

As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another. Proverbs 27:17

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Some Signs You Grew Up in a Christian Home

- You went to VBS every summer.
- And you still have either a craft or woodworking project from your time there.
- Your parents never let you sleepover on a Saturday night, because Sunday was church day.
- You can still remember what your first Bible looked like.
- You thought anyone who saw PG-13 movies before they were 13 was the coolest kid on the block
- Youth Group Retreats were the highlight of the year
- The best part of Sunday School was the animal crackers
- Instead of trick or treating you went to Fall Fest or something like that at your church
- You met your first 'love' at Christian summer camp
- Your favorite CD was WOW Hits!
- Most importantly, you had amazing God-fearing parents who taught you to love the Lord with all your heart.

“Words to Grow By”

LINDA LEWIS, GMI DIRECTOR OF
COMMUNICATIONS

No Condemnation

Walk free of condemnation
and believe that when
God said in 2 Corinthians
12:9

that His grace...His mercy,
favor and ability
was sufficient to cover
even your sin,
He meant it!
He loves you and His grace
and forgiveness are free
gifts.

Receive them today!

**Romans 8:1 – There is
therefore now no
condemnation to them
which are in Christ Jesus,
who walk not after the
flesh, but after the Spirit.**



David – Part 1 BY PASTOR MIKE HERNANDEZ, CHURCH OF THE HARVEST

Over the next several months, we are going to cover the life of one of the most famous heroes in the Bible and perhaps the greatest King in the history of Israel, David. He is known as a Giant Slayer and a “man after God’s own heart” (Acts 13:22). David became the second king in the history of Israel.

Saul was the first king of Israel and he was briefly discussed last month in the article on Samuel. When Saul disobeyed the Lord, the Lord told Samuel to go to Bethlehem and anoint one of Jesse’s sons to be the new king. After meeting Jesse’s first seven sons, Samuel asked if he had any more sons. Jesse said the youngest was out keeping the sheep. Samuel told Jesse to bring him in.

“So he sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, with bright eyes, and good-looking. And the Lord said, ‘Arise, anoint him; for this is the one. Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers; and the Spirit of the Lord came upon David from that day forward. So Samuel arose and went to Ramah.” - 1 Samuel 16:12-13

So, David was anointed King of Israel in front of his family by the Prophet Samuel. Unfortunately for David’s sake, no one else was present. So do you know what David did after being anointed king? He went back out to watch the family’s sheep. Sometimes your family or those closest to you are aware of your anointing (or God’s plan for your life) but they will still treat you like nothing has changed.

An interesting occurrence happens in the palace. The Spirit of the Lord departed from Saul and a distressing spirit started troubling him. The only solution that King Saul’s advisors could come up with to find relief for Saul was to find a harp player.

“Then one of the servants answered and said, ‘Look, I have seen a son of Jesse the Bethlehemite, who is skillful in playing, a mighty man of valor, a man of war, prudent in speech, and a handsome person; and the Lord is with him.” - 1 Samuel 16:18

This is quite a description of David. One of two thoughts come to mind - either the servant was exaggerating in describing David so that Saul would send for him, or this description was true. We just read a verse that told us David was skillful in playing the harp, was handsome and the Lord was with him. So, we know that part is true. What about a mighty man of valor or a man of war? At this point, David had not seen the battlefield, however, we do know that as a shepherd, he had killed a lion and a bear (1 Samuel 17:34-36). Could it be that the story of how a shepherd boy killed a lion and a bear reached the palace? That is an impressive feat and could definitely put the shepherd into the category of mighty man of valor or man of war.

So David goes to the palace and plays his harp to soothe King Saul. Saul then promoted David to be his armor bearer (1 Samuel 16:21). Now this is important to note for God used these roles to prepare David to be king. David was a shepherd boy so he knew how to protect and guide the family sheep. Leading and caring for others is an important trait for a king. But how was God going to prepare David to run a palace or lead an army? At this point, there was no “King Internship” being promoted at the palace. Instead, God used David’s harp playing ability to learn how the palace court is operated. God then used David being promoted to armor bearer to teach David the strategy of war. The great part of this was that David had no idea of God’s strategy, he just served faithfully. When we serve faithfully, God could be using different roles we perform to prepare us for what He has next for us.

David – Part 1 Continued

Unfortunately for David, the Philistines came to make war against Israel and David was sent back to the sheep. I can't imagine how frustrating it must have been for David to be watching sheep while the armies of Israel were at war. David was the king's armor bearer. That meant his job was to protect King Saul during war! Now, he is back protecting sheep.

Unbeknownst to David, the strategy of the Philistines was not to go to open war, but to challenge Israel in one-on-one combat. The Philistine champion was named Goliath and he was a giant of a man and a warrior from his youth.

“Then he stood and cried out to the armies of Israel, and said to them, ‘Why have you come out to line up for battle? Am I not a Philistine, and you the servants of Saul? Choose a man for yourselves and let him come down to me.’” - 1 Samuel 17:8

Goliath approached the Israelite army for 40 days and in that time, not one Israelite accepted the challenge. About this time, David's father sent David to the battle front to bring back word of how the battle was going. David happened to arrive at the time the giant came out to give his challenge. After watching the men talk amongst themselves about the reward King Saul would give to whoever would go fight the giant, David had this to say.

“And David said to the men who stood by him, ‘What shall be done for the man who kills this Philistine and takes away the reproach from Israel. For who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God?’” - 1 Samuel 17:26

Now David's response is really key and understanding this significance can help any of us face whatever giants we have in our lives. Notice the verbiage that Goliath used when he spoke to Saul's army - he called them the “servants of Saul”. Compare that to David's verbiage when speaking of Saul's army - he called them the “armies of the living God”. David understood what army he was a part of while the rest of the men didn't. The rest of the men believed the lie the enemy told them, that they were less than who they really are - a servant of Saul is less than being part of the army of the Living God.

This lie is something the enemy tells us every day, that we are less than who we are. The enemy wants to label us a certain way, perhaps a label that society puts on us. When we believe the lie, it will have the same effect on us it did on the Israelite army, it will make us fearful. However, if we have given our lives to Christ and received His Salvation for us, then we become Children of God! And as Children of God, we have certain privileges; these privileges are the promises the Bible gives us. When we forget who we are, we will fall prey to the lies of the enemy.

David knew that he was part of God's army and that gave him boldness to fight the giant. Also, David had already been in battle...he had defeated a lion and a bear. This leads us to another principle we need to recognize...that God has us fight little battles before He leads us to fighting our giants. The little battles could be anything from saying no to lust, to forgiving those who have done harm to us or even simply spending time reading His Word and praying every day. Victory in the little things lead to confidence in fighting our giants.

So once King Saul found out that David was inquiring about fighting the giant, King Saul sent for him. David convinced Saul to let him fight the giant.

David – Part 1 Continued

“So Saul clothed David with his armor, and he put a bronze helmet on his head; he also clothed him with a coat of mail. David fastened his sword to his armor and tried to walk, for he had not tested them. And David said to Saul, ‘I cannot walk with these for I have not tested them.’ So David took them off. Then he took his staff in his hand; and he chose for himself five smooth stones from the brook, and put them in a shepherd’s bag, in a pouch which he had, and his sling was in his hand. And he drew near to the Philistine.” - 1 Samuel 17:38-40

The next lesson to be learned from this story is that we can’t fight our giants like other people, we have to fight our way. Saul wanted David to fight like a king - in armor and with a sword. However, at this point, David was only a shepherd, so he was more comfortable fighting like a shepherd - with a staff and sling. He killed the lion and bear with his staff and sling. He was comfortable in battle with his staff and sling. So when facing the giant, he had to do so in the way he was familiar with. Likewise, when we fight our giants, we have to fight in the way we are familiar with.

Finally, you need to fight your giants with confidence as you recognize the battle is God’s not yours. The following is David’s attitude when he approached the giant:

“This day the Lord will deliver you into my hand, and I will strike you and take your head from you. And this day I will give the carcasses of the camp of the Philistines to the birds of the air and the wild beasts of the earth that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel. Then all this assembly shall know that the Lord does not save with sword and spear for the battle is the Lord’s and he will give you into our hands.” - 1 Samuel 17:46-47

David was so full of confidence in the Lord that he actually talked a little smack to the giant! David understood that the victory would come from the Lord, not through natural weapons. When we face our giants, we need that same confidence. God is with us and when we walk in obedience, God will take care of us.

“Then David put his hand in his bag and took out a stone; and he slung it and struck the Philistine in his forehead, so that the stone sank into his forehead, and he fell on his face to the earth.” - 1 Samuel 17:49

David then used Goliath’s own sword to cut off the giant’s head. This miracle led to a great victory for Israel. When we face and overcome our giants, the victory doesn’t affect just us, it affects all those around us.

Forgiveness (Part Two – Achieving Forgiveness) BY BEVERLY BROWN, GMI VOLUNTEER/WRITER

The first step in forgiveness is being willing to forgive. Sounds easy, right? It's not easy but it IS powerful, and you can do it.

You have to determine in your heart, "I will forgive so and so for what they've done."

You might have to do this many times. Every time something comes up to bring back the hurt, resentment, or bitterness, decide--once again--to forgive.

Release it. This more than likely will be a process. The deeper the hurt or offense, the longer the process may take. Don't be embarrassed if it does take some time. The most important thing is to be willing to forgive.

This might be a foreign concept to some of you. Some people just tend to forgive more easily than others.

Then there's the fact that some hurts are deeper than others. For example, not getting invited to a party is on a whole different level than being abused.

They both involve getting hurt and require forgiveness but one might take more time and determination to forgive.

I discussed some of the benefits of forgiving in my previous post, so I won't go over them again. So, how will you know you have truly forgiven?

Think of the person who you feel has wronged you. What kind of emotions does this bring up? This helps you determine if you have forgiven that person or not.

I've heard people say if you have truly forgiven you've forgotten. I do not agree with this. I do not think we can ever totally forget something that has really wounded or hurt us. Those emotions run deep.

However, you can forget to the point where you don't think of the hurtful thing they did every time you think of that person. You can forgive to the point that you are impervious to them, not caring one way or the other about them.

You may never have intimate interaction or fellowship with the person again, and that's okay. Sometimes you should not.

Boundaries are healthy. Forgiveness does not mean you have no boundaries. Nor does it mean you have to embrace that person into your personal life again.

But you can get to the point where you have no feelings one way or the other. You can remember the incident without all the anger and emotions roiling inside.

That's also not to say there will never be triggers. Depending on what has happened, there certainly might be triggers.

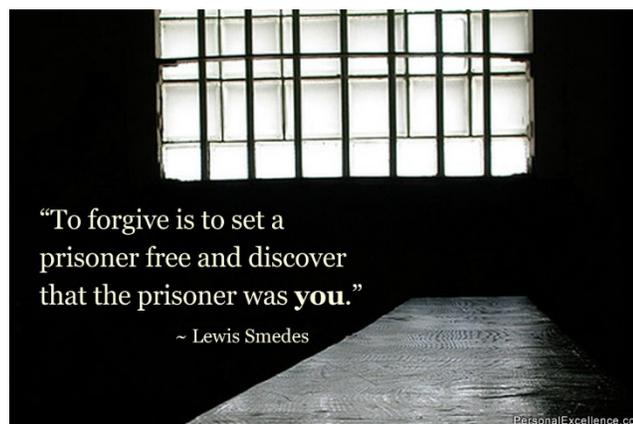
However, if you do constantly think of what they have done to you and feel resentful or bitter anytime you see them, or talk to them or they to you or can't stand the sight of them, then you haven't truly forgiven them.

I want to stress again that forgiving someone does not mean you condone what they did. It simply means you are ready to be released from the hold of bitterness and anger.

Remember, forgiveness frees you and benefits you.

Each day is a gift—you determine what you will do with it.

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From the Yard: *Words of Inspiration from Your Brothers and Sisters Who Are Still Incarcerated.* This month we are blessed with pieces from four different inmate writers. A special thanks to Volunteer Edith Butler for digitizing all the hand written correspondence.

Be an Integer

Submitted by Brian L., El Dorado Correctional Facility

Throughout the bible I have highlighted passages that hold significant meaning in my relationship with God. I have specific scriptures that guide and define me towards working a job, prison living, relational centered, and identity and also speech connected. But there are two verses that stand above the rest which I call my "life verses".

The apostle Paul as a spiritual father and mentor says to Timothy,

"But you (your name), O man of God, flee these things and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, and gentleness. Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold of eternal life to which you were also called and have confessed the good confession in the presence of many witnesses." (1 Timothy 6:11-12 emphasis added)

In his letter of encouragement and direction, Paul, in effect was defining Timothy's role as a leader in the church and its ministerial functions. These pocket verses outline what is crucial behind every man and woman who is a part of the church ministry. But they go beyond the church. They are communal and define who we are at the core because God imparts to each of us a gift in the ministry of life.

Paul focuses his directive on materialism and by saying to "flee these things". To flee in the Greek is a strong command "to run from". Materialism has a temporary value and is insatiable at its root (v 6-10). It aligns itself with the thought that I can provide for myself. I don't need anyone. The more I gain the more I can become self-sufficient. This is an "all about me" pride factor. Satan works his math in fractions by using our innate desires of materialism and a divisibility between us and God.

If we are to be a part of the kingdom of God, we need to run from anything that gets in the middle of our relationship with God. Thus, God works His math, if you will, with integers or whole numbers. A whole number is real, distinct, and absolute. Using this analogy of a whole number Paul then shifts his focus on to pursue. Again, in the Greek "to pursue means to track down, hunt down, or to chase after. What we are to pursue to be whole for His kingdom is to incorporate these six aspects listed. To incorporate these traits is to pursue to live as Christ lived.

Countless books have been written about these six characteristics. So to paraphrase, Paul instructs us to seek an understanding of who God is and what He has done for us. This Righteousness then acts in a moral and upright way honoring God in every situation and in every relationship. We are to display a godliness that exudes the presence of God. It desires to have His holy character reproduced in us. It's having a Faith that is unshakable and confident in God; not knowing exactly how far or where it may lead us. It's a love abandoned to things of God. Jesus tells us "to love as I have loved you" (John 15:12).

Be an Integer - Continued

To live out this example is what Oswald Chambers describes as, "The Knowledge that God has loved me to the uttermost, to the end of all my sin, meanness, selfishness, and wrong doing". God will send me into the world to love in the same way. It sees the vision of God by understanding His timing with patience. On the front of the July issue of the Growth Journal, GMI Director of Communications, Linda Lewis writes this of patience; Patience is not simply the ability to wait...it's how we behave while waiting. For those of us incarcerated, we often hear the jargon towards our experience as a "waiting game". It's imperative to understand it's better to know who you are, in the moment. Whereas, during hard times, we decide then in advance. Gentleness evaluates the present circumstance with taking a step back from yourself and having an empathetic approach to the needs around you.

Paul has taken this message for each of us...its one that helps and facilitates the forgiveness of God. It speaks with an eternal perspective (Proverbs 15:1), it elevates (Proverbs 25:11), and shows itself in genuine love. It holds others accountable and creates wholeness in a broken world (Micah 6:8)

Finally, these six aspects are integral and make you "whole" for life's ministry. Our good confession (v. 12) is a representative of the life of Jesus and to manifest Himself in you is to pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, and gentleness. This is what God wants our spirit and heart to reflect. This is what true, valuable, and rewarding eternally is. **Be an integer for Jesus!**

It's Simple/Gods Wisdom

Submitted by Dennis T., Lansing Correctional Facility



Three important things in life are *Hope, Faith, and Love*. If and when we acquire these three things blessings will then come from above.

By always having **Hope** you will keep looking forward in a positive way. Everything will always seem brighter in our lives each and every day.

And if we always have **Hope**, the **Faith** then becomes a part of our soul.

Then this will come together for us to achieve the ultimate goal.

What is the ultimate goal you ask? The goal is quite simple...the goal is **LOVE!!!** If we keep love in our heart for ourselves first, and then for one another, this is the most important part.

God also wants us to gain **Wisdom**. If you have the above mentioned characteristics plus wisdom you will discover an abundance of happiness within yourself. This will also open the windows of heaven to Gods many blessings.

Be Blessed.

The Power That Binds Us Together

Submitted by Gordon M. "Lil-G", Lansing Correctional Facility

The powers that binds us together is Jesus Christ. The presence of the Holy Spirit produces peace. When we lose our power (Christ) we lose our peace. We hinder the flow of our anointing which is one of the most precious treasures we have, and we also hinder our blessings from flowing in abundance.

Unity among people is pleasant, it releases blessings from God and the anointing power of His presence (Ps 133:1-3, Is 32:17-18). God is that perfect peace. He provides the way out. He will lead us and walk us out of our trouble. When others see that we are able to remain calm even when the "Serpent" bites us, they will want to know where that peace is coming from in our lives (Heb 13:6). So we *take comfort in boldly stating the Lord is my helper*. If you have lost peace (Christ) you need to back all the way up and find out where it was you lost your peace, and then do what is right. God wants us to enjoy the same inner peace that was visible in the life of Jesus and He expects us to bless others with the same grace (1 Peter 2:15-16). Our circumstances won't change until we change.

Remember, we are to keep our minds stayed on Christ and He will keep us in perfect peace (John 14:27). The Word tells us to Strive to live in peace with everyone (Heb 12:14). Crave peace, pursue and go after it. Remember we have peace...Jesus provided it...but we must appreciate it. The lies of Satan steal our peace, he wants us to think that peace is not possible, that it is not even an option; however, **the truth sets us free**. The truth is God will take care of us as we place our trust in Him (John 14:6).

I have learned from God's Word that peace is power. That is one of the main reasons that Satan tries to steal our power all the time. He wants all of us, God's children, to be weak and powerless, not strong and powerful. Maintaining your peace is your power over Satan. Pursuing peace means making an effort. We cannot maintain peace simply by our own fleshly effort. We need God's help and we need grace which is His power assisting us and enabling us to do what needs to be done.

The effort we make must be in Christ. Be sure you *lean on Christ and ask for His help*. When you succeed give Him the credit, the honor, and the glory because success is impossible without Him. Jesus said, "apart from Me you can do nothing" (John 15:5).

In conclusion; Christ is the Power that binds us and keeps us together. If we don't know who we are in Christ, then we won't realize that we have His strength in us to do the right thing. (John 16:13). He, The *Spirit of truth*, is come. He will guide you into all truth (Romans 8:9). Ye are not in the flesh but in the Spirit. (Gal 4:22-23) Speaks of the character of Christ that the Spirit produces.

Well Sisters and Brothers, I pray that we all get to know and understand the love and peace of Christ our Lord and Savior.

Heart Test

Submitted by Steven A. C., Hutchinson Correctional Facility

In my recent study of Proverbs chapter 16, I discovered there are many conditions of the heart. There were five conditions of the heart that I was able to research and want to share with you. Some questions to ask yourself...what condition is my heart in? Does God feel at home in my heart? Is my heart being renewed regularly? When was your last heart checkup? By the time you finish reading this, I pray you receive answers from the Spirit of God.

According to 2 Corinthians 13:5...we are to examine ourselves whether we be in the faith; prove to ourselves that we know Jesus Christ. Examine ourselves. I believe with prayer God will give you the answer. There are five types of hearts I would like to share with you today.

1. The prepared heart; this is the heart that receives the truth of God and submits to His will.
2. The proud heart; pride is one sin that God especially hates. It leads you to all kinds of trouble and robs you of the blessing of The Lord.
3. The purposeful heart; this type of heart is devoted to the purpose of God. It also takes the time to think, pray, and meditate on the Word. You make plans with a purposeful heart, knowing that the Lord will guide you.
4. The prudent heart; when wisdom is your food and drink you make prudent decisions. Your lips speak sweet words of wisdom.
5. The perverse heart; what is in the heart will eventually come out of the heart. If you have a perverse heart this is a heart that is not beautiful or useful to The Lord.

So in closing we realize there are many forms and conditions that our hearts can be in. Some feel their hearts are broken. Some feel their hearts are not trusting or lack faith. Some hearts are filled with the joy of the Lord and Christ unchanging love for us. Take the time to examine YOUR HEART...ask God to speak to you about the condition of your heart. According to Proverbs 4:23, we are to keep thy heart with all diligence for out of it are the issues of life. May your heart be open to receive God's love and salvation.

Women Empowering Women

We have a new section that we will feature each month called "Women Empowering Women". It was inspired by the new addition of readers at Topeka Correction Facility for Women. Our Communications Director, Linda Lewis, was led to share monthly words of inspiration for our female readers.

Women Empowering Women

I aspire to be
 An empowered woman
 With vision and Grace.
 Soft-hearted but strong,
 Self-aware and sure.
 Respected for my mind,
 Admired for my heart,
 And above all,
 Always honest, open and raw.

Tell yourself:
 Everything will work out.
 Things will get better.
 You are important.
 You are worthy of great things.
 You are loveable.
 The time is now.
 This too, shall pass.
 You can be who you really are.
 The best is yet to come.
 You are strong.
 You can do this.

And by the Grace of God...you can and you will! Hebrews 4:16



Write Us

We would love to hear from you. If you have a testimony, a prayer request or a question about your walk with the Lord, send us a letter. We would love to pray or rejoice with you.

Maybe you are a writer and you have a spiritual word of encouragement for the readers of our newsletter. We would love to review your article to see if we can use it in our newsletter.

We also like to share poems from you more artistic sisters and brothers.

Growth Ministries, Inc., Attn: Executive Secretary, P.O. Box 4375, Olathe, KS 66063

Word Search

Women of the Bible

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

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|-----------|----------------|----------------|---------|
| Zipporah | Hannah | Esther | Deborah |
| Dorcas | Eve | Martha | Sarah |
| Bathsheba | Mary Magdalene | Mary | Miriam |
| Rachel | Rebekah | Leah | Gomer |
| Elizabeth | Dinah | Delilah | Anna |
| Jezebel | Rahab | Queen of Sheba | Naomi |
| Ruth | | | |

Closing Words LONNIE JOHNSON, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, GROWTH MINISTRIES INC

Sometimes the best weapon is no weapon

When we become Christians, we are always at war with the enemy. The more we mature, the more he looks to attack, shame and tempt us. The bible tells us to always be vigilant. **(1 Peter 5:8-11 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour...)**. That means we have to constantly be aware and on the lookout.

But many times, we waste time and energy fighting the devil with our own strength and power. When we do that we will never win. Often we end up frustrated and doing things we regret because we don't get the victory we desire.

We have to remember that even though Satan is our enemy, God fights our battles **(1 Samuel 17:47 and that all this assembly may know that the Lord saves not with sword and spear. For the battle is the Lord's, and he will give you into our hand.)**. And we have to also remember that we do not fight with our natural means **(2 Corinthians 10:4 NIV The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds.)**

In fact, after we have prayed and invested our faith in the promises of God we can go about our business knowing that God is in control. In fact, He even makes mention of that in His Word. **(Psalm 46:10 He says, "Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.")**. Sometimes fear of the unknown makes us restless, worried and fearful. Being still and knowing God is god takes that all away.

When we **be still** we can meditate on His promises like the one in **Isaiah 54:17 which says, "No weapon formed against you shall prosper, and every tongue which rises against you in judgment You shall condemn."**

God has our back, our front and everything in between. Once we turn it all over to Him we don't have to fret about the outcome. We don't have to "take matters into our own hands". Yep, **let go and let God!** I couldn't help but throw that cliché in.

Bless you and be confident that God has your best interest at heart as any good father would. He is using all His resources to ensure that you get the best of the best for every situation in your life. Even when you don't deserve it. That is what we call The Grace of God.

What must I do to be saved?

If you have never accepted Christ as your Lord and Savior, or if you have turned away from Him living a life of unrighteousness and wish to be connected to Him, then take a moment and say this prayer.

"Lord, I confess that I am a sinner and ask for your forgiveness. I believe that your son Jesus died on the cross for my sins and was resurrected with all power. I invite Jesus to be the Lord of my life and your Holy Spirit to come into my heart to guide me for the rest of my days. Amen."

Romans 10:9 says that *if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.*

If this is you, please write Growth Ministries and we will gladly help you start your new life in Christ.

Growth Ministries, Inc., Attn: Executive Secretary, P.O. Box 4375, Olathe, KS 66063