

GRACE CHANGES EVERYTHING



THIS BOOK BELONGS TO

"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

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Based on the book by Pastor Chuck Smith
"Why Grace Changes Everything"

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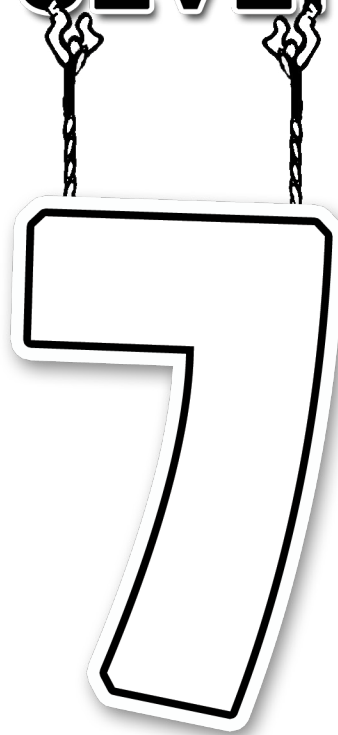
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GRACE
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Bible Study
NUMBER SEVEN





FREE INDEED!



Before we came to **CHRIST**, we were children of wrath; our whole manner of life was spent trying to fulfill the desires of the **flesh**. We were not free; we were slaves to our **flesh**.

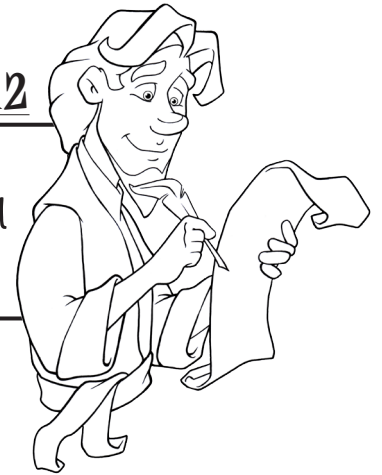
What a contrast to the glorious liberty we have been given in **CHRIST JESUS**!

As **Christians**, we receive **GOD'S LOVE** and forgiveness and have been granted freedom from being slaves of our **flesh**. We have been granted the capacity (the **GRACE** and power) to turn from sin to serve and worship **GOD**. We are free in **CHRIST**!

The *Apostle Paul* said that there might be things that as **Christians** we have the freedom to do, but these things could possibly interfere or even hinder our fellowship with the Lord. These things could distract us from total, wholehearted devotion to **GOD**.

LOOK Up, READ, & Fill in the Blanks of **1 CORINTHIANS 6:12**

"All things are lawful for me, but all things are not _____ . All things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the _____ of any."



FREEDOM BADLY USED



So many times, people misunderstand **Christian** liberty, thinking that freedom in **CHRIST** means that they can freely commit all kinds of sin.

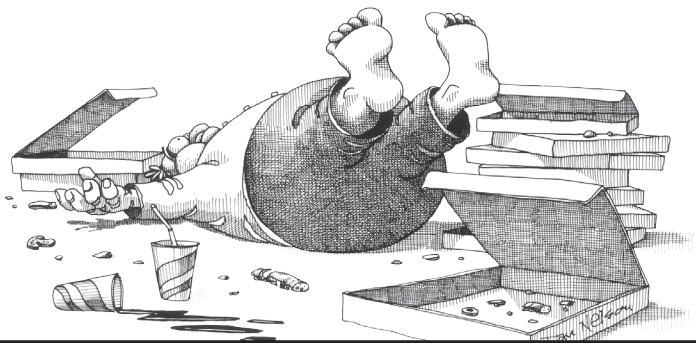
Our liberty is never a freedom to sin freely; it is never a license to sin. In fact, we should **AVOID** things that can hinder our fellowship with **GOD**.

LOOK Up, READ, & Fill in the Blank of **ROMANS 6:1-2**

"What shall we say then? Shall we continue in _____ that grace may abound? Certainly not! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it?"



Our glorious freedom is a freedom NOT to sin. We should never misuse our freedom, using it as an opportunity to yield to the DESIRES OF OUR *flesh*.



LOOK UP, READ, & Fill in the Blanks of HEBREWS 12:1-2

“Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us _____ with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto _____, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.”



As we run our race of endurance for the Lord, what are we to lay aside?

We are to avoid areas that would distract us from a simple, wholehearted devotion to **GOD**.



FREEDOM TO SERVE

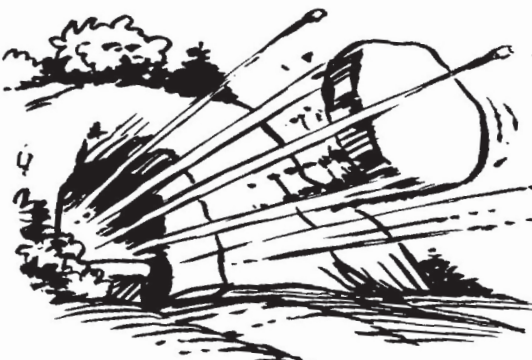
LOOK UP, READ, & Fill in the Blanks of GALATIANS 5:13

“For you, brethren, have been called to _____; only do not use liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, but through _____ serve one another.”

HOW SHOULD WE USE OUR FREEDOM IN CHRIST?

We should use our freedom in such a way that it honors **GOD** and helps us to **GROW IN GRACE**.

GOD places a high value on a humble servant. Over and over, the **BIBLE** reminds us that if we want to be really great in **GOD’S** kingdom, we must serve one another in **LOVE**.



GOD’S POWER

JESUS stated, “All power is given unto Me in heaven and in earth” (**MATTHEW 28:18**).

Can you imagine how much power that must be?! All the **POWER** of the universe was given to Him. The same **POWER** that lit the fires of the stars and holds every atom together belongs to **JESUS**.

AND WHAT DID HE DO WITH THIS POWER? SHAKE THE UNIVERSE? SPIN OUT A FEW NEW GALAXIES? NO.



He took off His robe, girded Himself about as a servant, and washed His disciples' feet. After He had washed the last dirty ankles and toes, He asked His men, in effect,

"Do you know what I have done? I have given you an example. For if I, being your Lord, have served you, then so also ought you to serve one another."

What if, right now, you could say, "**ALL POWER IN THE UNIVERSE IS MINE**"? What would you do with such power?

JESUS took a towel and a basin of water and washed the dirty feet of His disciples. All power in the universe was His - and what did He do with it? He washed the disciples' feet.

There are very few of us who want to serve. Instead, we **LOVE** to give orders and be waited on. "Go get me that!" "Hand that tool to me." "I need you to go."



How we **LOVE** to give orders, and how we get upset when the orders aren't obeyed! We get hurt, we pout. We enjoy ruling others... But, **GOD'S** greatest **blessings** are not to be found there. We have been set free, not to boss others around, but to serve one another in **LOVE**.

Without question, this **blessing** requires a work of **GOD'S Spirit** within our hearts. Our **flesh** certainly rebels at the idea of serving someone else in **LOVE**. Often, my immediate reaction to even the simplest request is, "if you want a glass of water, go get it yourself!"

My **flesh** **LOVES** to be served. But, I have been set free from bondage to my **flesh** and now I can serve others in **LOVE**. What a joy it is to serve in **LOVE**. All of the law is summed up in the following three verses:

LOOK Up, READ, & Fill in the Blanks of MATTHEW 22:37-39

“Jesus said to them, ‘You shall love the LORD your God with all your _____, with all your _____, and with all your _____.’ This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”



FREEDOM TO LOVE



Two hundred years before JESUS, **BUDDHA** said, “Don’t do to others what you don’t want them to do to you.” Notice, he put it in the negative. If you don’t want someone to hit you in the nose, then don’t hit him in the nose. It is a negative command.

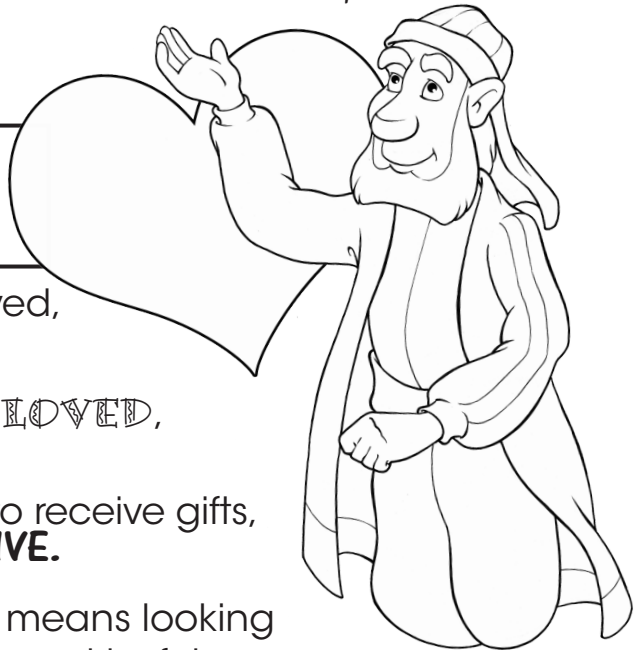
The **GOLDEN RULE** isn’t just avoiding doing wrong; it’s actively seeking out practical ways to express **LOVE**.



Some people believe they are righteous because of what they don’t do. “Well,” they may say, “I DON’T hurt anybody. I’ve never killed anyone.”

LOOK Up, READ, & Fill in the Blanks of what Jesus said in LUKE 6:31

“And just as you want men _____ to you, you also do to them likewise.”



Even as I would like to be served,
I should SERVE.

Even as I would like to be **LOVED**,
I should LOVE.

Even as I would like to receive gifts,
I should GIVE.

LOVING our neighbors (others) as ourselves means looking for ways to do for others in a creative, active, and joyful manner.

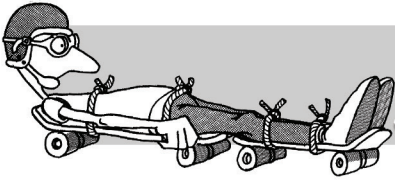
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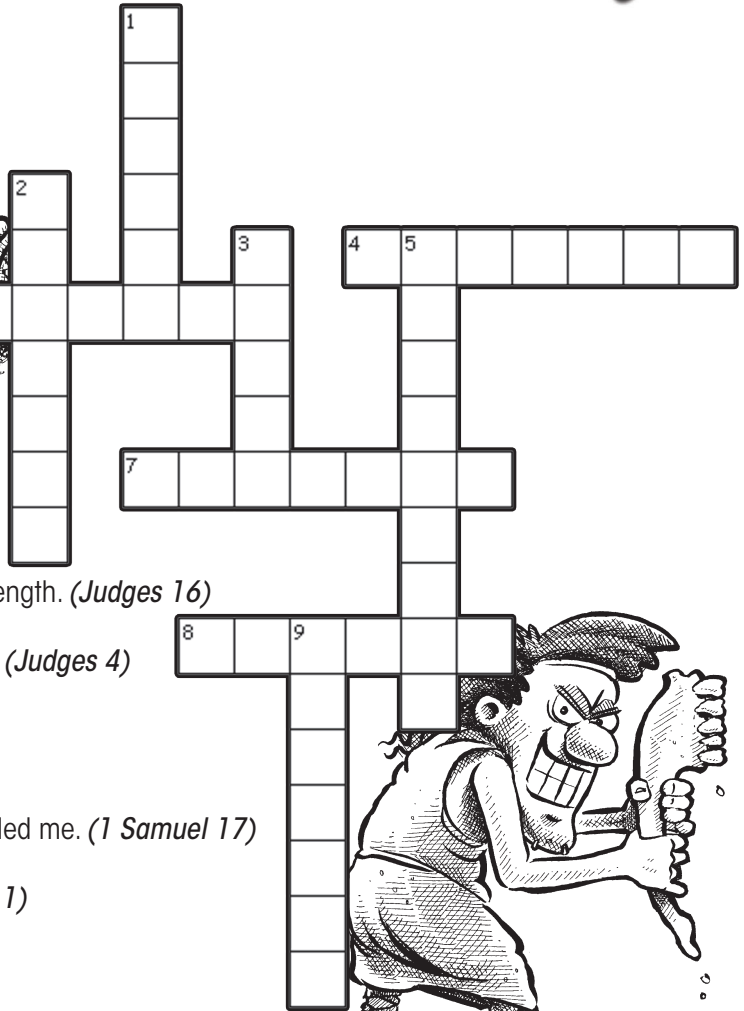
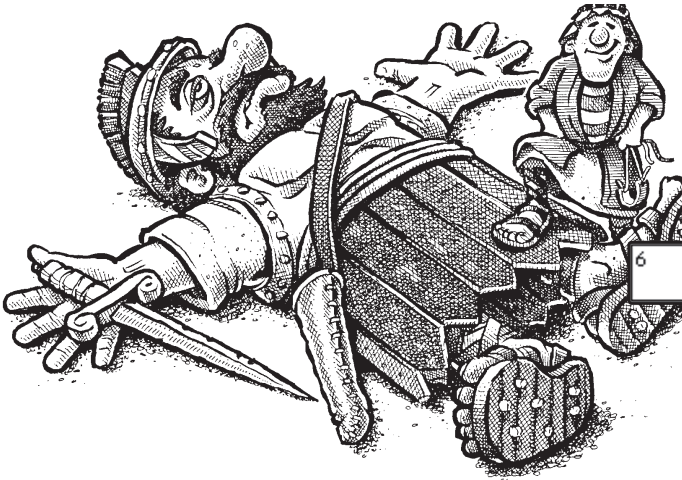
The **GOLDEN RULE** isn’t just avoiding doing wrong; it’s actively seeking out practical ways to express **LOVE**.

JESUS says we fulfill the law first by **LOVING GOD**, then by **LOVING** others and treating them as we would like to be treated.

May the Lord help you to freely **LOVE**, to freely serve, and to look for ways to **bless** others. Why don’t you pray now, and ask the Lord to help you to **LOVE GOD** and to **LOVE** others as yourself?



ACTIVITY PAGE 1

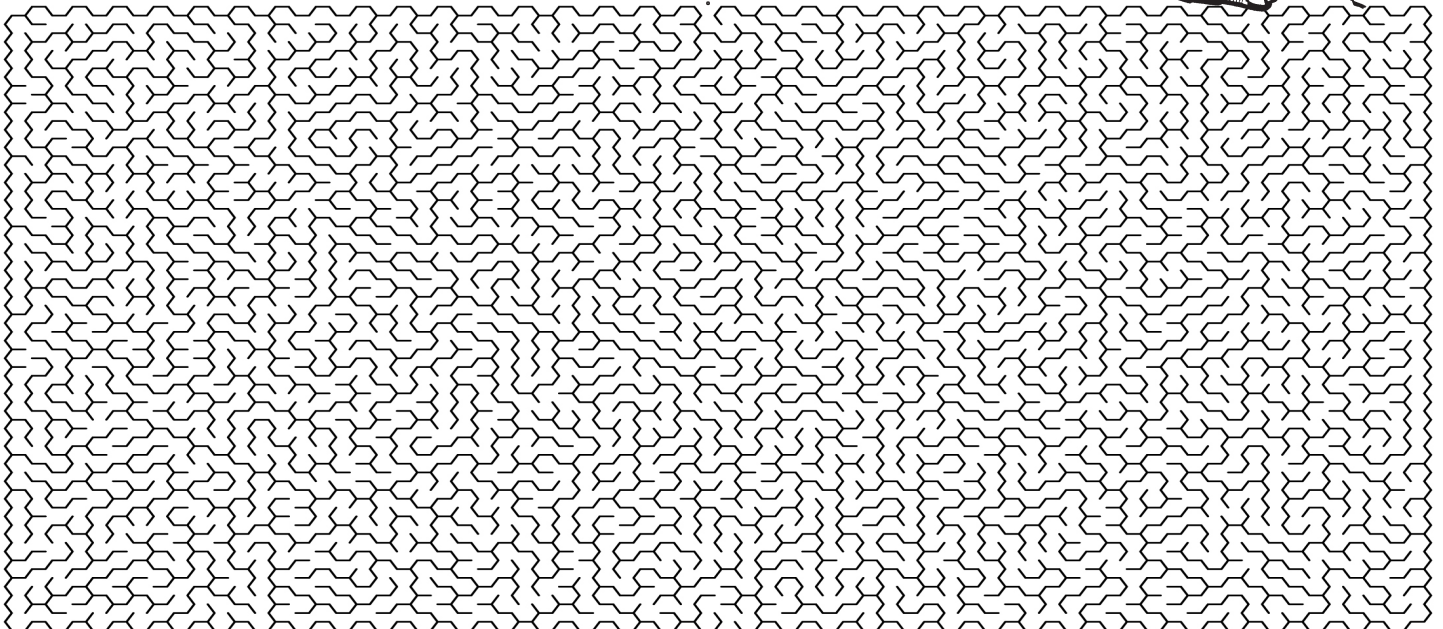


Across

4. I tricked Samson, and from that trick it took away his strength. (*Judges 16*)
6. I replaced Elijah as the prophet of Israel. (*2 Kings 2*)
7. I was a female prophet in Israel known as a prophetess. (*Judges 4*)
8. Esther replaced me as Queen. (*Esther 2*)

Down

1. Jesus raised my daughter from the dead. (*Luke 8*)
2. I was the fiercest warrior in Gath and a shepherd boy killed me. (*1 Samuel 17*)
3. I helped two spies in Jericho. (*Joshua 2*)
5. I was the cousin of Mary who gave birth to Jesus. (*Luke 1*)
9. I was the King to build the first Temple. (*2 Samuel 5*)





ACTIVITY PAGE 2

V Y M L K O D L G K O Z P H U J H K W K H R U L B N Z K C I N D E E Z
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Q B E A S V R D B V O Q K J B C U G C K O S B Z A V T T N D P T F O R
U L S A H T K A N U I W U C U Z R B L S L E K R D W O P O R T M B N M
Z A U D I Y R G C E V S I H G J S Y K T V C B A E T M D T R B I E L S
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W S C M P U S C O J V C V Y I J V Z R J R I H I D B Q V M J L I B T N
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A K G C U E E R R L E H L V O R W Y L Y Y O U W E I W O W M M J J Z L
A H C H T W Y C M S B O A S T F W C N M D V D H I M A S V D R Z L L M
Y L U E P H E S I A N S R A R I Z T A I O Y R J L T S N G J D W H M B
G F S C I I J V D O E M I R E A E S F Q U O T W H Q Z P D O L D D Y R
D F W V N V P P I P F J Y K K O J F D S Q Z Y L Q Y G Y G L N Z R G S
I U M Z W U H T E T L Y N G D L A E B K V H N W P R S B Y V Y O T P E
E U R A G D H D Y W O Y O O C V E B M F K H C K W S G M I B O S F R P
Q G F A E M P L E S W N F V I J D N V C V C W A U P A N T P A L A Q L
V F W F J M T Q Z N D A R M M J G P B W I G E V F H V E E L H S F I A
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D K J Y O V O P C K S P U Y E C D L S J I G S J K O D F Q Y Y C G M M
R S W K F H M T B S Y A B I B D B R N U Q N P G P A E P H E S I A N S
G Y A J W F A H P E R W F G U Q Y D P L R G U Y N K I P B A R Z Q I H
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J G G I H S Q K I E G L T K G H S K P R C Q E U U T R C H N M Y J Z Q

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“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