

## Session One: A Biblical Introduction to Freedom

#### Introduction

Freedom is experienced in our lives when we are dependent on Jesus Christ. We are free to thrive when we understand and accept God's definition of freedom. This definition positions us to live a life of surrender and dependence on Jesus Christ.

### Freedom defined: World's definition vs. God's definition

- **1.** World's definition: (Independence)
  - a. Thinking that I experience freedom when I am able to do what I want to do, when I want to do it, and have the resources available to make things happen in my life
- **2.** God's definition: (Dependence)
  - a. According to the Bible, freedom has nothing to do with earthly things. The Bible teaches that freedom is found in Jesus Christ. In fact, for the believer, freedom is living a life of total abandon to Jesus Christ.

Freedom Barrier: Fear stands in the way of women experiencing God's freedom.

Causes: relational problems, health problems, financial problems, work issues, church issues, social issues, loneliness, hopelessness, fatigue, and loss

Effect: Fear keeps women bound up and focusing on the things of this world rather than focusing on the sufficiency of Christ.

Symptoms: depression, anxiety, lack of trust, loss of appetite, unrest, missed opportunities, assumption of worst case scenario, low levels of trust with God and others.`

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Dealing with fear in our lives: 3 Truths from God's Word: Psalm 91:1-16.

- 1. Dwelling produces rest. (vs. 1)
  - a. To dwell means to live, to inhabit, or to sit
  - b. Shelter: The relational space in our lives that was created by God and for God.
  - c. Rest: peace of mind and spirit
  - d. Preach Psalm 91:2 to yourself daily. "God is my refuge, my fortress, the one I trust!"
  - e. Application: Daily sit at the feet of Jesus
- 2. Safety flows from His faithfulness. (vs. 4)
  - a. Faithfulness: Principal Hebrew word to signify truth
  - b. Shield: Provides protection from a specific incoming danger
  - c. Rampart: (Watch Tower) Provides oversight to the overall events taking place in an area. Protects from a general danger that might affect a group of people.
  - d. John 17:17, "Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth."
    - i. Sanctification: Becoming more like Jesus and less like this world
  - e. Application: Saturate your heart and mind with God's word. Claim a passage of scripture that speaks to the issue of fear in your life. Memorize it and ask the Spirit of God to use the passage of scripture in your life.
- 3. Loneliness is never an option. (vs 14-16)
  - a. Often fear makes its way into our lives because we think that we are alone. As a believer in Jesus Christ, we are never alone!
    - i. I will rescue him!
    - ii. I will protect him!
    - iii. I will answer him!
    - iv. I will be with him in trouble!
    - v. I will deliver him!
    - vi. I will honor him!



- vii. I will satisfy him!
- viii. I will show him My salvation!
- b. Application: Look for ways that God shows up and surprises you during your week. Journal your experiences and know that nothing is an accident or a coincidence.
- 4. Conclusion

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Session Two: A Serious View of Sin

Introduction

We are free to thrive when we are liberated from the effect of sin and self so that we can live the life of abundance that God created us to live.

Freedom defined: World's definition vs. God's definition

1. World's definition: (Independence) Thinking that I experience freedom when I am able to do what I want to do, when I want to do it, and have the resources available to make things happen.

2. God's definition: (Dependence) According to the Bible, freedom has nothing to do with earthly things. The Bible teaches that freedom is found in Jesus Christ. In fact, for the believer, freedom is living a life of total abandon to Jesus Christ.

Barrier to Freedom: Sin creates a barrier between God and man. Therefore, sin is serious.

Causes: sin is any wrong thought, action, or reaction.

Effect: For the unbeliever, sin separates that person from God and destines the person to spend all of eternity paying their costly sin debt. For the believer, sin breaks fellowship with God.

### How to deal with sin in your life:

- 1. Confess the sin in your life: "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness." 1 John 1:9
  - a. Confess: to agree, to consent, to admit, to tell, or to acknowledge.
  - b. Example: I hit my brother.
- 2. Repent from the sin in your life: Acts 3:19, "Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord..." Acts 3:19
  - a. Repent: To repent means to undergo a moral reorientation. When we repent we acknowledge the error in our ways and turn towards God's way of truth and righteousness. Repentance is much more than sentiment—it is a change that occurs in the heart and mind.
  - b. Example: I hit my brother, and I will not do it again.
- 3. Change the way you view the sin in your life--- renewing the mind. "Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, then you will be able to test and approve God's will--- his good, pleasing, and perfect will."

  Romans 12:2
  - a. Renewing: renewal, renovation, rejuvenation, to make like new, or to get a fresh start.
  - b. Example: I hit my brother, and I will not do it again. Instead, I am going to love my brother.

Barrier to Freedom: The past can inhibit women from experiencing God's freedom.

Causes: Past mistakes, abuses, secrets, unresolved hurt or pain

Effect: Unresolved issues from the past will control us. If not addressed, issues from our past will influence the way that we think, act, interact, respond, feel, and live.

How to deal with a troubled Past: Know God's Word and

Believe It!

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation, the old has gone, the new has come!" 2

Corinthians 5:17

"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 from the law of sin and death." Romans 8:1

"This then is how we know that we belong to the truth, and how we set our hearts at rest in his

presence whenever our hearts condemn us. For God is greater than our hearts, and he knows

everything." 1 John 3:19-20

Application: Live your life the same way you read a good book. Do whatever it takes to

get to the point where you can "turn the page" on the repeated sin and painful event from your

past.

Pray this prayer, "Lord, shine your bright light into every dark corner of my soul."

• If you need to confess something, confess it.

• If you need to make restitution, make restitution.

• If you need to ask forgiveness, ask forgiveness.

• If you need to accept responsibility, accept responsibility.

If you need to let something go, let it go.

• If you need to get help, get help.

• If you need to share a secret from your past with a trusted friend, share it.

Conclusion:



# Session Three: A Proper View of God's Word

#### Introduction

Freedom is experienced in our lives when we know and embrace God's word and base our lives on the teachings found in the Bible. God's word defines freedom and instructs us on how to live in freedom. As a result we should know the truth, live the truth, and share the truth of God's word.

Jesus: The Word became flesh and dwelt among us.

How can we know the truth, live the truth, and share the truth in our lives?

We can learn practical ways by examining the Bible and observing ways that the early followers responded to Jesus.

"The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth." John 1:14

- 1. Mary of Bethany responded to Jesus in different seasons of life:
  - a. Freedom in the midst of busyness: Luke 10:38-42
    - i. Mary sat: This word carries a sense of action.
    - ii. Mary listened: Means to hear with attention, to embrace, to receive, or to accept what is being said.

Application from Luke 10:38-42: Add sitting at the feet of Jesus to your "to do" list. As you sit at the feet of Jesus, incline your ear to Him. He will teach you even during the busy seasons of life!

- b. Freedom in the midst of pain: John 11:17-45
  - i. Mary allowed her relationship with Jesus to impact her inside of her home.
  - Mary responded to Jesus.
  - iii. Mary recognized Jesus' authority.
  - iv. Mary participated in setting other captives free.



Application from John 11:17-45: Our relationship with Jesus should impact the way we live inside our homes. We need to move past emotion and embrace a diligent walk with Jesus. When Jesus' Word calls us to action, we need to quickly obey as we follow hard after Jesus.

- Utilize God's Word to establish His authority over your life.
  - Creator/creation
  - Master/servant
  - Potter/clay
  - Vine/branch
  - Savior/sinner
  - Teacher/student
- Utilize God's word as a weapon for healing, hope, and restoration in your life as well as in the lives of others.
  - c. Freedom in the midst of criticism by others: Matthew 26:6-13
    - Mary focused on Jesus instead of the criticism around her. She lived in the faith zone instead of the fear zone.
    - ii. Mary lived a life that led to a long-term spiritual legacy. This occurred the moment that Mary's story became a part of God's story.

Application from Matthew 26:6-13: Stay focused on Jesus even when others do not understand the call on your life.

- Invite God to fight the hard battles for you.
- Respond to the call of God in your life as you refuse to live in the fear zone. Daily
  make the choice to live in the faith zone.
- Move past a glance and embrace a gaze at God and His Word.
  - o Glance: to take a quick look or refer to something briefly or indirectly.
  - Gaze: fixing your eyes in a steady intent, to look often with eagerness and studious attention.

Conclusion.

Session Four:



### The Benefit of Right Theology

### Introduction

God's word teaches that God is our Creator, Sustainer, Provider, and Protector. Knowing God in these ways allows us to experience freedom no matter what is going on in us or around us. The outcome? We live a life based on truth instead of on our ever-changing emotions.

### Knowing God based on four important theological truths:

- 1. God is our Awesome Creator.
  - a. God is the Creator: "The Lord God formed the man from the dust of the ground and breathed into His nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being." Genesis 2:7
  - b. We are the creation: "As a father has compassion on his children, so the Lord has compassion on those who fear him; for he knows how we are formed, he remembers that we are dust." Psalm 103:13-14

Key Verse: "Be still and know that I am God." Psalm 46:10

Key Thought: God created you and gave you life. Your life is NOT an accident.

2. God is our Powerful Sustainer.

Key Verse: "I lie down and sleep; I wake again, because the Lord sustains me. I will not fear the tens of thousands drawn up against me on every side." Psalm 3:5-6

Key Thought: God takes care of you.

- a. Background to Passage: 2 Samuel 15-1
- b. Absalom Tricked David:
- c. David Responded:
- d. Absalom Pursued David:
- e. David's Situation:
- f. The Rest of the Story:
- 3. God is our Plentiful Provider.

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Key Verse: "The Lord answered Moses, 'Is the Lord's arm too short? You will now see whether

or not what I say will come true for you." Numbers 11:23

Key Thought: God gives us everything that we need.

Background to Numbers 11:23:

• The Children of Israel are on their way to the Promised Land.

God provided the Nation with manna to eat and water to drink.

• The Children grew tired of the manna; they wanted meat!

Moses turned to the Lord in frustration: Numbers 11:10-15

• God's responded: Numbers 11:18-22

God stated His ability to provide in a question: "Is the Lord's arm to

short?"

• The Outcome: Numbers 11:31-32

Three Important Points:

God's ability to provide always surpasses any and every need in our lives.

• We need to trust God and know that He knows the difference between a need and a

want in our lives. We need to thank God for the manna and humbly ask God to provide

the meat.

4. God is our Passionate Protector.

Key Verse: "The Lord will fulfill his purposes for me; your love, O Lord, endures forever--- do not

abandon the works of your hand." Psalm 138:8

Key Thought: God knows the number of days we will spend on this earth and everything that will

happen to us while on earth.

Think about this: God has been protecting our lives since the moment we were conceived.

Psalm 139:13 & 16, "For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's

womb... All the days ordained for me were written before one of them came to be."

Ephesians 2:10, "For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works,

which God prepared in advance for us to do."

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#### B. What can we learn from this truth:

- We do not have to make things happen in our lives. Instead, we simply need to surrender to the plan God.
- The cross of Christ provides a way for us to know God in a real, personal way. "But God demonstrated his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." Romans 5:8

## Application and Conclusion:

In response to these four truths, we can shout, "What can man or this life do to me?" The answer: Absolutely NOTHING!

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Session Five: A God-Size Resolve

#### Introduction

In order to live in the freedom that Christ provides, we must willingly fight a constant fight. We must engage in spiritual battle to the point where victory is ours in Jesus Christ. We have two obstacles: our flesh and the devil. The best way to fight a constant fight is to demonstrate a God-sized resolve. We do this by living a consistent life that is disciplined, focused, and faithful.

## The Call to Fight:

Key Verse: "Put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything to stand. Stand firm..." Ephesians 6:13-14

- Our Responsibility: Put On...
- Our Resource Supply: ...the full armor of God...
- Our Reality: ... so that when the day of evil comes...
- Our Resolve: ... you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything to stand. Stand firm... (again, and again, and again!)

## Ten Ways to Develop a God-sized Resolve:

1. Have a consistent quiet time: It is crucial for us to interact daily with the Bible. Not only should we read the Bible, we should allow the Bible to impact the way we live. This means that the Bible should shape the way that we think, act, react, make decisions, and set priorities. Tip: Pick a physical location that is free from distractions, pick a time of day that works best for you, pick a tool that you will use in addition to your Bible, and pick a pattern that will tell you how often you will have a quiet time. Having a plan and sticking to the plan will help you have a consistent quiet time. If you are just beginning, use the

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- 1-1-1 plan. Pick one book of the Bible, read one chapter a day, and claim one verse of scripture.
- 2. Memorize Scripture: Obeying God's Word keeps us from making mistakes, and it provides a solid roadmap for us to follow. When God's Word is in our hearts, we have access to it 24/7. Tip: Pick a verse of scripture, write it on a notecard, and carry it with you everywhere you go. Look for the empty two and three minutes in your day and memorize your verse. Do not be afraid to memorize lengthy passages of Scripture.
- 3. Journal your thoughts: It is always beneficial to record God's work in our lives. I utilize journaling the most when I am struggling to understand my feelings. I find that writing things out helps me to process deep emotions that are hidden in my heart. As I write my thoughts in my journal, I recognize what is going on in my heart, and I am able to turn my struggles over to the Lord. Tip: Purchase an inexpensive journal and begin to record God's work in your life. You can also write scripture in your journal, inserting your name and situation. This will help you to move head knowledge to heart knowledge.
- 4. Create a prayer closet: I cannot overstate the benefit of a prayer closet. A prayer closet is a specific place to go when you need to be alone with the Lord. When my children were younger, I learned the value of a prayer closet. I told my children, "When I am in my prayer closet, you are NOT allowed to interrupt me unless it is an emergency." I wanted to teach my children to respect my time with Jesus. Tip: Select a location in your home that is suitable to become your prayer closet. Teach the members of your family to respect the important time that you spend with Jesus in this place.
- 5. Fill your life with close friends: It is important to surround yourself with people who love Jesus and encourage you in your daily walk with Jesus. Your close friends should hold firmly to the teachings in the Bible. Also, they should believe in you and want what is best for you. There is no place for competition or jealousy in these types of relationships. Your close friends are real friends. They tell you what you need to hear, and they express it in a way that lets you know that you are loved and valued, not only by them, but also by God. Tip: Take an inventory of your friendships. Determine if there are any friendships in your life that are not good for you. If so, set new boundaries. Ask the Lord to bring friends into your life who are positive and productive for you. As women, we need to surround ourselves with Godly people who cheer for us and challenge us in a Christ-honoring way.

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6. Have a balanced prayer life: Following a prayer model helps us to have a balanced prayer life. The result: we will not only ask God for things, but we will also learn how to praise God for the way He is at work in our lives. Tip: Write out a few prayers following this model. Take note of how the model helps you to see the ways that God is at work in your life. Avoid the tendency to become regimented in your prayer time. Remember, a prayer is nothing more than an ongoing conversation with God. Keep it real, relational, and balanced!

A- Adoration: praise to God

C- Confession: confession of sins

T- Thanksgiving: thanksgiving for what He is doing

S- Supplication: presenting requests to God

- 7. Utilize personal worship: I cannot overstate the benefit of personal worship in a believer's life. For me, when I feel anxious, grumpy, sad, or mad, I worship the Lord. This process allows me to take my eyes off of myself and put them on Jesus. Tip: Use your Ipod and listen to music during your daily routines--- laundry, cooking, cleaning, exercise, etc. Sing hymns of the faith that are meaningful to you. Praise the Lord as you walk around the block and think about all the things He has done for you.
- 8. Allow good media into your life: No matter what type of book you like to read, television show that you like to watch, magazine that you regularly subscribe to, or social media that you participate in, find ones that provide a good influence in your life. We live in a day and age where we have access to so much media. This media can be a temptation that inhibits our walk with God, or it can be a blessing that enriches our walk with God. Tip: This week evaluate everything that you read, watch, and subscribe to. Make sure that everything that you put into your heart and mind honors Jesus. Turn on the filter of Jesus when it comes to media. Jesus determines what stays and what goes!
- 9. Fast from a creature comfort: Fasting is removing a creature comfort from your life so that you can focus on the Lord. Often we associate fasting with food. However, we can fast from anything that brings enjoyment into our lives. I find fasting to be helpful when I need to overcome sin, seek God's presence, or gain spiritual clarity. Tip: This week remove a creature comfort from your life. Start out small and make sure that as you fast, you focus on Jesus rather than on the item you are fasting from. Avoid filling your life

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- with "other things" when you fast. Focus on Jesus and use your "hunger" for the creature comfort to drive you to Jesus and His Word.
- 10. Give till it hurts: When we give of our resources, we accomplish two things. First, we demonstrate the truth that every resource in our lives belongs to God. Second, we demonstrate faith that God will provide for our daily needs. Tip: Instead of having a garage sale or taking part in a consignment event, give your things away. Or, take a certain amount of money and tuck it in your purse or wallet. Ask God to show you how He wants you to use that money for His glory. If your funds are low, use your time as a resource. Set aside one hour a week and ask the Lord to show you how to use it to honor Him. This type of approach to giving is powerful in our lives. It teaches us to be sensitive to the way God is at work around us.

Session Six:

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### A Willing Spirit

#### Introduction

Once we embrace freedom, we must resolve to live in the freedom that Christ provides. Freedom always leads to the point of surrender, "Lord I will do whatever you ask me to do!" Although this concept of surrender goes against everything the world teaches, it is essential to true freedom. We are free to thrive when we want Jesus more than we want anything else; as a result, we are willing to give everything to Jesus in order to follow His plans, not our own.

A True Picture of Surrender: Luke 1:26-37

#### Mary was:

- A Virgin:
- Pledged to be Married to Joseph:
- Talking to an Angel:
- Hearing Life-altering News:
- Experiencing the Nothingness of God:
- Expressing a Humble Response: (Vs. 38)

## Application: Mary's time on this earth

You are born into a humble Jewish family.



- It has been 400 years since the last prophet spoke, yet there is hope. The Messiah is coming! You do not know when or how, but you believe.
- One day, as a teenager, an angel appears to you. The angel tells you the news--- the
   Messiah is coming and He is coming through you!
- You conceive a child, even though you are pure. You face ridicule, speculation, questions, and hardship. You agree to the pregnancy even though Joseph may never understand.
- When you are nine months pregnant, you travel by donkey to Bethlehem and discover that there is no place for you to stay. God provides a humble animal stall, and you deliver the long-awaited King.
- Angels, Shepherds, and later Magi come to you and worship the newborn King. An angel appears to you and tells you to leave Bethlehem and move to Egypt. You must move quickly in order to protect the King.
- When the threat is over, you return to Nazareth and raise God's Son as a regular child who laughs when things are funny and cries when things hurt.
- You take a trip to Jerusalem in order to worship, and you discover that your Son is missing. You search only to discover that your Son is at the temple teaching about His Father.
- You watch your Son learn a trade. He is a carpenter. He makes things for you and you
  place them around your home.
- A wedding invitation arrives and you attend the wedding. At the wedding, you encourage
  your Son to be whom you know Him to be. He turns water into wine, and His public
  ministry begins.
- The public ministry has ups and downs. There are times when the people wave palm branches and there are times when the people shout, "Crucify!"
- You watch your innocent Son hang on a cross and die a cruel death as you stand to the side helpless and heartbroken.
- Three days later, you hear the news. Your Son is alive! Jesus has risen from the dead.
- You see your Son although He no longer seems like your own. You put your hands in His scars and you touch His side.
- You see Him return to His Heavenly Father, and you have the hope that one day soon He will return to take you home.
- You live the rest of your life and tell everyone you meet about this Savior, this Son.

- Then one night, you find yourself lying in bed. You have lived a long life. It has not been
  easy, but it has been good. You think back over your time on this earth. You remember
  the words the Angel spoke to you many years prior, "Nothing is impossible with God."
  You believe it. Your life is a picture of it.
- Yet, there was one pivotal moment that led to you living out God's plan. It was a simple phrase that changed everything. It was the moment when you spoke those life-changing words. "May it be to me as you have said."
- This humble surrender led to true freedom and the God given ability to thrive.

#### Conclusion:

Our pivotal moment is the same. Daily we need to say, "May it be to me as you have said."



## Session Seven: A Desperate Dependence on Christ

### Introduction

Freedom requires a desperate dependence on Christ. This dependence positions us to pass the point of no return. We pass the point of no return when our hearts are closer to Jesus and heaven than to people and this world.

### How to Pass the Point of no Return!

Key Verse: "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your request to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:6-7

Trust God With Anything: "Do not be anxious about anything"

- Anxious:
- Anything:

Challenge: Have such a strong confidence in God that your mind becomes free from anxiety, and thus, a deep dependence on God becomes the reality of your life.

Question: "Do I really trust God with the details of life?"

Trust: An assured reliance on the character, ability, strength, or truth of someone or something. As a result, willingness exists to place confidence in that person or thing.

- Character describes who God is:
  - "Know that the Lord is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people the sheep of his pasture." Psalm 100:3
- Ability describes what God can do:

- "Praise be to the Lord, to God our Savior, who daily bears our burdens." Psalm
   68:19
- Strength describes how God will accomplish tasks in our lives:
  - "O Lord, you are my God; I will exalt you and praise your name, for in perfect faithfulness you have done marvelous things, things planned long ago." Isaiah 25:1
- Truth describes God's pure intentions along the way:
  - "The Lord is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and rich in love. The Lord is good to all; he has compassion on all he has made. Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures through all generations. The Lord is faithful to all his promises and loving toward all he has made." Psalm 145:13
- Confidence becomes our response to the above truths:
  - "For you have been my hope, O Sovereign Lord, my confidence since my youth."
     Psalm 71:5
  - "The fruit of righteousness will be peace; the effect of righteousness will be quietness and confidence forever." Isaiah 32:17

Foundational Truth: God loves me and has a plan for my life!

Present God With Everything: "but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your request to God."

- Everything:
- o Present:

3 Ways to Present:

- Prayer:
- Petition:
- Thanksgiving:

Challenge: Relinquish control of everything in your life.

• Exemplified in Jesus. Mark 14:32-41

Question: Do I surrender to God?

• Surrender: To give oneself up into the power of another.

Foundational Truth: Comfort and ease are not always on the top of God's agenda for my life.

Rest in Christ Continually: "And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

Challenge: Allow His peace to guard your heart and mind.

- Peace:
- Heart:
- Mind:

Question: Do I rest in Christ?

"God, who called you into fellowship with his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, is faithful." 1 Corinthians 1:9

Foundational Truth: God is faithful!

Conclusion:

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# Session Eight: A Longing For Home

#### Introduction

Freedom is experienced in our lives when we long for our realhome. This longing should impact the way we live on this earth. Heaven--- there is no place like it, and there is no substitute for it. Our daily focus should be on Heaven. When this occurs, the things of this world fade, and the promises of Christ are magnified. Spiritual fruit like peace, assurance, and great hope take the place of worry, doubt, and concern as we view our lives as temporary on this earth and eternal in glory.

### How to live out our time on this earth:

Key Verse: "So then just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness." Colossians 2:6-7

- 1. Continue to live in Him:
  - a. The concept of a "walk"
  - b. How to walk: Just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord!
- 2. Live life rooted and built up in Him:
  - a. Rooted in Christ:
  - b. Built up in Christ:
    - i. A Systematic Plan-
    - ii. A Definite Process-
    - iii. On a Particular Base-



- 3. Strengthened in the faith:
  - a. The need to exercise your faith:
  - b. How to exercise your faith: "Father May I?"
- 4. Overflowing with thankfulness:
  - a. Avoid the comparison game!
    - i. "If I had what she had..."
    - ii. "If I lived where she lived..."
    - iii. "If my past was like her past..."
    - iv. "If my kids obeyed like her kids..."
    - v. "If I had the job, husband, or resources that she had..."
  - b. Embrace the thankful game!
    - i. Daily thank God for ALL the things He graciously provides.

Conclusion:

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