GRACE CHANGES EVERYTHING

“FOR BY GRACE YOU HAVE BEEN SAVED THROUGH FAITH, AND THAT NOT OF YOURSELVES; IT IS THE GIFT OF GOD, NOT OF WORKS, LEST ANYONE SHOULD BOAST.” EPHESIANS 2:8-9
At the moment we believe and trust in JESUS CHRIST. GOD imputes to our account righteousness - not on the basis of what we have done or what we are going to do, but simply on the basis of our belief in JESUS CHRIST.

One day JESUS was asked, “What shall we do, that we might work the works of GOD?”

LOOK Up, READ, & Fill in the Blanks of JOHN 6:29 for the answer:

“Jesus answered and said to them, ‘This is the __________ of God, that you _______________ in Him whom He sent.’”

But what is real FAITH?

Our actions must be in harmony with what we believe. Belief isn’t just what we say; belief is shown by what we do.

LOOK Up & READ what JAMES 2:26 says about FAITH.

Share some examples of someone that says they have FAITH in something, but they really do not.

If you were told that right now, as we read the Bible Study right where we are sitting, a gigantic bomb will explode in 30 SECONDS. What would you do?

IF YOU TRULY BELIEVED THAT A BOMB WOULD EXPLODE, WHAT WOULD YOUR ACTIONS BE?

- CHILL FOR A BIT
- TALK ABOUT IT FOR AWILE
- TAKE A NAP
- EAT A SNICKERS BAR
- GET UP & RUN FOR MY LIFE

If you say that you believe something, but yet you fail to live out that belief, your actions prove that you don’t have real FAITH.
A lot of people think that merely **saying something** makes it a belief. But, belief isn’t just what we say; belief takes **action**. It is shown by what we do.

Now, this does not mean that our actions are always going to be perfect. We find, at times, that we are **battling our flesh** so that we do not do the things we really want to do. Sometimes our activities and actions are opposed to our **faith** in Jesus Christ!

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**Look Up, Read, & Fill in the Blanks of Romans 7:18-19**

“For I know that in me (that is, my flesh) nothing _________ dwells; for to will is present with me, but how to perform what is _________ I do not find.

For the _________ that I will to do, I do not do; but the _________ I will not to do, that I practice.”

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But we can’t live in that condition! We may stumble and fall, as everyone does, but we do not just lie there. The **Spirit** won’t let us lie there! He prompts us and helps us to stand up again! When we stumble or fall, **GOD** doesn’t reject us.

When a parent, trying to teach their son or daughter to walk, sees them stumbling, they don’t shout, “You are not my child, falling like that! I disown you!”

No, they pick up their child and say, “You’re all right. Try it again. Come here to me. Come on! Come on!” They encourage their child to try again and again.

If you believe in Jesus Christ — you are **God’s** child. And if you don’t believe, you can come to Jesus right now! Do you want to?

He is trying to help you develop a walk with Him. It is comforting to know that when we stumble and fall, He doesn’t kick us out. He doesn’t disown us. He doesn’t say, “You are not my child anymore because you have stumbled!” Instead, He picks us up and dusts us off. He says, “All right now, try again.”

**The Gospel of Grace:**

**God’s Love** for sinners who place their complete trust in Him.

What are you putting your complete trust in?
WALKING OUR TALK

There are many who claim to have fellowship with **GOD**, who know all the right words to say, but who simply aren’t walking with **GOD** in any practical way. It is so important that we learn to “WALK our TALK”.

THE QUESTION IS...

How does this happen?

How do we avoid being carried away by the pull of the WORLD?

“**I say then: Walk in the ________,** and you shall **not fulfill the lusts of the ________**.”

To “**Walk in the Spirit**” means that we allow the **Holy Spirit** to have control over our lives.

It is helpful to remember that **GOD** has designed the human mind to work much as a computer does. A computer can only produce that which has been programmed into it. In the same way, our minds are being programmed daily. If our input comes from the **flesh**, our lives will be characterized by the **flesh**. If we begin to program our minds with the things of the **Spirit**, our lives will begin to reflect the priorities of the **Spirit**.

The simple, yet profound, answer is this...

**don’t fight the flesh**

**strengthen the SPIRIT**!

Don’t fight against the darkness, turn on the LIGHT!
To do this, we must first recognize that we have both a spiritual and a fleshly side to our nature. If we are to Walk in the Spirit, we must feed the spiritual side of us. We all know what it means to feed the physical side of our nature. If you miss feeding your body, it reminds you that you are hungry.

**LOOK Up, READ, & Fill in the Blanks of JOB 23:12**

“I have not departed from the commandment of His lips; I have treasured the _________ of His mouth more than my necessary __________.”

Becoming STRONG in Spirit requires that we must regularly consume the bread of life, the Word of God.

**TAKING IN THE WORD**

If we want the spiritual side of us to be strong, we must sow to our Spirit. We can’t sow to the flesh and hope that we will produce a spiritual crop. In order to Walk in the Spirit, we must feed the Spirit. This is why we must read the BIBLE more and more.

**LOOK Up, READ, & Fill in the Blanks of GALATIANS 6:8**

“For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap ________________, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap ________________ __________.”

Jesus claimed that His words were Spirit and life (JOHN 6:63); so a regular time in GOD’S word is very important if we are to Walk in the Spirit.

Oftentimes, we don’t know how to read the BIBLE. Where should we start? It’s such a large book! How should we read it? These are good questions and here are the answers:

A good place to start is in the GOSPEL OF JOHN, because it tells us about who Jesus is and what He did while living on the earth.
So, start reading the **BIBLE** in the **Gospel of John**. Read what you understand and soon you may come to something that you do not understand. Keep reading. Before long, you will come to something that you do understand. Gradually, what you understand will help you understand what you do not understand! So read your **BIBLE**!

Now, it is important to **RESPOND** to what is said in the **BIBLE**. The **BIBLE** is the Word of **God**. It is **God** speaking to you.

When someone speaks to you, what do you usually do? You respond back to them. **GOD** wants to have fellowship with you, so you need to respond back to what He says.

So, how do you do this? First, find a verse and read it. Then, respond to **God** about what He says in this verse, as if He’s right there with you; because He is!

(Note: for those who are “born again”/ born of the **Spirit**, **God** promises that He will never leave you or forsake you - **Hebrews 13:5**. So He is right there!)

**WELL, LET’S TRY IT TOGETHER!**

Take your Bible and **look** up **John 3:16** and read it together.

“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.”

Now, think of some things that you can say to **God** about what He has said to you in this verse. Go ahead and respond now.

Did any of you respond this way?

1) “Thank you, God, for loving me.”
2) “Thank you for sending your son, Jesus, to die for me.”
3) “Because I believe in Jesus, thank you for giving me everlasting life.”
4) “Lord, my friend doesn’t believe in you. Help him to believe in you.”
There are many different ways that we can respond to what **GOD** says. Always remember that when you respond to **GOD**, it must be personally (*like you are talking to your friend*) and correctly (*you don’t make the meaning of the verse different than what **GOD** meant*). Everyday, as you fellowship with **GOD** by reading His Word and responding back to Him, you will find that your relationship with **GOD** will grow closer and closer.

Remember,

it is very important that we daily spend time in His word (**THE BIBLE**), responding to Him.
ACROSS:
3. I walked on the water to Jesus. *(Mark 6)*
4. I was a persecutor turned believer. *(Acts 9)*
6. I prepared the way for Jesus. *(John 1)*
7. I came to Jesus at night to ask Him a question. *(John 3)*

DOWN:
1. I gave birth to Jesus. *(Luke 1)*
2. I was the first to die a martyr of the church. *(Acts 7)*
3. I asked Jesus, “Are you the King of the Jews?” *(Luke 23)*
5. I betrayed Jesus. *(Luke 22)*
6. I wrote 5 books of the Bible and 4 are the same as my name.
Find all the words below in the wordsearch:

Day-One: Light
Day-Two: Heaven Above, Water Below
Day-Three: Earth and Sea/vegetation
Day-Four: Sun, Moon, and Stars
Day-Five: Living Creatures of Water and Sky
Day-Six: Living Creatures on Land/Man
Day-Seven: God Rested