



Portion:

## SCRIPTURES

- Matthew 14-15
- Acts 5:12-16
- Acts 8:9-25
- Acts 19:11-20

Title:

## MAY I BORROW

### YOUR HANDKERCHIEF?

- Wash
- Rinse
- Repeat

*First you listen and learn; then you watch what you've learned in action; then you do it with the person from whom you've learned it; then you do it alone while you are watched by the person who taught you; then you do it alone without being watched; then you teach while someone else listens and learns; then they watch you do what they learned from you; then they do what they learned with you; then they do alone what they learned while you watch; then they do alone what they learned without being watched; then they teach what they learned to the next person who will listen.*

*Paul says it concisely: "The things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also." Wash, rinse, repeat—it should be that simple. Nevertheless, there are a few diagnoses that describe why this does not happen nearly as often as it ought: "daft-disciple-disorder," "self-serving-syndrome," and "greedy-gain-gangrene."*

*These illnesses can be found on two sides of the same counterfeit coin. One side... they just don't get it. The other side... they do get it, but want it just to serve their own selfish desires. Yes, they sit on either side of the same counterfeit coin, separated only by the thin margin that makes the coin's edge. And in the end, they all point in the same direction; go back to square one—back to where you started, because clearly no progress has been made.*

*As children, we played the game Red-Light-Green-Light 1-2-3. The objective of the game is to reach the finish line without any movement being detected. From the starting line, you move forward only when the arbiter over the participants is facing away. As he calls out the game's name, you strategically advance and when the last "eeee" of the number "three" loses its audible sound, he whips his head around to catch all those trying to squeeze in one last step. If busted for moving while in his field of vision, you must go back to square one, back to the starting line, while everyone who has adhered to the rules of the game continues forward.*

*Paul tells us to imitate him as he imitates Christ. You imitate me as I imitate Him and others will imitate you: wash, rinse, repeat. Christ gave lesson after lesson, demonstration after demonstration. He was in the boat with them and calmed the storm; He asked them to feed thousands of hungry people and then showed them how. He sent them on the boat without Him, and then walked out on the sea to meet them, and again calmed the storm. He presented a second occasion to feed the multitudes and yet they still asked, "Where would we get enough food in this remote wilderness to feed such a huge crowd?" And throughout it all, He healed the masses of every imaginable disease and promised us we'd do greater things one day!*

*If you are flipping a coin and it keeps coming up: heads you lose—tails... you lose, then you are suffering from an undiagnosed disease. I suggest you take a look at Y'shua's playbook and learn from Him. And start living on the edge of the coin. That is where, although narrow, the seas become calm, bread forms out of thin air, and the masses are healed by simply touching your garment or the handkerchief you once held, or maybe even because they passed through your shadow. It will happen as long as you lose your daftness and stop making it all about you!*

#### PROPHETIC SEED:

“When the men of that place recognized Him, they sent out into all that surrounding region, brought to Him all who were sick, and begged Him that **they might only touch the hem of His garment.** And **as many as touched it were made perfectly well.**” Matthew 14:35-36 NKJV

“**The multitude marveled when they saw** the mute speaking, the maimed made whole, the lame walking, and the blind seeing; **and they glorified the God of Israel.**” Matthew 15:31 NKJV

#### PROPHETIC FRUIT:

“And believers were increasingly added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women, so that they brought the sick out into the streets and laid them on beds and couches, **that at least the shadow of Peter passing by might fall on some of them.** Also a multitude gathered from the surrounding cities to Jerusalem, bringing sick people and those who were tormented by unclean spirits, and **they were all healed.**” Acts 5:14-16 NKJV

“Now God worked **unusual miracles by the hands of Paul,** so that **even handkerchiefs or aprons were brought from his body to the sick,** and **the diseases left them** and **the evil spirits went out of them.**” Acts 19:11-12 NKJV

WASH

### 1. Teach & Demonstrate (experiential learning is most effective!)

#### A. John the Baptizer Beheaded

(1) Master Conductor

(a) It was time!

1. “At that time Herod the tetrarch heard the report about Jesus and said to his servants, “This is John the Baptist; he is risen from the dead, and therefore these powers are at work in him.” **For Herod had laid hold of John and bound him, and put him in prison for the sake of Herodias,** his brother Philip's wife. Because John had said to him, “It is not lawful for you to have her.” And although he wanted to put him to death, **he feared the multitude, because they counted him as a prophet.** But when Herod's birthday was celebrated, the daughter of Herodias danced before them and pleased Herod. Therefore he promised with an oath to give her whatever she might ask. So she, having been prompted by her mother, said, “Give me John the Baptist's head here on a platter.” And the king was sorry; nevertheless, because of the oaths and because of those who sat with him, he commanded it to be given to her. **So he sent and had John beheaded in prison.** And his head was brought on a platter and given to the girl, and she brought it to her

mother. Then his disciples came and took away the body **and buried it, and went and told Jesus.**" Matthew 14:1-12 NKJV

(2) A decrease with a purpose!

(a) He must increase, but I must decrease.

1. "John answered and said, "**A man can receive nothing unless it has been given to him from heaven.** You yourselves bear me witness, that I said, 'I am not the Christ,' but, 'I have been sent before Him.' He who has the bride is the bridegroom; but the friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly because of the bridegroom's voice. Therefore this joy of mine is fulfilled. {30} **He must increase, but I must decrease.** He who comes from above is above all; he who is of the earth is earthly and speaks of the earth. He who comes from heaven is above all." John 3:27-31 NKJV
2. "You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, relatives and friends; **and they will put some of you to death.** And you will be hated by all for My name's sake. **But not a hair of your head shall be lost.** By your patience possess your souls." Luke 21:16-19 NKJV
3. "We know that **all things work together for good** to those who love God, to those who are the **called according to His purpose.**" Romans 8:28 NKJV

## **B. The Feeding of the Five Thousand**

(1) Master Strategist

(a) Experiential Learning

1. "When Jesus heard it, He departed from there by boat to a deserted place by Himself. But when the multitudes heard it, they followed Him on foot from the cities. And when Jesus went out He saw a great multitude; and He was moved with compassion for them, and healed their sick. When it was evening, His disciples came to Him, saying, "**This is a deserted place, and the hour is already late. Send the multitudes away, that they may go into the villages and buy themselves food.**" But Jesus said to them, "**They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat.**" And they said to Him, "**We have here only five loaves and two fish.**" He said, "**Bring them here to Me.**" Then He commanded the multitudes to sit down on the grass. And **He took the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, He blessed** and broke and gave the loaves to the disciples; and **the disciples gave to the multitudes. So they all ate and were filled,** and they took up twelve baskets full of the fragments that remained. Now those who had eaten were about **five thousand men, besides women and children.**" Matthew 14:13-21 NKJV
2. "*Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; **and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father. And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask anything in My name, I will do it.***" John 14:12-14 NKJV

(b) But, Y'shua challenged them: "Don't send them away. You give them something to eat."

1. "Then Jesus lifted up His eyes, and seeing a great multitude coming toward Him, He said to Philip, "Where shall we buy bread, that these may eat?" But **this He said to test him, for He Himself knew what He would do.**" John 6:5-6 NKJV
2. *"But his Lord answered and said to him, 'You wicked and lazy servant, you knew that I reap where I have not sown, and gather where I have not scattered seed.'*" Matthew 25:26 NKJV

### C. Defilement Comes from Within

#### (1) Master Litigator

##### (a) Why do you also transgress the commandment of God because of your tradition?

1. "Then the scribes and Pharisees who were from Jerusalem came to Jesus, saying, **"Why do Your disciples transgress the tradition of the elders? For they do not wash their hands when they eat bread."** He answered and said to them, **"Why do you also transgress the commandment of God because of your tradition?** For God commanded, saying, 'Honor your father and your mother'; and, 'He who curses father or mother, let him be put to death.' But you say, 'Whoever says to his father or mother, "Whatever profit you might have received from me is a gift to God"— then he need not honor his father or mother.' Thus you have made the commandment of God of no effect by your tradition. **Hypocrites! Well did Isaiah prophesy about you,** saying: 'These people draw near to Me with their mouth, And honor Me with their lips, But their heart is far from Me. **And in vain they worship Me, Teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.'** " When He had called the multitude to Himself, He said to them, "Hear and understand: **Not what goes into the mouth defiles a man; but what comes out of the mouth, this defiles a man.**" Then His disciples came and said to Him, **"Do You know that the Pharisees were offended when they heard this saying?"** But He answered and said, **"Every plant which My heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted.** Let them alone. **They are blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind leads the blind, both will fall into a ditch.**" Then Peter answered and said to Him, "Explain this parable to us." So Jesus said, "Are you also still without understanding? Do you not yet understand that **whatever enters the mouth goes into the stomach and is eliminated? But those things which proceed out of the mouth come from the heart,** and they defile a man. For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies. **These are the things which defile a man, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile a man.**" Matthew 15:1-20 NKJV

RINSE

## 2. Impart & Practice (repetition is the mother of learning!)

### A. Y'shua Walks on the Sea

#### (1) A Prophetic Perspective

##### (a) We've seen this before!

1. "Immediately Jesus made His disciples get into the boat and go before Him to the other side, while He sent the multitudes away. And when He had sent the multitudes away, He went up on

the mountain by Himself to pray. Now when evening came, He was alone there. **But the boat was now in the middle of the sea, tossed by the waves, for the wind was contrary.** Now in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went to them, walking on the sea. And when the disciples saw Him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, "It is a ghost!" **And they cried out for fear.** But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "**Be of good cheer! It is I; do not be afraid.**" And Peter answered Him and said, "**Lord, if it is You, command me to come to You on the water.**" So He said, "Come." And when Peter had come down out of the boat, **he walked on the water to go to Jesus.** But when **he saw that the wind was boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink he cried out, saying, "Lord, save me!"** And immediately Jesus stretched out His hand and caught him, and said to him, "**O you of little faith, why did you doubt?"** And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. Then those who were in the boat came and worshiped Him, saying, "Truly You are the Son of God." Matthew 14:22-33 NKJV

2. "He walked on the water **to go to Jesus.** But when **when he saw that the wind was boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink...**" Matthew 14:29-30
3. "But one thing I do, **forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead,**" Philippians 3:13 NKJV
4. "But his [Lot] **wife looked back** behind him, and she became a pillar of salt." Genesis 19:26 NKJV
5. "For we have spent **enough of our past lifetime** in doing the will of the Gentiles..." I Peter 4:3 NKJV
6. "Now he who received seed among the thorns is he who hears the word, **and the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches** choke the word, and he becomes unfruitful." Matthew 13:22 NKJV
7. "**Do not love the world** or the things in the world..." I John 2:15 NKJV

#### **B. Many Touch Him and are Made Well**

(1) The Hem of His Garment

(a) Another trip through the rinse cycle!

1. "When they had crossed over, they came to the land of Gennesaret. And when the men of that place recognized Him, they sent out into all that surrounding region, brought to Him all who were sick, and begged Him that **they might only touch the hem of His garment.** And **as many as touched it were made perfectly well.**" Matthew 14:34-36 NKJV
2. "And suddenly, a woman who had a flow of blood for twelve years **came from behind and touched the hem of His garment.** For she said to herself, "**If only I may touch His garment, I shall be made well.**" But Jesus turned around, and when He saw her He said, "Be of good cheer, daughter; **your faith has made you well.**" And the woman was made well from that hour." Matthew 9:20-22 NKJV

#### **C. A Gentile Shows Her Faith**

(1) Another Lesson about Gentiles

- (a) This Gentile woman knows something. She called him the “Son of David!”
1. “Then Jesus went out from there and departed to the region of Tyre and Sidon. And behold, **a woman of Canaan** came from that region and cried out to Him, saying, **“Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David! My daughter is severely demon-possessed.”** But He answered her not a word. **And His disciples came and urged Him, saying, “Send her away, for she cries out after us.”** But He answered and said, **“I was not sent except to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.”** Then she came and worshiped Him, saying, “Lord, help me!” But He answered and said, “It is not good to take **the children’s bread** and throw it to the little **dogs.**” And she said, “Yes, Lord, yet **even the little dogs eat the crumbs which fall from their masters’ table.**” Then Jesus answered and said to her, **“O woman, great is your faith!** Let it be to you as you desire.” And her daughter was healed from that very hour.” Matthew 15:21-28 NKJV
- (2) This woman’s heart was already changed, or she could never have sought Him in the first place.
- (a) I chose you, you did not choose Me.
    1. **“You did not choose Me, but I chose you** and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you.” John 15:16 NKJV
  - (b) Unless He love you first you could not love Him
    1. “We love Him **because He first loved us.**” I John 4:19 NKJV
  - (c) Like the centurion (a Gentile) who had faith:
    1. “When Jesus heard it, He marveled, and said to those who followed, **“Assuredly, I say to you, I have not found such great faith, not even in Israel!”** Matthew 8:10 NKJV
  - (d) And still, even much later, Peter suffers with “daft-disciple-disorder...”
    1. ...so much so that God had to give him prophetic visions so he would obey and go to the house of a certain Gentile man in Caesarea called Cornelius, a centurion...” Acts 10:1 NKJV
  - (e) Look at what Peter believes, even after all he saw with Y’shua and the Gentiles! And He only gets this after his vision! (Read all of Acts 10)
    1. “Then he said to them, **“You know how unlawful it is for a Jewish man to keep company with or go to one of another nation.** But **God has shown me** that I should not call any man common or unclean.” Acts 10:28 NKJV
  - (f) And even later—Peter still needs to be rebuked by Paul for getting it wrong!
    1. “Now **when Peter** had come to Antioch, **I withstood him to his face,** because he was to be blamed; for before certain men came from James, he would eat with the Gentiles; but when they came, he withdrew and separated himself, fearing those who were of the circumcision. **And the rest of the Jews also played the hypocrite with him,** so that even Barnabas was carried away with their hypocrisy.” Galatians 2:11-13 NKJV
  - (g) Eventually it clicked for Peter...as testified to by James! But this is not until Acts 15! Can you imagine how difficult it is to overcome “daft-disciple-disorder?” Wash-Rinse-Wash-Rinse-Wash-Rinse-Wash-Rinse!

1. "And after they had become silent, **James answered, saying**, "Men and brethren, listen to me: **Simon has declared how God at the first visited the Gentiles to take out of them a people for His name. And with this the words of the prophets agree**, just as it is written: 'After this I will return And will rebuild the tabernacle of David, which has fallen down; I will rebuild its ruins, And I will set it up; **So that the rest of mankind may seek the Lord, Even all the Gentiles** who are called by My name, Says the Lord who does all these things.'" Acts 15:13-17 NKJV

#### **D. Y'shua Heals Great Multitudes**

- (1) Another Lesson on Healing

(a) *...and they glorified the God of Israel...*

1. "Jesus departed from there, skirted the Sea of Galilee, and went up on the mountain and sat down there. Then great multitudes came to Him, having with them the lame, blind, mute, maimed, and many others; and they laid them down at Jesus' feet, **and He healed them. So the multitude marveled** when they saw the mute speaking, the maimed made whole, the lame walking, and the blind seeing; **and they glorified the God of Israel.**" Matthew 15:29-31 NKJV

#### **E. Feeding the Four Thousand**

- (1) He Feeds the Masses Again!

(a) Will the Disciple know what to do this time?

1. "Now Jesus called His disciples to Himself and said, "I have compassion on the multitude, because they have now continued with Me three days and have nothing to eat. **And I do not want to send them away hungry, lest they faint on the way.**" **Then His disciples said to Him, "Where could we get enough bread in the wilderness to fill such a great multitude?"** Jesus said to them, "How many loaves do you have?" And they said, "Seven, and a few little fish." So He commanded the multitude to sit down on the ground. And **He took the seven loaves and the fish and gave thanks**, broke them and gave them to His disciples; and the disciples gave to the multitude. **So they all ate and were filled**, and they took up seven large **baskets full of the fragments that were left**. Now those who ate were four thousand men, besides women and children. And He sent away the multitude, got into the boat, and came to the region of Magdala." Matthew 15:32-39 NKJV

- (2) "Daft-Disciple-Disorder"

(a) Dense—

1. "Then He said to them, "O foolish ones, and **slow of heart** to believe in all that the prophets have spoken!" Luke 24:25 NKJV
2. "He answered him and said, "**O faithless generation**, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I bear with you? Bring him to Me.'" Mark 9:19 NKJV
3. "This kind can come out by nothing but prayer and fasting.'" Mark 9:29 NKJV

REPEAT

### 3. Repeat (duplicate Christ OR start all over?)

#### A. Emulate or Iterate

##### (1) Multi-Level-Discipling

###### (a) Emulate

1. ““Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and **greater works than these he will do**, because I go to My Father. And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask anything in My name, I will do it.” John 14:12-14 NKJV

###### (b) Emulate

1. “**Imitate me**, just as I also **imitate Christ**.” I Corinthians 11:1 NKJV
2. “You therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. And **the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men** who will be able to **teach others also**.” II Timothy 2:1-2 NKJV
3. “Whom shall I send, And who will go for Us?” Then I said, “**Here am I! Send me.**”” Isaiah 6:8 NKJV
4. “And He said, “**Go, and tell this people**: ‘Keep on hearing, but do not understand; Keep on seeing, but do not perceive.’ “Make the heart of this people dull, And their ears heavy, And shut their eyes; **Lest they see with their eyes, And hear with their ears, And understand with their heart, And return and be healed.**”” Isaiah 6:9-10 NKJV

###### (c) Iterate or Iteration:

1. ““**Whom will he teach knowledge? And whom will he make to understand the message? Those just weaned from milk? Those just drawn from the breasts? For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept, Line upon line, line upon line, Here a little, there a little.**” For with stammering lips and another tongue He will speak to this people, To whom He said, “This is the rest with which You may cause the weary to rest,” And, “This is the refreshing”; Yet they would not hear. But the word of the Lord was to them, “**Precept upon precept, precept upon precept, Line upon line, line upon line, Here a little, there a little,**” **That they might go and fall backward, and be broken And snared and caught.**” Isaiah 28:9-13 NKJV

#### B. Milk vs. Solid Food

##### (1) Reverse engineer Isaiah—don’t do it wrong again!

###### (a) Precept upon precept!

1. “For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the first principles of the oracles of God; **and you have come to need milk and not solid food**. For **everyone who partakes only of milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness**, for he is a babe. But **solid food belongs to those who are of full age**, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.” Hebrews 5:12-14 NKJV

###### (b) That they might not fall backward!



1. “Therefore, **leaving the discussion of the elementary principles of Christ, let us go on to perfection**, not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, of the doctrine of baptisms, of laying on of hands, of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment. And this we will do if God permits.” Hebrews 6:1-3 NKJV

### C. Acts 5

(1) Emulate

(a) Peter has begun to emulate Christ

1. “And **through the hands of the apostles many signs and wonders were done among the people**. And they were **all with one accord** in Solomon’s Porch. Yet none of the rest dared join them, but the people esteemed them highly. And **believers were increasingly added** to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women, so that **they brought the sick out into the streets** and laid them on beds and couches, that at **least the shadow of Peter passing by might fall on some of them**. Also a multitude gathered from the surrounding cities to Jerusalem, bringing sick people and those who were tormented by unclean spirits, and **they were all healed.**” Acts 5:12-16 NKJV

### D. Acts 8

(1) Emulate

(a) Philip preaches things concerning the kingdom of God as did Christ!

1. “But there was a certain man called **Simon, who previously practiced sorcery** in the city and astonished the people of Samaria, claiming that he was someone great, to whom they all gave heed, from the least to the greatest, saying, “**This man is the great power of God.**” And they heeded him because he had astonished them with his sorceries for a long time. **But when they believed Philip as he preached the things concerning the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, both men and women were baptized. Then Simon himself also believed;** and when he was baptized he continued with Philip, and was amazed, seeing the miracles and signs which were done.” Acts 8:9-13 NKJV

a) Even Simon the sorcerer is converted!

(2) “Greedy-Gain-Gangrene.”

(a) Men inserting themselves where God belongs!

1. “Now when the apostles who were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, who, when they had come down, **prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit**. For as yet He had fallen upon none of them. They had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit. **And when Simon saw that through the laying on of the apostles’ hands the Holy Spirit was given, he offered them money, saying, “Give me this power also, that anyone on whom I lay hands may receive the Holy Spirit.”** But Peter said to him, “**Your money perish with you, because you thought that the gift of God could be purchased with money!** You have neither part nor portion in this matter, for your heart is not right in the sight of God. **Repent** therefore of this your wickedness, and pray God if perhaps the thought of your heart may be

forgiven you. For I see that you are poisoned by bitterness and bound by iniquity.”” Acts 8:14-23 NKJV

(b) Men inserting their own pleasures where God belongs!

1. “Where do wars and fights come from among you? **Do they not come from your desires for pleasure** that war in your members? You lust and do not have. You murder and covet and cannot obtain. You fight and war. **Yet you do not have because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend it on your pleasures.**” James 4:1-3 NKJV

#### E. Acts 19

(1) Emulate

(a) Healing with Garments!

1. “Now God worked **unusual miracles by the hands of Paul**, so that **even handkerchiefs or aprons were brought from his body to the sick**, and the diseases left them and the evil spirits went out of them.” Acts 19:11-12 NKJV
2. We know this was a fulfillment of prophecy: “*But to you who fear My name The Sun of Righteousness shall arise With healing in His wings [the hem of His garment]; And you shall go out And grow fat like stall-fed calves.*” Malachi 4:2 NKJV

(2) “Self-Serving-Syndrome”

(a) I like that handkerchief or apron trick!

1. “**Then some of the itinerant Jewish exorcists took it upon themselves to call the name of the Lord Jesus** over those who had evil spirits, saying, “**We exorcise you by the Jesus whom Paul preaches.**” Also there were seven sons of Sceva, a Jewish chief priest, who did so. And the evil spirit answered and said, “**Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are you?**” Then the man in whom the evil spirit was **leaped on them, overpowered them**, and prevailed against them, so that they **fled out of that house naked and wounded.**” Acts 19:13-16 NKJV
2. “Do not be deceived, my beloved brethren. **Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights**, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning. Of His own will He brought us forth by the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of His creatures.” James 1:16-18 NKJV

(3) Testimony!

(a) A good o’fashioned whooping can be a very powerful witness!

1. “This became known both to all Jews and Greeks dwelling in Ephesus; and fear fell on them all, and the name of the Lord Jesus was magnified. **And many who had believed came confessing and telling their deeds. Also, many of those who had practiced magic brought their books together and burned them in the sight of all.** And they counted up the value of them, and it totaled fifty thousand pieces of silver. So the word of the Lord grew mightily and prevailed.” Acts 19:17-20 NKJV

F. What it looks like to get it right (when Daft-Disciple-Disorder; Self-Serving-Syndrome; and Greedy-Gain-Gangrene are cured!)

(1) The grace given to me by God!

(a) I passed on what I did BECAUSE OF GOD!

1. “Now I myself am confident concerning you, my brethren, that you also are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge, able also to admonish one another. Nevertheless, brethren, I have written more boldly to you on some points, **as reminding you, because of the grace given to me by God, that I might be a minister of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles**, ministering the gospel of God, that the offering of the Gentiles might be acceptable, sanctified by the Holy Spirit.”  
Romans 15:14-16 NKJV

(b) And I give God ALL the Credit

1. **“Therefore I have reason to glory in Christ Jesus in the things which pertain to God. For I will not dare to speak of any of those things which Christ has not accomplished through me, in word and deed**, to make the Gentiles obedient— **in mighty signs and wonders, by the power of the Spirit of God**, so that from Jerusalem and round about to Illyricum I have fully preached the gospel of Christ. And so **I have made it my aim to preach the gospel, not where Christ was named, lest I should build on another man’s foundation**, but as it is written: “To whom He was not announced, they shall see; And those who have not heard shall understand.”” Romans 15:17-21 NKJV

(2) Pride Blockers

(a) If I am going to boast in anything...

1. “But **God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ**, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.” Galatians 6:14 NKJV

(b) Get over yourself!

1. “For you see your calling, brethren, that not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called. But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty; and the base things of the world and the things which are despised God has chosen, and the things which are not, to bring to nothing the things that are, **that no flesh should glory in His presence**. But of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God—and righteousness and sanctification and redemption— that, as it is written, **“He who glories, let him glory in the Lord.”**” I Corinthians 1:26-31 NKJV

(c) Stop commending yourself!

1. “For **we dare not class ourselves or compare ourselves with those who commend themselves**. But they, measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise. **We, however, will not boast beyond measure, but within the limits of the sphere which God appointed us**—a sphere which especially includes you. **For we are not overextending ourselves** (as though our authority did not extend to you), for it was to you that we came with the gospel of Christ; not boasting of things beyond measure, that is, in other men’s labors, but having hope, that as your faith is increased, we shall be greatly enlarged by you in

our sphere, to preach the gospel in the regions beyond you, and not to boast in another man's sphere of accomplishment. **But "he who glories, let him glory in the Lord." For not he who commends himself is approved, but whom the Lord commends.**" II Corinthians 10:12-18 NKJV

(d) But let him who glories glory in this...

1. "Thus says the Lord: **"Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, Let not the mighty man glory in his might, Nor let the rich man glory in his riches;** But let him who glories glory in this, **That he understands and knows Me,** That I am the Lord, exercising **lovingkindness, judgment,** and **righteousness** in the earth. For in **these I delight,"** says the Lord." Jeremiah 9:23-24 NKJV

(e) Stop trusting in yourself!

1. "Some trust in chariots, and some in horses; But **we will remember the name of the Lord our God.**" Psalms 20:7 NKJV

(f) Your entire boast should be in God!

1. Pray together: *"I will bless the Lord at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul shall make its boast in the Lord; The humble shall hear of it and be glad. Oh, magnify the Lord with me, And let us exalt His name together."* Psalms 34:1-3 NKJV

(3) Repeat

(a) ...another iteration until you get it right? Or, Imitate me as I imitate Christ!

1. "Now Peter and John went up together to the temple at the hour of prayer, the ninth hour. And a certain man lame from his mother's womb was carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful, to ask alms from those who entered the temple; who, seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple, asked for alms. **And fixing his eyes on him, with John, Peter said, "Look at us."** So he gave them his attention, expecting to receive something from them. Then Peter said, **"Silver and gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk."** And he took him by the right hand and lifted him up, **and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength.** So he, leaping up, stood and walked and entered the temple with them—walking, leaping, and praising God. **And all the people saw him walking and praising God.** Then they knew that it was he who sat begging alms at the Beautiful Gate of the temple; **and they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him."** Acts 3:1-10 NKJV