jesus will be using this study to help you be aware of *all* the pitfalls and traps that *will* come your way. And, He will teach you how to have the right power-reaction to them. If you know *ahead of time* exactly what to expect from life, then you can be ready to win over those issues. The three possible "reactions" Jesus will be showing you in this study have to do with *understanding*, *receptivity*, and *distraction*. You need to know what to do when these three issues come your way.

After you have adequate time to experience what being born again can do for you, you can then decide if you are willing to be *receptive* spending eternity with Him. You have a God-given free will that allows you to decide whether you will allow your body's cravings, the world's enticements, or Satan's temptations to *distract* you and you not *keep* this power through Jesus' salvation.

**Power Rejection**

**2 Tim 3:16-17 (NIV) All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.**

Three areas of pressure will be coming against you from your body's drives, the world's advertisements and social pressure, and the devil's temptations. They will be pressures, temptations and invitations to "trade" the power you have received through Jesus' salvation. You will be tempted to go back to things of sin in this world. These pressures, invitations, and temptations will be traps that pull you back into your old life of powerlessness. Jesus will help you be able to resist these temptations and *react* by using His *fourth reaction*. He will help you win by letting you *know* what the Bible says, *understand* His principles, be *wise* through His thoughts in your mind, and *powerful* through Him. He will teach you about *three reactions* that will cheat you out of His provisions.

**Power Success**
**Gal 5:22-23 (NIV) But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. <u>Against such things there is no law</u>.**

The *fourth reaction*, Jesus will teach you, is a process of defeating your old life, the world, and the devil. Through *understanding* the Bible and its principles, being *receptive* to a whole new and powerful way of life, and not allowing your old life, the world, and the devil to *distract* you. You will be empowered to keep from being lured back into slavery to extreme pleasure, addictions, habits, and lifestyles that hurt you and those around you. And, not only that, you will discover a power-life that offers happiness, joy, and excitement. Jesus will teach you how to have money, possessions, positions, popularity, prestige, power, pleasure, and accomplishments without using the world and the devil's systems.

Jesus is going to teach you how to be *very* successful in life without having to use sinful, wrong, bad, or evil ways of treating yourself or others. He will teach you how to develop win/win situations for everyone involved with you. His principles develop friendships that last.

## 3. "How Do I Live The Power Life?"

**Taking Advantage Of Learning**
**Mat 28:19-20 (NIV) Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <u>and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you</u>. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."** A lot of what we do is study to *learn* things; and, that is important. But, stopping at getting information just so you can know and repeat it isn't Jesus' plan for your life. He wants you to learn all about what is available to you and then for you to learn how to use it to empower your life. Jesus wants to use this study to assist you in *living* the power-life.

**Following The Instructions**
**Luke 6:46-48 (NIV) Why do you call Me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I say? I will show you what he is like who comes to Me and hears My words and puts them into practice. He is like a man building a house, who dug down deep and laid the foundation on rock. When a flood came, the torrent struck that house but could not shake it, because it was well built.**

Getting the power-life isn't the same as using it; fact is, you already have Jesus' power. But, that doesn't mean you know how to put it into practice. You can even do what it takes to *keep* the power and still not use it. What would cause you to *get* and *keep* the power of being born again through salvation and not use it? One reason would be that you lack the knowledge of how to use it.

Suppose you buy a device that requires a lot of instructions for how to set it up for use. If you don't read the instructions, you will have to use trial-and-error methods to see if you can get it to work. Jesus will teach you how to start using and living the power-life without the disappointment and stress of trying and failing.

**Having Power To Resist Temptation**

**James 4:7 (NIV) Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.** One of the main tricks of the world and the devil is to bait or lure you into coming back into their control. They use types of pleasure that have hooks in them that dishonor your God-given free will. The hook consists of such extreme pleasure that you find yourself feeling compelled to experience it as much as is possible. Before you know it, you are dominated by it. It starts to do damage to you and those around you. It erodes your attitudes and character, your relationships, your emotions, your finances, your physical condition, and your spiritual relationship with Jesus.

**Having Power To Yield To Jesus**

**Rev 3:20 (NIV) Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with Me.** Jesus doesn't offer anything that drives you, lures you, baits you, addicts you, or dishonors your God-given free will. He explains what His relationship with you would be like, helps you understand what He is offering and providing, and then lets you try it out. If at any time *you want* to discontinue the relationship, there is no contract, no restraints, no overwhelming pleasures, and no power exerted on you that keeps you from going back to the world; there is extreme freedom in Jesus. In this study, Jesus will help you live a life of complete freedom.

## 4. "How Do I Mature In The Power Life?"

**Taking Advantage Of Jesus' Life**

**Phil 3:13-14 (NIV) Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.**

Living the same way, day after day, is taking advantage of Jesus' power-life; but, it isn't growing and maturing in it. If you get it, keep it, live it, and then stop there, you will have freedom from the things the devil and the world are trying to trap you in; BUT, you won't get the benefits of what Jesus wants you to have. Freedom from bad things is wonderful; but, freedom to advance into the blessings, miracles, and gifts of God will still be missing. Letting Jesus remove all those wrong, bad, and evil things that have been hurting you is wonderful. But, letting Jesus fill you with right, good, and righteous things is awesome!

**Growing Up**

**Eph 4:14 (NIV) Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of men in their deceitful scheming.** In Christianity, there are people who can teach you all about many things in the Bible. But, if you were to go be around them for a while, you will soon see they don't live a lot of those things they teach. Christianity isn't a bunch of rituals, exercises, philosophies, and cliches; it is life transforming.

Jesus wants to work on your attitudes and character. He wants to help you with your relationships with yourself, other people, and Him. Then, as you get breakthroughs in various spiritual issues, He wants you to share those breakthroughs with those around you. He wants to *give* you blessings; and, He wants you to *be* a blessing to others. Plus, He wants you to be able to lead others into receiving blessings directly from Him.

**Moving Into The Blessings**

**Gal 2:20 (NIV) I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, <u>I live by faith in the Son of God</u>, Who loved me and gave Himself for me.**

Jesus has so much more to offer you than just setting you free from the pain, the struggles, the addictions, and the temptations. He has blessings, miracles, supernatural manifestations, and spiritual gifts. As He works on your attitudes and character, you become much more trustworthy with the great things of God. You learn that the power and the abilities of God remain in Jesus. Rather than you just trying to become a better Christian, you learn how to become a yielded Christian. You start allowing Jesus to live His life through you. You allow Him to flow in you and through you to others.

# Textbook Chapter One
# How To Keep The Power-Life

# Getting Good At Spiritual Life

## Keeping You Spiritually Alive

**Jesus' First Priority**

Your spirit has been made alive by praying Jesus' prayer in Matthew 6:9-13. By going through and praying each part of it, your spirit was given vital equipment that formed it into God's likeness, and then you were made ready to be BORN again so you could start using your spiritual equipment to breath, eat, speak, learn, move, and grow in the spirit realm. Now that all that has happened to you, it is Jesus' first priority to help you stay alive. So, He has provided you with spiritual parents who MUST do all it takes to help you continue to LIVE.

**A Parent's First Responsibility**

We must start showing you all the things you will need; these will be so you can not only stay alive, but be extremely successful here on earth and in eternity. Now that you are a new, born again child of God, we must help you get involved in this new LIFE. You will be helped to get good at taking advantage of the POWERFUL spiritual provisions God has made available to you.

The thing that helps keep a baby alive is that pain they experience when they need to breath. Also, that hunger and thirst they feel causes them to cry out for food and drink. That is the key for you to keep breathing and eating. To be a healthy child of God, you need to yield to spiritual hungering and thirsting. There are some desires you need to develop so you can be a powerful, healthy, and successful child of God. You must experience hunger and thirst for those things you need; or, you won't be willing to keep breathing and eating. And, you won't cry out (pray) for these things every time you feel a little weak and powerless.

## Your Responsibilities

**Feeling A Need To Breath And Eat**

If you keep doing what Romans 10:9-8 tells you to do, then you will be breathing in and out. If you keep doing what 2 Timothy 2:15 tells you to do, then you will be eating all those spiritual things you need as a spirit being. It says: **2 Tim 2:15 (AKJV) Study to show yourself approved to God, a workman that needs not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.** BUT, what causes a baby, child, teenager, or adult to keep breathing and eating? There is a special message sent to them from their body that tells them it is time to breath and time to eat.

**No One Is Going To Make You**

**Mat 5:6 (NIV) Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.** Your body INSISTS that you breath, drink, and eat; you may assume that, that is the way it will be with your new born again spirit. But, the first thing you will need to learn about your heavenly Father is, HE honors the free will He gave you. Since you are a human as well as a new born again spirit, you, as a human, have the RIGHT to decide whether or not you will allow your spirit to desire to breath, eat, and drink the things from the spirit realm.

**Jesus Is Trying To Help You Desire It**

The reason so much time was spent on helping you understand all the benefits of becoming a Christian is, you have to come to the place where you WANT to be born again. If **"The Power Courses Introduction"** helped you see and desire to be a Christian, a child of God, and a citizen in His Kingdom, then Jesus, through IT created a hunger and thirst inside you. Jesus used the three courses, **"The Importance Of The Power-Life," "The Importance Of Eternal Life,"** and **"From Power-Life To Eternal Life"** to try to help you DESIRE all God has to offer.

**You Can't Make Yourself Desire**

Another thing you need to learn about God is, Christianity isn't about what you can do for God; it is about what God can do for you. Just like parents are responsible for a baby's wellbeing, your heavenly Father, Jesus, and your human spiritual parents must respond to your "cries" for help. Us working together with God can only OFFER and PROVIDE you with those things you need. You have to breath, eat, and exercise your spiritual muscles. But, YOU are NOT being forced to do these things. You will be praying about all these issues in your workbook. When you do, God will EMPOWER you to keep desiring to breath, eat, and exercise your muscles.

## Learning About Power

**The Power Isn't Desire**

You now have the power and permission from God to start living your new Christian life. You are now a Christian with all the rights and privileges of a child in God's family and a citizen in His Kingdom. The Lord's prayer has EMPOWERED you to be born again. It is empowering you to be able to breath by obeying Romans 10:9-10 on a regular basis. You will find the power to tell others that you believe Jesus is Lord and that you have made Him your Lord. You will be able to believe that God raised Jesus from the dead and be able to tell others that He is alive. But, you must be regularly asking Jesus to give you the DESIRE to do these things.

**Praying For The Desire**

Jesus is going to take you into the two things you need to start doing in order to begin living a powerful Christian life. God has opened your spiritual eyes and empowered your mouth so you can start doing those things Christians do because they are excited about their new life. Jesus is offering you the opportunity to allow this new power to help you get a deep hunger and thirst for breathing and eating. If you find yourself struggling with sharing with others the two things that started you breathing, then it is vital that you spend time praying and asking Jesus to help you "breath."

**Spiritual Assistance For Keeping You Alive**
Living this Romans 10:9-10 breathing process may seem to be putting pressure on you. You may find yourself having spiritual "respiratory" problems; or, you may have "labored" breathing issues; you may need special assistance from Jesus with this breathing problem.

## Learning About Grace And Mercy

**Having Difficulty Breathing**
When a baby is struggling with breathing, we connect them to oxygen so as to facilitate their own efforts. We don't just leave it up to them; we accept our responsibility to do everything we can to keep them alive. Even though it is your responsibility to try to live Romans 10:9-10 on a regular basis, if you are having trouble breathing, Jesus will keep you alive and breathing by a special spiritual breathing "tube" called grace and mercy.

**Breathing For You**
When someone stops breathing and we don't have any special breathing equipment available, we use mouth-to-mouth respiratory assistance to breath for them. Jesus anticipated the fact that you will be struggling with various of your assignments for staying alive spiritually. So, He has allowed you to stay connected to Him; the connection is kind of like a spiritual umbilical cord; it is similar to the one you had with your mother before birth. However, your human umbilical cord got cut at birth; that doesn't happen to you when you are born again. Jesus will be teaching you how to stay connected while learning how to do parts of it all yourself.

# Workbook Chapter One
# How To Keep The Power-Life

# Getting Good At Spiritual Life

## Keeping You Spiritually Alive

**Jesus' First Priority**

Jesus, thank You for making my spirit alive by praying Your prayer in Matthew 6:9-13. By You taking me through praying each part of it, You gave my spirit vital equipment that formed it into God's likeness; and then You made me ready to be BORN again. That was so I could start using my spiritual equipment to breath, eat, speak, learn, move, and grow in the spirit realm. Now that You have done all that to and for me, help me see that it is Your first priority to help me stay alive. So, You have provided me with spiritual parents who MUST do all it takes to help me continue to LIVE.

**A Parent's First Responsibility**

Jesus, help and empower my spiritual parents to start showing me all the things I will need. Let them show me so I can not only stay alive, but be extremely successful here on earth and in eternity. Now that I am a new, born again child of God, help these spiritual parent show me how to get involved in this new LIFE. Equip them to train me how to get good at taking advantage of the POWERFUL spiritual provisions God has made available to me.

Teach me that the thing that helps keep a baby alive is that pain they experience when they need to breath. Also, that hunger and thirst they feel causes them to cry out for food and drink. That is the key for me to keep breathing and eating. For me to be a healthy child of God, help me yield to spiritual hungering and thirsting. Show me that there are some desires I need to develop so I can be a powerful, healthy, and successful child of God. Empower me to experience hunger and thirst for those things I need; or, I won't be willing to keep breathing and eating. And, I won't cry out (pray) for these things every time I feel a little weak and powerless.

# Your Responsibilities

**Feeling A Need To Breath And Eat**

Jesus, help me keep doing what Romans 10:9-10 tells me to do. Then I will be breathing in and out. Help me keep doing what 2 Timothy 2:15 tells me to do. Then I will be eating all those spiritual things I need as a spirit being. It says: **2 Tim 2:15 (AKJV) Study to show yourself approved to God, a workman that needs not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.** Remind me what causes a baby, child, teenager, or adult to keep breathing and eating. Help me keep in mind that there is a special message sent to them from their body that tells them it is time to breath and time to eat. I ask You to give me those spiritual messages that keep me breathing and eating.

**No One Is Going To Make You**

Jesus, make me one of those who are **blessed** because I **hunger and thirst for righteousness,** and when I do, I **will be filled (Mat 5:6).** My body INSISTS that I breath, drink, and eat; this may cause me to assume that, that is the way it will be with my new born again spirit. But, let one of the first things I learn about my heavenly Father be that HE honors the free will He gave me. Since I am a human as well as a new born again spirit, I, as a human, have the RIGHT to decide whether or not I will allow my spirit to desire to breath, eat, and drink the things from the spirit realm. I now know You won't force me; so, I ask You to give me that hunger and thirst for these things.

**Jesus Is Trying To Help You Desire It**

Jesus, teach me that the reason so much time was spent on helping me understand all the benefits of becoming a Christian, was because I had to come to the place where I WANTED to be born again. Thank You for letting **"The Power Courses Introduction"** help me see and desire to be a Christian, a child of God, and a citizen in His Kingdom. Now, through IT, create a hunger and thirst inside me. Use the three courses, **"The Importance Of The Power-Life," "The Importance Of Eternal Life,"** and **"From Power-Life To Eternal Life"** to help me DESIRE all God has to offer.

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Jesus, help me learn another thing about God: Show me that Christianity isn't about what I can do for God; it is about what God can do for me. Teach me that just like parents are responsible for a baby's wellbeing, my heavenly Father, You, and my human spiritual parents must respond to my "cries" for help. But, help me keep in mind that all that working together with God can only OFFER and PROVIDE me with those things I need. I have to breath, eat, and exercise my spiritual muscles; I am NOT being forced to do these things. Help and empower me as I pray about all these issues in my workbook. As I do, EMPOWER me to keep desiring to breath, eat, and exercise my muscles.

## Learning About Power

**The Power Isn't Desire**

Jesus, show me that I now have the power and permission from God to start living my new Christian life. I am now a Christian with all the rights and privileges of a child in God's family and a citizen in His Kingdom. The Lord's prayer has EMPOWERED me to be born again. It is empowering me to be able to breath by obeying Romans 10:9-10 on a regular basis. I will find the power to tell others that I believe You are Lord and that I have made You my Lord. I am able to believe that God raised You from the dead and am able to tell others that You are alive. But, help me be regularly asking You to give me the DESIRE to do these things.

**Praying For The Desire**

Jesus, take me into the two things I need to start doing in order to begin living a powerful Christian life. God has opened my spiritual eyes and empowered my mouth so I can start doing those things Christians do. This is because Jesus has made me excited about my new life. You are offering me the opportunity to allow this new power to help me get a deep hunger and

thirst for breathing and eating. If I find myself struggling with sharing with others the two things that started me breathing, help me see that it is vital that I spend time praying and asking You to help me "breath."

**Spiritual Assistance For Keeping You Alive**

Jesus, if living this Romans 10:9-10 breathing process seems to be putting pressure on me, teach me why. It may be because I am having spiritual "respiratory" problems; or, I may have "labored" breathing issues; I may need special assistance from You with this breathing problem.

## Learning About Grace And Mercy

**Having Difficulty Breathing**

Jesus, just like when a baby is struggling with breathing, they are connected to oxygen so as to facilitate their own efforts. It isn't left up to them; we accept our responsibility to do everything we can to keep them alive. Show me that even though it is my responsibility to try to live Romans 10:9-10 on a regular basis, if I am having trouble breathing, You will keep me alive and breathing by a special spiritual breathing "tube" called grace and mercy.

**Breathing For You**

Jesus, when someone stops breathing and we don't have any special breathing equipment available, we use mouth-to-mouth respiratory assistance to breath for them. You anticipated the fact that I will be struggling with various of my assignments for staying alive spiritually. So, You have allowed me to stay connected to You; this connection is kind of like a spiritual umbilical cord; it is similar to the one I had with my mother before birth. However, my human umbilical cord got cut at birth; but, that didn't happen to me when I was born again. Teach me how to stay connected while learning how to do parts of it all myself.

# Textbook Chapter Two
# How To Keep The Power-Life

## Starting And Keeping Your Life As A Child Of God

**Learning About BEING A Child Of God**
When you were born as a human, you may have had all the equipment that an adult has. But, it wasn't just that your physical body was smaller, it was also a matter of maturing and being trained. Your brain had to grow in its abilities; your body had to grow in size; and your mind and heart had to be filled with the necessary knowledge, understanding, wisdom, and experience.

**How Does All This Equipment Work?**
A baby, with a completely normal body, has a lifetime in front of them to learn how to use all those things God gave them. Even though you are older, more mature, and more experienced as a human, you MUST accept the fact that you are a new, born again baby as a child of God. If you don't treat your spirit as being new and has just been born again, you will expect things from it that aren't possible.

There is nothing wrong with a completely normal, healthy new born. BUT, they can hardly do anything that an adult is able to do; that is the way your new, born again spirit is. It is normal for you to enter into this new life and not be able to function like an adult child of God; you need time, help, care, and training. And, there are other issues beyond you that you must learn about. What about the world around a new born baby? They not only have to learn about what they are capable of, they have to learn how to live inside the world's rules, laws, requirements, and provisions around them. You have been living in that world as a human; now you must learn how to live there as a child of God.

**How Does This World Work?**
A human child doesn't just have to learn how to use their body, they have to learn how to cope with the laws, rules, and characteristics of society and the physical world. It is NORMAL for them to make a lot of mistakes; it is NORMAL for them to need a lot of training; it is NORMAL for them to need a lot of care; and, it is NORMAL for them to question and test all the rules, laws, and characteristics of society and the physical world. BUT, if they are going to succeed as a human, they are going to have to learn the right things, practice the right things, and do the right things. If

they learn, practice, and do ANY wrong things, whether it was accidently or on purpose, they WILL suffer the consequences.

**Jesus And The Bible Teach The Right Things**
As a human, you will be able to use all the advancements, skills, growth, maturity, training, and experiences that have been given you. Everything you have taken advantage of as a human will help you advance as a child of God. BUT, some of the things you know, practice, and believe will be used for teaching you what NOT to believe, what NOT to know, and what NOT to do. Jesus will use them to help you see why THEY are things that will hurt you. He will replace them with all the right things to know, practice, believe, and do. These new replacement things from Jesus will automatically make your life wonderful.

# Starting A Life Of Boldness And Faith

**Practicing Being A Child Of God**
Just like an infant, baby, or child has to start out with the basics, you are about to be taken into two spiritual exercises; they will be needed for the rest of your life. Just like a child may not like those things their parents and the physical laws of this earth require of them, if they are going to succeed in human life, they must accept them, practice them, and get good at them.

**Spiritual Training As A Child Of God**
Here are the two things you now have the power to do as your beginning steps inside Christianity:

1. **YOU MUST TELL OTHERS THAT JESUS IS YOUR LORD.**

2. **YOU MUST BELIEVE THAT GOD RAISED JESUS FROM THE DEAD.**

**How Long Do I Have To Do This?**
Yes, this is Romans 10:9-10; and, yes this is still the same "breathing" assignment you had at the moment of being born again. But, just like breathing is vital to you from the moment of birth until you die, so is breathing in the spirit realm constantly vital. Until you are "breathing" on your own, Jesus will keep you alive through His breath. But, once some Christians find out that Jesus will do the breathing FOR them, they quit trying to learn how to do it themselves. However, there is a time limit for this relationship with Jesus. He will eventually stop doing it FOR you and require that you do it WITH Him.

# A Human Spirit

**You Need Spiritual Equipment To LIVE Life**
Breathing and eating aren't the only things a baby MUST do. Those are the two priorities for keeping the baby alive; but, there are other vital things that must be attended to as well. Like a new

born baby has a respiratory system for breathing, a circulatory system for blood flow, an excretory system for getting rid of unusable food and liquids, a nervous system for sending messages through the brain and body, and many other systems, so does your spirit have similar systems. Some of your spiritual systems will function automatically and others require input.

**Automatic And Interactive Systems**

Like in your body, many of your spiritual systems work automatically. BUT, like in your body, many parts need attending to. We can't just breath or eat anything; we can't just expose our body to everything. There are things killing us physically and spiritually that God has clearly identified. They are like the labels on the containers in a grocery store. If we ignore the labels and think that just because they are in the grocery store we can eat them, we will get hurt and maybe killed. Just because God gave you a free will doesn't mean you can do anything you want and not get hurt or killed. Just because God put all these things on the planet doesn't mean we can use them however we want.

**Learning What You Can Breath And Eat**

Studying the Bible is a vital part for spiritual food. And, it also lists off and explains what you can and must not expose yourself to. The world tells you to follow your heart; it tells you that if it feels good then it is okay; it encourages you to look to yourself for all your strengths, confidence, hopes, and dreams. Jesus teaches you to look to God and the Bible for your power and guidance. Jesus is right! If you follow the world's advice, you will end up falling into traps, getting hooked on bait, running into dead end streets, and being misled by things that aren't the truth. If you follow God, you will always get the truth, experience love, be treated with grace and mercy, and become a part of His family and Kingdom; and, you will live forever!

# Workbook Chapter Two
# How To Keep The Power-Life

## Starting And Keeping Your Life As A Child Of God

**Learning About BEING A Child Of God**

> Jesus, when I was born as a human, I may have had all the equipment that an adult has. But, it wasn't just that my physical body was smaller, it was also a matter of maturing and being trained. My brain had to grow in its abilities; my body had to grow in size; and my mind and heart had to be filled with the necessary knowledge, understanding, wisdom, and experience. Help me realize that this is true of my new, born again spirit.

**How Does All This Equipment Work?**

Jesus, a baby, with a completely normal body, has a lifetime in front of them to learn how to use all those things God gave them. Teach me that even though I am older, more mature, and more experienced as a human, I MUST accept the fact that I am a new, born again baby as a child of God. If I don't treat my spirit as being new and has just been born again, I will expect things from it that aren't possible.
Even though there is nothing wrong with a completely normal, healthy new born, they can hardly do anything that an adult is able to do. Help me understand that, that is the way my new, born again spirit is. Teach me that it is normal for me to enter into this new life and not be able to function like an adult child of God; I need time, help, care, and training.

Teach me that there are other issues beyond me that I must learn about. What about the world around me? As a new, born again child of God I not only have to learn about what I am capable of as a Christian, I have to learn how to live inside the world's rules, laws, requirements, and provisions around me as a Christian. I have been living in this world as a human; now I must learn how to live here as a child of God.

**How Does This World Work?**

Jesus, show me that just like a human child doesn't just have to learn how to use their body, they have to learn how to cope with the laws, rules, and characteristics of society and the physical world. It is NORMAL for me to make a lot of mistakes; it is NORMAL for me to need a lot of training; it is NORMAL for me to need a lot of care; and, it is NORMAL for me to question and test all the rules, laws, and characteristics of society and the physical world. BUT, if I am going to succeed as a Christian, I am going to have to learn the right things, practice the right things, and do the right things. If I have learned, practice, and do ANY wrong things, whether it is accidental or on purpose, I WILL suffer the consequences.

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Jesus, just like an infant, baby, or child has to start out with the basics, You are about to take me into two spiritual exercises; they will be needed for the rest of my life. Just like a child may not like those things their parents and the physical laws of this earth require of them, if they are going to succeed in human life, they must accept them, practice them, and get good at them, so must I accept Your laws and principles, practice them, and get good at them.

**Spiritual Training As A Child Of God**

Jesus, help me see that here are the two things I now have the power to do as my beginning steps inside Christianity:

1. **I MUST TELL OTHERS THAT YOU ARE MY LORD.**

2. **I MUST BELIEVE THAT GOD RAISED YOU FROM THE DEAD.**

**How Long Do I Have To Do This?**

Jesus, help me see that these two things are STILL Romans 10:9-10; and, they are STILL the same "breathing" assignment I had at the moment of being born again. Just like breathing is vital to me from the moment of birth until I die, so is breathing in the spirit realm constantly vital. However, until I am "breathing" on my own, You will keep me alive through Your breath. But, help me not be like some Christians; when they find out that You will do the breathing FOR them, they quit trying to learn how to do it themselves. Help me accept the fact that there is a time limit for this relationship with You. You will eventually stop doing it FOR me and require that I do it WITH You.

# A Human Spirit

**You Need Spiritual Equipment To LIVE Life**

Jesus, just like breathing and eating aren't the only things a baby MUST do, the same is true of me as a Christian. Even though these are the two priorities for keeping me alive, there are other vital things that must be attended to as well. Just like a new born baby has a respiratory system for breathing, a circulatory system for blood flow, an excretory system for getting rid of unusable food and liquids, a nervous system for sending messages through the brain and body, and many other systems, so does my spirit have similar systems. Teach me that some of my spiritual systems will function automatically and others will require input.

**Automatic And Interactive Systems**

Jesus, make it clear to me that like in my body, many of my spiritual systems work automatically. BUT, like in my body, many parts will need attending to. Just like I can't breath or eat anything and I can't just expose my body to everything, show me that there are things killing me physically and spiritually that God has clearly identified. Teach me that they are like the labels on the containers in a grocery store. If I ignore the labels and think that just because they are in the grocery store I can eat them, I will get hurt and maybe killed. Just because God gave me a free will doesn't mean I can do anything I want and not get hurt or killed. Just because God put all these things on the planet doesn't mean I can use them however I want.

**Learning What You Can Breath And Eat**

Teach me that studying the Bible is a vital part for spiritual food. And, teach me that it also lists off and explains what I can and must not expose myself to. The world tells me to follow my heart; it tells me that if it feels good then it is okay; it encourages me to look to myself for all my strengths, confidence, hopes, and dreams. You teach me to look to God and the Bible for my power and guidance. You are right! If I follow the world's advice, I will end up falling into traps, getting hooked on bait, running into dead end streets, and being misled by things that aren't the truth. If I follow God, I will always get the truth, experience love, be treated with grace and mercy, and become a part of His family and Kingdom; and, I will live forever!

# Textbook Chapter Three
# How To Keep The Power-Life

## Living Without Truth

**Parental Care**

As a human, you have already lived a lot of years; you have tried a lot of things, believed a lot of things, learned a lot of things, and experienced a lot of things. You have built relationships, lifestyles, careers, habits, and have even developed some addictions. God gave you a chance to see what life is like without Him. Now Jesus is ready to show you what life here and in eternity can be like with God. You have used your God-given free will to run your own life; now you are being given a chance to live it under God's supervision; this is like being under parental care.

**No More Trial And Error**

If we simply ignored the fact that a baby needs a lot of adult supervision, what would a baby be willing to eat, do, breath, and experience that would hurt or kill them? They would approach life as if there weren't anything that was dangerous, poisonous, life-threatening, or wrong. They would neglect vital things, try deadly things, and have a belief system that allowed them to try anything at least once. There would be no warnings, no guidance, no training, and no protection.

**Minimal Training**

Most people who have influenced your life have been involved in MANY things that they shouldn't be involved in. They have believed things that weren't true. They have learned a lot of the things they know through trial and error methods and can only tell you what they have found out so far. And, since you have the same attitudes they had when they ran their life, you probably just listened to them and THEN went out and did what YOU thought was best for you. That caused you to learn the hard way JUST LIKE THEM. But, you are about to see a whole different way of life. Let's take a look at what you will need to do to have all the information, principles, guidance, and help you need.

## Living With Truth

**Taking Care Of Your Spirit**

Here are the main pieces of spiritual equipment you are to learn how to use. It will be like a baby learning how to use their human lungs, eyes, ears, neck, mouth, hands, and feet. You are starting to learn how to use your spiritual lungs, eyes, ears, neck, mouth, hands, and feet. But for now, your heavenly Father is just requiring that you learn how to do two spiritual things, using two pieces of spiritual equipment. But, keep in mind that this is the first time you have been faced with this assignment. So, be patient with yourself and your new, born again spirit.

**What Makes My Human Mouth And Heart Spiritual?**

Let's say that one person uses their human body to do right, good, and righteous things. And, let's say that another person uses theirs to do wrong, bad, and evil things. The way they use their body makes it either sinful or Christian. You didn't need a special experience like salvation to use your body in a sinful way. This was because everyone of your human ancestors all involved themselves in sin and passed the spiritual disease on to you. But, Jesus has NOW empowered you to make your mouth and heart capable of being used as spiritual equipment for doing right, good, and righteous things.

# Speaking And Believing The Truth

**Learning How To Use Your Mouth And Heart**

**Rom 10:8 (NIV) But what does it say? "The word is near you; <u>it is in your mouth and in your heart</u>," that is, the word of faith we are proclaiming.** You have been using your mouth for all kinds of things. Some of the things you said with your mouth were okay; some of the things you said, were wrong; some of the things you said, were bad; and some of the things you said, were actually evil. Now you are going to learn how to use your mouth to say things that help, heal, bless, and make you and those around you successful.

You have been using your heart for all kinds of things. You have been listening to all kinds of people; some of them you believed because you trusted them; others you believed because they said what you wanted to hear. Then out of all this personal selection of information, you developed those things your heart is running your life with. It makes you feel bad when you break, bend, or ignore one of the things your heart has been assigned to enforce. Its job is to make sure you live according to those things you have told it to enforce. It believes that these are the truths of life; and, if one of them is ignored or misapplied, it believes that it will hurt you. Many of the things in your heart may not be TRUTH; but, your heart believes them to be true and enforces them.

**Finding Out What The Truth Is**

**John 14:6 (NIV) Jesus answered, "I am the WAY and the TRUTH and the LIFE. No one comes to the Father except through Me.** You can't speak the truth or believe the truth, if you don't know what the truth is. Jesus is your source of truth; He has committed Himself and established Himself in such a way that He CANNOT lie. AND, since He knows everything, He knows what is true and what is a lie. So, when He tells you something, it is the total truth even if

examined from all perspectives and possibilities. He has thought of everything and boiled it down to the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth. You can base your beliefs and words on it. BUT, you have to get your heart to accept these truths AS TRUTHS.

# Workbook Chapter Three
# How To Keep The Power-Life

## Living Without Truth

**Parental Care**

Jesus, as a human, I have already lived a lot of years; I have tried a lot of things, believed a lot of things, learned a lot of things, and experienced a lot of things. I have built relationships, lifestyles, careers, habits, and have even developed some addictions. God gave me a chance to see what life is like without Him. Now You are ready to show me what life here and in eternity can be like with God. I have used my God-given free will to run my own life; now I am being given a chance to live it under God's supervision; show me that this is like being under parental care.

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**Minimal Training**

Jesus, most people who have influenced my life have been involved in MANY things that they shouldn't be involved in. They have believed things that weren't true. They have learned a lot

of the things they know through trial and error methods and can only tell me what they have found out so far. And, since I have had the same attitudes they had when they ran their life, I have listened to them and THEN went out and did what I thought was best for me. That caused me to learn the hard way JUST LIKE THEM. But, help me see a whole different way of life. Let me take a look at what I will need to do to have all the information, principles, guidance, and help I need.

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**What Makes My Human Mouth And Heart Spiritual?**

Jesus, teach me the principle that if one person uses their human body to do right, good, and righteous things, they are using their physical equipment for good. And, teach me that if another person uses theirs to do wrong, bad, and evil things, they are using their physical equipment for bad. Show me that the way they use their body makes it either sinful or Christian. I didn't need a special experience like salvation to use my body in a sinful way. This was because every one of my human ancestors all involved themselves in sin and passed the spiritual disease on to me. But, You have NOW empowered me to make my mouth and heart capable of being used as spiritual equipment for doing right, good, and righteous things.

# Speaking And Believing The Truth

**Learning How To Use Your Mouth And Heart**

**But what does it say? "The word is near you; <u>it is in your mouth and in your heart</u>," that is, the word of faith we are proclaiming (Rom 10:8).** Jesus, I have been using my mouth for all kinds of things. Some of the things I said with my mouth were okay; some of the things I said, were wrong; some of the things I said, were bad; and some of the things I said, were actually evil. Now I am going to learn how to use my mouth to say things that help, heal, bless, and make me and those around me successful.

I have also been using my heart for all kinds of things. I have been listening to all kinds of people; some of them I believed because I trusted them; others I believed because they said what I wanted to hear. Then out of all this personal selection of information, I developed those things my heart is running my life with. It makes me feel bad when I break, bend, or ignore one of the things my heart has been assigned to enforce. Teach me that its job is to make sure I live according to those things I have told it to enforce. It believes that these are the truths of life; and, if one of them is ignored or misapplied, it believes that it will hurt me. But, show me that many of the things in my heart may not be TRUTH; but, my heart believes them to be true and enforces them.

**Finding Out What The Truth Is**

**Jesus answered, "I am the WAY and the TRUTH and the LIFE. No one comes to the Father except through Me (John 14:6).** Jesus, I can't speak the truth or believe the truth, if I don't know what the truth is. You are now my source of truth; You have committed Yourself and established Yourself in such a way that You CANNOT lie. AND, since You know everything, You know what is true and what is a lie. So, when You tell me something, it is the total truth even if examined from all perspectives and possibilities. You have thought of everything and boiled it down to the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth. Teach me that I can base my beliefs and words on it. BUT, I have to get my heart to accept these truths AS TRUTHS.

# Textbook Chapter Four
# How To Keep The Power-Life

## GETTING A Power Mouth And A Power Heart

**Your Mouth And Heart NOW Work Differently**

The first requirement you were given had to do with your mouth. In order for your spirit to start breathing IN, you were told to start telling your friends, relatives, and associates that you had accepted Jesus as your Lord; and, you were to let them know that you believe Jesus is THE LORD of all existence. BUT, that assignment may have been like a baby trying to pick up a chair. It may have been like them trying to say "daddy" or "mother." Some of your first attempts may have sounded like the babblings of a baby. OR, you may be a late producer who will start off slow and then accelerate later.

**Speaking And Believing The Truth**

If you were to plant a small pebble in the ground, you would understand that it wasn't going to grow a pebble plant. When you speak human words, they are like pebbles. You might use them to build something, design something, or mix with something; but, you would never expect to use them to grow something. If you plant a seed, and if that seed is still alive, you would be able to grow a plant of the same type as the seed. Your mouth and heart have had THE truth planted in them. It literally grows inside you, it expands, produces more truth, and grows into transformations and changes in your life.

**Speaking And Believing Human Words**
Human words, like planting pebbles, can give you information for you to use to build your life. But, you have to learn them, memorize them, use them, and apply them yourself. This is called human teaching, human learning, and human effort. It consists of self-help training, self-motivation, self-taught, self-made, and personal accomplishment. To the degree that you "have what it takes" you will reach your goals. BUT, you remain where you are, believing what you believe, and accomplishing what you accomplished; you are alone!

**Speaking And Believing Jesus-Words**
The truth coming from Jesus is alive, it grows inside you, it improves you, it changes you, it heals you, it works miracles in you, and it protects you. You don't have to take it and make it do these things. Rather than applying Jesus' words, you yield to them and allow them to do their work. You don't have to learn a whole bunch of information on how to treat yourself and other people; you just have to pray and ask Jesus to empower you to love them and care about them as much as you love and care about yourself. It then becomes obvious to you how to treat people like you would want to be treated.

# USING A Power Mouth And A Power Heart

**Now You Try It**
As you learned to talk, all you could do was express yourself; you couldn't speak things into existence. Jesus went around saying things and it change things. He spoke to a storm and it became calm; He spoke to a fig tree and it died; He spoke to sick people and they became well; and He spoke to addicted people and they were set free. When you start breathing IN and OUT the Romans 10:9-10 truths, it is not only you learning how to breath, it is you learning how to live as a spirit being. It not only gives you constant life as you breath in and out through Romans 10:9-10, it starts speaking life into your friends.

**Life-giving Words**
With human words, you would have to argue, convince, debate, and sell people on Christianity. With you going around telling people the truths in Romans 10:9-10, you are actually telling them that you have a new way of life. You now believe something you didn't believe before. You are talking about things you didn't talk about before. Once you let people know you believe Jesus is Lord and that you have accepted Him as your Lord, they will watch you and see what it does to you, in you, for you, and through you. But, what they don't know is, you aren't having to make these changes in yourself; Jesus is doing it with your cooperation.

**Life-giving Beliefs**
When you were telling people what you believed from a human perspective, you were talking as someone who HOPED you were right. You hoped that those things you believed were true. You hoped they would make you a better, more successful, and happy person. But, the truth about your belief system was, YOU WOULDN'T FIND OUT UNTIL IT WAS TOO LATE TO CHANGE. If

you marry the person you HOPE is the right one for you, you won't find out until much later. If you join a company or business partner that you HOPE is your best career move, you won't find out until much later. If you invest your money in HOPE, if you pick your career and get an education based on HOPE, you won't find out until much later.

What if you base your life on the One Who KNOWS; what if you allow Him to tell you the TRUTH about who to marry, go into partnership with, accept as your friends, choose to train you, and tell you what to believe? As you succeed in life through this relationship with Jesus, your partners, friends, associates, and contacts will be watching. As Jesus' truths GROW in you and out of your life, your RESULTS will prove to your friends, associates, partners, and clients that Jesus is alive, real, and trustworthy.

# Workbook Chapter Four
# How To Keep The Power-Life

## GETTING A Power Mouth And A Power Heart

### Your Mouth And Heart NOW Work Differently

Jesus, help me understand this first requirement that has to do with my mouth. Help me understand that in order for my spirit to start breathing IN, I have to start telling my friends, relatives, and associates that I have accepted You as my Lord; and, help me let them know that I believe You are THE LORD of all existence. BUT, help me understand that, that assignment may be like a baby trying to pick up a chair. It may be like them trying to say "daddy" or "mother." Help me understand that some of my first attempts may sound like the babblings of a baby. OR, if I am a late producer who will start off slow and then accelerate later, help me to make that acceleration.

### Speaking And Believing The Truth

Jesus, help me learn the difference between my human words and words from my spirit. Show me that if I plant a small pebble in the ground, it isn't going to grow a pebble plant because it is dead. Teach me that when I speak human words, they are like pebbles. I might use them to

build something, design something, or mix with something; but, I would never expect to use them to grow something. But, if I plant a seed, and if that seed is still alive, I would be able to grow a plant of the same type as the seed. Help me understand this truth that my mouth and heart have had THE truth planted in them. It is literally growing inside me, it is expanding, it is producing more truth, and growing into transformation and changes in my life; and then, it is flowing out of my mouth into my friends.

**Speaking And Believing Human Words**

Jesus, make it clear to me that human words are like planting pebbles. They can give information to use to build my life. But, then I have to learn them, memorize them, use them, and apply them myself. This is called human teaching, human learning, and human effort. It consists of self-help training, self-motivation, being self-taught, being self-made, and only having personal accomplishment. Only to the degree that I "have what it takes" will I reach my goals. BUT, I remain where I am, believing what I believe, and accomplishing what I accomplished; I am alone! I am limited to my own resources.

**Speaking And Believing Jesus-Words**

Jesus, the truth coming from You is alive, it grows inside me, it improves me, it changes me, it heals me, it works miracles in me, and it protects me. I don't have to make it do these things. Rather than applying Your words, I just have to yield to them and allow them to do their work. I don't have to learn a whole bunch of information on how to treat myself and other people. I just have to pray and ask You to empower me to love them and care about them as much as I love and care about myself. It is then obvious to me how to treat people like I would want to be treated.

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**Now You Try It**

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me constant life as I breath in and out through Romans 10:9-10, it starts speaking life into my friends.

**Life-giving Words**

Jesus, with human words, I would have to argue, convince, debate, and sell people on Christianity. But, with me going around telling people the truths in Romans 10:9-10, I am actually telling them that I have a new way of life. AND, I am actually planting seeds in them that will grow. I now believe something I didn't believe before. I am talking about things I didn't talk about before. Show me that once I let people know I believe You are Lord and that I have accepted You as my Lord, they will watch me to see what it does to me, in me, for me, and through me. But, what they don't know is, I am not having to make these changes in myself; You are doing it with my cooperation.

**Life-giving Beliefs**

Jesus, when I was telling people what I believed from a human perspective, I was talking as someone who HOPED I was right. I hoped that those things I believed were true. I hoped they would make me a better, more successful, and happy person. But, the truth about my belief system was, I WOULDN'T FIND OUT IF I WAS RIGHT UNTIL IT WAS TOO LATE TO CHANGE.

If I married the person I HOPED was the right one for me, I wouldn't find out until much later. If I joined a company or business partner that I HOPED was my best career move, I wouldn't find out until much later. If I invested my money in HOPE, if I picked my career and got an education based on HOPE, I wouldn't find out until much later.
Teach me that if I base my life on the One Who KNOWS, if I allow You to tell me the TRUTH about who to marry, who to go into partnership with, who to accept as my friends, who to choose to train me, and who to tell me what to believe, I WILL succeed in life. And as I succeed in life through this relationship with You, my partners, friends, associates, and contacts will be watching. As Your truths GROW in me and out of my life, my RESULTS will prove to my friends, associates, partners, and clients that You are alive, real, and trustworthy.

# Textbook Chapter Five
# How To Keep The Power-Life

## The ABC's Of Christianity

**It's A Simple System**

**Rom 10:8 (NIV) But what does it say? "The word is near you; it IS in your mouth and in your heart," that is, the word of faith we are proclaiming:** The important thing for you to notice is, this is the way Christianity works. Moving successfully, navigating with skill, ending up where you wanted to go, and knowing how you did it is very important in any realm, life, or science. You are being told how to get your spirit from point "A" to point "B" in the physical and spiritual world.

**The Word Is Near You**

When we are hunting for something that someone else knows where it is, as we move around the room, they might say, "You're getting warmer." If we want to know how to be turned into a child of God, made a citizen of His Kingdom, given a new heavenly body, and spend eternity in a new

heaven and new earth, and we find out that the way is near us, we know we are close. Once you applied Jesus' prayer and Romans 10:9-10 and WERE born again, you took advantage of **the word** being **near you.** But, learning this principle is like learning your alphabet; it wasn't just for that class or that grade in school. You needed those letters for the rest of your life. That is the way Matthew 6:9-13 and Romans 10:9-10 are.

**It IS In Your Mouth And Your Heart**

Since it is in your mouth and in your heart, then you can't get much closer than that! But, if no one told you that all you had to do was use your mouth and heart to get the process started in becoming a child of God, it would be near but not close enough. So, Jesus helped you find out the truth about it. NOW, He is explaining to you that since you HAVE become a child of God, the way to navigate your spirit life IS IN YOUR MOUTH AND WITH YOUR HEART! Your mouth and heart are going to be two of the most valuable tools or spirit/body pieces of equipment you have.

For the rest of your life here on earth, if you keep on studying (feeding your spirit), you will learn how to use this truth in Romans 10:9-10 to influence ALL you say with your mouth and believe with your heart.

**Confessing And Believing**

**Rom 10:9 (NIV) That if you <u>CONFESS with your mouth</u>, "Jesus is Lord," and <u>BELIEVE in your heart</u> that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. Rom 10:10 (NIV) For it is <u>WITH your heart</u> that you BELIEVE and are justified, and it is <u>WITH your mouth</u> that you CONFESS and are saved.**

Your mouth and your heart are the way you got started being a child of God; and, they are the way to grow and mature as a child of God. Faith in your heart and confessing that faith are going to not only be you breathing in and out, but, they will be the way you do everything you do.

1. You will not only be confessing with your mouth that Jesus is Lord, <u>you will be confessing every TRUTH Jesus gives you</u>.

2. You will not only believe with your heart that God raised Jesus from the dead, <u>you will be believing every TRUTH Jesus gives you</u>.

This keeps you breathing and USING that spiritual air of truth. Breathing isn't just an exercise, it brings oxygen into our body that it USES to make eating, living, moving, growing, and accomplishing things possible. Spiritual breathing makes it possible for you to USE all the truths of the Bible so you can grow and mature as a child of God.

**Confessing The Lord And Believing The Resurrection**

Breathing air and breathing out carbon dioxide are something that has to be done constantly. Powerful and wonderful things are happening in your body when you do that. Confessing that Jesus is Lord and believing that God raised Him from the dead is the foundation that you build on all of

the rest of your spiritual life. If Jesus is your Lord and Lord of all existence, then you will admire, appreciate, respect, love, and allow yourself to be influenced by Him. If He is risen from the dead, then you will know that when you pray to Him about every issue you have, you will be sure you are praying to a living God. So, the process of believing and confessing and the truths you are believing and confessing will transform your life.

# Will You Start Practicing?

**Are You Willing To Make Mistakes?**

What are all those sounds about, when a baby is jabbering, gurgling, cooing, crying, laughing, and making other strange sounds? We adults may not understand it; but, they are practicing. We may just think they are being cute; but, the fact is, they NEED all that practice so they can learn how to use their verbal equipment to EVENTUALLY talk. Are you willing to practice confessing to people that Jesus is your Lord while making mistakes, failing to succeed, and embarrassing yourself? Are you willing to keep trying so you can keep getting better at being a child of God? If you are willing to mess up and embarrass yourself, then you WILL grow.

**Spiritual Support Is Like Parental Encouragement**

How do we help a baby learn how to use their verbal equipment to learn to talk, crawl, and walk? We empower them with food, drink, warmth, protection, diaper changes, cleaning, sleep, and love. We set them good examples by encouraging them to say, "dada" and "mama." We respond to their successes with great appreciation, excitement, and acceptance. That is what our heavenly Father, our Savior, Jesus, and our spiritual leaders do for us. WHILE YOU ARE PRACTICING and doing some pretty "infantile" things, Jesus will be proud of you. He will bless you, empower you, appreciate you, encourage you, and love you with a supernatural love.

**Spiritual Empowerment Is Like Physical Strengthening**

Every time you step out and tell people that you believe Jesus is Lord over everything, Jesus will help you feel stronger, more courageous, more capable, and more skilled. Just like exercise makes your muscles sore, and just like lifting weights is a resistance against them, people's resistance to your confessions will strengthen your spiritual muscles.

The more resistance you experience from people, the stronger you will get spiritually. Jesus will help you understand and appreciate all the resistance, criticism, and rejection you get from some people. He will be proud of your determination, bravery, and boldness. He will let you know that you are becoming a great success as a child of God. Pray and ask Him to help you be willing to practice on people SO YOU CAN GET GOOD AT CONFESSING AND BELIEVING.

**Spiritual Practice Is Like Physical Training**

The more a baby practices, the faster they learn how to communicate. The more they try to crawl and walk, the sooner they learn how. If you don't get out there and practice letting people know that Jesus didn't stay dead, you won't learn how to confess and believe. And, if you don't learn how to confess and believe, you won't be able to share any of the other TRUTHS Jesus teaches you. It will always be your heart and mouth that will keep your spiritual air flowing in and out of your spiritual lungs.

**Constantly Taking Spiritual Breaths**
Ask Jesus to help you to be proud, thankful, excited, and bold about being a Christian. Ask Him to help you never be ashamed of the fact that He is Lord and is your Lord. Never forget and never stop talking and believing what the Bible says about the process of being saved, born again, and being a Christian. **Rom 10:8-13 But what does it say? "The word is near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart," that is, the word of faith we are proclaiming: That**

1. **If you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and**

2. If you **believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead,**

**you WILL be saved.**

**For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.** It saved and justified you with Jesus; and, it WILL save and justify those around you. They WILL be born again and be empowered to start all over with their new life, if they are willing to do what you did.

# Workbook Chapter Five
# How To Keep The Power-Life

## The ABC's Of Christianity

**It's A Simple System**

> **But what does it say? "The word is near you; it IS in your mouth and in your heart," that is, the word of faith we are proclaiming (Rom 10:8):** Jesus, help me realize that the important thing for me to notice is, this is the way Christianity works. Teach me that moving successfully, navigating with skill, ending up where I wanted to go, and knowing how I did it is very important in any realm, life, or science. I am being taught how to get my spirit from point "A" to point "B" in the physical and spiritual world.

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Jesus, when I am hunting for something that someone else knows where it is, as I move around the room, they might say, "You're getting warmer." If I want to know how to be turned into a child of God, made a citizen of His Kingdom, given a new heavenly body, and spend eternity in a new heaven and new earth, and I find out that the way is near me, I know I am close. Once I applied Your prayer and Romans 10:9-10 and WAS born again, I took advantage of **the word** being **near me.** But, learning this principle is like learning my alphabet; it wasn't just for that class or that grade in school. I needed those letters for the rest of my life. Help me see that this is the way Matthew 6:9-13 and Romans 10:9-10 are.

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Jesus, since it is in my mouth and in my heart, then it can't get much closer than that! But, if no one told me that all I had to do was use my mouth and heart to get the process started in becoming a child of God, it would be near but not close enough. So, You helped me find out the truth about it. NOW, You are explaining to me that since I HAVE become a child of God, the way to navigate my spirit life IS IN MY MOUTH AND WITH MY HEART! Make it clear to me that my mouth and heart are going to be two of the most valuable tools or spirit/body pieces of equipment I have.

Help me understand that for the rest of my life here on earth, if I keep on studying (feeding my spirit), I will learn how to use this truth in Romans 10:9-10 to influence ALL I say with my mouth and believe with my heart.

**Confessing And Believing**

**Rom 10:9 (NIV) That if you <u>CONFESS with your mouth</u>, "Jesus is Lord," and <u>BELIEVE in your heart</u> that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. Rom 10:10 (NIV) For it is <u>WITH your heart</u> that you BELIEVE and are justified, and it is <u>WITH your mouth</u> that you CONFESS and are saved.**

Jesus, since my mouth and my heart are the way I got started being a child of God, teach me that they are the way to grow and mature as a child of God. Teach me that faith in my heart and confessing that faith are going to not only be me breathing in and out, but, they will be the way I do everything I do.

1. I will not only be confessing with my mouth that You are Lord, <u>I will be confessing every TRUTH You give me</u>.

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Help me understand that this keeps me breathing and USING that spiritual air of truth. Show me that just like breathing isn't just an exercise, it brings oxygen into my body that it USES to make eating, living, moving, growing, and accomplishing things possible, spiritual breathing makes it possible for me to USE all the truths of the Bible so I can grow and mature as a child of God.

**Confessing The Lord And Believing The Resurrection**

Jesus, just like breathing air and breathing out carbon dioxide are something that has to be done constantly, and just like powerful and wonderful things are happening in my body when I do that, confessing that You are Lord and believing that God raised You from the dead is the foundation that I build on all of the rest of my spiritual life. Since You are my Lord and Lord of all existence, let that help me admire, appreciate, respect, love, and allow myself to be influenced by You. Since You are risen from the dead, help me know that when I pray to You about every issue I have, make me sure I am praying to a living God. Teach me that the process of believing and confessing and the truths I am believing and confessing will transform my life.

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**Spiritual Support Is Like Parental Encouragement**

Jesus, just like I help a baby learn how to use their physical equipment to learn to talk, crawl, and walk, by empowering them with food, drink, warmth, protection, diaper changes, cleaning, sleep, and love, and just like I also set them good examples by encouraging them to say, "dada" and "mama," and just like I respond to their successes with great appreciation, excitement, and acceptance, teach me that, that is what my heavenly Father, You, my Savior, and my spiritual leaders do for me. WHILE I AM PRACTICING and doing some pretty "infantile" things, You will be proud of me. You will bless me, empower me, appreciate me, encourage me, and love me with a supernatural love.

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Teach me that the more resistance I experience from people, the stronger I will get spiritually. You will help me understand and appreciate all the resistance, criticism, and rejection I get from some people. You will be proud of my determination, bravery, and boldness. You will let me know that I am becoming a great success as a child of God. I pray and ask You to help me be willing to practice on people SO I CAN GET GOOD AT CONFESSING AND BELIEVING.

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1. **If** anyone **confess with** their **mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and**

2. If anyone **believes in** their **heart that God raised Him from the dead,**

they **WILL be saved.**

**For it is with** their **heart that** they **believe and are justified, and it is with** their **mouth that** they **confess and are saved.** It saved and justified me with You; and, it WILL save and justify those around me. They WILL be born again and be empowered to start all over with their new life, if they are willing to do what I did.

# Textbook Chapter Six
# How To Keep The Power-Life

## Believing And Confessing Produces God's Power-Life

**Moving Forward**

**Rom 10:8 (NIV) But what does it say? "The word is near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart," that is, the word of faith we are proclaiming:** Just like you use your hands and fingers to pick up things and your legs and feet to walk and run places, you will be using your heart and mouth to accomplish things in Jesus' spirit realm. And, just like you had to practice and train to use your arms, hands, fingers, legs, and feet skillfully, Jesus will be using these studies to train you on how to use your mind, heart, mouth, and other parts of your physical body to do spiritual things.

**More Advanced Training**

**Rom 10:9 (NIV) That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.** We will be taking your training and experiences with being saved and justified to help you move on into other parts of the Bible. If you have been practicing telling those around you that you are now living on the basis of Jesus being your Lord, then you are ready to start practicing other verses in the Bible. If you have been basing your life on the fact that God raised Jesus from the dead, then you are ready to start believing the verses we will be looking at next.

**Getting Results In Your Life**

**Rom 10:10 (NIV) For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.** You have already experienced two of the greatest spiritual results you can possibly experience. You are now a child of God and a citizen of His Kingdom just by being born again. Jesus' prayer in Matthew 6:9-13 and Romans 10:8-10 led you into a powerful result that transformed your life. God now excepts you and is ready to help you work with Jesus to grow into spiritual adulthood. He is now willing to listen and answer ANY prayer you pray. Before this, He was only willing to listen to you pray a prayer that was asking for being born again.

# You Have A Perfect Record With God

**THIS IS NOT AN ASSIGNMENT!**

**Mat 5:48 (NIV) Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.** Remember how you were told in these studies that Jesus spoke with His mouth to storms and they calmed down, spoke with His mouth to diseased people and they were healed, and spoke with His mouth to dead people and they came alive? WELL, Matthew 5:48 is helping you understand what salvation and justification did for you when you were born again as God's child. When Jesus says with His mouth things like: **"Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect,"** He isn't telling you to try to reach this condition by your efforts; He is speaking perfection into your record with God.

**Here Is Your Assignment**

Salvation forgave you and erased from your life-record every wrong, bad, and evil thing you have ever done. Justification is keeping you forgiven of all the wrong, bad, and evil things you are doing and will do in your future. It is your assignment to believe in your heart that Matthew 5:48 is now true of you. And then it is your assignment to confess with your mouth that Jesus has done Matthew 5:48 in you.

**Here Is Your Justification Requirement**

The only requirement for justification to apply perfection to your life moment by moment and issue by issue is, you CANNOT do anything wrong, bad, or evil ON PURPOSE. If you do, you must repent by praying Jesus' prayer in Matthew 6:9-13. If you want help with that prayer, go to HELP eMagazine's gray shortcut bar, select the problem that is bothering you the most, then select "Prayer" in the Life-Map's blue shortcut bar, and then select, "The Lord's Prayer For Sinning Christians." This is at the top of the page in "The Prayer Course" studies. There you will find The Lord's Prayer for a lot of possible situations you may go through.

**YOUR NEXT ASSIGNMENT: Building A Relationship**
Just like all relationships have to be built on trust, this is what you are going to be led into with God. Jesus is going to be helping you learn to completely trust your heavenly Father. Your next goal is to take a verse in Hebrews chapter 11 and verse 6 (Heb 11:6) and use your heart and mouth to get it working in your life. **Heb 11:6 (NIV) And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to Him must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who earnestly seek Him.** These are two new assignments that God is now giving you. You are to confess them with your mouth and believe them in your heart.

**You Must Believe God Exists**
Believing that God exists isn't a problem with any human adults. God makes sure we all get that message through His creation. We may have different experiences; but, God will USE His creation and let each adult human know He exists. Some people will look up into the sky and God will speak the truth that He exists into their heart and mind. Others may look at the mountains or the forest and know. Some look at the human body or all the various living creatures and know; BUT, all adults know.

However, you probably have been exposed to someone who tried to convince you that all God's creation came through evolution, the big bang, or aliens from another planet. If this or something else has damaged your original experience with God, you need to understand that God is taking care of those people who have hurt you.

**Adding Spiritual Air To New Things**
**Without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to Him:**

1. **Must believe that He exists.**

2. **Must believe that He rewards those who earnestly seek Him.**

**Damaged Faith In God's Existence**

**Rom 1:18-19 (NIV) The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men who suppress the truth by their wickedness, since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them.**

**The wrath of God:** God is going to punish those people who tried to take your faith in God's existence away from you. He is VERY mad at what they tried to do to you. They will be punished in the most severe terms, if they don't repent and stop doing that to the people around them. And, since God is going to take care of them and their punishment, you just need to pray and ask Jesus to help you forgive them.

**The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men <u>who suppress the truth</u> by their wickedness:** People have and are continuing to try to keep the truth from getting to you and those around you. As you confess with your mouth that Jesus is your Lord to the people around you, keep in mind that these evil, wicked people have attacked them too. But, when you make your confession to them, it will get them watching you to see how Christianity works for you. Your life will help prove to them that they have been lied to by these evil people.

**Since what may be known about God is plain to them:** These people, who are trying to steal the faith from everyone around them, know the truth about God's existence. How? **Because God has made it plain to them.** They know you are telling the truth about God's existence. Don't argue with them; don't believe that they are atheists; and, don't listen to anything they have to say. They know the truth and have rejected it so they can live wrong, bad, and evil lives. Just go on to those who will allow you to tell them what Jesus has done for you.

# Workbook Chapter Six
# How To Keep The Power-Life

## Believing And Confessing Produces God's Power-Life

**Moving Forward**

**But what does it say? "The word is near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart," that is, the word of faith we are proclaiming (Rom 10:8).** Jesus, just like I had to learn how to use my hands and fingers to pick up things, and, just like I had to learn how to use my legs and feet to walk and run places, help me learn how to use my heart and mouth to accomplish things in Your spirit realm. And, just like I had to practice and train to get good at using my arms, hands, fingers, legs, and feet skillfully, help me use these studies to train on how to use my mind, heart, mouth, and other parts of my physical body to do spiritual things.

**More Advanced Training**

**That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved (Rom 10:9).** Jesus, take my training and experiences with being saved and justified to help me move on into other parts of the Bible. Help me be constantly practicing telling those around me that I am now living on the basis of You being my Lord, so I can be ready to start practicing other verses in the Bible. Help me constantly be basing my life on the fact that God raised You from the dead, so I will be ready to start believing the verses I will be looking at next.

**Getting Results In Your Life**

**For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved (Rom 10:10).** Jesus, thank You for helping me already experience two of the greatest spiritual results I can possibly experience. Thank You for making me a child of God and a citizen of His Kingdom by being born again. Your prayer in Matthew 6:9-13 and Romans 10:8-10 led me into a powerful result that transformed my life. God now excepts me and is ready to help me work with You to grow into spiritual adulthood. He is now willing to listen and answer ANY prayer I pray. Whereas, before this, He was only willing to listen to me pray a prayer that was asking for being born again. I thank You for helping me get this relationship with my heavenly Father.

# You Have A Perfect Record With God

**THIS IS NOT AN ASSIGNMENT!**

**Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect (Mat 5:48).** Jesus, help me understand why You spoke with Your mouth to storms and they calmed down, spoke with Your mouth to diseased people and they were healed, and spoke with Your mouth to dead people and they came alive. Help me realize that You were teaching me how the spirit realm works. Show me that Matthew 5:48 is helping me understand what salvation and justification

did for me when I was born again as God's child. When You say with Your mouth things like: **"Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect,"** You aren't telling me to try to reach this condition by my own efforts; You are speaking perfection into me and my record with God.

**Here Is Your Assignment**

Jesus, help me understand that by praying Your prayer with my mouth and believing with my heart that it did everything I prayed, salvation forgave me and erased from my life-record every wrong, bad, and evil thing I have ever done. Show me that by confessing these words in Matthew 5:48 with my mouth right NOW and believing in my heart what I am confessing, justification is keeping me forgiven of all the wrong, bad, and evil things I am doing and will do in my future. It is NOW my assignment to believe in my heart that Matthew 5:48 is true of me. I NOW confess with my mouth that You have spoken Matthew 5:48 into me; I now KNOW in my heart that I have a perfect record with God.

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Jesus, teach me the principle that the only requirement for justification to apply perfection to my life, moment by moment and issue by issue is, I CANNOT do anything wrong, bad, or evil ON PURPOSE. If I do, I must repent by praying Your prayer in Matthew 6:9-13.

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**You Must Believe God Exists**

Jesus, teach me that believing that God exists isn't a problem with me as a human adult. God made sure I got that message through His creation. God USED His creation and let me know He exists. Some people look up into the sky and God spoke the truth that He exists into their

heart and mind. Others looked at the mountains or the forest and knew. Some looked at the human body or all the various living creatures and knew; BUT, I now understand that I and all other adults KNOW.

Jesus, I have been exposed to people who tried to convince me that all God's creation came through evolution, the big bang, or aliens from another planet. This has damaged my original experience with God, help me understand that God is taking care of those people who have hurt me. Help me be healed from the damage others have tried to inflict me with. Help me use my mouth and my heart to be healed right now.

**Adding Spiritual Air To New Things**

Jesus, I accept the fact that **without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to Him:**

1. **Must believe that He exists.**

2. **Must believe that He rewards those who earnestly seek Him.**

I now confess with my mouth and believe in my heart **that** God **exists and that He rewards those who earnestly seek Him.**

**Damaged Faith In God's Existence**

**The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men who suppress the truth by their wickedness, since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them (Rom 1:18-19).** Jesus, I thank You for setting me free from all the damage these people have done to me; now, set me free from ever doing this kind of damage to others.

**The wrath of God:** Jesus, make it clear to me that God is going to punish those people who tried to take my faith in God's existence away from me. Show me that He is VERY mad at what they tried to do to me. Help me KNOW that they WILL be punished in the most severe terms, if they don't repent and stop doing that to the people around them. And, since God is going to take care of them and their punishment, empower me to forgive them with Your power-forgiveness.

**The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men <u>who suppress the truth</u> by their wickedness:** Jesus, help me understand

that people have and are continuing to try to keep the truth from getting to me and those around me. As I confess with my mouth that You are my Lord to the people around me, help me keep in mind that these evil, wicked people have attacked those I am sharing You with. But, when I make my confession to them, it will get them watching me to see how Christianity works for me. My life will help prove to them that they have been lied to by these evil people.

**Since what may be known about God is plain to them:** Jesus, help me keep in mind that these people, who are trying to steal the faith from everyone around them, know the truth about God's existence. They know **because God has made it plain to them.** They know I am telling the truth about God's existence. Help me not argue with them; not believe that they are atheists; and, not listen to anything they have to say. They know the truth and have rejected it so they can live wrong, bad, and evil lives. Help me realize that I must go on beyond those evil people and get to those who will allow me to tell them what You have done for me.

# How To Keep The Power-Life

## Believing That God Rewards

**You must believe that He rewards**
**those who earnestly seek Him.**
**Rom 2:1 (NIV) You, therefore, have no excuse, you who pass judgment on someone else, for at whatever point you judge the other, you are condemning yourself, because you who pass judgment do the same things.** One of the hardest things for us Christians is to not take credit for the wonderful work God has done in us and for us. We look at ourselves and our life and see how much we have changed. Then we struggle with thinking that it has to be because of something we have done. When we start thinking like that, it causes us to start comparing ourselves with others. We see our growth; and, we see others LACK of growth. That is when we judge them harshly and judge ourselves graciously.

**Believing In God's Rewards**
**Eph 2:8-9 (NIV) For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith--and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God--not by works, so that no one can boast.** When we prayed all those parts of Jesus' prayer in Matthew 6:9-13, we were earnestly seeking God. BUT, we must realize that our earnestly seeking God brought rewards, grace, and gifts from God. Grace means God responded to that prayer and made us His child and a citizen of His Kingdom. We couldn't earn it, buy, it trade for it, steal it, or demand it; it came to us as a gift from our heavenly Father.

**Appreciating God's Rewards**
**1 Cor 4:7 (NIV) For who makes you different from anyone else? What do you have that you did not receive? And if you did receive it, why do you boast as though you did not?** If we get to feeling superior to others as if we didn't get everything we have from grace through faith, then we will tell people we have made Jesus our Lord and that we know He was raised from the dead; but, we will tell them from the motivation of pride. Rather than loving, respecting, and trying to share what we have with them, we will see ourselves as above them, reaching down to help an inferior person.

We have EVERY GOOD THING we have because God is giving them to us as a gift. If there are any wrong, bad, or evil things in our feelings, thoughts, words, or deeds, all we have to do is keep on earnestly seeking God and He will heal us, deliver us, and fill us with right, good, and righteous things. But, we must not **pass judgment on someone else, for at whatever point** we **judge the other,** we **are condemning** ourselves**, because** we **who pass judgment do the same things.** The only way we will stop doing these things is to get a reward and a gift from our heavenly Father.

**Let God Judge People**

**Rom 2:2 (NIV) Now we know that God's judgment against those who do such things is based on truth.** When people hurt us, lie about us, say damaging things about us and to us, and we feel like we need to defend ourselves, we must never forget what we prayed in Jesus' prayer: **Mat 6:12 (NIV) Forgive us our debts, <u>as we also have forgiven our debtors</u>.** God's forgiveness to us is based on our forgiveness of others. So, even though it may be IMPOSSIBLE for you to be able to forgive some people, all you have to do is ask Jesus to give you His power-forgiveness and He will empower you to do it.

**Forgiveness Is Important**
**Mat 6:14-15 (NIV) For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.** This is sometimes impossible for us; but, it isn't impossible for Jesus. You will ALWAYS be able to take these impossible situations to Him and He will ALWAYS empower you to do what you need to do. All you have to do is WANT to forgive even though YOU can't and Jesus will honor your "want." All you have to do is ask Jesus to help you WANT to forgive and He will help you desire to forgive. All you have to do is ask Jesus to give you the power to forgive and you will be empowered to forgive.

**Don't Share What You Know**
**Rom 2:19-21 (NIV) If you are convinced that you are a guide for the blind, a light for those who are in the dark, an instructor of the foolish, a teacher of infants, because you have in the law the embodiment of knowledge and truth--you, then, who teach others, <u>do you not teach yourself</u>? <u>You who preach against stealing, do you steal</u>?** Here is a VERY important part of your sharing your life and spiritual growth with others. Since you have been born again, it is good that you are sharing that experience with those around you. Since you know God raised Jesus from the dead, it is good that you are helping others know this. But, there are areas in your life where you don't have the breakthrough YET.

# Share What You Live

**Being Born Again Brings Freedom**
**2 Cor 5:17 (NIV) Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!** One of the first things you have to realize is, even though this verse is describing you, you will still struggle with your old life. Why? You being free, having freedom, and being able to do what you want is VERY important to God.

Before you were born again, your body, the world, and Satan were actually controlling you. They offered you pleasures; they offered you the right to be filled with pride; you could lie to protect yourself; you could mislead people for your own benefit; and, you could hoard all your possessions and not share with the needy. These "rights" were bait that lured you into a life you were actually addicted to.

**Freedom Brings The Right To Choose**

Jesus had to make you free from those things that your body, the world, and the devil was using to enslave you; BUT, your mind still remembers them all. Why didn't you being born again remove all memories, feelings, and past experiences from you?

**John 8:36 (NIV) So if the Son sets you free, <u>you will be free indeed</u>.** If there is ANYTHING that you are having a hard time letting go of from your old life, there is a pleasure or a dependency attached to it. The reason you feel you NEED something that Jesus is telling you it isn't good for you, is because you are addicted to it. BUT, He will NOT take it away from you <u>because you have been made free</u>. You have to ASK Him to empower you to let it go.

**Sin Steals Freedom**

**John 8:34 (NIV) Jesus replied, "I tell you the truth, everyone who sins is a slave to sin."** Being born again gave you your freedom back so you could decide whether you wanted to move forward with Jesus or you wanted to go back to your old life of sin. So, your old life has stayed in your memories and feelings. But, Jesus is about to give you new memories, feelings, and experiences. He is giving them to you so you have His life to compare with your old life. If you don't allow Jesus to set you free from sin, you will get cheated out of finding out how great being born again is. If you allow Jesus to empower you to be set FREE from ALL of your old life, He will set you free from the slavery you were involved in.

**You Are Now Free To Choose Jesus**

You actually chose Jesus, when you chose to be born again; but, you have to keep choosing Jesus. Your old lifestyle, habits, addictions, and experiences will try to draw you back in. You are free through Jesus; so, they can no longer FORCE you to go back. But, they can beg, lure, threaten, and bait you back into them and their slavery. USE your freedom of choice that Jesus has given you; when you are tempted to do something Jesus is telling you not to do, don't just TRY to make the right decision. Call out to Jesus and ask for His power to help you make the right decision.

**Three Power Tools Available To You**

**Mat 7:7-8 (NIV) "ASK and it will be given to you; SEEK and you will find; KNOCK and the door will be opened to you. For EVERYONE who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened.** We can't spend time working on SEEK and KNOCK for right now; but, ASKING is simply you replacing your best human efforts. They can be replaced with you using your mouth and heart to lead you into prayer for the things you are TRYING to do. Rather than looking to yourself, pray and ask Jesus to empower you to do the right things and give up the wrong things.

**A Permission Based Relationship**

Prayer is VERY powerful; it is your line of communication with Jesus. Always keep in mind that your relationship with God is a permission based relationship. You can't make God do anything that isn't good for you or those around you. And, He won't make you do anything you don't want to do. This is totally different from Satan and the relationship you have with him, your body, and the world. They weren't above forcing, bating, luring, lying, misleading, and addicting you. God requires that you ask Him; that is how you give Him permission to do those things you need.

# Workbook Chapter Seven
# How To Keep The Power-Life

## Believing That God Rewards

**You must believe that He rewards those who earnestly seek Him.**

Jesus, help me not be a person who has **no excuse,** one **who passes judgment on someone else,** help me realize that **whatever point** I **judge the other,** I am **condemning** myself**, because** I **who pass judgment do the same things (Rom 2:1).** Show me that one of the hardest things for me, as a Christian, is to not take credit for the wonderful work God has done in me and for me. I can look at myself and my life and see how much I have changed. Then I struggle with thinking that it has to be because of something I have done. When I start thinking like that, it causes me to start comparing myself with others. I see my growth; and, I see others LACK of growth. That is when I judge them harshly and judge myself graciously.

**Believing In God's Rewards**

Jesus, **it is by grace** I **have been saved, through faith--and this not from** myself**, it is the gift of God--not by works, so that** I can't **boast (Eph 2:8-9).** When I prayed all those parts of Your prayer in Matthew 6:9-13, I was earnestly seeking God. Help me realize that my earnestly seeking God brought rewards, grace, and gifts from Him. Grace means God responded to that prayer and made me His child and a citizen of His Kingdom. I couldn't earn it, buy it, trade for it, steal it, or demand it; it came to me as a gift from my heavenly Father.

**Appreciating God's Rewards**

Jesus, **who makes** me **different from anyone else? What do** I **have that** I **did not receive? And if** I **did receive it, why do** I **boast as though** I **did not (1 Cor 4:7)?** If I get to feeling superior to others as if I didn't get everything I have from grace through faith, then I will tell people I have made You my Lord and that I know You were raised from the dead; but, I will tell them from the motivation of pride. Rather than loving, respecting, and trying to share what I have with them, I will see myself as above them, reaching down to help an inferior person.

Teach me that I have EVERY GOOD THING I have because God is giving them to me as a gift. If there are any wrong, bad, or evil things in my feelings, thoughts, words, or deeds, all I have to do is keep on earnestly seeking God and He will heal me, deliver me, and fill me with right, good, and righteous things. But, I must not **pass judgment on someone else, for at whatever point** I **judge the other,** I **am condemning** myself**, because** I **who pass judgment do the same things.** Show me that the only way I will stop doing wrong, bad, and evil things is to get a reward and a gift from my heavenly Father that sets me free.

**Let God Judge People**

Jesus, help me **know that God's judgment against those who do such things is based on truth (Rom 2:2).** When people hurt me, lie about me, say damaging things about me and to me, and I feel like I need to defend myself, I must never forget what I prayed in Your prayer: **Forgive** me my **debts, as** I **also have forgiven** my **debtors (Mat 6:12).** Help me understand that God's forgiveness to me is based on my forgiveness of others. So, even though it may be IMPOSSIBLE for me to be able to forgive some people, all I have to do is ask You to give me Your power-forgiveness and You will empower me to do it.

**Forgiveness Is Important**

Jesus, teach me that **if** I **forgive men when they sin against** me, my **heavenly Father will also forgive** me**. But if** I **do not forgive men their sins,** my **Father will not forgive** my **sins (Mat 6:14-15).** But, Jesus, this is sometimes impossible for me; however, it isn't impossible for You. Teach me that I will ALWAYS be able to take these impossible situations to You and You will ALWAYS empower me to do what I need to do. All I have to do is WANT to forgive even though I can't and You will honor my "want." All I have to do is ask You to help me WANT to forgive and You will help me desire to forgive. All I have to do is ask You to give me the power to forgive and I will be empowered to forgive.

**Don't Share What You Know**

Jesus, **if** I am **convinced that** I am **a guide for the blind, a light for those who are in the dark, an instructor of the foolish, a teacher of infants, because** I **have in the law the embodiment of knowledge and truth--**I**, then, who teach others, do** I **not teach** myself**?** I **who preach against stealing, do** I **steal (Rom 2:19-21)?** Help me realize that this is a VERY important part of my sharing my life and spiritual growth with others. Since I have been born again, it is good that I am sharing that experience with those around me. Since I know God raised You from the dead, it is good that I am helping others know this. But, there are areas in my life where I don't have the breakthrough YET.

# Share What You Live

**Being Born Again Brings Freedom**

Jesus, since I am **in** You, my **Christ,** I am **a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come (2 Cor 5:17)!** Show me that one of the first things I have to realize is, even though this verse is describing me, I will still struggle with my old life. Make it clear to me that me being free, having freedom, and being able to do what I want is VERY important to God.

Before I was born again, my body, the world, and Satan were actually controlling me. They offered me pleasures; they offered me the right to be filled with pride; I could lie to protect myself; I could mislead people for my own benefit; and, I could hoard all my possessions and not share with the needy. Teach me that these "rights" were bait that lured me into a life I was actually addicted to.

**Freedom Brings The Right To Choose**

Jesus, You had to make me free from those things that my body, the world, and the devil were using to enslave me; BUT, my mind still remembers them all. Why didn't me being born again remove all memories, feelings, and past experiences from me?

Teach me that **if the Son sets** me **free, I will be free indeed (John 8:36).** Help me understand that, if there is ANYTHING that I am having a hard time letting go of from my old life, there is a pleasure or a dependency attached to it. The reason I feel I NEED something that You are telling me it isn't good for me, is because I am addicted to it. BUT, help me realize that You will NOT take it away from me because I have been made free. I have to ASK You to empower me to let it go.

**Sin Steals Freedom**

**Jesus replied, "I tell you the truth, everyone who sins is a slave to sin (John 8:34)."** Jesus, teach me that being born again gave me my freedom back so I could decide whether I wanted to move forward with You or I wanted to go back to my old life of sin. So, You let my old life stay in my memories and feelings. But, teach me that You are about to give me new memories, feelings, and experiences. You are giving them to me so I have Your life to compare with my old life. Make it clear to me that if I don't allow You to set me free from my old habits, lifestyles, and addictions, I will get cheated out of finding out how great being born again is. If I allow You to empower me to be set FREE from ALL of my old life, You will set me free from the slavery I was involved in.

**You Are Now Free To Choose Jesus**

Jesus, I actually chose You, when I chose to be born again; but, explain to me that I have to keep choosing You. My old lifestyle, habits, addictions, and experiences will try to draw me back in. I am free through You; so, they can no longer FORCE me to go back. But, they can beg, lure, threaten, and bait me back into them and their slavery. Empower me to USE my freedom of choice that You have given me; when I am tempted to do something You are

telling me not to do, help me not just TRY to make the right decision. Help me call out to You and ask for Your power to help me make the right decision.

**Three Power Tools Available To You**

Jesus, teach me that all I have to do is **ASK and it will be given to** me**; SEEK and** I **will find; KNOCK and the door will be opened to** me**. For EVERYONE who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened (Mat 7:7-8).**

Jesus, get my heart read for when we can spend time working on SEEK and KNOCK. In the mean time, teach me that ASKING is simply me replacing my best human efforts. They can be replaced by me using my mouth and heart to lead me into prayer for the things I am TRYING to do. Rather than looking to myself, help me pray and ask You to empower me to do the right things and give up the wrong things.

**A Permission Based Relationship**

Jesus, teach me that prayer is VERY powerful; it is my line of communication with You. Help me always keep in mind that my relationship with God is a permission based relationship. I can't make God do anything that isn't good for me or those around me. And, He won't make me do anything I don't want to do. Show me how this is totally different from Satan and the relationship I had with him, my body, and the world. They weren't above forcing, bating, luring, lying, misleading, and addicting me. God requires that I ask Him; teach me that, that is how I give Him permission to do those things I need.

# Textbook Chapter Eight
# How To Keep The Power-Life

## Human Effort

**Trying To Help God**

**Rom 3:1-3 (NIV) What advantage, then, is there in being a Jew, or what value is there in circumcision? Much in every way! First of all, they have been entrusted with the very words of God. What if some did not have faith? Will their lack of faith nullify God's faithfulness?** God gave a group of people called Jews His instructions so they would know how He wanted them to treat themselves, other people, and His plan. As the Jews started learning all God's rules, laws, and instructions, they misunderstood one VERY IMPORTANT thing.

**God's Laws Are Too Hard For Humans**

It seems strange to us that God would give us laws that were too hard for us to live; but, it makes sense when we think about relationships. People always expect too much of us; the way they want us to treat them is far better than we are capable of performing. From time to time we even disappoint ourselves. If we can't live up to our own expectations, how are we ever going to live up to other peoples rules, laws, and expectations? And, if that is hard, then what would give us the impression that we would be able to fulfill all of God's laws; so, why have them?

**Why Have Laws We Can't Live?**

If laws were all we needed, then law enforcement people wouldn't be needed. We wouldn't need police, soldiers, sheriffs, judges, wardens, and penalties. All we would have to do was put the laws together, make sure everyone knew what they were, and explain how to apply them and we would have law-abiding citizens. Everyone would simply follow the laws to the very best of their abilities. BUT, that isn't the way we humans think, feel, believe, behave, and react to laws that have been created with our best interest in mind.

## How Should We Treat God's Laws?

**Understanding The Purpose**

**Rom 3:19-20 (NIV) Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world held accountable to God. <u>Therefore no one will be declared righteous in His sight by observing the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of sin</u>.** Human laws have one purpose and God's laws have another. Humans make laws and require that we live according to them. God causes laws to be written so

we will be informed as to what is right and what is wrong. If we apply human reasoning to God's laws, we will fail to live a life that God had planned for us.

**God Provides All He Requires**

Human laws place all the responsibility on us; God's laws point to all the provisions He provides for us. If He requires that you stop doing something, then He makes power available to you so you can stop it, IF YOU WANT TO. If He requires that you start doing something, then He makes power available to you so you can start doing it, IF YOU WANT TO. All we have to do is follow God's instructions for establishing a relationship with Him. Then, from that point on, He makes all kinds of provisions, power, attitudes, character traits, miracles, and blessing available to us. From there, we use them to fulfill all the laws of God, IF WE WANT TO.

**A Relationship Comes First**

**Rom 3:21-24 (NIV) But now a righteousness from God, <u>apart from law</u>, has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference, for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by His GRACE through the REDEMPTION that came BY Christ Jesus.**

The words **"apart from law"** makes it sound like our relationship with God is going to be a lawless one. But, we all have to understand that before we can deal with God's laws we have to be able to get God's power, provisions, and wisdom. You had to FIRST be born again before you could get anything else from God. You had to follow God's instructions for establishing a relationship with Him. So, you prayed Jesus' prayer in Matthew 6:9-13 and you obeyed the instructions in Romans 10:8-10. Now, you are ready to start getting all the power, provisions, and wisdom; God is hearing and answering ALL your prayers BECAUSE <u>you are His child</u>.

**Your Mouth And Your Heart**

**Rom 3:31 (NIV) Do we, then, nullify the law by this faith? Not at all! Rather, we uphold the law.** If you hadn't learned how to use your mouth and heart, you wouldn't be born again now. You wouldn't be God's child or a citizen of His Kingdom. And, if you hadn't learned how important your mouth and heart are in the spirit realm, you wouldn't be ready to start living according to God's instructions, commandments, rules, and laws. And, if you couldn't live by them, you life would NEVER change in your relationships with yourself and other people.

# Why Does God Honor Faith?

**Works Are Human Effort**

People who TRY to be good, TRY to do what is right, and TRY to not do anything wrong, bad, or evil will fail. Humans lack the power, adequate desire, the necessary commitment, and the needed compassion to always do the right things with themselves and other people. However, those who put their faith, trust, reliance, and dependency on God, WILL HAVE AVAILABLE to them the

power, adequate desire, the necessary commitment, and the needed compassion to always do the right things with themselves and other people. They may not take advantage of these AVAILABLE things; but, they can IF THEY WANT TO.

**Your Qualifications**

The provisions of God are too valuable, too expensive, too important, and too God-sized for anyone to be able to earn them. No matter how hard or how long we worked, we would never be able to afford or deserve God's provisions. Work can only provide a wage; faith is free! Anyone can get the gift of faith in Jesus; anyone can speak faith through their mouth and use it to believe with their heart. If all the things of God are going to be AVAILABLE to everyone everywhere, then it has to be free, a gift, and by faith.

When we prayed Jesus' prayer and obeyed the instructions in Romans 10:9-10, we saw how EASY it was to be born again into God's family and Kingdom. It was so easy, that some didn't feel like they had done enough. They thought, "It can't be this easy!" But, it is! Because it is by faith as a free gift from God, we become His child and a citizen of His Kingdom through a power that flows generously from a loving God. BUT, we must not doubt the results just because it came with such ease. We must believe that all the things of God DO come to us VERY easy; but, that easiness doesn't make the things that come to us to be insignificant. This is just the way God works; He makes everything come to us as a free gift and to come with great ease.

**The Relationship Comes First**

Once you were born again through faith confessed through your mouth that Jesus is Lord and that Jesus is your Lord, and once you used faith to believe in your heart that God raised Jesus from the dead, being born again came to you as a gift from God. It didn't matter how important you were, how rich you were, how smart you were, or how hard you worked. You became God's child and a citizen of His Kingdom as a gift. Once that happened, God started hearing and answering your prayers because you ARE His child.

# Workbook Chapter Eight
# How To Keep The Power-Life

## Human Effort

**Trying To Help God**

> **What advantage, then, is there in being a Jew, or what value is there in circumcision? Much in every way! First of all, they have been entrusted with the very words of God. What if some did not have faith? Will their lack of faith nullify God's faithfulness (Rom**

**3:1-3)?** Jesus, teach me about these Jews that God gave them His instructions. Help me see that He gave them to them so they would know how He wanted them to treat themselves, other people, and His plan. Help me understand where they went wrong so I can pray to be set free from that mistake. As the Jews started learning all God's rules, laws, and instructions, they misunderstood one VERY IMPORTANT thing. Teach me what that very important thing is.

**God's Laws Are Too Hard For Humans**

Jesus, it seems strange to me that God would give laws that were too hard for me to live. Help it make sense to me when I think about relationships. People always expect too much of me; the way they want me to treat them is far better than I am capable of performing. From time to time I even disappoint myself. Help it make sense to me that, if I can't live up to my own expectations, how am I ever going to live up to other peoples rules, laws, and expectations? And, if that is hard, then what would give me the impression that I would be able to fulfill all of God's laws? So, help me understand why it is important for You to provide them.

**Why Have Laws We Can't Live?**

Jesus, help me understand the principles behind Your laws. Show me that if laws were all that was required, then law enforcement people wouldn't be needed. Police, soldiers, sheriffs, judges, wardens, and penalties wouldn't be needed. All that would have to be done was to put the laws together, make sure everyone knew what they were, and explain how to apply them and we would have law-abiding citizens. Everyone would simply follow the laws to the very best of their abilities. BUT, help me see that, that isn't the way I think, feel, believe, behave, and react to laws that have been created with my best interest in mind.

# How Should We Treat God's Laws?

**Understanding The Purpose**

**Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world held accountable to God. <u>Therefore no one will be declared righteous in His sight by observing the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of sin</u> (Rom 3:19-20).** Jesus, I am more familiar with human laws and their purpose. But, I now understand that human laws have one purpose and God's laws have another. Humans make laws and require that I live according to them. God causes laws to be written so I will be informed as to what is right and what is wrong. Help me see that if I apply human reasoning to God's laws, I will fail to live a life that God had planned for me.

**God Provides All He Requires**

Jesus, I am used to human laws that place all the responsibility on me; teach me that God's laws point to all the provisions He provides for me. If He requires that I stop doing something, He makes power available to me so I can stop it, IF I WANT TO. If He requires that I start doing something, then He makes power available to me so I can start doing it, IF I WANT TO. Show me that all I have to do is follow God's instructions for establishing a relationship with Him. Then, from that point on, He makes all kinds of provisions, power, attitudes, character traits, miracles, and blessing available to me. From there, I am to use them to fulfill all the laws of God, IF I WANT TO.

**A Relationship Comes First**

**But now a righteousness from God, apart from law, has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference, for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by His GRACE through the REDEMPTION that came BY Christ Jesus (Rom 3:21-24).** Thank you for helping me establish a family relationship with You. Thank You for doing this so I can start receiving the power and provisions of God. And that relationship will enable me to live God's laws, rules, and commandments. They are designed to work miracles and blessings in my life.

Jesus, the words **"apart from law"** makes it sound like my relationship with God is going to be a lawless one. But, help me understand that before I can deal with God's laws I have to be able to get God's power, provisions, and wisdom. I had to FIRST be born again before I could get anything else from God. I had to follow God's instructions for establishing a relationship with Him. So, I prayed Your prayer in Matthew 6:9-13 and I obeyed the instructions in Romans 10:8-10. Now, I am ready to start getting all the power, provisions, and wisdom. Plus, God is now hearing and answering ALL my prayers BECAUSE I am His child.

**Your Mouth And Your Heart**

Jesus, teach me that I don't **nullify the law by this faith. Not at all! Rather,** I **uphold the law (Rom 3:31).** Show me that if I hadn't learned how to use my mouth and heart, I wouldn't be born again now. I wouldn't be God's child or a citizen of His Kingdom. And, if I hadn't learned how important my mouth and heart are in the spirit realm, I wouldn't be ready to start living according to God's instructions, commandments, rules, and laws. And, if I couldn't live by them, my life would NEVER change in my relationship with myself and other people.

# Why Does God Honor Faith?

**Works Are Human Effort**

Jesus, help me understand that people who TRY to be good, TRY to do what is right, and TRY to not do anything wrong, bad, or evil will fail. I, as a human, lack the power, adequate desire, the necessary commitment, and the needed compassion to always do the right things with myself and other people. However, help me be one of those who put their faith, trust, reliance, and dependency on God. Help me see that I WILL HAVE AVAILABLE to me the power, adequate desire, the necessary commitment, and the needed compassion to always do the right things with myself and other people. Help me not fail to take advantage of these AVAILABLE things; help me know I can get those provisions from my heavenly Father, IF I WANT TO.

**Your Qualifications**

Jesus, teach me that the provisions of God are too valuable, too expensive, too important, and too God-sized for me to be able to earn them. No matter how hard or how long I work, I will never be able to afford or deserve God's provisions. Show me that work can only provide me a wage; faith is free! Help me understand that I can get the gift of faith from You; I can speak faith through my mouth and use it to believe with my heart. Make it clear to me that if all the things of God are going to be AVAILABLE to everyone everywhere, then it has to be free, a gift, and by faith.

**It's Easy But Powerful**

Jesus, when I prayed Your prayer and obeyed the instructions in Romans 10:9-10, I saw how EASY it was to be born again into God's family and Kingdom. It was so easy, that some times it didn't feel like I had done enough. I thought, "It can't be this easy!" But, it is!

Help me keep in mind that because it is by faith as a free gift from God, I become His child and a citizen of His Kingdom. And I get it through a power that flows generously from a loving God. Help me not doubt the results just because it came with such ease. Help me believe that all the things of God DO come to me VERY easy; but, that easiness doesn't make the things that come to me to be insignificant. Teach me that this is just the way God works; He makes everything come to me as a free gift and to come with great ease.

**The Relationship Comes First**

Jesus, once I was born again through faith that was confessed through my mouth, my mouth confessed that You are Lord and that You are MY Lord. And, once I used faith to believe in my heart that God raised You from the dead, being born again came to me as a gift from God. It didn't matter how important I was, how rich I was, how smart I was, or how hard I worked. Help me know that I became God's child and a citizen of His Kingdom as a gift. Make it clear

to me that once that happened, God started hearing and answering my prayers because I AM His child.

# Textbook Chapter Nine
# How To Keep The Power-Life

# Getting Used To Faith, Grace, And Mercy

## Works

**A Change In Lifestyle**

**Rom 4:4-5 (NIV) Now when a man works, his wages are not credited to him as a gift, but as an obligation. However, to the man who does not work but trusts God who justifies the wicked, his faith is credited as righteousness.**

**A Change In How Things Get Done**

**Now when a man works:** Before you came to God, your whole life was dependent on you working. If anything was going to get done, you were going to have to make it happen. But, do to the fact that Jesus is alive, you aren't involved in a self-help religion. It isn't what you can do for Jesus, it is what Jesus can do for you; you are involved in a relationship. Plus, you are involved in a relationship that requires supernatural help. Natural human effort isn't going to bring the results you need for yourself, other people, or God's plan; it is going to take supernatural power.

**The Gift Relationship**

**Now when a man works, <u>his wages are NOT credited to him as a gift</u>:** We are used to earning a living, establishing a source of income, earning our keep, and establishing our worth. We don't like handouts, charity, or welfare; we typically get our worth and see our value in what we can produce. Gifts can be offensive to us; we can feel like a charity case. But, this isn't how our heavenly Father looks at us. Just like we support our family, so does God. When we have members in our family

who are too young to make a contribution to the family, we don't mind supporting them for free. We will do for our children things we won't do for anyone else. That's the way God is.

**God Is In Charge**

**Now when a man works, his wages are not credited to him as a gift, <u>but as an obligation</u>:** God is never going to get into a place where He owes us something. He will never be obliged to do what we demand of Him. Our knowledge, understanding, and wisdom are far below the intelligence of God. If He ever got into an obligated relationship with us, we would make foolish, infantile, and inferior demands on Him. Our relationship with Him must be on the basis of gifts; or, we will try to gain the upper hand. Plus, we would never be able to work hard enough to afford the things of God.

# Faith

**Not Being Lazy**

**However, to the man who does not work:** If we have children in our home, we may require that they clean their room. We may give them an allowance "because" they did some chores around the house. But, their "work" would be nothing in comparison to the rewards. All their clothing, food, housing, transportation, utilities, insurance, education, entertainment, and care would me MUCH MORE than the "work" they did. There are some things your heavenly Father requires that you do; but, they are NOTHING in comparison to your rewards and His provisions.

**A Get-Out-Of-Jail-Free Card**

**However, to the man who does not work <u>but trusts God who justifies the wicked</u>:** This is when we finally end up in the prison of spiritual disease, habits, a bad lifestyle, and addictions. We have problems we have gotten ourselves into that we cannot solve. It is like we are arrested and are given "one phone call." So, we cry out to Jesus and He rescues us from all the penalties of sin. We are set free, brought home, given a new life, and empowered to live as a child of God. We go from wickedness to a life of only doing good to ourselves, other people, and God's plan.

**Faith In God Only**

**However, to the man who does not work but trusts God who justifies the wicked, <u>his faith is credited as righteousness</u>:** When we do spiritual work trying to get into a right relationship with God, our faith is in our own efforts. But, when we look to God for His power and provisions to BRING us into a right relationship with Him, our faith is in God. If our faith is invested in anything other than God, it is unacceptable to God. BUT, if we DO place our faith in God, our **faith is credited as righteousness.**

**Righteousness**

Righteousness is <u>only doing right and good things to ourselves, other people, and God's plan</u>. It is also <u>NOT doing ANYTHING that is wrong, bad, or evil to ourselves, other people, or God's plan</u>.

If our **faith is credited as righteousness,** then all we had to do was believe that God and the Bible were telling us the truth. AND, when we prayed all the parts of Matthew 6:9-13 and obeyed Romans 10:8-10, we BELIEVED we were saved and justified; that made us a born again child of God. But, it was vital that we believed that was true of us. When we did, it was credited to us as righteousness.

# Workbook Chapter Nine
# How To Keep The Power-Life

# Getting Used To Faith, Grace, And Mercy

## Works

### A Change In Lifestyle

Jesus, teach me that **when** I **work,** my **wages are not credited to** me **as a gift, but as an obligation. However,** when I don't **work but trust God who justifies the wicked,** my **faith is credited as righteousness (Rom 4:4-5).** Teach me this principle so I can know how to maintain a relationship with You.

### A Change In How Things Get Done

**Now when a man works:** Jesus, before I came to God, my whole life was dependent on me working. If anything was going to get done, I was going to have to make it happen. But, help me realize that You are alive, I am not involved in a self-help religion. It isn't what I can do for You, it is what You can do for me; I am involved in a relationship. Plus, I am involved in a relationship that requires supernatural help. Teach me that natural human effort isn't going to bring the results I need for myself, other people, or God's plan; it is going to take supernatural power.

**The Gift Relationship**

**Now when a man works, <u>his wages are NOT credited to him as a gift</u>:** Jesus, for most of my life I have been trained that I have to earn a living, establish a source of income, earn my keep, and establish my worth. I have been taught to not like handouts, charity, or welfare; I typically get my worth and see my value in what I can produce for myself. Due to all my world training, gifts can be offensive to me; I can feel like a charity case. But, help me understand that this isn't how my heavenly Father looks at me. Just like I would support a family, so does God. If I have members in my family who are too young to make a contribution to the family, I wouldn't mind supporting them for free. I would do for my children things I wouldn't do for anyone else. Show me that, that's the way God is.

**God Is In Charge**

**Now when a man works, his wages are not credited to him as a gift, <u>but as an obligation</u>:** Jesus, help me understand that God is never going to get into a place where He owes me something. He will never be obliged to do what I demand of Him. My knowledge, understanding, and wisdom are far below the intelligence of God. If He ever got into an obligated relationship with me, I would make foolish, infantile, and inferior demands on Him. Make it clear to me that my relationship with Him must be on the basis of gifts; or, I will try to gain the upper hand. Plus, I would never be able to work hard enough to afford the things of God.

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**Faith In God Only**

**However, to the man who does not work but trusts God who justifies the wicked, <u>his faith is credited as righteousness</u>:** Jesus, help me understand that when I do spiritual work trying to get into a right relationship with God, my faith is in my own efforts. But, when I look to God for His power and provisions to BRING me into a right relationship with Him, my faith is in God. Help see that if my faith is invested in anything other than God, it is unacceptable to God. BUT, if I DO place my faith in God, MY **faith is credited as righteousness.**

**Righteousness**

Jesus, teach me that righteousness is <u>only doing right and good things to myself, other people, and God's plan</u>. It is also <u>NOT doing ANYTHING that is wrong, bad, or evil to myself, other people, or God's plan</u>. Since my **faith was credited as righteousness,** then all I had to do and all have to continue to do is believe that God and the Bible are telling me the truth. AND, when I prayed all the parts of Matthew 6:9-13 and obeyed Romans 10:8-10, I BELIEVED I was saved and justified; that made me a born again child of God. But, it was vital that I believed that new birth was true of me. When I did, faith was credited to me as righteousness.

## Textbook Chapter Nine
## How To Keep The Power-Life

# Getting Used To Faith, Peace, And Access

## Faith Results

**A Change In Relationship**

**Rom 5:1-2 (NIV) Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through Whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God.**

**A Progressive Spiritual Growth**

**Therefore, SINCE we have been justified:** Once we get salvation and justification, all our past, present, and future sins are forgiven. THAT puts us in a position to be able to not only BE a child of God, we get to LIVE like a child of God. The rights and privileges of a child of God come into our life. God treats us totally different than He did when we WEREN'T His child. Back then we were choosing to make ourselves, the world, and the devil our parents. For as long as we failed to take advantage of Jesus' provisions, we WEREN'T a child of God. But, now that we are, there are things we can do and experience that we couldn't before; AND, we need to know what they are.

**A Progressive Faith Training**
**Therefore, SINCE we have been justified <u>through faith</u>:** The faith that God is talking about is different from what we mean when we say that we have faith for something. This faith is the belief that God and the Bible always tell us the truth. No matter how hard it is to accept some of the things in the Bible, it is our responsibility to know for a fact that somehow, some way they are the truth. If there is something Jesus is telling us and we don't believe it, that is a lack of faith. We must believe in Jesus and the Bible's integrity and trustworthiness.

**A Progressive Peace Relationship**
**Therefore, SINCE we have been justified through faith, <u>we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ</u>:** This peace has to do with a conflict; it is like being at war with another country. Until something happens to help two opposing parties to get along, there is no peace. Being saved, justified, and born again brought peace with God. You and God are no longer on opposite sides of the issues; you **have peace with God. John 14:6 (NIV) Jesus answered, "I am the WAY and the TRUTH and the LIFE. <u>No one comes to the Father except through Me</u>.** You prayed all the parts of Jesus' prayer and obeyed Romans 10:8-10, which were words from Jesus, and you immediately got peace between you and your heavenly Father.

# Access Results

**A Progressive Access Relationship**
**We have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, <u>through Whom we have gained access</u> by faith:** THE REASON you were forgiven of all your past, present, and future sins was so you could have **peace with God** and **gain access** to your heavenly Father. God IS NOT going to forgive us of all our past, present, and future sins so we can live a life of unrighteousness. Unrighteousness is the opposite of righteousness; it is doing wrong, bad, and evil to ourselves, others, and God's plan. And, it is to fail to do right, good, and righteous things to ourselves, others, and God's plan.

**Progressive Human Relationships**
THE REASON you were given **peace with God** and allowed to **gain access** to your heavenly Father was so you could get all His provisions and power to live a righteous life. Without that peace relationship, you wouldn't be allowed to have access. And without that access, you wouldn't be able to get any of His provisions and power. Salvation, justification, grace, mercy, peace, access, being born again, and being a child of God are ONLY for those who are WILLING to allow God to flow through them. God is a righteous God; He wants you to allow Him to empower you to live righteously with yourself, others, and His plan. That is why you were given peace between Him and you; and, that is why you now have access.

**Progress Through Faith Rather Than Work**

**We have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through Whom we have gained access by faith <u>into this grace in which we now stand</u>:** Grace accepts the fact that we cannot do righteous things WITHOUT the power of God. And, grace keeps us from being required to do this through human efforts.

Grace isn't limited or hindered by what we CAN'T do, grace is only held back by what we WON'T do. God will empower EVERYONE who is WILLING, it doesn't matter to Him that YOU can't do it. As long as you are willing, all you have to do is believe in your heavenly Father's honesty, integrity, and trustworthiness. Believing in your heavenly Father gives YOU the power to change your attitudes, character, and behavior.

**Progressive Results**
**And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God:** You will get so many miracles, blessings, and wonderful changes in your life that it will bring great rejoicing. Such awesome things will come to you that it will build your **hope of the glory of God.**

# Workbook Chapter Nine
# How To Keep The Power-Life

# Getting Used To Faith, Peace, And Access

## Faith Results

**A Change In Relationship**

> Jesus, **since** I **have been justified through faith,** I **have peace with God through** You, my **Lord Jesus Christ, through Whom** I **have gained access by faith into this grace in which** I **now stand. And** I **rejoice in the hope of the glory of God (Rom 5:1-2).**

**A Progressive Spiritual Growth**

> **Therefore, SINCE we have been justified:** Jesus, keep me aware that once I got salvation and justification, all my past, present, and future sins have been forgiven. THAT puts me in a position to be able to not only BE a child of God, I get to LIVE like a child of God. The rights

and privileges of a child of God are coming into my life. God is now treating me totally different than He did when I WASN'T His child. Back then I was choosing to make myself, the world, and the devil my parents. Teach me that for as long as I failed to take advantage of Your provisions, I WAS NOT a child of God. But, now that I am, there are things I can do and experience that I couldn't before; AND, I need to know what they are.

**A Progressive Faith Training**

**Therefore, SINCE we have been justified <u>through faith</u>:** Jesus, teach me that the faith God is talking about is different from what I mean when I say that I have faith for something. Show me that this faith is the belief that God and the Bible always tell me the truth. Empower me so that no matter how hard it is to accept some of the things in the Bible, I accept that it is true. Make it clear to me that it is my responsibility to know for a fact that somehow, some way they are the truth. Teach me that if there is something You are telling me and I don't believe it, that is a lack of faith. I must believe in You and the Bible's integrity and trustworthiness. Help me to live in constant faith in that integrity and trustworthiness.

**A Progressive Peace Relationship**

**Therefore, SINCE we have been justified through faith, <u>we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ</u>:** Jesus, teach me that this peace has to do with a conflict; that it is like being at war with another country. Until something happens to help two opposing parties to get along, there is no peace. Help me understand that being saved, justified, and born again brought me peace with God. I and God are no longer on opposite sides of the issues; I **have peace with God.**

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# Access Results

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**We have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, <u>through Whom we have gained access</u> by faith:** Jesus, show me that THE REASON I was forgiven of all my past, present, and future sins was so I could have **peace with God** and **gain access** to my heavenly Father. Make it clear to me that God IS NOT going to forgive me of all my past, present, and future sins so I can live a life of unrighteousness. Teach me that unrighteousness is the opposite of righteousness; it is doing wrong, bad, and evil to myself, others, and God's plan. And, it is to fail to do right, good, and righteous things to myself, others, and God's plan.

**Progressive Human Relationships**

Jesus, also make it clear to me that THE REASON I was given **peace with God** and allowed to **gain access** to my heavenly Father was so I could get all His provisions and power to live a righteous life. Help me understand that without that peace relationship, I wouldn't be allowed to have access. And without that access, I wouldn't be able to get any of His provisions and power. Show me that salvation, justification, grace, mercy, peace, access, being born again, and being a child of God are ONLY for those who are WILLING to allow God to flow through them. God is a righteous God; He wants me to allow Him to empower me to live righteously with myself, others, and His plan. That is why I was given peace between Him and me; and, that is why I now have access.

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Help me realize that grace isn't limited or hindered by what I CAN'T do, grace is only held back by what I WON'T do. God will empower EVERYONE who is WILLING, it doesn't matter to Him that I can't do it. As long as I am willing, all I have to do is believe in my heavenly Father's honesty, integrity, and trustworthiness. Show me that believing in my heavenly Father gives ME the power to change MY attitudes, character, and behavior.

**Progressive Results**

**And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God:** Jesus, You will be giving me so many miracles, blessings, and wonderful changes in my life that it will bring great rejoicing. You will cause such awesome things to come to me that it will build my **hope of the glory of God.**