

Living On God's Promises

How many unresolved problems are wandering in and out of your mind today?

A skin problem. An allergy. An attitude in one of your children. A nagging suspicion. Bills. Loneliness. And, of course, there are many tensions and apprehensions more serious than these. Worse yet, they tend to accumulate and layer in your mind so that the total effect drains your life of the joy that is your strength!

Let's call these problems "the giants" which constantly tell you that you cannot live in the good land God has provided for you. Then let's ask the question: How are you overcoming the giants so that you are living in the provision of Christ and enjoying the blessings of God?

When you hear Job's, "Man is born to trouble as the sparks fly upward," you probably chuckle with an inner confirmation. Perhaps a better way to view life is to recognize that God has placed you here to overcome evil with good for His glory! Paul sees you as one whom, because of Christ, is a conqueror of the first order.

The "how" is simple, although facing the challenges takes courage. You are to face every situation with a specific promise from God. Such promises must be given room to grow in your heart, and then you must confess what God has said in opposition to what you see or feel.

Why? Why would God work this way?

God's purpose is to glorify Himself and to bless us by drawing us into the closest dependence upon Himself. The opposite of this is man's attempt at tackling life by himself even though he may worship God on Sunday.

So the pattern was given in father Abraham's life message: face life with a promise from God. Keep trusting Him no matter what happens, or how long it takes.

"Then he believed in the Lord; and He reckoned it to him as righteousness" – Genesis 15:6.

Jesus overcame the giants He faced in life this way: "Man shall not live by bread alone, but on every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God" - Matthew 4:4.

God, in His sovereignty, gave you saving faith; and when you confessed God's promise, hell was overcome! "For with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation/deliverance/freedom" – Romans 10:10.

This is the way God provides the help you need. All that remains is to believe and confess what He has promised. Why not use the month to build this into a lifestyle?

Lesson 1

Jesus said that Satan was a liar and a murderer. (John 8:44) He comes to you to rob, steal, and destroy (John 10:10); but he must tempt you to believe what you see, hear, and feel more than what God has promised, in order to accomplish his purpose.

The curse is the consequence of not believing what God had said. Faith, however, pleases God, because trusting Him more than anything translates into: He is most important!

Scripture Study: Read Genesis 3:1-7. *(5 minutes)*

What is man's primary problem? _____

What is Satan's chief method of stealing from you? _____

Scripture Study: Read Matthew 4:1-11. *(5 minutes)*

How did Jesus overcome the devil? _____

Did Jesus use general truths or specific verses to overcome the devil?

What are some of the things the devil has managed to steal from you on the occasions you forgot to use the promises of God? _____

Scripture Memory: Spend a few minutes saying, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but on every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God." *(5 minutes)*

Prayer Time: *(15 – 30 minutes)*

Thank and praise God for giving you His promises!

Tell Him that you want to honor Him by living by every word that is coming out of His mouth.

Use a promise from God to deal with a problem you are facing.

Confess Jesus' promise to build His Church over your local fellowship.

Lesson 2

Have you ever wondered why David speaks to his own soul in Psalm 103:2 to “not forget any of His benefits”? There seems to be a natural tendency to forget the Lord’s promised benefits.

Your enemy is smart and persistent, so if you do not diligently hide God’s promises in your heart and intentionally cultivate the habit of confessing them, you will be vulnerable to losing the enjoyment of your benefits that are in Christ.

Scripture Study: Read Romans 10:9-11 slowly and let the words sink into your soul, for this is to be your new lifestyle! *(10 minutes)*

What is God speaking to you about believing His promises in your heart?

What is God speaking to you about confessing His promises? _____

Verse 11 refers to being disappointed. What do you think Paul intends for you to understand with this statement? _____

Scripture Memory: Say Romans 10:10 over and over in order to put this key truth into your memory bank. *(5 minutes)*

Prayer Time: *(15 – 30 minutes)*

Confess God as your very own Father this morning.

Confess that Jesus Christ is your righteousness.

Confess that Christ is your adequacy.

Wearing the robe of Christ’s righteousness, worship your God with all your might, declaring His goodness over the places you are struggling!

Lesson 3

How foolish are we when we go into our day without the promise of God upon our lips?

Why not begin to notice God's promises with a new interest? Why not underline them or highlight them? Why not write them in the back of your Bible or create a notebook for them since these are the very keys of God that are intended to change your life!

Scripture Truth: Study, memorize, and meditate upon this need-to-know information found in 2 Corinthians 1:20. *(10 minutes)*

Guess how many promises God has made? _____

Where are they validated? _____

What does it mean that all of God's promises are "Yes" in Christ? _____

What is your part in seeing God's promises fulfilled in your situations?

Scripture Memory: 2 Corinthians 1:20 needs to live in your memory bank. Therefore, say it slowly over and over, looking up occasionally and saying it out loud until it begins to feel at home in your heart and mind. *(5 minutes)*

Prayer Time: *(15 – 30 minutes)*

Take 2 Corinthians 1:20 into your prayer time by praying through the verse. The Holy Spirit will show you how.

Give the Father your heart afresh this morning and worship Him.

Receive His assurances into your heart since you are His child.

Rehearse some promises over the things you are facing today.

Lesson 4

All of God's promises to us are made at His expense. They are free to us; but they are costly to Him.

When we do not use them, it means we do not trust Him in His faithfulness to validate them in our lives. We devalue them.

And the Bible says this makes God angry!

Scripture Study: Scan Hebrews 3:7-4:2 rather quickly, just to get the big picture about God's response to human disregard for what He has promised. *(10 minutes)*

Paul's "take care" refers to what? _____

How does God describe our unbelief? _____

What does the writer of Hebrews want us to learn from the experience of the Israelites?

Why do you think we are told to "encourage one another day after day"?

In 4:1, what do you think the author of Hebrews means when he tells us to "fear"?

What healthy response is intended by using this strong word, "fear"?

Prayer Time: *(15 – 30 minutes)*

Bring your heart before your Father and ask for the blood of Christ to cleanse you from "an evil heart of unbelief."

Ask the Holy Spirit to fill you afresh, and bring you into the lifestyle of being a constant encourager to the faith of others.

Bring a promise from God before Him and unite it with your faith!

This is worship, so use this to honor Him who loves you.

Lesson 5

Patience is a character quality that God prizes! Choosing to trust God over a prolonged waiting period with what He has promised greatly honors Him. Those unwilling to be patient will not inherit the promised provisions of God.

Faith that cannot endure during times of delay is not yet worthy to be called, faith.

Scripture Study: Read Hebrews 6:12. *(10 minutes)*

How does the writer of Hebrews tell us to possess our inheritance? _____

What would be the result if you did not know and use specific promises from God in order to meet the challenges in your life? _____

What happens if you get discouraged and lay the promises aside? _____

Why do you think God allows you to go through situations that require great patience? _____

Scripture Memory: Work on memorizing just this last portion of Hebrews 6:12: "... through faith and patience inherit the promises." *(5 minutes)*

Prayer Time: *(15 – 30 minutes)*

Bring your soul to your Father and ask His forgiveness for your impatience and any anger that has accompanied it.

Draw close to your Savior this morning and let Him fill your soul with His faithfulness.

Lift your hands to Him in adoration.

Draw your life force from Christ your Savior.

Lesson 6

Most of God's promises are conditional: many promises are made to those who fear God, which is a concept closely connected with faith. It means that you have more respect for what God says than what you feel; therefore you "fear Him"!

A condition never implies that a man earns or deserves what God promises. God "works in you both to will and to do His good pleasure" – Philippians 2:13.

Take the example of: "God gives grace to the humble." (1 Peter 5:5) Surely you can see that being humble is a necessary condition in order to receive grace.

Scripture Study: Consider the relationship between James 1:2 (the condition) and the promise in James 1:5. (*15 minutes*)

Read the entire context of this passage: James 1:2-8.

Why would you have to embrace James 1:2 by looking at your circumstances and deliberately counting it all joy in order to use your faith to receive God's generous offer/promise of wisdom? _____

Even if you take James 1:2 to heart and thus qualify for receiving God's promise of wisdom, what happens if you fail the patience test? _____

What might the Holy Spirit be speaking to you as you think through these issues?

Prayer Time: (*15 – 30 minutes*)

Ask the Holy Spirit to teach you to move into the joy of faith when you look at the challenges in your life.

Put your faith to work by receiving God's promise to release wisdom into you so that you can operate in a wise way.

Determine to trust Him as long as it takes so that you may gain the reward of endurance and all the benefits that come from that.

Worship God for His love for you; confess your trust of His wisdom in all that He is doing in your life.

Lesson 7

God made Abraham the pattern of our deliverance by giving him promises and requiring him to come into a place of faith regarding them before he realized the miracles of provision.

The alternative to living by faith in the promises of God is a life of disappointment. Many lapse into a lifestyle of resignation instead of patient faith, and lose the joy of walking with God into their destiny!

Scripture Study: Read Romans 4:16-22. *(15 minutes)*

4:16 explains why God uses the promise-method. What does this verse say is His reason?

Did Abraham hide from the hard facts that seemed to shut him up to failure?

How did Abraham handle the difficult realities he faced? _____

How did he grow in faith? _____

Apply these lessons to your own life by finishing the following sentence: "In order to glorify God and in order to come into my inheritance, I _____

_____."

Prayer Time: *(15 – 30 minutes)*

Honor the Lord by worshipping Him now and by glorifying Him with your praises. Take a promise from God that is very important to you and pray it before Him who promised.

Wait on Him with regard to His promise. Let Him breathe on it.

Rejoice with God in His desire to glorify Himself!

Lesson 8

Begin to make a list of “private” promises for your everyday life. They become “yours” as you own them and make them personal by studying them and by holding them over a long period of time. You possess the promises before you possess what is promised!

Think about categories such as (1) finances, (2) health, (3) guidance, (4) wisdom, (5) the blessings of the Lord, (6) your children and descendents, (7) growth in character, (8) the nation, (9) your local church, etc.

Scripture Study: Scan Hebrews 11 (the faith chapter), paying particular attention to the role played by the promises of God. *(15 minutes)*

List the examples of people who used the promises of God to gain such notoriety in God’s eyes.

Apply these lessons to your own life. “What the Spirit is saying to me is:

_____.”

Prayer Time: *(15 – 30 minutes)*

By faith own your position as a child of God.

Take your place alongside all the saints who have gone before you.

Take on several problems God has assigned you in order to use His promises to overcome.

Pray them through.

Now enter into a time of adoring Him and seeing how wonderful He is!

Lesson 9

In order to receive the blessings of God you must be sure of two things: (1) that God has stored up all His blessing for His children in His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ; and (2) that you are His child and thus qualify to receive His gracious, free blessings due to your union with His Son!

You need to own the sense that it is right for God to bless you, not because of anything you have done, but because of what He has done. This change of identity must be transacted deep inside or Satan will steal your boldness and confidence.

Scripture Study: Search 2 Corinthians 5:16-17 for the ability to not know yourself according to the flesh! (*5 minutes*)

What would it mean for you to not know yourself according to the flesh?

How might your life change if you truly integrated 5:17 into your identity?

Scripture Memory & Meditation: Review 2 Corinthians 1:20 so that the awareness of all of God's promises belonging to you sinks into your soul.
(*5 minutes*)

Scripture Memory: Put 2 Corinthians 5:17 into your memory bank as a means of changing how you think and respond to life's challenges. (*5 minutes*)

Prayer Time: (*15 – 30 minutes*)

Take your rightful place in Christ and come boldly to your Father God!

As His child express your love for Him!

As His child receive His love and His provision.

Declare His faithfulness over every problem you face.

Lesson 10

Every day of your life you are struggling with the awful reality of the curse brought on this world because our forefathers rejected God.

Amazingly the curse was intended to be redemptive, for God used this method to increase the pressure upon man to help him feel his need for God!

His purpose has been to deliver us from the curse and bring us into His blessings. In order to do this, His Son, Jesus Christ, took the curse upon Himself and released the blessings into us!

Scripture Study: Read Galatians 3:13-14, but simplify this long sentence by blocking out some words. This is legitimate, because as you grasp the main thought, the additional words will only add impact to the statement.

“Christ redeemed us from the curse...in order that (fill in the min. words to fulfill the thought) _____.”

What blessing is being given to you? _____

And what exactly is the blessing of Abraham? Read Genesis 12:1-3 and 15:1, 6 to discover and answer this question. _____

Journal: Personalize the blessing of Abraham as it relates to your life by sharing with the Lord on paper. What are the implications for your life? (*5 minutes*)

Prayer Time: (*15 – 30 minutes*)

Get still in God’s presence.

See your Savior becoming a curse in your place; and then see Him giving you all His blessings.

By faith receive the blessings of Abraham into your life.

Pray the blessings of Christ into your church family.

Lesson 11

God has stored up fantastic blessings and provisions for all His children; but there has to be the faith and boldness to step forward in order to receive, believe, and possess the goodness of the Lord.

In order to live this way, you must continually saturate your mind with the promises of God, for the promises must not only be planted in your heart; they must be cultivated so that they grow to the fulfillment stage.

Scripture Study: Read 2 Peter 1:3-4. *(15 minutes)*

What has God promised? _____

What is His method of supplying everything you need for life and godliness?

How are you to actually participate in His divine nature? _____

In your experience, what things tend to keep you from receiving everything you need for life and godliness? _____

Write out a promise from the Bible that will help you receive what you need today for life and godliness. _____

Prayer Time: *(15 – 30 minutes)*

Make 2 Peter 1:3 yours by praying your way through this verse.

Open your soul to Him who is life and receive from Him.

Delight yourself in the Lord this morning.

Pray the promise you wrote down so that He might supply you today.

Lesson 12

Fears constantly nibble around the edges of your life, looking for an opening to set up shop inside your soul.

In order to not be overrun by fears, you must develop the habit of “framing” or intentionally seeing your situations through the eyes of faith in God. This takes faith and courage, which set you up to use the promises of God and overcome.

Scripture Study: Search Jesus’ words in Luke 21:12-15, and you will see how He instructs you to “frame” a bad situation by looking for what God is doing.

(15 minutes)

What is Jesus saying that could inspire fear? _____

21:13 describes a special way of viewing life when this happens to you. What do you think it will take for you to interpret your circumstances in this way?

21:14 describes how you must prepare ahead of time in order to be able to respond properly to such stressful events. Are you doing this? _____

21:15 describes the promise. What are the conditions that govern your ability to receive this promise? _____

What are your thoughts as you study this passage? _____

Prayer Time: *(15 – 30 minutes)*

Raise your hands and express your love and trust by worshipping Him.

Bow before Him and surrender yourself afresh.

Now, look at your circumstances His way.

Pray His promises into your situations.

Lesson 13

It honors God when you recognize how good He is and how eager He is to pour love and blessings into you and then through you.

You must be secure about His goodness and faithfulness, or you will lose heart when the going gets rough.

Think of the best earthly dad ever seen or imagined. Then multiply that by total perfect-ion; and you will realize that God is the ultimate Father who loves to bless His children!

Scripture Study: Jesus' famous Sermon on the Mount revolves around knowing, loving, and trusting the heavenly Father. Read Matthew 7:7-11.

(10 minutes)

How does Jesus use your experience with fathers to help you understand something in the nature of God? _____

Jesus wants you to get your needs met through prayer. How does He build your confidence and faith so that you will pray? _____

Use a Promise: Take a promise from God and write it out before the Lord in order to ask, seek, and knock. *(5 minutes)*

Prayer Time: *(15 – 30 minutes)*

Take the promise you have just written out and pray through the action points of asking, seeking, and knocking.

Thank God for being your Father and for being so generous to you.

Wait quietly upon the Lord for a few minutes and let Him be with you.

Declare His goodness over the various areas of your life.

Lesson 14

Use the promises of God to receive His provision for your financial needs. He wants to generously bless you, and He is eager to bring you into the joy of expanding His Kingdom by using your faith in His provision to bless others.

Scripture Study: Read Matthew 6:32-34. *(15 minutes)*

What does Jesus say the Father wants to do? _____

What are the conditions? _____

Why might it be damaging to you if the Father were to generously supply you with wealth when you were not meeting these conditions? _____

When you worry about finances, what does it indicate? _____

So why is worry a sin? _____

How can you use God's promises to combat the temptation to worry? _____

Prayer Time: *(15 – 30 minutes)*

Worship God as the sole supplier of all your financial needs.

Renounce worry as the spirit of poverty trying to rob you.

Embrace the life of faith whereby you live on God's promises.

Now declare God's goodness and faithfulness over the various areas of your life.

Lesson 15

God uses tests to (1) prove the genuineness of your faith, to (2) build faithfulness in you, and to (3) demonstrate His faithfulness to you. For these reasons, tests are to be treated as opportunities.

Financial tests will come, and you will decide who or what is your source. You will choose faith in God's promises and battle your fears, or you will lose to anxiety.

Scripture Study: Read 2 Corinthians 8:9 in which Paul extends the concept of grace to include your finances. Note that the context deals with the grace to give and the grace to receive. *(5 minutes)*

Why do you think Jesus became poor? _____

Why would Jesus be interested in making you rich? _____

Scripture Study: Read Philippians 4:12. *(10 minutes)*

Why would God be interested in teaching you how to be content in times of scarcity?

Why would God be interested in teaching you to be properly content in prosperity?

How do you think you can learn these lessons? _____

Prayer Time: *(15 – 30 minutes)*

Surrender yourself to Jesus to lead you into learning the lessons of trusting Him and living in contentment and joy in your circumstances.

Express your trust in God as worship!

By faith use your needs to draw from the riches of Christ for your finances.

Ask the Holy Spirit to work in you both to will and to do the Father's pleasure in your circumstances.

Lesson 16

The commands of God are to be read as promises, for they are designed to lead you to fresh dependence upon Christ. (Galatians 3:22) He promises to supply the grace for you to be able to obey His commands. Therefore, every command includes a promise!

Once you read His commands this way, there is an impartation of grace that comes as you read His word. Your inner spirit man receives a boost, for you receive His promise along with His will! (Romans 8:4)

Scripture Study: Try reading the exhortation of John 14:1 through the lens of God's promised grace! (*10 minutes*)

What is God saying to you in this verse? _____

If you do not see God's commands as including His help in Christ, what is the effect of His commands upon your soul? _____

Scripture Study: Soak up the grace which God gives through these wonderful commands in John 14:27! (*5 minutes*)

What are His commands in this verse? _____

How do you think Jesus anticipates you receiving His peace? _____

Can you spot the hidden promises in this powerful verse? _____

Prayer Time: (*15 – 30 minutes*)

Take the command, "do not let your heart be troubled," and follow it to the person of Jesus Christ.

Glorify God by drawing your comfort and joy from Christ your Savior.

Receive His peace into your soul.

Declare His promises over the things that you are facing today.

Lesson 17

Jesus offers the grace of healing in His Kingdom. Sickness entered through sin, which is not to say that if you are sick, it must be because of your personal sin.

James was a brother of Jesus, and He was a no-nonsense guy who championed the type of faith that takes bold action. He seems to suggest that some sickness is brought about by such ordinary sins as worry, fear, unforgiveness, etc. He combines some interesting commands along with promises in this area of receiving the grace of health.

Scripture Study: Read James 5:13-16. (*15 minutes*)

What are the action points if you are sick? _____

What are the promises given in this passage? _____

Why might it be important to confess your sins to another person? _____

What might James mean by “effective prayer”? _____

How might James’ starting point in James 1:2-8 play a role in receiving wellness from the Lord? _____

Prayer Time: (*15 – 30 minutes*)

Bring your physical needs to the Lord and place them at His feet.

Wait on Him and see if unforgiveness or worry, disguised as stress, or tension or pressure are issues.

Call upon God as your Healer in Christ.

Confess Jesus as your health provider and determine to use James’ action points.

Lesson 18

Conditional promises greatly affect what you say, for your words are seeds that will multiply into blessings or the reverse.

It is God's intention to bless you and make you a blessing; but Satan will tempt you to speak what seems true and right in such a way that it becomes a curse. He knows the law of sowing and reaping and wants to use it to destroy you.

To avoid this trap, it is necessary to develop the habit of confessing with your mouth the promises of God.

Scripture Study: Read 1 Peter 3:9. *(10 minutes)*

Write out this verse using your own words: _____

How might you confess God's promises in order to inherit a blessing?

Scripture Meditation: Read Romans 10:9-10 to refresh your mind with the importance of what you say. Linger over these two verses so that they renew your mind. *(5 minutes)*

Can you think of a habit you need to change? _____

Prayer Time: *(15 – 30 minutes)*

Use your tongue to extol the goodness and greatness of God!

Pray God's promises over the difficulties you face.

Pray God's will into the leaders of your local church.

Pray the promises of God over your family.

Lesson 19

God charges all who lead at any level to take those for whom they are responsible into the promises of God. This is one of the prime purposes for having leaders.

Promises spell out what God proposes to give a person; but then the promises must be possessed and lived in through the process of faith that takes the appropriate action.

Most Christians have the privilege and responsibility of influencing (the essence of leadership) someone or some group.

Scripture Study: Read Joshua 1:1-9 with eyes to see how leaders are to help others inherit the promises of God. *(15 minutes)*

For some reason the English does not reflect the plural nature of “feet” in 1:3 or the plural “you” in 1:4 and 1:5.

What was Joshua’s task? _____

What do you think Joshua would have to do in order to persuade those for whom he was responsible to possess what God was giving? _____

Write out how this might apply to your possessing God’s promises and how it might also apply to your helping others for whom you are responsible.

Prayer Time: *(15 – 30 minutes)*

Read the conditional promise made to you in Joshua 1:6 to the Lord.

By faith receive His grace to enter into His promises, both for you and for the benefit of others.

Praise God for His powerful promises, which are able to change the circumstances you face.

Declare the Lord’s mercies over the non-Christians in your life.

Lesson 20

The only source of blessings is God Himself. This means that you are always dealing directly with God regardless of what others may or may not do.

In order to inherit His blessings you must keep your focus upon God; and you must exercise the faith He gave you to possess His incredible promises.

The person who faces difficult things but looks for what God is saying and doing is positioning himself to use the promises.

Scripture Study: Read John the Baptist's amazing insight in John 3:27.

(10 minutes)

How might this truth change your life? _____

God gives by means of _____, and you receive by means of _____.

Scripture Study: Read James 1:17. *(5 minutes)*

Finish this sentence: "What I really believe about my heavenly Father determines

_____."

What are some of the good things your heavenly Father has given to you?

Prayer Time: *(15 – 30 minutes)*

Come before your heavenly Father with singing this morning.

Thank Him for all that He has done.

Ask the Holy Spirit to develop in you the habit of looking for what God is saying and doing.

Confess His promises over your life.

Lesson 21

The disciples of Jesus had received many glimpses of Jesus' identity; and no doubt, they had also heard many skeptical voices accusing Him. Jesus deliberately led them to consider what they had heard and make their own decision.

Their willingness to openly confess Him as “the Christ, the Son of the living God” changed everything!

Did the revelation come just prior to the confession or along with the confession? We cannot be certain; but it may well be that as they were forced to go one way or the other and chose to say it with their mouths that there came a great rush of revelation.

Scripture Study: Look for yourself in the familiar verses of Matthew 16:13-19.

(15 minutes)

By taking advantage of the present tense in 16:15, Jesus asked, “But who are you saying that I am?”

This is always the question when you are faced with a difficulty. Who are you saying at that moment Jesus is to you?

Therefore, as you are now facing certain issues, who are you saying that Jesus is to you?

Finish this sentence: “Jesus builds His church; and the church overcomes Hades as we

_____.”

The Pharisees had been keeping people out of the Kingdom; but Jesus' followers were authorized to open the Kingdom and admit them into fellowship when they confessed Jesus as the Christ, the Son of God.

Prayer Time: *(15 – 30 minutes)*

Make your confession of Jesus as the Lord of your life and of your circumstances.

Declare His worthiness to be praised, adored, and trusted!

Worship Him as the One who conquered death, Satan, and sin!

Say Who He is in relation to every physical, financial, or personal need!

Lesson 22

James declares your tongue as the rudder that will determine your destination. Your “silent tongue” produces a constant chatter in the form of self-talk.

When you are not frequently confessing the promises of God, your self-talk will degenerate into contradicting God with negativity and unbelief, which will steer your life into curses rather than blessings.

Scripture Study: As you consider the consequences of what you confess, Read Matthew 10:32 –34. *(10 minutes)*

There is an implication here that when we do not confess Jesus openly that we are _____; and this is a place we do not wish to go. (Of course, this passage deals with the ultimate confessing or denying; but it has implications for daily life.) Jesus here spoke of using a “sword”; and since He was speaking figuratively, what do you think He meant by “sword”? _____

Scripture Study: Notice the importance of your confession as you read Hebrews 4:14-16. *(5 minutes)*

Why do you think the writer of Hebrews emphasized their holding fast their confession of who Jesus was and is? _____

What is your experience when you forget to frequently confess Christ?

Prayer Time: *(15 – 30 minutes)*

Put your tongue on God’s altar this morning.

Confess Jesus Christ as your righteousness so that He might empower your tongue to change its ways and agree with Him at all times.

Delight in Christ this morning as all that you need for life and godliness.

Pray for the missionaries you know.

Lesson 23

What is it Satan wants in you? He wants to damage, destroy, or diminish your faith.

Why? Because your trusting God is worship.

Your faith needs faith food. In order to feed upon Christ Himself, you need to feed upon His promises. This is your antidote to the poison of unbelief.

Scripture Study: Read Luke 22:31-32. What happened to Simon happens also to you. (15 minutes)

What might allow Satan to “demand” the right to “sift you as wheat”: i.e. put you through the wringer? _____

Are you aware that Jesus is currently praying for you? _____

What does that say about the value of prayer? _____

What are the battles of your life about? _____

What are you learning from this to enable you to overcome? _____

How might God use you to help others overcome? _____

Prayer Time: (15 – 30 minutes)

Thank your Father for giving you the gift of saving faith.

Use your faith to fight every fear or doubt with the truth of God’s exceedingly great and precious promises.

Worship Jesus Christ as The Overcomer who delivers you from every enemy.

Pray for people this morning who need their faith strengthened.

Lesson 24

Jesus has secured all the blessings for you: comfort, guidance, strength, confidence, wisdom, favor, abundance, healing, and finally heaven itself! But He has given you the Holy Spirit as the initial down payment on all that is to be your inheritance.

It is the Holy Spirit who applies what Christ earned. For this reason you will want to listen to the Holy Spirit and receive His ministry in your life.

Scripture Study: Read Paul's instructions to the Corinthian Church in 1 Corinthians 2:7-16. *(10 minutes)*

Looking at 2:9, what has God prepared for us? _____

The condition is that we love Him. What is the biblical proof that a person loves God?

What is the role of the Spirit described in 2:10, 12? _____

Scripture Study: Now see the role of the Holy Spirit in your life found in Ephesians 1:13-14. *(5 minutes)*

Why do you think the Father promised to give the Holy Spirit to His children?

What are the implications for your life? _____

Prayer Time: *(15 – 30 minutes)*

Confess any unforgiveness or unbelief that might block your fellowship with the Holy Spirit, for He desires to relieve you of this burden.

Eagerly receive the fresh infilling of the Holy Spirit this morning!

Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal to you the good things God has stored up for you.

Pray His promises over all who are depending upon you in some way.

Lesson 25

Living in God's blessings is the result of living by faith in His promises. This is how you began to experience the goodness of God; and this is how you shall experience His provision.

The life of blessing and favor is extremely simple. It just isn't easy.

Those who have great confidence in the nature of God trust Him even when all their feelings are sending uncomfortable messages; and they live a blessed life.

Scripture Study: Read Colossians 2:6. *(10 minutes)*

Paul's, "Therefore" means he is drawing a conclusion.

What is his conclusion? _____

What does this conclusion mean for your life? _____

Journaling: Write out your thoughts before the Lord this morning concerning how you are to live in Christ just like you began. *(5 minutes)*

Prayer Time: *(15 – 30 minutes)*

This morning, choose to depend upon Christ for every need of your life.

Become still and wait in His presence.

Listen to the Holy Spirit.

Let Him use you in prayer.

