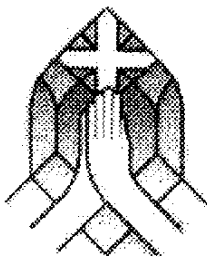


Letting the
Word
Dwell In You:

*How to
increase your faith*



CrossView Prayer Ministries

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“Let The Word of Christ Dwell In You Richly”

**By
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How To Use This Booklet:

There’s a simple premise behind this booklet; *faith doesn’t just happen, but must be cultivated by spending time sowing God’s word into the human heart.*

When faith wavers, the entire person is unstable and prayers then become powerless (James 1:6-8.) Without a stable faith, you’ll never produce a life of discipleship that makes God happy (Hebrews 11:6.) However, with a strong faith, prayers become such powerful tools in God’s hands that the answers to prayer are guaranteed (Mark 11:22-25.)

So how does one develop such an unwavering faith? By meditating on God’s word. The Bible brims over with references to this phenomenon: *Constant meditation and repetition of Scripture changes a person’s inner “software,” causing dynamic faith to grow in that person’s life as naturally as a crop grows from planted seed* (see page 33.)

Since that’s true, this booklet can help you achieve that goal. If you choose a subject, read and meditate on the listed Scriptures several times a day, and pray for a stronger faith, it will come to pass.

However, even this booklet must be used in faith. Notice in the list of Scriptures how many times God uses *past tense language* to describe what you have in Christ. When you recognize what God has *already* done and give Him thanks for it, your faith grows.

As you make the Scriptures your psychological and spiritual “software,” you’ll identify with the Psalmist: “I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you... I meditate on your precepts and consider your ways. I delight in your decrees; I will not neglect your word.” (Psalm 119:11-16.)

“Let The Word of Christ Dwell In You Richly”

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“Let The Word of Christ Dwell In You Richly”

Instructions:

To develop your faith about a certain topic, read each of the Scriptures daily. Read them several times until you feel the weight of what they’re saying. Then pray as motivated by the verses, especially remembering to thank God for what each Scripture teaches.

“I’m Redeemed”

Definition:

The word “redemption” pictures the idea of being ransomed out of trouble. The first mention of redemption in the Bible is when God told Moses that He would “redeem” Israel out of slavery in Egypt. The meaning of those Hebrew words is summed up in “to rescue” or “to tear loose”. In the New Testament, Christ is pictured as redeeming us from Satan’s grip, which had been tightened under the curse of the law.

Galatians 3:13-14

“Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, for it is written: ‘Cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree.’ He redeemed us in order that the blessing given to Abraham might come to the Gentiles through Christ Jesus, so that by faith we might receive the promise of the Spirit.”

Suggested prayer:

The “curse of the law” means the guilt and consequences of failing to keep it. If you violate the law in only one thing, you’re guilty of breaking the whole law! (James 2:10.) Thank God daily that he’s redeemed you from guilt.

Titus 2:14

“(Christ) gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.”

Suggested prayer:

Thank God that Christ gave himself so that we can be saved, be redeemed, from our own immorality. We’re redeemed by what He did, not our own goodness. Now, we become eager to do good. Thank him also that you’re one of his own people.

Romans 3:24

“(We) are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.”

Suggested prayer:

Thank God every day that your redemption came “by his grace”, which means that it’s free, and that it came “by Christ Jesus” not by our religious ideals and efforts, which always come short of God’s perfection.

Ephesians 1:7-8

“In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God’s grace that he lavished on us with all wisdom and understanding.”

Suggested prayer:

Praise God that our redemption came through Christ’s sacrifice. Give God thanks every day that all this came because of the “riches” of his grace and the fact that he “lavished” all this on us.

Colossians 1:13-14

“For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.”

Suggested prayer:

We now pray from our position as a rescued citizen of God’s kingdom, one who has been rescued at the price of His Son’s life. In that Son, we have redemption, which the Scripture also calls, “the forgiveness of sins.” This should instill praise and thanksgiving in your prayer time.

Hebrews 9:11-12

“When Christ came as a high priest of the good things that are already here, he went through the greater and more perfect tabernacle that is not man-made, that is to say, not part of this creation. He did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves; but he entered the Most Holy Place once for all by his own blood, having obtained eternal redemption.”

Suggested prayer:

Notice that the eternal redemption we have was accomplished in the past. Christ entered the heavenly tabernacle at his crucifixion and used his own, perfect blood as the sacrifice. With a sacrifice like that, why doubt your salvation? Thank God that the sacrifice for your sin was more than perfect, and that it all took place in the past. Rejoice in your new position with God!

1 Peter 1:18-19

“For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, but with the

precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.”

Suggested prayer:

We stand redeemed right now from the empty way of life of those around us who don't know Christ. This present redemption came at an awesome price - not with gold or silver, but with the life of the Son of God. We honor Christ when we stand firm in this redemption and refuse to be drawn back into doubt.

1 Corinthians 1:30-31

“It is because of him (God) that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God - that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption. Therefore it is written: ‘Let him who boasts boast in the Lord.’”

Suggested prayer:

The key to praying in faith is to thank God. Thanksgiving shows that you believe what God says. Thanking God that He's redeemed you through Jesus will make your faith soar and your prayers effective.

Mark 10:45

“For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

Suggested prayer:

When Jesus came, he came to serve you, not himself. He came to rescue you, to pay your “ransom.” This ransom idea is closely related to redemption. It's the price paid to redeem someone. God paid that price so you don't have to. You're rescued! You're redeemed!

“I'm Healed”

Exodus 15:26

“If you listen carefully to the voice of the LORD your God and do what is right in his eyes, if you pay attention to his commands and keep all his decrees, I will not bring on you any of the diseases I brought on the Egyptians, for I am the LORD, who heals you.”

Suggested prayer:

Notice that God's promise of healing is tied to the idea of “listen carefully.” If you meditate on his word and keep it, then he is the Lord who heals you - he becomes to you the source of healing. Just as the Old Testament Jews had a covenant, which included physical healing, so do we. Give thanks.

Exodus 23:25-26

“Worship the LORD your God, and his blessings will be on your food and water. I will take away sickness from among you, and none will miscarry or be barren in your land. I will give you a full life span.”

Suggested prayer:

Worship is a key to staying in God’s will and remaining healthy. When worshiping God in prayer, all of your life is enhanced. Continue to thank him for the blessings you have, including progressively better health.

Psalm 103:2

“Praise the LORD, O my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name. Praise the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits -who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases.”

Isaiah 53:4-5

“Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed.”

Suggested prayer:

Notice that when Isaiah prophesied about the work of Christ on the cross, he included physical healing. Any physical healing we receive comes by the cross. Notice also that Isaiah spoke of this healing in the *past tense* - even though it was 700 years in the future. Thank God in prayer that we’re *already* healed.

Matthew 8:16-17

“When evening came, many who were demon-possessed were brought to him, and he drove out the spirits with a word and healed all the sick. This was to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet Isaiah: ‘He took up our infirmities and carried our diseases.’”

Suggested prayer:

The Biblical way to view illness and healing is covered in these verses; healing comes through the work of Christ on the cross. He has *ALREADY* done the work, now it’s up to us to receive it in prayer. Thank God every day that Jesus *HAS* taken up your infirmities and carried your diseases.

Matthew 9:20-22

“Just then a woman who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years came up behind him and touched the edge of his cloak. She said to herself, ‘If I only touch his cloak, I will be healed.’ Jesus turned and saw her. ‘Take heart, daughter,’ he said, ‘your faith has healed you.’”

Suggested prayer:

Notice what this woman believed - that if she touched Jesus she would, without a doubt, be healed. And she had been telling herself that all along.

Psalm 107:19-20

“Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, and he saved them from their distress. He sent forth his word and he healed them; he rescued them from the grave.”

Luke 9:1-2 & 10:1,9

“When Jesus had called the Twelve together, he gave them power and authority to drive out all demons and to cure diseases, and he sent them out to preach the kingdom of God and heal the sick...

“After this, he appointed seventy-two others and sent them two by two ahead of him to every town and place where he was about to go... Heal the sick who are there and tell them, ‘the kingdom of God is near you.’”

James 5:14-16

“Is any one of you sick? He should call the elders of the church to pray over him and anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise him up. If he has sinned, he will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective.”

1 Peter 2:24

“He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed.”

3 John 2

“Dear friend, I pray that you may enjoy good health and that all may go well with you, even as you soul is getting along well.”

Suggested prayer:

Father, I thank you that Jesus was willing to take my place. I praise you that he took my sins and guilt into himself and was punished for me. Without his loving work for me, evil would destroy me.

Thank you, Father, that he took up my infirmities and healed my diseases. Thank you that you’ve protected me from diseases that could have attacked me, but you spared me. Thank you that you’ve healed me again and again.

I praise you as the Almighty God who created all things and has power over all disease. No disease can withstand your power.

Thank you for showing me my sins, which I am now repenting of, and for Jesus’ work on

my behalf; in His name and authority I pray, Amen.

“I’m Raised”

John 5:24-25

“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. I tell you the truth, a time is coming and has now come when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God and those who hear will live.”

Suggested prayer:

Notice the *past tense* application of Jesus’ words - “has eternal life... has crossed over from death to life.” Knowing Jesus and believing in him gives us, right now, the resurrection. He should be thanked daily for this indescribable gift.

Romans 6:4-13

“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.

“If we have been united with him like this in his death, we will certainly also be united with him in his resurrection. 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 - because anyone who has died has been freed from sin.

“Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him... In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus... Do not offer the parts of your body to sin, as instruments of wickedness, but rather offer yourselves to God, as those who have been brought from death to life;”

Romans 8:10-11

“But if Christ is in you, your body is dead because of sin, yet your spirit is alive because of righteousness. 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.”

Suggested prayer:

The same Spirit who raised Jesus Christ from the dead is living in you. Since He - the Spirit of life - lives in you, you are *already* raised, because you have resurrection life living in you!

Ephesians 1:1&20 & 2:6-7

“I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know... his

incomparably great power for us who believe... which he exerted in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms... And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace..."

Colossians 2:12-13 & 3:14

"(You were) buried with him in baptism and raised with him through your faith in the power of God who raised him from the dead. When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your sinful nature, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins..."

"Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory."

Suggested prayer:

The above verses leave no doubt about our "past tense" resurrection. God considers it already accomplished! Therefore, we should live, and pray, as if we're already raised and glorified in Christ. We should think, talk and act as though the battle is over and we're on the winning side!

"I'm His Righteousness"

Definition:

The word "righteousness" or "righteous" comes from the Greek "DIAKAIOS" meaning "just, without partiality" and is "the character or quality of being right or just." God is said to be righteous because he can't do wrong or practice evil. He's always "right" and those who obey him fully are "righteous" - they're in harmony with his character. But since we've all "sinned and fallen short" of God's glory, we aren't righteous - we must be DECLARED righteous by God himself based on Jesus' work.

Romans 1:17

"For in the gospel a righteousness from God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: 'The righteous will live by faith.'"

Suggested prayer:

Having a righteousness that comes from God, not from us, depends on faith. Faith is "being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we don't see" (Hebrews 11:1). Therefore, we're righteous not because of how much we do, but because we have faith in what Jesus has ALREADY done. Thank God every day that your righteousness comes from him, not from you!

Romans 3:21-22

"But now a righteousness from God, apart from law, has been made known, to which the Law

and Prophets testify. This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe...”

Suggested prayer:

Thank God every day that being righteous before him doesn't depend on your performance, but upon Christ's perfection and your faith in him, a faith that grows every day as you see these verses and pray them thankfully.

Romans 4:3-5

“What does the Scripture say? ‘Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness.’ Now when a man works, his wages are not credited to him as a gift, but as an obligation. However, to the man who does not work but trusts God who justifies the wicked, his faith is credited as righteousness.”

Suggested prayer:

Thank God that you have HIS righteousness, by faith.

Romans 4:20-24

“Yet he (Abraham) did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God... being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised. This is why ‘it was credited to him as righteousness.’ The words ‘it was credited to him’ were written not for him alone, but also for us, to whom God will credit righteousness - for us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead.”

Suggested prayer:

Praise God that our righteousness before Him doesn't depend on law keeping or our moral perfection. Thank Him every day that you stand righteous, justified and innocent before him.

Romans 5:17

“For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.”

Suggested prayer:

This amazing verse teaches that we who have received the “gift” of righteousness actually “reign in life” with Christ Jesus right now. Since we're righteous before God, we can't be conquered by the devil. Satan's foothold is taken away. Praise God for your new standing in Christ Jesus - you're righteous. You're on the winning side!

Romans 10:9-10

“The Gentiles, who did not pursue righteousness, have obtained it, a righteousness that is by faith; but Israel, who pursued a law of righteousness, has not attained it. Why not? Because they pursued it not by faith but as if it were by works.”

Suggested prayer:

Note the constant contrast between righteousness by law and righteousness by faith. The Christian who walks by faith *is* righteous in God’s sight. Thanking God and praising him will activate that faith and therefore access his righteousness.

Romans 10:34

“Since they (Israel) did not know the righteousness that comes from God and sought to establish their own, they did not submit to God’s righteousness. Christ is the end of the law so that there may be righteousness for everyone who believes.”

Suggested prayer:

Isn’t it spectacular that Christ is our righteousness? Submission to him and his righteousness means that we walk by faith and therefore enter his righteousness. Our prayers should be from a stance of innocence. Even the Model Prayer is a Father/child conversation (Matthew 6:9-15). Since we’re his righteousness, the Father hears all our prayers and considers them important. Praise him!

1 Corinthians 1:30-31

“It is because of him (God) that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God - that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption. Therefore it is written: ‘Let him who boasts boast in the Lord.’”

Suggested prayer:

The key to praying in faith is to thank God. Thanksgiving shows that you believe what God says. Thanking him that, through Jesus, you’re the righteousness of God will make your faith soar and your prayers effective.

2 Corinthians 5:21

“God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become (or be made) the righteousness of God.”

Suggested prayer:

When you accept the work of Christ on your behalf, you become the righteousness of God - just as surely as Christ became the sin offering for us. If he died and rose again on your behalf, then you ARE the righteousness of God... that’s why he did it! Accept it by faith and thank him daily in your prayers.

“I’m Justified”

Acts 13:38-39

“Therefore, my brothers, I want you to know that through Jesus the forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you. Through him everyone who believes is justified from everything you could not be justified from by the Law of Moses.”

Suggested prayer:

Paul’s sermon here in Acts contrasts the two ways to be justified; one works, the other doesn’t. Thank your Father that you’ve been justified by Jesus, by his work and not by law. He’s glad that you’re justified. He PAID for it.

Romans 3:23-24

“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.”

Suggested prayer:

Give thanks that the connection between your sins and your future is broken. Even though we’ve all sinned, we are (now) justified “freely” by God’s grace. That redemption “came” (past tense) by Christ’s work.

Romans 5:1-2

“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.”

Suggested prayer:

Notice that the justification is ALREADY ours, and we NOW stand in his grace.

Romans 8:28-30

“And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. 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. And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he justified; those he justified, he also glorified.”

Suggested prayer:

God foreknew you before he created the world. Since he knew you before you existed, he marked out your destiny as one of his children. Therefore, he “justified” you (past tense) before

you were born! You're no accident, but were planned from before time. Praise him!

Romans 8:31-34

“If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all - how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. Who is he that condemns?”

Suggested prayer:

Notice how Scripture dismisses the possibility that someone (including ourselves) could bring a charge of condemnation against those people whom God had justified. If HE justified us, then HE has the last word – *you're innocent!*

Romans 10:9-10

“If you confess with your mouth, ‘Jesus is Lord,’ and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.”

Suggested prayer:

Both the heart *and* mouth are involved in receiving the justification that God gives. The heart believes and the mouth speaks that belief - especially in prayer.

Romans 5:9

“Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God’s wrath through him! For if, when we were God’s enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life!”

Suggested prayer:

Notice that he *has given us* (past tense) this justification through Jesus’ sacrifice. Since that’s already true, we don’t have to fear God’s wrath. If he cared when we were his enemies, how much more does he care now! So pursue the habit of thanking God for all his works.

1 Corinthians 6:9-11

“Do you not know that the wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God? And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.”

Suggested prayer:

All of us “were” among the wicked who won’t inherit the kingdom. But now we “were” (past tense) washed, sanctified and justified. It’s already been done by the power of God. Rest on what

HE has done, and praise him for it.

Titus 3:5-7

“He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.”

Suggested prayer:

Notice that his phrase “hope of eternal life” isn’t some vague, uncertain wish, but it’s based on solid ground. He “saved,” “poured” and “justified” all in the past. This all speaks of the position Christians occupy in God - we’re “justified.” We now stand as innocent people before God, because Jesus is innocent. What’s his is ours and what’s ours is his. That’s why some people define “justified” as “just-as-if-I’d” never sinned.

“I’m His Heir”

Galatians 4:6-7

“Because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, ‘Abba, Father’. So you are no longer a slave, but a son; and since you are a son, God has made you also an heir.”

Suggested prayer:

Notice that because we’re God’s chosen sons (in Christ there’s no male nor female), he has ALREADY made us his heirs. Our prayers should thank him for this fantastic position we have by grace!

Romans 8:16-17

“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...”

Suggested prayer:

God Himself testifies that we are his - his children and his heirs - who will inherit all that Christ inherits. When you pray, remember your position with the Father. You’re his child, not a beggar.

Titus 3:5-7

“He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our savior, so that, having been justified by his grace, we

might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.”

Suggested prayer:

As you pray, notice how much HE did in your salvation. He made you his child.

Hebrews 1:14 & 9:15

“Are not all angels ministering spirits sent to serve those who will inherit salvation?”

“Christ is the mediator of a new covenant, that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance - now that he has died as a ransom to set them free...”

Suggested prayer:

As you pray, remember that Christ has died and has put his last will and testament into force - we are now heirs of God.

Ephesians 1:13-14

“Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God’s possession - to the praise of his glory.”

Suggested prayer:

Thank God that your inheritance is guaranteed. How do you know? Because you have his Holy Spirit as a deposit. This means that your inheritance is as sure as God’s name. Your prayers can be founded on his eternal love for you.

Colossians 1:12

“giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the kingdom of light. For He has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son He loves...”

Suggested prayer:

When you pray, consider that God has acted - in the past - to confirm your position with him as his child. Like the child of a wealthy tycoon, we are included in a fantastic inheritance - ours is eternal. Since we’re included (past tense), give thanks!

1 Peter 1:3-4

“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade - kept in heaven for you, who by faith are shielded by God’s power...”

Suggested prayer:

Notice that he “has given” (past tense) us the new birth already. So pursue the habit of thanking God. When you thank him, you’re living in his promises and show that you believe that his word is true. As you thank him for fact that you ARE a new creation, your faith grows.

Revelation 21:6-7

“He said to me: ‘It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To him who is thirsty I will give to drink without cost from the spring of the water of life. He who overcomes will inherit all this, and I will be his God and he will be my son.’”

Suggested prayer:

The work of Jesus is done. His work on our behalf bought us the privileges and rights we have as God’s children. We overcome “by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of our testimony” (Revelation 12:11) and therefore we inherit eternal life. Shouldn’t all this make our prayers more confident?

Acts 20:32

“Now I commit you to God and to the word of his grace, which can build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified.”

Suggested prayer:

As Paul left the church leaders of Ephesus behind, he committed them to the word of God and its power to build them up. He knew that if they treasured the word in their hearts, they would live up to the inheritance that God had provided. Pray for God to help you treasure his word, and thereby grow in the inheritance.

“I’m God’s Child”***John 1:12-13***

“Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God - children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband’s will, but born of God.”

Suggested prayer:

In your prayers thank God that he’s your Father. Thank him that he’s given you this awesome position and called it your “right” You have a right to be called his child because Jesus gave you that right. Enjoy being his child. Meditate on the perfect Father & child relationship; that’s what you have in Christ!

Romans 8:14-17

“Those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again unto fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by him we cry, ‘Abba, Father.’

“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...”

Suggested prayer:

When you pray, praise and thank God that he hasn’t given you a spirit of fear, but the Spirit of his own Son. You have the Divine Spirit in you because you’re God’s child.

Notice that you’ve ALREADY received his Spirit (past tense) and that you NOW are an heir - you are inheriting everything Christ already has bought for us. All that the Father has is also yours! Thank him for his spectacular grace.

Ephesians 1:4-5

“In love he predestined us to be adopted as his sons through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will...”

Suggested prayer:

Thank your Father that he created you as his child before creation. Praise him that you’re no accident: He planned from the beginning to give birth to you as his beloved child. Thank him.

Ephesians 5:1-2

“Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.”

Suggested prayer:

Notice that we’re dearly loved children *first*; then we imitate our Father. We don’t imitate him to earn the right to be children, but we imitate him BECAUSE we ARE his kids. Thank him that you’re his child, and that your whole life and behavior have changed to be like him. You’re imitating him because of love.

Galatians 3:26-27

“You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.”

Suggested prayer:

Keep in mind that our awesome position as God’s family came (past tense) through Christ and his work. He came to destroy the devil’s work (1 John 3:8) and to make us alive to God through the new birth (John 3:5-8 & Ephesians 2:5.)

Therefore, we pray as God’s children, thanking him that we’re “clothed” with Christ, that we

appear *just like Jesus* to our Father in heaven. He loves us just as much as he loves Jesus - right now! (John 17:23.)

1 John 3:1

“How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!”

Suggested prayer:

Let this bold statement by John propel you into thanksgiving. God’s love has been (past tense) “lavished” on us and we’re called his children. Thank him that he’s adopted you and given you a home and an inheritance. In prayer, let his love heal all the wounds of the past.

1 Peter 1:3-4

“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade - kept in heaven for you, who by faith are shielded by God’s power...”

Suggested prayer:

Pursue the habit of thanking God. When you thank him, you’re living in his promises and showing that you believe his word is true. As you thank him for the wonderful inheritance you have, your faith grows. Your conviction that he truly *is* your Father grows and grows each day.

“I Have His Spirit”

Romans 5:5

“And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us.”

Suggested prayer:

Love isn’t manufactured by the Christian, but comes as a fruit of the Holy Spirit. In your prayers, thank God that He gave you His Spirit, through whom He poured out His love into your heart. To thank Him for it means that you believe He has already done it.

Romans 8:14-17

“Those who are led by the Spirit of God are Sons of God. 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.' 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..."

Suggested prayer:

Your prayers ascend to the Father through the Holy Spirit. The Spirit dwells in you to become a witness to the fact of your rights as God's child. Instead of fear, we pray to our Father with expectation, since we're his own children.

Romans 8:26

"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."

Suggested prayer:

Your prayers aren't feeble begging, but are a Father/child conversation assisted by the Spirit. This is so you can pray as an heir, as the Father's child, not an alienated outsider.

1 Corinthians 3:16 & 6:19

"Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit lives in you? Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God?"

Suggested prayer:

As the Apostle Paul wrote these words to the church, he was disappointed in their behavior. He seems to think that if they fully realize they have God's Spirit, it will change them. It will also change us, if we pray with that realization.

Ephesians 1:13 & 4:30

"And you also were included in Christ when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit... do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption."

Suggested prayer:

The Holy Spirit is our "seal" - he witnesses to the supernatural world that we belong to God. With this seal, we can know that God has already saved us and will always hear our prayers. This should spark new confidence in your prayer time.

Acts 2:38 & 5:32

"Peter replied, 'Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the

forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit'... We are witnesses of these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him.”

Suggested prayer:

After those who heard the gospel obeyed it, they received the gift of the Holy Spirit - that is, the Spirit himself was a gift from the Father to his new children. Learning to pray with the “past tense” mind - the idea that God has ALREADY given me His Spirit – will lead to powerful prayers.

1 Corinthians 2:12

“We have not received the spirit of the world but the Spirit who is from God, that we may understand what God has freely given us.”

2 Corinthians 1:21-22

“Now it is God who makes both us and you stand firm in Christ. He anointed us, set his seal of ownership on us, and put his Spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.”

Galatians 4:6

“Because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, ‘Abba, Father.’”

1 Thessalonians 4:8

“Therefore, he who rejects this instruction does not reject man but God, who gives you his Holy Spirit.”

2 Timothy 1:14

“Guard the good deposit that was entrusted to you - guard it with the help of the Holy Spirit who lives in us.”

1 John 3:24 & 4:13

“Those who obey his commands live in him, and he in them. And this is how we know that he lives in us: We know it by the Spirit he gave us... We know that we live in him and he in us because he has given us of his Spirit”

Suggested prayer:

Father, I thank you so much that you've given me your Spirit of wisdom and revelation that I can know you better. Thank you that I'm growing to know you better each day.

Thank you that your eternal Spirit is now inside me; that He is fulfilling the destiny you've given me. Thank you that I'm your child, your heir. Thank you that I have everything I need for life and godliness, and that you've given me all things to enjoy.

I submit myself to your Spirit, that you can have full control of my mind, my life, my

prayers and my actions. Thank you for teaching me your ways and showing me your glory. Thank you for giving me every spiritual blessing in the heavenly realms, that I'm your child just like Jesus. Thank you for Jesus' work on my behalf. In his name and authority I pray, Amen.

“I’m Blessed”

Definition:

The words “blessed,” “blessing” and “bless” appear hundreds of times in Scripture. In the Old Testament, these words are translations of two Hebrew words - BARAK, meaning “to kneel, to bless, or to curse,” and ASRE, (“blessed”) which means “in a state of happiness and prosperity.”

In the New Testament, the Greek words for blessing are EULOGEO (where we get the English word “eulogy”) meaning, “to speak well of” and MAKARISMOS, which literally means, “to pronounce a blessing upon.”

The opposite of a blessing is a “curse,” which comes from the Old Testament Hebrew word QULAL, or “to lessen or cause to recede” (see Genesis 8:8) and from several New Testament Greek words: ARA (from the word for “prayer”) and KATARA - “to speak down,” and also the word ANATHEMA, or “destruction.” The curse, then, is a “reverse blessing” where evil destruction is called down on the person cursed.

Romans 4:3-16

“What does the Scripture say? ‘Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness...’

“David says the same thing when he speaks of the blessedness of the man to whom God credits righteousness apart from works: ‘blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. Blessed is the man whose sin the Lord will never count against him.’

“Is this blessedness only for the circumcised, or also for the uncircumcised? We have been saying that Abraham’s faith was credited to him as righteousness... Therefore, the promise comes by faith, so that it might be by grace and may be guaranteed to all Abraham’s offspring - not only to those who are of the law but also to those who are of the faith of Abraham. He is the father of us all.”

Galatians 3:8-14

“The Scripture foresaw that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, and announced the gospel in advance to Abraham: ‘All nations will be blessed through you.’ So those who have faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith.”

“He (Christ) redeemed us in order that the blessing given to Abraham might come to the Gentiles through Christ Jesus, so that by faith we might receive the promise of the Spirit.”

Suggested prayer:

Notice that these first two texts deal with the blessing promised to Abraham, and also promised to us who have Abraham’s faith in God. Abraham’s blessing transcended the Law of Moses, and a much more powerful blessing comes to us who are in Christ and who walk by faith. Thank God daily that you’re “blessed” - God himself creatively speaks good things over you - so

imitate him and pronounce good over yourself and others every day.

Ephesians 1:3

“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ”

Suggested prayer:

Our faith grows as we recite the word of God as if it’s already taken place. This verse says that our blessings are *already* here. We’ve *already* been blessed with every spiritual blessing in Christ, so thank God and rejoice in prayer.

Luke 11:27-28

“As Jesus was saying these things, a woman in the crowd called out, ‘blessed is the mother who gave you birth and nursed you.’

“He replied, ‘blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and obey it.’”

Suggested prayer:

Notice that Jesus tells how anyone can live constantly under God’s blessing - *stay in the word of God and obey what it says*; that works even in our prayers.

John 1:16-17

“From the fullness of his grace we have all received one blessing after another. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.”

Suggested prayer:

As this passage in John introduces the idea that Jesus is the “word of God”, the Scripture here also shows that our position in Christ means constant blessing. Under the Law of Moses, people lived under a curse much of the time (Galatians 3:10), but in Christ we have constant blessing. Thank God for your position of blessing, which came through Jesus Christ.

Proverbs 10:6, 22 & 11:11

“Blessings crown the head of the righteous, but violence overwhelms the mouth of the wicked.”

“The blessing of the Lord brings wealth, and he adds no trouble to it.”

“Through the blessing of the upright a city is exalted, but by the mouth of the wicked it is destroyed.”

Suggested prayer:

In Proverbs, the great book of wisdom, the blessing is a well-known concept. God blesses the

righteous, and the righteous use their tongues to bless others. If our prayers take the form of blessing - of speaking good things towards others and God Himself -then we imitate God in our speaking.

Genesis 12:1-3

“The LORD said to Abram ‘Leave your country, your people and your father’s household and go to the land I will show you. I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.’”

Genesis 24:35

“The LORD has blessed my master (Abraham) abundantly, and he has become wealthy.”

Genesis 26:12

“Isaac planted crops in that land and the same year reaped a hundredfold, because the LORD had blessed him”

Genesis 30:30

“The little you had before I came has increased greatly, and the LORD has blessed you wherever I (Jacob) have been.”

“I’m Sanctified”

Definition:

When something is “sanctified” in the Bible, the Greek word used is HAGIAZO meaning “to separate unto God.” Other forms of this word are: HAGIASMOS - “sanctification” or “holiness” (the way of life of people who’re set apart for God), HAGION - or “sanctuary,” and HAGIOI - or “holy ones” or “saints.” Our English term “Holy Spirit” comes from the Greek words, PNEUMA HAGION. So the terms “sanctified” and “holy” are from the same root words - the idea of separation unto God.

1 Corinthians 6:9-11

“Do you not know that the wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor male prostitutes nor homosexual offenders nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God.

“And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.”

Suggested prayer:

God's word teaches us what we were, and what we are now. If we can't leave the past behind and become convinced that we've been changed, we'll never grow. Look at what we used to be. Then thank God for making us (past tense) "sanctified" - set apart for His service. Notice in the next verses that Paul considers this imperfect church to be sanctified:

1 Corinthians 1:2

"To the church of God in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus and called to be holy, together with all those everywhere who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ - their Lord and ours."

Romans 15:15-16

"I have written to you quite boldly on some points... because of the grace God gave me to be a minister of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles with the priestly duty of proclaiming the gospel of God, so that the Gentiles might become an offering acceptable to God, sanctified by the Holy Spirit."

Suggested prayer:

As Paul closes his letter to the Romans, he emphasizes his mission to the Gentiles; he preaches the gospel so they can become "an offering" and "sanctified by the Holy Spirit." As Christians, we're *already* sanctified by the "Holy" Spirit (or "Sanctified" Spirit.) His work places us into this sanctified, set-apart, life. Thank God that you don't have to live an empty life of sin and degradation.

John 17:16-19

"My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one. They are not of the world, even as I am not of it. Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth. As you have sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world. For them I sanctify myself, that they too may be truly sanctified."

Suggested prayer:

In Jesus' towering prayer just before his crucifixion, he asked his Father to sanctify, or set apart, his disciples by the word. Even though we're already sanctified, we still need the ongoing maturing of our sanctification by the word of God. Notice also the "cleansing" effect of the word in John 15:1-3. Pray to become one who submits to the sanctifying power of the word.

Acts 20:32

"Now I commit you to God and to the word of his grace, which can build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified."

Suggested prayer:

Notice again that sanctification is seasoned and matured through the word, so put God's own words in your mouth when you pray, and you'll see results.

Acts 26:17-18

"I am sending you to them to open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me."

Suggested prayer:

As Paul re-tells how Jesus appeared to him and sent him to preach to the Gentiles, he gives a wonderful description of sanctification. He also tells us that sanctification comes by faith -faith in Jesus. As we pray, using God's word as our "prayer language," sanctification becomes a stronger reality.

1 Corinthians 7:14

"For the unbelieving husband has been sanctified through his wife, and the unbelieving wife has been sanctified through her husband. Otherwise your children would be unclean, but as it is, they are holy."

Suggested prayer:

In this remarkable verse, Paul tells us that an entire household is sanctified if only one spouse is a Christian. This means that the whole house is set aside for God's purposes. And so are the children. Here's a verse you can camp on. Don't give up on your spouse or your children, since they remain under God's sanctifying power, and will one day obey the gospel.

1 Thessalonians 5:23

"May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Thessalonians 4:34

"It is God's will that you should be sanctified: that you should avoid sexual immorality; that each of you should learn to control his own body in a way that is holy and honorable."

Hebrews 10:29

"How much more severely do you think a man deserves to be punished who has trampled the Son of God under foot, who has treated as an unholy thing the blood of the covenant that sanctified him, and who has insulted the Spirit of grace?"

“I’m A New Creation”

2 Corinthians 5:17-18

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation:”

Suggested prayer:

Notice that being in Christ makes you a totally “new creation” NOW. It says that he has “reconciled” us (past tense), so that the old has gone and the new is here now. In your prayers thank God that he’s made you totally new. Thank him that HE did this for you, so it’s as sure as his word.

Galatians 2:20

“I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.”

Suggested prayer:

Notice that Paul speaks of our “co-crucifixion” with Christ as past tense. It’s already happened. In prayer, we should thank God that he’s ALREADY put to death our “old man” and brought us to life with Christ. We live daily as new creations.

Ephesians 2:4-6

“But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions - it is by grace you have been saved. And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus...”

Suggested prayer:

Again, God speaks of our new life with him as an accomplished fact - in the past tense. He “made us alive.” He’s already “raised us up.” We already live in a brand new world as his “new creation” seated at the right hand of God with Christ! Praise God daily for his amazing love!

Romans 6:3-14

“Or don’t you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? 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.

“If we have been united with him like this in his death, we will certainly also be united with him

in his resurrection. For we know that our old self was crucified with him...”

Suggested prayer:

The “old man” you inherited from Adam stood against God. But Jesus’ death and resurrection (in the past) and your baptism into his death (also in the past) crucified the old man and gave birth to the new.

Therefore, we can pray by thanking God that we’re brand new (in His eyes) and that he gives us the power to walk that new life. Praise him daily that your new self was bought and paid for, in the past, by Jesus’ work.

Colossians 3:14

“Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.”

Suggested prayer:

Now we can pray as one who sits at the right hand of God with Jesus himself. Our prayers are like his prayers; they’re in HIS name, not ours. Thank him for this new position.

1 Peter 1:34

“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade - kept in heaven for you, who by faith are shielded by God’s power...”

Suggested prayer:

Notice that He “has given” (past tense) us the new birth already. So pursue the habit of thanking God. When you thank Him, you’re living in His promises and show that you believe that His word is true. As you thank Him for fact that you ARE a new creation, your faith grows.

“I’m Loved”

Luke 6:35-36

“But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be Sons of the Most High, because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.”

Suggested prayer:

This passage not only teaches us to be loving and merciful to others, even enemies, but it teaches something about the Father. He is merciful to the wicked and ungrateful. Therefore, he has been merciful to us. His love to us is evident. It's his nature to love. Thank him in your prayers for his mercy.

John 3:16-17

“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. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.”

Suggested prayer:

This often-quoted verse tells of the whole foundation of God's activity in the world - he loves all humanity, therefore he sent his Son to express that love and save us. You wouldn't even be able to get prayers heard and answered without God's love.

2 Corinthians 5:14-15

“For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.”

John 13:1-4

“Jesus knew that the time had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he now showed them the full extent of his love... he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around himself... and began to wash the disciples' feet.”

Suggested prayer:

Washing the disciples' feet became one of the most powerful symbols of Jesus' love for us. He's willing to do ANYTHING (within his Father's will) to express love for you. Pray as if he's just washed YOUR feet.

John 15:9-14

“As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. 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. My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends if you do what I command.”

Galatians 2:20

“I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.”

John 17:23, 26

“May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.”

“I have made you known to them... in order that the love you have for me may be in them and that I myself may be in them.”

Suggested prayer:

Notice how God always tells us about his love by showing us how much he was willing to give to redeem us. He proves his love for you by his actions. The historical event of the cross shows that he loves you.

Romans 5:5-8

“And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us... God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”

Romans 8:35-39

“Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword?... No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.”

“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 will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

Ephesians 2:4

“But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions - it is by grace you have been saved.”

Ephesians 3:17-19

“And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge - that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.”

Ephesians 5:1-2

“Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.”

Titus 3:5

“But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of

righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy.”

1 John 3:1,16

“How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us.”

1 John 4:9-16

“This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: Not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his son... God is love.

“I’m Rich”

Genesis 39:23

“The LORD was with Joseph and gave him success in whatever he did.”

Exodus 12:36

“The LORD made the Egyptians favorably disposed toward the people, and they gave them what they asked for; so they plundered the Egyptians.”

Deuteronomy 8:18

“But remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms his covenant...”

1 Chronicles 29:12

“Wealth and honor come from you; you are the ruler of all things.”

Psalms 112:1-3

“Blessed is the man who fears the LORD, who finds great delight in his commands... Wealth and riches are in his house...”

Proverbs 8:18

“With me (wisdom) are riches and honor, enduring wealth and prosperity... bestowing wealth on those who love me and making their treasuries full.”

Proverbs 10:22

“The blessing of the LORD brings wealth, and he adds no trouble to it.”

Proverbs 13:22

“A good man leaves an inheritance for his children’s children, but a sinner’s wealth is stored up for the righteous.”

Proverbs 14:24

“The wealth of the wise is their crown, but the folly of fools yields folly.”

Proverbs 22:4

“Humility and fear of the LORD bring wealth and honor and life.”

Romans 10:12

“the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, for ‘Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.’”

1 Corinthians 1:5

“For in him you have been enriched in every way – in all your speaking and in all your knowledge.”

2 Corinthians 8:9

“For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich.”

2 Corinthians 9:11

“You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion...”

Revelation 2:9

“I know your afflictions and your poverty – yet you are rich!”

HOW FAITH INCREASES:

*Note these passages showing the relationship between God’s word and the development of faith. Notice also how **speaking** the word, **praying** the word and **meditating** on the word will all increase one’s faith:*

“Faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ.” - **Romans 10:17**

“Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked or stand in the way of sinners or sit in the seat of mockers. But his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night. He is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither. Whatever he does prospers.” -**Psalm 1:1-3**

“Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night, so that

you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful.”

-Joshua 1:8

“If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you.” **-John 15:7**

“This is the meaning of the parable: the seed is the word of God... the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop.” **-Luke 8:11-15**

“The tempter came to him and said, ‘If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread.’

“Jesus answered, ‘It is written: Man does not live by bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.’”

-Matthew 4:3-4

“For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.” **-Hebrews 4:12**

“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom...” **-Colossians 3:16**

“You have known the holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness...” **-2 Timothy 3:15-16**

“He chose to give us birth through the word of truth... Therefore get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you.”

-James 1:18,21

“For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God.”

-1 Peter 1:23

“If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God.”

-1 Peter 4:11

“When you received the word of God... you accepted it not as the word of men, but as it actually is, the word of God, which is at work in you who believe.” **-1 Thessalonians 2:13**

“They overcame (the devil) by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony.”

-Revelation 12:11.

“Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever. Let the redeemed of the LORD say this – “(or say so).

-Psalm 107:1-2

“On my bed I remember you; I think (meditate) of you through the watches of the night. Because you are my help, I sing in the shadow of your wings. My soul clings to you; your right hand upholds me. “

-Psalm 63:6-8

“I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you... With my lips I recount all the laws that come from your mouth... I meditate on your precepts and consider your ways. I delight in your decrees; I will not neglect your word.”

-Psalm 119:11-16

“Though rulers sit together and slander me, your servant will meditate on your decrees. Your statutes are my delight; they are my counselors.”

-Psalm 119:23-24

“Oh, how I love your law! I meditate on it all day long. Your commands make me wiser than my enemies, for they are ever with me. I have more insight than all my teachers, for I meditate on your statutes. I have more understanding than the elders, for I obey your precepts.”

-Psalm 119:97-100

“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path.”

-Psalm 119:105

-End-
