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Good News

Forgiveness and Eternal Life by God's Grace Through a Relationship With Jesus

Have you ever felt separated from God by guilt and shame? By something else?

God's Purpose: Peace and Eternal Life

Did you know that God loves you, and he created and designed us to be with him, and to be like him in our character? [1] God's character is actually where good comes from. [2] In fact, the English word "good" literally comes from the root word "God." Without God, we would not be able to know good. [3] He wants you to live in peace with him, in a faithful relationship, and receive eternal life. [4]

“Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,... “
- Romans 5:1 (NIV)

“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.”
- John 3:16 (NIV)

“For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”
- Romans 6:23 (NIV)

Our Problem: Sin and Separation

The problem is that though God created mankind, created us, in his image, and without sin, our first parents Adam and Eve sinned. [5] Sin distorts all things, and separates us from God's perfect standards. [6] Their sin, specifically Adam's sin, caused a separation between God and humanity, and has distorted our nature so that we now have a trait of sin that separates us from God as well as personal sin against God. [5,12]

Hidden

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Sin is a loan word from Latin. When the Bible was translated into English, the New Testament Greek word for sin (hamartia or ἁμαρτια), and Old Testament Hebrew word for sin (chtae [chata'ah] or חטאה), were both captured by the concept of the word sin. You see, sin is an archery term. You either hit the target, or if the arrow goes off course just a little, it misses the mark. It sins. When we sin, we miss the mark of God's character, of how he created us to be, of fulfillment, of relationship with him. God is just, and there is no way for us to come back into relationship with God without justice being done. [7] The problem is that we are not in the situation to pay the exceeding debt, to provide for justice. [8] Some think that if they were just good in their actions, that would be good enough. But we were created to always be like God's character. [9] Your good acts are not enough. [10] God wants all of you, and wants all of you to be like him, and wants us to have life to the full. [11] Sin separates us from God - he can not be in the presence of sin. [6]

You see the dilemma? God loves you, but if we were to stand before his justice, we would be weighed and found lacking. [4,8] He would destroy us all, because the problem of sin is pervasive through all of humanity. [8] We are born with a sin trait that was never intended for us, and we also individually commit sin and therefore rebel against God. [12] The price of sin is death - not just earthly but eternally. [13] It separates us from God not just in this life, but sin will separate those who do not receive God's grace for all eternity - all eternity separated from God, his love, and his goodness. But, God has provided the only way of justice and payment for our inborn trait of sin as well as our personal sinful acts. God himself entered this world through his Word embodied in his only Son, Jesus Christ, the Messiah, the savior of the world. [14]

"... for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ..."
- Romans 3:23 (NIV)

"For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."
- Romans 6:23 (NIV)

"So the LORD God banished him from the Garden of Eden to work the ground from which he had been taken."
- Genesis 3:23 (NIV)

"But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear."
- Isaiah 59:2 (NIV)

The Solution: Jesus' Death On The Cross

Jesus Christ is the only answer to the problem of sin and separation from God. [15] There is no other answer. Jesus died on the cross and rose bodily from death, from the grave, to pay the penalty for our sin - completely bridging the gap between us and God. [16,14,15]

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Are you wondering how Jesus' death could bring us forgiveness from sin? God provided many pictures in the history of his people which displayed his intent to redeem those who would turn away from sin and place their trust and relationship in God through Jesus. One of those pictures, a promise that God himself would fulfill, was the sacrificial system. God instructed his people that when they sinned, they needed to sacrifice certain types of animals. This was because death was the penalty for sin, and something had to pay this penalty. The life of the animal which did not commit the sin was substituted for our sin and life. [17] But, as God points out through Paul in the New Testament book / letter of Hebrews, an animal can not pay for our sin; our sin debt needed to be paid for by a person. [18] But, only God is good enough to pay. God chose to enter this world by his Word, in Jesus, and willingly became our sacrifice. [19] God took on human form. [19] He subjugated himself to all the weaknesses of a human

being, to the nature of a human. [20] He was both a frail man able to fail in all the same ways we are, and yet was still fully God. [20] Jesus was tempted in all the ways we are. [20] But, Jesus was not born with our trait of sin, and he did not sin. [21,20] His love for us brought him to be tortured and put to death to redeem us; to redeem me, and to redeem you. As Paul says, "Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, though for a good man someone might possibly dare to die. But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." [22] The God who created the heavens and the earth, who is all powerful, who will not violate his character, provided the only way for us to be with him; for me and for you to be with him. He provided us his grace and mercy in Jesus. [23]

Ever try to be in a loving marriage with someone who is unfaithful? The pain is devastating, and the situation is perverted. [24] Well, it is the same with God. [25] He is not willing to have a relationship with us while we love and place other things or people above him. He wants a marriage with us that contains all our devotion, and for all eternity. [26] He wants our marriage with our spouse here on earth to be within the boundaries he establishes, to worship him with marriage, and to produce Godly offspring in marriage. [27] He wants us to have a full life by worshiping him in what we do in our lives, by loving others through loving him and having him give us his perfect love for others. [28] Yet, God is also forgiving as we move toward him. [29] He realizes that we are in process, as we move toward him bringing more of ourselves to him to be under his lordship. This is true of those who truly seek him with all their heart, seeking to have him change them from the inside out. [30] The Lord is not fooled when we choose to give him less than our devotion by carelessly or calculatingly holding onto sin while on the other hand paying lip service to God, to Jesus. [31] He is Lord. That is a scary word for those who have been abused by wrong uses of authority. But, it is quite a different thing when we submit to our creator who created us to be in harmony with himself. [1,9] It brings true fulfillment to life. [1,9,11]

"But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."
- Romans 5:8 (NIV)

"Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved."
- Acts 4:12 (NIV)

"For there is one God and one mediator [intercessor, go-between] between God and men [people, mankind], the man Christ Jesus,..."
- 1 Timothy 2:5 (NIV)

"I tell you the truth, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to life."
- John 5:24 (NIV)

Response: Believe In Jesus

Are you wondering how to receive this gift of God's eternal life and forgiveness? You must believe in Jesus. [32,15] Now, by belief the Bible means to trust in Jesus.

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The New Testament of the Bible was written in Greek, and the Greek word for belief is the same word as trust and faith (pisteuo – last letter is a long O or Omega; in Greek: πιστευω). It is the kind of belief that you live out in life. It means that you trust Jesus to save you from sin, and then apply his words to your life. It means that you turn away from areas of your past life that are against God's word. This is what the Bible calls repentance. Belief and trust in Jesus means that where you do sin, you continually turn back to God, in Jesus, and follow him. [33] The Bible says your works do not save you. [34,10] But, it does say that we are to trust Jesus. Trust is seen in a person's actions as well as their words. Our actions accompany a life of trust in Jesus. [35] Actions alone, without trust being present in a person's heart and motives, is not what God intends in us. A person who acknowledges God only in their words shows that they are not really loving God the way he should be loved - with true love - and that they are not putting their trust in Jesus. [36] The Bible calls this hypocrisy. [37] Hypocrisy is to pretend, or to be an actor, rather than being genuine. Think about it, what makes you trust a person? Isn't it when you see a person's actions and words being truthful? Isn't it that you see their words, actions, and honesty going together over the course of time? Isn't it when they have the same integrity in their words and actions whether they are around you, others, or when they are alone?

This commitment to God in Jesus is not some kind of a transaction. The promise of God maintains that we be in a trusting relationship with him, that we follow him, that we acknowledge his word as right - and ourselves and others as wrong when our lives and thoughts conflicts with God's word and instruction. [38] God said the secret to the Kingdom of God is to be the good seed, which stands for the person "with a noble and good heart, who hears the word [God's word to us in the Bible - specifically Jesus' word], retain[s] it, and by persevering produce[s] a crop". [39]

In short, a relationship with Jesus begins by acknowledging your sin (wrongs), repenting (turning around in life toward God in Jesus), and believing and trusting in Jesus by continually seeking out and applying his word in your life with love.

What if I mess up? God tells us to seek him. He will always forgive us if we sincerely turn back to him. [40] What amazing love. Yet, we must pursue him in a way that changes us from our sin. [41] If we do not change, we are asking God to allow us to kind of love him, but also love those things that are exactly against his character and love. It is a perversion for him to allow such a thing. [42] Love does not work that way. But, I have found that if we ask him for help, ask him to preserve us, and we make efforts to keep his word, even when our culture, friends, and family find fault with us as a result, that he is faithful to work inside of us - if we sincerely turn to him and applies his word in our lives. Sometimes quickly and other times over a period of time we are eventually able to root out, with God working in us, those things in us that stand against him. [43] I have found that following Jesus is normally a journey of making true efforts to apply his word above all, and his meeting my feeble attempts by his Holy Spirit and changing me. I find that he does not seem to change me though when I do not make efforts to follow him. The reality is that we must constantly seek him, and attempt to apply his word in our lives. It is a marriage to God, and we need to make a point of commitment of our life to God. [26]

How do I make this commitment? Through prayer, you can invite Jesus Christ to come in and take control of your life through the Holy Spirit. Also, God says in his word that baptism is a sign that we have committed ourselves to God in Jesus for our whole lives. [44] But, just like a marriage, there has to be more than a beginning point in committing to Jesus. Marriage must be cultivated, because it is a relationship. It is the same with our marriage to God, it must be cultivated by following him. That is the Good News. He has paid for us; for you and I. We must accept his way of salvation, of forgiveness, which is found in Jesus alone. You need to commit yourself to him. God will give you his spirit to work inside of you. [45] While God has provided salvation for those who trust in Jesus and his word, and while all authority has been given to Jesus, not everything has yet been submitted under that authority. [46] He is waiting to bring some from every ethnic group to himself. He is waiting for you. Once everything is submitted, we will not only have a deposit of God's spirit here, but we will have a face to face relationship with God for eternity. [47] The question is not whether a person will exist for eternity. The question is whether that person will receive God's mercy and forgiveness and relationship, or deny God's Word, Jesus, and be judged justly, found guilty, and condemned, punished, and ripped apart from God's goodness for all eternity. [48] God wants for us to come to him in Jesus, and find fulfillment in him in this life and through eternity. God loves us, and he wants us to experience his loving mercy, forgiveness, kindness, and relationship. [49]

"[Jesus said] Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me."
- John 14:1 (NIV)

"All the prophets testify about him [Jesus] that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his

name."
- Acts 10:43 (NIV)

"Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God - ..."
- John 1:12 (NIV)

"[Jesus said] Whoever has my commands and obeys them, he is the one who loves me. He who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love him and show myself to him.... Jesus replied, 'If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching. My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him.'"
- John 14:21, 23 (NIV)

"[Jesus said] Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. If anyone does not remain in me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned.... If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have obeyed my Father's commands and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete."
- John 15:4-6, 10-11 (NIV)

Praying To Receive Jesus

If you would like to pray and let God know that you are committing your life to him through Jesus:

Let him know that you need him and that you recognize that you, like the rest of us, are a sinner. Let him know that you are willing, and will try with his help, to turn from your sins and apply his word in your life. Let him know that you believe that he died for you on the cross to pay for your sins, in order to have a restored relationship with you. Let him know that you believe that he rose from the dead. Let him know that you want him to live inside of you and direct your life, and that you would like to receive him as your savior. If you are not sure what to pray, you can pray something similar to the following:

Dear God, Lord Jesus, I know that I am sinful and I need your forgiveness. I believe that you died to pay the penalty for my sin. I want to turn from my inborn sinful trait and from the sins that I have committed and follow you

instead. I invite you to come into my heart and life. In Jesus' name. Amen.

If you sincerely prayed this prayer and asked Jesus Christ to come into your life, the Bible says God received you and gave you the right to be born into his family. Jesus says that when a person comes to him, there is rejoicing in heaven (Luke 15:3-10). Heaven is rejoicing over of you. God will guide you by his word, the Bible, and by his Holy Spirit.

“As the Scripture says, 'Anyone who trusts in him will never be put to shame.'”
- Romans 10:11 (NIV)

“For, 'Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.'”
- Romans 10:13 (NIV)

“... neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”
- Romans 8:39 (NIV)

“He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life.”
- 1 John 5:12-13 (NIV)

“Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,...”
- Romans 5:1 (NIV)

Click Here For Helpful Steps To Beginning Your New Life In Jesus:

1. Begin to read the Bible and apply God's word to your life. If you get discouraged, remember that it is a process. It helps to choose a readable version. One thing to remember is that while the Bible has overarching themes of God’s plan, purpose, and his acting in lives and history; it is also an anthology of 66 books, written over thousands of years. This means that you don’t have to start at the beginning. Just so you know - very generally; the Old Testament was looking forward to the time when God would send the Messiah to save Israel and the world. The New Testament describes the fulfillment of this in Jesus. I have found that reading the fulfillment first in the New Testament and then going back and reading the Old Testament to fill in the details has been helpful in my life and enabled me to understand the Bible more clearly. If you want to know more about: Basic guidelines in finding a good Bible translation version,

manuscript history, studying the Bible, and about tools to help study the Bible click here

2. Pray to God in Jesus' name. Some suggestions are: Let him know what you are facing in your day and life. Although he already knows what is in your heart and mind, he wants to hear it from you. [50] Let him know of requests that you have in following him in the course of your day and life. Find things to be thankful for, and let him know of your thanksgiving. Ask him to show you what he is doing in your life that you do not recognize. Ask him to give you opportunities to be involved in letting others know about him from what you know of him. Ask him to work in you to help you follow him. Ask that he would meet your feeble efforts and change you so that you can follow and become like him. The possibilities are endless. He wants to be involved in your life and wants to know what really is in your heart and thoughts – because you choose to tell him.

3. Find a small group of others who are serious about reading the Bible together, following Jesus individually, and encouraging each other as a group to follow Jesus. You may find a small group Bible study at a local Evangelical (Bible believing) Christian church. If you are a university student, you might find a Bible study through campus ministries such as: Campus Crusade for Christ, Intervarsity Christian Fellowship, or Fellowship of Christian Athletes. If you are not sure of a good church in your area, see the list below, or feel free to contact us. We do not have knowledge in areas outside of our local area, but can let you know any recommendations that we may be able to give.

4. Find a local Bible believing Christian church that will help you follow Jesus. By church we mean it in its true sense from the New Testament Greek (the word ekklesia, Greek: εκκλησια [See Matthew 18:17, Acts 2:47, etc.]), an assembly of those called out - a group of people committed and bound together to follow Jesus. Many churches have a teaching service for general teaching, and classes that may help you with background knowledge.

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Biblical Christian Solutions in Government (BCSIG) is not endorsing, and is not necessarily recommending any of these denominations, individual churches within these denominations, and / or specific denominational beliefs. These denominations and individual churches may or may not reflect the views of Biblical Christian Solutions In Government (BCSIG) and may or may not coincide with a straightforward Biblical Christian worldview as revealed in God's Word – the Bible. These denominations may disagree with one another on certain doctrinal issues. There are individual churches within these denominations and movements that are faithful in following Jesus, and there are others which may not be. There are many evangelical denominations and Christian church movements that could be included on this list. Yet, we recognize the practical reality that finding a good church has to begin somewhere. We give the following list as a practical suggestion in helping you find a Bible believing church. Each of these denominations and Christian church movements have a list of associated churches in your area:

Calvary Chapel
Christian and Missionary Alliance
Orthodox Presbyterian Church
Southern Baptist Convention

We do recommend that you look for a church that:

1. *Encourages* you individually, as well as the church as a whole, to follow Jesus, from the Bible.

2. You notice both the Leadership and the people in the church are striving to *follow* God, in Jesus, from the Bible.

3. *The church appeals to the Bible as the ultimate authority* in their teaching, practice and encouragement – rather than a person's opinion or denominational doctrine as the authority.

   Note: Doctrine [teaching or a systematic understanding that arrives at a position] can be helpful in understanding important teachings in the Bible, when it is founded on the authority and teaching in the Bible. When doctrinal positions are honest, they do not emphasize certain portions of scripture and then conveniently leave other portions in obscurity. They are lacking when they do not take the whole counsel of God's word - the Bible - into account. They are honest when supported by clear support in the context of a plain reading of the Bible, rather than having their fundamental support more from other doctrinal positions. These are areas that doctrinal positions can go astray, and actually become unhelpful in discerning God's truth. If a church places any person, society, teaching or revelation above the Bible as the authority, we recommend that you find a different church. That church is not being faithful to God and his word in the Bible as the source of authority.

4. Has a *small group that you can get into that studies the actual Bible and encourages you to read and apply God's word from the Bible* in your own life. I have found that Small groups are where more meaningful relationships in a church form.

5. The New Testament points out that Baptism is a symbol of commitment to Jesus. Jesus acknowledged that his disciples should be baptized. As God said through Peter, in the New Testament, it is a pledge of good conscience toward God (1 Peter 3:21). It symbolizes, among other things, that just as Jesus died, was buried, and was raised from the dead, so we too acknowledge that we place our hope in Jesus' words that he has the power of life and in his promise that he will rise us from the dead just as he was raised from the dead.

6. It may be helpful to find someone in your Bible study or church that could be, or has become, helpful in following Jesus. See if this person may be willing to mentor you, or meet with you in order to encourage one another to follow Jesus. To be on the safe side, this should probably be someone of the same sex, or a married couple.

Credit: The basic structure of this page is adapted from the pamphlet *Steps to Peace with God* by Billy Graham – published by the American Tract Society

End Notes - References

Num	Notes and Bible References
1	See: John 3:16, Ephesians 4:24
2	See: Mark 10:18, Deuteronomy 32:4, Psalm 18:30
3	See: Deuteronomy 12:28, 1 Chronicles 16:34
4	See: Deuteronomy 23:5, John 3:16-17, Luke 5:32, John 6:29, 1 Timothy 2:4
5	See: Genesis 1-3, Romans 5:14, 1 Corinthians 15:22, 1 Corinthians 15:45
6	See: Ezekiel 14:6-8, Ezekiel 18, Matthew 13:41-43, John 8:24, John 8:34, 1 John 3:8, Romans 3:23, Romans 5:12-14
7	See: Leviticus 17:11, Leviticus 16:34, Hebrews 9:22, Romans 3:25-26, 1 John 2:2
8	See: John 8:24, Isaiah 64:6, Romans 3:23, Jeremiah 31:30, Isaiah 43:25-27
9	See: Genesis 1:27, Ephesians 4:24, Ephesians 2:10
10	See: Isaiah 64:6, John 14:6, John 9:35-41, Luke 18:9-14, Galatians 2:16
11	See: Deuteronomy 6:5, Matthew 22:36-40, Romans 13:8-14, John 10:10
12	See: Psalm 51:5, Romans 3:23, Ephesians 2:8, Isaiah 43:25-27, Ezekiel 18
13	See: Genesis 2:16-17 and Genesis 3:22-23, Deuteronomy 24:16, Ezekiel 18, Psalm 49:7-9, John 5:24, John 6:29, Romans 5:12, 1 Corinthians 15:56
14	See: John 1:1-18, Romans 3:19-26, Isaiah 52:13-53:12, Isaiah 9:6-7, Romans 6:23, Genesis 3:15, Deuteronomy 18:15-19, Luke 24:44-47
15	See: John 14:6, John 11:25-26, Acts 4:8-12, 2 Corinthians 5:21, Psalm 49:7-9, Psalm 89:48
16	See: Romans 3:19-26, Isaiah 52:13-53:12, Matthew 26:47-28:20, Mark 14-16, Luke 22-24, John 18-21
17	See: Leviticus chapters 1-7 (For Sacrifice System, see Leviticus 1, 4:1-6:13, 6:24-7:10 for Burt, Sin, and Guilt offerings), Leviticus chapter 16 (Day of Atonement [payment, satisfaction]), Hebrews

Num	Notes and Bible References
	9:11-10:31 (Jesus as fulfillment of Sacrifice system and the one securing forgiveness and justice which the whole system both past and present rested upon [Romans 3:25-26]).
18	See: Hebrews 10:4
19	See: Matthew 1:21-23, John 10:25-33, John 14:6-10, Philippians 2:6-7, Colossians 1:15-20, 2 Corinthians 4:4, Hebrews 1:3
20	See: Philippians 2:6-11, Hebrews 2:18, Hebrews 4:14-15, Matthew 4:1-11
21	See: John 8:46, Hebrews 4:14-15, Matthew 1:21-23
22	See: Romans 5:7-8
23	See: Ephesians 2:8-9
24	See: Ezekiel chapter 16 to see a glimpse of how God feels when we are unfaithful and the perversion it causes.
25	See: Exodus 20:5, Deuteronomy 4:24, Deuteronomy 32:16 (For God's jealousy for us), See 2 Corinthians 12:20, Galatians 5:20-26, James 3:16 (For a warning of how our jealousy can produce in us things that are not like God or his jealousy and bring us to be destructive to God and others)
26	See: Isaiah 54:5, Jeremiah 3:14, Hosea 2:18-20, Mark 2:19, John 17:20-23, Ephesians 5:22-33 (especially verse 32), 2 Corinthians 11:2, Revelation 19:19
27	See: Genesis 1:27-28, Genesis 2:20-24, Malachi 2:13-16, Matthew 19:1-12, Hebrews 13:4, 1 Peter 3:1-7
28	See: Exodus 20:3-6, Exodus 34:14, Deuteronomy 6:5, Psalm 22:27, Matthew 4:10, Matthew 14:33, Matthew 15:3-9, John 10:10
29	See: Numbers 14:19-20, Psalm 130, Jeremiah 36:3, Matthew 26:28, Luke 17:3, Luke 24:47, John 15:1-17, Acts 2:38, Acts 10:43, Ephesians 1:7, Colossians 1:10-14
30	See: Leviticus 19:31, Deuteronomy 4:29, Matthew 22:36-40, Luke 19:10, John 5:44, Acts 15:17
31	See: Isaiah 59:1-4, Isaiah 29:13-16, Matthew 15:3-9
32	See: John 3:16, John 14:6, Acts 4:8-12, Romans 3:19-26, Romans 10:8-11, Isaiah 26:16, Mark 1:15, John 1:12
33	See: John 5:14-15, Mark 1:15, Luke 5:32, Luke 13:3-5, Acts 3:19, Psalm 51:17, Isaiah 30:15, Ezekiel 18:32, Matthew 3:2-8,

Num	Notes and Bible References
	Matthew 11:20, Luke 24:47, John 14:15-17, John 15:6
34	See: Isaiah 64:6, Romans 3:20, Ephesians 2:8-10
35	See: John 14:15-24, John 15:1-12, James 2:14-26, Luke 9:23, Luke 11:28, Luke 13:24, Galatians 5:6, Philippians 2:1-13, Hebrews 11, Hebrews 12:14, James 1:22, 1 Peter 4:17-19, 2 Peter 3:11-12, Psalm 28:7, Isaiah 26:16, Romans 10:11
36	See: John 14:15-24, 1 John 3:11-18, 1 John 5:2-3, Deuteronomy 6:5, 1 Corinthians 13
37	See: Matthew 23:28, Luke 12:1, Romans 12:9, 1 Peter 2:1, Matthew 23:1-3, Luke 6:43-49
38	See: Hebrews 12:14, Galatians 5:19-26, Ephesians 5:1-7, Luke 9:23-26, Luke ll:28, Luke 13:5,23-30, Matthew 5:8, Mark 8:38, Matthew 15:17-20, Romans 13:8-14
39	See: Luke 8:10-15. Also recorded in Mark 4:10-20, or Matthew 13:11-23
40	See: 1 John 1:9-2:2, Psalm 32:5, Romans 8:28-39, Psalm 51
41	See: Galatians 5:19-26, Ephesians 5:1-7, 1 Thessalonians 4:3-8, 1 Corinthians 6:9-20, Romans 11:1-24, Colossians 3:1-4:6, Revelation 21:7-8, Hebrews 10:19-39
42	See: Revelation 3:14-16
43	See: Proverbs 1:7, Proverbs 1:23-33, Proverbs 2:7-11, Prov 3:3-7, Prov 4:20-27 (Especially verse 23), John 14:23-27, Psalm 18:6, 1 Corinthians 10:13, 2 Corinthians 12:9 (Note: 2 Corinthians 12:9 has been especially helpful to me in realizing that I am weak. Once I acknowledge that I am weak, I know what boundaries to place around me to keep me from sin, rather than being dishonest with myself about my limitations. Freedom is not being free to do whatever we want, it is being free from oppression, sin, and their effects. God's limitations provide true freedom.)
44	See: Matthew 28:18-20, Acts 2:38, Matthew 3:11, John 1:33, John 4:1-2, Acts 8:12, Romans 6:3-4, 1 Corinthians 12:13, 1 Peter 3:18-22, 1 Corinthians 1:13-17
45	See: John 14:23-27
46	See: Matthew 28:18, 1 Corinthians 15:24-28,

Num	Notes and Bible References
	Ephesians 1:18-23, Psalm 110:1, Psalm 8:6, Matthew 22:43-45
47	See: 2 Corinthians 1:21, 2 Corinthians 5:1-10, 1 Corinthians 13:9-12, Ephesians 4:30, Romans 8:23-27, Romans 8:11-15, John 17:14-24, 1 Corinthians 15:42-44, Hebrews 9:28
48	See: Matthew 16:27, Romans 2:6-11, Matthew 13:36-43, John 6:40, Ephesians 2:6, Matthew 18:8, Matthew 23:33, Mark 9:43, 2 Thessalonians 1:9, Hebrews 6:2, Jude 1:7, Revelation 14:10-11, Revelation 20:10 and Revelation 21:6-8
49	See: Luke 19:10, 1 Timothy 2:4, John 3:16-17, John 12:32, John 17:26, 1 John 4:10
50	See: Matthew 6:8, John 16:30

Back to top