

The Fulfilling Life of a Dead Man Study Guide

A 31-Day Devotional on Learning to
Appropriate a Life that is "Dead in
Christ"

Dennis Biddison

A WORD FROM THE AUTHOR

Dear Church Family,

I just completed a study guide to the booklet, *The Fulfilling Life of a Dead Man*.

You may have gone through the booklet in the past. But I would like to ask you to go through it again, and follow the *study guide* after each lesson, to see that it makes sense.

It would be good if you could stay up with what is put in the church-wide email each week.

Keep the comments on a separate sheet of paper. I certainly don't need to see your responses to the question, only your suggestions if I should word something differently. Of course it would be beneficial for you to actually answer the questions (as I have done), but I don't need to see your answers.

If you think you have a better question concerning the lesson, than mine, please note that, also.

Please help me out here.

Muchisimo Gracias

Pastor Dennis

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

The following exercises are to be done after the study is completed for that day.

Many of them are *thought questions* with no particular right or wrong answer.

Don't try to answer the questions on the same page that the questions are asked. Some of the answers would make that impossible. Keep a separate notebook in which you respond to the question.

As the lesson progress, the questions might take deeper thought.

Of course it would be best to do this in a group, but don't feel you have to share any particular answers with the group. Some may be too personal. Just say, "I pass" if there is round the circle sharing when it comes to something you don't want to share with others.

Try not to give trite, Sunday School answers. Of course in most situations you know the right answer (or what should be the answer if you were perfect). Remember, God completely knows your heart, anyway, so you can be totally truthful between you

and God when you are asked question that imply you are not doing or being what God wants for you.

May you have a blessed and fruitful journey.

Pastor Dennis Biddison



DAY 1

Luke 9:23

He must deny himself

*And He was saying to them all, “If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must **deny himself**, and take up his cross daily and follow Me.*

1. Explain how so-called *self denial* (as opposed to *denying self*) is not something that is clearly spiritual.
2. *Denying self* is refusing to cater to self. Anytime you cater to yourself, means that the old man is alive and well. In what ways, *especially in your family* do you normally cater to self.

3. Denying one's self is to *walk away from the old man*. What is your greatest hindrance to walking away from the “old man?”
4. Answer honestly! Would you rather *be* what a Christian is supposed to be or are you more interested in *appearing to be* what a Christian is supposed to be. The *honest* answer to that question will reveal how interested you are in *dying to self*.
5. How important would you say it is to learn to die to self.
- A. Not important at all. You think you have gotten along fine the way you are.
 - B. Some people seem *called* to die to self, other Christians seem to get along fine and still cater to self.
 - C. You think it would be nice if you could, but the sacrifice of yielding that old man to death is not worth it in your thinking.
 - D. You are determined to live by denying the old man any place in your life.



DAY 2

Luke 9:23

Take up his cross

*And He was saying to them all, “If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, **and take up his cross** daily and follow Me.*

1. Bearing a burden has sometimes been confused with *taking up one's cross*. What are some of the burdens you are bearing.
2. How have you handled them? Did it work? Was the outcome what God would have wanted?
3. The old man must be put to death on the cross. How do you go about reckoning this to be true?

4. Taking up one's cross means *death*. If you die, you're not focused on some special result you want, but only in following Christ. When you are burdened down, you are not taking up your cross unless you clearly reckon the old man to be dead. How does reckoning yourself to be dead, help you face the challenges before you.
5. How do you deal with Satan when you have deliberately taken up your cross, and reckoned yourself dead to the desires of the old man.



DAY 3

Luke 9:23

Daily

And He was saying to them all, “If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross daily and follow Me.

1. Explain in your own words how a commitment you made at one time to Christ had later disintegrated to some extent.
2. What went wrong? Can you identify that which caused your commitment to wane?
3. What can you do so that your commitment to Christ does not grow stale?

4. What excuses have we used for not making our commitment to the Lord a sincere, daily activity.
5. Is there a time in your life that your surrender to the Lord lasted quite a long time. Explain the circumstances and what God did for you during that prolonged time.



DAY 4

Psalm 84:11

No good thing does He withhold

For the LORD God is a sun and shield; The LORD gives grace and glory; No good thing does He withhold from those who walk uprightly.

1. What are some of the lies of Satan which you have fallen for over time?
2. How can you recognize that it is Satan that's dealing with you?
3. What are some of the good things that God has given you, that did not appear to be *good* from the perspective of the *old man*?

4. How can you learn to recognize the good things that come from God, and be grateful for them?
5. Satan's deception, coupled with our old fallen nature, creates the perfect opportunity to believe, at least a little, that God is not treating you right. What goes on in our internal thinking when we believe one of Satan's lies?



DAY 5

Psalm 139:23-24

Search me, O God

Search me, O God, and know my heart; Try me and know my anxious thoughts; And see if there be any hurtful way in me, And lead me in the everlasting way.

1. What does it look like in your life to “keep short accounts” with God?
2. How do you prepare yourself for the Lord to truly *search you*?

3. Is there a time when you asked God to search you and he clearly revealed something in your life He wanted to change?
4. Have you ever asked God to search your heart, and Satan began putting a myriad of accusations against you to keep you from hearing the one basic thing about which God may be dealing with you.
5. Name some situations in which you began to *stew in your weaknesses*—that is, meditate on them until you feel completely defeated, possibly even creating new weaknesses in your mind.



DAY 6

John 3:30

He must increase, I must decrease

“He must increase, but I must decrease.”

1. What are some ways you exalt yourself unconsciously?
2. In what areas will it be the most difficult for you to dethrone self. Can you determine *why* it will be difficult in these areas?
3. What can you do to exalt Christ in your life and to dethrone self?

4. In what areas do you need to learn to trust Christ, and by trusting Him, you automatically dethrone self.
5. In what areas is *self-focus* keeping you from exalting Christ in your life.



DAY 7

John 15:4

Abide in Me

“Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it abides in the vine, so neither can you unless you abide in Me.

1. Do you know what it means to *abide in Christ*. List the 3 things this lesson teaches that *abiding in Christ* means. (See 3rd paragraph after verse)
2. Do you truly get your sustaining life and power through Jesus? Do you try to maintain some part of your life *independent from Him*? List cases in

your life where you have tried (are trying) to maintain part of your life independent from Jesus.

3. Abiding in Christ is an *exchanged* life. What is exchanged for what?
4. What are areas in which you may try to get your comfort, joy, fulfillment, power, adequacy or success rather than through your relationship to Christ.
5. This lesson contains the first mention of being a dead man (last sentence). What does it mean to be a *dead man* in this regard?



DAY 8

Colossians 3:3

Dead men are not proud

For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

1. We must enter into the *good* of the exchanged life (See Gal 2:20) by faith. Explain exactly how this is done.
2. When we talk about the *self life*, to what are we referring?
3. How does one *practice* the concept of *death to self*.

4. “Dead men are not proud.” In what way can you actually *practice humility*. If you are deliberately making an effort to practice humility when you are really *not* humble, isn't that being hypocritical? Why or why not?
5. Practicing humility is most effective when you show humility in front of those to whom you would naturally feel superior. What Scripture comes to mind to remind you that you are *not* to consider yourself as more important than anyone else.



DAY 9

1 Corinthians 6:19

Dead men have no rights

Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own?

1. Give examples how our culture is built around having *rights*. (Give good examples and bad examples)
2. How is it that we should not demand our rights, but that we are to be conscious of the respecting the rights of others?

3. What are some of the rights that one must give up in order to be a Christ follower. (From your own personal standpoint)
4. What is the difference between how we handle our *rights* and how we handle our *responsibilities*.
5. What are some of the indications that one feels his *rights* have been violated.



DAY 10

Matthew 5:10

No need to defend themselves

“Blessed are those who have been persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

1. What are some evidences in your life of being *defensive*?
2. How does defensiveness show that the *old man* is alive and well and in control?
3. What can you do to become aware of defensiveness so that you can *submit it to God* rather than exhibiting it in your relationship to others?

4. What are some of the subtle ways in a person's life that he tries to promote himself before others?
5. How can one distinguish between being defensive and *not letting false accusations go unanswered*.



DAY 11

Romans 8:28

Dead men do not react to their circumstances

And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.

1. What is your *knee-jerk* reaction to adverse circumstances? Is God glorified by it? (Actually, as one matures in Christ, his knee-jerk reaction should increasingly be Christ-like as he *puts on the Lord*) See Romans 13:14, Eph 4:24, Col 3:10

2. What things or circumstances do people tend to put outside the realm of the “all things” of Romans 8:28?
3. How is it that a non-joyful spirit, a complaining spirit, a spirit of being a victim are all figuratively *slapping God in the face*.
4. What are some of the *good* things that Romans 8:28 might be referring to, that we have a hard time recognizing as *good*.
5. Christians living in the *good of* Romans 8:28 are essentially living in a cocoon of which God only lets those things penetrate that He wants to use for the good of the individual. **Ultimately, what is good for you?** It's the old man, (off of the cross) who cannot accept that God might be using unpleasant things for our good. **Can you give an example of something that was extremely hard to bear, and yet, in the end you could see how God meant it for good?**



DAY 12

Proverbs 26:12

No compulsion to prove they are right

Do you see a man wise in his own eyes? There is more hope for a fool than for him.

1. Can you name some times that you felt you had to push back to prove you were right in some relatively insignificant situation?
2. Would those closest to you say you are *argumentative*?
3. Is it more important for you to be right than to be of godly character? Think about that! Don't just

answer yes or no. If it is yes, than name some incidences.

4. Would your family say that your decisions are mainly based on *what you want to do (or have, etc)*. Do they see you ready to sacrifice your own desires for the benefit of the rest of them? How would your (spouse and children) answer that question?
5. Explain why *death to self* is so important in relationships with others.



DAY 13

Proverbs 19:21

No personal agenda

Many plans are in a man's heart, But the counsel of the LORD will stand.

1. Most of us think we are *right* most of the time. (Or we would change our minds about what that which we think we're wrong. Duh!) But are you willing to admit, that on any given situation, you may actually be wrong? Can you tell of a time this was true where you were sure you were right, and found out you were not?

2. Do you seek the counsel of others when you make important plans. (Change of jobs, large purchases, moving to a different location, getting married, etc.) If you don't, you're a fool.

Proverbs 12:15 — *The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, But a wise man is he who listens to counsel.*

3. Why are we afraid to seek counsel of others?
4. Proverbs 15:22 states, “Without consultation, plans are frustrated, But with many counselors they succeed.”

Why is it important to have many counselors if possible? Which counselors are the most reliable? Least reliable? Explain your answers.

5. Under what conditions should you go against counsel? Think this one through.



DAY 14

Psalm 42:11

Dead men cannot feel sorry for themselves

Why are you in despair, O my soul? And why have you become disturbed within me? Hope in God, for I shall yet praise Him, The help of my countenance and my God.

The devotional for this lesson is built on 1 Samuel 22:8.

1. When you start feeling sorry for yourself for *any* reason, you need to send the *old man* to the cross. Can you describe a time when you did not do that, and what results there were in your life.

2. Can you describe a time when you recognized you were heading down a “feel sorry for yourself” path and you quickly realized it and yielded it to God?
3. What are the dangers in *giving in* to feel sorry for yourself?
4. Can you share a time when you were openly criticized, belittled or in any way suffered because of your stand for Christ?
5. Can you share a time when you were openly criticized, belittled or in any way suffered but in reality, you brought it on yourself; it was not for God's glory. Is it easy for you to recognize the difference between the situation in #4 and in #5?



DAY 15

Hebrews 12:15

No root of bitterness

See to it that no one comes short of the grace of God; that no root of bitterness springing up causes trouble, and by it many be defiled;

1. How does *bitterness* conflict with Romans 8:28?
2. In what way do people cover up some of the more respectable sins (anger, bitterness, complaining, gossip, etc.) so that they don't have to deal with them?
3. What do you think it means when the Scriptures say that one *comes short of the grace of God*?

4. What should you do if resentment or bitterness is welling up within you? (And there are certainly times when it will)
5. Is it possible to become bitter against people or circumstances without also being bitter against God? Why or why not?



DAY 16

Psalm 51:10

Create in me a clean heart

Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a steadfast spirit within me.

1. In your own words, what does it mean to *keep your hands open to God*?
2. What are some situations in which you close your hands because you don't want what you think God wants to put there?
3. What are some situations in which you close your hands because you think God is going to take something from you?

4. Why would it be dangerous to meditate on what *we think God may take from us* or what *He might want to put into our lives*?
5. How does meditating on Psalm 84:11 and thinking about God's grace and mercy, help us to keep our hands open to God?



DAY 17

Galatians 2:20

Nevertheless I live

“I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.

1. Even though God requires us to *die to self*, we are to be very much alive. Explain what you think it means for *Christ to live through you*?
2. The Christian life is not a matter of *not doing certain things* but in allowing Christ to live through us to *do things*. In your mind is this just a

poetic way to tell us to live to follow Christ, or is there something deeper in allowing Christ to live through us.

3. Can you give an example of a time when it was obvious to you that Christ, Himself, was *living through you*, totally in charge of your behavior, your words, your actions etc?
4. What is your biggest hindrance in letting Christ live through you. How can you take care of that hindrance?
5. Explain how our life being *hidden with Christ in God* is telling us about Christ living through us.



DAY 18

1 Timothy 1:17

He is the King, I am the subject

Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

1. Think about God being the *King* (because he is) and your being a loyal subject. This King is sovereign (meaning He doesn't have to explain Himself, nor ask permission for anything He does). **Do you, personally want to live in such a Kingdom?** That would mean you would not have as much control over your life as you do now.

2. What things has the King been telling you to do or not to do, but you tend to think you have a choice in the matter?
3. Have you seen an instance where God gave you a task, and then He changed circumstances around you to make it possible to fulfill that task?
4. Do you remember a time that God gave you a task, but under the circumstances, you felt it was impossible for you to fulfill His bidding? **What do you think was wrong?**
 - A. God simply failed you
 - B. You misunderstood what God wanted you to do
 - C. You failed to trust God though this by just focusing on the natural impossibility of it.
 - D. You heard somewhere that God expects you to do all that you can do, and then He will do the rest. You tried to the best of your ability but that wasn't enough and God didn't step in to do the rest.
 - E. You were spiritually rebellious and didn't do anything.
 - F. Other (explain)



DAY 19

Galatians 1:10

He is the Master, I am the bondservant

For am I now seeking the favor of men, or of God? Or am I striving to please men? If I were still trying to please men, I would not be a bond-servant of Christ.

1. A slave is there only for the master's use. Imagine for a minute that your life was only for God's use. What would change?
2. Of course God is a benevolent master, but that doesn't take away from his sovereign authority. And slaves deserve nothing from the master except the bare necessities. How do you suppose a

literal slave would feel if the master invited him to his own table to eat? Or the master handed him a \$20 bill and said, buy something nice for your wife. Can you see how our attitude toward God would change when we think of what we get versus how much we deserve.

3. A slave cannot take a “time out” from his obedience to the Master. Why is it so easy for Christians to take these “time outs” and feel justified in doing it.
4. Though we *are* slaves (or should be), God treats us with tenderness and grace. He is the most benevolent of masters. But when we focus on His benevolence, sometimes we forget that He still ALWAYS expects obedience. Can you think of time that you might have failed to obey because you thought that God would understand.
5. How can you learn to be consistent in your obedience.



DAY 20

Isaiah 29:16

He is the Potter, I am the clay

You turn things around! Shall the potter be considered as equal with the clay, That what is made would say to its maker, “He did not make me”; Or what is formed say to him who formed it, “He has no understanding”?

1. Are you satisfied with the general type of vessel that God made you? (I.e. A male, with certain natural abilities, certain natural reservations, certain natural temperament, certain natural body-strengths or weaknesses etc.) If not, why not?

2. Do you waste time trying to be what God did not qualify you to be, and thus ignore the development of the things God did give you. Or do you fail to diligently work on those areas in which He has called and gifted you?

(For instance, you would like to be a great singer but God has gifted you in many ways to help other people. Don't focus on trying to be a singer, but be diligent in developing your skills to help others.)

3. God, knowing all things, carefully formed you so that if (when) you trusted Christ as Savior you could fit into His niche in His kingdom. Do you know where, at this time, your niche is, and are you there faithfully doing what He created you to do?
4. Sometimes we fail God, and the vessel that He made gets cracked and useless. When we get back into the potter's hands, however, He takes what is still there and reshapes it for His use. Can you think of such a situation in your life, or someone else's.
5. Right now, whatever has happened in the past, you can climb back on the potter's bench and let Him



remake you into something beautiful in His eyes.
Do you need to get back on the potter's bench?



DAY 21

Matthew 6:9

He is the Father, I am the son

“Pray, then, in this way: ‘Our Father who is in heaven, Hallowed be Your name.

1. Think about your children and/or grandchildren who you love unconditionally. God loves you with that kind of love. What are some signs that you have been given that God loves you unconditionally.
2. Assuming God the Father, is the CEO of a great company and His children are the employees. Do you know what your function(s) is (are) within

the company? Are you fulfilling your function(s) or is someone else having to do their part and yours as well?

3. One of your functions is no doubt your home. (Father, Mother, son, daughter, etc.) This is your primary function. Do you ignore it to some degree in order to fulfill external functions?
4. When there is a need within your function of the business, do you talk to the Father about it and know that the Father will supply whatever you need. (money, time, strength, wisdom, etc.)
5. Which of your God-given functions do you find the easiest to ignore? Why?



DAY 22

Romans 5:2

This grace in which we stand

through whom also we have obtained our introduction by faith into this grace in which we stand; and we exult in hope of the glory of God

1. Describe what is meant by the “Grace-Walk.”
2. Name some instances in which it appears to you that God doesn't care about your life. Is there any spiritual defeats that you can remember that caused you to think that God doesn't care?
3. When you are facing the *feeling* that God doesn't really care about you, what is the best thing that

you can do to take care of the problem. (Your answer can be prayer, or something like that, but try to be more specific.)

4. Can you think of a time that you really felt close to the Lord and following Him seemed to be the easiest thing to do. What were the circumstances in which you had that feeling? (I.e. during a worship time at church, etc.)
5. When you are walking in the *grace circle*, and trials come up, what can you assume about those trials?



DAY 23

Romans 8:28

All things work together for good

And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.

1. Romans 8:28 signifies three things. Name them.
2. Romans 8:28 is one of the most *useful* verses in the Bible.

One can be going through all sorts of problems, and when he meditates on Romans 8:28, he has a different perspective. What perspective should you have when you meditate on Romans 8:28?

3. What are some of the things from which you naturally benefit when you are walking in the Romans 8:28 circle?
4. What are some things that encourage you to step *out of* this Romans 8:28 circle?
5. If you find yourself walking outside of the Romans 8:28 circle, what do you have to do to make sure you get back into that special circle.



DAY 24

1 Corinthians 15:10

By the grace of God I am what I am

But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me did not prove vain; but I labored even more than all of them, yet not I, but the grace of God with me.

1. While walking within the “grace bubble” what are some of the things outside of the bubble that used to allure you, but that now you have no desire for them.
2. Is there anything about considering the grace-walk in a bubble as opposed to a circle.

3. What does Satan try to do to put a hole in the bubble so that you will be vulnerable.
4. When things outside of the grace-bubble tend to be enticing to you, what do you normally do? What should you have done? How can you be sure in the future, that what you should have done, is actually what you do?
5. Explain the remorse you feel when you give Satan the upper hand in your life?



DAY 25

Galatians 5:16

Walk by the Spirit

But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh.

1. Galatians 5:16 is another one of those very practical verses. You do *this*, and *that* will result. The key, of course is to make sure you do the thing required. What is required in Gal 5:16? What does that mean? How can you, a normal Christian be sure you are following that verse?
2. What appears to be the result if you do not follow that verse?

3. What *desires of the flesh* tend to keep you from walking in the Spirit.
4. How does *walking in grace* keep you safe spiritually (and possibly physically)?
5. How does the truth of Romans 8:28 help you to *walk in the Spirit*?



DAY 26

Philippians 2:13

God is at work in you

for it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure.

1. What are the two things that God gives us when we *walk in grace*?
2. Discuss a time in your life when the grace of God was fully applicable to you — you had both the desire and the power to do what God wanted you to do.

3. Can you share a time in your life when the desire to do God's will was lacking. That obviously means that you were not walking in grace.
4. Can you think of a time when you had the desire to do what God wanted, but the power to do so was lacking? That also meant grace was lacking.
5. What should you do when grace is lacking in your life? (Read again the last couple of paragraphs of the devotion)



DAY 27

2 Corinthians 5:7

We walk by faith, not by sight

for we walk by faith, not by sight—

1. What do you (the old man) tend to trust in rather than God?

Hints: Your education, your wisdom, your logic, your bank account, your work ethics, some other person, etc.

2. Though we may trust God for certain parts of our lives, often we don't trust Him completely for everything (our joy, peace, our fulfillment in life, etc.) Is there a part of your life that you have not

given over to God and for which you do not trust Him.

3. Trusting God by no means is a failure to take responsibility. Though you may trust Him for a job, He still expects you to seek work, fill out applications, etc. Are you going through a situation in which you are trying to trust God, but He wants you to take responsibility.
4. Faith puts into operation the most important principles of the Christian life. You not only have to believe they are true, but faith *appropriates* them for your life. Are there areas of character or anything else in your Christian life, that you have not appropriated by faith.
5. In difficult situations do you *choose to trust God*? Can you name a difficult situation in which you did trust God and can you name one in which you didn't really trust God but relied on (trusted) something else?



DAY 28

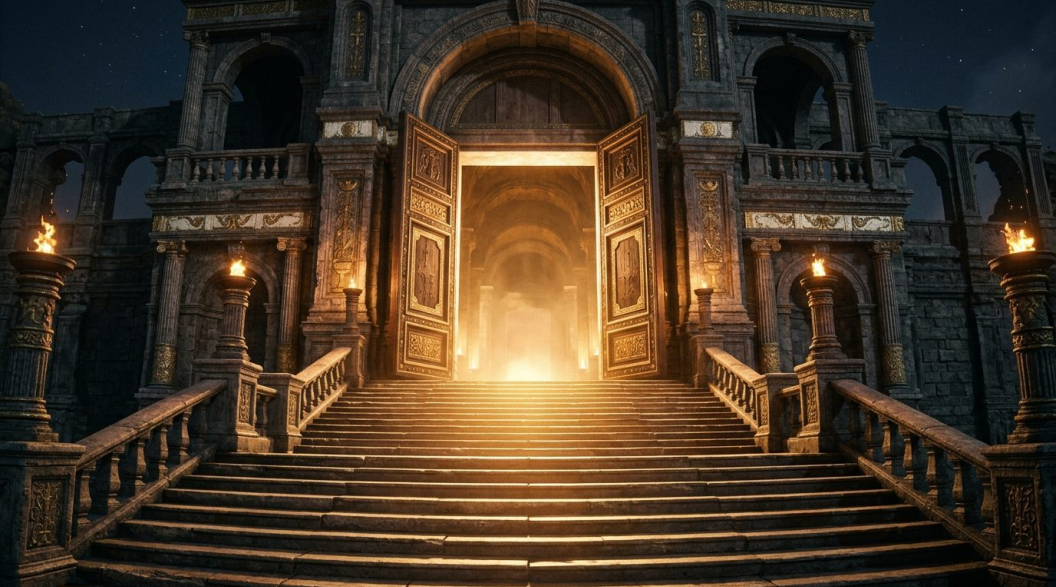
Hebrews 8:5

A copy and shadow of the heavenly things

who serve a copy and shadow of the heavenly things, just as Moses was warned by God when he was about to erect the tabernacle; for, “SEE,” He says, “THAT YOU MAKE all things ACCORDING TO THE PATTERN WHICH WAS SHOWN YOU ON THE MOUNTAIN.”

1. Do you usually get your heart ready for prayer before you pray or do you spontaneously just break into prayer.
2. How can you get your heart ready for prayer?

3. What is the difference between godly praying and just *saying your prayers*? Which is the most normal for you?
4. When you pray, why is it important to consciously enter into the heavenly *Holy of Holies*? How do you do that?
5. “*The Lord is in His Holy Temple. Let all the earth keep silent before Him.*” (Habakkuk 2:20) Do you ever catch yourself *casually praying* as if you're talking to another person or worse yet just talking to the wall? Do you normally meditate on the One to whom you are talking, before doing the talking?



DAY 29

Hebrews 4:15–16 (NASB)

Let us draw near with confidence

For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin. Therefore let us draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

1. The word *confidence* (in Heb 4:16) is also translated *boldness* in some versions.

This boldness does not preclude the reverence we must have, but tells us that we can be confident that

we will find His grace. Under what conditions can you enter into the spiritual Holy of Holies with boldness and confidence?

2. How do you sometimes try to enter into this Holy of Holies under false pretenses? (Then we wonder why our prayers are not answered)
3. Have you ever thought, during prayer, that you are face to face with the creator of the universe? How did that affect you? Could you remain casual or flippant in your prayer when you knew you were face to face with the God of the universe?
4. When you realize that when you have rightly entered the heavenly Holy of Holies, God actually hears everything on your heart, what kind of confidence and motivation does that give you?
5. How can you correlate the fact that you are addressing the Sovereign God of the Universe, and also He is your own Father. Should you show less respect to Him because He is your Father?



DAY 30

Romans 6:13

Present yourself to God as those alive from the dead

and do not go on presenting the members of your body to sin as instruments of unrighteousness; but present yourselves to God as those alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God.

1. Walking in the Romans 8:28-Grace circle (bubble) assures you to notice a difference in your life. Give details if any.
2. The truth is that there will always be more areas of Christlikeness that God will develop in you.

However, just because you have not yet developed in some area is no excuse to sin. What can you do when you face a trial that is beyond your scope to spontaneously show Christlikeness?

3. There is a three step process which occurs as we respond to God faithfully during trials. What is meant by “Recognize”?
4. What is meant by *yield*?
5. How do these two steps automatically lead to the last one? Which of the first two (recognize, yield) is the most difficult for you. The third step is what God does when you complete the first two — you gradually *become* more Christlike in this area.



DAY 31

Romans 8:32

He will freely give us all things

He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him over for us all, how will He not also with Him freely give us all things?

1. What is a special love gift from God?
2. How can we recognize these love gifts?
3. The chances are you won't be grateful for them unless you recognize them. But when you learn to recognize them do you become grateful to God for them?

4. Name a special “love gift” God has recently given you. Were you truly grateful for it or did you just take it for granted? Did you truly show gratefulness to God and man (if someone else was involved)
5. The more humble we become, the more we recognize God's love gifts because we know we do not deserve them. This is back to square 1 — humility precedes the grace God gives us.
6. Though humility is difficult to recognize in one's self, have you at least noticed that your focus is not on yourself as much as before?

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