The Galatian Road

A Road Less Traveled



Your Personal Road Map

Watch the DVD's and follow along with these pages

Travelers Name

Growing In Grace Ministries

"To all the saints for their many contributions."

Thank you

BEFORE YOU BEGIN THE SEMINAR!

It is strongly recommended that you read the "The Galatian Road – A Road Less Traveled" mini-book prior to beginning this journey. Or, you can read it as a group at orientation meeting. It only takes 30 minutes to read the mini-book which is now available in English, Spanish and Hindi.

The "video" seminar is led by our spokesman, Len Baker, who is responsible for the availability of the Galatian Road Mini-book.

This learning experience expands on the foundation laid by that book and helps participants gain a broader and deeper understanding of the foundational Scriptures for living the Victorious Christian Life.

To order additional copies of the mini-book and Your Personal Road Map, please go to www.gigm.org.

For questions please call (520) 222-9473.

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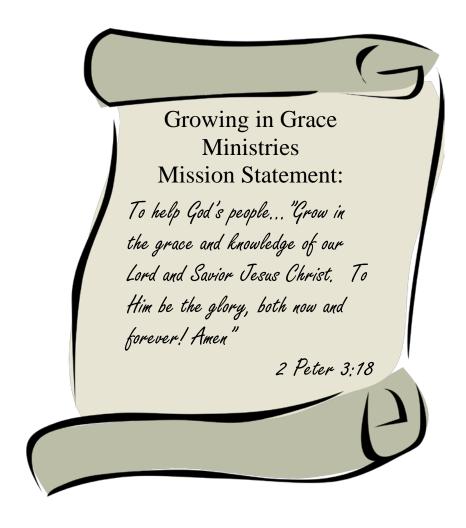


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Preface

Welcome to "The Galatian Road - A Road Less Traveled," produced by Growing in Grace Ministries. Included is the "Mini-book," and the 6+ hour DVD album accompanied by "Your Personal Road Map" binder for guiding you along your own special journey.

Buckle-up Christians! This seminar is a journey of a lifetime, and will make you think and feel like you have found Christ all over again.

- It was prayerfully designed to help you experience greater joy in your Christian walk by getting better acquainted with the Christ you invited into your heart and who still lives there!
- If you know you are not experiencing the fullness of the Christian life, but you want more peace, joy and victory in Jesus then this Galatian road trip is for you.
- The principle foundation of this seminar is this: Christianity is not about self-improvement; it is about self-replacement. What does this mean? Our Lord Jesus died for us, to give His life to us (replacement), to live His life through us. It doesn't get any better than that.
- Upon completing this journey, you will be better equipped to inspire your family, friends and others with the truth about the mystery of Christianity which is, "Christ in you, the hope of glory." Col 1:27

Travel Options

This "Personal Road Map" you have in your hands can be shared and taught in a variety of formats and time frames. We make these options available so that you can learn in the way and at the pace that best meets your needs as follows:

- For individual study, or one-on-one discipleship, participants can self-pace through any time frame they prefer.
- For scheduled groups, the seminar is divided into 11 weekly sessions of one hour each to include two or more video segments and discussion time (referred to as "Pit Stops" along the Galatian Road) for each. If you are in a Sunday School class where the time is limited, you can use just one video segment and one discussion per class. This will add to the number of classes you conduct.
- For flexible "travel" groups who don't have a predetermined schedule (like many home Bible study groups), you can travel at your own pace down this "Galatian Road" and explore as many "side roads" and linger at "scenic views" to maximize the impact of this journey for you.
- For short retreats, you can double up on the video segments and have less frequent "Pit Stop" discussion times.

It is our hope that this design can provide you with great schedule flexibility to meet your time preferences.



This Bible application course of 11 weeks is full of words like:

> Road

> Journey

> Intersection

> Traveled

> Pit Stops

> Personal Road Map

That is why we call the leaders guide a:

Host/Travel Directors Guide

The Host/Travel Director will be guiding Christians down
"The Galatian Road – A Road Less Traveled"

The Travel Director's Guide follows after Page 144

The purpose of this guide is to equip the Travel Director for a successful journey leading participants through their notebook called

"Your Personal Road Map"

The Travel Directors Guide is MUST reading for the facilitator, leader, etc. to become prepared

And for all participants, it is a helpful orientation Following Page 144



About the Journey Spokesman



"The Galatian Road – A Road Less Traveled" DVD series and the accompanying Road Map/Study Guide was produced by Growing in Grace Ministries and presented by spokesperson Len Baker. This seminar is an expansion of the mini-book by the same title and allows the participants to gain a broader and deeper understanding of the foundational Scriptures for living the Victorious Christian Life. The mini-book is available in English, Spanish and Hindi.

Len, a native of the mid-west moved to Phoenix, Arizona and began a career in the insurance industry. He joined Toastmasters, participated in various contests, and in 1980 was a top winner in the world championship of public speaking sponsored by Toastmasters International.

For the next 20 years, Len's career was as a keynote and motivational speaker giving speeches worldwide. In 1996, facing death from throat cancer, Len pictured himself standing "saved" at the judgment seat of Christ. However, he sadly realized all of the things that could have been accomplished through his life, if only he would have had more faith. He asked God to extend his time on earth and to teach him the deeper riches of His word for God's use and purpose.

Len's prayer was answered and for the past 20 plus years, he has taught thousands of Bible studies and Sunday School classes. God continues to lead Len on this journey less traveled and has encouraged him to share it with others.

From the Journey Spokesman Christians, "Buckle Up" for This Journey

Have you discovered that the Christian life is difficult to live? In fact, it's impossible to live! Jesus Christ is the only one who ever lived the Christian life and He is the only one who ever will. He offers to live His life in and through YOU! If you have become weary and tired of trying to live the Christian life and perhaps even thought, "I must have missed something?" You now hold the answer in your hands! Experience this abundant life promised by Christ: "The Galatian Road – A Road Less Traveled."

Are you ready to get started? Turn the page!



Oh, by the way ... one more thing!

A Bible Study catalogue has a long list of 7-15 week bible studies available. What is different about this one?

The uniqueness of "The Galatian Road" bible study design is that it places equal emphasis on:

Mastery of the content

AND

Mastery of its application

The aim of learning is not just knowledge; it is application.

Wisdom is defined as the application of knowledge. In the book of James, he writes in Chapter 1:22 "Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says!"

The Bible was not only given to increase our knowledge, but to change our lives!

"The Galatian Road – A Road Less Traveled" promises to do just that. You will:

- Learn
- ❖ Apply
- Please God
- Enjoy the "Fruit of the Spirit."

The Journey of a thousand steps begins with the first step! Enjoy your journey – lets begin!



1:1 Introduction

The Galatian Road - A Road Less Traveled

Open in prayer and start the DVD

Purpose of this bible study is: "To Get Better" in our daily walk with Jesus Christ and the nice thing about it is we don't have to be sick to get better...the biggest room in the world today is the room for improvement and we can all **learn** to improve at becoming <u>less</u> and <u>less</u> as He becomes <u>more</u> and <u>more</u> in our lives. **Jesus doesn't make you better. Jesus is your better.**

The Word of God is the key to learning. One goes from the known to the unknown through Spirit-fed information.

Question: How many of you know everything there is to know? (raise your hand)

What if what you don't know could radically enhance your life here on earth? Would you want to know?

Two Ways of Learning:

- 1. Education from teachers.
- 2. <u>Revelation</u> from God, known as Illumination (1Cor. 2:9-14) Spirit taught.

<u>Education</u> – informs Revelation – transforms -- See Rom 12:2

Some teach by the Letter (Law). Some teach by the Spirit (Grace).

II Cor. 3:6 says "He has made us competent as ministers of a new covenant -- not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills but the Spirit gives life."

John 8:32, Jesus says "...once you know the truth, the truth will set you free."



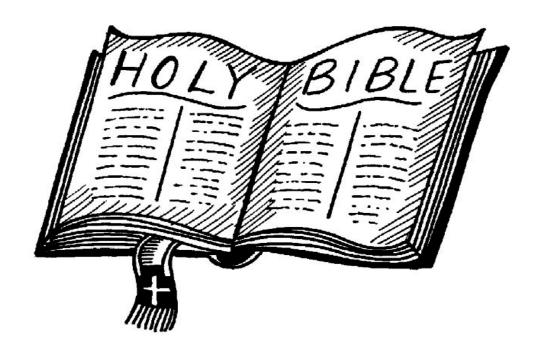
The Truth is found in the Word of God Do You Believe the Bible?

Everything that's made of value comes with a manufacturer's manual, telling you not to operate without first reading it. Otherwise you operate at your own risk. Our cars have a manual in the glove box, but most of us don't read it until red lights come on. Well God manufactured you and me and gave us a manual- the Bible.

It is a love letter only for His children. Like a family photo album.

Kids sing a song about it. It's called the B.I.B.L.E.

But the real acronym for the Bible is...





The Inspired Word of God

Power Word: BIBLE

B	
I	
B	
L	
E	

"All men are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field; the grass withers and the flowers fall, but the Word of God stands forever." 1 Peter 1:24, 25 (NIV)

Three Key Words for Bible Study

In public speaking the three key words are practice, practice, practice.

In real estate, it's location, location, location.

In Bible study its context, context, context.

Example of out-of-context:

Open to any page of the Bible and point your finger to the text. You read "Judas hung himself". You flip a bunch of pages and point again. And it reads, "Go and do likewise". You turn 40 more pages or so and point again. And it reads "whatever you do, do it quickly." That's taking God's word out of context!

[&]quot;In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us." John 1:1, 14 (NIV)

[&]quot;Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path." Psalm 119:105 (KJ)

[&]quot;For the Word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart." Hebrews 4:12 (NIV)

[&]quot;My Word shall not return to me void..." Isaiah 55:11 (NKJ)



The Importance of The Pit Stops

The next page will introduce you to your first "Pit Stop," or more commonly thought of as a time for discussion among learners.

- The Pit Stops and the group discussion that follows are far more than an opportunity for people to talk and share their perspectives. To share a thought, a person must first organize it in their mind.
- Changing thoughts or beliefs is step one to beginning to feel more optimistic about what Christ Jesus can accomplish when working in and through a believer.
- When believers begin to think and feel differently; they will predictably begin behaving differently in how they live, act and pray. Len Baker uses a powerful metaphor describing each of our lives as a "glove" and Jesus as the hand! And, Galatians 2:20 gives continuous validity to this truth of "... Christ living in me..."
- You and your travel companions (people attending with you)
 will also hear this message being reinforced and repeated
 over and over as you listen to the theme song at the
 beginning of each video segment.
- In short, a "pit stop" is an opportunity for each participant to enrich their understanding of the video's key points.



Your Personal "Galatian Road" Travel Log

On A Road Less Traveled

This "Pit Stop" is designed to help you experience a fuller, deeper understanding of the Word of God as you incorporate the truth of God's Word into your life.

As you get to know others in this study with you, and become more comfortable with them, you will naturally begin to share your thoughts with each other in your group. Often, you can add other's ideas to your own for an even richer learning experience.

Start by answering the below questions and then participate in any sharing among your group as you feel comfortable.

After viewing session 1:1 on
Personal Discovery
Do you remember the first "special" insight, revelation, illumination, etc. you experienced as you became more familiar with the Bible? Did it relate to a specific verse?
What did it mean to you personally? How did this "special" Bible truth fit in with your other life style choices at the time? Did you have someone to discuss this with?
Did this insight, etc. and any discussions you had about it change your behavior in any way?
What other ideas presented in this session do you want to discuss?

Next Page --



Author's Progress Comment

Every book author thinks about the foundation laid in the first 1-3 chapters or sessions. After my many years of preaching and teaching, I see great diversity within Christianity related to differing faith backgrounds, denominational conditioning, understanding of "born again," and level of spiritual maturity regardless of age.

This content, with its 100 plus scriptural references to Christ indwelling His believers, can be startling to some. Therefore, I feel it is important to build or reinforce a common understanding before launching into the powerful potential of this study to dramatically transform the life of believers.

For those of you who are more spiritually mature, I ask your patience. You might even encourage the less spiritually mature as you study through the first 3 sessions. A journey, begun well, likely reaches its desired destination.

Len Baker



1:2 "WOWS"

When an Illumination of a Revelation comes to your mind and you say, "Wow! I never thought of that before," or "I've never see it in that light before." Write your Words Of Wisdom here.

As Len Baker shares on the video, he has received some significant WOWS during his times of study. Below are the 4 that Len shared.

- WOW NO. 1 One time a woman said to me, "It seems to me that God gave us only 2 plans: Be perfect or accept the gift!" Aren't we grateful we accepted the gift?
- **WOW NO. 2** Feelings have nothing to do with the truth!
- WOW NO. 3 God grades on the cross, not on the curve. It is simply pass or fail; not a comparison of your walk to that of other people.
- WOW NO. 4 A Godly woman shared this powerful statement; She said, "The Gospels are really the conclusion of the Old Covenant, not the beginning of the New Covenant." I (Len) knew she was correct but had never heard it said that precisely before.

I know this is going to shock some of you, but hang in there. What if what we don't know could radically change our lives; would we want to know?"

(More to come on this discovery of truth)



My WOWS	Using Len's examples on the previous page, use the space below to record your own WOWS as you go through your Personal Road Map.
WOW NO. 1	
WOW NO. 2	
WOW NO. 3	
WOW NO 4	
WOW NO. 4	
WOW NO. 5	
WOW NO. 6	



Your Personal "Galatian Road" Travel Log

On A Road Less Traveled

This "Pit Stop" is designed to help you experience a fuller, deeper understanding of the Word of God as you incorporate the truth of God's Word into your life.

As you get to know others in this study with you, and become more comfortable with them, you will naturally begin to share your thoughts with each other in your group. Often, you can add other's ideas to your own for an even richer learning experience.

Start by answering the below questions and then participate in any sharing among your group as you feel comfortable.

After viewing session 1:2 on
Personal Discovery
When Len related this comment, A Godly woman shared this powerful statement; She said, "The Gospels are really the conclusion of the Old Covenant, not the beginning of the New Covenant." How surprised were you?
Look up this scripture, Hebrews 9:16-18. Does this scripture help you connect the death of Jesus with the beginning of the new covenant? Comments?
Do you want to discuss any other ideas presented in Session 1:2?







2:1

The Galatian Road: A Road Less Traveled

- Are you confused and frustrated trying to live the Christian life? **Trying** to keep **the law**, **trying** to live by religious **rules and regulations** working towards perfection. Many Christians are, and therein lies the problem. Christians **trying**, instead of **resting and abiding** in Jesus Christ the only one who can live the Christian life.
- If you know in your heart that you are struggling and not experiencing Christ to fully live His life in and through you and you want Him to, then this study is for you!
- Let the truth in God's Word put an end to your trying, and turn it into trusting. Jesus said, "Apart from Me you can do nothing." Please believe Him! Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life. John 15:5
- No one has ever lived the Christian life except Jesus. He is the only one who ever did. He is the only one who ever will, and Jesus will live His life in and through every born again believer. Jesus died on the cross for us to give His life to us, so He can live His life through us. It doesn't get any better than that.
- Taking this journey will show you rich sequences of Scripture which will provide evidence of this reality, "Christ as your source of life".
- All Christians have been given His strength and righteousness and through the Holy Spirit can travel this road less traveled. (**the narrow road**)

Now before one can travel the Galatian Road one must first be born again to receive salvation, (this new life) which begins with the Roman Road.



The Roman Road: Salvation

Many Christians have heard of the **Roman Road**, a term used for three Scripture references found in the book of Romans. They are often used in evangelism tracts to witness to unbelievers about their eternal salvation. (**Foundational verses for evangelism**)

1. Romans 3:23 reads, "For all have sinned; all fall short of God's glorious standard."

Having established the fact that **all** have sinned, we move to...

2. Romans 6:23 reads, "For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord."

Now, as the unbeliever looks at this verse the question arises, "How do I get this free gift of eternal life?"

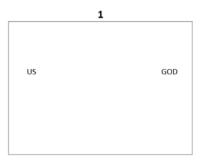
This leads to...

3. Romans 10: 9, 10 reads, "For if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by confessing with your mouth that you are saved." Some will use Romans 10:13 as well. "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

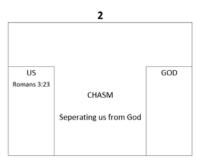
When an unbeliever embraces this truth with a sincere heart, they become a **born again** Christian and receive a new life, that didn't exist before.



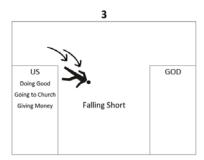
Romans Road Illustrated



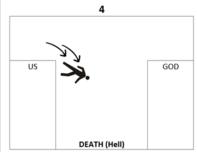
God made us and wants a relationship with us.



However, ALL have sinned against God and broken off that relationship. See Romans 3:23



Most are aware of this and try to do things to get back to God but keep falling short...

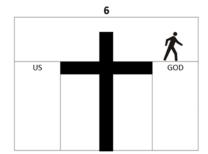


Furthermore, the sins we have committed are punishable by death.

See Romans 6:23



But Christ did for us what we could not do. He built a bridge with a cross, and by dying on it for our sins, He paid our death penalty.



It's not enough to know this, we must act on it by confessing we are sinners in need of a Savior and receive the new life eternal salvations brings.

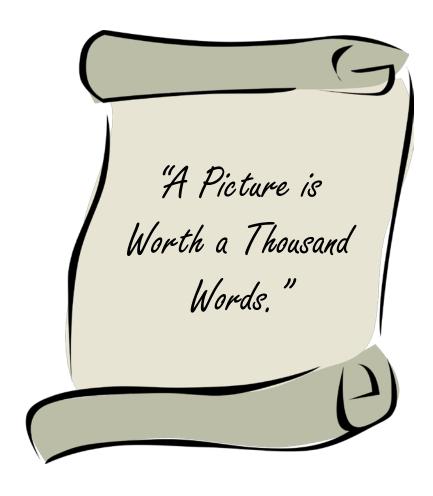
See Romans 10:9-10 or 10:13

Practice your presentation of the "Napkin" illustration here: Practice daily for 5 days.

After confessing Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior

If the person(s) observing your "napkin" presentation invites Jesus into their heart; congratulate them and welcome them into the family of God and the amazing gift of grace. The Galatian Road will explain this new life. Jesus Christ now living in and through you.







Your Personal "Galatian Road" Travel Log

On A Road Less Traveled

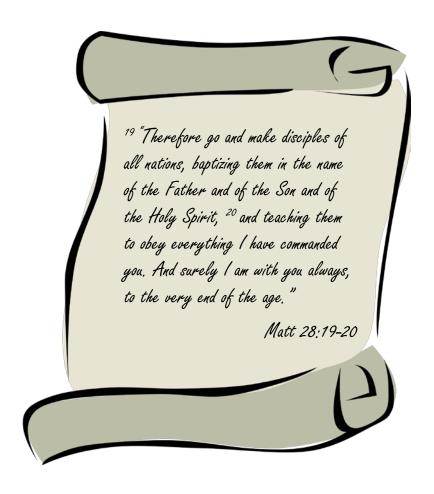
This "Pit Stop" is designed to help you experience a fuller, deeper understanding of the Word of God as you incorporate the truth of God's Word into your life.

As you get to know others in this study with you, and become more comfortable with them, you will naturally begin to share your thoughts with each other in your group. Often, you can add other's ideas to your own for an even richer learning experience.

Start by answering the below questions and then participate in any sharing among your group as you feel comfortable.

After viewing session 2:1 on		
Personal Discovery		
What is your most memorable thought or feeling about the time you accepted Christ?		
Have you ever "witnessed" to a person who was not born again? If yes, how did it make you feel? If no, how would you feel about doing it as Len describes in the video.		
Do you want to discuss any other ideas presented in Session 2:1?		







2:2 The Galatian Road: Grace

Once you have a new life **in Christ**, what's next? Learning how you can live this new life. Here's where the **Galatian Road** comes in, a term used for three Scripture references found in the book of Galatians. (**Foundational verses for discipleship**)

1. Galatians 1:16, Paul writes, "Then He revealed His son in me so that I can proclaim the Good News about Jesus to the Gentiles. When all this happened to me, I did not rush out to consult with anyone else; ..."

The key word found in verse 16 is the word "**in**" when God was pleased to reveal His son **in me**... Paul did not consult others to see if this was true (Christ living in him). Why? Because God revealed it to him, and there is no higher authority than God Himself.

2. Galatians 2:20, Paul writes, "I myself no longer live, but Christ lives in me. So I live my life in this earthly body by trusting in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me."

Paul is now revealing to us what God revealed to him. All born again believers at salvation receive Christ to live **in and through them** by the power of the Holy Spirit. **This creates a new life in the believer**.

3. Galatians 6:15 reads, "It doesn't make any difference now whether you have been circumcised or not. What counts is whether we really have been changed into new and different people."

Paul is saying whether you're a Jew or a Gentile, you must be born again. "What this means, is that those who become Christians become new persons. They are not the same anymore, for the old life is gone. A new life has begun!" (2 Cor. 5:17)





Christ In You - Illumination

SALVATION I	IS NOT JUST	OF SINS AN	ND
JES	US	FOR US	
SALV	VATION IS	!!!	
"We accept man's testimony, b which He has given about His S and this life is in His Son. He w does not have life ." 1 John 5:9,	Son And this is the Tho has the Son has l	testimony: God has giver	ı us eternal life ,
The Son is our	,	,	, and
from Go	od. Therefore let hin	n who boasts, boast in t (Reference I Co	he Lord. printhians 1:30-31)
"For if, when we were God's en how much more having been ro NIV)			_
Christianity is not		_ it's	·
He Does It All - That's the To Me God	ruth, the Whole Tru	ith, and Nothing But the	e Truth, So Help
Jesus doesn't make you _		, Jesus is your	
"He who began a good work in	a you will carry it on	to completion" Philipp	ians 1:6 (NIV)

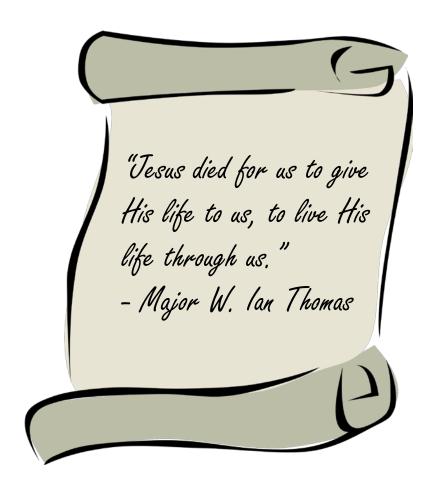


Your Personal "Galatian Road" Travel Log

On A Road Less Traveled

Pit Stop
After viewing session 2:2 on
Personal Discovery
Are you noticing people becoming more comfortable asking questions and sharing?
Can you think of one perception of yours that was changed because of what someone said?
What information on the video impacted you most today?
Do you think that knowing "Christ is in you" will cause you to act differently in the future?
Have you had discussions with others related to the differences between the law and grace? If so, what do you remember most about them?







3:1 Review of Roman & Galatian Road

Roman RoadGalatian Road3 core verses for3 core verses forEvangelismDiscipleship

US GOD

Romans 3:23 Galatians 1:16
Romans 6:23 Galatians 2:20
Romans 10:9-10 Galatians 6:15

Romans 3:23 "For all have sinned; all fall short of God's glorious standard."	Galatians 1:16 "Then He revealed His son in me so that I can proclaim the good news about Jesus to the Gentiles. When all this happened to me I did not rush out to consult with anyone else"
Romans 6:23 "For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus, our Lord."	Galatians 2:20 "I myself no longer live, but Christ lives in me. So I live my life in this earthly body by trusting in the son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me."
Romans 10:9-10 "For if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by confessing with your mouth that you are saved."	Galatians 6:15 "It doesn't make any difference now whether you have been circumcised or not. What counts is whether we really have been changed into new and different people."

Roman Road Core verses also found on page: 12 Galatian Road core verses also found on page: 17



Tesus replied, "I assure you, no one can enter the Kingdom of God without being born of water and the Spirit. 6 Humans can reproduce only human life, but the Holy Spirit gives birth to spiritual life. 7 So don't be surprised when I say, "You must be born again." John 3:5-7



Your Personal "Galatian Road" Travel Log

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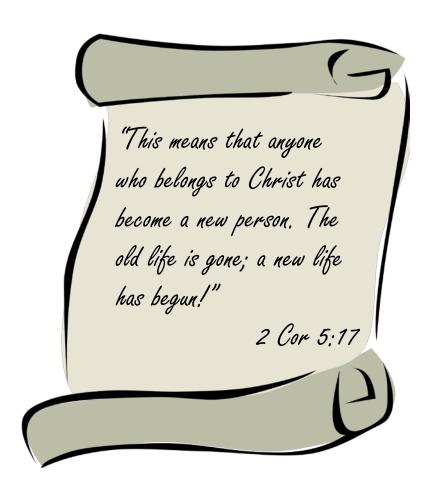
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Not arguments but, now that you have gotten to know each other, freely discussing any differences of opinion can be a healthy step toward richer learning by everyone involved.

After viewing session 3:1 on
Personal Discovery
What are the most significant insights you have gained by this comparison between the "Roman" Road and the "Galatian" Road?

What other ideas presented in this session do you want to discuss?







3:2 Secret Mystery Revealed

For this is the secret: Christ lives in you, and this is your assurance that you will share in His glory.

"God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory." Colossians 1:27 (NIV)



"Pray also for me, that whenever I open my mouth, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, 20 for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should." Eph. 6:19-20 (NIV)

"And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. ⁴ Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should." Col 4:3-4 (NIV)

In the NASB, Paul asks prayer for boldness in proclaiming the mystery of the Gospel.

Paul prayed that he would explain the mystery of our faith clearly, wherever he went.

Some more mystery revealed.

"Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit lives in you?" 1 Cor. 3:16 (NIV)

"Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own..." 1 Cor. 6:19 (NIV)

These verses tell us we are the temple of the Living God. Now, it is what is in the temple, not the label on the outside of the temple that is important. We Christians label our temple and say, "I am a Baptist, Lutheran, Presbyterian, Methodist, Episcopalian, etc... And the truth is that it is not a doctrine; it is not a denomination; it is not a religion or a building.

Truth is: Christianity is one thing! The mystery of our faith, Christ in you!

Jesus is the only one who can live the Christian life and He will live it in and through you by faith.

"Faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the Word of Christ." Rom 10:17

Please Turn the Page



It is Christ in You!!

When we are born again, the life of Christ (through the Holy Spirit) comes to live in us. Why? To forgive us our sins? No, He could have done that without taking up residency in us. To take us to heaven then? No, He could do that without taking up residency in us. There is only one reason and that is to live His life in and through us. Paul prayed that he would present this mystery clearly.

Illustration

A father walked passed his daughters room at bedtime and he hears her saying repeatedly, "Oh, I wish you knew what I knew." He's puzzled because he knows she is alone in her bedroom. But, he decided to wait till morning to ask her what that was all about. She tells him she was reading a book and all these terrible things kept happening to all the people in the book. She couldn't take it anymore and put the book down. Later she thought of reading the last chapter, to see how it turned out. Well everything turned out just great. So she started to read the book again, from the beginning and couldn't help but to say to all the people in the book, "Oh, I wish you knew what I knew," over and over again.



"Oh, I wish you knew what I knew"



On A Road Less Traveled

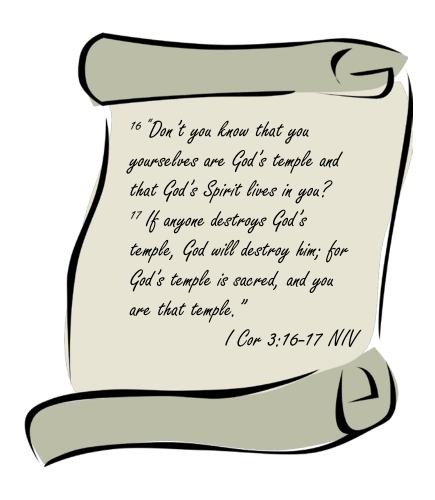
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Not arguments but, now that you have gotten to know each other, freely discussing any differences of opinion can be a healthy step toward richer learning by everyone involved.

After viewing session 3:2 on
Personal Discovery
How do you feel about you being the temple of the living God?
Why did the Lord Jesus take up residency in us?
The Apostle Paul, in all of his epistles, addresses Christians as Saints or Holy Ones. Have you ever thought of yourself as a Saint? If yes, what makes Sainthood possible?







3:3 Well Let's See What We Know

How many gospels do we have?

Most people will say four - Mathew, Mark, Luke and John. But, the truth is there is only one gospel - four versions. And, then there is a fifth version, the gospel according to you.

Example: How many of you highlight in your Bibles? For those that do, John 3:16 is usually always underlined. Same with John 10:10 "I have come that you might have life and have it in the full". But if you look up Luke 12:33, it's seldom highlighted. It reads – "Sell your possessions and give to the poor". Or Mathew 5:43-44 "Jesus said, it is written, love your neighbors and hate your enemies. But I tell you to love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you".

Most people don't have those underlined. That's what we mean by the gospel according to you. Many times, we take what we like and discard the rest.

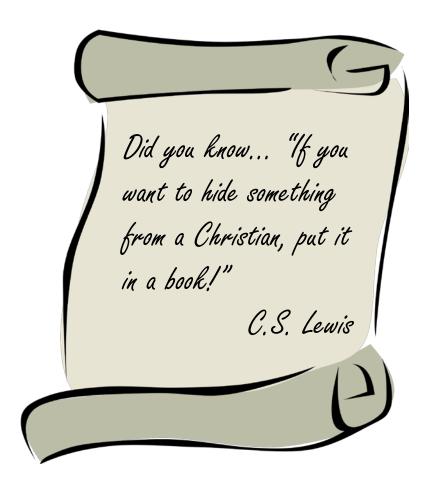
THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO YOU

If none but you in the world today Had tried to live in a Christ-like way, Could the rest of the world look close at you, And find the path that is straight and true? If none but you in the world so wide Had found the Christ as his daily guide, Would the things you do and the things you say Lead others to live in a Christ like way? My friends of Christ, in the world today There are those who watch us upon our way, And they look to the things we say and do To measure our Christian standard true. Now some will follow the Gospel of Christ With His love so unfailing and true, But what will they think and what will they say About the Gospel according to you? Each day you are writing a letter to all---Take care that your writing is true; Because the only Gospel that some will see, Is the Gospel according to you.

Anonymous

Oh, I wish you knew what I knew! Oh, I wish you knew this, It's Jesus Christ plus nothing!!







On A Road Less Traveled

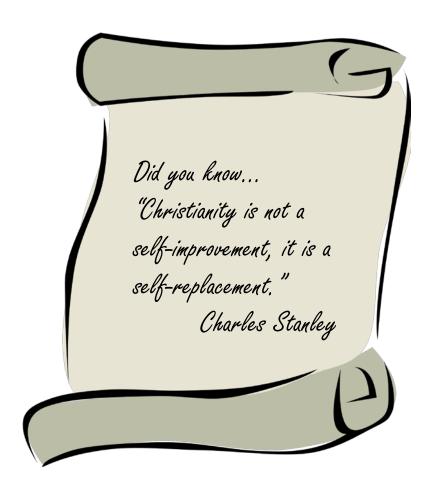
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After viewing session 3:3 on
Personal Discovery
If someone asked you how many Gospels do we have, how would you answer them?
How would you explain your answer?
Who do you know in your life today that would benefit by this clarification about the Gospels? Would you be comfortable sharing this with them?







4:1 It's Jesus Christ Plus Nothing

Before you were born again, did you ever ask what you would need to do to become a Christian, and were told there's nothing to do, just accept the gift? But then after accepting this gift of salvation you were told what you need to do to live **the Christian life**. Have you ever been told to be Christ-like, to live as Christ did on earth, to live by all of Jesus' teaching in the gospels? That is an impossibility for any of us, since no one can live the Christian life except Jesus.

Example: Jesus said in the Sermon on the Mount, you have heard it said, do not murder. But I tell you that anyone who is angry with his brother and calls him a name shall be in judgment for murder. And whoever looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart. Jesus tells us to turn the other cheek, to love our enemies, and pray for those who persecute us. He tells us to be perfect as our heavenly Father is perfect. (References: Matt 5:21-48) Ask yourself... who can do that?

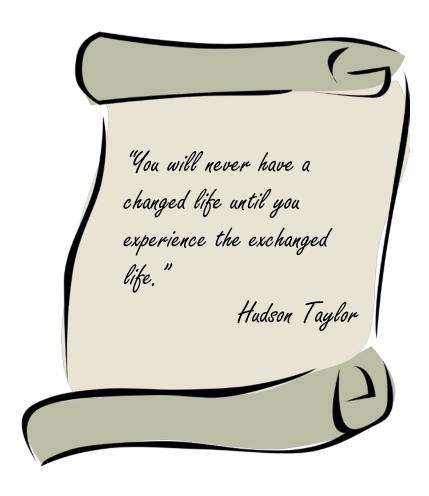
The Sermon on the Mount is an unattainable goal for the human race to attain through their own efforts. It is however a promise of what will happen in us when Jesus Christ has changed our nature, by putting His own nature in us at salvation.

All of Jesus' teaching is meant to be applied to the spirit life He puts within all born again believers - His life in us. It truly is Jesus Christ plus nothing.

All of Jesus' teaching while here on earth, including the gospels, was teaching under the law of the Old Testament because He had not died on the cross yet. Hebrews 9:16-17 makes it very clear. "For where a covenant is (also known as a will or testament), there must of necessity be the death of the one who made it. For a covenant is valid only when men are dead, for it is never in force while the one who made it lives." (NASB) All of Jesus' teachings, including the Sermon on the Mount were **before His death** on the cross.

Are you getting the picture here? All of Jesus' teaching was meant to be applied to the life He puts within you at salvation. His life! **No one can live the "Christian life" apart from Jesus, living in and through you**. "The things that are impossible with people are possible with God." (Luke 18:27, NASB)







On A Road Less Traveled

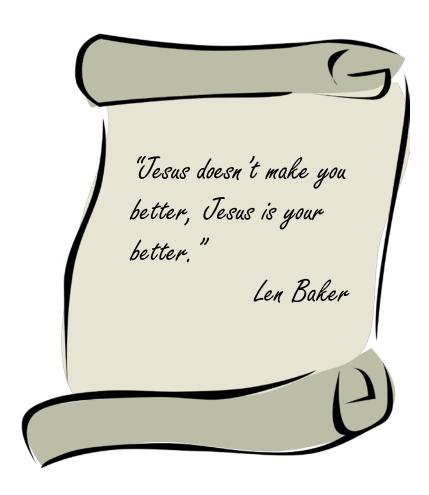
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After viewing session 4:1 on
Personal Discovery
If our actions complied with the contents of the sermon on the mount, would God be pleased? How would you justify your answer?
Do you think it is possible for you to comply with the sermon on the mount?
On the video, Len said, "All of Jesus' teaching is meant to be applied to the Spirit life He puts within all born again believers -what thoughts came to your mind?







4:2 Christ In You - Illumination

- 1. Have you ever faced a decision and knew from God's Word the right thing to do; but couldn't bring yourself to do it?
- 2. Has your inability to follow Biblical teaching become a discouragement to you?
- 3. Are you aware that it is impossible to live the Christian life and that only one person has ever been able to do so?
- 4. Do you know who that person is?

He Who Has Ears, Let Him Hear

Answer: Jesus Christ is the only one who can live the Christian life. All of His teaching in the Word of God is meant to be applied to the new life He puts within you at salvation... His life. And He will live His life through all born again believers by their faith in Him to do so. That's the mystery of our faith.

Charles Stanley said, "Most people don't question what they have been taught in Church as a young person. Later on, they compare what they have been taught with what they are now hearing. And if it doesn't match up with what they've heard, they will usually dismiss it. Then he said, but what if what they were taught was not the truth."

He Who Has Eyes, Let Him See

What we see as Truth may not be Truth. It may be a false Truth. How do we tell the difference between the two? Teaching that lands at our feet and tells what we must do is not the Truth. Teaching that lands at the feet of Jesus and explains what He does for us, in us, and through us is the Truth. For Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

FALSE TRUTH		TRUTH	
I will Change	can't		Galatians 2:20
I will Pay	can't		II Corinthians 5:21
I will Deal	can't		Romans 5:8
I will Buy	can't		Romans 6:23
I will Sign	can't		John 3:3
I will Sacrifice	can't		Hebrews 10:14

So you see – Jesus is our good example. Open your Bible to Philippians 2:5-11 or just turn the page



Jesus is our Good Example

Paul writes in Philippians 2:5-11 the following: "Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death even death on a cross! Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." (NIV) WOW! He's our good example.

Mark Twain wrote: "Few things are harder to put up with than the annoyance of a good example." Perhaps the thing most annoying about a good example is its inability to accomplish the same achievements in our lives. Admiration for a good example (person) can inspire us, but it cannot enable us. Now unless the person we admire (our good example) can enter into our lives and share his skills, we cannot attain to his heights of accomplishment. It takes more than an example on the outside. It takes power on the inside.

Well, there it is. It takes power on the inside which ties in with the text, Philippians 2:12, 13 with special emphasis on Verse 13. "Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed—not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence—continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purposes." WOW again! Our good example lives in us.

Do you have any of these appliances or power tools in your home: Hair dryer? Electric tooth brush? Coffee Maker? ½ inch drill? When they are plugged into an electrical outlet, they each have a unique purpose even though they all have the same power source. However, when unplugged, they all become the same: useless! It is the power source that gives them life, an identity, and a function. Jesus is our power source. Jesus is our life. Jesus doesn't make us better, Jesus is our better.

Galatians 1:10 "Am I now trying to win the approval of men, or of God?"

Galatians 2:20 "I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith..."



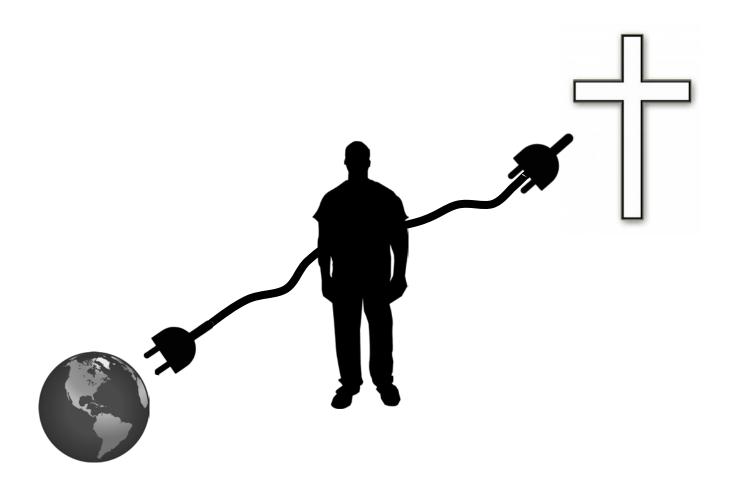
Plug into the Higher Power

In American homes, some appliances plug into 110 volts and others into 220 volts. Remember, there are two places where one can "plug into" power!

Gal 1:10 man or the world's natural power

or

Gal 2:20 Jesus Christ, Spirit of God for super natural power









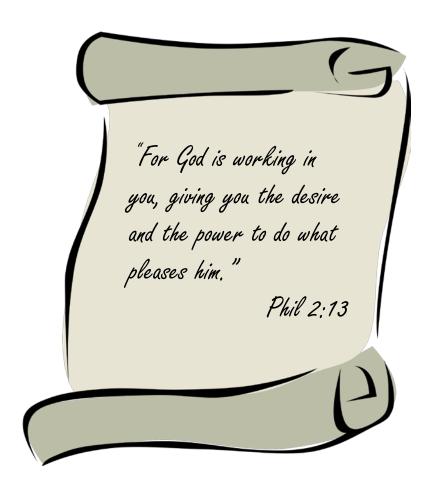
On A Road Less Traveled

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After viewing session 4:2 on
Personal Discovery
What ideas presented on the video seemed most important to you?
How do you feel your life could change for the better?
What do you want to remember most about the ideas presented in this section?

What other ideas presented in this session do you want to discuss?







5:1

The Law - Religious Rules & Regulations

What does the Bible say about the law? You may be surprised. It is generally believed that knowing and following the do's and don'ts makes you a better Christian. However, the Bible says the Law empowers and increases sin. Do you believe the Bible?

The Bible says: "...the law gives sin its power." (1 Cor. 15:56)

The Bible says: "The law came in so that the transgression (sin) would increase . . ." (Romans 5:20, NASB)

The Bible says: "And the person who keeps all of the laws except one is as guilty as the person who has broken all of God's laws." (James 2:10)

The Bible says: "For if we could be saved by keeping the law, then there was no need for Christ to die." (Gal. 2:21)

The Bible says: "But those who depend on the law to make them right with God are under His curse. . ." (Gal. 3:10)

The Ten Commandments, which are part of the law, were not given to stop sin. They have no power to stop sin. God gave the commandments to **expose** sin. Paul tells us in Romans 3:20, "For no one can ever be made right in God's sight by doing what His law commands. For the more we know God's law, the clearer it becomes that we aren't obeying it."

By grasping this truth, you will understand one of the greatest misunderstandings in the church today. Jesus was letting us know that no man could keep the law, and that everyone needs a savior. The law is used to lead everyone to the only Savior, Jesus Christ. Jesus alone satisfied every aspect of the law, and if we are in Him and He is in us, nothing more has to be done but to abide in His completed work. His death for us frees us from the penalty of sin; His life in us frees us from the power of sin.



Christ In You - Illumination

The Law activatesG	race activates
The Law teaches you what	
Grace teaches you what	·
say "no" to ungodliness and worldly passion	has appeared to all men. It (grace) teaches us to ns, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly ne blessed hope – the glorious appearing of our s 2:11-13 (NIV)
"For the law was given through Moses; grad(NIV)	ce and truth came through Jesus Christ." John 1:17
Liberated living is not unrestricted living. L	iberated living is Christ in you the hope of glory!
"Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God – this is longer to the pattern of this world but be tra Romans 12:1-2 (NIV)	your spiritual act of worship. Do not conform any
"Sin is no longer your master, because you	are not under law, but under grace."



Romans 6:14 (NIV)



Its Amazing Grace

Law had few missionaries

Grace was preached to the uttermost parts of the world

Law says do this or die

Grace says believe this and live

Law says hate your enemy Grace says love your enemy

Law is a system of probation Grace is a system of favor

Under Law the sheep die for the shepherd Under Grace the shepherd died for the sheep

Under Grace it's no longer I who lives but Christ who lives in me, the hope of glory

"All of Jesus' teaching is meant to be applied to the life which he puts within."

- Oswald Chambers | My Utmost For His Highest

Remember, holiness is not something Jesus puts into you and me.

It is Himself He places within you and me.

Now this new way of thinking takes a renewing of our minds.





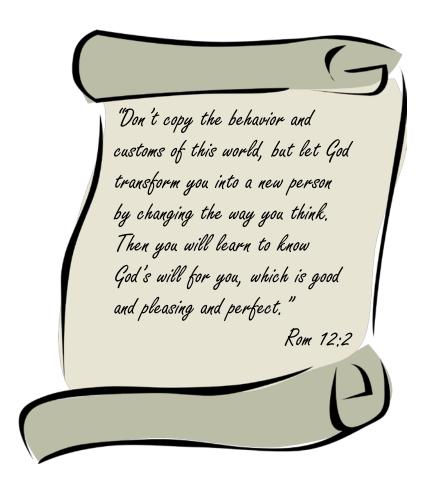


On A Road Less Traveled

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After viewing session 5:1 on		
Personal Discovery		
What did you think when you heard that the law empowers and increases sin?:		
How did you feel when you heard that the 10 commandments have no power to stop sin?		
Who was the law given through?		
If sin is no longer your master, what does that mean to you today and tomorrow?		







5:2 The Renewing of Your Mind Takes a Spirit Led Effort

EFFORT

\mathbf{E}	
${f F}$	Exchange Your Thinking
${f F}$	
0	As a man thinketh so is he
R	"A man reaps what he sows"
${f T}$	Galatians 6:7 (NIV)

So watch what you P R E P L A N T

Fill in the blanks using the Scripture below

P	
R	"Finally, brothers, whatever is
\mathbf{E}	true, whatever is noble, whatever
P	is right , whatever is pure ,
${f L}$	
A	excellent or praiseworthy - think
N	about such things." Philippians 4:8
T	(NIV)
-	







On A Road Less Traveled

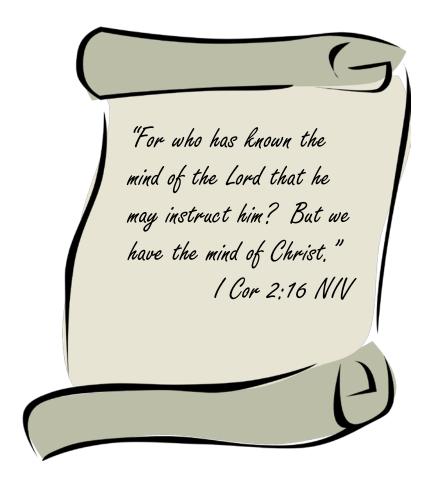
Enriching your "Pit Stop" activity by practicing the presence of God – Living in the Spirit, not the flesh. As we near the half-way point of your journey, start letting His thoughts be your thoughts; and your thoughts be His! "The Scriptures ask, has anyone ever known the thoughts of the Lord?" Yes! "... strange as it seems, we Christians actually do have within us a portion of the very thoughts and mind of Christ."

1 Corinthians 2:16 NLT & TLB

"Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect." Romans 12:2

After viewing session 5:2 on
Personal Discovery
What does "exchange your thinking" mean to you?
Referring to the two scriptures above, how does your understanding and knowledge affect how you feel about the rest of the bible and its relevance to you?
Do you think that changed thinking leads to changed behavior? Can you remember a time in your life when new information or a changed perception of something important led to a change in your behavior?







5:3 "As a Man Thinketh"

It's Proverbs 23:7 that says: "For as a man thinks within himself, so he is."

Did you know that people can say one thing but really be thinking another? Just listen to them talk. People actually live according to what they say after the word "but." I don't care what they say first before this conjunction; it's what comes after that you hear what they are really thinking and believing in their heart.

Example: "So and so is a good man, we are lucky to have him for a pastor; **but**".... now we are going to hear what they really think about the pastor. "**But** he talks too much." "**But** his sermons are a bit dry." "**But**...**But**...**But**."

Sadly, most Christians typically say the wrong things after the **but**. We put God's truth before the **but** and our situations or feelings after. We say things like, "I know Jesus loves me, **but** it doesn't feel like it" or "I know God is my sufficiency, but I don't really have what I need," or "I know I can do all things through Christ, **but** that's easier said than done, " or "**but** I'm only human," etc.

Now when we do this to ourselves, where are we living? We are living in the negative thinking within. Remember, "For as a man thinks within himself, so he is."

We need to learn to live out of God's truth, to live out of the life of Christ within us. Our enemy the devil doesn't care how much God-talk we use in our lives as long as we put it before the "but." God's truth belongs after the "but." (I pray you are grasping this.)

A name for putting God-talk after the "but" where it belongs is **The Holy But**. Our Lord used it in the Garden of Gethsemane. He said, "Father, take this cup from me, yet not my will be done, but yours."

The Holy **But** is a bridge. It moves us from our negative thinking to faith in Christ Jesus. We don't deny our circumstances because they are real, but they should prompt us to move through faith into living in the truth of the life within. The Apostle Paul understood the Holy But. See 2 Corinthians 4:7-10

To operate the Holy But, we have to put our circumstances first and God's truth last. This will move us from our circumstances to the solution – a person within, Christ in us the hope of glory.

"I feel awfully weak, but Christ is my strength."

"I'm in pain, but Christ is my sufficiency."



Christ In You - Illumination

What-so-ever You S (Sow to the Flesh)	Sow		So Shall You Reap. (Sow to the Spirit)
\mathbf{W}	\mathbf{W}	J	D
\mathbf{W}	W	J	D
	live are always being our mortal bodies." 2	-	for Jesus's sake, so that His life NIV)
=			Thrist lives in me. The life I live in gave Himself for me." Galatians
Ge	od Gave Us Two End	ds, One to Think W	ith, One to Sit On
	You	Win	You Lose
God Also	Gave Us Two Choi	ces, Walk in the Sp	irit or Walk in the Flesh
	You	Win	You Lose
	the Spirit , and you w by the Spirit is not nat	<u>-</u>	desire of the flesh ." Galatians 5:16 ral!
"For the law of the	Spirit of life in Chris	t Jesus has set you fi	ree from the law of sin and of

death." Romans 8:2 (NASB)



On A Road Less Traveled

Enriching your "Pit Stop" activity by practicing the presence of God – Living in the Spirit, not the flesh. This "Pit Stop" is designed to help you experience a fuller, deeper understanding of the Word of God as you incorporate the truth of God's Word into your life.

After viewing session 5:3 on
Personal Discovery
How much familiarity do you have with the idea that we have a choice between living in the flesh or living in the Spirit? What reaction have you had to this idea?
What opportunities have you had in your life to W.W.J.D. "Watch What Jesus Does?"
Do you remember a time you prayed for Jesus' help and felt you later actually observed Him working in and through you and could describe it to others?



Introducing WWJD Prayer Action Plan

People who complete one of the many available 7-15 week bible studies gain a lot of new and reaffirmed knowledge. The Bible was not only given to increase our knowledge, but to change our lives!

The uniqueness of this bible study design is that it places equal emphasis on mastery of the content AND mastery of its application. The application is prayers. We call them "Christ as My Life" prayers. We pray by actively calling upon Jesus to work His will and ways in and through us in all we ask. And Jesus said, "I will do all you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father. You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it." John 14:13-14 As we step forward in faith, the next thing is to Watch What Jesus Does which we highlight as WWJD.

Here is the beginning of the action - read these instructions and do activities 1 and 2 that take 15-20 minutes.

Most of us think of Christianity as less of a religion and more of a relationship. How do we interact with Jesus to strengthen this relationship? Blessing the food, attending church and falling to our knees in prayer when a crisis hits is relationship. How can we strengthen our relationship for God's glory and our own greater joy, satisfaction and usefulness? Frequent, consistent, perhaps even abiding prayer is certainly an option.

A couple in Tempe, Arizona have 5 married children and 13 grandchildren. They hear from these 23 people a lot! All these contacts lead to advice, celebration, emotional support, joyful activities, painful situations, casual fellowship, etc.

Do you think Jesus wants that kind of relationship with you? One way to invite Him to play a more active role in your life is to include Him in more activities through prayer. We hope to help you do that by learning to use "Christ as MY Life" prayers on a regular basis.

- 1. Please turn to the addendum and read the first 3 pages, 130 through 132 taking turns reading paragraphs out loud to each other.
 - These pages illustrate 8 different "Christ as My Life" prayers you can use as examples or a model for writing one of your own.
- 2. When you have finished reading the 3 pages, think about issues in your life today that you could ask Jesus to act in and through you for a better result for you and others. For those who are comfortable, discuss your possibilities with each other. Later on in this journey, you will have an opportunity to write your own prayer.



6:1 The Law – The Impossible Standard

Legalism, strict adherence to the law, leads to some very troubling conclusions. Legalism as a means of control, teaches that Jesus gave you a right standing with God, but it's your job to keep it. It further teaches that the gift was free, but it is up to you to hold on to it through performance. Actually, under the law you would be performing much harder than you would be in any religion because the standard of God is perfection. And Jesus is the only one who ever has or ever will keep that standard of perfection.

God's law reveals our sin. Paul writes, "Well then, am I suggesting that the law of God is evil? Of course not! The law is not sinful, but it was the law that showed me my sin." Rom 7:7

Let me illustrate. Pretend you knew everybody on the face of the earth was going to die from a disease. And you had the only antidote that could save their lives, but no one believed that they were sick and going to die. This truly would be frustrating, don't you agree? So you invent an x-ray machine that reveals the fatal disease within them that will cause their death. Once they understand and believe, people would then be lined up for miles around your house to get the antidote.

Here is the application. The x-ray machine is the law, it reveals what is wrong. The antidote is Jesus Christ, the cure for what is wrong. When unbelievers take the antidote, Jesus Christ into their lives; the fatal disease is cured and gone forever. They are saved and now have eternal life

in Christ. After one receives the antidote, there is no longer a need for the x-ray machine (the law). It has done its job for the new Christian.

The law, which is holy and perfect, was designed to convict unbelievers of their sin and their need for the Savior. Only Jesus Christ can save you from the penalty of sin that the law reveals. Only Jesus Christ can give you a right standing before God.

Romans 10:4 tells us "For Christ has accomplished the whole purpose of the law. All who believe in Him are made right with God." In Romans 6:14 Paul explains further "Sin is no longer your master, for you are no longer subject to the law, which enslaves you to sin. Instead, you are free by God's grace."



Christ In You - Illumination

For It Is By GRACE You Have Been Saved

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This truth should put a smile on your face. Too many Christians walk around looking like they have been weaned on a pickle, and there is great value in a smile.

The Value of a Smile

- A Smile costs nothing but it gives much.
- It enriches those who receive without making poorer those who give.
- It takes only a moment, but the memory of it lasts forever.
- No one is so rich and mighty that he can live without it, and no one is so poor that he can't be made rich by it.
- A Smile creates happiness in the home fosters goodwill in business and is the counter sign of friendship.
- It brings rest to the weary, cheers the discouraged and is nature's best antidote for trouble yet, it can't be bought, begged, borrowed or stolen for it is something that is of no value to anyone unless it is given away.
- Most people are too tired to give you a smile so give them one of yours as none needs a smile so much as he who has no more to give.

[&]quot;For it is by grace you have been saved, **through faith** – and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – not by works, so that no one can boast." Ephesians 2:8-9 (NIV)

[&]quot;Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a **new** creation; the old has gone, the **new** has come!" 2 Corinthians 5:17 (NIV)

[&]quot;You show that you are a letter from Christ, the result of our ministry, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts."

2 Corinthians 3:3 (NIV)



The Value of Enthusiasm

We need to smile more and be more enthusiastic about who we are; brand new creatures in Christ!

The root word of enthusiasm comes from the Greek word "entheo" meaning God within. If that doesn't excite you; nothing will!

Enthusiasm: Think of the last 4 letters of this word – iasm, which can stand for <u>I Am Sold Myself!</u>

	It's a	Brand New You	<i>u</i>	
	N			
	E			
	\mathbf{W}			
Equipped with a new		, new	, new	

Jesus said, "I am the **Way**, the **Truth**, and the **Life**. No one comes to the Father except through me." John 14:6 (NIV)

In His great mercy He has given us new life.

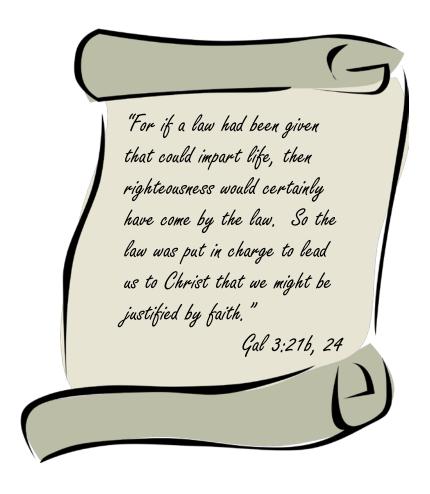
Communion option: On the video, you will observe Len Baker leading the group in communion. You have the option to just observe the video or distribute the elements and actually take communion. The following is a source for ordering communion cups if you choose. You can call 1-866-for-cups. Or, you can order from the address below:

COMPAK 751 Cornwall Road Sanford, FL 32773

In His great mercy He has given us new life Praise be to God!









On A Road Less Traveled

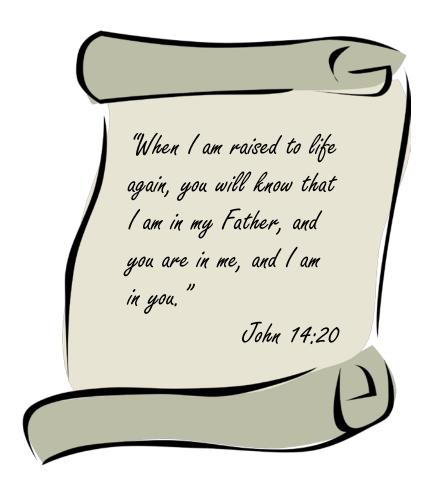
This "Pit Stop" is designed to help you experience a fuller, deeper understanding of the Word of God as you incorporate the truth of God's Word into your life.

As has been said many times by many wise teachers, you get out of learning in proportion to what you put into it.

Not arguments but, now that you have gotten to know each other, freely discussing any differences of opinion can be a healthy step toward richer learning by everyone involved.

After viewing session 6:1 on
Personal Discovery
If you had access to an X-RAY machine like the one described, who would be the first 3 or 4 people you would invite to be X-RAYED?
As a born again Christian, what have you been equipped with that non-Christians don't have?
So, did taking communion remind you that Christ lives in you? Can you think of a scripture in John where Jesus prophesizes that he will later reside inside the believer? Hint John 14:??





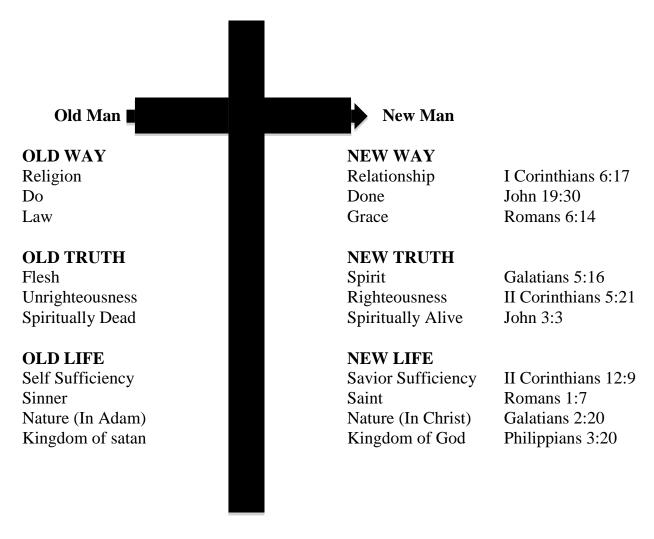


Rejoice in Your New Life, the RESURRECTED Life

"For if we have been united with Him in the likeness of His death, certainly we shall also be in the likeness of His resurrection." Romans 6:5 (NASB)

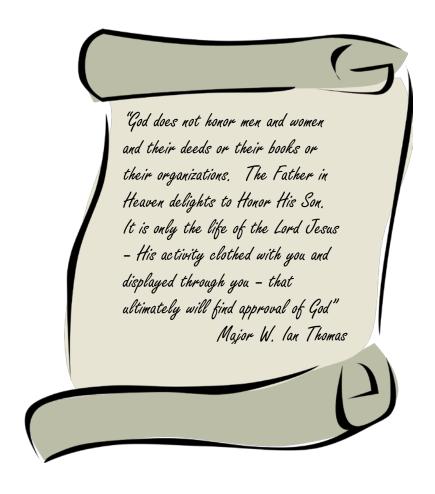
"That I may know Him and the **power of His resurrection** and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death..." Philippians 3:10 (NASB)

"Greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world." I John 4:4 (NASB)



REMEMBER
Old Became New At The Cross
Hebrews 9:16,17







On A Road Less Traveled

Pit Stop
After viewing session 6:2 on
Personal Discovery
Way back in session 1:2 on page 9, Len related the comment of the woman who concluded that the New Covenant began at the cross with the death of Jesus. This sounded pretty radical when we have all bibles divided between the old and new covenant at Mathew. Do you remember your thoughts and reactions at that time?
Are your conclusions on this topic any different now?
Would you find it comforting to view all that Jesus taught in the Gospels is intended to be performed by the life He put within you?

Next Page ----→



WWJD Prayer Action Plan Continued

Prayer Discovery

This is a continuation of "Christ as My Life prayers started on page 56

Reading these instructions and doing activities 2-4 should take 15-20 minutes.

Do you think Jesus wants a broader and deeper relationship with you? One way to invite Him to play a more active role in your life is to include Him in more activities through prayer. We hope to help you do that by learning to use "Christ as MY Life" prayers on a regular basis.

You previously addressed steps 1 and 2

Please turn to the addendum on page 130. Read the first 3 pages, 130 through 132 either individually or preferable take turns reading paragraphs to each other.

These pages illustrate 8 different "Christ as My Life" prayers you can use as examples or a model for writing one of your own.

1. When you have finished reading the 3 pages, think about issues in your life today that you could ask Jesus to act in and through you for a better result for you and others. For those who are comfortable, discuss your possibilities with each other.

Now, look at pages 130 through 132 again

- 2. For those who can think of an issue to pray about, write out a simple prayer at the bottom of page 132.
- 3. For those who are comfortable doing this, describe your prayer and get encouragement and ideas from others.
- 4. For those who are comfortable with this, you can come back next week and give your testimony about what happened.



7:1 Let Jesus Live Through You!

NOTE

Before you start Session 7:1, take 15-20 minutes sharing with each other about your first experience with "Christ as My Life" prayers pages 130-132.

Christians are frustrated trying to live the Christian life. They don't need another program or formula, they just need Jesus - not more law and curses.

His name was Monty. He wanted to kill himself. He told me how he tried to do good works and keep all the rules but was failing miserably. He hated his job and wanted to commit suicide. All the time I am thinking, Lord, give me something to say to this desperate man. When he had finished he looked at me and said, "What do you have to say?" And the Lord told me to say to him, "Praise God!" He looked at me with shock on his face and said, "What did you say?" I said, "Praise God! That's what God wants all of us to do, but not the way you're thinking; with a gun or pills. He wants us all to die to self, and allow Him to live His life through us." He told me he didn't want to go to work, because he hated his job and the people he worked with. I said, "You don't have to go to work anymore, let Jesus take your body to work. He can love the people you work with." Monty was transformed! Monty got it. Why? Because he was ready to die! See Romans 12:2

"Suicidal people are on the right track, only it is not the outer life that needs to go, but the inner life. God does not want to improve the inner life; He wants to remove it." – Michael Wells

"When Christ calls a man, He bids him to come and die." – Dietrich Bonhoeffer (80 years ago)

The Apostle Paul wrote 2000 years ago, "I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me, and the life I live in this body I live by faith."

Christianity is not self-improvement; it's self-replacement!

"No one does good, not even one." (Lose your religion)

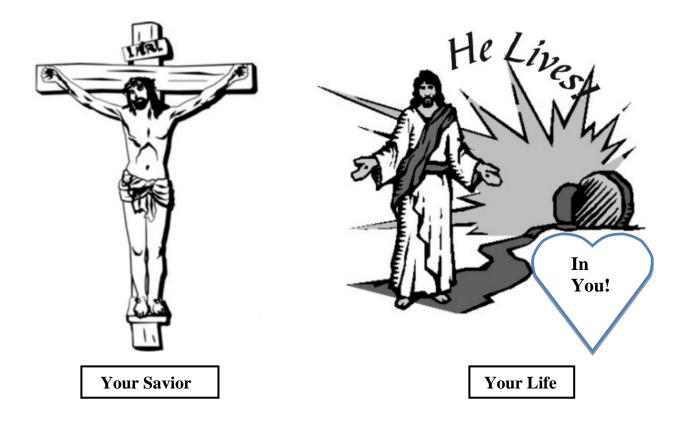


Lose Your Religion

It is truly amazing that rules and regulations (the law) are what people usually want, but Jesus is all people really need. Religion is all about doing, achieving, accomplishing, and earning our salvation. Many say "just tell me what to do and I will do it." Religious people who trust in living by the rules will usually **boast** about what they have done (their good works). But a Christian has nothing to boast about. He or she boasts only in the Lord. Ephesians 2:8-9 explains, "God saved you by His special favor when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God. Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can **boast** about it."

As Christians we are to put no confidence in ourselves. The popular religious philosophy of today is "the Lord helps those who help themselves", which by the way is not even in the Bible. It was also popular in Paul's day, and it is just as wrong today as it was back then. The Bible has nothing good to say about our good works apart from Him, and yet many Christians today are depending entirely on their **good works** to please God, and failing miserably. Romans 3:12 tells us, "...no one does good, not even one."

There is only one good work that pleased God, **the finished work of His Son Jesus Christ on the cross**. He died for you on Friday. He rose for you on Sunday! He is risen indeed! That is the mystery of the gospel, Christ in you the hope of glory.





Christ In You - Illumination

He died		
To give His life		
To live His life		
The	Became	at the cross.

We need to be reminded of the cross more than once a year.

The Cross in My Pocket

I carry a cross in my pocket A simple reminder to me Of the fact that I am a Christian No matter where I may be

When I put my hand in my pocket
To bring out a coin or key
The cross is there to remind me
Of the price He paid for me.

The little cross is not magic Nor is it a good luck charm It isn't meant to protect me From every physical harm.

It's not for identification For all the world to see It's simply an understanding Between my Savior and me.

It's also a daily reminder
Of the peace and comfort I share
With all who know my Master
And give themselves to His care.

So I carry a cross in my pocket Reminding no one but me That Jesus Christ is Lord of my life If only I'll let Him be.

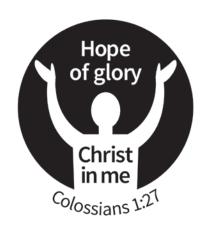
Next Page



Christ In You - Illumination

"For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ." Romans 5:17 (NIV)

The person who wishes to	should	only in what the
Lord has done. Boast in the	•	
"It is because of Him that you are in that is, our righteousness, holiness and boast, boast in the Lord." I Corinthian	d redemption. Therefore, o	
We will never have a	life.	
Until we experience the	lifo	





Handout



MaxLucado.com Weekday Email



Christ in You

http://us2.campaign-archive2.com/?u=bed511e434184985961d50fcb&id=6a66324c20

When *grace* happens, Christ enters. Christ in you, the hope of glory! For many years, I missed this truth. I believed all the other prepositions: Christ *for* me, *with* me, *ahead* of me. But I never imagined that Christ was *in* me.

I can't blame my deficiency on Scripture. Paul refers to the indwelling Christ 216 times. John mentions his presence 26 times. No other religion or philosophy makes such a claim. No other movement implies the living presence of its founder *in* his followers.

Muhammad does not indwell Muslims. Buddha does not inhabit Buddhists. Influence? Instruct? Yes. But occupy? No!

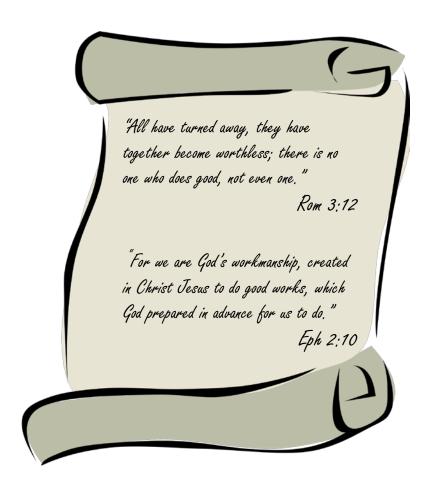
The mystery of Christianity is summarized in *Colossians 1:27*, "*Christ is in you!*" The Christian is a person in whom Christ is happening! Little by little a new image emerges! All because of God's *Grace!*



Remember, the Apostle Paul **asked for prayer** in Ephesians 6:19, 20; and in Colossians 4:3, 4; that wherever he would go, he would clearly and fearlessly present the mystery of the gospel: Christ in me, the hope of glory.

Paul's message was crystal clear. Not I, but Christ.







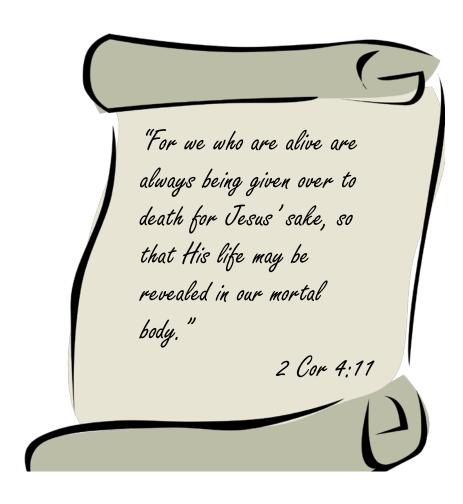
On A Road Less Traveled

After viewing session 7:1 on _____

Personal Discovery

Were you surprised to hear how the acclaimed Pastor and author, Max Lucado had missed the 242 times the Bible describes Christ as living IN us?
How does it make you feel when you read this phrase by Max Lucado, "A Christian is someone in whom Christ is happening?"
Do you know any frustrated Christians like Monty?
When you heard the truth that no one does good, not even one, did that bother you? There is only one good work that pleases God. What is it?







7:2 Not I, But Christ

Many Christians don't understand that we need a life, not a list. It is easier to follow a list of do's or don'ts, but a challenge to yield to the new life within. Yielding is about a personal and intimate relationship with Jesus Christ living His life **in and through us**. How can we be so sure? The Word of God makes it crystal clear in Colossians 3:3, 4 which reads "For you died when Christ died, and your real life is hidden with Christ in God. And when Christ, who is your real life, is revealed to the whole world, you will share in all His glory." Therefore, Christianity cannot be about us. **It's all about Jesus Christ living His life in and through our bodies**. Remember Verse 4 tells us "**Christ is our real life**."

Believing by **faith** that your old life is gone and your new life is now hidden with Christ in God is the truth of God's Word. The temptation we have however is to add our own worldly abilities, talents, and skills to the mix, so that it is no longer "Jesus Christ plus nothing"; it becomes Jesus Christ plus us and all of our good works.

Remember, Romans 3:12 tells us, "...no one does good, not even one."

In 1 Corinthians 15:10, Paul says "For I have worked harder than all the other apostles, yet it was not I..." Well then, who was doing Paul's work? The answer is... Jesus. 1 Thessalonians 5:24 tells us, "God, who calls you, is faithful; (and) He will do this." In John 6:28, 29 the apostles asked Jesus, "...what does God want us to do?" Jesus told them, "This is what God wants you to do; believe in the one He has sent." God sent His Son Jesus to die for us, to give His life to us, to live His life through us. Simply believe this by faith! Hebrews 11:6, tells us "...it is impossible to please God without faith" This is the truth that sets you free. It's freedom in Jesus Christ.

If you are a born again believer, you have been given the very nature of Jesus Christ. It is not up to you to improve yourself, but to recognize and apply the truth concerning your new identity. **The fact is there is nothing we can do to become more right with God**. It has all been taken care of by Jesus Christ on the cross. Our place is simply to receive His gift and then abide in the reality of His indwelling life. 1 Corinthians 1:30, 31 reads, "God alone made it possible for you to be in Christ Jesus. For our benefit God made Christ to be wisdom itself. He is the one who made us acceptable to God. He made us pure and holy, and He gave Himself to purchase our freedom. As the Scriptures say, the person who wishes to boast should boast only of what the Lord has done."

Jesus Christ is not only in your life, **Jesus Christ is your life**. It's not about religion, it's about your personal relationship with Jesus. **Life in the Spirit.**



Christ In You – Illumination Life In The Spirit

Jesus is our	_ through	the	Spirit
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"We have been released from the law so that we serve in the new way of the spirit, and not in the old way of the law." Romans 7:6 (NIV)

"The Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing." John 6:63 (NIV) Be filled... Ephesians 5:18

In Ephesians 5:18 we are told not to be drunk with wine, which leads to debauchery but instead to be filled with the Spirit of God. Now being filled with the Spirit is not a one-time occurrence. You don't go to the gas station and fill up, then tell the attendant to seal the tank because you will never need more gas. That would be a presumption; in fact, it would be foolish and stupid.

The same is true with engine oil. A dipstick is used to check the level of oil in your engine. Well, some people are dipsticks! It's true, but not in the way you might think.

The Holy Spirit is the oil of the believer's life. When fully lubricated, we run smoothly, without friction, quietly and calmly. But when we are running impatiently, angrily, full of frustration, low on kindness, goodness, and self-control; God sends someone along as a dipstick to check the level of our lubrication. It may be the driver who cuts in front of us, a rebellious child, that person at church, or the self-centered spouse.

We think in the back of our minds "people, they are such dipsticks!" But actually, they have been sent by God. When we stop and see God in the situation, we turn to Him, acknowledging that we are low on the "oil" of the awareness of the Holy Spirit.

In that moment we pray, "Father, fill me up!" He does! We can then thank God for those dipsticks who came along and warned us that we were running low before we blew up - so stay filled. Live by the Spirit and you will not carry out the desires of the flesh. Well, Amen!





Christ In You – Illumination (Contd.)

	is the only	of life.
When you are	you grow, when you are	you rot.
our Lord and Savior Jesus (le Peter before his death were "gre Christ. To Him be the glory both now reek translation of the word "grow"	v and forever. Amen"
"He must increase but I mu	st decrease." John 3:30 (NASB)	
	GROWTH	
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	\mathbf{W}	
	\mathbf{T}	
	Н	
-	's enemies, we were reconciled to Hi an reconciled, shall we be saved thro	_
	t Jesus in my service to God. I will nomplished through me" Romans 1.	
We are therefore Christ's at 2 Corinthians 5:20 (NIV)	mbassadors, as though God were ma	king his appeal through us.
"I can do all things(NASB)	who gives me st	rength." Philippians 4:13
Footnote: If we are not gr experience is floating arou	ounded in Scriptures, we may fall and in our culture!	for whatever new idea or



Live By Grace

Living by grace through faith (not by the law) makes everything of Jesus and nothing of man. Grace allows man to live by constant faith in Jesus Christ for everything. Remember John 15:5, "For apart from Christ, we can do nothing..." The law reveals man's effort while **grace** reveals Jesus' finished work and gives all the glory to God.

Repetition

There a plant in the Far East called the Moso. You put the seed in the ground water and fertilize it the first year and nothing comes out of the ground. You continue each year, watering and fertilizing but nothing comes out. Until at the end of the fifth year it starts to grow at a rate of two and a half feet per day. In six weeks it reaches heights of ninety feet. It's a form of bamboo, and it's the favorite food of the Panda Bear. But the question is, what was going on for five years?

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ROOTS!

The first five years were spent growing roots to support the exponential growth.

It's the same way for the renewing of our mind. It takes time to grow roots in God's word.

Remember the timetables in school? 3x3, 4x4, etc.? Believe it or not, we studied those timetables for six to eight weeks in the third grade. My son on a bad day, 8 x 8 was 56; on a good day, 8 x 8 was 72. But after six to eight weeks of repetition, when you ask him 8x8, he tells you 64 without any hesitation.

Let me ask you a question. What is 2x2 or 5x5 or 3x3? Did you see how quickly the group responded with the answer? Proves to me they have all been in the third grade. And some of them haven't been there for many years.

Repetition is the key to learning.



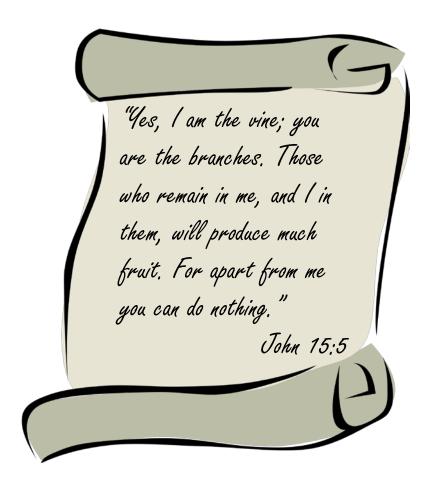
Religious people who don't fully understand this truth get upset when they hear that they can no longer boast in their own efforts to keep the law. Paul tells us in Galatians 5:4, "For if you are trying to make yourselves right with God by keeping the law, you have been cut off from Christ! You have fallen away from God's grace."

Truth is, God never intended for us to be in control. Controlling things is His role; not ours.

When we give control to the Holy Spirit in us, there will be freedom not bondage; cooperation not competition; and glory to God, not praise to man. The world will see true Christianity, and the lost will come to know the Savior Jesus Christ living His life in and through His body of believers, and they will be drawn to Him in us. It truly is amazing grace.









On A Road Less Traveled

PIT STOP	
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After viewing session 7:2 on

Personal Discovery

Have you ever come across a dipstick? Can you see how the illustration asking the Spirit to "fill you up" could be helpful to you?
Did the ideas in the repetition paragraph on page 78 give you any comfort on the time it takes to renew your mind?
What other ideas presented in this session do you want to discuss?

Next Page ----→



WWJD Prayer Action Plan Continued

Close by reading aloud pages 133 and 134. You can take turns reading paragraphs out loud. If someone would rather not read aloud, skip to the next person.

Activities to do between now and next week:

- 1. Fill in the blanks on both pages 133 and 134.
- 2. Individually read and familiarize yourself with the 5-step outline and explanation on page 135.
- 3. Review how the explanation on page 135 is used by "Debbie" as she created her own prayer using the 5-step outline on page 136.
- 4. Be prepared to discuss your questions and reactions to pages 133-136 next week.



8:1 Christ In You – Illumination

NOTE

Before you start Session 8:1, take 15-20 minutes sharing with each other your questions and reactions to "Christ as My Life" prayers on pages 133-136.

Growing	in	Grace is a	Process

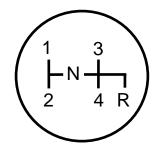
"My dear children for whom I am again in the pains of **child birth** until Christ is formed in you..." Galatians 4:19 (NIV)

But when maturity comes, the immature disappears. "When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put childish ways behind me." I Corinthians 13:11 (NIV)

Three Illustrations of This Process

- 1. The elevator to the fourth floor is out of order, you must process the stairs, one step and one floor at a time.
- 2. Driving in fourth gear is the fastest and also easiest on the engine and operator, but it is a process to get there.
- 3. Higher learning is also a growing process.





SENIOR	4 th
JUNIOR	3 rd
SOPHOMORE	2 nd
FRESHMAN	1 st



Car Illustration

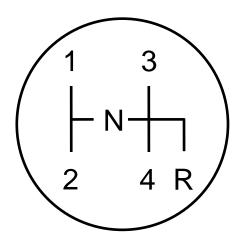
First Gear Thinking: Jesus died for my sins, thank you for saving me. I'll take it from here. Imagine driving around for years in first gear. You'd be exhausted, grinding away. How many times have you heard someone say, "I'm burned out."

Second Gear Thinking: But by the grace of God, He shifts you into second gear. Luke 18:27 says "*The things that are impossible with man are possible with God.*" So you say ok, God you do the impossible things and I'll take care of the rest. You then drive around in second gear just poking along going nowhere fast.

Third Gear Thinking: But then again, by God's grace He shifts us into third gear. Philippians 4:13, "*I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.*" However, we put the emphasis on "I" can do all things, and we start downshifting back and forth between first and third gear. Another name for downshifting is backsliding.

Fourth Gear Thinking: But then again, through a persistent process of seeking the truth in God's word you get to fourth gear. John 15:5, Jesus says, "I am the vine, and you are the branch. Apart from me you can do nothing." Galatians 2:20, Paul writes "I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in this body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me." (NIV)

Bottom Line: All Christians are loved unconditionally for sure. We just operate in different gears and on different levels. When someone says their life is hopeless, they're whining and need to shift gears and realize their potential through Christ Jesus in us. Shifting gears is expanding your faith. And, please, don't forget to stay filled with the Spirit by checking your oil regularly (using the dipsticks God sends your way!).





On A Road Less Traveled

Pit Stop

After viewing session 8:1 on _____

Personal Discovery

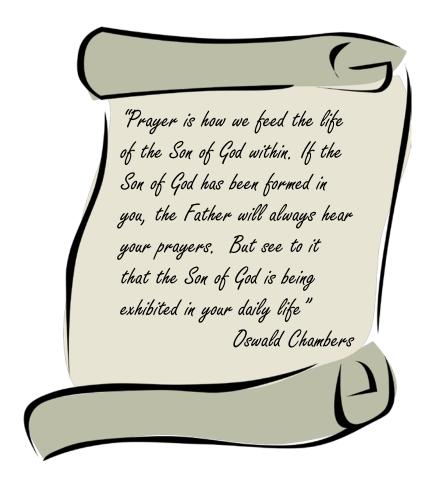
Shifting gears is a helpful analogy when thinking about Christian growth.

What ide	as or suggestions do you have for s	someone wanting to shift from 1 st to 2 nd ?
What ide	as or suggestions do you have for s	someone wanting to shift from 2 nd to 3rd?
What ide	as or suggestions do you have for s	someone wanting to shift from 3 rd to 4th?

As we are studying the application of "Christ as MY Life" prayers, here is another example of a moment by moment prayer you could say at any time of any day!.

Dear Jesus, let me be a window (instrument) today so others can see Your Life in me.







8:2 Mixing Law & Grace

One of the biggest problems in the church today is mixing the old testament of law and the new testament of grace. Some believe you are justified by grace alone through faith alone, while others believe you must keep the law to be justified. Who is right and does it really matter if we believe differently? It mattered enough that God had the Apostle Paul pronounce the double curse for those who mix law and grace.

In Galatians 1:6-9 Paul wrote: "I am shocked that you are turning away so soon from God, who in His love and mercy called you to share the eternal life He gives through Christ. You are already following a different way that pretends to be the Good News but is not the Good News at all. You are being fooled by those who twist and change the truth concerning Christ. Let God's curse fall on anyone, including myself, who preaches any other message than the one we told you about. Even if an angel comes from heaven and preaches any other message, let him be forever cursed. I will say it again: if anyone preaches any other gospel than the one you welcomed, let God's curse fall upon that person."

Many Christians do not think that it is a serious matter to have this mixture, or they simply don't understand. However, our response to the mixture of law and grace should be in alignment with the apostle Paul. He was appalled that the Galatians were mixing the Old Testament with the New Testament. In fact in Galatians 3:1 Paul wrote: "Oh, foolish Galatians! What magician has cast an evil spell on you?"

While most Christians have no problem with agreeing that they have been saved by grace, they are nevertheless still subjecting themselves to the law. They are depending on their obedience to the law to earn God's blessing. When they do well, in their own estimation, they expect to be blessed. When they fail or fall short, they expect to be punished and suffer shame and guilt. Such a system sounds very similar to the Old Testament.

God wants us to be blessed on account of what His Son Jesus did for us, not what we do for Him. Those trying to be justified by their law keeping, still have an Old Testament mentality even though they profess they are saved by grace. They have reverted to the Old Testament that was based on works and obedience to the law rather than trusting in the New Testament that is based on faith in the new life.

The Christians who truly benefit the most from understanding God's grace are those who have come to the end of themselves, to the end of their own efforts to live the Christian life. They finally realize the Christian life is all about Jesus living His life through them. Christians are the body of Christ.



Christ In You - Illumination

It's Not About	. It's All About
·	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·

Remember Scripture tells us:

"He is not served by human hands, as if He needed anything, because He Himself gives all men life and breath and everything else. For in Him we live and move and have our being." Acts 17:25-28 (NIV)

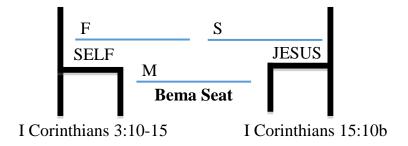
"For we...put no confidence in the flesh." Philippians 3:3 (NASB)

"There is no one who does good, not even one." Romans 3:12 (NIV)

It's Christ In You The Only Hope of Glory

"For we must all appear before the **judgment seat of Christ**, that each one may receive what is due him for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad."

2 Corinthians 5:10 (NIV)



Here's the "Big Question" at the judgment seat of Christ

What			
	accomplished _	your l	ife?
God worked		Son and His Son works	
The Son can't work instead of Jesus.		if you put	on the throne



On A Road Less Traveled

Pit Stop
After viewing session 8:2 on
Personal Discovery
On the video, Len is highlighting the Apostle Paul's surprise that the Galatians have begun to drift from his earlier teaching. Paul mentions the influences of that time.
Question: What influences do we Christians experience in our society and culture that draw away our attention and commitment to the freedom we have in Christ's message?
What were your thoughts when you heard Len say that we will someday be rewarded for what we didn't do?
What method should a Christian live by and why?

Next Page ----→



WWJD Prayer Action Plan Continued

We hope and pray that the truth found in these scriptures make it more clear to you about how the "Christ as My Life" prayers make sense to the mature Christian.

Last week, as you read the outline and example on pages 135 and 136, we hope you see this outline as at least one way to enrich your relationship with Jesus. Many past "The Galatian Road" graduates have found they are asking Christ to work in and through them multiple times a day. Sometimes with a simple moment to moment prayer like those on pages 130 through 132. And sometimes by getting the perceptions and brainstorming ideas of others by using the full 5-step outline.

Activities to do between now and next week:

- 1. We encourage you to experiment with using the outline pages 135 through 138 to think through and apply this 5-step approach to a current issue in your life either obstacle or opportunity.
- 2. Page 139 is an extra blank template you can use to make copies for future use.



9:1 An Award-Winning Speech

NOTE

Before you start Session 9:1, take 15-20 minutes sharing with each other about last week's experience with "Christ as My Life" prayers Pages 135 to 138.

"How to Have a Happier Life"

Four Key Words: <u>Choose</u>, <u>work</u>, <u>worry</u>, and <u>help</u>

This award-winning speech was converted to:

"How to Have a Happier Life ... In Christ"

- 1. CHOOSE > Word Power: John 3:16, John 6: 28-29
- 2. WORK > Word Power: Ephesians 2: 10
- 3. WORRY > Word Power: Mathew 6:27, 34 and John 10:28-29
 4. HELP > Word Power: Mathew 28:19 and Romans 10:15b

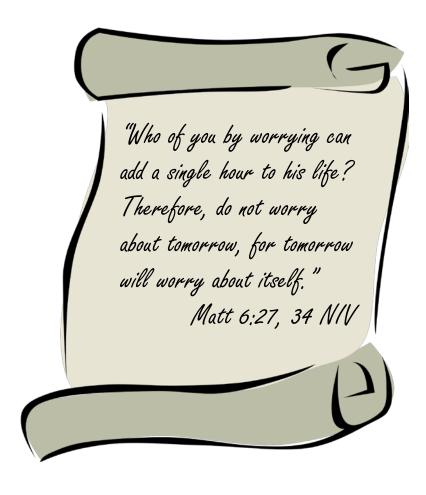
For it is by grace you have been saved through faith not by works, so that no one can boast.

F	
A	
I	
\mathbf{T}	
H	

[&]quot;Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see." Heb 11:1

[&]quot;And, without faith it is impossible to please God ..." Heb 11:6







On A Road Less Traveled

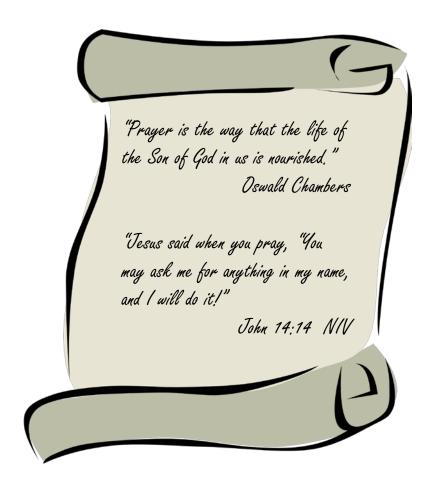
Pit Stop

After viewing session 9:1 on _____

Personal Discovery

From Len's descriptions of choose, work, worry and help, how do you see those evidenced in the lives of others and perhaps even yourself?	
Len described 4 scriptural antidotes to these problems. Which one is most helpful to you based on what is going on in your life right now?	
On a scale of 1 to 10 with 1 being low, how much do you worry? Did you get some good ideas for yourself from Len's illustration of the worry jar?	







9:2 What Life Are You Trying to Live

Now listen carefully. The people of this world are trying to live a life they do not have substituting religion for God. But then there are others who are in this world but not of this world anymore who have a new life they never live. That's most Christians.

What does the world call most Christians? A bunch of hypocrites (a hypocrite is one who says one thing but does another), trying to live the Christian life in the flesh when it can't be done. So it comes across hypocritical. Sad to say we have many Christians living in the flesh.

I read a testimony of a man named Ed Miller. In the Gaither Homecoming Magazine it went something like this. "I was following earnestly the spiritual disciplines I had been taught. Daily quiet times; Bible memory; assembling with the saints; actively ministering – yet in my life I was a defeated Christian. Finally, I crashed. I gave up the dream that I would ever improve as a Christian. In the merciful providence of God, one glorious morning I found myself sitting at the feet of a Godly mentor. I was told that day, as if I had heard it for the first time, the most precious news a helpless Christian could ever hope to hear: I was dead! God had not promised to improve me; He desired to replace me. I thought He would change me; instead, He was offering me an exchange – His life for mine. I had received Him as the One who died as my Substitute years before; I was now given the opportunity to receive Him as the One who wanted to live as my Substitute for the rest of my life."

"How beautiful are the feet of those who bring the good news." Romans 10:15b

There was a knock at the door. They shouted, who lives here? Reply: Jesus lives here! They said: I thought Martin Luther lived here. Reply: He used to, but he died.

Christianity is not a self-improvement; it's a self-replacement.

Substitute: In other words, Jesus living His life in and through us.

On the next page, the first question is on that line of thinking.



Christ In You - Illumination

How Many Mirac	les Did Jesus Perform	n? Answer	•
			at the Father is in Me? The words in me , who is doing His work."
•	·		ecredited by God to you by ugh Him." Acts 2:22 (NIV)
"God did extraordinary n	niracles through Paul.	" Acts 19:11	(NIV)
Jesus	never acted	0	f His Father.
His Father liv	ed	life	His Son.
Jesus	and was		to His Father's will.
manner." John 5:19 (NIV) Remember the Son works	,		
What	acts ca	nn you accom	plish when you
act	of the Son?	Answer	
Jesus said "I am the vine; much fruit, for apart from	-		es in Me and I in him, he bears (NASB)
We will be	for what	t we	
	It's Christ in us,	the hope of	glory.



On A Road Less Traveled

Pit Stop	
After viewing session 9:2 on	
Personal Discovery	

wrong! Does the John 14:10 scripture now make it even more clear that God, the Father, acted through Jesus and Jesus acts through us when we yield to Him? Discuss.
Does the above scripture also add to your understanding of the vine and the branch as it relates to you personally? Discuss.
Ed Miller, in his testimony in the third paragraph of the previous page, said he finally realized that he was dead. What does Ed say in the next sentence? Comments?

Next Page ----→



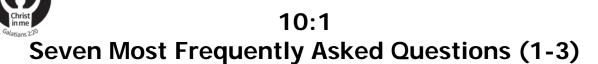
WWJD Prayer Action Plan Continued

Use the balance of your time to discuss your progress or lack of progress on implementing the 5-step prayer outline on pages 135 through 138.

Brainstorming obstacles, scriptures, group prayer and solution ideas are strong "fellowship" building activities as you strive to enhance and enrich each other's prayer lives.

Activities to do between now and next week:

- 1. Read through pages 140 and 141 to get some ideas about life issues that are more complicated and/or have a long history that also become the subject of our prayer.
- 2. Be prepared to discuss your thoughts and reactions next week.



NOTE

Before you start Session 10:1, take 15-20 minutes to share your thoughts about what you read on complicated prayers, the power of testimonials, bragging, etc. on "Christ as My Life Prayers" pages 140 – 141.

1. How do I know that Jesus Christ is living His life in and through me?

Jesus would probably answer that question with another question (He did that a lot). Jesus might ask, how do you know you are saved? Answer: you know you are saved by grace through faith. (See Eph 2:8-9) By faith you trusted Christ to be your Lord and Savior, and by faith you trust that He is living and expressing His life in and through you. (See Col 3:3-4)

Christians can live by one of **two methods**, by the flesh or by faith in the Spirit. (See Gal 5:16) And the key factor is the method we choose to live by; not the results. Example: You can perform an everyday task like driving your car, cooking a meal, or cleaning the house with an attitude of, "You know what, I can do these things myself...I don't need Christ as life to do these things for me. Although simple things, they are works of the flesh, the wrong method, and will be consumed at the judgment seat of Christ as – wood hay and stubble. On the other hand, you can say, "Lord, I'm going to drive my car, cook a meal, and clean the house believing by faith that your spirit is doing it in and through me." This is the right method and will be judged at the judgment seat of Christ as gold, silver, precious stones. Remember, **method not results** is the key. Spirit you win; flesh you lose.

Jesus said, "I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in Me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from Me you can do nothing." John 15:5

"Any effort to hang on to the least bit of our own strength will only diminish the life of Christ in us."

Oswald Chambers – "My Utmost for His Highest."



Please turn page for story and illuminating illustration.



Story to Enlighten

A woman gets a call at work from the babysitter explaining that her son is not feeling well, and to please stop at the drug store to pick up some medicine. Coming out of the drugstore, she notices she locked her keys in the car. She calls a friend who tells her to look around for a clothes hanger to open the car door. She finds an old rusty one but then realizes she doesn't have a clue how to use it. She stops and prays. Dear Lord, please send someone to help me. My child is sick and I need to get home. Within a minute, a burly looking man, driving a motorcycle pulls up and asks if he can help. She tells him her story, he takes the hanger and in thirty seconds he opened the door. She's overjoyed, gives him a big hug and tells him what a nice man he is. He says, "Lady, I'm not a nice man as I just got out of prison an hour ago. I was in for auto theft." She hugs him again and says, "Thank you Lord, you sent me a professional!!!"







Illumination: Well, God sent us a professional so to speak. The perfect, spotless Lamb of God, to live the perfect life in and through us. Scripture tells us, He is our very life and breath and everything else. "For in Him we live and move and have our being." Acts 17:25, 28

If we start thinking we can do the little things apart from Christ in us we fall into the devil's trap. Before you know it, you will build quite a list of things you don't need Jesus for and pretty soon the enemy will have you thinking you don't need Him at all.

Remember: "apart from Him you can do nothing." His method is always rewarding.



2. Can I feel Jesus living His life in and through me?

Feelings have nothing to do with the truth in God's Word. Some people say, I feel that it's true so that settles it. However, the truth is: God said it; that settles it; whether you feel it's true or not!

It's not about feelings it's about Scriptural facts. You choose to believe the truth in God's Word and by faith you act on it.

Example: If you are married, do you always feel married? No, but you know you're married. You act married because you **know** that you are.

Scripture tells us, "For we know that our old self was crucified with Christ..." Rom 6:6

Scripture tells us, "I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me." Gal 2:20

Notice Paul wrote, I live by faith, not feelings.

These are the facts (truth) from God's Word.

Faith is simply believing what God says is true.

In Mark Chapter 9 a father brings his demon-possessed son to Jesus and asks, **if** you can do anything take pity on us and help us. Jesus said, **if** I can do anything, everything is possible for him who believes. Jesus then said, where is your belief? The man said, "Oh, I have belief; but help me with my unbelief."

We live the Christian life by faith, in the facts, not by our feelings.





3. How do I know when I start living in the flesh again? (living apart from the Spirit)

By studying and meditating on the Word of God you mature in your faith and your ability to distinguish whether you are walking in the flesh or in the Spirit.

The Bible says in 1 Corinthians 13:11 "When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man I put my childish ways behind me." Now that's maturity! Through the Word of God we grow to know right from wrong, good from evil, flesh from spirit.

See Galatians 5:19-21 and Galatians 5:22-25 (pretty clear difference)

Now hear this again: **method**, **not results**, is the key factor. There are only two methods for approaching life, walking in the Spirit or in the flesh.

Flesh says, "I don't need Christ to do the little things."

The Spirit teaches "Apart from Him you can do nothing" John 15:5.

"So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God." 1 Cor 10:31

"Stay in the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desires of the flesh." Gal 5:16

By saturating your mind with the Word of God, your faith will be strengthened to know the difference between flesh and Spirit. **Now that's maturity!**



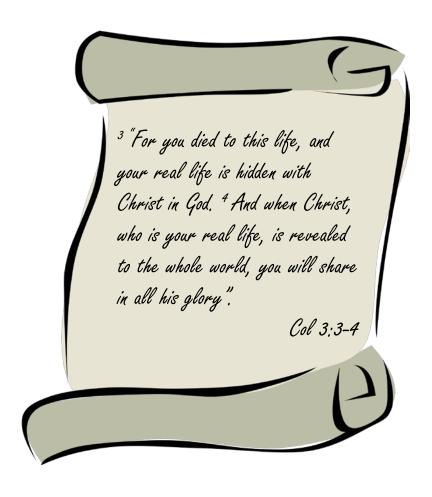


Your Personal "Galatian Road" Travel Log

On A Road Less Traveled

Pit Stop
After viewing session 10:1 on
Personal Discovery
What did you find most helpful about the answers to the first 3 questions? Discuss.
While most all churches revere the Bible with the 242 references to Christ indwelling the forn again believer, many do not address the implications to the believers daily walk and elationship with our Savior. A key goal for Growing in Grace Ministries and "The Galatian Road" bible study and application learning experience is to do just that.
As you near the end of this personal experience, how have your beliefs and attitudes hanged? Discuss.
What new insights have you learned from others during this discussion?







10:2

Seven Most Frequently Asked Questions (4-7)

4. When I abide with the Spirit life within do I lose my identity?

Absolutely not! God made only one of you. You have your own DNA, your own fingerprints, your own personality or soul which is composed of our mind, will and emotion. You are unique right down to the bone. When we were born again we obtained a new identity in Christ. We are now **Christians**, we are the body of Christ, and He is now our life, our strength and our power source.

It is the nonbeliever or the Christian walking in their own strength (flesh) who has lost their identity.

Think again of the power tools in your home. When these tools are plugged into an outlet, they each have a unique purpose even though they all have the same source of power. However, once unplugged, they all become the same. Useless. It's the power source that gives them their identities. Jesus is the power source, for all Christians. His death frees us from the penalty of sin. His life frees us from the power of sin.

Romans 6:13 tells us that we are instruments of His righteousness but remember, He's the power source of these instruments.

Examples of instruments: Light bulb, glove, boat, and teabag











We are the light bulb and He is the electricity. We are the glove and He is the hand. We are the boat and He is the motor. Best illustration comes from Malcolm Smith. It gives us a picture of Christ in us; the hope of glory. At a coffee counter Malcolm asked for a cup of tea. They bring him a little pot of water and a teabag. As he's dipping the teabag in and out of the water he has an Ah Ha moment and he thinks, the water and the tea are forever separated (because of the bag). However, the fusion of the two is so great that we call the water tea. The water is not the tea, it's the tea in the water. Get the picture? Well, we're not holy or righteous or Christ like, but the fusion of Christ in us makes us that way. It's not us; it's Christ in us, the only hope of glory.

Remember, as a new creation, your identity is in Christ.



5. What is the difference between God's acceptance and God's approval? (And what part does my performance play)

When you confess your faith in Christ Jesus as your Lord and Savior and are born again, in that moment you became **totally accepted** by God as a member of His forever kingdom once and for all. Your performance had nothing to do with it. Jesus Christ's death on the cross had everything to do with it. It's a gift! See Roman Road Scriptures.

However, your **approval** is based on the method you choose to operate in (spirit or flesh). Scripture tells us in 2 Timothy 2:15, "*Present yourself to God as one approved*..."

Did you allow the Spirit to do it through you by faith?

Example from scripture: In 1 Corinthians 15:10b Paul writes, "I work harder than all of you,..." (now that's performance). But then Paul writes after the comma, "yet not I" (now that's method), operating in the Spirit, and that's gaining God's approval. Remember, method not results is the key factor. The results of operating in the Spirit are always in the hands of God.

"So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God."

1 Corinthians 10:31

For more insight into this, read the book: <u>The Practice of the Presence of God</u> by Brother Lawrence, a 17th-century Carmelite monk. It's a classic.

6. Is it possible to live a sinless life here on earth?

Yes and no! Truth is, you cannot sin when walking in the Spirit. However, until we leave this earth we still have the flesh to deal with, but Almighty God will use the flesh to drive us back to the Spirit.

Paul tells us in 1 Corinthians 10:13 "No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, He will also provide a way out, a way of escape, so that you can stand up under it." And that way out, when tempted, is to get out of the flesh and back in the Spirit. Christians have to make these decisions daily.





Illustration (Flesh vs. Spirit)

A new pastor in a big city decided to take a bus ride to check out the downtown area before his first Sunday at his new church. When he gets to his seat in the back of the crowded bus he realizes that the bus driver gave him a quarter too much change. He thinks to himself, no big deal, it's only a quarter and the bus is crowded, and besides, they charge too much to ride anyway. So don't worry about it. As he gets to his stop, he makes his way up to the bus driver and hands him the quarter, saying you gave me too much change. The bus driver says, aren't you the new pastor in town? I was checking you out. I'll see you at church on Sunday. The pastor gets off the bus, grabs hold of a light pole and says, dear God, I almost sold your Son for a quarter. "Walk in the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desires of the flesh." Galatians 5:16





7. Will I be more pure and holy in heaven then I am right now?

No. God has already blessed you with **every** spiritual blessing in Christ... (Eph. 1:3) You are complete in Christ. (Col. 2:9) Jesus is your righteousness, holiness and redemption. Therefore let everyone who boasts, boast in the Lord. (1 Cor. 1:30-31)

Now if God calls you holy, then what are you? You're holy. Sanctification (holiness) is not something Jesus puts in you. It is Himself He puts in you. It's all about your new nature.

Example: The DNA of a baby oak tree and a giant oak tree is the same. The baby oak will grow into a mature tree with time, but it does not get any "oakier" as it grows. It just matures. It's the same for you. You cannot get any more righteous and holy than you already are. You just mature in Christ.

You are holy because of your new birth in Christ. You're a new creation.

Righteousness and holiness are spiritual characteristics given to us at our spiritual rebirth. Like a baby oak you're now part of the family tree. Growing in His grace.

As a born again child of God you are pure and holy in His sight right now!





Your Personal "Galatian Road" Travel Log

On A Road Less Traveled			
Pit Stop			
After viewing session 10:2 on			
Personal Discovery			
What did you find most helpful about the answers to the last 4 questions? Discuss.			

What other ideas presented in this session do you want to discuss?

Next Page ---



Practicing the WWJD Prayer Action Plan

Wisdom is defined as the application of knowledge. In the book of James, he writes in Chapter 1:22 "Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says!" The Bible was not only given to increase our knowledge, but to change our lives!

Again, the uniqueness of this bible study design is that it places equal emphasis on mastery of the content AND mastery of its application. The application is prayers. We call them "Christ as My Life" prayers. We pray by actively calling upon Jesus to work His will and ways in and through us in all we ask. Jesus said, "I will do all you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father. You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it." John 14:13-14 As we step forward in faith, the next thing is to Watch What Jesus Does which we highlight as WWJD.

Within "Christ as My Life" prayers, we provided some application opportunities for you which we called a WWJD Prayer Action Plan.

How are you doing? If you were comfortable with the moment by moment prayers you wrote on page 132 that is a great start.

If you are utilizing the 5-step outline to write your prayers like seen on page 138, you will realize the benefit of this GREAT tool. God will honor your efforts to bring more glory to His Son. Remember, wisdom is applied knowledge.

If you want more progress with the 5-step outline, continue to pray about it and practice it some more. "The one who calls you is faithful and He will do it." I Thessalonians 5:24



11:1 Still Have Questions? Paul Answers Them!

The following letters from God's word were taken from multiple verses of scripture that have been linked together to answer any questions you may still have about the Apostle Paul's teaching on law and grace.

First, Paul's teaching on grace.

Dear Friends in Christ.

"For Christ has accomplished the whole purpose of the law. All who believe in Him are made right with God. And if they are saved by God's kindness then it is not by their good works. For in that case, God's wonderful kindness would not be what it really is - free and undeserved. Don't you realize that all of you together are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God lives in you? God will bring ruin upon anyone who ruins this temple. For God's temple is holy, and you Christians are that temple. Yes, we live under constant danger of death because we serve Jesus, so that the life of Jesus will be obvious in our dying bodies.

What this means is that those that become Christians become new persons. They are not the same anymore, the old life is gone. A new life has begun! He revealed His Son in me so that I can proclaim the Good News about Jesus to the Gentiles. When all this happened to me, I did not rush out to consult with anyone else. I myself no longer live, but Christ lives in me. So I live my life in this earthly body by trusting in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me. I am not one of those who treats the grace of God as meaningless. For if we could be saved by keeping the law, then there was no need for Christ to die.

I pray that your hearts will be flooded with light so that you can understand the wonderful future He has promised to those He called. I want you to realize what a rich and glorious inheritance He has given to His people. I pray that you will begin to understand the incredible greatness of His power for us who believe Him. This is the same mighty power that raised Christ from the dead and seated Him in the place of honor at God's right hand in the heavenly realms.



Dearest friends, you were always so careful to follow my instructions when I was with you. And now that I am away you must be even more careful to put into action God's saving work in your lives, obeying God with deep reverence and fear. For God is working in you, giving you the desire to obey Him and the power to do what pleases Him. For it pleased God to tell His people that the riches and glory of Christ are for you Gentiles, too. For this is the secret Christ lives in you, and this is your assurance that you will share in His glory. I work very hard at this, as I depend on Christ's mighty power that works within me.

For you died when Christ died, and your real life is hidden with Christ in God. And when Christ, who is your real life, is revealed to the whole world, you will share in all His glory. Now may the God of peace make you holy in every way, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless until that day when our Lord Jesus Christ comes again.

God, who calls you, is faithful; He will do this."

Apostle Paul

A Scriptural journey of truth about the teachings of grace.

Contents taken directly from God's word:

Rom. 10:4, Rom. 11:6, 1 Cor. 3:16, 17, 2 Cor. 4:11, 2 Cor. 5:17, Gal. 1:16, Gal. 2:20, 21, Eph. 1:18, 19, 20, Phil. 2:12, 13, Col 1:27, 29, Col. 3:3, 4, 1 Thess. 5:23, 24



Paul's Teaching on the Law

Dear Friends in Christ,

"Therefore no one will be declared righteous in His sight by observing the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of sin. For if those who live by law are heirs, faith has no value and the promise is worthless, because law brings wrath. And where there is no law there is no transgression. Therefore, the promise comes by faith, so that it may be by grace... The law was added so that the trespass might increase. But where sin increased, grace increased all the more... For sin shall; not be your master, because you are not under law, but under grace.

Christ is the end of the law so that there may be righteousness for everyone who believes. I do not set aside the grace of God, for if righteousness could be gained through the law, Christ died for nothing. All who rely on observing the law are under a curse, for it is written: "Cursed is everyone who does not continue to do everything written in the Book of the Law." Clearly no one is justified before God by the law, because "the righteous will live by faith." The law is not based on faith; on the contrary, "the man who does these things will live by them." Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, for it is written: "Cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree."

Is the law, therefore, opposed to the promises of God? Absolutely not! For if a law had been given that could impart life, then righteousness would certainly have come by the law. So the law was put in charge to lead us to Christ that we might be justified by faith. It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery. You who are trying to be justified by the law have been alienated from Christ, you have fallen away from grace."

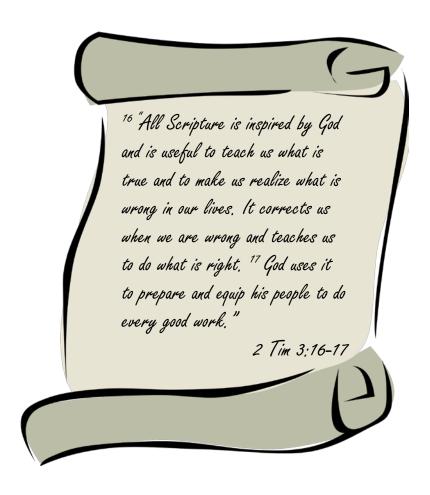
Apostle Paul

A Scriptural journey of truth about the teachings of law.

Contents taken directly from God's word:

Rom 3:20, Rom 4:14-16, Rom 5:20, Rom 6:14, Rom 10:4, Gal 2:21, Gal 3:10-13, Gal 3:21, Gal 3:24, Gal 5:1, Gal 5:4 (all NIV)







Your Personal "Galatian Road" Travel Log

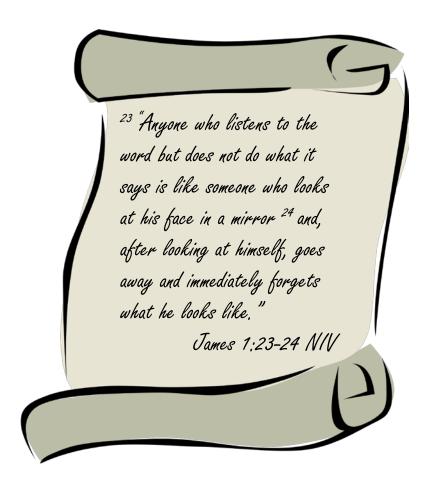
On A Road Less Traveled

Pit Stop – Paul's teaching on grace and on the law.

Can you imagine the renewed enjoyment and excitement that could break out in your church, community and country if people were again touched by this 2,000 year old message of truth that sets you free? Jesus doesn't make you better; Jesus is your better!

After viewing session 11:1 on			
Personal Discovery			
When reading the two "scriptural journeys" teaching the truth about law and grace, in what ways did it help affirm the freedom you have in Christ?			
Were you surprised by the impact of taking scriptures and combining them into a letter?			
• Many Christians are living their life with one foot in the law and one in grace.			
• What are the dangers of doing this "mixing law and grace" even if unconsciously?			
• How about you – where do you want your feet to be planted? How would you describe where they are planted right now?			
• "The Galatian Road – A Road Less Traveled" is the road that leads to grace. Discuss			







11:2 We Need to Let the World See Christ in Us

Are you a window or a mirror? A mirror, meaning when people look at you, do they just see a reflection of themselves. Or are you a window, where they can see Christ in you? Better yet, do you see Christ in you when you look into the glass?

The Man in the Glass

When you get what you want in your struggle for wealth
And the world makes you king for a day,
Just go to the mirror and look at yourself
And see what the Man has to say.

For it isn't your father or mother or spouse,
Whose judgment upon you must pass.
But the fellow whose verdict counts most in your life
Is the Man staring back from the glass!



Now some people may call you a straight shootin' chum And say you're a heck of a guy, But the Man in the glass will call you're a bum If you can't look him straight in the eye.

He's the fellow to please, never mind all the rest,
For he's with you clear to the end,
And you've passed your most dangerous, difficult test
If the Man in the glass is your friend.

You may fool the whole world, down the pathway of years,
And get pats on the back as you pass,
But your final reward will be heartaches and tears,
If you cheated the Man in the glass.

Don't live for Jesus, let Jesus live in and through you... WWJD



Christ in You - Illumination

What a Privilege To Focus On Him As We Serve Him and Offer Our Bodies As Living Sacrifices, Holy and Pleasing To Him...

F O C U S

FOCUS

"This service that you performed is not only supplying the needs of God's people but it is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God. Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, men will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else. And in their prayers for you their hearts will go out to you, because of the surpassing grace God has given you. Thanks be to God for His incredible gifts!"

2 Corinthians 9:12-15 (NIV)

"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." Mathew 28:19 (NIV)

"How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!" Romans 10:15 (NIV)

Paul "<u>by faith</u>" in the Son of God yielded to the Spirit of Christ within as his source of life proclaiming to the world the only way to live the Christian life

Paul writes: "Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me – put into practice. And the God of peace will be with you." Philippians 4:9 (NIV)

Paul is teaching Jesus Christ living His life in and through Christians. He is certainly not bragging about Himself in this verse. It was Paul who said:

"...put no confidence in the flesh." Phil 3:3

The Scriptures God gave to Paul are not verses for heaven, they're verses for earth.

This is your one life – not a dress rehearsal.



Your Personal "Galatian Road" Travel Log

On A Road Less Traveled

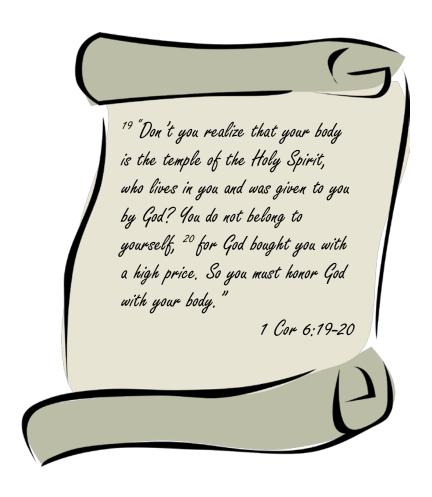
Pit Stop

After viewing session 11:2 on _____

Personal Discovery

Are you a window or a mirror?		
How hard is it for you to"put no confidence in the flesh?" Discuss.		
Do you want to discuss any other ideas presented in session 11:2		







11:3 Conclusion

The great secret of living the Christian life does not lie in imitating Jesus, but in letting the perfect qualities of Jesus exhibit themselves in and through you. Jesus said in John 3:3, "I assure you, unless you are born again, you can never see the kingdom of God." As born again believers it is not about trying to live for Jesus, it's about trusting Jesus to live in and through you. That's the truth.

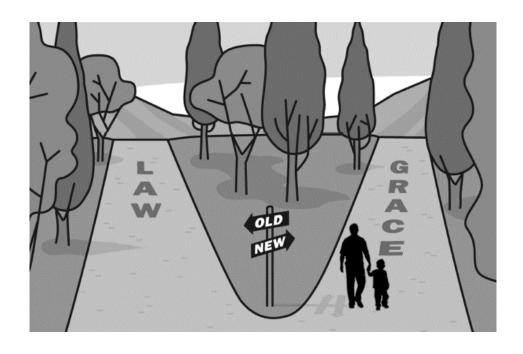
The Bible tells us, once you know the truth, the truth will set you free. Jesus said, in John 10:10 "My purpose is to give life in all its fullness."

Hopefully and prayerfully your eyes have been opened by the truth of God's Word to the secret of Christianity, "... *Christ lives in you*, and this is your assurance that you will share in His glory." (Col 1:27)



The Galatian Road is a road less traveled but it is the only hope you have of living a grace filled and joyful Christian life in all its fullness. As Christians we are literally the body of Christ. Therefore, go and make disciples of family, friends and all nations. Amen!

Enjoy the **rest** of your journey **in Christ!**





Bonus: 10 Restings in the Finished Work of Christ

"For all who have entered into God's rest have rested from their labors, just as God did after creating the world." Hebrews 4:10

I have heard officials say at funerals, as they look upon the casket, that the deceased person has finally entered into God's rest, citing Hebrews 4:10 to support that statement. In other words, one must die to enter into God's rest. And that's what I thought this verse was all about. I didn't realize at that time as a born again believer that I had already died with Christ on the cross, and if to rest means to die, I qualified.

"I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me." Gal 2:20

"For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin..." Rom 6:6

Therefore, we can enter that rest today. Right now by faith.

But we struggle to rest! Don't we?

Jesus said "come to me....and I will give you rest." But here's the struggle – we cannot enter into God's rest as long as we are trying to live the Christian life in the flesh.

Rest is Spirit directed activity; not self-directed. It is not a new set of rules. It is the result of listening to God's voice and obeying with a heart filled with faith and trust. Rest is not a vacation, it does not mean you sit on the couch watching television, eating bon-bons. **Service is to God what we are to Him, not what we do for Him.**

What are we to Him?

Scripture tell us we are; "... Instruments of His righteousness" Rom 6:13



The Ten Restings

Christians that understand this truth intellectually often still look for a list of things to do to enter into that rest. Well here's a list for those that need a list not of commandments or doings but of restings without putting them under the law. We call it the 10 Restings.

Resting #1: Trust in the Lord with all your heart... Prov. 3:5, 6, John 6:29. John 19:30

Resting #2: Know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future... Jer. 29:11, Col 1:27, Eph. 2:10



Resting #3: Live in the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desires of the flesh... Gal 5:16

Resting #4: Reckon yourself dead/abide in the vine... Rom 6:11, Col 3:3, Gal 2:20,

John 15:5

Resting #5: Offer the parts of your body to Him as instruments of righteousness... Rom 6:13, Rom 12:1, 1 Cor. 15:10, 1 John 3:16

Resting #6: Let God transform you into a new person... Rom 12:2, John 8:32, Prov. 23:7

Resting #7: Take every thought (project) captive to the obedience of Christ... 2 Cor. 10:5

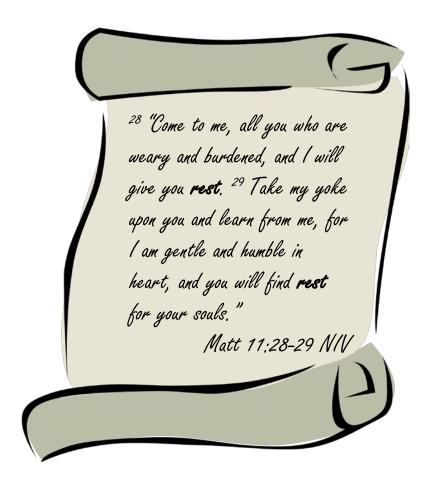
Resting #8: Study and embrace God's Word... Isa 55:11, 2 Tim 3:16, 2 Peter 3:18

Resting #9: Put on all of God's armor... Eph. 6:11-18

Resting #10: Always be joyful. Keep on praying and always be thankful... 1 Thess. 5:16-18

Now that you know these **restings** you will be **blessed** if you **rest** in Him, **abide** in Him, and **remain** in Him. Amen!







Your Personal "Galatian Road" Travel Log

On A Road Less Traveled

Pit Stop

After viewing session 11:3 on _____

Personal Discovery

Do you struggle to "rest" in the finished work of our Lord?		
We are the Lord's instruments of righteousness – the temple of the living God – the body of Christ.		
How does that make you feel? Discuss.		
What challenges do you have "abiding" in Him and staying connected to the vine?		
What other ideas presented in this session do you want to discuss?		

Growing in Grace Ministries

Next Page ----



Reviewing WWJD Prayer Action Plan

The Bible was not only given to increase your knowledge, but to change your lives! Hudson Taylor calls it the exchanged life. The Apostle Paul calls it the mystery of our faith, which is "Christ in us, the hope of glory!"

If you are utilizing the 5-step outline to write your prayers like seen on page 138, you will realize the benefit of this GREAT tool. God will honor your efforts to bring more glory to His Son. Remember, wisdom is applied knowledge.

If you want more progress with the 5-step outline, continue to pray about it and practice it some more. "The one who calls you is faithful and He will do it." I Thessalonians 5:24

Last chance – no, not really.

Most of us will continue relationship building with our

Savior and Teacher for a lifetime.

The MASTER, Lord Jesus, is the one who has mastery of the content and mastery of the application and as you now know He lives in you! He is the Way, the Truth, and the Life and He passionately wants to live His life through His body of believers.

Call on Him and WWJD. If the Son of God has been formed in you, the Father will always hear your prayers. AMEN



11:4

The Road Less Traveled Ends Here For Now

The Galatian Road, a Road Less Traveled, takes a renewing of our minds, and that takes Spirit led effort. Remember, E.F.F.O.R.T.

Every Faithful Follower Obtains Renewed Thinking

"For we who are alive are always being given over to death for Jesus's sake, so that His life may be revealed in our mortal body." 2 Corinthians 4:11

P.S. Enjoy the road less traveled. It truly is the journey of a lifetime.



Let's close in prayer...

What Now? Suggested Next Steps.

- · Watch the video a second time
- Review the pages of your personal road map
- Start and host a new Bible Study You are now equipped to pass it on!

Check out the Growing in Grace Ministries website: (www.gigm.org) for other resources in print, podcasts, future regional seminars, other seminar links and much more. AND, see the menu of videos featuring Len Baker teaching line by line Bible studies from the New Testament. This video teaching is unique in that the teachings of each book features the "Christ as Life" truth as explained in this seminar.

Check out Facebook: See frequent inspirational posts that support what you have learned, video lessons and testimonials, as well as a variety of activities of Growing in Grace Ministries. We will also use events postings to announce the formation of new bible studies in the city and state where they will be held.

http://Facebook.com/thegalatianroad



JUST DO IT!!!

With your completion of this study and application of a life changing experience through "Christ as My Life" Biblical teaching and WWJD prayers.

SHARE IT

- 1. If you have a group or family and don't have a location to hold a study, find someone to host it and you will do the facilitating.
- 2. If someone has a group or family and a location, but is not comfortable facilitating this study, offer to facilitate it for them.
- 3. Get your bible study group, family and friends together for an orientation and order a set of teaching DVD's and participant materials.
- 4. Go unto. . .!

Serve your Lord by continuing the spread of His truth that sets people free.



Addendum

"Christ as Your Life" Prayers

Foundational Bible Verses

Repetition is the key to learning truth that sets you free. Here are additional Scriptures to add to your "Growing in Grace" and prayer life experience.

Col 3:3	"For you died when Christ died, and your real life is hidden with Christ in God."		
Col 3:4	"And when Christ, who is your real life, is revealed to the whole world, you will share in all his glory."		
Gal 2:20	"I, myself, no longer live, but Christ lives in me. So I live my live in this earthly body by trusting in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me."		
John 15:5	"Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing."		
2 Cor 5:17	"What this means is that those who become Christians become new persons. They are not the same anymore, for the old life is gone. A new life has begun!"		
Gal 2:21	"I am not one of those who treats the grace of God as meaningless. For if we could be saved by keeping the law, then there was no need for Christ to die."		
Phil 2:13	"For God is working in you, giving you the desire to obey him and the power to do what pleases him."		
Col 1:27	"For it has pleased God to tell His people that the riches and glory of Christ are for you Gentiles, too. For this is the secret: Christ lives in you, and this is your assurance that you will share in His glory."		
Col 1:29	"I work very hard at this, as I depend on Christ's mighty power that works within me."		
1 Thes 5:24	"God, who calls you, is faithful; He will do this."		
Gal 1:16	"Then He revealed His Son in me so that I could proclaim the good news about Jesus to the Gentiles."		
1 Cor 3:16	"Don't you realize that all of you together are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God lives in you?"		
2 Cor 4:11	"Yes, we live under constant danger of death because we serve Jesus, so that the life of Jesus will be obvious in our dying bodies."		
Phil 4:13	"For I can do everything with the help of Christ who gives me the strength I need."		
John 8:32	"And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."		



WWJD Prayer Action Plan

Growing in Grace Ministries and our bible study, "The Galatian Road – A Road Less Traveled," place a heavy emphasis on prayer in our discipleship training. As we pray, we use the names God, Jesus and Holy Spirit interchangeably. There are many ways to pray including the Lord's prayer. Prayer is a very individualistic activity between the Christian and their Lord and we respect that. Our goal in this section is to introduce you to an additional approach that many have found very helpful.

In introducing "Christ as My Life" prayers, these are based on the promise Jesus made to the disciples about the coming Holy Spirit to remind them of all He had taught. In the Gospel of John, chapters 14-17, Jesus describes and reinforces His plan for the Holy Spirit to indwell

believers and **act through them.** Jesus emphasized that He performed no miracles Himself but rather that all His actions were the result of "**God the Father, living in Him, who is doing His work through Him.**" See John 14:10b and Acts 2:22



Later, the Apostle Paul confirmed in Galatians 2:20 that after his Salvation, "It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in

me." 2 Corinthians 13:5 Paul asks this question: "Examine yourselves. . . do you not realize that Christ Jesus is living in you?" When we visualize the Father working in and through Jesus, and Jesus, working in and through born again believers (us!), it changes everything! The fruit of the Spirit found in Galatians 5:22 and 23 is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. This fruit can only be produced through the Spirit life within; that is the mystery of our faith, Christ in us the hope of glory. The same Spirit that was living in Jesus (Spirit of God) now produces fruit through us. Here is a sample prayer illuminating this truth: "Jesus, You be my love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control because apart from You, I can do nothing.

During the video presentation, you heard Len Baker suggesting a powerful way to pray by directing your requests and praises through Christ Jesus who lives **in** you. Len used examples like: Don't ask Jesus to "Help me be more patient," but rather, "Jesus, be my patience in this situation." Or, "Reveal Your patience through me in this situation."

Keep in mind, Jesus is the only one who has ever lived the Christian life. And, He wants to live it through you and me.

"Private Prayers" FOR Everyday Happenings

Many issues or surprises can pop up daily and cause you momentary concern or become a reason for optimism to pursue a desired goal. Scripture tells us to pray unceasingly in all things and take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ. (I Thess 5:17 and 2 Cor 10:5). Worldly influences are all about us. Our senses are constantly bombarded with negative influences and our human instincts are tempted by many fleshly desires. We also have our old memories that remind us of previous temptations and sin in our past history.



While forgiven, and having received a new Life, our mind, will and emotions are still



In Us

undergoing transformation and renewal.

Renewed thinking makes us more aware of the New Life within. Therefore, we want to heed the Lord's teaching on prayer and watch what Jesus does (WWJD). Jesus said, "And I will do whatever you ask in My name so the Son will bring glory to the Father. You may ask me for anything, in my name, and I will do it." John 14: 13-14

As your awareness of Christ living His life in and through you grows, you become increasingly aware that Jesus can help with issues or surprises that can pop up daily and cause you

momentary concern or cause optimism over an opportunity to pursue a desired goal. Here are some examples of **moment by moment** prayers using the "Christ as My Life" outline:

- As I am having lunch with my friend, he suddenly shares his fears about retirement. A simple prayer spoken inside my head might be, "Holy Spirit, let Your Light and encouragement radiate through me right now. Speak through me the words that will give my friend the comfort that can come only through You." Repeat this simple prayer often during the lunch conversation.
- I have been promoted to a supervisory position and I am pleased but a little nervous as I go into this first meeting with those I supervise. "Holy Spirit, reveal your calm confidence in my voice, body movements, smile and in answering their questions. Use me Lord and reveal your good leadership through me. As Your light shines through me for others to see; I will give You the praise."

Some may ask why bother God with little things? Prayer and faith are inseparable and the more our faith grows, it is predictable that the expectation of the Holy Spirit working through us in our prayers will also grow. Jesus said, "I am the vine and you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit. Apart from me you can do nothing." John 15:5. Len emphasizes in the video that a branch cannot produce fruit, it can only bear fruit. We Christians are the branches. We bear the fruit of the Spirit life within. Our prayers should reflect this truth in all we pray by asking Jesus to express and reveal His life in and through us.

To practice the presence of God, here are more examples of the moment by moment prayers:

- Prayer for an irritable spouse might be, "Jesus, my spouse is behind schedule, not sleeping well and is quite irritable today. My defensiveness is rising and I am about to say something unhelpful. Lord, express Your understanding, patience and love through me in this situation as I am not feeling it within myself. As I open my mouth, let Your gentleness and love flow forth."
- In my frustration, I may call out, "Lord I am a mess today totally in my flesh! I am letting everything bother me, trying to be perfect, and it seems I am messing up everything. "God, be my self-control as I start the next activity and show me Your joy and peace as I work."



- As a parent, it is hard to be patient with my children at times. However, The Bible teaches me that I can do and endure all things through You who gives me strength. "Lord, I am believing by faith that You will be my patience, my willing listener and my smiling self today and remind me of the privilege of having these children today and every day!"
- As a salesperson, I am having lunch with a new prospective customer I have never met. If I am invited to bid on the job, it could become my biggest customer. I am worried about my lack of expertise and I am uncomfortable doing business in a restaurant. "Lord, my faith is in you and I trust your plan for my life whether I get this job or not. Lord you know I lack confidence and experience and I have trouble hearing in a noisy space so I pray that as I open my mouth your confidence will flow through me. Let my ears hear what you hear. You know the circumstances of this sales call, so be my knowledge finder as I answer questions and offer suggestions. If this person should find that I am a Christian, I pray he will see You in how I conduct myself."
- I may have a school, home or work project I can do, but it is taking a long time and I can't seem to keep my mind focused on it to get it done. "Lord, be my focus on this project. From inside of me, let my eyes see what You desire for me to see. Let my ears hear what You desire for me to hear and act through me Holy Spirit to keep focused on this project until it is done."

What issue in your life is simple and specific enough that you can use it to practice writing this										
kind of prayer? Later we mention that in starting weight lifting, we start with light ones first – same here. Start with something simple; not world peace! Also, this first prayer is asking the Holy Spirit to work in and through you; not the other person. What issues, opportunities or										
						incomfortable tasks can you ask Jesus to work through you to others? Obviously, your request				
						must be within the Lord's desires for you and an answer might not be quickly apparent. Right				
now, discuss your possibilities with each other. Later in the journey, on page 66, you will be										
instructed to come back to this page to write out your own prayer.										



"Public PRAYERS" to Seek Help from Trusted Prayer Warriors.

The specific purpose of this outline is for your personal customization for praying. And, if it be in His will, you want the indwelling Holy Spirit living IN you to take action in and through you.

Using the specific language of "Christ as My Life" prayers can be one way for you to express your gratitude and excitement about your role as the "body of Christ," and the "temple of the Holy Spirit" who lives in you and was given to you by God. The scriptures, describe Christ living "IN" you 242 times. Every one of those 242 reminders inspired the writing of this outline. You can use it to invite "the life of Christ that lives within you" to work in and through you to others, circumstances and to the world.

So, how will you get started? One of our Galatian Road facilitators, Laurie Hudson, suggested this example as one way to start: Assume your **earthly** father, or a talented and trusted friend, calls you to say he is coming to your house to spend the day Saturday. He says, "Make a list of things you want done this weekend and I will help by doing the ones I can do for you while I am there." Your list might include things like this:

Talk to my neighbor about their dog relieving itself in my yard.	Ask my spouse to clean up their side of the bathroom before going to work.
Should I go on the Mission trip to Bolivia?	Decide on the best paint for our outside deck.
Plan my next Sunday School lesson.	Complete the application for refinancing our house.

Would you be excited about your friend or **earthly** father's visit and help? You bet! Can't wait. So, if someone offered to work with you for a day, what would be on <u>your</u> list? Likely difficult tasks or ones where you feel overwhelmed, somewhat incapable or uncomfortable acting upon them. Between now and next session, list yours below:

Now, imagine that your **heavenly** father offered to spend a whole day helping you do tasks like those listed above, how would that make you feel? Between now and next week, describe some of your feelings here:



Hopefully you don't see these tasks as too simple for your **heavenly** Father, or even insulting or disrespectful to ask Him for this kind of common help when people are dying of disease and wars. Please remember, even our simple everyday tasks, with the Holy Spirit working through us, still offers you the opportunity to bring glory to Him and reveal one or more "fruit of the Spirit" to others. Examples like talking to your neighbor about their dog with patience and gentleness; urging your spouse to keep the bathroom clean with love, kindness and self-control; deciding on the best deck paint with less stress, more joy and inner peace.

Remember, Jesus said, "I am the light of the world" and "apart from Me, you can do nothing." John 8:12 and 15:5 So, with Him working in and through you, what are the possibilities? Between now and the next session, write your answer here:

Scriptures are the foundation for "Christ as my Life" prayers: "For no one can lay any foundation other than the one we already have—Jesus Christ." 1 Cor 3:11. Additional scriptures include: John 14:10b, John 15:5, Acts 2:22, 1 Cor 6:15, 1 Cor 6:19, 1 Cor 15:10b, 2 Cor 4:11, Eph 6:18, Phil 1:9-11, Phil 2:13, Phil 4:6, Phil 4:13, Col 2:9-10, 1 Thess 5:23-24

Have different people look up some of these scriptures, read them aloud and discuss.

Len Baker, Founder of Growing in Grace Ministries in Arizona, lead author and video teacher of this, "The Galatian Road – A Road Less Traveled," bible study and mini-book has taught this truth for 20 years. Len's passion is that you not only receive this knowledge, but that you **experience** Christ working in and through you. Len often asks, "What if more Christians were experiencing more of Jesus working in and through us in our daily lives? And what if His presence was powerfully reflected in our relationships and results? **Christians everywhere, and also the unreached people of the world, would be running toward us as fast as they could run. They would want to know how to get what we have!** "

On page 135 is an example of a 5 step outline for your "Christ as My Life" prayers. Later, this outline will be followed by an example and a personal prayer outline form for your use.

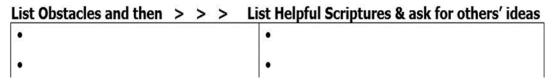
Go back to page 82 for activities to do between now and next week. As you prepare to use this prayer outline, you may want to close in a prayer of encouragement.





5 Steps: "Christ as My Life" Familiarization and Explanation

- **1. My Problem/Opportunity:** You will be describing a <u>problem</u> where your fear, anger, procrastination, or your pride may be blocking you from taking positive steps forward. Or, describe an <u>opportunity</u> you want to pursue but are hesitant. If you wanted to be stronger by lifting weights, you would start with light ones first. Same suggestion when beginning these prayers start with small issues.
- **2.** List Obstacles and Potential Solution Sources: Your actual prayer outline form at the end will include this graphic.



- o In the **left** column, you will make a bullet list of obstacles "blocking" your path.
- Still in the **left** column, you will ask others if the way you stated your problem and obstacles seems clear to them. After discussion, disciples often modify their description of the problem, and obstacles, to be more clear to themselves and others.
- Use the **right** column for the following: You will be searching the Bible for scriptural promises related to your problem/opportunity and ask others for scriptural suggestions.
- Still in the **right** column, you will be asking others to "brainstorm" their solution ideas for your problem/opportunity based on their experiences. This gives Jesus a chance to speak through others about your issue and give you guidance about what He wants to do in and through you in this situation.
- **3.** My Prayer and Our (Jesus thru me) Action Plan: Later, when filling in the columns, be still! Listen for the Holy Spirit to guide you with all the information gathered. Later, you will pray *specifically* and in detail exactly what you want Jesus to do in and through you, (remembering that your desires must conform to His will and glorify Him). Jesus may guide you to do something or not do something; speak out or hold your tongue; serve, join or stay home. When you get to this point, you will write out your prayer so you recall exactly what you prayed. Remember, "You are the *glove* and Jesus is the *hand* guiding your actions."
- **4. W.W.J.D.** (**What He Did Thru Me**): W.W.J.D. means "Watch What Jesus Does." As you implement "Our (Jesus thru me) Action Plan," you will want your brain to observe yourself and others like a video camera on the wall. You will want to remember seeing or hearing what Jesus did through you and how you felt. When you record this vivid description of what happened W.W.J.D. you will be able to share it with others.
- **5. Tell Others the Story of What Happened:** After "W.W.J.D." you can either immediately or eventually, describe His faithfulness. By sharing what happened (telling your story) with others, you are describing God's love and power as He worked a small miracle through you (doing through you that which you had previously been unable to do in your own strength). Such answers to WWJD prayers are not a "self-improvement," but a "self-replacement!"



"Real Life" Example of Using This Simple 5-Step Outline:

- 1. **Problem/Opportunity:** Debbie had 2 skin cancers removed and one has formed an unsightly scar. If she is going to get it fixed, she must express her concern to the Dermatologist who didn't bring it up during the first after care visit. Debbie does not want to live with that scar the rest of her life but the idea of confronting the Doctor is stressful.
- 2. List Obstacles and then > > List Helpful Scriptures & ask for other's solution ideas
 - I am fearful confronting authority figures.
 - Sometimes I am uncomfortable asking for what I want.
 - I usually try to avoid conflict.
- Holy Spirit express your "fruit" of power and boldness through my words.
- Others said Doctors are afraid of being sued for malpractice so she may listen.
- Show the difference between the 2 scars.
- Make an early appt. before Dr. is rushed.
- 3. My Prayer and Our (Jesus thru me) Action Plan: Debbie made the appointment, and though she was still anxious, she was trusting and ready to W.W.J.D! Debbie wrote out this prayer and said, "Dear Jesus, I will make an appointment with my doctor to request my scar be fixed. Holy Spirit, I ask you to be my confidence. (NOTICE! Debbie knows she is not confident so her prayer asks Jesus to be confidence through her!) Lord, form the words in my mouth and give my voice your self-assurance. If the doctor expresses anger or attempts to blame me, God be my shield and my strength to patiently and kindly (fruit of the Spirit) persevere in having this scar fixed. In Your Holy Name, I pray. Amen."
- **4. W.W.J.D.** (**What God did thru Debbie**): By faith, with Jesus speaking through her, Debbie explained her request. The doctor listened and understood her concern. She hesitated and asked a few questions but then applicated and offered free treatments to improve the appearance of the scar. Debbie caringly recorded this experience in her mind's memory so she could share with others later.
- 5. Debbie Telling Others the Story of What Happened: Debbie was grateful and excited to



share her testimony with others. (doesn't always happen or this fast!) Sharing helped others have faith to confront their problems and opportunities by using this outline to create specific prayers. Testimonies like Debbie's are central to discipleship training in "Christ as my life" praying and living. Vulnerability is sometimes scary even in a Bible study, but vulnerability invites the Holy Spirit, working in and through ourselves and others to offer help and healing.

Debbie's willingness to share her story illustrates that when we truly realize the power of the Spirit life within us, things change! God deals with people in different ways and the more we share our experiences, the more people realize Jesus is for real – the Way, the Truth and the Life.



Are you ready to use this outline for yourself?

Scripture describes all believers as the body of Christ, His arms and legs, His hands and feet. He uses us as instruments of His righteousness, as a branch to bear fruit and for His will and way to be done. From the video, do you remember Len Baker's illustration of the tea bag and the hot water? The fusion became so great, that even while the water and tea are separated by the tea bag, we still call the water, tea! Well, the fusion of His life with ours is so great, we call our actions "Christ like," but it is NOT us, it is Christ in us who is doing His work through us. What work does He want to do through us between now and His return? He wants to live and pray in the Spirit through us as instruments of His righteousness.

Jesus entered your heart at Salvation but today you may still have Him <u>sitting on the end of the bench waiting</u> to be called into the game of your life. Are you now ready to call on Him to be part of the daily activities in your life journey? Christianity and Christ as my life prayers are not a self-improvement plan; it's all about self-replacement! Are you ready to ask Him to <u>live in</u> and <u>act through</u> your body? Remember, "You are the *glove* and Jesus is the *hand*."

A Good Suggestion As You Start. If you join a gym, you will not begin by trying to lift the heaviest weights. No, you will begin with relatively light weights and gradually build your strength and ability to lift heavier weights. The same thing can be said for prayer and faith. Don't be afraid to start small and practice praying repetitively just like you do with weight training. Believing in the Holy Spirit's presence, as you ask Him to work in and through you in little things, will increase your faith to ask Jesus to work through you for bigger things.

Why the Personal Sharing is so Valuable and Must be Confidential to the Group. The purpose of the "Pit Stops" is to facilitate sharing. The big benefit to group discussion is the discovery of new perspectives, problems and possible solutions through the stimulation of sharing. Jesus can certainly use the suggestions of other Christians to minister to us. The often-stated goal of "The Galatian Road" study is to go beyond knowledge and apply biblical knowledge to actual situations so you experience change in your life. This means asking the Holy Spirit to be your confidence to step into a situation where He literally acts through you. This has a dramatic effect on transforming your mind, will and emotions.

Stepping into a situation with new behavior is living out Romans 12:1-2. "And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him. ² Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect."

At the end of the sharing, you can pray for each other based on each other's "Jesus through me action plan." At the beginning of the next gathering, you can share with each other what Jesus did. W.W.J.D. – Watch What Jesus Does, celebrate and give Him thanks.



Personal "Christ as My Life" Prayer Outline

Make Copies for Future Use

		blem where your fear, anger, procrastination, or positive steps. Or, describe an opportunity you ghts"	
2.	List Obstacles and then >>>>>> List Helpful Scriptures & Ask Others to Brain Storm Solution Ideas. Use extra pages.		
	•	•	
	•	•	
	•	•	
	•	•	
	•	•	
	•	ideas that you embraced. Remember that your Him. Visualize, "You are the <i>glove</i> and Jesus is	
	W.W.J.D. (What He Did Thru Me): Record you felt that you can share with others.	rd a vivid description of what happened and how	
	Tell Others the Story of What Hannened.	You can describe His faithfulness and	

5. Tell Others the Story of What Happened: You can describe His faithfulness and encourage others by sharing how He worked a small miracle through you to others.



Personal "Christ as My Life" Prayer Outline

Make Copies for Future Use

	are hesitant to pursue. Start w	u from taking positive steps. Or, describe an <u>opportunity</u> yo th small "weights"	u
2.	List Obstacles and then >>>>> List Helpful Scriptures & Ask Others		
	•	to Brain Storm Solution Ideas. Use extra pag	<u>;es.</u>
	•	•	
	•	•	
	•	thers solution ideas that you embraced. Remember that you ill and glorify Him. Visualize, "You are the <i>glove</i> and Jesus"	
4.	W.W.J.D. (What He Did The you felt that you can share wi	ru Me): Record a vivid description of what happened and hon others.)W
		t Happened: You can describe His faithfulness and	

encourage others by sharing how He worked a small miracle through you to others.



What about life issues that are complicated or have a long history?

It is easier to use the 5-step prayer outline with specifically worded prayers when you are focusing on only one issue that can be acted upon almost immediately. It is more difficult for older and ongoing life issues like these examples:

- Prayers for serious health issues.
- Prayers for financial difficulties.
- Prayers for ongoing challenges with your children.
- Prayers for career/job challenges.
- Prayers for distressing marital discord.

•	One of yours is?
•	Another of yours is?

Caution: The pain you have experienced and the length of time you have prayed with no seeming answer or change in these major areas may blind you to seeing what is possible.

God-sized vision: Your first prayer may need to be asking the Spirit to give you a God-sized vision. Always remember that God still does miracles. Although it may seem that your marriage is dead, your child lost forever, your health unrepairable or your job a dead end; ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE WITH GOD.

Clarity of the desired end result: Start by asking for God's input or guidance, and in accordance with His will, clearly define the ultimate, desired result the Spirit has put on your heart. Allow yourself to envision in full living color, God delivering your ultimate desired result. Record this on step 1 of the 5-Step prayer outline. Concentrate on the Spirit transforming your perspective in *small* steps. Concentrate on praying for the Spirit to transform the other person(s) perspective in *small* incremental steps.



It's complicated so simplify: As with any big or long project, break it down into manageable pieces. For example, you may be approaching 2 different parts of your complicated prayer at the same time. It would make sense to have 2 different prayer outlines so you can be specific about God's action for *each* prayer request. Later, the next step may require only 1 outline. Soon after seeing God's response to the first prayers, you may follow with 2 or 3 more separate prayer outlines as you continue to pursue your "complicated prayer." Pray for only one specific, incremental change in the overall challenging situation at a time. Watch What Jesus Does! As you watch Jesus transform one aspect, only then move onto the next logical desired change.

The power of testimonials. Giving testimonials of what Jesus did or does thru you are not only reinforcing your own faith, they also begin transforming others' beliefs about Jesus. Through telling your story of what happens, you are helping other Christians as they see His work in action. And when God remains silent in response to our prayers, our lessons learned and revealed through patient but persistent waiting are also growth experiences. On those occasions where God seems quiet, continue to pray for peaceful patience as you seek renewed and broader understanding of God's plan for you. These testimonies of God's small personal miracles are a great encouragement for disciples and also get the attention of the unreached! WOW, who wouldn't want to experience this?

Caution about appearing to brag. Sometimes well-meaning Christians who testify about God's role in their blessings can unintentionally sound like they are bragging and that turns others away. Always reflect your total gratefulness for God's active presence in your life. Gratefulness is the aristocrat of all emotions and can become contagious like no other. The goal of our grateful testimonies is encouragement. The opportunity is to teach others prayer patterns like the 5-step outline so they to will invite Jesus off the bench in their hearts and call Him into the daily activities in the game of their life! When others have a personal experience of Christ working thru them doing something very specific; their faith grows! No wonder thousands of books have been written about prayer. No wonder Christians are so motivated to communicate our prayers to our Lord.

Final Instructions: "Be joyful always; pray continuously; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." I Thess 5:16-18



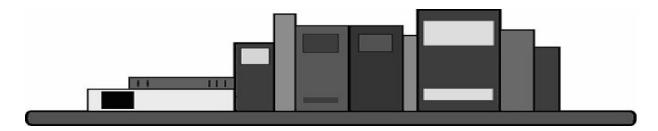
Recommended Reading for Growing in the Grace and Knowledge of "Christ as (Your) Life"

These individuals and their books have been a supplemental nourishment to the main course in my life. The Bread of life... Jesus and His Word. Some of these books are available only through the websites or phone numbers given below:

- 1. God The Bible A must read for supplements to be effective
- 2. Oswald Chambers My Utmost for His Highest Devotional
- **3.** Michael Wells Sidetracked in the Wilderness; Problems, God's Presence and Prayer; Heavenly Discipleship www.abidinglife.com
- **4.** Andrew Farley The Naked Gospel; God Without Religion; Heaven is Now www.andrewfarley.org
- **5.** Lloyd John Ogilvie The Magnificent Vision; Servant Publications
- **6.** Christine Caine Unstoppable; Zondervan
- 7. Bob Christopher Simple Gospel Simply Grace basicgospel.net; 844-412-2742
- 8. Charles Stanley The Wonderful Spirit-Filled Life www.intouch.org
- **9.** Watchman Knee The Normal Christian Life www.christianbook.com
- **10.** V. Raymond Edman They Found the Secret www.christianbook.com

Famous quote from a great friend and mentor:

"You will be the same person you are today, five years from now, except for the books you read and the people you meet." Charlie "Tremendous" Jones





Answers to the Fill-In the Blanks Pages

PAGE	FILL IN THE BLANK - ANSWERS	
3	Basic, Instruction, Before, Leaving, Earth	
18	Forgiveness, Dying, New Life; Righteousness, Redemption, Holiness, Wisdom; Self-improvement, Self-replacement; Better, Better	
37	It's the exchanged life, He paid, Done deal, It's a free gift, Must be born again, He sacrificed	
44	Flesh, Spirit, Not to do, To do	
49	Every, Faithful, Follower, Obtains, Renewed, Thinking; Pure, Right, Excellent, Praiseworthy, Lovely, Admirable, Noble, True	
54	In, Your, Mind; What, Would, Jesus Do, Watch What Jesus Does; Heads, Tails, Spirit, Flesh	
58	God's, Regeneration, At, Christ's, Expense	
59	Newly, Equipped, Witness; Way, Truth, Life	



Page	
69	For us, To us, Through us, Old, New
70	Boast, Boast, Lord; Changed, Exchanged
76	Life
77	Growth, Evidence, Green, Ripe; God's, Righteousness, Only, Works, Through, Him; Through Christ
83	Maturing
	You, Jesus;
	Flesh, Spirit, Method;
88	Has, My, Son, Through;
	Through, His, Through, Us, Through, You, Yourself
91	Functionally, Acknowledging, I, Trust, Him
96	None;
	Independent, His, Through, Yielded, Obedient;
	Righteous, Independently, None;
	Rewarded, Didn't, Do
118	Following, Our, Call, Unto, Service

The Galatian Road

A Road Less Traveled



Host & Group Orientation Travel Directors Guide

Growing In Grace Ministries

"To all the saints for their many contributions."

Thank you



What is a "Host/Travel Director?"

This title is unusual because this is an unusual Bible Study. A group may have a person who is **hosting** it in their home or other location, and a separate leader we refer to as a **Travel Director**. In some cases this will be 2 people and in other cases the host and travel director roles will be combined in one person. Other Bible studies have described this role as leader, facilitator, teacher or instructor, but we felt the most appropriate title for the role that will be effective in this study is Travel Director. (more later) The Host/Travel Director will be guiding Christians down the Galatian Road - A Road Less Traveled. Many of you may be familiar with the term, The Roman Road, because the Scriptures found in the Book of Romans have been used for centuries to guide people to salvation through Jesus Christ.

Many "saved" Christians will either immediately, or possibly after a few years of attending church ask themselves the question, "What now?" There seems to be a growing number of Christians who gradually become discouraged over their seeming inability to successfully live the Christian life and meet the expectations of their Church, other Religious leaders or even themselves. Oh, they try to live the Christian life but find it impossible to do so. They begin to feel defeated or grow apathetic about their deteriorating faith and ask themselves or others this question, "Now what?" In answer to both questions, the Scriptures found in the book of Galatians provide a magnificent blue print for growing in grace and experiencing more and more of the Victorious Christian Life which God intends. Our core verse, Galatians 2:20, declares, "... Christ lives in me..." and our goal is for more Christians to discover the glorious benefits of that little word, in! The highly respected author, Max Lucado, wrote in his March 10, 2014 weekday email that, "For many years, I missed this truth ... I never imagined that Christ was in me... A Christian is a person in whom Christ is happening!" (See page 71 for the full message)

So, if you chose to be a Host/Travel Director, you will be guiding believers down this "Galatian Road – A Road Less Traveled" as they discover even greater possibilities from living with the Jesus they once invited into their heart and who still lives there. You will be guiding these "travel companions" through the "Galatian Road Map" of Scriptures that can transform their lives as they learn to trust Jesus to live His life in and through them. The Scriptural scenery along the Galatian Road will bring more truth, joy, and peace into the renewed lives of your travel companions. We pray that this "Travel Director" role will be one of the most satisfying experiences of your life.

The purpose of this guide is to equip the Travel Director for a successful journey. Your facilitating, moderating, and/or teaching activities are designed to be as natural and easy as possible. The term, "Self-directed learning," is a commonly used term to communicate that the instructional information is designed to be comprehensive enough that an individual could complete it without assistance, and that has been our goal.



Can you imagine the insightful learning that will occur if it is "Christ Self-directed Learning? And, to capture the many learning enrichment opportunities from participating in open group sharing, "Your Personal Road Map" is designed to support a Sunday School, group retreat or home group worship environment.

Overview

A one-hour learning block is made up of two or more video segments. The total video run time of all 3 video discs combined is over 6 hours. The text material follows very closely the words spoken by Len Baker on the video. Many of the pages include a "fill-in the blanks" feature to promote greater listener involvement and retention. **Answers to all fill-in the blanks pages are found on Page 143.**

At the end of each video segment there is an opportunity for personal reflection and group discussion which we refer to as a "Pit Stop" along the Galatian Road. The time allocated for these "pit stops" reflects 11 hours of combined video and discussion spread over 11 weeks. During each hour block of instruction the division between the video and the discussion time is approximately 70% video and 30% discussion. However, this design is flexible and additional discussion time at the "pit stops" is at the group's discretion.

Each video segment can be stopped at any time if desired. The end of each segment has a visual sign and stops automatically. You will see control buttons to review the previous segment again or to move to the main menu when ready. In the text, each session ends with a Your Personal "Galatian Road" Travel Log that uses the "Pit Stop" form for recording your answers, thoughts, and reactions. After a few minutes of reflecting and writing, direct your travel companions to begin a verbal interaction with each other in whatever groupings you have decided upon for group sharing.

Many Bible studies require the leader to do an introduction and a summary to each session, along with a variety of other learning support activities. That is not the way this study is designed. Our intention is for the learning to be Christ/self-directed without any special requirements placed on the Travel Director beyond what is described in this "Travel Directors Guide." However, we don't want to limit Travel Directors from using their own talent and expertise to prayerfully enrich everyone's understanding and application for the Glory of our Lord.

Perhaps your best preparation for the study and for each session will be your own prayers for Jesus to work His will through you for the benefit of the assembled disciples.



Travel Options

The following information is also described in the Preface but repeated here for your convenience.

This "Personal Road Map" you have in your hands can be shared and taught in a variety of formats and time frames. We make these options available so that you can learn in the way and at the pace that best meets your needs as follows:

- For individual study, or one-on-one discipleship, participants can self-pace through any time frame they prefer.
- For scheduled groups, the seminar is divided into 11 weekly sessions of one hour each to include two or more video segments and discussion time (referred to as "Pit Stops" along the Galatian Road) for each. If you are in a Sunday School class where the time is limited, you can use just one video segment and one discussion per class. This will add to the number of classes you conduct.
- For flexible "travel" groups who don't have a predetermined schedule (like many home Bible study groups), you can travel at your own pace down this "Galatian Road." You can explore as many "side roads" and linger at "scenic views" as you desire if it helps you maximize the impact of this journey for you.
- For short retreats, you can double up on the video segments and have less frequent "Pit Stop" discussion times.

It is our hope that this design will provide you with great schedule flexibility to meet your time preferences or limitations.

For the benefit of those who volunteer for one or both roles of "Host and/or Travel Director," we felt it is important to design in great flexibility for your preferred level of engagement as follows:

- For people who have never directed, led, facilitated, taught or moderated a learning experience, you can easily direct this one by positioning yourself as a "co-learner" with the other group members. This way, everyone shares equal responsibility for searching Scriptures for additional information and participating in the group discovery. You can limit your "Travel Director" role to administering the group's journey and not being positioned as a "Bible teacher."
- For highly experienced Bible teachers and facilitators, you can enrich the learning experience as you see opportunities. Throughout this presentation you will find well planned introductions and explanations of the many Scriptures that underpin this journey.



 Your Personal Road Map is bound in a 3-ring binder for flexibility in removing pages to copy for others, pulling pages out to use for each session and adding enrichment materials behind each section.

Getting Started

The participant materials include:

- A copy of the mini-book titled, "The Galatian Road A Road Less Traveled" Reading time for this mini-book is about 30 minutes
- Study guide (Which we refer to as "Your Personal Road Map") of 155, 8 ½ by 11 inch pre-punched pages inserted into a one inch, three ring binder. The binder also has 4-color front and back inserts plus the Bible study title inserted into the binder spine
- To order additional copies of the mini-book and Your Personal Road Map/Study Guide, please go to <u>www.gigm.org</u>.

Travel Director Materials include:

- All of the above mentioned materials
- A DVD album containing 3 discs with over 6 hours of dynamic video instruction
- Note that the pages of this "Host/Travel Directors" guide is included in all participant materials
- At the end of session 6:1, the video shows Len leading the group in taking communion. It would be great if you and your travel companions took communion at that time.
- You can use your own elements or here is a source to order communion cups. You can call 1-866-for-cups, or you can order from the address below: COMPAK
 751 Cornwall Road Sanford, FL 32773

Orientation for the First Gathering:

As with any newly formed group experience, it is important to have an orientation session before the actual study begins. If your group has been meeting together previously and if they all know each other, an orientation may not be required – your choice. A group may have a person who is **hosting** it in their home or other location, and a separate leader we refer to as a **Travel Director**. In some cases this will be 2 people and in other cases the host and Travel Director roles will be combined in one person.



Ice Breaker:

For people who may not know each other well, it is helpful to use a traditional "ice breaker" activity to get people talking and starting to know more about each other. For example, tell the group your name, where you were raised and 2 things you enjoy doing for fun. There are also great resources on the internet where you can find just the right kinds of Christian ice breaker activities for you and your group. One place you can start searching is: http://www.whatchristianswanttoknow.com/small-group-ice-breakers-25-good-questions/

A key thought to remember is the uniqueness of your group. Be careful not to select ice breakers, or any other enrichment activities, that have the potential to embarrass anyone or make them feel uncomfortable.

Smaller discussion sub-groups are recommended once you are organized. Group research has verified that enriching discussion among participants is best if the group size is about 5-7. So if your group is larger than that, you can plan the best time to have them break into smaller groups. More information is provided to you on page 10. If you have a really large group, you will want to carefully think through how to set up your discussion tables. Feel free to contact GIGM for more ideas on this.

Some of the objectives of the orientation are:

- People have a chance to get to know each other
- The "travel companions" and the travel director get to share and clarify expectations. It is highly desirable that participants read the mini-book **prior to this orientation.** This allows them to become much more specific about their goals and hopes for the experience. Some prior groups found great benefit from also **reading the mini-book together during the orientation.** They can also discuss any preferences they have for a learning experience that includes video based instruction and group participation activities. For any who miss the orientation, express to them the importance of reading the mini-book **prior to the first session.**
- Logistical decisions about when, where, how long, food and drink, getting a key, operation of the video equipment, etc.
- Discuss any special needs like child care availability, ride sharing, etc.
- Talk about any costs for materials, rent of room or equipment, ordering additional "Road Maps" from Growing in Grace Ministries, or other expectations of group study activities from your church, Sunday School teachers, educational Pastors, and so forth.
- Beware of any unique obstacles that any one may be encountering that can lessen their participation in this Bible study. Obviously, make every effort possible to accommodate people's needs.



Orientation Introduction

As the travel director is orienting the travel companions to the uniqueness of this particular study, you can repeat the below information from the preface as a way to give people specifics they can react to with optimism, special requests, and anything else on their minds.

Buckle-up Christians! This seminar is a journey of a lifetime, and will make you think and feel like you have found Christ all over again.

- It was prayerfully designed to help you experience greater joy in your Christian walk by getting better acquainted with the Christ you invited into your heart and who still lives there!
- If you know you are not experiencing the fullness of the Christian life, but you want more peace, joy and victory in Jesus then this Galatian road trip is for you.
- The principle foundation of this seminar is this: Christianity is not about self-improvement; it is about self-replacement. What does this mean? Our Lord Jesus died for us, to give His life to us (replacement), to live His life through us. It doesn't get any better than that.
- Upon completing this journey, you will be better equipped to inspire your family, friends and others with the truth about the mystery of Christianity which is, "Christ in you, the hope of glory." Col 1:27

Travel Director "Helps"

Expectations:

While all Bible Studies add to Biblical knowledge and a gradual renewing of the mind, our expectations are for a rapid change of feeling and behavior through the power of the Bible's little word **in**! "... And this is the secret: Christ lives **in** you. This gives you assurance of sharing his glory." Col 1:27 In the latter chapters of John, just before Jesus crucifixion, He declared, "When I am raised to life again, you will know that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am **in** you." John 14:20

Later, Paul takes the declaration of Jesus and provides explanation in great detail and with great power. During the video segments, you will hear Len Baker continue to emphasize that Christianity is not so much about self-improvement; it is all about self-replacement or the exchanged life. As the Travel Director, you may want to prepare by concentrating on the Scriptural foundations found in "your personal road map" and summarized in the Mini-book.



We believe that as clarity with God's promises increases, faith increases, and both will be reflected in the way we pray. Most Christians pray to a Lord who is "up there," or "with me," and all these prepositions refer more to an outer God than an inner God. To help convey the changes in the way we pray, the Addendum contains special sections on "Christ as Your Life Bible Verses," and "Christ as Your Life Prayers." Even the Pit Stops will start offering sample prayers that are based on the understanding that Christ dwells **in** each believer. This is where we expect that you, as the Travel Director, will begin to see, as the Spirit provides, a rapid change in knowledge, feelings and behavior among your travel companions.

The Importance of The Pit Stops:

The Pit Stops and the group discussion that follows are far more than an opportunity for people to talk and share their perspectives. To share a thought, a person must first organize it in their mind. Changing thoughts or beliefs is step one to beginning to feel more optimistic about what Christ Jesus can accomplish when working in and through a believer. When believers begin to think and feel differently; they will predictably begin behaving differently in how they live, act and pray. Len Baker uses a powerful metaphor describing each of our lives as a "glove" and Jesus as the hand! And, Galatians 2:20 gives continuous validity to this truth of "... Christ living in me..." You and your travel companions will also hear this theme being reinforced and repeated over and over as you listen to the theme song at the beginning of each video segment.

IMPORTANT – The Christ as Life Bible Verses and the Christ as Life prayer explanation and samples in the addendum will be very helpful throughout this study. We encourage you to spend time reviewing and processing these Bible verses and prayers yourself and then discuss them with your travel companions when you think they will be helpful.

The video and text pages emphasize that prayer for your thoughts and actions are to be directed through the indwelling Jesus. We can pray by actively calling upon Jesus to work His will and ways; in and through each of us. As we reduce our self-effort, as we yield, as we ask Jesus to "do it;" we can proceed and grow our faith. This principle is described in John 3:30, "He must become greater and greater, and I must become less and less."

Participation in this learning experience has been designed with great flexibility that ranges from 6 plus hours of listening only to the video; to a group taking many months to study, discuss and pray about the ideas and Scriptures contained in the video and "your personal road map." We have designed this experience to encourage group discovery because we know it can make a dramatic difference in peoples' insight and growth.



Tips for Managing Group Discussions:

There are many books written on this topic. Group dynamics is one of the most intriguing and inexplicable effects of people living, working, learning or traveling together. Computer internet searches on this topic will yield hundreds of sources of helpful information. So, this Travel Directors Guide will only remind you of a few of the more critical ones for a Christian Bible study.

- 1. **Be ready for anything.** Be open to what the Holy Spirit wants to accomplish as you allow Him to guide your travel companions. God will use the discussions to accomplish His purposes. If you remain flexible and not rigid and fixed upon your own agenda, you will be better able to see and support what God is doing in the group.
- 2. **Difficult Questions:** Every Bible study raises some very complex questions and sometimes the participants respond with opposing views based on their Christian (and/or non-Christian) background. In an effort to support the Travel Director, there are two video sessions and text chapters devoted to 7 frequently asked questions that Len Baker has encountered over the past 20 years.

While these short answers will not satisfy everyone, you will find them quite helpful. Len suggests that people not get hung up on *disputable* matters, but focus on love for God and for each other. Romans chapter 14 provides many guiding principles related to differences in opinions and actions within the Christian body.

One of the first Travel Directors of this Bible Study made it very clear to her travel companions that she was not a Bible teacher and would not assume the responsibility for answering questions. But, she did promise to lead the charge of inquiring minds as they searched the Scriptures for the answers they were seeking. Unless you are an experienced Bible teacher, we suggest this is a great disclaimer for you to communicate to your new group.

3. **Be involved while also maintaining your leadership in the Travel Director role.** From the beginning, position yourself in the role you expect to fulfill with the group. If you are an experienced Bible teacher, you can position yourself as that. If you are new to leading and facilitating, position yourself as a fellow learner who will also dutifully administer the learning experience for the group. Avoid dominating the group's discussions and let group members see you as one of them. However, as the Travel Director for the group, always be in control of the group process so that every aspect of the weeks work can be covered in the appropriate time frame.

Be yourself, be real, be honest, but always remember that your primary responsibility as the group leader is to lead group members in their search of God's will for their lives.



- 4. **Confidentiality.** Trust among the group members is an essential element of the group process. Amplify the importance of confidentiality in group discussions. Emphasize that your travel companions must not tell anyone's story or share anyone's reactions except their own.
- 5. **Assure everyone gets a chance to participate.** As Christianity is based on love, and Jesus commands that we love others as ourselves, this is the best advice to sharing and listening to each other. Talking too long or not talking at all are extremes that hinder the full opportunity for learning and growing in grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Frequently the Holy Spirit will use others to convey a message meant for us so we must engage and also listen.

The key skill of listening starts with the simple act to stop talking. Other acts of listening include continuous eye contact, nodding, vocals like I see, uhuh, and an absence of interrupting. If someone is talking too much and/or dominating the group discussion, you as the Travel Director can interrupt with statements like: Thanks for your input (name), let's see what others may be ready to share?

If someone continues to dominate, it is sometimes best to have a private discussion with them and share that you have the responsibility to assure everyone gets a chance to talk because of how that helps them and others. For group dynamics issues, remember we suggested that an internet search will have lots of suggestions specifically for Christian groups and others. Call on the Lord to guide your eyes so you don't miss the suggestion He wants you to see. And hopefully, you will find just the one you need for every situation. For large groups in a Church setting, 5-7 per table is best. For home Bible studies with more than 7 people, consider splitting into smaller groups so everyone gets a chance to participate.

6. **Be a contagious encourager.** As the group hears you encourage individuals and the group, hopefully many of them will also become encouragers to each other. The importance of encouragement is described in 1 Thessalonians 5:11 "So encourage each other and build each other up, just as you are already doing." Encouragement can reinforce another's accomplishment and spur them on to greater heights with simple statements like: Good for you; thanks for helping me see that too; I am glad you discovered that; with your new insight, how will that change things for you?

Encouragement is often essential to those who may become dispirited for any reason. Examples of encouragement can be non-verbal such as a smile, a pat on the shoulder, a smiling nod of sympathetic acknowledgment, a reassuring nod, and even a hug, if appropriate, etc.



Verbal encouragement can be found in Scriptures like the following:

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11

"I am the Lord your God who takes hold of your right hand and says to you, do not fear, I will help you." Isaiah 41:13

"In this world you will have trouble, but take heart. I have overcome the world." John 16:33

"For God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control." 2 Timothy 1:7

"We know that in all things, God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." Romans 8:28.

Beyond the reminder of Biblical phrases like these, other simple verbal encouragement can sound like: I am here for you and happy to meet with you; hang in there brother/sister; I have a great book that deals with your kind of situation; Been there and lived through it!; and (the always encouraging), You can count on me to be praying for you.

Closing Comments

It is our hope and prayer that your efforts on behalf of your travel companions will result in great growth and development for you. As Len often reminds us, Christianity is not about self-improvement, it's all about self-replacement. Your supreme accomplishment will be yielding to the Spirit and allowing Jesus to lead these travelers through you. You can relax and enjoy the journey along with the others.

Can you imagine the renewed enjoyment and excitement that could break out in your church, community and country if people were again touched by this 2,000 year old message of truth that sets you free? Jesus doesn't make you better; Jesus is your better!

God's Blessings to you from: Growing in Grace Ministries. The Growing in Grace Ministry team, the hundreds of Bible study participants for the past 20 years, and the many volunteer contributors and editors who have made this resource a tool to be used by our Lord in any way that pleases Him and blesses you!