

Program Transcripts

May 2025



IN
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OF THE LORD'S WAY®

SEARCH PROGRAMS

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Topics subject to change without notice

MAY 4 – UNDERSTANDING SIN

When people hear the word sin, they may react to it in several ways. Many deny there is such a thing as sin; others refuse to confess they have sinned. We, however, are asking the question, “How does God see sin?”

MAY 11 – WHERE COULD I GO?

When you face conflicts, struggles, confusion, or salvation from sin, where do you turn? Many look to sources that may not give answers that help. The Scriptures, however, teach there is no better source than the Lord.

MAY 18 – WE MUST KNOW GOD

Our computers and smart phones give us data about nearly anything, but having information is not the same thing as having wisdom or knowing God. If we want eternal life, we must study the Scriptures to know God.

MAY 25 – WHAT GOD HAS DONE

From the beginning of time, God has provided for humanity physical and spiritual needs. He has been a Father to us in every aspect of our lives. God has blessed us in countless ways, and we give thanks for what God has done.

Understanding Sin

Today we're exploring sin. People today tend to soften the concept of sin. People don't like to hear anything negative, so they avoid the topic of sin. One well-known preacher said that "sin" and "sinner" are outdated words and should never be used. He believes that calling someone a "sinner" is the worst thing any preacher can do. And a recent survey revealed many Americans don't believe there is any such thing as sin.

But the Bible speaks of the "sin" and its synonyms "iniquity," "transgression," "wickedness," or "error" hundreds of times. People don't like to think about sin or confess sin, because they don't like to think that something is wrong with them. The question however remains, "how does God see sin?" You see, He often sees and understands things differently than we do. The Lord may not excuse or dismiss the errors of our lives so quickly. If God sent Jesus down to this earth to die for "sin," Then God must take it very seriously. The Bible depicts sin as man's greatest enemy and really the cause of all our troubles in this world. Romans 5 and verse 12 says that physical death entered the world through sin. Romans 6:23 reminds us that the wages of sin is spiritual death. Ezekiel 18:4 says that the soul that sins will die. Well, since God considers sin such a terrible thing, we ought to think seriously about how we think of sin as well.

Our reading today comes from the prophet Isaiah chapter 55 verses 6 to 9. And it talks about our need to come to God.

Seek the Lord while He may be found; Call upon Him while He is near. Let the wicked forsake his way And the unrighteous man his thoughts; And let him return to the Lord, And He will have compassion on him, And to our God, For He will abundantly pardon. "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways," declares the Lord. "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways And My thoughts than your thoughts."

That's a reading from God's holy word. That helps us to understand the greatness and the grandeur of our God. Let's pray together. Heavenly Father we're thankful that we can approach You with humility, with penitent hearts, with ways that have changed and Father we're thankful that You love us and that You care for us. Help us Father to live according to Your will and to love You with all our heart and soul and mind and strength. In Jesus name, Amen.

Everyone of us wrestles with the problem of sin and guilt. We know that we've sinned and that we feel the sting of guilt and shame because of that sin. How we deal with our sin and guilt matters greatly in our relationship with our Father in Heaven. A book in my library has this subtitle: "37 Ways Not to Handle Guilt." And it tells of 37 ways people try to avoid responsibility and justify their sins. Well the book correctly and clearly says that not one of these 37 ways to handle guilt works.

You can find someone saying, "I have sinned," really only a handful of times in the Bible, and yet the Bible says in Romans 3:23 that, "all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God." People don't like to admit they are "sinners"; they would rather fool themselves. They call their sin a mistake, an error in judgment, a disappointment, an inappropriate action, or a problem, or a disease, or an addiction. They're willing to call it anything but sin. Rather than admit they have sinned, people would rather act like it never happened.

Some blame society, parents, or circumstances for their sins. After Adam knowingly ate of the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, he blamed Eve. Now Adam told the Lord in Genesis 3:12 why, "The woman whom You gave to be with me, she gave me from the tree, and I ate." In verse 13 Eve admitted that she was deceived and blamed the serpent. Well, God didn't accept their excuses but held them responsible for their sins. He cast them out of the garden into a world with a lot of pain and suffering.

In 1 Samuel 15 Samuel told Saul to strike the Amalekites, to destroy every person and all that they have. But Saul spared King Agag and the best of the sheep and the oxen. Well, Saul knew that he hadn't kept the commandment of God; he fell weak to the pressure of the people. Well, Samuel confronted Saul asking, "Why then did you not obey the voice of the LORD, but rushed upon the spoil and did what was evil in the sight of the LORD?"

Then Saul said to Samuel well, "I did obey the voice of the LORD, and (I) went on the mission on which the LORD sent me, and have brought back Agag the king of Amalek, and have utterly destroyed the Amalekites. But the people took some of the spoil, (he said) sheep and oxen, the choicest of the things devoted to destruction, to sacrifice to the LORD your God at Gilgal." Well, Saul gave in to the pressure and blamed the people.

Samuel replied in 1 Samuel 15:22 to 23, "Has the LORD as much delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to heed than the fat of rams. For rebellion is as the sin of divination, and insubordination is as iniquity and idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the LORD, He has also rejected you from being king." Saul's explanation didn't excuse him from his disobedience.

Some people presume on God's grace. They commit deliberate sin one day presuming they can get things right at a later time. Offering sacrifices to beg forgiveness does not excuse deliberate sin. Seeking forgiveness is not always better than asking permission. God said rebellion and insubordination was as great a sin as idolatry and sorcery.

The Bible says in Romans 14:12, "Each one of us will give an account of himself to God." And regardless of what others do, say, or think, we're responsible for our words, our attitudes, and our behavior. You can't disobey God and then blame others. God knows who's responsible.

Some attempt to rationalize their sins away. People say well, "Just once won't hurt"; or "Everyone's doing it"; or "I can quit when I want to"; or "Times have changed!" Some think God has changed because society has changed; but God and His will don't change. God's ways are not like our ways; they don't need improving or editing. God's ways are morally and spiritually perfect.

Some get angry with God over what He calls sin. They charge God with being unfair or unloving to call some act a sinful thing. But God is not unfair. God opposes sinful behavior because He knows it ruins lives and families. When God makes a law, it's always for the good of His people. When people violate that law, they end up hurting themselves or others. We need to trust God to lead us in the right way every time.

People deceive themselves about sin! Paul said in 1 Corinthians 6 verses 9 and 10, "Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God."

People cannot follow sin and still please God. And failure to repent of sin will keep people out of heaven. Some ignore their own sins while they condemn others. They don't realize their own sin is just as evil in God's eyes as the sins of others.

Others think that they can flirt with sin but not be affected. A man who quit drinking once told my dad that he could walk into a bar and never touch a drop. He was sure that he had overcome his problem. My dad said, "You can't walk through the mud and not get muddy." 1 Corinthians 15:33 says, "Do not be deceived: Bad company corrupts good morals." You can't surround yourself with temptation and sin and not feel its influence. It'll corrupt you, even if you have the best intentions.

Some think they can live it up today, quit their sin someday, and not face any consequences; but they're fooling themselves. Sin always has consequences. Paul said in Galatians 6 verses 7 to 8, "Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life." People damage themselves when they sin. And God gave us laws in the Bible to protect us. We can't cheat God; we can only cheat ourselves.

Sin always hurts the one who commits it. Sometimes the pain is physical. An alcoholic will damage his heart and liver. Sexual immorality brings on many diseases. Violence leads to more violence, and criminals face imprisonment. Sometimes the pain is emotional. An adulterous spouse alienates the whole family. A compulsive gambler may bankrupt his family. A liar will find no one trusts him. A sinner must live with sin and a guilty conscience. Nothing is more devastating than to wake up with the reality of one's own sin.

Some actually think they've never sinned against God. But the Bible says in 1 John 1:8 to 10, "If we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar and His word is not in us." You know it's hard to admit that we've done wrong; and that's why many people would rather believe a lie than confess their sins. But it's through being honest with God and being honest with ourselves that we find healing and forgiveness. It's better to be honest than it is to remain in sin and then lose our souls.

God doesn't think about sin the way that we do. What seems little to people really matters to God. People wonder why God struck Uzzah dead for trying to keep the Ark of the Covenant from falling off the oxcart. Well, the priests were to carry the ark in a prescribed manner according to the Law, not the oxcart. And Uzzah was never to touch it, and since he was not a priest. Well this may seem insignificant to us, but it was irreverent and very offensive to God (2 Samuel 6 verse 7).

Well why is God offended? Think with me. If you're the victim of a crime, your attitude is going to be very different than the criminal. How would you feel if a drunk driver killed your child? You'll never think about drunk driving the same way, if you're the victim of a drunk driver. All sin offends God, because all sin is a violation of God's law an offence to Him. God gave us His laws to protect us and to bless us. When people violate those Divine laws, they become repugnant, an abomination to the Divine Lawgiver.

When people disobey God's laws, they are actually disobeying Him personally. The Bible says in 1 John 2:4 to 5: The one who says, "I have come to know Him (that is I have a relationship with God)," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him; but whoever keeps His word, in him the love of God has truly been perfected. Violating God's commands shows disrespect and even hostility toward God.

Proverbs 15:9 says that, "The way of the wicked is an abomination to the LORD, but He loves one who pursues righteousness." An abomination is detestable and repugnant to God. Our God is holy in nature, and sin is repugnant to Him. Habakkuk 1:13 says of God, "Your eyes are too pure to approve evil, and You cannot look on wickedness with favor."

God created us, and He desperately wants to remain close to us. Since sin separates us from God, we shouldn't be surprised that God despises the sin because it breaks our fellowship with Him. Solomon said in Proverbs 6:16 to 19 that, "There are six things which the LORD hates, Yes, seven which are an abomination to Him: Haughty eyes, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, A heart that

devises wicked plans, Feet that run rapidly to evil, A false witness who utters lies, and one who spreads strife among brothers.”

While God hates sin, the Father still loves sinners and sent His son Jesus to die for them. God hates sin because He loves you. He hates what sin does to you and to everyone He loves. Sin grieves the Lord. Ezekiel 33 and verse 11 says, “As I live, declares the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel?”

Paul said in Romans 6 and verse 23, “For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.” The word death means separation. And physical death is when our bodies are separated from our spirits. But spiritual death is when we become separated from the love and grace of God.

Paul told Christians in Romans 8:12 to 13, “So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.” The Hebrew writer said in Hebrews 3:12 to 13, to Christians, he says, “Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God. But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called “today,” that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.”

Oh it breaks God's heart to see peoples sin and then turn away from righteousness. Jesus said in Matthew 23: 37 to 38, “O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you would not! See, your house is left to you desolate.” My friend, are you living a way of life that breaks the heart of God? Don't rationalize your sin away. Don't excuse it away. Give the sin up, and give your heart to God.

Let's pray together. Oh Father we pray that You will help us to see ourselves as You see us. And to give up our sins and to repent and to come back to You. Father we're thankful for Your love and for Jesus, whose death up on a cross pays the price for our sins. Help us to love You and to love Him. In Jesus name, Amen

It's only when we understand how ugly and grievous sin is that we grasp how great the grace of God is. The Father didn't sacrifice His Son Jesus for something trivial. God hates sin, because He knows the tragic consequences of sin. He was willing to give His Son, the ultimate sacrifice, to forgive our sins.

Romans 5:6 to 8 says, “For while we were still helpless, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will hardly die for a righteous man; though perhaps for the good man someone would dare even to die. But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.”

God loves you and He wants your heart. To become a Christian, you must believe with all your heart that Jesus is the Christ. And out of love for God, you must turn away from the sin that offends Him. Repentance takes place when you hate sin and you hunger for righteousness, and you want to follow Christ. And with your faith, your love and repentance, confess the Name of Jesus before others and be baptized into Christ. When you're baptized, the Lord will wash away your sins, add you to the church, and cause you to walk in newness of life (Romans 6 verses 3 to 7). Get your heart and life right with the living God.

Date: _____

What is the title and main subject of this lesson?

What scriptures are referenced within the lesson?

If this lesson includes any main Bible characters, who are they and what are some of their traits?

Why is this message important?

Are there specific things discussed in this lesson that you would like to work on in your personal life?

How would you share this message with others and with whom would you like to share it?

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Where Could I Go?

Do you recall this old hymn? “Living below in this old sinful world, Hardly a comfort can afford, Striving alone to face temptations sore, Where could I go but to the Lord? Where could I go, oh, where could I go, Seeking a refuge for my soul, Needing a friend to save me in the end, Where could I go but to the Lord?”

We live in a messed up world. Sin fills our televisions, the internet and movies. Our culture undermines the sanctity of life and the sanctity of marriage. We've chosen alternatives to truth and godliness and have forsaken the way of the Lord. Many have quit serving God and worshipping at church and imagined they could live without God.

But the more that we push God out, the more wretched we become. The more we forsake Him, His church, and what's right, the more trouble we find. God gave us His Son to save us, His Word to guide us, and His church as a family. If we cease to attend worship at church, to pray, and to obey the Lord, God slowly becomes absent from our lives. And rather than push God away, we need to come back to Him. We need to come home to the Lord. And nothing is more valuable than your soul.

Our reading today is brief, comes from the prophet Jeremiah chapter 2 verses 11 to 13. And talks about how that society in Jerusalem, back long time ago, began to desecrate. He says:

Has a nation changed gods When they were not gods? But My people have changed their glory For that which does not profit. “Be appalled, O heavens, at this, And shudder, be very desolate,” declares the LORD. “For My people have committed two evils: They have forsaken Me, The fountain of living waters, To hew for themselves cisterns, Broken cisterns That can hold no water.

Many people today have done just the same thing. Let's pray together. Heavenly Father we are thankful that You through Your word and through Your love and grace have given us life and have given us the way to live. So that we may live forever with You. Father help us to never leave You or forsake You but to hold fast to You because You are the living water. And we love You. In the name of Jesus we pray, Amen.

God is the fountain of living waters, and you know what, He longs to bless us. Some search through libraries, some through the internet, and some settle for what they hear from friends or teachers. But the Lord offers the most important truth and blessing in life. We can't afford to go elsewhere.

We must go to the Lord for peace. Now true peace comes from a right relationship with the Lord Jesus. When your sins are forgiven, you can sleep at night, knowing that God is with you. The Lord Jesus said in Matthew 11:28 to 30, “Come unto Me, all who labor and are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.” Jesus gives us sweet rest. Christianity is not an impossible religion; you can live the Christian life and live with the Lord.

The Lord gives peace by listening. The Bible says in 1 Peter 5 verse 7, “casting all your anxiety on Him, because He cares for you.” Oh, the Lord knows your every heartache and fear. And He'll stand beside you and help you. The Bible says in Philippians 4:6 to 7, “Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.” The Lord's peace is real peace, even in the midst of struggles and troubles.

First, we must go to the Lord to learn right and wrong. Jesus has the ultimate standard of morality. When people follow His example and teaching, their lives are filled and are better in every way; but

when they follow their fleshly desires, they fill their lives with misery. The morality of the Lord Jesus reaches into the heart. And the Lord said in Matthew 5:27 to 29 that, "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery'; but I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye makes you stumble, tear it out and throw it from you; for it is better for you to lose one of the parts of your body, than for your whole body to be thrown into hell." When people's hearts have evil desires, they sin against God and they cause great heartache.

Galatians 6:7 to 8 says, "Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, this he will also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life." The Bible clearly reveals how the works of the flesh corrupt our lives and keep us out of heaven.

Galatians 5:19 to 21 says, "Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions, envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these, (and he says) of which I forewarn you, just as I have forewarned you, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God."

Second, we must go to the Lord Jesus for the truth. The Lord always speaks the truth. John 1 verse 14 says, "And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth." Now just as Jesus is full of grace, He is also full of truth. He will never mislead or deceive. The Lord Jesus said in John 8:31 to 32 that, "If you continue in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." Oh, Jesus identifies with the truth, in fact He could tell Thomas in John 14:6, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me."

When Jesus appeared before Pontius Pilate, He revealed one of the purposes for His coming to this earth. In John 18:37 Pilate said to Him, or He said rather to Pilate, "For this I have been born, and for this I have come into the world, to testify to the truth. And everyone who is of the truth hears My voice." Pilate said to Him well, "What is truth?" And many people like Pilate are stumbling around searching for the truth, when it's right in front of them. The Lord gives us the truth about life, death, and the hereafter. And we need the courage and the faith to listen.

Third, we must go to the Lord for forgiveness. Now each of us has to deal with guilt. There is but one real answer to the problem of guilt. We need the Lord. The Bible says in Colossians 1:13 to 14, "For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins."

Now forgiveness means that I can start over fresh. Forgiveness doesn't change the past, but it does mean that God no longer holds my sins against me. The blood Jesus sacrificed on the cross atoned for my sins, so that God blots them out. Oh, He keeps His promise found in Hebrews 8 and verse 12, "For I will be merciful to their iniquities, and I will remember their sins no more." The Bible says in 2 Corinthians 5:21 that God made Jesus "who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him." Now God gives us hope for a better life.

The Bible says in 1 Peter 2 and verse 24 that, "and He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, so that we might die to sin and live to righteousness; for by His wounds you were healed." I ask you, who else will die for you to atone for your sins? And who could? No one but Jesus.

Fourth, we must go to the Lord for life. God is our creator and the source of our lives. And without Him, we really don't have a life. Many people think that they're living because they've found some pleasure or achieved some goal, but eternal life is much greater than a temporary pleasure. And the Bible

says in 1 Timothy 5 and verse 6, "But she who gives herself to wanton pleasure is dead even while she lives." You know if the only thing you can find in life is sinful, you're spiritually dead.

Some of the Lord's disciples didn't like what He said once and decided to leave. John 6:66 to 69 you remember the bible says: As a result of this many of His disciples withdrew and were not walking with Him anymore. So Jesus said to the twelve, "You do not want to go away also, do you?" Simon Peter answered Him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have words of eternal life. We have believed and have come to know that You are the Holy One of God." Peter knew what we needed to know. And only Jesus has the words of eternal life. And only Jesus can give us life.

The Lord Jesus said in John 14:6, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me." Some think that there are many roads to heaven, but there's only one. And that's Jesus Christ. And the life He came to give is far richer and greater than anything men have to offer. Jesus said in John 10 and verse 10 that, "The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; (Jesus said) I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly." When people take their Christianity seriously, they find it is truly an abundant life, the best life we can live.

Beyond this, Jesus gives us eternal life. When Martha's brother Lazarus died, Jesus went to her home. Jesus told her that, "Your brother will rise again." Martha said to Him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me will live even if he dies, and everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die. Do you believe this?" (John 11:23 to 26) My friend, do you believe this? Does your life show that you believe?

Fifth, we must go to Jesus and His church. The Lord built His church; He purchased it with His own blood. He's the head of the church, which is His body. The Lord regards His church like a groom would think of his bride. And the Lord regards His church as His family. When you abandon the church, you say to the Lord, "well I don't want to be part of Your family." God takes note of your choice.

These days many who used to go to church have simply stopped. People give several reasons why. Oh some charge the church is full of hypocrites; and others say they don't feel comfortable there. Quitting church usually comes on the heels of some conflict or hurt feelings. Someone offends them, and they decide never to attend again. But when they abandon the church, they're also abandoning the Lord Himself. When a person stops attending church, he gives his influence to the devil. Parents who abandon church teach their children that God's will and church aren't important. They're saying that they don't need God or His church. They begin living their lives without prayer, without Bible study, and without worship.

Someone says well, "Phil, you don't know how those folks hurt me." No, I don't. But I do know church people may become selfish, hypocritical and mean. They're human and they don't show the love of Christ. I know that. But I'm not asking you to devote your life to follow those things; I'm asking you to take up your cross and follow Jesus Christ, whether anybody else does. To follow Jesus even if others have hurt you. Because Jesus still holds to the church. And He cares for each of us.

Now think about Jesus Christ. No matter how people treated Him, you know what, He never gave up on building, saving, and loving the church. He suffered the cross. Why, He could have called twelve legions of angels to protect Him. How do you think He felt when one of His closest disciples Judas betrayed Him for thirty pieces of silver? How do you think He felt when Peter denied Him, that he denied knowing Him and he did it three different times, and once in His presence?

But Jesus didn't give up on building His church, even when His disciples didn't believe. And whenever the women came and said He had risen from the dead, they laughed. But He didn't give up on them and He didn't give up on Thomas, when Thomas said he wouldn't believe until he could see the

imprint of the nails and put his finger into the Lord's hand and side. Jesus didn't give up and you know what, He hasn't given up on you either. He wants you to obey Him and follow Him. And He's patient.

He forgave all your sins when you obeyed the gospel and were baptized and became a Christian. Galatians 1 and verse 4 says Jesus "gave Himself for our sins, that He might deliver us out of this present evil age." After atoning for your sins with His blood, He became your advocate with the Father when you sinned as a Christian (1 John 2:1 to 2). Hebrews 7:25 says that "He always lives to make intercession" for those who draw near Him. Oh, He doesn't want to give up on you.

But if you give up on Him and walk away from Him and His church, if you harden your heart against Him, He will grieve your loss. You'll hurt Him, but you'll also hurt yourself and others around you. You're settling for a broken cistern that can hold no water. Rather than go to the living waters. The Lord Jesus still wants your heart and life. He'll wait for you, hoping and praying that you'll come home. The door will be open when you decide to come back, but you're like a prodigal son if you remain in the world. Oh come home, come home.

Let's pray together. Heavenly Father we hope that each one who hears this message will look deep into their lives and come to want to love You and to need and to serve You all of their days. Father for those who have wandered away help them to come back home. This is our prayer in the name of Jesus, Amen.

The Lord Jesus said to a group of lukewarm Christians who didn't need anything, in Revelation 3 and verse 20 "Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and will dine with him, and he with Me." He didn't say this people who are in the world and had never become Christians or those who were lukewarm church member didn't matter at Laodicea but He was ready to do something about even though before He was ready to spit out of His mouth. He wanted them.

The Laodicean church members had shut Christ out of their lives. They were attending church but didn't need Jesus. And He knocked, hoping that they once again would have fellowship with Him. The fellowship of the Lord comes with the church. And if you quit the church, you lose the Lord. Why not turn your life around and come back to God and to His church?

Nothing is more important to you than your soul. And if you need to work out a conflict or you need to repent, don't waste another day. Nothing is worth more than your soul.

If you've never gotten right with the Lord or been part of a church family, do it today. Believe with all your heart that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Turn your heart from sin and follow the teaching of Jesus—that's repentance. Faith and repentance must become your way of life. And out of love, confess the Lord Jesus as the Christ and be baptized in water. And the Lord forgives you and washes you clean from sin when you're baptized according to Acts 2:38 and 22:16. Now at baptism you become a child of God, and the Lord adds you to His church, His family. Oh, you need the Lord today more than ever! Why not come to Him today!

Date: _____

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We Must Know God

Searching for knowledge and wisdom fills our lives. Educators, mentors, and family members often guide us from being naïve to maturity; but an education in everything but God and His will is missing some of the most important lessons. We need God. There is an afterlife in heaven or in hell; and there is a God, to whom we must one day give an account. And since this is true, doesn't it make sense to know as much about God and His will as is possible? We don't want anyone to have to face God unprepared.

2 Corinthians 5:10 to 11 says, "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad. Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we persuade men." We want people to be saved and to know the truth about God. We don't want anyone to be lost because they don't know God or they fail to believe in Him. And so we search the Lord's way and share what the Scriptures say, because they contain the words of Jesus, the words of eternal life (John 6 and verse 68). Are you prepared for judgment?

Our reading today come from James 3 verses 13 to 18 and talks about the difference between the wisdom of the world and the wisdom of God.

Who among you is wise and understanding? Let him show by his good behavior his deeds in the gentleness of wisdom. But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your heart, do not be arrogant and so lie against the truth. This wisdom is not that which comes down from above, but is earthly, natural, demonic. For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there is disorder and every evil thing. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, reasonable, full of mercy and good fruits, unwavering, without hypocrisy. And the seed whose fruit is righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

That's a reading from God's holy word. Let's pray together. Father we're thankful that You give us wisdom from above. That helps us to find peace and hope and love. And Father we pray that we'll always seek to do Your will and to live pleasing to You. In Jesus name, Amen.

We must all come to know God. You'll never have a greater blessing than to know God. Jeremiah 9:23 to 24 says: Thus says the LORD, 'Let not a wise man boast of his wisdom, and let not the mighty man boast of his might, let not a rich man boast of his riches; but let him who boasts boast of this, that he understands and knows Me, that I am the LORD who exercises lovingkindness, justice and righteousness on earth; for I delight in these things,' declares the LORD.

Many people believe the important things of life have to do with how smart, how strong, or how rich they are. And people who don't know God often boast in these things. However, they're all outward things; and while they have value in this life, they can't give us eternal life. We have no reason as Christians to boast in the outward things, that will one day perish. Rather, it's written in 1 Corinthians 1:31, "Let him who boasts, boast in the LORD."

Now this passage reveals what we need to know about God. Whoever has that knowledge realizes that the Lord exercises lovingkindness. And this lovingkindness is a covenant kind of love, a loyal or faithful love. He also is the God who exercises "justice." Justice is a legal term suggesting God's actions toward people and that they're right and fair because of his just nature. He also exercises righteousness; God always does what is right. Now these three terms describe not only the attributes of God; they also describe the kind of lives that God wants in His people. He is faithful, just, and righteous and He expect us to be faithful, just, and righteous.

To say we know God is more than some kind of an intellectual exercise. You see how we live declares to everyone whether or not we know God. God's Word says in 1 John 2:3 to 6, "By this we know that we have come to know Him, if we keep His commandments. The one who says, 'I have come to know Him,' and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him; but whoever keeps His word, in him the love of God has truly been perfected. By this we know that we are in Him: the one who says he abides in Him ought himself to walk in the same manner as He walked." Knowing God means keeping His commandments. Keeping the commandments is not some small matter to God. Keeping His word is how God measures our love. He considers the person who keeps His word as someone perfected in love.

Today's culture contains millions who've shut God out of their lives and millions who've never known Him. The devil, frankly, has blinded many from knowing the gospel truth about Jesus Christ. And much of what passes for Christianity today has little resemblance to the Christianity found in the New Testament. Men have rejected the Lord's way and moved away from the teaching given in Scripture to ideas and doctrines that they like. For many Christianity has become religious entertainment an industry that's money-making, an enterprise. Some speak more about their ministry than they do about Christ. Now God intended for people to hold fast to His ways, not reinvent Christianity to their own liking.

You know reinvented Christianity isn't the divine Christianity of the Bible; it's man-made. Now we can't ignore God's Word and God's ways and expect God to be pleased with us. Our task is not to dream up new ways but to stick with the Word of God. Paul instructed Timothy in 2 Timothy 4:1 to 4, "I solemnly charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by His appearing and His kingdom: (here's what he says) preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but wanting to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires, and will turn away their ears from the truth and will turn aside to myths."

God takes what He teaches, in the word, seriously, and so must we. When a message moves away from the truth presented in Scripture; it moves us away from what God requires of us. Oh, it may tickle our ears, it may please us; but if it doesn't please God, it can cause us to be lost. I'm reminded of Eve who listened to the devil. Satan deceived her with lies about the forbidden fruit that made her feel good and to desire the fruit. She gave in to her desires rather than listen to God, and the world has never been the same.

I'm reminded of the children of Israel who listened to the ten men who spied out of the land of Canaan, a land that was filled with milk and honey. And they brought back a bad report that the land was filled with giants and it was impossible to conquer. And the people wept and trembled in doubt and fear. They didn't believe God would help them take the land. They took the word of men over the word of God. According to Deuteronomy 1:26, the people rebelled against God and grumbled in their tents. And as a consequence, they spent forty years wandering in the wilderness until that generation perished and another came along that would follow God into the promised land.

I'm reminded of Leviticus 10 verses 1 to 2, which says, "Now Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, each took his censer and put fire in it and laid incense on it and offered unauthorized (or strange) fire before the LORD, which he had not commanded them. And fire came out from before the LORD and consumed them, and they died before the LORD." Nadab and Abihu presumptuously acted on their own initiative, offering up incense with unauthorized fire. God hadn't commanded them to do this. They presumed God would accept their offering, but God punished them for acting on their own authority. Verse three explains why.

Moses said to Aaron, “This is what the LORD has said: ‘Among those who are near me I will be sanctified, and before all the people I will be glorified.’” When people draw near God, they must listen to God and follow His instructions not follow their own desires. If we presume to act on our own authority rather than listen to God, we’ve failed to honor God. This was sadly true for Nadab and Abihu, and, you know what, it’s true for us today. When people forsake the ways of God even in little matters, they begin filling their lives with ways that will hurt or destroy them.

We must know God and His will. When people ignore God, they fill their lives with heartaches and fantasies. When people push God out, they bring on themselves a multitude of problems. Without God, there’s only moral confusion. And without God there is no hope for eternal life. Without God people don’t know how to love, or forgive, or to stand for the good and oppose evil. Without God our moral and spiritual values have no foundation and change with the wind. Without God there’s only anarchy, where the strong abuse the weak and where everyone becomes utterly selfish. Is that really the world we want. Is that what we want for world? How we want to live? How we want the world to be?

God said in 2 Timothy 3:1 to 7, “But understand this, that in the last days there will come times of difficulty. For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, proud, arrogant, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, heartless, unappeasable, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not loving good, treacherous, reckless, swollen with conceit, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, having the appearance of godliness, but denying its power. Avoid such people. For among them are those who creep into households and capture weak women, burdened with sins and led astray by various passions, always learning and never able to arrive at the knowledge of the truth.” You see without a knowledge of God, our whole world becomes ugly and wicked. The greatest need of our day or any day is to know God and His will for our lives.

Paul described what life is like when people don’t know God. And he does this in Ephesians 4:17 to 19. He said, “So this I say, and affirm together with the Lord, that you walk no longer just as the Gentiles also walk, in the futility of their mind, being darkened in their understanding, excluded from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the hardness of their heart; and they, having become callous, have given themselves over to sensuality for the practice of every kind of impurity with greediness.” Well, that’s the way it was among the pagans in the first century, and I fear many are living that pagan life now.

Oh this is a terrible state, but you know what, we have hope in the knowledge of Christ! You see Ephesians goes on and it says in verses 20 to 24 a contrast. It says, “But that is not the way you learned Christ!—(it’s different) assuming that you have heard about him and were taught in him, as the truth is in Jesus, to put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.” Now knowing Jesus, knowing God, matters. We begin to see the difference between love and indifference, between good and evil, between a self-centered life and a life of service, and between forgiveness and revenge. Oh it matters greatly whether you know the Lord!

If we know the Lord, we’ll also realize that we’re accountable to Him for the lives we live. The Lord is God, and we are His creatures who must one day give an account of ourselves to Him. You know some think of God like a benign and senile grandfather who never knows what we’re doing, never requires anything of us, and will bless us no matter what we do. Nothing could be farther from the truth. God knows all our thoughts, all our words, and all our actions. Because He loves us, He holds us accountable. Because He loves us, He expects us to forsake the things that are sinful and to become godly and righteous.

Yes, God revealed what will happen in Romans 2:6 to 11: “He will render to each one according to his works: to those who by patience in well-doing seek for glory and honor and immortality, he will give eternal life; but for those who are self-seeking and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, there will be wrath and fury. There will be tribulation and distress for every human being who does evil, the Jew first and also the Greek, but glory and honor and peace for everyone who does good, the Jew first and also the Greek. For God shows no partiality.” Whether we do God's will matters greatly. And it matters what we believe and whether we decide to follow Him. God doesn't show partiality, and no one is exempt from serving Him.

Well why are we talking about this? Because whether we know, love, and serve God is necessary to please God. Our Lord “desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth”. And we love you, so we'd rather tell you the truth than leave you uninformed. Our eternal destiny is at stake; and we won't live on this earth forever. God promised in 2 Peter 3 and verse 7 that the “heavens and earth that now exist are stored up for fire, being kept until the day of judgment and destruction of the ungodly.” Now knowing these things will happen, what sort of person should you be? Are you right with God?

Let's pray. Oh Father help us to take Your word and Your will seriously. To love You and to serve You all our days. In Jesus name, Amen.

Nothing's more important to your soul than the gospel truth found in God's Word. Now the truth isn't always easy to face, yet nothing can substitute for it. Nothing can bless you more than knowing the truth, and nothing can hurt you more than ignoring the truth. Solomon said in Proverbs 23:23, “Buy truth, and do not sell it; buy wisdom, instruction, and understanding.” The most important use of your time today or any day is to study the Bible, to find out for yourself what God wills for you to know. Study the Word, memorize the Word, love the Word, and share the Word with everyone you know!

Paul wrote in Romans 1:16, “For I am not ashamed of the gospel (of Christ), for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.” Now the Bible that you have at your house is not simply another book. It's God's Holy Word, filled with wisdom and truth. It contains God's gracious gospel of love and salvation. And when you believe and obey the gospel, the Lord saves you and makes you His child. It gives you the words of eternal life with the Father in heaven.

The Bible says that in order for one to become a Christian and a child of God, one must truly believe Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. He must forsake his sins and turn to the ways of the Lord. He must make his faith known by confessing it before others and be baptized in water in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of his sins. Acts 22:16 says, “Rise and be baptized and wash away your sins, calling on his name.” Now that's God's way to become a Christian. Staying with your faith and love means keeping His commandments. Oh, I pray you'll become a Christian today!

Date: _____

What is the title and main subject of this lesson?

What scriptures are referenced within the lesson?

If this lesson includes any main Bible characters, who are they and what are some of their traits?

Why is this message important?

Are there specific things discussed in this lesson that you would like to work on in your personal life?

How would you share this message with others and with whom would you like to share it?

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What God Has Done

We don't serve a dead God; nor do we serve a hidden or silent God who has nothing to do with us. God hasn't forgotten us. He knows more about each of us than we know about ourselves. We serve a God who cares for us and wants everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. Yes, we can know The Truth. Jesus promised in John 8:31 and 2 that, "If you continue in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free."

Now the deists of former years thought God wound up the world like a person winds up a clock. I can remember as a boy my father turning the key that would wind up the clock that sat on the mantle. And he wound up the clock spring and got the pendulum moving and let it tick. And he didn't have to do anything else for about a week. Well, sometimes people think God got the world started but isn't doing anything for us today. Let's examine carefully what God has done for us, and how He has done more than we ask or think!

Our reading today comes from the book of Acts chapter 2 verses 22 to 24. And here Peter in the lesson on the day of Pentecost talks about what God is doing through Christ.

"Men of Israel, listen to these words: Jesus the Nazarene, a man attested to you by God with miracles and wonders and signs which God performed through Him in your midst, just as you yourselves know—this Man, delivered over by the predetermined plan and foreknowledge of God, you nailed to a cross by the hands of godless men and put Him to death. But God raised Him up again, putting an end to the agony of death, since it was impossible for Him to be held in its power.

Oh I'm thankful for the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus which gives us hope. Let's pray together. Heavenly Father we're thankful that You have acted through Jesus Christ to give us hope of eternal life through His death, burial and resurrection. Help us to be devoted to Him with all our heart and soul. In Jesus name we pray, Amen.

How do we know God exists and is working in our lives? Well, first, God made you and gave you life. Yes, you're created in His image and likeness. God said in Genesis 1:26 to 27, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." Yes, God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them." Genesis 2 and verse 7 continues, "Then the LORD God formed man of dust from the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living (soul a living) being." Hebrews 12 and verse 9 says that we should respect God as 'the Father of spirits.' Yes, He gave us our bodies and our spirits.

Paul described the God that we serve to the Athenians in Acts 17:24 to 29: "The God who made the world and all things in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands; nor is He served by human hands, as though He needed anything, since He Himself gives to all people life and breath and all things; and He made from one man every nation of mankind to inhabit all the face of the earth, having determined their appointed times and the boundaries of their habitation, that they would seek God, if perhaps they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us; for in Him we live and move and exist, as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we also are His offspring.' Being then the offspring of God, we ought not to suppose that the Divine Nature is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the craft and thought of man."

Someone says well, "Phil, this is circular reasoning. We know there is a God because the Bible says so." Well, I understand that, but let's look at humanity. Humans are intricately made; every cell in our

body has a unique DNA molecule that contains an enormous amount of information that determines every aspect of our makeup and proves that we are designed. Humans are intelligent, thinking beings unlike any other being on earth. Humans have a spirit and a conscience that continually assesses our morals. And to suggest that humans evolved from non-living matter and developed into highly intricate, intelligent beings demands assuming what has never been proved. It takes more faith to believe in evolution than to believe that we are created. Why, even Charles Darwin as he concluded the Origin of Species realized that there was a Creator.

Second, God gave His Son Jesus for your sins. John 3 and verse 16 and 17 says, "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through Him." Yes, God sent His to save to save us from sin. 1 Peter 3 and verse 18 says, "For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, so that He might bring you to God, having been put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit." The sins God forgives are fully forgiven, though they may be beyond counting. David wrote in Psalm 103:11 to 12, "For as high as the heavens are above the earth, So great is His lovingkindness toward those who fear Him. As far as the east is from the west, So far has He removed our transgressions from us." I am so grateful the Lord Jesus was willing to die in my place so that my sins could be forgiven.

Third, God raised up the Jesus to be the Lord and to be the Christ the Messiah. Peter said on Pentecost to the Jews in Jerusalem in Acts 2 and verses 22 to 4, "Men of Israel, listen to these words: Jesus the Nazarene, a man attested to you by God with miracles and wonders and signs which God did through Him in your midst, just as you yourselves know— this Man, delivered over by the predetermined plan and foreknowledge of God, you nailed to a cross by the hands of lawless men and put Him to death. But God raised Him up again, putting an end to the agony of death, since it was impossible for Him to be held in its power." Now later in this same sermon, Peter announced in verse 36, "Therefore let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him both Lord and Christ—this Jesus whom you crucified." I tell you we have a Lord and Savior, because of what God has done by giving us Jesus Christ.

Fourth, God makes us His children. John 1:11 to 12 says, "But as many as received Him, (that is welcomed Him, accepting Him) to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God." Yes, we must believe in Him, but biblical faith always acts. Galatians 3:26 to 27 says, "For 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." When believers are baptized, they become children of God, clothed with Christ. We're no longer strangers to God but His sons and daughters. Who can measure all the blessings, joy, and love that our God has bestowed upon us? In 1 John 3:1 it says, "See how great a love the Father has given to us, that we would be called children of God; and we are".

Fifth, God provides for His people. The Lord Jesus said in Matthew 6:31 to 34, "Do not worry then, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear for clothing?' For all these things the Gentiles eagerly seek; for your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. So do not worry about tomorrow; for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own." God is with us and He knows our needs even before we ask Him. And we can trust Him to meet our needs.

Sometimes Christians wonder how they can afford to do God's will. I love the promise of 2 Corinthians 9 verses 8 to 10 which helps us to turn from looking at ourselves to looking at what God can do for us. This passage says, "And God is able to make every grace abound to you, so that in everything at every time having every sufficiency, you may have an abundance for every good deed; as it is written,

“He scattered abroad, he gave to the needy, his righteousness stands forever.” Now He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed and increase the harvest of your righteousness.”

Sixth, God answers our prayers. The Lord Jesus promises God's children in Matthew 7:7 to 11, “Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. Or what man is there among you who, when his son asks for a loaf, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, he will not give him a snake, will he? If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give what is good to those who ask Him!”

We must trust God to do what is best for us, answering our prayers. Proverbs 3:5 to 6 says, “Trust in the LORD with all your heart And do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He will make your paths straight.” We often think we know what is best, but we must trust God. Psalm 37 verses 4 to 5 says, “Delight yourself in the LORD; And He will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the LORD, Trust also in Him, and He will do it.” When we set our hearts upon doing what is right, God will indeed help us. Ephesians 3:20 to 21 reminds us of God's ability: “Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or understand, (or think) according to the power that works within us, to Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever. Amen.”

Seventh, God blesses the faithful person who overcomes temptation and the challenges of this world. He who overcomes will eat of the tree of life, and never be hurt by the second death, he'll enjoy the hidden manna and receive a white stone, he will receive authority and receive the morning star, will be clothed in white garments, will have his name in the book of life, will have his name confessed before the Father and His angels, he'll become a pillar in the sanctuary of God and never leave. Oh he will have Christ's name and God's city written on him, and will sit down with Christ on His throne (Revelation 2 verse 7, 11, 17, 26 to 28; 3:5, 12 and 21). All these promises of God.

Eighth, God is at work in our lives. Paul told the Philippian church in Philippians 2:12 to 13 “So then, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure.” When God's people work out their salvation with fear and trembling, God is working in them to will and do His good pleasure. God works with us and in us.

Ninth, God raised Jesus from the dead. Acts 2:24 says, “But God raised Him up again, putting an end to the agony of death, since it was impossible for Him to be held in its power.” The New Testament speaks of the resurrection of Jesus Christ 120 times. Romans 1 and verse 4 reminds us that God declared with power that Jesus was the Son of God by His resurrection from the dead. He was raised and is now sitting at the right hand of God, far above all rule and power.

And tenth, God will raise us up and give us a home in heaven. 1 Corinthians 6 and verse 14 says, “Now God has not only raised the Lord, but will also raise us up through His power.” The Lord Jesus said in John 5:28 and 9, “Do not marvel at this; for an hour is coming, in which all who are in the tombs will hear His voice, and will come forth; those who did the good deeds to a resurrection of life, those who committed the evil deeds to a resurrection of judgment.” Oh no one will doubt God or His word on the Day of Judgment.

The Lord Jesus promised in John 14 verses 1 to 3, “Do not let your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and

receive you to Myself, that where I am, there you may be also.” I tell you faithful Christians have the promise of eternal life in heaven with the Lord Jesus. I can't think of anything that greater, that is grandeur, that is more precious than knowing I can be with my Father in heaven, who made me and my Lord Jesus who died for me and rose again. To have that promise to have that opportunity is one of the great blessings of life. Don't neglect the opportunity to serve the Lord, to be faithful and to be His child.

Let's pray together. Heavenly Father we're grateful for Your love and we're grateful for what You've done for us every step of the way. Father help us to serve You and to love You with all our heart and soul. In Jesus name we pray, Amen.

“For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, that He would give you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in the inner man, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; and that you, being firmly rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled up to all the fullness of God.” (Ephesians 3 verses 14 to 19)

Well, I pray this too! I want Christ to dwell in your heart by faith so that you will comprehend with all the saints the great love of Christ. I want God to be in your heart and life. You see God wants to be part of your life and help you, but you must let Him into your life. You can't ignore or dismiss God or dismiss His word and expect to know Him and His love for you. You can't ignore the Lord's church, made up of the Lord's family, and expect to draw close to God. Jesus purchased the church with His own blood (Acts 20 and verse 28).

So please make a firm commitment to the Father in heaven and the Lord Jesus. Believe Jesus died for your sins, was buried, and rose again on the third day. Turn from your sins and live for righteousness, confess the Lord Jesus Christ as the Son of God, and be baptized into Christ, immersed in water, for the forgiveness of your sins. Now baptism is for those who are old enough to believe and need to repent. Won't you turn to the Lord today in faith and love? And if you need to be baptized today.

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