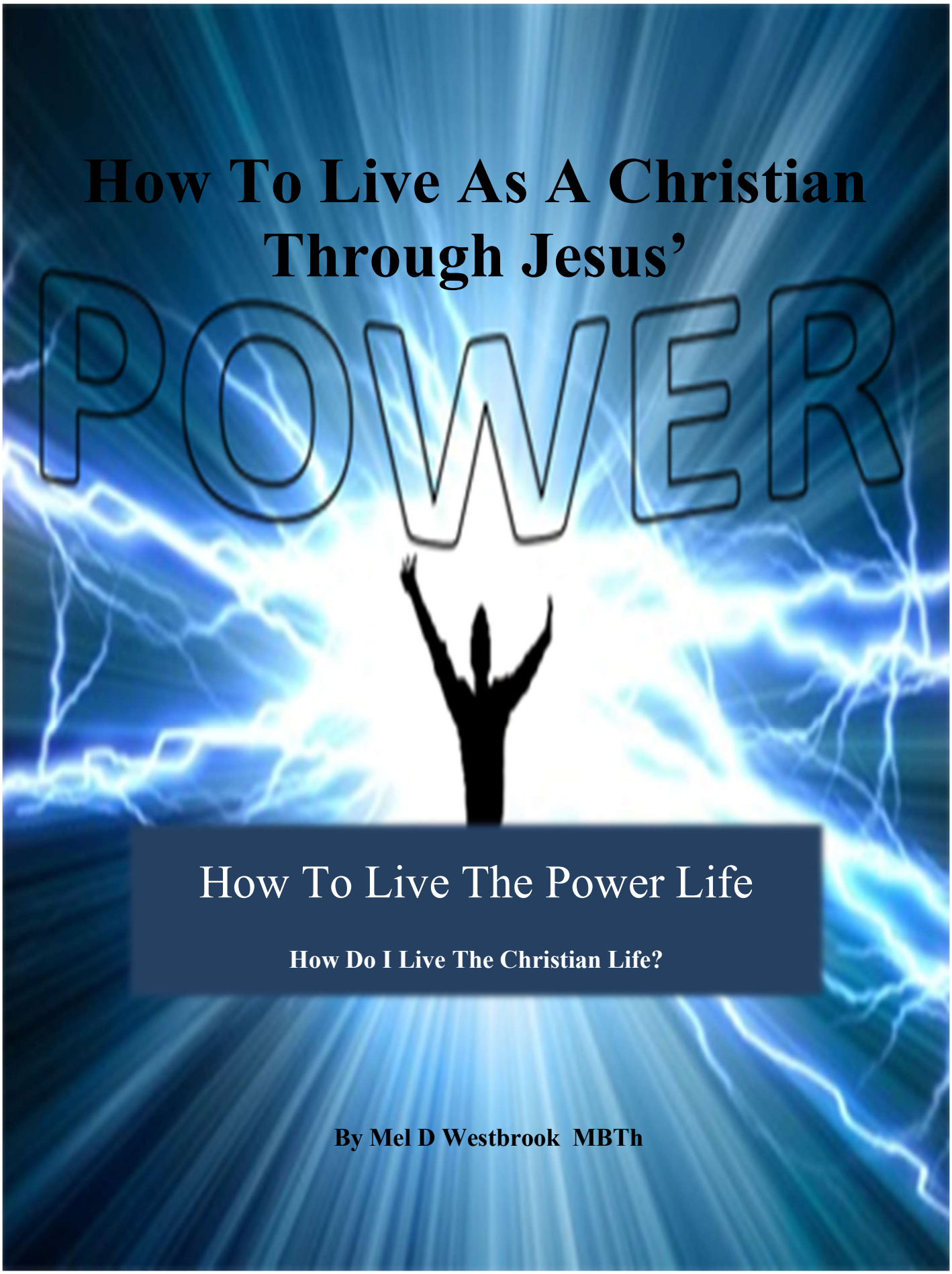
How To Live As A Christian Through Jesus'



How To Live The Power Life

How Do I Live The Christian Life?

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 Live The Power Life

Getting Used To Victory, Success, And Winning

Preparation

Getting Ready

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.

- JUSTIFIED means your record is clean with God; all your past, present, and future sins, mistakes, failures, and misdeeds are cleansed from your record with Him. All you had to do was pray Jesus' prayer and obey the instructions in Romans 10:8-10 and you got a perfect record with God. **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.**

- FAITH means you believe that God and His Word, the Bible, are telling you the truth when they say you are saved and justified with God. You believe that all your past, present, and future sins, mistakes, failures, and misdeeds are cleansed from your record with Him.

- PEACE means there are no barriers, conflicts, issues, or problems between you and God. Because you are saved and justified, it gave you a perfect record with God; everything is settled between you and Him.

- ACCESS means that you can talk to God, ask Him for those things presented in the Bible, and receive all the provisions, blessings, miracles, and power that He has to offer.

- GRACE means that the only way you can receive anything from God is as a gift. I means that the only reason God will give you anything beyond salvation is because you have been born again as His child. God gave you your clean record with Him through grace.

- Our LORD JESUS CHRIST means we have accepted Him on three major levels. He is now our Lord, meaning that we are now trusting Him with our new life. We have accepted Him as Jesus, meaning He is now our Savior. We have accepted Him as Christ, meaning He is now our Messiah and King. We have prayed His prayer and obeyed His Word in Romans 10:8-10 because we have made Him our Lord, Savior, and King. The only reason justification, salvation, faith, peace, access, and grace are made available to us is because Jesus died on the cross for our sins and then rose from the dead through the power of God.

Opposition

The Object Of Our Victory

Rom 5:3-4 (NIV) Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. We can't have a victory, a success, or win if there is no challenge, battle, struggle, or competition. People, circumstances, and goals are going to challenge, resist, block, and persecute you. You will win over them, if you use the provisions of God. But, you will have to be willing to face the challenges, engage in the battles, get involved in the struggles, and compete in the competition.

EVERYONE Suffers

Suffering produces major spiritual qualities; but, a lot of people don't want to pay the price, do what it takes, and accept that if there is no pain there is no gain. Some people suffer because they just let life batter them around. Others suffer because they meet life head on. Some people suffer because they are always the victim; others suffer, but, they are always the victor. If **we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope,** then the power of God that is coming into your life will work.

Suffering Defeat, Or Suffering With Victory

Suffering is a part of life: Jesus said in **John 16:33 (NIV) "I have told you these things, so that in Me you may have peace. <u>In this world you will have trouble</u>. But take heart! I have overcome the world."** You can have trouble alone, without power, without peace, and without victory. Or, you can have trouble with Jesus, with His power, and with His victorious living. Jesus isn't offering a trouble-less life; He would have to take us out of this world to do that; and, He will take us out very soon; but, not just yet.

Love Is The Power To Win

Rom 5:5 (NIV) And hope does not disappoint us, because <u>God has poured out HIS LOVE into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, Whom He has given us</u>. You can suffer without love or you can suffer with God's love pouring into your heart. It is too painful to suffer and not feel loved. If we feel picked on, unlucky, unloved, alone, and always defeated, we get depressed, discouraged, hopeless, and helpless. But, as life's troubles come our way, if we have God's love pouring into our heart, we feel strong, encouraged, filled with faith, and confident that Jesus will empower us to win.

Workbook Chapter One
How To Live The Power Life

Getting Used To Victory, Success, And Winning

Preparation

Getting Ready

Jesus, **therefore, 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).**

- Jesus, make it clear to me that JUSTIFIED means my record is clean with God; all my past, present, and future sins, mistakes, failures, and misdeeds are cleansed from my record with Him. All I had to do was pray Your prayer and obey the instructions in Romans 10:8-10 and I got a perfect record with God. **For it** WAS **with** my **heart that** I **believed and** WAS **JUSTIFIED, and it** WAS **with** my **mouth that** I **confessed and** WAS **SAVED (Rom 10:10).**

- Jesus, help me always understand that FAITH means I believe that God and His Word, the Bible, are always telling me the truth when they say I am saved and justified with God. I believe that all my past, present, and future sins, mistakes, failures, and misdeeds are cleansed from my record with Him.

- Jesus, help me base my life on the fact that PEACE means there are no barriers, conflicts, issues, or problems between me and God. Because I am saved and justified, that gave me a perfect record with God; everything is settled between me and Him.

- Jesus, help me to take advantage of the fact that I now have ACCESS. That means I can talk to God, ask Him for those things presented in the Bible, and receive all the provisions, blessings, miracles, and power that He has to offer.

- Jesus, help me accept the fact that GRACE means that the only way I can receive anything from God is as a gift. It means that the only reason God will give me anything beyond salvation is because I have been born again as His child. I believe God gave me my clean record with Him through grace.

- Jesus, teach me that when I call You, my "LORD JESUS CHRIST," it means I have accepted You on three major levels. You are now my Lord; that means that I am now trusting You with my new life. I have accepted You as Jesus, meaning You are now my Savior. I have accepted You as Christ; that means You are now my Messiah and King. I have prayed Your prayer and obeyed Your Words in Romans 10:8-10 because I have made You my Lord, Savior, and King. Teach me that the only reason justification, salvation, faith, peace, access, and grace are made available to me is because You died on the cross for my sins and then rose from the dead through the power of God.

Opposition

The Object Of Our Victory

Jesus, now that You have given me justification, salvation, faith, peace, access, and grace, I am now ready to **also rejoice in** my **sufferings, because** I **know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope (Rom 5:3-4).** Help me understand that I can't have a victory, a success, or win if there is no challenge, battle, struggle, or competition. People, circumstances, and goals are going to challenge, resist, block, and persecute me whether I have you or not. I believe I will win over them, if I use the provisions of God. But, I will have to be willing to face the challenges, engage in the battles, get involved in the struggles, and compete in the competition.

EVERYONE Suffers

Jesus, suffering produces major spiritual qualities; but, help me not be a person who doesn't want to pay the price, do what it takes, and accept that if there is no pain there is no gain. Help me not be a person who suffers because I just let life batter me around. Help me suffer because I meet life head on. Help me not be a person who suffers because I am always the victim; help me suffer, but, empower me to always be the victor. If I **rejoice in** my **sufferings, because** I **know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope,** then the power of God that is coming into my life will work.

Suffering Defeat, Or Suffering With Victory

Jesus, suffering is a part of life: You said in **John 16:33 (NIV) "I have told you these things, so that in Me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."** Help me not be a person who has trouble alone, without power, without peace, and without victory. Help me face trouble with You, with Your power, and with Your victorious living. Help me understand that You aren't offering a trouble-less life; You would have to take me out of this world to do that; and, You will take me out very soon; but, not just yet.

Love Is The Power To Win

Jesus, help me understand that **hope does not disappoint** me**, because God has poured out HIS LOVE into** my **heart by the Holy Spirit, Whom He has given** me **(Rom 5:5).** Teach me that I can suffer without love or I can suffer with God's love pouring into my heart. Show me that it is too painful to suffer and not feel loved. If I feel picked on, unlucky, unloved, alone, and always defeated, I get depressed, discouraged, hopeless, and helpless. But, as life's troubles come my way, if I have God's love pouring into my heart, I feel strong, encouraged, filled with faith, and confident that You will empower me to win.

Textbook Chapter Two
How To Live The Power Life

Getting Used To Right, Good, And Righteousness

Training

Getting A New Philosophy

Rom 6:1 (NIV) What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? Now that all your past, present, and future sins, mistakes, failures, shortcomings, and misdeeds have been cleansed from your record with God, it is important for you to understand why God did that. **Rom 5:1-2 (NIV) Therefore, since we have been JUSTIFIED through FAITH, we have PEACE with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, <u>through Whom we have gained ACCESS by faith into this GRACE in which we now stand</u>. And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God.** He did it so you could have access to Him, His power, and all His provisions.

Accidently Or On Purpose

Our access to God and all He has to offer is based on a clean record. If **we go on sinning so that grace may increase,** we are doing it on purpose. It isn't because we are fighting and losing, trying and failing, wanting but not getting, or giving our best effort and it not being enough. Your desire rather than your performance is much more important to God. Jesus has the power, training, and provisions to transform your performance. However, you MUST provide the WILLINGNESS to not **go on sinning so that grace may increase.** But, if you ever struggle with your desire or willingness, all you have to do is pray and Jesus will help you with that too.

Failing Or Cooperating

Rom 6:2 (NIV) By no means! We died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? When you prayed Jesus' prayer and obeyed Romans 10:8-10, it provided you with the right to consider Jesus' death on the cross as your death. It is probably impossible to find a law anywhere on earth that allows you to get a substitute to die for you in a capital punishment case. BUT, God's laws allowed Jesus to take all your past, present, and future sins on Himself; then He died in your place. But, there is one requirement; you have to accept the fact that Jesus died in your place. You have to consider Jesus' death as being the cure for your sins. God is willing to accept Jesus' death as your death to all your past, present, and future sins. All you have to do is accept it yourself.

Baptized Means Buried

Rom 6:3 (NIV) Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? When you are baptized in water and are submerged into the water, it symbolizes that you died with Jesus on His cross and were buried with Him in His tomb. When you are lifted up out of the water, it symbolizes that you were raised to a new life in Jesus. Because you believe you died with Jesus, you can say, I **died to sin; how can** I **live in it any longer?** That question will take on an incredible meaning for your current Christian life and your future Christian life.

Dying Together Means Living Together

Rom 6:4 (NIV) We were therefore buried with Him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. You are being introduced into the training and explanations about the grace, power, and transformation of God. When you used your mouth to confess and your heart to believe, all these death and resurrection things happened to you. It wasn't clear to you at the time; but, they happened so you could take advantage of them now.

Living

The Difference Between "Have" And "Will"

Rom 6:5 (NIV) If we HAVE been united with him like this in His death, we WILL certainly also be united with Him in His resurrection. You **HAVE been united with him like this in His death.** The next thing is to start LIVING the power life. You **WILL certainly also be united with Him in His resurrection.** Like a healthy baby or young child, you have received all the EQUIPMENT to be successful. The problem is, healthy babies and young children don't have the skills, training, and experiences to successfully use that equipment.

The Difference Between "Have" And "Will"

Rom 6:6-7 (NIV) For we KNOW that our old self was crucified with Him so that the body of sin MIGHT BE done away with, that we SHOULD no longer be slaves to sin--<u>because anyone who has died has been freed from sin</u>. We don't expect babies and young children to be able to use their physical equipment like an adult. That attitude by adults with babies and children is similar to God's grace. If we apply adults rules, laws, and expectations to them, they will be held accountable for things impossible for them. You have entered into a world where God is giving you a "grace period" so you can be trained, equipped, and given experiences to grow.

Using Your Mouth And Heart To Grow

Rom 6:8 (NIV) Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with Him. The challenge is, what are you going to do with the "if's" in the Bible? **If we died with Christ:** The person who believes is able to take that "if" and convert it into "since." Their faith says: Since I **died with Christ.** If we can't confess this with our mouth and believe it in our heart, the next verses that follow won't apply to us. Since you **died with Christ,** you **believe that** you **will also live with Him.** You can see that those who don't know how to use their mouth and heart will read the Bible but not get its power.

Use Your Mouth And Heart To Get

Rom 6:9-12 (NIV) For we KNOW that SINCE Christ was raised from the dead, He cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over Him. The death He died, He died to sin once for all; but the life He lives, He lives to God. <u>In the same way</u>, COUNT yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus. THEREFORE do not LET sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires.

In the same way, COUNT: "Count" is our way of accepting the fact that we are **dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus.** Once you have used your mouth and heart to confess Romans 6:9-11 and believed it in your heart, you have the power to apply the "THEREFORE" of Romans 6:11. **THEREFORE do not LET sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires.** From this point on, the fight begins; you will make a lot of mistakes, have failures, and misunderstand a lot of truths; but, you will be on your way to LEARNING HOW to use your spiritual equipment and start winning.

Workbook Chapter Two
How To Live The Power Life

Getting Used To Right, Good, And Righteousness

Training

Getting A New Philosophy

Jesus, help me not **say, shall** I **go on sinning so that grace may increase?** Now that all my past, present, and future sins, mistakes, failures, shortcomings, and misdeeds have been cleansed from my record with God, help me understand why God did that. **Therefore, 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 (Rom 5:1-2). And** I **rejoice in the hope of the glory of God.** Help me keep in mind that He did it so I could have access to Him, His power, and all His provisions. Help me not start sinning on purpose, or, I will lose my access.

Accidently Or On Purpose

Jesus, teach me that my access to God and all He has to offer is based on a clean record. If I **go on sinning so that grace may increase,** I am doing it on purpose. It isn't because I am fighting and losing, trying and failing, wanting but not getting, or giving my best effort and it not being enough. Help me understand that my desire rather than my performance is much more important to God. You have the power, training, and provisions to transform my performance. However, I MUST provide the WILLINGNESS to not **go on sinning so that grace may increase.** But, help me keep in mind that, if I ever struggle with my desire or willingness, all I have to do is pray and You will help me with that too.

Failing Or Cooperating

Jesus, help me confess and believe this Scripture and say: **By no means!** I **died to sin; how can** I **live in it any longer (Rom 6:2)?** When I prayed Your prayer and obeyed Romans 10:8-10, it provided me with the right to consider Your death on the cross as my death. It is probably impossible to find a law anywhere on earth that allows me to get a substitute to die for me in a capital punishment case. BUT, thank God, His laws allowed You to take all my past, present, and future sins on Yourself; then You died in my place. But, help me realize that there is one requirement; I must accept the fact that You died in my place. I have to consider Your death as being the cure for my sins. God is willing to accept Your death as my death to all my past, present, and future sins. All I have to do is accept it myself; and, I do accept Your death as my death to the law and sin.

Baptized Means Buried

Jesus, help me **know that** I **who was baptized into** You, **Christ Jesus, was baptized into** Your **death.** Teach me that when I was baptized in water and was submerged into that water, it symbolized that I died with You on Your cross and was buried with You in Your tomb. When I was lifted up out of the water, it symbolized that I was raised to a new life in You. And, because I believe that I died with You, I can now say, I **died to sin; how can** I **live in it any longer?** Help that question take on an incredible meaning for my current Christian life and my future Christian life.

Dying Together Means Living Together

Jesus, I was **therefore buried with** You **through baptism into death in order that, just as** You were **raised from the dead through the glory of the Father,** I **too may live a new life (Rom 6:4).** Introduce me into the training and explanations about the grace, power, and transformation of God. Make it clear to me that when I used my mouth to confess and my heart to believe, all the death and resurrection things happened to me. Even though all these things weren't clear to me at the time, they did happen to me so I could take advantage of them now that You are teaching me these things.

Living

The Difference Between "Have" And "Will"

Jesus, since I **HAVE been united with** You **like this in** Your **death,** I **WILL certainly also be united with** You **in** Your **resurrection (Rom 6:5).** This is my confession and my belief: I **HAVE been united with** You **like this in** Your **death.** Now teach me that the next thing is to start LIVING the power life. This is my next confession and belief: I **WILL certainly also be united with** You **in** Your **resurrection.** Like a healthy baby or young child, I have received all the EQUIPMENT to be successful. The problem is, like healthy babies and young children, I don't have the skills, training, and experiences to successfully use that equipment YET.

Death Means Freedom

Jesus, I **KNOW that** my **old self was crucified with** You **so that the body of sin MIGHT BE done away with, that** I **SHOULD no longer be a slave to sin--<u>because anyone who has died has been freed from sin</u> (Rom 6:6-7).** We don't expect babies and young children to be able to use their physical equipment like an adult. That attitude by adults with babies and children is similar to God's grace. If we apply adults rules, laws, and expectations to them, they will be held accountable for things impossible for them. Help me realize that I have entered into a world where God is giving me a "grace period" so I can be trained, equipped, and given experiences to grow.

Using Your Mouth And Heart To Grow

Rom 6:8 (NIV) Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with Him. Jesus, teach me what to do with the "if's" in the Bible. **If we died with Christ:** Teach me that when I believe, I must take that "if" and convert it into "since." My faith must say: SINCE I **died with Christ.** Show me that if I can't confess this with my mouth and believe it in my heart, the next verses that follow won't apply to me. Jesus, since I **died with** You, I **believe that** I **will also live with** You. I can see that those who don't know how to use their mouth of confession and their heart of faith will read the Bible but not get its power.

Use Your Mouth And Heart To Get

Jesus, I **KNOW that SINCE** You were **raised from the dead,** You **cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over** You**. The death** You **died,** You **died to sin once for all; but the life** You **live,** You **live to God. <u>In the same way</u>,** empower me to **COUNT** myself **dead to sin but alive to God in** You, **Christ Jesus. THEREFORE** empower me to **not LET sin reign in** my **mortal body so that** I **obey its evil desires (Rom 6:9-12).**

In the same way, COUNT: Teach me that "Count" is my way of believing in my heart the fact that I am **dead to sin but alive to God in** You, **Christ Jesus.** Jesus, I now use my mouth and confess to You that I **COUNT** myself **dead to sin but alive to God in** You, **Christ Jesus.** And I believe in my heart that I **COUNT** myself **dead to sin but alive to God in** You, **Christ Jesus.**

Now, Jesus, help me KNOW that once I have used my mouth to confess Romans 6:9-11 and believed it in my heart, I have the power to apply the "THEREFORE" of Romans 6:12. **THEREFORE do not LET sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires (Rom 6:12).** Reveal to me that from Romans 6:12 on, the fight begins.

As I practice not LETTING **sin reign in** MY **mortal body so that** I **obey its evil desires,** I will make a lot of mistakes, have failures, and misunderstand a lot of truths; but, I will be on my way to LEARNING HOW to use my spiritual equipment and start winning. Teach me that I will get more and more success in not LETTING **sin reign in** MY **mortal body so that** I **obey its evil desires.**

Textbook Chapter Three
How To Live The Power Life

Getting Used To New Laws, Rules, And Commandments

Unlearning While Learning

Getting A New System

Rom 7:5 (NIV) For when we were controlled by the sinful nature, the sinful passions aroused by the law were at work in our bodies, so that we bore fruit for death. You are not only moving into a new life, you are moving into new laws, rules, and commandments for living that life. Just like we wouldn't be able to apply the same rules to a married life that we would use in a single life, we can't use the same ones for living the Christian life that we used in our old life. Different sports have different rules; different professions must use different systems; and, different cultures use different customs.

Changing Ownership

Rom 7:6 (NIV) But now, by dying to what once bound us, we have been released from the law so that we serve in the new way of the Spirit, and not in the old way of the written code. By still living as a human WHILE living as a child of God, you will find that there will be some confusion as to which rules, laws, and requirements to apply to each situation. So, let's take a look at each part of this verse and see if we can learn a new way of living.

Death Means Separation

Now, by dying to what once bound us: When you did something wrong, bad, or evil to yourself, other people, or to God's plan, you sinned against the LAWS of God. But, when you were too young to know the difference between right and wrong, there was no awareness of any laws. However, when your conscience became aware of right and wrong, if you did it anyway, which we all did, you sinned. The moment you committed your first sin, was the moment you died in your relationship with God. Death means separation not ceasing to exist. **Rom 6:23 (NIV) For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

Death To The Law

Now, by dying to what once bound us, we have been released from the law: The first thing that had to happen to you at salvation, justification, and being born again was, you had to be released from a law that made you responsible for carrying it out. You had to be brought under a law that allowed you to look to Jesus to empower you to carry it out. So, salvation, justification, and the new birth made you like you were before you knew the difference between right and wrong.

Life With A New Way

Now, by dying to what once bound us, we have been released from the law <u>SO THAT we serve in the new way of the Spirit</u>: So, what are we going to do; shall we feel free to break the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20:3-17); are we now free to go murder someone (Exodus 20:13)? The old laws still apply; but, through an entirely different system. **The new way of the Spirit** gives us power to obey the old laws for a completely different reason.

The penalty for breaking ANY PART of the old law was death or separation from God. This was because that person had just contracted the spiritual disease of sin. They became contagious and had to be quarantined from God's family and Kingdom; that is death or separation.

Reading Them Or Living Them

Now, by dying to what once bound us, we have been released from the law so that we serve in the new way of the Spirit, <u>and not in the old way of the written code</u>: Reading something, memorizing something, learning something, and understanding something isn't the same as BEING something. You BECAME a child of God; you didn't just learn about being a child of God. You ARE a citizen in God's Kingdom; you aren't just learning information about His Kingdom. The **new way of the Spirit** is all about GETTING, BECOMING, and LIVING the laws, rules, and commandments of God. They aren't being forced on you; you are learning all of their benefits and allowing them to flow through your life.

Laws, Rules, And Commandments That Are Wonderful

Laws, Rules, And Commandments Lack Power

Rom 7:12 (NIV) So then, the law is holy, and the commandment is holy, righteous and good. There never was a problem with the laws, rules, and commandments of God. They were pointing us in the direction of wonderful things; but, they didn't have the power to help us see how wonderful they were; and, they didn't have the ability to empower us to live them. So, Jesus came and produced a **new way of the Spirit** by dying and raising from the dead. We may not understand all the spiritual implications of that, but, we can take advantage of them anyway.

Laws, Rules, And Commandments Serve A Purpose

Rom 7:13 (NIV) Did that which is good, then, become death to me? By no means! <u>But in order that sin might be recognized as sin</u>, it produced death in me <u>through what was good</u>, so that through the commandment <u>sin might become utterly sinful</u>. If a doctor points out to you that you have a deadly disease, they are serving an important purpose. If they can prescribe a cure, they are serving a wonderful purpose. Even if they can't administer that cure but have to recommend another doctor, they are still serving a vital purpose.

Laws, Rules, And Commandments Can't Save Us
The laws of God can't cure us; but, they can make sin **utterly sinful,** if we will allow them to. If God can't and won't allow anyone into His family or Kingdom who is doing wrong, bad, or evil, we need to know it. But, if He didn't provide us with laws, rules, and commandments that pointed out what was keeping us out, we would be separated and quarantined with no way of finding out why. However, if God DID give us those laws, rules, and commandments and they made us guilty if we didn't obey them, we would still be kept out of God's family and Kingdom even though we knew why; we just couldn't do anything about it.

Laws, Rules, And Commandments Show We Need A Savior
Jesus produced a cure for all of our breaking these laws, rules, and commandments. All we have to do is pray Matthew 6:9-13 and obey Romans 10:8-10 and we get saved, justified, and born again. But, we have a God-given free will; so, everyone has to have the right to decide whether or not they want to CONTINUE to be cured. Each person's decision decides whether or not they remain cured or are contaminated with the very contagious, deadly spiritual disease of sin. And, that condition decides whether or not God will allow them into His family and Kingdom. If you EVER do ANYTHING on purpose that you feel is wrong, immediately go to Jesus and repent by asking Him to forgive you.

Cured But New At It

God's Record Shows You As Perfect
Mat 7:12 (NIV) So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets. Through Jesus, God gave you a clean record so you would be able to have a relationship with Him. This record isn't clean just because He removed all the wrong, bad, and evil deeds you did, are doing, and will do, it is also clean because He has credited you all right, good, and righteous deeds; God has credited you with perfection. He did this so you could be trained and empowered by Him to start doing those things that are being credited on your record with Him, and so you could stop doing those things that were cleansed off of it. BUT, we aren't doing all those good things and we haven't stopped doing all those bad things to ourselves and others.

A Clean Record With God But Not With Humans
Rom 7:15 (NIV) I do not understand what I do. For what I WANT to do I do not do, but what I HATE I do. What is this new or untrained Christian doing that he hates; and, what are they not doing that they want to be doing? They have a clean record with God so they can have access to Him; but, they haven't learned how to do right, good, and righteous things to themselves, others, and God's plan. NOW, we must learn how to do right, good, and righteous things to ourselves, others, and God's plan. And, we must learn how to stop doing wrong, bad, and evil things to ourselves, others, and God's plan.

Workbook Chapter Three
How To Live The Power Life

Getting Used To New Laws, Rules, And Commandments

Unlearning While Learning

Getting A New System

Jesus, help me understand that **when** I was **controlled by the sinful nature, the sinful passions aroused by the law were at work in** my **body, so that** I **bore fruit for death (Rom 7:5).** Help me see that I am not only moving into a new life, I am moving into new laws, rules, and commandments for living that life. Just like I wouldn't be able to apply the same rules to a married life that I would use in a single life, I can't use the same ones for living the Christian life that I used in my old life. Different sports have different rules; different professions must use different systems; and, different cultures use different customs.

Changing Ownership

Jesus, **but now, by dying to what once bound** me**,** I **have been released from the law so that** I **serve in the new way of the Spirit, and not in the old way of the written code (Rom 7:6).** By still living as a human WHILE living as a child of God, I am finding that there is some confusion as to which rules, laws, and requirements to apply to each situation. So, help me take a look at each part of this verse and see if You can teach me a new way of living.

Death Means Separation

Now, by dying to what once bound us: Jesus, teach me that when I did something wrong, bad, or evil to myself, other people, or to God's plan, I sinned against the LAWS of God. But, when I was too young to know the difference between right and wrong, there was no awareness of any laws. However, when my conscience became aware of right and wrong, if I did it anyway, which everyone has, I sinned. Show me that the moment I committed my first sin, was the moment I died in my relationship with God. Teach me that death means separation not ceasing to exist. **Rom 6:23 (NIV) For the wages of sin is DEATH, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

Death To The Law

Now, by dying to what once bound us, <u>we have been released from the law</u>: Jesus, teach me that the first thing that had to happen to me at salvation, justification, and being born again was, I had to be released from a law that made me responsible for carrying it out. I had to be brought under a law that allowed me to look to You to empower me to carry it out. Help me understand that salvation, justification, and the new birth made me like I was before I knew the difference between right and wrong.

Life With A New Way

Now, by dying to what once bound us, we have been released from the law <u>SO THAT we serve in the new way of the Spirit</u>: Jesus, what am I going to do; shall I feel free to break the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20:3-17); am I now free to go murder someone (Exodus 20:13)? Teach me that the old laws still apply; but, through an entirely different system. **The new way of the Spirit** gives me power to obey the old laws for a completely different reason.

Help me see that the penalty for breaking ANY PART of the old law was death or separation from God. This was because I had just contracted the spiritual disease of sin. I became contagious and had to be quarantined from God's family and Kingdom; show me that, that is death or separation from God.

Reading Them Or Living Them

Now, by dying to what once bound us, we have been released from the law so that we serve in the new way of the Spirit, <u>and not in the old way of the written code</u>: Jesus, teach me the difference between reading something, memorizing something, learning something, understanding something and BEING something. I BECAME a child of God; I didn't just learn about being a child of God. I AM a citizen in God's Kingdom; I didn't just learn information about His Kingdom. Teach me that the **new way of the Spirit** is all about GETTING, BECOMING, and LIVING the laws, rules, and commandments of God. They aren't being forced on me; I am learning all of their benefits and then allowing them to flow through my life.

Laws, Rules, And Commandments That Are Wonderful

Laws, Rules, And Commandments Lack Power

So then, the law is holy, and the commandment is holy, righteous and good (Rom 7:12). Jesus, teach me that there never was a problem with the laws, rules, and commandments of God. They were pointing me in the direction of wonderful things; but, they didn't have the power to help me see how wonderful they were; and, they didn't have the ability to empower me to live them. So, You came and produced a **new way of the Spirit** by dying and raising from the dead. I may not understand all the spiritual implications of that, but, help me see that I can take advantage of them anyway.

Laws, Rules, And Commandments Serve A Purpose

Did that which is good, then, become death to me? By no means! <u>But in order that sin might be recognized as sin</u>, it produced death in me <u>through what was good</u>, so that through the commandment <u>sin might become utterly sinful</u> (Rom 7:13). Jesus, if a doctor points out to me that I have a deadly disease, they are serving an important purpose. If they can prescribe a cure, they are serving a wonderful purpose. Even if they can't administer that cure but have to recommend another doctor, they are still serving a vital purpose. He me appreciate this same thing about Your laws, rules, and commandments.

Laws, Rules, And Commandments Can't Save Us

Jesus, even though the laws of God can't cure me, help me understand that they can make sin **utterly sinful,** if I will allow them to. Since God can't and won't allow me into His family or Kingdom if I am doing wrong, bad, or evil, I need to know it. But, if He didn't provide me with laws, rules, and commandments that pointed out what was keeping me out, I would be separated and quarantined with no way of finding out why. However, since God DID give me those laws, rules, and commandments and they made me guilty when I didn't obey them, I would still be kept out of God's family and Kingdom even though I knew why; I just couldn't do anything about it.

Laws, Rules, And Commandments Show We Need A Savior

Jesus, You produced a cure for all of my breaking these laws, rules, and commandments. All I had to do was pray Matthew 6:9-13 and obey Romans 10:8-10 and I got saved, justified, and born again. But, I still have a God-given free will; so, I have the right to decide whether or not I want to remain cured. Each decision decides whether or not I want to be contaminated with the very contagious, deadly spiritual disease of sin. It is all dependent on whether I do it on purpose. And, that condition decides whether or not God will allow me into His family and Kingdom. If I EVER do anything wrong on purpose, help me to immediately repent to You.

Cured But New At It

God's Record Shows You As Perfect

So in everything, <u>do to others what you would have them do to you</u>, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets (Mat 7:12). Jesus, teach me that through You, God gave me a clean record so I would be able to have a relationship with Him. This record isn't clean just because He removed all the wrong, bad, and evil deeds I did, am doing, and will do; it is also clean because He has credited me with all right, good, and righteous deeds; God has credited me with perfection. Show me that He did this so I could be trained and empowered by Him. He did it so I could start doing those things that are being credited on my record with Him, and so I could stop doing those things that were cleansed off of it. BUT, I am not doing all those good things; and, I haven't stopped doing all those bad things to myself and others.

A Clean Record With God But Not With Humans

I do not understand what I do. For what I WANT to do I do not do, but what I HATE I do (Rom 7:15). Jesus, teach me what this new or untrained Christian is doing that he hates; and, what are they not doing that they want to be doing. Show me that they have a clean record with God so they can have access to Him; but, they haven't learned how to do right, good, and righteous things to themselves, others, and God's plan. NOW, I must learn how to do right, good, and righteous things to myself, others, and God's plan. And, I must learn how to stop doing wrong, bad, and evil things to myself, others, and God's plan.

Textbook Chapter Four
How To Live The Power Life

Getting Used To New Effort, Determination, And Commitment

A New Desire

World Training In Christianity

Rom 7:15 (NIV) I do not understand what I do. For what I WANT to do I do not do, but what I HATE I do. Here is a new or untrained Christian; we have all been trained by the world. We all try to use our world training to live the Christian life. When we wanted our body to do something in the world, it cooperated with us. If we put our mind to it, we were able to accomplish a lot of things. But, no matter how successful we were in the world, our abilities, skills, talents, and world training couldn't help us only do right, good, and righteous things to ourselves, others, and God's plan. And, now as a Christian, world training still won't help us do them; we need Jesus' training.

The Difference Between Agreeing And Doing

Rom 7:16 (NIV) And if I do what I DO NOT WANT to do, I agree that the law is good. At this stage, we have read, studied, and learned the laws, rules, and commandments of God. We like the fact they are telling us to only treat ourselves, others, and God's plan with right, good, and righteous things. We want to be this kind of person in our thoughts, feelings, words, and deeds. As a matter of fact, we are giving it our very best efforts; but, our efforts are failing us. We are a new or untrained Christian who, like a baby or young child, have all the equipment, but haven't learned how to use it YET.

What Does This Mean?

Learning Vital Principles

Rom 7:17 (NIV) As it is, it is no longer I myself who do it, but it is sin living in me. Now that you are a Christian, you have the right desires; you have all the necessary equipment; and you belong to the right family. But, you are a new born who has a LOT to learn BEFORE you can function as a Christian. So, let's take a look at the parts of this verse and get familiar with them.

Things Are Very Different Now

As it is: This is saying that since you are NOW a Christian, things are different for you. **As it is,** things are VERY different for you; **As it is,** the laws, rules, and commandments have changed for you. It is a wonderful way of life; but, it is all new to you. If things hadn't changed, your life would have stayed the same. If you don't learn how to live this new life, you will go on living your old life. The issue is, how does Christianity work? Will you to have to start all over and apply all new principles. Yes and no! It won't just be you; you and Jesus are going to set you free from deadly laws, rules, and commandments; and, JESUS is going to get YOU involved in liberating ones.

Your Body Is Your Problem

As it is, <u>it is no longer I myself who do it</u>: You have had a problem that you weren't aware of; and, you have had it for your entire life. There are two parts to you; and, they have very different agendas. There are NOW two sets of rules, laws, and commandments that are running your life. One group is set up in your body and the other is NOW set up in your spirit. You may have thought you were only a physical, body-being. However, YOU live in a body, you HAVE a soul, and you ARE a spirit. So, when you say something like, **it is no longer I myself who do it,** you are acknowledging that YOU are doing something but it isn't YOU doing it.

Your Spirit Is Your Solution

As it is, it is no longer I myself who do it, <u>but it is sin living in me</u>: Since Jesus has given you (your spirit) a perfect record with God, all your past, present, and future sins have been forgiven. AND, you (your spirit) have been credited with perfect thoughts, feelings, words, and deeds WITH GOD. Your spirit WANTS to take advantage of this perfect record and your access to God; but, your body has **sin living in** it. That sin is still driving your body and giving your spirit a lot of trouble. You and Jesus are going to have to OVERPOWER the sin in your body. For you, your spirit, to start living up to your wonderful record with God, IT (the real you) is going to have to become the DOMINATE influence in your life.

The NEW Christian Life

You Are Being Controlled

Rom 7:23 (NIV) But I see another law at work <u>in the members of my body</u>, waging war against <u>the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within my members</u>. The thing you are learning is, you have been and still are being forced to do things against your will; your body, that you live in, is enslaving you even though you are a Christian.

Your Body Is Animalistic

If you properly examine your body, you will find that it lacks compassion, ethics, or morality. When you look at the things your body wants and examine what it will do to get them, you will see it has laws, rules, and commandments that are different from Christianity. As your body goes about acquiring them, if it is faced with blockages, diversions, or resistances, what is IT willing to do to get them anyway? Will IT cheat, lie, mislead, force, or abuse someone in order to get it? Will IT consider doing these things "as long as it doesn't get caught?" Yes, it will!

You Are ALWAYS Free To Decide

You Aren't Free If You Don't Have Choices

Rom 7:22 (NIV) For in my inner being I delight in God's law: This is where you got born again; a delight, a want for right, good, and righteousness was born inside you (your spirit). And, a hatred for wrong, bad, and evil formed inside you (your spirit). But, your body HAD TO be allowed to stay the same. It had to provide you a way out, if you ever want to leave Jesus, salvation, justification, and your new birth. Your SPIRIT is going to help you see AND EXPERIENCE all the wonderful things of God. Your BODY is going to remind you of all the things it, Satan, and the world had to offer.

Human Effort Isn't Enough

Rom 7:18 (NIV) I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, <u>in my sinful nature</u>. For I have the DESIRE to do what is good, <u>but I cannot carry it out</u>. Your body is motivated by a **sinful nature;** your spirit is motivated by a **DELIGHT to do what is good.** You will discover that no matter how much you make up your mind, do your best, give it your all, or determine to do the right thing, you will not be able to **carry it out.**

Jesus' Training And Power

You needed Jesus for salvation, justification, and being born again. And, you need Jesus to empower you to start doing right, good, and righteousness. You must DESIRE to allow Jesus to help you live the Christian life, STUDY how to do it, PRAY and ask Him for it, BELIEVE in your heart that He gave it to you, and then take faith-action by first confessing that you have it with your mouth, and then living on the basis of the fact that you have it with your body.

It's A LIFEstyle

As you go through your day, moment by moment and issue by issue you will be deciding whether to go with the desires of your spirit or the desires of your body. You already know how to go with the desires of your body; but, Jesus will have to teach you how to go with the desires of your spirit. If you accidently go with the desires of your body, your perfect record will cover you. If you go with your body ON PURPOSE but you REALLY want to stay with Jesus and His salvation, then you will have to ask for His forgiveness and repent. To repent, you will have to ask Jesus for His power to stop doing what you are doing and go in the opposite direction.

Workbook Chapter Four
How To Live The Power Life

Getting Used To New Effort, Determination, And Commitment

A New Desire

World Training In Christianity

Jesus, **I do not understand what I do. For what I WANT to do I do not do, but what I HATE I do (Rom 7:15).** Help me understand that this is normal for me as a new and untrained Christians; I have been trained by the world. All new and untrained Christians try to use their world training to live the Christian life. When I wanted my body to do something in the world, it cooperated with me. If I put my mind to it, I was able to accomplish a lot of things. But, no matter how successful I was in the world, my abilities, skills, talents, and world training couldn't help me ONLY do right, good, and righteous things to myself, others, and God's plan. And, now that I am a Christian, world training still won't help me do them; I need Your training, Jesus.

The Difference Between Agreeing And Doing

Jesus, I now confess that **if I do what I DO NOT WANT to do, I agree that the law is good (Rom 7:16).** Teach me that I am at the stage where I have read, studied, and learned the laws, rules, and commandments of God. I like the fact that they are telling me to only treat myself, others, and God's plan with right, good, and righteous things. I want to be this kind of person in my thoughts, feelings, words, and deeds. As a matter of fact, I am giving it my very best efforts; but, my efforts are failing me. I am a new and untrained Christian who, like a baby or young child, have all the equipment, but haven't learned how to use it YET.

What Does This Mean?

Learning Vital Principles

Jesus, **as it is, it is no longer I myself who do it, but it is sin living in me (Rom 7:17).** Now that I am a Christian, I have the right desires; I have all the necessary equipment; and I belong to the right family. But, I am a new born who has a LOT to learn BEFORE I can function as a Christian. So, help me take a look at the parts of this verse in Romans 7:17 and get familiar with them.

Things Are Very Different Now

As it is: Jesus, teach me that this is saying that since I am NOW a Christian, things are different for me NOW. **As it is,** things are VERY different for me; **As it is,** the laws, rules, and commandments are now VERY different for me. Show me that even though it is a wonderful way of life, it is all new to me. Help me understand that if things don't change, then my life will stay the same. If I don't learn how to live this new life, then I will go on living my old life. The issue is, I need You to teach me how Christianity works. Am I going to have to start all over and apply all new principles? Show me that it is yes and no! Show me that it won't just be me; You and I are going to set me free from deadly laws, rules, and commandments; and, You are going to get me involved in liberating ones.

Your Body Is Your Problem

As it is, <u>it is no longer I myself who do it</u>: Jesus, teach me that I have had a problem that I wasn't aware of; and, I have had it for my entire life. Teach me that there are two parts to me; and, they have very different agendas. Make it clear to me that there are NOW two sets of rules, laws, and commandments that are running my life. One group is set up in my body and the other is NOW set up in my spirit. I thought I was just a physical, body-being. Help me understand that I live IN a body, I HAVE a soul, and I AM a spirit. So, when I say something like, **it is no longer I myself who do it,** I am acknowledging that I am doing something but it isn't ME doing it.

Your Spirit Is Your Solution

As it is, it is no longer I myself who do it, <u>but it is sin living in me</u>: Jesus, since You have given me (my spirit) a perfect record with God, all my past, present, and future sins have been forgiven. AND, I (my spirit) have been credited with perfect thoughts, feelings, words, and deeds WITH GOD. My spirit WANTS to take advantage of this perfect record and my access to God; but, my body has **sin living in** it. That sin is still driving my body and giving my spirit a lot of trouble. You and I are going to have to OVERPOWER the sin in my body. For me, my spirit, to start living up to my wonderful record with God, IT (the real me) is going to have to become the DOMINATE influence in my life.

The NEW Christian Life

You Are Being Controlled

Jesus, **I see another law at work <u>in the members of my body</u>, waging war against <u>the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within my members</u> (Rom 7:23).** Show me that the thing I am learning is, I have been and still am being forced to do things against my will; my body, that I live in, is enslaving me even though I am a Christian.

Your Body Is Animalistic

Jesus, help me properly examine my body, show me that it lacks compassion, ethics, or morality. Help me look at the things my body wants and examine what it will do to get them. Help me see that it has laws, rules, and commandments that are different from Christianity. As my body goes about acquiring those things it wants, if it is faced with blockages, diversions, or resistances, help me see what is IT willing to do to get them anyway. Show me that it will cheat, lie, mislead, force, or abuse someone in order to get it. IT will consider doing these things "as long as it doesn't get caught." Help me join You in winning over my body.

You Are ALWAYS Free To Decide

You Aren't Free If You Don't Have Choices

Jesus, **in my inner being I delight in God's law (Rom 7:22).** Teach me that this is where I got born again; a delight, a want for right, good, and righteousness was born inside me (my spirit). And, a hatred for wrong, bad, and evil formed inside me (my spirit). Help me understand that my body HAD TO be allowed to stay the same. It had to provide me with a way out, if I ever want to leave You, salvation, justification, and my new birth. Teach me that my SPIRIT is going to help me see AND EXPERIENCE all the wonderful things of God. But, my BODY is going to remind me of all the things it, Satan, and the world had to offer. This gives my God-given free will choices.

Human Effort Isn't Enough

Jesus, **I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, <u>in my sinful nature</u>. For I have the DESIRE to do what is good, <u>but I cannot carry it out</u> (Rom 7:18).** Show me that my body is motivated by a **sinful nature;** and, my spirit is motivated by a **DELIGHT to do what is good.** Help me discover that no matter how much I make up my mind, do my best, give it my all, or determine to do the right thing, I will not be able to **carry it out.**

Jesus' Training And Power

Jesus, I needed You for salvation, justification, and being born again. And, now I need You to empower me to start doing right, good, and righteousness. Help me realize that I must DESIRE to allow You to help me live the Christian life, STUDY how to do it, PRAY and ask You for it, BELIEVE in my heart that You gave it to me, and then take FAITH-ACTION by first confessing that I have it with my mouth, and then using my body to live on the basis of the fact that I have it.

It's A LIFEstyle

Jesus, help me realize that as I go through my day, moment by moment and issue by issue I will be deciding whether to go with the desires of my spirit or the desires of my body. I already know how to go with the desires of my body; but, You will have to teach me how to go with the desires of my spirit. If I accidently go with the desires of my body, help me know that my perfect record will cover me. But, if I go with my body ON PURPOSE, help me REALLY want to stay with You and Your salvation. In that case, help me ask for Your forgiveness and repent. Teach me that to repent, I will have to ask You for Your power to stop doing what I am doing and go in the opposite direction.

Textbook Chapter Five
How To Live The Power Life

Getting Used To Salvation, Sanctification, And Glorification

Glorification

Two Ways To Deal With Our Body

Rom 7:24 (NIV) What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? You now know that your body didn't get saved, justified, and born again. For now it needs to be dealt with through a process called "sanctification." It is a process that forces it to do the right, good, and righteous things. Just before you enter God's Kingdom, it will experience a process called "glorification." Let's take a quick look at when your human body gets glorified.

1 Cor 15:50-52 (NIV) I declare to you, brothers, that flesh and blood [your human body] cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable (things that are dying and decaying) inherit the imperishable (things that last forever). Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep (die), but we will all be changed (glorified)--in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable (glorified), and we will be changed (glorified). This is the moment when your body will be changed into a heavenly body (glorified). In the meantime, it will have to be dealt with in a different way (sanctified).

Sanctification

You MUST Have These Attitudes

What a wretched man I am: The "want, hate, and delight" you got through salvation, justification, and being born again are VITAL. **Rom 7:15 (NIV) I do not understand what I do. For what I WANT to do <u>I do not do</u>, but what I HATE <u>I do</u>. Rom 7:22 (NIV) For <u>in my inner being</u> I DELIGHT in God's law.** Those who lose the "want, hate, and delight" have lost their relationship with God. God doesn't expect you to be instantly changed at salvation, justification, and being born again; BUT, He does expect you WANT to be changed, HATE the lack of changes, and DELIGHT in the potential changes from God. If He tried to change you without you having the "want, hate, and delight," He would be going against your God-given free will; and, He is NEVER going to do that.

Confessing And Asking For Help

What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Prayer is YOUR indication to God that you WANT His help. It is your invitation to your heavenly Father giving Him permission to help you with your problems. You will need to say these words with your mouth so they can become your prayer to your heavenly Father. It is your invitation to Him to help YOU with YOUR body. You are confessing that you have two problems. One: That you are **a wretched person.** Two: That you are wretched because you have a **body of death**

Confessing, Praying, And Believing

Rom 7:25 (NIV) Thanks be to God--through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself in my mind am a slave to God's law, but in the sinful nature a slave to the law of sin. Fasten your seatbelt; this is going to be a rapid change in your life. Your prayer question is: **"What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death?"** The answer to your prayer question is: **"Thanks be to God--through Jesus Christ our Lord!"** You are going to be confessing: **"What a wretched person I am!"** You are going to be praying: **"Who will rescue me from this body of death?"** And, you are going to be believing: **"Thanks be to God--through Jesus Christ our Lord!"** As you confess, pray, and believe, you will be dealing with problems and solutions that will make major changes in you.

Experiences And Processes

So then, I myself <u>in my mind</u> am a slave to God's law, but <u>in the sinful nature</u> a slave to the law of sin. Your mind is in your spirit; the sinful nature is in your body. And, at this moment, this Biblical passage is describing your current condition. But, soon your confession with your mouth and belief in your heart will START the change. This sanctification process isn't exactly like salvation; salvation brings immediate forgiveness to all your past sins. And, it isn't like justification that brings immediate forgiveness for all your present and future sins. Sanctification isn't just an EXPERIENCE that happens the MOMENT you WERE born again; it is an ongoing PROCESS.

The Process Of Sanctification

Sanctification Takes Time

So then, I myself in my mind am a slave to God's law, but in the sinful nature a slave to the law of sin. This means that your body still isn't cooperating with your spirit and allowing you to treat yourself, other people, and God's plan the right, good, and righteous way. SO, that means you will feel like a hypocrite to yourself and look like a hypocrite to those around you. That isn't good news! It is great that we have a perfect record with God; but, it is easy to see that this current condition isn't going to give us a good record with ourselves and others. So, how are we going to be rescued **from this body of death?**

The Solutions Are Powerful

Rom 8:1-2 (NIV) Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death. It sounds like the solution is, as long as we are **in** our **mind a slave to God's law,** it's okay that we are **in the sinful nature a slave to the law of sin.** But, that would mean that, **in my inner being I delight in God's law; but I** will continue to **see another law at work in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within my members (Rom 7:22-23).**

The Solutions Work

Why is it true that **there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus**? It is **because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death.** We didn't get set free from condemnation so we would end up feeling like and looking like hypocrites. Instead, we have a "grace period" of no condemnation so we can have access to the power of God. We are set **free from the law of sin and death** so we can **through Christ Jesus** be under **the law of the Spirit of life. The law of the Spirit of life** has the power to make our body start obeying us.

Being Born Again Did This For You

Rom 8:5 (NIV) Those who live according to the sinful nature have their minds set on what that nature desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. First, you mind had to be set on the desires of the Spirit. **Rom 8:6 (NIV) The mind of sinful man is death, but the mind controlled by the Spirit is life and peace.** Second, our mind had to allow the Holy Spirit to control it. This doesn't mean we lose our God-given free will; it means we, moment by moment and issue by issue, decide whether or not we give Him control. The more we give Him control, the more we win over our body.

Control

Rom 8:9 (NIV) You, however, are controlled not by the sinful nature but by the Spirit, if the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ. What you will discover is, the more you allow the Holy Spirit to bring your body under control, the better you will treat yourself, other people, and God's plan. This will help you trust the Holy Spirit with you and your body. If you finally get to the place where you totally trust the Holy Spirit's control, then you will be ready to move into great victory over your body.

When You Are Ready

Your Current Condition

Rom 8:10 (NIV) But if Christ is in you, your body is dead because of sin, yet your spirit is alive because of righteousness. First, you will need to believe in your heart that the "if" in this verse is in fact a "since" for you. So, you will confess with your mouth: "SINCE **Christ is in** me." Once you do that it MAKES IT POSSIBLE for you to say: "My **body is dead because of sin, yet** my **spirit is alive because of righteousness.**" This is possible because you believed that praying Matthew 6:9-13 and obeying Romans 10:8-10 gave you salvation, justification, and being born again; THAT brings Jesus in you!

Your New Condition

Rom 8:11 (NIV) And if the Spirit of Him Who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, He Who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit, Who lives in you. First, you will need to believe in your heart that the "if" in this verse is in fact a "since" for you. So, you will confess with your mouth: "SINCE **the Spirit of Him Who raised Jesus from the dead is living in** me." Once you do that it MAKES IT POSSIBLE for you to say: "**He Who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to** my **mortal body through His Spirit, Who lives in** me."

Next Week

We will be looking at what to do with a body that **He Who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit, Who lives in you.** Once you have prayed the necessary prayers from Romans 8:11, it will be like the power you experienced when you prayed for salvation, justification, and to be born again. You will find yourself having the power to START making your body do many new spiritual things. So, let's get started praying the prayers in your workbook so you can get this power over your body. Once you have prayed and got the power, next week Jesus will be taking you into training for how to use that power.

Workbook Chapter Five
How To Live The Power Life

Getting Used To Salvation, Sanctification, And Glorification

Glorification

Two Ways To Deal With Our Body

What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death (Rom 7:24)? Jesus, You are teaching me that my body didn't get saved, justified, and born again. Show me that it currently needs to be dealt with through a process called "sanctification." Let this process force it to do the right, good, and righteous things. Help me understand that just before I enter God's Kingdom, my body will experience a process called "glorification." As I take a quick look at when my human body gets glorified, help me understand how it works.

I declare to you, brothers, that flesh and blood [my human body] cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable (things that are dying and decaying) inherit the imperishable (things that last forever). Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep (die), but we will all be changed (glorified)--in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable (glorified), and we will be changed (glorified) (1 Cor 15:50-52). Teach me about this moment when my body will be changed into a heavenly body (glorified). In the meantime, help me be able deal with it in a different way through the process of sanctification.

Sanctification

You MUST Have These Attitudes

What a wretched man I am: Jesus, help me keep the "want, hate, and delight" I got through salvation, justification, and being born again; help see that they are VITAL. Help me keep feeling the same way as **Romans 7:15 (NIV): "I do not understand what I do. For what I WANT to do <u>I do not do</u>, but what I HATE <u>I do</u>."** And, help me keep the attitude described in **Romans 7:22 (NIV): "For <u>in my inner being</u> I DELIGHT in God's law."**

Help me not be one of those who lose the "want, hate, and delight" and lose my relationship with God. Teach me that God doesn't expect me to be instantly changed at salvation, justification, and being born again; BUT, He does expect me to WANT to be changed, HATE the lack of changes, and DELIGHT in the potential changes from Him. Show me that if He tried to change me without me having the "want, hate, and delight," He would be going against my God-given free will; and, He is NEVER going to do that.

Confessing And Asking For Help

What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Jesus, I make this my prayer; it is MY indication to God that I WANT His help. It is my invitation to my heavenly Father giving Him permission to help me with my problems. I now say these words with my mouth so they can become my prayer to You, my heavenly Father. It is my invitation to You to help ME with MY body. I am confessing that I have two problems. One: That I am **a wretched person.** Two: That I am wretched because I have a **body of death** Here is my prayer: "**What a wretched person I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death?**"

Confessing, Praying, And Believing

Thanks be to God--through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself in my mind am a slave to God's law, but in the sinful nature a slave to the law of sin (Rom 7:25). Jesus, help me get ready; because, this is going to be a rapid change in my life. My prayer question is: **"What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death?"** The answer to my prayer question is: **"Thanks be to God--through Jesus Christ** my **Lord!"** I am confessing: **What a wretched person I am!** I am praying: **Who will rescue me from this body of death?** And, I am believing: **Thanks be to God--through** You, **Jesus Christ** my **Lord!** As I confess, pray, and believe, I am dealing with problems and GETTING solutions that are making major changes in me.

Experiences And Processes

So then, I myself <u>in my mind</u> am a slave to God's law, but <u>in the sinful nature</u> a slave to the law of sin. Jesus, teach me that my mind is in my spirit; and, the sinful nature is in my body. And, at this moment, this Biblical passage is describing my current condition. But, my confession with my mouth and belief in my heart has STARTED the change. Teach me that this sanctification process isn't exactly like salvation; salvation brought me immediate forgiveness to all my past sins. And, it isn't like justification that brought me immediate forgiveness for all my present and future sins. Show me that sanctification isn't just an EXPERIENCE that happens LIKE the MOMENT I WAS born again; it is going to be an ongoing PROCESS in my life.

The Process Of Sanctification

Sanctification Takes Time

So then, I myself in my mind am a slave to God's law, but in the sinful nature a slave to the law of sin. Teach me that this means my body still isn't cooperating with my spirit and allowing me to treat myself, other people, and God's plan the right, good, and righteous way. SO, that means I will feel like a hypocrite to myself and look like a hypocrite to those around me. That isn't good news! It is great that I have a perfect record with God; but, it is easy to see that this current condition isn't going to give me a good record with myself and others. So, how am I going to be rescued **from this body of death?**

The Solutions Are Powerful

Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death (Rom 8:1-2). Jesus, this sounds like the solution is, as long as I am **in my mind a slave to God's law,** it's okay that I am **in the sinful nature a slave to the law of sin.** But, that would mean that, **in my inner being I delight in God's law; but I** will continue to **see another law at work in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within my members (Rom 7:22-23).** Help me see that this IS my current condition; but, You are helping me get it changed.

The Solutions Work

Jesus, show me why is it true that **there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus**? Show me that it is **because through** You **the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death.** I didn't get set free from condemnation so I would end up feeling like and looking like a hypocrite. Instead, You have given me a "grace period" of no condemnation so I can have access to the power of God. I am set **free from the law of sin and death** so I can **through** You be under **the law of the Spirit of life.** Teach me that **the law of the Spirit of life** has the power to make my body start obeying me; that is good news.

Being Born Again Did This For You

Jesus, teach me that **those who live according to the sinful nature have their minds set on what that nature desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires (Rom 8:5).** Help me understand that the first thing you had to do was get my mind set on the desires of the Spirit. This was because **the mind of sinful man is death, but the mind controlled by the Spirit is life and peace (Rom 8:6).** Second, You had to help me allow the Holy Spirit to control my mind. But, help me see that this doesn't mean I lose my God-given free will; it means that, moment by moment and issue by issue, I will be deciding whether or not I will give Him control. Teach me that the more I give Him control, the more I win over my body.

Control

You, however, are controlled not by the sinful nature but by the Spirit, if the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ (Rom 8:9). Jesus, show me that the more I allow the Holy Spirit to bring my body under control, the better I will treat myself, other people, and God's plan. As I experience these successes, it helps me trust the Holy Spirit my body. Help me get to the place where I totally trust the His control, then I will be ready to move into great victory over my body.

When You Are Ready

Your Current Condition

But if Christ is in you, your body is dead because of sin, yet your spirit is alive because of righteousness (Rom 8:10). Jesus, I believe in my heart that the "if" in this verse is in fact a "since" for me. So, I confess with my mouth: "SINCE **Christ is in** me." Now that I have done that it has MADE IT POSSIBLE for me to say: "My **body is dead because of sin, yet** my **spirit is alive because of righteousness."** So, I now make that confession with my mouth that describes the faith I have in my heart: "My **body is dead because of sin, yet** my **spirit is alive because of righteousness."** This happened to me because I believe that praying Matthew 6:9-13 and obeying Romans 10:8-10 gave me salvation, justification, and being born again; and THAT brought You into me!

Your New Condition

And if the Spirit of Him Who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, He Who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit, Who lives in you (Rom 8:11). Jesus, I believe in my heart that the "if" in this verse is in fact a "since" for me. So, I now confess with my mouth: "SINCE **the Spirit of Him Who raised Jesus from the dead is living in** me." Now that I have done that it MADE IT POSSIBLE for me to say: "**He Who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to** my **mortal body through His Spirit, Who lives in** me." So, I now believe this in my heart and confess it with my mouth: "**He Who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to** my **mortal body through His Spirit, Who lives in** me."

Next Week

Jesus, as You help me look at what to do with this miracle that **He Who raised** You **from the dead will also give life to** my **mortal body through His Spirit, Who lives in** me. Now that I have prayed the necessary prayers from Romans 8:11, it is like the power I experienced when I prayed for salvation, justification, and to be born again. Show me that I now have the power to START making my body do many new spiritual things. Thank You for helping me pray the prayers in my workbook so that I am now able to have this power over my body. Now that I have the power, make me ready to learn how to do this through Your training next week.

Textbook Chapter Six
How To Live The Power Life

Getting Used To The Spirit, Your Cooperation, And Jesus' Power

God's Laws Points Us In The Right Direction

Rom 8:3-4 (NIV) For what the law was powerless to do in that it was weakened by the sinful nature, God did by sending His Own Son in the likeness of sinful man to be a sin offering. And so He condemned sin in sinful man, in order that the righteous requirements of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the sinful nature but according to the Spirit.

God's Laws Guide Us Into Good Relationships

For what the law was powerless to do: How are we going to start treating ourselves, other people, and God's plan with right, good, and righteous thoughts, feelings, words, and deeds? No matter what the laws of the Bible, our conscience, or the laws of the land told us to do, we broke them pretty frequently.

The Good Laws Of God And Human Weakness

For what the law was powerless to do <u>in that it was weakened by the sinful nature</u>: No matter how hard we tried, how much we made up our mind, no matter how guilty we felt, no matter what kind of outside help we got, and no matter how much punishment we experienced, we kept thinking, feeling, saying, and doing things to ourselves, other people, and God's plan that were wrong, bad, and evil.

Jesus Is Our Answer

For what the law was powerless to do in that it was weakened by the sinful nature, <u>God did by sending His Own Son in the likeness of sinful man to be a sin offering</u>: Just because we can't improve our relationships doesn't mean God can't. So, we turned to God and He made us one of His children and a citizen in His Kingdom. Now, our life has moved into the rights, privileges, and opportunities provided to all God's children. BUT, there are a lot of God's children who are living far below all their rights, privileges, and opportunities. Since God won't force anything on us, there are some things must do to get all God has provided for us.

Two Ways Of Fulfilling God's Wonderful Laws

And so He condemned sin in sinful man, IN ORDER THAT the righteous requirements of the law <u>might be fully met in us</u>: First, **the righteous requirements of the law** were **fully met in us** by God crediting us with forgiveness for all our past, present, and future sins; AND, He also credited our record with fulfilling all the good things required by the law; that made our record declare us PERFECT with God.

Secondly, **the righteous requirements of the law** are BEING **fully met in us** through spiritual growth (sanctification). He is empowering us to start only doing good to ourselves, others, and His plan. Once we start ACTUALLY treating ourselves, others, and His plan with right, good, and righteousness, it isn't just on our record with God. We start getting good records with those around us; they start getting the benefits of us being born again. Because of our perfect record with God, we have access to His power; because of His power, we start getting great relationships with others.

Two Parts To Living According To The Spirit
In order that the righteous requirements of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the sinful nature but according to the Spirit.

PART ONE: Based on God's record, we are NOT living **according to the sinful nature but according to the Spirit.** The reason it isn't showing up on our record with God is because we have this attitude: **Rom 7:15 (NIV) I do not understand what I do. For what I WANT to do I do not do, but what I HATE I do.**

PART TWO: Based on the way we treat yourselves, others, and God's plan, we ARE living **according to the sinful nature** AND NOT **according to the Spirit.** But, as we learn how to cooperate with Jesus and yield to His power, we GRADUALLY quit living **according to the sinful nature** and start living **according to the Spirit** in our ACTUAL relationships with ourselves, others, and God's plan. The more we yield to and COOPERATE WITH Jesus and the control of the Holy Spirit, the more we have wonderful, successful relationships with the people around us.

Steps Into Cooperation

1. Feel The Right Obligation
Rom 8:12 (NIV) Therefore, brothers, we have an obligation--but it is not to the sinful nature, to live according to it. Once we allow ourselves to really appreciate all that Jesus has done for us, we will feel an obligation to COOPERATE WITH Him. Rather than feeling obligated to do and cooperating with what our friends, associates, employers, employees, and people in general want us to do, we feel a much stronger obligation to please and cooperate with Jesus. And, when we do please and cooperate with Jesus, we and those around us find out Jesus' way was in fact the best way. So, we upset people in the beginnings; but, end up treating them the way we would want to be treated ourselves.

2. Keep Making The Right Choice
Rom 8:13 (NIV) For if you live according to the sinful nature, you will die; but if BY the Spirit YOU put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live. HERE is the procedure for living the Christian life and being empowered to be extremely successful in life. First, **If you** ever want to go back to living **according to the sinful nature, you will die** (be separated from Jesus and your heavenly Father). **BUT, if BY the Spirit YOU put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live.** Right now your record with God credits you with **BY the Spirit YOU putting to death the misdeeds of the body** because you need time to learn how to treat yourself, others, and God's plan.

3. Use These Five Words

If BY the Spirit YOU: Here are five words you could just read over and not even notice them. BUT, they are five words that can change your entire Christian life. In our workbook we took Romans 8:11 and made some confessions with our mouth and believed in our heart that **He Who raised Christ from the dead** GAVE **life to** our **mortal bodies through His Spirit, Who lives in** us**.** Now, when the Holy Spirit speaks to our conscience and tells us we are or are about to do something the wrong way, we have Jesus' power to STOP and ask for His help to do it the right way. AND, if we go ahead and mistreat someone, we can STOP and ask for Jesus to empower us to go back and make it right.

4. Desire, Study, Pray, Believe, Faith-Action

But, <u>if BY the Spirit YOU</u> put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live (remain in God's family and Kingdom). Allowing yourself to feel a great obligation to Jesus for all He has done for you will influence your DESIRES. This will help you STUDY and find out all the information, instructions, examples, and truths that will help you know how to live the best way. Once you get each truth, you will be able to PRAY and ask Jesus to empower you, train you, and help you base your life on those truths. Then you will be ready to ask Jesus for His faith so you can confess with your mouth and BELIEVE in your heart that you have the answers to your prayers. And, from there you will be ready to take FAITH-ACTION and start living on the basis of the fact that Jesus has produced these great things in you.

RESULTS!

Rom 8:14 (NIV) because those who are led by the Spirit of God <u>are sons of God</u>. Matthew 6:9-13 and Romans 10:8-10 led us into experiencing being a child of God; now Romans 8:14 tells us how to LIVE as a child of God. The Holy Spirit and the Bible are speaking to your conscience telling you what is right, good, and righteous. This INSTRUCTION is part of the leading **by the Spirit of God** that helps you LIVE as a **son of God.** Then the POWER part of the Holy Spirit's leading is when **BY the Spirit YOU put to death the misdeeds of the body.** You are actually empowered to MAKE your body do right, good, and righteous things.

But if BY the Spirit YOU put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live. If you allow Jesus to teach you how to **BY the Spirit YOU put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live (remain as a child of God).**

It is just a matter of continuing to DESIRE to **put to death the misdeeds of the body,** STUDY how to **put to death the misdeeds of the body,** PRAY to **put to death the misdeeds of the body,** ask for Jesus' faith so you can keep confessing with your mouth and BELIEVING in your heart that you are putting **to death the misdeeds of the body,** and taking FAITH-ACTION and keep on living on the basis of the fact that you ARE putting **to death the misdeeds of the body.** By doing this you are now being led by the Spirit. **Rom 8:14 (NIV) Because those who are led by the Spirit of God <u>are sons of God</u>.**

Workbook Chapter Six
How To Live The Power Life

Getting Used To The Spirit, Your Cooperation, And Jesus' Power

God's Laws Points Us In The Right Direction

Jesus, **what the law was powerless to do in that it was weakened by the sinful nature** in my body**, God did by sending His Own Son in the likeness of sinful man to be a sin offering. And so He condemned sin in** me**, in order that the righteous requirements of the law might be fully met in** me**,** because I **do not live according to the sinful nature but according to the Spirit (Rom 8:3-4).**

God's Laws Guide Us Into Good Relationships

For what the law was powerless to do: Jesus, help me start treating myself, other people, and God's plan with right, good, and righteous thoughts, feelings, words, and deeds. No matter what the laws of the Bible, my conscience, or the laws of the land told me to do, I broke them pretty frequently.

The Good Laws Of God And Human Weakness

For what the law was powerless to do <u>in that it was weakened by the sinful nature</u>: Jesus, no matter how hard I tried, no matter how much I made up my mind, no matter how guilty I felt, no matter what kind of outside help I got, and no matter how much punishment I experienced, I kept thinking, feeling, saying, and doing things to myself, other people, and God's plan that were wrong, bad, and evil. Heal me of these weaknesses in my body and in my life.

Jesus Is Our Answer

For what the law was powerless to do in that it was weakened by the sinful nature, God did by sending His Own Son in the likeness of sinful man to be a sin offering: Jesus, just because I couldn't improve my relationships didn't mean God couldn't. So, I have turned to You and You made me one of God's children and a citizen in His Kingdom. Now, my life has moved into the rights, privileges, and opportunities provided to all God's children. BUT, there are a lot of God's children who are living far below all their rights, privileges, and opportunities. Since God won't force anything on me, there are some things I am going to have to do to get all God has provided for me. Teach me what they are and empower me to be able to take advantage of them.

Two Ways Of Fulfilling God's Wonderful Laws

And so He condemned sin in sinful man, IN ORDER THAT the righteous requirements of the law might be fully met in us: Jesus, teach me that first, **the righteous requirements of the law** were **fully met in me** by God crediting me with forgiveness for all my past, present, and future sins; AND, He also credited my record with fulfilling all the good things required by the law; that made my record declare me PERFECT with God. Thank You for giving me this perfect record with You so I can have access to all You have to offer me.

Teach me that secondly, **the righteous requirements of the law** are BEING **fully met in me** through spiritual growth (sanctification). You are empowering me to start only doing good to myself, others, and God's plan. Show me that once I start ACTUALLY treating myself, others, and God's plan with right, good, and righteousness, it won't just be on my record with God. I will start getting good records with those around me; they will start getting the benefits of me being born again. Teach me that because of my perfect record with God, I have access to His power; and, because of His power, I start getting great relationships with others.

Two Parts To Living According To The Spirit

In order that the righteous requirements of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the sinful nature but according to the Spirit. Jesus, teach me and empower me to live on the basis of these two parts of living according to the Spirit.

PART ONE: Jesus, I confess with my mouth and believe in my heart that, based on God's record, I am NOT living **according to the sinful nature but according to the Spirit.** I confess with my mouth and believe in my heart that the reason it isn't showing up on my record with God is because I have this attitude: **Rom 7:15 (NIV) I do not understand what I do. For what I WANT to do I do not do, but what I HATE I do.** You have given me this WANT and HATE so I can "do what it takes" to start doing right, good, and righteous things to myself, others, and God's plan.

PART TWO: Jesus, based on the way I treat myself, others, and God's plan, I AM living **according to the sinful nature** AND NOT **according to the Spirit.** However, I now confess with my mouth and believe in my heart that as I learn how to cooperate with You and yield to Your power, I will GRADUALLY quit living **according to the sinful nature but according to the Spirit.** I will do this in my ACTUAL relationships with myself, others, and God's plan. The more I yield to and COOPERATE WITH You and the control of the Holy Spirit, the more I will have wonderful, successful relationships with the people around me.

Steps Into Cooperation

1. Feel The Right Obligation

Therefore, brothers, we have an obligation--but it is not to the sinful nature, to live according to it (Rom 8:12). Jesus, show me that once I allow myself to really appreciate all that You have done for me, I will feel an obligation to COOPERATE WITH You. Rather than feeling obligated to do and cooperate with what my friends, associates, employers, employees, and people in general want me to do, help me feel a much stronger obligation to please and cooperate with You. And, help me believe that when I do please and cooperate with You, I and those around me will find out that Your way was in fact the best way. Help me realize that I will upset people in the beginnings; but, I will end up treating them the way I would want to be treated myself.

2. Keep Making The Right Choice

For if you live according to the sinful nature, you will die; <u>but if BY the Spirit YOU</u> put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live (Rom 8:13). Jesus, teach me this vital procedure for living the Christian life; and, through it, empower me to be extremely successful in life. First, help me understand that if I ever want to go back to living **according to the sinful nature,** I **will die** (be separated from You and my heavenly Father). Second, **BUT, if BY the Spirit** I **put to death the misdeeds of the body,** I **will live.** Keep me being aware of the fact that right now my record with God credits me with **BY the Spirit** I AM putting to death the misdeeds of the body. That is because I need time to learn how to treat myself, others, and God's plan.

3. Use These Five Words

If BY the Spirit YOU: Jesus, teach me these five words I could read and not even notice. Help me see that they can change my entire Christian life. In my workbook I took Romans 8:11 and made a confession with my mouth and believed in my heart that **He Who raised** You **from the dead** GAVE **life to** my **mortal body through His Spirit, Who lives in** me**.** Teach me that now, when the Holy Spirit speaks to my conscience and tells me I am now or am about to do something wrong, I have Your power to STOP and ask for Your help to do it the right way. AND, if I go ahead and mistreat someone, I can STOP and ask for You to empower me to go back and make it right.

4. Desire, Study, Pray, Believe, Faith-Action

But, <u>if BY the Spirit YOU</u> put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live (remain in God's family and Kingdom). Jesus, teach me that allowing myself to feel a great obligation to You for all You have done for me will influence my DESIRES. Show me that this will help me STUDY and find out all the information, instructions, examples, and truths that will help me know how to live the best way. Show me that once I get each truth, I will be able to PRAY and ask You to empower me, train me, and help me base my life on those truths. Then I will be ready to ask You for Your faith so I can confess with my mouth and BELIEVE in my heart that I have the answers to my prayers. And, from there I will be ready to take FAITH-ACTION and start living on the basis of the fact that You have produced these great things in me.

RESULTS!

Because those who are led by the Spirit of God <u>are sons of God</u> (Rom 8:14). Jesus, Matthew 6:9-13 and Romans 10:8-10 led me into experiencing being a child of God; now teach me that Romans 8:14 is telling me how to LIVE as a child of God. Teach me that the Holy Spirit and the Bible are speaking to my conscience telling me what is right, good, and righteous. Help me understand that this INSTRUCTION is part of the leading **by the Spirit of God** and that it helps me LIVE as a **son of God.** Teach me that the POWER part of the Holy Spirit's leading is when **BY the Spirit** I **put to death the misdeeds of the body.** I am actually empowered to MAKE my body do right, good, and righteous things.

But if BY the Spirit YOU put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live. Jesus, teach me how to **BY the Spirit put to death the misdeeds of the body.** Teach me how so I **will live (remain as a child of God).**

Teach me that it is just a matter of me continuing to DESIRE to **put to death the misdeeds of the body,** continuing to STUDY how to **put to death the misdeeds of the body,** continuing to PRAY to **put to death the misdeeds of the body,** continuing to ask for Your faith so I can keep confessing with my mouth and BELIEVING in my heart that I am putting **to death the misdeeds of the body,** and taking FAITH-ACTION and keeping on living on the basis of the fact that I AM putting **to death the misdeeds of the body.** Show me that by doing this I am now being led by the Spirit. **Rom 8:14 (NIV) Because those who are led by the Spirit of God <u>are sons of God</u>.**

Textbook Chapter Seven
How To Live The Power Life

Getting Used To Freedom From Fear, Having Sonship, And Having An Inheritance

Freedom

A New And Powerful Relationship

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." It is impossible for us to come into this relationship with God and be able to understand how much freedom and power we have moved into. Before you were born, you couldn't do anything; you didn't have a body, a life, a family, or a world to influence. Before you were born again, you didn't have the power to make your body do right, good, or righteous things. You didn't have a relationship with a supernatural parent, you didn't have a power-relationship with Jesus, and you didn't have the mighty truths of the Bible available to you.

Freedom From Fear

For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave AGAIN to fear: We are so used to fear that we frequently don't even know we are experiencing it. A lot of the things we do, we do because of fear. We are afraid we won't be able to pay our bills, so we spend most of our week making sure we can. We are afraid we will get hospitalized so we make sure we have insurance to cover it. We are afraid we might wreck our car, so we get insurance for that too. We are afraid something might happen to our house, so we insure it. We worry about when we get old, so we try to take care of our retirement. We fear being alone, so we try to make sure we have friends. We fear the unknown, so we try to prepare for every possible contingency. But, your heavenly Father wants to take away all your motivations of fear.

Sonship

But you received the Spirit of sonship: God's family isn't like any family you have ever experienced. The relationship, love, grace, mercy, generosity, and power are far more wonderful than anything you could ever imagine. Nothing has prepared you for how to take advantage of all you have received through being born again into God's family. You will need to give up all your preconceived notions and get ready to be impressed. Any ideas, imaginations, thoughts, suppositions, or guesses will be far below what is available to you. Sonship has made you a CHILD OF GOD! You are no longer just the child of a human; you are no longer limited to the human realm.

God lives in a realm of the supernatural; He thinks, feels, talks, and does things on a level that is bigger than the universe. He knows everything, is everywhere, is all powerful, and is perfect. You now have Him as your heavenly Father. You were born with His genetics flowing in your spirit. He is wanting to teach you how to live in the spirit realm the way He lives. He has provided you a Bible, the Holy Spirit, and His Son to teach and train you on how to become an adult child of God. The benefits, blessings, miracles, power, attitudes, character, and results will be far beyond anything you could possibly dream of.

Abba Father

And by Him (the Holy Spirit) we cry, "Abba, Father:" Jesus, the Bible, and the Holy Spirit are trying to help you experience your heavenly Father. You are able to be empowered with a love for Him that will help you get to know Him in a very special way. If you will open your heart to Him, you will believe, trust, rely, and put your dependency on Him in a loving way. But, you have fears, reservations, doubts, suspicions, concerns, and feelings of caution. Your fear of the unknown is getting in your way of being able to cry out, Abba or dear Father.

Jesus And The Holy Spirit Are In You

Spirit To spirit Communication

Rom 8:16 (NIV) The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. You are used to being in your body all by yourself. You may not be aware of it; but, Jesus and His Holy Spirit came and joined your spirit and are now living in your body. However, they won't be able to influence you, as a spirit being, unless you allow them to.

A lot of Christians go through life and never recognize the Spirit to spirit communication available to them. Just like Satan caused thoughts and feelings to pop up in your mind and heart--right, good, and righteous thoughts and feelings are now starting to come to you; but, you have to recognize them.

Making Sure It Is Settled

Rom 8:9 (NIV) YOU, however, are controlled NOT by the sinful nature but BY the Spirit, IF the Spirit of God lives IN you. And IF anyone does not HAVE the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ. How do you know **the Spirit of God lives IN you?** How do you know you **HAVE the Spirit of Christ** and that you **belong to Christ?** Because you prayed Matthew 6:9-13 and obeyed Romans 10:8-10.

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 KNOW you are justified; and, you KNOW you are saved because the Bible says you are. You did what you were instructed; and, God's Word, the Bible, told you the TRUTH. SO, you based your faith on what it said, and Jesus and the Holy Spirit joined you inside your body.

Remember This?
Rom 8:10 (NIV) But IF Christ is IN you, your body is dead because of sin, yet your spirit is alive because of righteousness. You prayed: "Jesus, SINCE You are **IN** me, my **body is dead because of sin, yet** my **spirit is alive because of righteousness.**" That prayer was answered by giving you the power to KNOW Jesus is IN you.

Rom 8:11 (NIV) And IF the Spirit of Him Who raised Jesus from the dead is living IN you, He Who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit, Who lives IN you. You then prayed: Jesus, SINCE **the Spirit of Him Who raised** You **from the dead IS living IN** me**, He Who raised** You **from the dead will also give life to** my **mortal body through His Spirit, Who lives IN** me. That was your confession with your mouth and your belief in your heart; AND, IT WAS DONE INSIDE YOU!

That Opens The Door For The Next Miracle
Rom 8:16-17 (NIV) The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. Now IF we are children, then we are heirs--heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, IF indeed we share in His sufferings in order that we may also share in His glory. This will be our next assignment of confessing with our mouth and believing in our heart. And, THAT will bring your heart and mind into the reality of your inheritance.

Workbook Chapter Seven
How To Live The Power Life

Getting Used To Freedom From Fear, Having Sonship, And Having An Inheritance

Freedom

A New And Powerful Relationship

Jesus, I **did not receive a spirit that makes** me **a slave again to fear, but** I **received the Spirit of sonship. And by Him** I **cry, "Abba, Father (Rom 8:15)."** It is impossible for me to come into this relationship with God and be able to understand how much freedom and power I have moved into. Before I was born, I couldn't do anything; I didn't have a body, a life, a family, or a world to influence. And, before I was born again, I didn't have the power to make my body do right, good, or righteous things. I didn't have a relationship with a supernatural parent, I didn't have a power-relationship with You, and I didn't have the mighty truths of the Bible available to me. Help me understand them, take advantage of them, and appreciate them.

Freedom From Fear

For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave AGAIN to fear: Jesus, I am so used to fear that I frequently don't even know I am experiencing it. A lot of the things I do, I do because of fear. I am afraid I won't be able to pay my bills, so I spend most of my week making sure I can. I am afraid I will get hospitalized so I make sure I have insurance to cover it. I am afraid I might wreck my car, so I get insurance for that too. I am afraid something might happen to my house, so I insure it. I worry about when I get old, so I try to take care of my retirement. I fear being alone, so I try to make sure I have friends. I fear the unknown, so I try to prepare for every possible contingency. Help me understand that, my heavenly Father wants to take away all my motivations of fear; help me yield to His purpose.

Sonship

But you received the Spirit of sonship: Jesus, God's family isn't like any family I have ever experienced. Help me experience the relationship, love, grace, mercy, generosity, and power that are far more wonderful than anything I could ever imagine. Since nothing has prepared me for how to take advantage of all I have received through being born again into God's family, help me give up all my preconceived notions and get ready to be impressed. Help me give up any ideas, imaginations, thoughts, suppositions, or guesses, because they will be far below what is available to me. Show me what it means that sonship has made me a CHILD OF GOD! Teach me that I am no longer just the child of a human; I am no longer limited to the human realm.

Since God lives in a realm of the supernatural, show me that He thinks, feels, talks, and does things on a level that is bigger than the universe. Make it clear to me that He knows everything, is everywhere, is all powerful, and is perfect. Open up my heart and mind to the fact that I now have Him as my heavenly Father. Help me understand what it means that I was born again with His genetics flowing in my spirit. Teach me how to live in the spirit realm the way my heavenly Father lives. Since He has provided me with a Bible, the Holy Spirit, and You, His Son, to teach and train me on how to become an adult child of God, show me the benefits, blessings, miracles, power, attitudes, character, and results that will be far beyond anything I could possibly dream of.

Abba Father

And by Him (the Holy Spirit) we cry, "Abba, Father:" Jesus, You, the Bible, and the Holy Spirit are trying to help me experience my heavenly Father. Empower me with a love for Him that will help me get to know Him in a very special way. Help me open my heart to Him so I will believe, trust, rely, and put my dependency on Him in a loving way. I have fears, reservations, doubts, suspicions, concerns, and feelings of caution. My fear of the unknown is getting in my way of being able to cry out, Abba or dear Father. Help me with these weaknesses so I can cry out, Abba or dear Father.

Jesus And The Holy Spirit Are In You

Spirit To spirit Communication

The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children (Rom 8:16). Jesus, I am used to being in my body all by myself. Help me be fully aware of the fact that You and Your Holy Spirit came and joined my spirit; show me that You are now living in my body. However, teach me that You won't be able to influence me, as a spirit being, unless I allow You to. Help me yield to You and Your Holy Spirit.

Help me not be one of a lot of Christians who go through life and never recognize the Spirit-to-spirit communication available to them. Show me that just like Satan caused thoughts and feelings to pop up in my mind and heart--right, good, and righteous thoughts and feelings are now starting to come to me; help me recognize them.

Making Sure It Is Settled

Rom 8:9 (NIV) YOU, however, are controlled NOT by the sinful nature but BY the Spirit, IF the Spirit of God lives IN you. And IF anyone does not HAVE the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ. Jesus, empower me to always know **the Spirit of God lives IN me.** Empower me to always know I **HAVE the Spirit of Christ** and that I **belong to You, my Christ.** Because You helped me prayed Matthew 6:9-13 and helped me obey Romans 10:8-10, I KNOW You and Your Spirit are in my body with me.

Jesus, **Romans 10:10 (NIV) says: "For it is with your HEART that you believe and ARE justified, and it is with your MOUTH that you confess and ARE saved."** Jesus, because You said this through the Bible, I KNOW You are telling me the truth that I am justified; and, I KNOW You are telling me the truth that I am saved because Your Bible says I am. I did what Your Bible instructed me to do; and, I believe Your Word, the Bible, told me the TRUTH. SO, I based my faith on what it said, and You and the Holy Spirit joined me inside my body.

Remember This?

Rom 8:10 (NIV) But IF Christ is IN you, your body is dead because of sin, yet your spirit is alive because of righteousness. Jesus, as You know, I have already prayed: "Jesus, SINCE You are **IN** me, my **body is dead because of sin, yet** my **spirit is alive because of righteousness.**" You answered that prayer by giving me the power to KNOW You are IN me.

Rom 8:11 (NIV) And IF the Spirit of Him Who raised Jesus from the dead is living IN you, He Who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit, Who lives IN you. Jesus, as You know, I then prayed: "Jesus, SINCE **the Spirit of Him Who raised** You **from the dead IS living IN** me**, He Who raised** You **from the dead will also give life to** my **mortal body through His Spirit, Who lives IN** me." That was my confession with my mouth and my belief in my heart; AND, I KNOW IT WAS DONE INSIDE ME! I know this because You and the Bible ARE the truth and never lie or mislead.

That Opens The Door For The Next Miracle

Rom 8:16-17 (NIV) The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. Now IF we are children, then we are heirs--heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, IF indeed we share in His sufferings in order that we may also share in His glory. Jesus, as I move into my next assignment of confessing with my mouth and believing in my heart, prepare me so this Scripture will bring my heart and mind into the reality of my inheritance.

Textbook Chapter Eight
How To Live The Power Life

Getting Used To Hearing, Believing, And Obeying The Spirit

The Holy Spirit

The Spirit Of Truth

Rom 8:16-17 (NIV) The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. Now IF we are children, then we are heirs--heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, IF indeed we share in His sufferings in order that we may also share in His glory. If we don't allow the Holy Spirit to speak to us, then we can't hear His important messages. If He is allowed to speak to us, but we also listen to ourselves or the devil, it will interfere with His vital messages. The Holy Spirit is your direct contact with truth.

The Spirit, Our Contact With God

The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit: Your spirit is the real you; the Holy Spirit is your direct line to all God has to offer. Everything from God and to God passes through Him. If Jesus has something to say to you, He speaks it into your spirit through the Holy Spirit that lives inside you. If you want to say anything to God, He will hear it through the Holy Spirit. That is why the Holy Spirit being in you is so important. Without Him, there is no contact with God. Jesus is inside you to give you His life; He will be the One Who provides you with the power to succeed, win, change, and be transformed.

The Spirit Is Your Proof

The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit <u>that we are God's children</u>: What an important message! Without the Holy Spirit being inside you, you would pray Matthew 6:9-13 and obey Romans 10:8-10 and nothing would happen. Even if it did happen, you would never know that it did. The reason you KNOW you are a child of God and a citizen in His Kingdom is because the Holy Spirit is confirming it to you as a spirit being. No matter what opposing thoughts come to you from yourself, other people, Satan, and circumstance, the Holy Spirit keeps bringing you back to the honesty of the Bible and God; they are telling you the truth and these other voices aren't.

Back To The "If" Issue

Now IF we are children: The Holy Spirit has been helping you keep your eyes on the honesty and integrity of God and His Word, the Bible. Every time anything tried to tell you that you aren't a child of God, He has been helping you KNOW how honest the Bible and God are. And, He has been helping you to feel it in your heart. Now it is your responsibility to change this "if" into the word "since." You must confess with your mouth and believe in your heart that SINCE you ARE a child of God, THEN the next words in Romans 8:17 apply to you.

Progressive Spiritual Growth: Sanctification
As you go through the Bible, you will be reading truths that are readily available to you. They become yours, as you read them, allow Jesus to explain them to you, confess with your mouth that they are true, and believe in your heart that they are TRUE OF YOU. Then, once you have done that you are ready to take faith-action and start living on the basis of the fact that the Holy Spirit, Jesus, your heavenly Father, and the Bible have produced that truth in you. If you do this with each verse you read, then the previous verse transforms you and gets you ready for the next verse so it can add to what you already have.

As you allow the truths of the Bible to transform your life through confessing with your mouth that each Scripture is true and believing in your heart that each verse is true of you, you get more and more power to force your body to yield to the truths of God and His Word. All the "if's" in the Bible become "since" for you; all the promises in the Bible become true of you; all the provisions of God flow into you through miraculous power; and, all of this spiritual growth empowers you to become a mature child of God.

Progressive Bible Reading
After Biblical truth are put into your life and you start going back through your Bible and reading the same books, chapters, and verses, you will be reading about truths you already have. But, they will be talking to you as if this is your first time through the Bible. This is because every person must go through it for the first time. It must address these first time issues with each new or untrained Christian. Since it isn't your first time through, you must read them as things Jesus has already done in your life. This time through the Bible is a time for you to read each verse and thank God for doing all these things in you and through you.

Included In Jesus' Will

You Have An Inheritance
IF we are children, <u>then we are heirs</u>: Jesus left a will or testament; that is why the Bible is divided into two testaments. There is the Old Testament and the New Testament. We will have to consider the Old Will or Testament at another time. The New Will or Testament is from Jesus to you. When He died on the cross, He left a Will or Testament for you to learn what your inheritance is. As you read Jesus' Will, you are being introduced into the fact that you have inherited some very important things.

Congratulations! You Inherited God!
Now IF we are children, then we are heirs--<u>heirs of God</u>: By being born again, you were made a child of God; by being made a child of God, you were made a part of Jesus' Will; by being made a part of Jesus' Will, you inherited God as YOUR heavenly Father; by inheriting God as your heavenly Father, you inherited direct access to Him; by inheriting direct access to Him, you can ask for everything in Jesus' Will, the Bible. All of the promises, blessings, miracles, gifts, and provisions are a part of your inheritance through Jesus.

Congratulations! You Are A Co-heir With Jesus!
Now IF we are children, then we are heirs--heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ: There are times when you will read things in the Bible, pray for them, and God answers your prayer with a "no." Why? **James 1:17 (NIV) Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, Who does not change like shifting shadows.** The rules will never change; God will only give you those things that He knows are good for you and those around you. If it is in the Bible, you pray for it, you try to believe for it, but God sees it as either not being good for you or someone around you, His answer will always be "no." It is the same thing for every child He has; He loves us all the same.

No Pain, No Gain
Now IF we are children, then we are heirs--heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, IF indeed we share in His sufferings in order that we may also share in His glory: If you are studying for a career, trying to get an education; learning a trade; working on a marriage; leading a group; learning a sport; or doing just about anything in life, you will have to do some suffering. If you are on a diet, trying to develop your muscles, trying to stay in shape, trying to eat healthy foods, or trying to recover from an illness, there will be physical pain. We must understand that this is the same with our spiritual growth and our reaching out to help others.

Pain From People Who Won't Go In
John 15:18 (NIV) If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated Me first. Jesus isn't saying that everyone is going to hate you. He is only talking about a certain group of people; He isn't talking about everyone. There are people who don't want to join Jesus and don't care what anyone else decides. BUT, there are some people who don't want to join Him, AND, they don't want anyone else to join Him either. These are the ones Jesus is talking about.

John 15:19 (NIV) If you belonged to the world, it would love you as its own. As it is, you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world. That is why the world hates you. These people who don't want anyone to become a Christian will try to form a wall around all those who want Jesus. They will try every kind of abuse, resistance, argument, reason, tactic, and persecution they can direct against you. ALL OF THEIR EFFORTS will be to try to discourge you and keep you from going past them to those who will accept your help.

People Need Your Help
We are heirs--heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, IF indeed we share in His sufferings in order that we may also share in His glory. Doctors, nurses, firemen, policemen, soldiers, emergency medical teams, hazardous waste personnel, and Christians put their lives in danger so they can help those in need. If these people refuse to face danger, then the weak, the innocent, the needy, the helpless, the hopeless, and lost won't be helped.

Workbook Chapter Eight
How To Live The Power Life

Getting Used To Hearing, Believing, And Obeying The Spirit

The Holy Spirit

The Spirit Of Truth

Jesus, **the Spirit Himself testifies with** my **spirit that** I am **God's child. Now** SINCE I am His **child, then** I am an **heir--**an **heir of God and co-heirs with** You**,** SINCE **indeed** I **share in** Your **sufferings in order that** I **may also share in** Your **glory (Rom 8:16-17).** If I don't allow the Holy Spirit to speak to me, then I can't hear His important messages. Help me allow Him to speak to me; but, help me not also listen to myself, the devil, or circumstance. Keep them from interfering with His vital messages. Teach me that the Holy Spirit is my direct contact with truth.

The Spirit, Our Contact With God

The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit: Jesus, help me understand that my spirit is the real me; and, the Holy Spirit is my direct line to all God has to offer. Show me that everything FROM God and TO God passes through Him. If You have something to say to me, You speak it into my spirit through the Holy Spirit that lives inside me. If I want to say anything to God, He will hear it through the Holy Spirit. Make it clear to me that, that is why the Holy Spirit being in me is so important. Without Him, there is no contact with God. Jesus, teach me that You are inside me to give me Your life; You will be the One Who provides me with the power to succeed, win, change, and be transformed.

The Spirit Is Your Proof

The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit <u>that we are God's children</u>: Jesus, show me what an important message this is. Help me understand that without the Holy Spirit being inside me, I would pray Matthew 6:9-13 and obey Romans 10:8-10 and nothing would happen. Even if it did happen, I would never know that it did. Help me appreciate the fact that the reason I KNOW I am a child of God and a citizen in His Kingdom is because the Holy Spirit is confirming it to me as a spirit being. Make it where no matter what opposing thoughts come to me from myself, other people, Satan, and circumstance, let the Holy Spirit keep bringing me back to the honesty of the Bible and God; help me know that they are telling me the truth and these other voices aren't.

Back To The "If" Issue

Now IF we are children: Jesus, the Holy Spirit has been helping me keep my eyes on the honesty and integrity of God and His Word, the Bible. Every time anything has tried to tell me that I'm not a child of God, He has been helping me KNOW how honest the Bible and God are. And, He has also been helping me feel it in my heart. Now that it is my responsibility to change this "if" into the word "since," help me confess with my mouth and believe in my heart that SINCE I AM a child of God, THEN the next words in Romans 8:17 apply to me.

Progressive Spiritual Growth: Sanctification

Jesus, as I go through the Bible, I will be reading truths that are readily available to me. Teach me that they become mine, as I read them, as I allow You to explain them to me, as I confess with my mouth that they are true, and as I believe in my heart that they are TRUE OF ME. Then, once I have done that, I am ready to take faith-action and start living on the basis of the fact that the Holy Spirit, You, my heavenly Father, and the Bible have produced that truth in me. Teach me that, as I do this with each verse I read, then the previous verse transforms me and gets me ready for the next verse so it can add to what I already have.

Jesus, as I allow the truths of the Bible to transform my life through confessing with my mouth that each Scripture is true and believing in my heart that each verse is true OF ME, help me realize that I get more and more power to force my body to yield to the truths of God and His Word. Show me that all the "if's" in the Bible become "since" for me, that all the promises in the Bible become true of me, that all the provisions of God flow into me through miraculous power, and that all of this spiritual growth empowers me to become a mature child of God.

Progressive Bible Reading

Jesus, after Biblical truths are put into my life and I start going back through my Bible and reading the same books, chapters, and verses, I will be reading about truths that I already have. But, they will be talking to me as if this is my first time through the Bible. Show me that this is because every person must go through it for the first time. Help me understand that it must address these first time issues with each new or untrained Christian. But, since it isn't my first time through, help me read it as things You have already done in my life. Let this time through the Bible be a time for me to read each verse and thank You for doing all these wonderful things in me and through me.

Included In Jesus' Will

You Have An Inheritance

IF we are children, <u>then we are heirs</u>: Jesus, You left me a will or testament; that is why the Bible is divided into two testaments. Teach me about the Old Testament and the New Testament. Even though You will have to teach me the Old Will or Testament at another time, help me get ready to learn what it has to say. Teach me that the New Will or Testament is from You to me. When You died on the cross, You left a Will or Testament for me to learn what my inheritance is. As I read Your Will, help me be introduced into the fact that I have inherited some very important things.

Congratulations! You Inherited God!

Now IF we are children, then we are heirs--<u>heirs of God</u>: Jesus, by me being born again, I was made a child of God; by being made a child of God, I was made a part of Your Will; by being made a part of Your Will, I inherited God as MY heavenly Father; by inheriting God as MY heavenly Father, I inherited direct access to Him; by inheriting direct access to Him, I can ask for everything in Your Will, the Bible. Teach me that all of the promises, blessings, miracles, gifts, and provisions are a part of my inheritance through You.

Congratulations! You Are A Co-heir With Jesus!

Now IF we are children, then we are heirs--heirs of God <u>and co-heirs with Christ</u>: Jesus, there are times when I will read things in the Bible, pray for them, and God answers my prayer with a "no." Teach me why this is. Since **James 1:17 (NIV) says: "<u>Every GOOD and PERFECT gift</u> is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, <u>Who does not change</u> like shifting shadows,"** Show me that the rules will never change; God will only give me those things that He knows are GOOD for me and those around me. Teach me that if it is in the Bible, I pray for it, I try to believe for it, but God sees it as either not being GOOD for me or someone around me, His answer will always be "no." Help me understand that it is the same thing for every child He has; He loves us all the same.

No Pain, No Gain

Now IF we are children, then we are heirs--heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, <u>IF indeed we share in His sufferings in order that we may also share in His glory</u>: Jesus, if I'm studying for a career, trying to get an education, learning a trade, working on a marriage, leading a group, learning a sport, or doing just about anything in life, show that I will have to do some suffering. If I am on a diet, trying to develop my muscles, trying to stay in shape, trying to eat healthy foods, or trying to recover from an illness, there will be physical pain. Help me see that this is the same with my spiritual growth and reaching out to help others.

Pain From People Who Won't Go In

Jesus, **if the world hates** me, help me **keep in mind that it hated** You **first (John 15:18).** Show me that you aren't saying that everyone is going to hate me. You are only talking about a certain group of people; You aren't talking about everyone. Teach me that there are people who don't want to join You and don't care what anyone else decides. BUT, there are some people who don't want to join You, AND, they don't want anyone else to join You either. These are the ones You are talking about.

Jesus, teach me that **if** I **belonged to the world, it would love** me **as its own. As it is,** I **do not belong to the world, but** You **have chosen** me **out of the world. That is why the world hates** me **(John 15:19).** These people You are calling "the world" are the ones who don't want anyone to become a Christian. They will try to form a wall around all those who want You. They will try every kind of abuse, resistance, argument, reason, tactic, and persecution they can direct against me. ALL OF THEIR EFFORTS will be to try to discourage me and keep me from going past them to those who will accept my help. Help me be willing to press beyond their resistance and get to the people who want You.

People Need Your Help

We are heirs--heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, IF indeed we share in His sufferings in order that we may also share in His glory. Jesus, doctors, nurses, firemen, policemen, soldiers, emergency medical teams, hazardous waste personnel, and Christians put their lives in danger so they can help those in need. If these people refuse to face danger, then the weak, the innocent, the needy, the helpless, the hopeless, and lost won't be helped. Help me be a Christian who is willing to suffer so I can get to the needy.

Textbook Chapter Nine
How To Live The Power Life

Getting Used To Glory, Persecution, And Predestination

The Glory

Looking Into The Future

Rom 8:18 (NIV) I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with <u>THE GLORY that will be revealed in us</u>. The people that Jesus calls "the world" will resist the fact that you openly confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord. But, the way a business person, an athlete, or a student faces the pain and suffering they go through is, they **consider that** their **present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in** them. They have a goal, a dream, a plan, and a future. They aren't willing to allow any person, group, circumstance, challenge, or requirement stand in their way; pray for this attitude as a Christian.

It's Your Life

Mat 5:10 (NIV) Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. If a person is persecuting you **because of righteousness,** then they are a person who lies, steals, cheats, misleads, assonates people's character, and tries to get to the top by walking over people. Why should we care what their opinion is? Should we start lying, stealing, cheating, misleading, assonating people's character, and trying to get to the top by walking over people? And, even if we don't do any of those things, should we be silent and let people think we are that kind of person? Are we willing to do this "just so we can be accepted by THE WORLD?"

It's Your Success In Life

Mat 5:11 (NIV) Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of Me. The top students, the top athletes, the top business people, and the top sales people ALWAYS have their critics. There are always people trying to pull you down to their level. Jesus is raising you to the top of true success; He is teaching and empowering you to win without cheating or hurting anyone. That "should be" praised, appreciated, and supported by everyone on the planet; but, "the world" hates honest, fair, loving, kind, and righteous people. Why? Because it proves that it doesn't take lying, stealing, cheating, misleading, assonating people's character, and trying to get to the top by walking over people.

It's Your Choice

Mat 5:12 (NIV) Rejoice and be glad, BECAUSE great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you. We all have people we admire, respect, and try to pattern our life after. When you came to Jesus, you had your heroes that you allowed to set the patterns for your life. But, if you really want to succeed, win, and be the best, you will trade them for Jesus, the heroes in the Bible, and the Christians around you who are following Jesus.

It's Your Future

Actors and actresses suffer for temporary fame; business people suffer for temporary wealth; leaders suffer for temporary power and influence; and, addicts suffer for temporary pleasure. But, YOU have temporary and eternal possessions, positions, power, prestige, popularity, pleasure, and accomplishments. You will have to do some suffering; but, it will pay off now and in eternity. Some suffer with temporary results; others suffer with no benefits whatsoever; you suffer like everyone else; but, for great success now and in eternity. Don't let other people's opinions and resistances cheat you out of them, **rejoice and be glad.**

Influence Rather Than Being Influenced

Mat 5:13-14 (NIV) YOU are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled by men. YOU are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. YOU are the one who is heading in the right direction; YOU are the one who is listening to Jesus and His Bible; YOU are the one who should be influencing the people around you. Don't let "the world" drag you back into those things that are killing them.

The Future Protector

Help With Your Lack Of Knowledge

Rom 8:26 (NIV) In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. For you to keep moving forward in power and success, you will need to invite God into everything you are going to need His help with. But, you don't know what you are going to face and what you need to pray for. So, the Holy Spirit will be bringing ideas and feelings into your mind and heart. He will also be pointing out things in the Bible that need your prayers. He will be empowering you pray with intense feelings about things you didn't have feelings for prior to His help.

Help With Getting The Best

Rom 8:27 (NIV) And He Who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints in accordance with God's will. As we saw in James 1:17, all good comes from God; if you get anything from any other source rather than through God, it may "look" good; but, it won't END UP being good. When the Holy Spirit prays in your behalf **in accordance with God's will,** that means every prayer will be for those things that bring the very best good into your life. God's supernatural WILL brings supernatural GOOD into our relationships, finances, emotions, physical issues, spiritual needs, and circumstantial areas.

Here's What Is Happening To And For You!
Rom 8:28 (NIV) And we know that in <u>all things</u> God works for the GOOD of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose. THIS IS what is going on in your life RIGHT NOW! From the moment you prayed Matthew 6:9-13 and obeyed Romans 10:8-10, this started working for your good in life and in eternity. It isn't that your luck, karma, or fate changed; it is because your relationship changed with your heavenly Father. It is because Jesus made it possible for you to be born again into God's family and into His Kingdom.

Predestination

Here's What Has Been Happening To And For You!
Rom 5:8 (NIV) But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: <u>While we were STILL sinners</u>, Christ died for us. In your past, before you were born again, a path had to be cleared for you and everyone else. Too many obstructions could have got in your way KEEPING you from BEING ABLE to come to Jesus for your new birth. So, God used a system called "predestination" to make sure you and everyone else didn't get blocked off from being able to accept Jesus as their Lord, Savior, and King.

Here's What Had To Happen In Your Past And For Your Future
Rom 8:29 (NIV) For those God foreknew He also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brothers. God puts everyone in the very best possible situation so that they can be saved, justified, sanctified, and glorified, if they want to. If He didn't, then it wouldn't be everyone's fault if they didn't get born again; but, it is. Where you were born, when you were born, what kind of a body you got, what your gender was, what your opportunities were, and what you were exposed to were ALL controlled by God. This was so EVERYONE would have the very best OPPORTUNITY to make the right decision.

You Have A Perfect Opportunity
Rom 8:30 (NIV) And those He predestined, He also called; those He called, He also justified; those He justified, He also glorified. God knows who is going to spend eternity with Him and who isn't. But, He still made sure EVERYONE got their very best opportunity to spend eternity with Him. When we stand before Jesus as our Judge, no one will be able to accuse Him of any wrong doing, neglect, or lack of provisions. We will ALL see that He did a perfect job of making sure we had a clear path into the very best of God and His provisions. SO, from now on it will all depend on whether or not we ask Jesus to help us with our DESIRE, our STUDY, our PRAYER, our BELIEVING, our LOVE, and our FAITH-ACTION.

Workbook Chapter Nine
How To Live The Power Life

Getting Used To Glory, Persecution, And Predestination

The Glory

Looking Into The Future

Jesus, **I consider that** my **present sufferings are not worth comparing with <u>THE GLORY that will be revealed in</u>** me **(Rom 8:18).** Teach me that the people You call "the world" will resist the fact that I openly confess with my mouth that You are Lord. But, help me live like a business person, an athlete, or a student and the way they face the pain and suffering they go through. Just like they **consider that** their **present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in** them, help me have a goal, a dream, a plan, and a future. Like them, help me not be willing to allow any person, group, circumstance, challenge, or requirement stand in my way; I pray for this attitude as a Christian.

It's Your Life

Jesus, help me accept the fact that I am **blessed** as one **who is persecuted because of righteousness, for** mine **is the kingdom of heaven (Mat 5:10).** Help me realize that if a person is persecuting me **because of righteousness,** then they are a person who lies, steals, cheats, misleads, assonates people's character, and tries to get to the top by walking over people. Why should I care what their opinion is? Help me not start lying, stealing, cheating, misleading, assonating people's character, and trying to get to the top by walking over people. But, even though I don't do any of those things, help me not be silent and let people think I am that kind of person. Help me not be willing to do this "just so I can be accepted by THE WORLD?"

It's Your Success In Life

Jesus, I am **blessed when people insult** me**, persecute** me **and falsely say all kinds of evil against** me **because of** You **(Mat 5:11).** The top students, the top athletes, the top business people, and the top sales people ALWAYS have their critics, so why should I think being a Christian should be any different? There will always people trying to pull me down to their level. You are raising me to the top of true success; You are teaching and empowering me to win without cheating or hurting anyone. That "should be" praised, appreciated, and supported by everyone on the planet; but, help me realize that "the world" hates honest, fair, loving, kind, and righteous people. Teach me why this is true of "the world." Show me that it is because it proves to them that it doesn't take lying, stealing, cheating, misleading, assonating people's character, and trying to get to the top by walking over people.

It's Your Choice

Jesus, help me **rejoice and be glad, BECAUSE great is** my **reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before** me **(Mat 5:12).** I have people I admire, respect, and try to pattern my life after. But, now that I have come to You, even though I have had my heroes that I allowed to set the patterns for my life, help me give them up. Since I really want to succeed, win, and be the best, help me trade them for You, the heroes in the Bible, and the Christians around me who are following You.

It's Your Future

Jesus, actors and actresses suffer for temporary fame; business people suffer for temporary wealth; leaders suffer for temporary power and influence; and, addicts suffer for temporary pleasure. Help me understand that I have temporary and eternal possessions, positions, power, prestige, popularity, pleasure, and accomplishments. Show me that I will have to do some suffering; but, it will pay off now and in eternity. Some suffer with temporary results; others suffer with no benefits whatsoever; I suffer like everyone else; but, for great success now and in eternity. Help me not let other people's opinions and resistances cheat me out of them, empower me to **rejoice and be glad.**

Influence Rather Than Being Influenced

Jesus, You said I am **the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled by men.** Help me not allow people's opinions and social pressure cause me to lose my saltiness (influence on the people around me). You also said, I am **the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden (Mat 5:13-14).** Jesus, since I am the one who is heading in the right direction, since I am the one who is listening to You and Your Bible, help me be the one who is influencing the people around me. Help me not let "the world" drag me back into those things that are killing them.

The Future Protector

Help With Your Lack Of Knowledge

Jesus, **in the same way, the Spirit helps** me **in** my **weakness.** I **do not know what** I **ought to pray for, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for** me **with groans that words cannot express (Rom 8:26).** For me to keep moving forward in power and success, help me invite God into everything I am going to need His help with. But, I don't know what I am going to face and what I need to pray for. So, let the Holy Spirit bring ideas and feelings into my mind and heart. Let Him point out things in the Bible that need my prayers. Let Him empower me to pray with intense feelings about things I didn't have feelings for prior to His help.

Help With Getting The Best

And He Who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints in accordance with God's will (Rom 8:27). Jesus, as You showed me in James 1:17, all good comes from God; if I get anything from any other source rather than through God, it may "look" good; but, it won't END UP being good. Help me see that when the Holy Spirit prays in my behalf **in accordance with God's will,** that means every prayer will be for those things that bring the very best GOOD into my life. Make it clear to me that God's supernatural WILL brings supernatural GOOD into my relationships, finances, emotions, physical issues, spiritual needs, and circumstantial areas.

Here's What Is Happening To And For You!

Jesus, I now **know that in all things God works for** my **GOOD** because I am one **of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose (Rom 8:28).** Jesus, help me know that THIS IS what's going on in my life RIGHT NOW! Help me be convinced that from the moment I prayed Matthew 6:9-13 and obeyed Romans 10:8-10, this started working for my good in my human life and in eternity. Show me that it isn't that my luck, karma, or fate changed; it is because my relationship changed with my heavenly Father. It is because You made it possible for me to be born again into God's family and into His Kingdom. Thank You for all You have done for me.

Predestination

Here's What Has Been Happening To And For You!

Jesus, **God demonstrates His own love for** me **in this: While** I was **STILL a sinner,** You **died for** me **(Rom 5:8).** Teach me that in my past, before I was born again, a path had to be cleared for me and everyone else. Too many obstructions could have got in my way KEEPING me from BEING ABLE to come to You for my new birth. So, God used a system called "predestination" to make sure I and everyone else didn't get blocked off. He kept me being blocked from being able to accept You as my Lord, Savior, and King. Thank You for making a way for me to come to You.

Here's What Had To Happen In Your Past And For Your Future

Jesus, I am one of **those God foreknew.** So, **He also predestined** me **to be conformed to the likeness of** You, **His Son, that** You **might be the firstborn among many brothers (Rom 8:29).** Reveal it to me that God puts me and everyone else in the very best possible situations so that I and they can be saved, justified, sanctified, and glorified, if we want to. Help me understand that if He didn't, then it wouldn't be my or everyone's fault if we didn't get born again; but, it is. Show me that where I was born, when I was born, what kind of a body I got, what my gender was, what my opportunities were, and what I was exposed to were ALL controlled by God. This was so I and EVERYONE else would have the very best OPPORTUNITY to make the right decision.

You Have A Perfect Opportunity

And those He predestined, He also called; those He called, He also justified; those He justified, He also glorified (Rom 8:30). Jesus, show me that God knows who is going to spend eternity with Him and who isn't. But, He still made sure I and EVERYONE else got the very best opportunity to spend eternity with Him. When I stand before You as my Judge, I won't be able to accuse You of any wrong doing, neglect, or a lack of provisions. I will see that You did a perfect job of making sure I had a clear path into the very best of God and His provisions. Teach me that from now on, it will all depend on whether or not I ask You to help me with my DESIRE, my STUDY, my PRAYER, my BELIEVING, my LOVE, and my FAITH-ACTION.

Textbook Chapter Ten
How To Live The Power Life
Week Two Day Five

Getting Convinced That Your Father, Jesus, And The Spirit Are For You

Seven Questions For You To Answer

Confession And Believing

QUESTION ONE: **Rom 8:31a (NIV) What, then, shall we say in response to this?** It is vital that you allow these seven questions to produce a complete and total faith in God. As you answer each question, it must be a confession with your mouth that you accept the truth of the question. And then, believe in your heart that the answer to that question is something that is true of you. Will you answer this and the rest of the questions from what you know and believe? Will you open your mouth and give the answer is being the truth straight from God? Will you confess with your mouth that you know these questions are representing the truth? **What, then, shall** YOU **say in response to this?**

Is God For You?

QUESTION TWO: Rom 8:31b (NIV) If God is for us, who can be against us? What is your response to the "if" in this question? Are you ready to accept your responsibility to make it into a "SINCE?" Are you ready to say with your mouth, SINCE **God is for us, who can be against us?** NOW, are you ready to answer the question with your mouth and believe it in your heart? Are you ready to read this over and over again and pray that it will take a complete hold on your mind and heart? Are you willing to allow God to convince you that SINCE He is for you, NO ONE AND NOTHING can be against you? Is that what your mouth is saying all day long, moment by moment and issue by issue. If it isn't then you will need to pray and ask Jesus to help you talk this way and believe this way all day long.

How Can God Prove To You That He Loves You?

QUESTION THREE: **Rom 8:32 (NIV) He Who did NOT spare His own Son, but gave Him up FOR US ALL--<u>how will He not</u> also, along with Him, graciously give us all things?** Are you ready to accept the fact that since God **did not spare His own Son, but gave Him up for us all,** He isn't going to withhold anything good from you? Can you see that Jesus dying in your place proves a lot about Jesus and your heavenly Father's love? Are you ready to be convinced that if it is something good for you and those around you, God will **graciously give** you **all things?** Are you ready to live based on this truth so that it changes the way you think and feel all day long?

Are You Ready To Be Criticized?
QUESTION FOUR: **Rom 8:33 (NIV) Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? <u>It is God Who justifies</u>.** Are you ready to only listen to the corrections, instructions, rebukes, disciplines, and charges that God makes? Are you ready to take all complements, criticisms, instructions, and opinions of others to God for His evaluation? Are you ready to base the decisions of your life, all day long, on what God approves of? If someone's charges are threatening your job, your relationships, your wellbeing, or your evaluation of yourself, will you only go with God's evaluation of you?

Who Decides Whether Or Not You Are A Christian?
QUESTION FIVE: **Rom 8:34 (NIV) Who is he that condemns? Christ Jesus, Who died--more than that, Who was raised to life--is at the right hand of God <u>and is also interceding for us</u>.** Do you want to remain a Christian? Have you done something that seems to indicate that you have caused yourself to lose your salvation? Do you want to lose your salvation? Are you ready to accept the fact that you have to WANT to be separated from God in order to lose your relationship? No matter how much you have messed up, are you willing to go to Jesus and ask Him to bring you before God. Will you ask Him to intercede for you and get His forgiveness? Are you willing to repent (make a U-turn mentally and physically) and ask Jesus for His power to get you headed in the right direction?

WHO Shall Separate You?
QUESTION SIX: **Rom 8:35a (NIV) Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?** Are you willing to pray and ask Jesus to help you resist any criticism, persecution, isolation, or abuse anyone or group brings against you? People have to try to convince you; Satan has to try to tempt you; they can even try to force you; but, you have to give into them. You decide whether their efforts will be yielded to by you. Are you willing to keep your eyes on Jesus to help you be able to handle all satanic and human efforts to make you give up on Jesus?

WHAT Shall Separate You?
QUESTION SEVEN: **Rom 8:35b (NIV) Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword?** Are you willing to reject any notion that the reason you are going through all of the bad circumstances is because God is failing, neglecting, abusing, or ignoring you? Are you willing to ask Jesus to help you through hardships, so you can come out of them with a greater faith in God and His love? Are you willing to refuse to believe that you have done something that has caused God to reject you and turn you over to all these hardships? Are you willing to believe that these things would have happened to you anyway; you just had to decide whether you were going to go through them with Jesus or without Him?

It's Time To Be Convinced And Victorious

There Are A Lot Of Ways To Die

Rom 8:36 (NIV) As it is written: "For Your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered." You could have died from cold, heat, drowning, poison, stabbing, being shot, falling, being suffocated, bitten by a snake or spider, attacked by a vicious animal, had a wreck in a vehicle, had something fall on you, got some deadly disease, and a multitude of other things. You could have died in your mother's womb, died on the way down the birth canal, or died right after birth; but, you didn't. How have you lived so long since there are so many ways you could have died? The answer is, God!

The thing we have to always consider is, if God hadn't protected us for all these years, surely something would have killed us by now. Plus, we wouldn't even be here if it weren't for God causing us to exist. Only God can take such a vulnerable being who is surrounded by so many deadly dangers and keep them alive. It is important for us to realize it hasn't been luck, karma, fate, or our good fortune that we RANDOMLY HAPPENED to escape all these dangers. God has kept you alive so as to give you TIME to become one of His children. Now it is time for you to show your appreciation and learn how to grow up and be a mature child of God. Let's take a look at the new you!

Here Is The New You With Jesus

Rom 8:37 (NIV) No, <u>in all these things</u> we are MORE than conquerors <u>through Him</u> Who loved us. You have been a very limited, vulnerable, endangered human that lacked ALL supernatural abilities all your life. Then in a moment of time you prayed Matthew 6:9-13 and obeyed Romans 10:8-10 and BECAME a CHILD OF GOD! BUT, you were a NEW born again child of God. You have all the equipment; it is just small, untrained, unskilled, and inexperienced. However, with all those lacks, you ARE a CHILD OF GOD. You ARE no longer JUST a human; you became a being who has the genetics of God flowing in and through your spirit. NOW, YOU **ARE MORE than conquerors <u>through Him</u> Who loved** you. That is what all these studies are all about; Jesus wants to use them to help you take advantage of who you have become.

It Is Time For You To Be Convinced

Rom 8:38-39 (NIV) FOR I AM CONVINCED that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, <u>will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord</u>. Up until now, you have been only led into confessing with your mouth and believing in your heart each thing you encounter in the Bible. We will gradually introduce you into Six Biblical Principles that expand your confession with your mouth and belief in your heart. Let's take a quick look at them; but, don't try to change into them. Keep using your mouth and heart as your main approach to the Bible.

How do you get CONVINCED? You must DESIRE to be convinced; you must keep on STUDYING on how to be convinced; you must PRAY and ask Jesus to empower you to be convinced; you must ask Jesus to give you His faith so you can BELIEVE He has MADE you convinced; you must LOVE others enough that you want them to be convinced as well; and, you must take FAITH-ACTION on the basis of the fact that Jesus has made you to be convinced. These SIX things will take you from where you are in the spirit realm to where you need to go. BUT, you will be led into these six things automatically as Jesus takes you through these studies.

Workbook Chapter Ten
How To Live The Power Life

Getting Convinced That Your Father, Jesus, And The Spirit Are For You

Seven Questions For You To Answer

Will You Confess And Believe?

QUESTION ONE: **Rom 8:31a (NIV) What, then, shall we say in response to this?** Jesus, help me allow these seven questions to produce a complete and total faith in God. As I answer each question, help it be a confession with my mouth that I accept the truth of the question. And then, help me believe in my heart that the answer to that question is something that is true of me. Empower me to answer this and the rest of the questions from what I know and believe. Help me open my mouth and give the answer as being the truth straight from God. Help me confess with my mouth that I know these questions are representing the truth. **What, then, shall** I **say in response to this?** Help ME say and believe Your truths **in response to this.**

Is God For You?

QUESTION TWO: Rom 8:31b (NIV) If God is for us, who can be against us? Jesus, empower my **response to this** "if," in this question, by accepting my responsibility and making it into a "SINCE." I now use Your power and say with my mouth and believe in my heart that, "SINCE **God is for** me**, who can be against** me**?"** I am now ready to answer the question with my mouth and believe it in my heart. I am now ready to read this over and over again and pray that it will take a complete hold on my mind and heart. I am now willing to allow God to convince me that SINCE He is for me, NO ONE AND NOTHING can be against me. Help that be what my mouth is saying and my heart is believing <u>all day long, moment by moment and issue by issue</u>. I ask You to help me to talk this way and believe this way all day long.

How Can God Prove To You That He Loves You?

QUESTION THREE: **Rom 8:32 (NIV) He Who did NOT spare His own Son, but gave Him up FOR US ALL--<u>how will He not</u> also, along with Him, graciously give us all things?** Jesus, help me be ready to accept the fact that since God **did not spare** You, **His own Son, but gave** You **up for** me, He isn't going to withhold anything good from me. Help me see that You dying in my place proves a lot about You and my heavenly Father's love. Make me ready to be convinced that if it is something good for me and those around me, God will **graciously give** me **all things.** Make me ready to live moment by moment and issue by issue based on this truth so that it changes the way I think and feel all day long.

Are You Ready To Be Criticized?

QUESTION FOUR: **Rom 8:33 (NIV) Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? <u>It is God Who justifies</u>.** Jesus, make me ready to only listen to the corrections, instructions, rebukes, disciplines, and charges that God makes. Make me ready to take all complements, criticisms, instructions, and opinions of others to God for His evaluation. Make me ready to base the decisions of my life, all day long, on what God approves of. If someone's charges are threatening my job, my relationships, my wellbeing, or my evaluation of myself, help me only go with God's evaluation of me.

Who Decides Whether Or Not You Are A Christian?

QUESTION FIVE: **Rom 8:34 (NIV) Who is he that condemns? Christ Jesus, Who died--more than that, Who was raised to life--is at the right hand of God <u>and is also interceding for us</u>.** Jesus, **who is he that condemns** me**?** You, **Christ Jesus, Who died** for me**--more than that, Who was raised to life** for me--are **at the right hand of God <u>and</u>** are **<u>also interceding for</u>** <u>me</u> **(Rom 8:34).**

Jesus, teach me that as long as I want to remain a Christian, no one and nothing can take it away from me. Even if I have done something that seems to indicate that I have caused myself to lose my salvation, help me decide whether I WANT to lose my salvation. Help me accept the fact that I have to WANT to be separated from God in order to lose my relationship. No matter how much I have messed up, keep me willing to go to You and ask You to bring me before God. Help me ask You to intercede for me and get His forgiveness for me. Help me be willing to repent (make a U-turn both mentally and physically) and ask You for Your power to get me headed in the right direction.

WHO Shall Separate You?

QUESTION SIX: **Rom 8:35a (NIV) Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?** Jesus, help me be willing to pray and ask You to empower me to resist any criticism, persecution, isolation, or abuse anyone or group brings against me. Show me that people have to try to convince me; teach me that Satan has to try to tempt me; they can even try to force me; but, I have to give into them; help me never give in. I am the one who decides whether their efforts will be yielded to by me. Help me be willing to keep my eyes on You to assist me in being able to handle all satanic and human efforts to make me give up on You.

WHAT Shall Separate You?

QUESTION SEVEN: **Rom 8:35b (NIV) Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword?** Jesus, help me reject any notion that the reason I am going through all of the bad circumstances is because God is failing, neglecting, abusing, or ignoring me. Empower me to ask You to help me through hardships, so I can come out of them with a greater faith in God and His love. Empower me to refuse to believe that I have done something that has caused God to reject me and turn me over to all these hardships. Empower me to believe that these things would have happened to me anyway; I just had to decide whether I was going to go through them with You or without You.

It's Time To Be Convinced And Victorious

There Are A Lot Of Ways To Die

Rom 8:36 (NIV) As it is written: "For Your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered." Jesus, I **face death all day long;** I could have died from cold, heat, drowning, poison, stabbing, being shot, falling, being suffocated, being bitten by a snake or spider, being attacked by a vicious animal, had a wreck in a vehicle, had something fall on me, got some deadly disease, and a multitude of other things. I could have died in my mother's womb, died on the way down the birth canal, or died right after birth; but, I didn't. Teach me that I have lived so long even though there are so many ways I could have died, because of God!

Help me always consider that, if God hadn't protected me for all these years, surely something would have killed me by now. Plus, I wouldn't even be here if it weren't for God causing me to exist. Help me always know that only God can take such a vulnerable being like me, who is surrounded by so many deadly dangers, and keep me alive. Help me realize it hasn't been luck, karma, fate, or my good fortune that I RANDOMLY HAPPENED to escape all these dangers. Help me be convinced that God has kept me alive so as to give me TIME to become one of His children. Now it is time for me to show my appreciation and learn how to grow up and be a mature child of God.

Here Is The New You With Jesus

Rom 8:37 (NIV) No, <u>in all these things</u> we are MORE than conquerors <u>through Him</u> Who loved us. Jesus, I now confess with my mouth and believe in my heart that **in all these things** I am **MORE than a conqueror through** You **Who loved** me.

Jesus, teach me that I have been a very limited, vulnerable, endangered human that lacked ALL supernatural abilities all my life. Then in a moment of time, I prayed Matthew 6:9-13 and obeyed Romans 10:8-10 and BECAME a CHILD OF GOD! BUT, help me understand that I am a NEW born again child of God. I have all the equipment; it is just small, untrained, unskilled, and inexperienced. However, make it clear to me that with all those lacks, I AM a CHILD OF GOD. I AM no longer JUST a human; I became a being who has the genetics of God flowing in and through my spirit. NOW, I AM **MORE than conquerors <u>through Him</u> Who loved** ME. Show me that this is what all these studies are all about; You want to use them to help me take advantage of who I have become.

It Is Time For You To Be Convinced

Jesus, through Your power I now confess with my mouth and believe in my heart that **I AM CONVINCED that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, <u>will be able to separate</u>** me **<u>from the love of God that is in</u>** You, **<u>Christ Jesus</u>** my **<u>Lord</u> (Rom 8:38-39).**

Jesus, help me start adding additional principles to my confessing with my mouth and believing in my heart. Up until now, I have only been led into confessing with my mouth and believing in my heart each thing I encounter in the Bible. Help me gradually be introduced into Six Biblical Principles that expand my confession with my mouth and belief in my heart. As I take a quick look at them, help me not try to change into them on my own. Help me keep using my mouth and heart as my main approach to the Bible. Then show me how to work these six things into my confession and belief.

Jesus, teach me how to get CONVINCED. Teach me that I must DESIRE to be convinced; I must keep on STUDYING on how to be convinced; I must PRAY and ask You to empower me to be convinced; I must ask You to give me Your faith so I can BELIEVE You have MADE me convinced; I must LOVE others enough that I want them to be convinced as well; and, I must take FAITH-ACTION on the basis of the fact that You have made me to be convinced. Teach me how to let these SIX things take me from where I am and take me in the spirit realm where I need to go. Lead me into these six things automatically as You take me through these studies.