



Portion:

Title:

## SCRIPTURES

- Romans 5:1-11
- I Corinthians 13:1-13

## ALSO...

- These Three
- Much More

## SEED:

"Therefore, **having been justified by faith**, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, **through whom also** we have **access by faith into this grace** in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God." Romans 5:1-2 NKJV

## FRUIT:

"For if when we were enemies **we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more**, having been reconciled, we shall be **saved by His life.**" Romans 5:10 NKJV

"And now abide **faith, hope, love**, these three; but **the greatest of these is love.**" I Corinthians 13:13 NKJV

## **NARRATIVE FOR TODAY'S SCRIPTURES: ROMANS 5:1-11**

**Last week in [The Empty Womb](#) (Romans 4:13-25)...** It's important for all who read this portion of Paul's masterful narrative, which highlights Abraham's position as the father of the Judeo-Christian faith, for them to recognize this all happened before the Law was codified on Mount Sinai. In other words, faith, and all the promises that come with it, came before the law. Again, his emphasis here is to address the elephant in the room. If you were the one people group who the one true God specifically called His own, and that people group, over time, became identified as the conduits through which God's holy commands were delivered to mankind, then it is easy to see why that throughout the 1500 years since Moses received the Law on Mount Sinai, they might have become convinced that God's promise is related to the law. Paul expends so much energy to correct this wrong assertion. He accentuates the obvious; the law had not yet been given when God's call went out to Abraham 430 years before the Exodus.

So, you see, if those who became identified as the guardians of the law were the true heirs of Abraham, then right standing before God would not be faith-based, but law-based. And that is simply not true because that point of view would practically make faith irrelevant when it comes to God's promise. And when you step back and take a birds-eye view, it's very logical; God's promise

came first through faith, 430 years before the law was ever codified! Of course the law remains significant, just not for the reasons you might think. It was codified so man would have no excuse when they choose to disobey. It formally defines sin, so that God's condemnation of sinners would not be deemed inequitable. If there is nothing to define sin, then one might assume nothing we do will offend God.

It's important to remember a bit of Paul's journey that brought him to this understanding. He was a Pharisee of Pharisees and he was the chief persecutor of the followers of Y'shua. Then, with a divine download, he realized that it was always about grace through faith that God would fulfill His promise. It had to be that way or the only people who could ever be saved would be those of the circumcision and all those Gentiles can just go to "H" "E" "Double hockey sticks." His eye opening realization is that the promise to Abraham extends to the world through faith (just like it did to Abraham), not through the law which was not even available to Abraham!

He told Abraham that he would be the father of many nations and that the entire promise is based on his faith. It's a faith that believes life can come from the dead. For Abraham that was a very practical matter because he had no children of his own; Sarah had been barren and he and his wife were now very old. He had to

believe in something that was impossible to see. He had to put his faith into practice by stepping out against all odds. Abraham literally believed his descendants, beginning with one who would come from his union with Sarah, would be as numerous as the stars in the heavens.

How did Abraham pull off such an impossible assignment? Even though he was nearly a hundred years old, and for all practical purposes Sarah's womb was dead, his faith never wavered. Instead, he was completely convinced that what God promised would come to pass. In fact, the more ridiculous the reality of the situation, the more Abraham was strengthened in his resolve. God is always capable of making good on His word. Abraham's attitude, and one we all ought to adopt, was this: If God says it, I believe it; it's that simple.

And this is where the whole thing congeals into the most beautiful prophetic picture, but only for those who believe in Y'shua's death, burial and resurrection. The entire history of Abraham, Sarah, and Isaac, the son of promise, and their miraculous journey of righteousness through faith, was pointing toward Christ all along. Just line up the imagery and then sit back in awe and wonder. Imputed faith-based righteousness was not exclusive to Abraham, but is available to all those who would believe after him. But in what must they believe? They must believe

in the resurrection of the dead. Y'shua, our Lord, God's only begotten Son was sacrificed for our sins and placed in a tomb reserved for the dead. He emerged from that tomb alive so we, like Abraham, could be justified by faith in the resurrection of the dead. Isaac, Abraham's only begotten son was also birthed from the dead, but he from the deadness of Sarah's womb. And even though it was through Isaac that this promise to Abraham and his descendants would seemingly be fulfilled, he too was willing to sacrifice his only begotten son!

**This week in Romans 5:1-11...** we move our focus away from Abraham, Sarah, and Isaac, a narrative that ended with Paul aligning the imagery of their testimonies with what it truly means for Christians—righteousness imputed to those who believe in Him who raised Y'shua from the dead. You should notice that the destination of our belief is not Y'shua, but His Father and what His Father did through Y'shua, specifically the resurrection! And His Father is exactly to whom Y'shua pointed throughout His ministry; "Teach us to pray," they asked. And He said, "When you pray, say: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name." Why was Y'shua's focus always on His Father and not on Himself? He taught us this, "He who speaks from himself seeks his own glory; but He who seeks the glory of the One who sent Him is true, and no unrighteousness is in Him. He who believes in Me, believes not in

Me but in Him who sent Me. For I have not spoken on My own authority; but the Father who sent Me gave Me a command, what I should say and what I should speak. Therefore, whatever I speak, just as the Father has told Me, so I speak."

Paul, then bridges the gap for us! Now that the path to justification is firmly established, belief as an act of faith, Paul says, "Therefore!" Grace gave us faith; faith fueled belief, but faith also grants us continual access to that grace—God's divine power. For what reason? It should be patently obvious by now. God's grace is necessary if you want to live a life that is pleasing to Him.

And then through these few verses Paul takes us on a little exploration. You may not instantly recognize what he is revealing, as it hovers just below the surface of deep waters, but when it is pointed out it will suddenly appear in full relief. Elsewhere he made it abundantly clear; "Abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love." So, Paul just went to extraordinary lengths to seal our understanding of faith, and now he begins to unpack the progression from there forward. You might be wondering why; and here we see that the destination is love—always love. It is His divine nature and that is your destiny!

You see, grace fueled faith; and faith grants continuous access to grace, and NOT ONLY THAT. This is leading somewhere. And the journey to our final destination takes a path through the wilderness.

It will be a time of testing through which we must endure. If you have chosen the correct path, simply trust in the Lord and stay the course. But, also be humble enough to check yourself. Trials are often a test from God, yet at times they result from your own poor choices. Nevertheless, the proper outcome necessitates a reshaping of your character, the chiseling away of all the flaws in your block of raw marble—all that which God desires to remove from your misshapen form. It is in that outcome in which we have great promise. Earlier Paul stated about Abraham, "who, contrary to hope, in hope believed." What then is next as we progress from faith?

The next step should be apparent by now, or should I say transparent? Hope will never betray you because the end of the line is your participation in the divine nature—love. Do you see clearly below the surface now? Faith, hope, love! And if the water still remains a bit murky, just step aside for a moment, leave behind the spirit of man—the thoughts of man. You now have access to the Holy Spirit—the mind of God. And this is what He thinks; even when you did not deserve it or want it, and before you could ever conceive you needed it, Christ gave up His life for you! Just marinate in that thought for an instant. Maybe you think there is a good man out there somewhere, who would possibly surrender his life for you, if you were a good person. But then the already

infinitesimally small chance of such evaporates, once he discovers you have no goodness in you at all. You are a dead man walking with a blackened heart. However, God's love ignores all of that and at your lowest state of depravity He demonstrates true love. Christ surrendered His life for yours! There is no greater exhibition of love than a willingness to die for another. Remember that; it's your destination as well! There it is, "Abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love."

"Love is the standard by which every thought and action is measured. It is manifested altogether and simultaneously as patience, kindness, admiration, trust, modesty, humility, and meekness. It is gracious, polite, altruistic, peaceful, soothing, virtuous, joyful, righteous, and truthful. It displays fierce loyalty; believes, hopes, and endures all things; and always succeeds and thrives, no matter what. It will never fail you!" And yet there is one more essential lesson here.

To emphasize from where we came, from yet another perspective, think of it like this. God is concerned for more than just your eternity. Yes, if your eternal fate is still in doubt, then that is THE PRIORITY. But do not make the mistake that so many do—believing that God is only concerned about your eternity. It's much more than that. It's a supernatural process for sure. You were literally an enemy of God and Y'shua gave up His life for you; and



God infused into your heart the need, desire, understanding and acceptance of that fact. But more than just your secured redemption, Y'shua lived a life that is meant to be an example for you! Your very existence on this side of eternity must now be modeled after His life. Yes, be exceedingly joyful that your eternity with God is guaranteed, and use that freedom to live a life, right now, that is utterly pleasing to the Lord.

*"Think in Bible." DJH*

## **INTRODUCTION TO TODAY'S MESSAGE:**

*This or that; this and that; this and not only that; this and not only that, but much more than that. Or maybe we will just say... also! That is the main thing here. By grace through faith and also by faith with grace. And not only by faith with grace, but ALSO through trials and endurance and character development and hope. And not only by faith with grace, and through trials and endurance and character development and hope, but ALSO God's love.*

*Not only are we justified by His blood, saved from permanent damnation, reconciled for an eternity, but ALSO, and much more than that, we have His life as a perfect example of how we ought to live on this side of eternity. And maybe the most beautiful thing of all is that we are supernaturally empowered to live the life He expects of us by faith with grace. What are you waiting for?*

## THESE THREE

### 1. Faith Hope Love

#### A. Looking back

(1) “Therefore, having been justified by faith...” Romans 5:1

(a) Righteousness is imputed to whom, who belief what?

1. “but also **for us**. It shall be **imputed to us who believe in Him who raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead**, who was **delivered up because of our offenses**, and was **raised because of our justification**.

“ Romans 4:24-25 NKJV

2. **To us** who **believe in the Father** who offered His Son for our sins and raised Him from the Grave to reconcile us to Himself.

a) In Chapter 5, the focus moves away from the narrative of Abraham, Sarah, and Isaac. Isaac was raised from a dead womb and aligned the imagery of three testimonies with what it means to be a Christian. (See [The Empty Womb](#))

b) Righteousness is imputed to all who believe in Yahweh, who raised Y’shua from the dead.

(2) Can you recognize how the destination of our belief is not Y’shua, but His Father and what His Father did through Him, specifically the resurrection?

(a) Believe in Him (who did the raising)...

1. "Therefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers: that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, **may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him**, the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of **His calling**, what are the riches of the glory of **His inheritance** in the saints, and what is the exceeding greatness of **His power toward us who believe**, according to the working of **His mighty power which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead** and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come. **And He put all things under His feet**, and **gave Him** to be head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all." Ephesians 1:15-23 NKJV

2. A revelation of who, of what?

- a) Who did the raising? Yahweh!
  - b) Knowledge of Him, His assignment, His succession plan, and His power!
- (3) Y'shua consistently pointed to His Father throughout His ministry.
  - (a) "Teach us to pray," they asked.
    - 1. "Now it came to pass, as He was praying in a certain place, when He ceased, that one of His disciples said to Him, **"Lord, teach us to pray,** as John also taught his disciples." So He said to them, **"When you pray, say: Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name.** Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as it is in heaven." Luke 11:1-2 NKJV
    - 2. And He said...
      - a) "When you pray, say: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name."
  - (b) Why was Y'shua's focus always on His Father and not on Himself?
    - 1. **"If I bear witness of Myself, My witness is not true.** There is another who bears witness of Me, and I know that the witness which He witnesses of Me is true. You have sent to John, and he has borne witness to the truth. Yet **I do not receive testimony from man,**

but I say these things that you may be saved. He was the burning and shining lamp, and you were willing for a time to rejoice in his light. But I have a greater witness than John's; for the works **which the Father has given Me to finish**—the very works that I do—bear witness of Me, **that the Father has sent Me. And the Father Himself, who sent Me, has testified of Me.** You have neither heard His voice at any time, nor seen His form. But you do not have His word abiding in you, because whom He sent, Him you do not believe. **You search the Scriptures**, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are **they which testify of Me.** But you are not willing to come to Me that you may have life. **“I do not receive honor from men.** But I know you, that you do not have the love of God in you. **I have come in My Father's name**, and you do not receive Me; if another comes in his own name, him you will receive. **How can you believe, who receive honor from one another, and do not seek the honor that comes from the only God?** Do not think that I shall accuse you to the Father; there is one who accuses you—Moses, in whom you trust. For if you believed Moses, you would believe Me; for

he wrote about Me. But if you do not believe his writings, how will you believe My words?" John 5:31-47 NKJV

2. Because...

- a) If He bore witness to Himself, His witness would be a lie (like saying something is true just because you say so)!
- b) He was not looking to be affirmed by man!
- c) Completing His Father's assignment was His priority because His Father sent Him.
- d) And He was content with allowing the Father who sent Him to be His witness!
- e) Go ahead, search the Scriptures and you will find God's testimony about Him everywhere.
- f) As such He needed no recognition from men.
- g) He came in His Father's authority!
- h) Besides, how can you believe men, who seek honor from one another, instead of the honor that comes from the only God?

(c) What about His doctrine?

- 1. "Jesus answered them and said, "**My doctrine is not Mine, but His who sent Me.** If anyone wills to do His will, he shall know **concerning the doctrine**, whether

it is from **God** or whether I speak on **My own authority. He who speaks from himself seeks his own glory; but He who seeks the glory of the One who sent Him is true, and no unrighteousness is in Him.**

Did not Moses give you the law, yet none of you keeps the law? Why do you seek to kill Me?" John 7:16-19 NKJV

2. He came with His Father's doctrine, not His own!
  - a) Check a man's theology and you will know who sent Him—anything other than God's word is a man speaking on his own authority.
  - b) He who speaks from a position of self-appointed authority is seeking self-glorification.
  - c) In contrast, he who seeks to glorify the One who sent Him is the true messenger and is the one in right standing with and approved by God.
- (d) Not on His own authority!
  1. "Then Jesus cried out and said, "**He who believes in Me, believes not in Me but in Him who sent Me.** And he who sees Me sees Him who sent Me. I have come as a light into the world, that whoever believes in Me should not abide in darkness. And if anyone hears My words and does not believe, I do not judge him; for I

did not come to judge the world but to save the world. He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him—the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day. **For I have not spoken on My own authority; but the Father who sent Me gave Me a command, what I should say and what I should speak.** And I know that His command is everlasting life. **Therefore, whatever I speak, just as the Father has told Me, so I speak.”** John 12:44-50 NKJV

2. Belief in Y’shua is belief in the one who sent Him!
  - a) Is this not EXACTLY what Paul was saying... *“It shall be imputed to us who believe in Him who raised Jesus from the dead.” Romans 4:24*
  - b) Y’shua never spoke on His own authority; but from the authority of the Father who sent Him and passed on His instructions.
  - c) Y’shua was told what to say and that is what He said!
  - d) How refreshing! Whatever He spoke, it was precisely what His Father told Him to say!
3. Speak on your own authority...



a) It does not go well for those he who speak on their own authority, nor those who presume to speak for the Lord when they actually don't, nor those who twist the Lord's law!

1) *"But the prophet **who presumes to speak a word in My name**, which I have not commanded him to speak, or **who speaks in the name of other gods**, that prophet **shall die.**"* Deuteronomy 18:20 NKJV

2) *"Thus says the Lord of hosts: "Do not listen to the words of the prophets who prophesy to you. They make you worthless; **They speak a vision of their own heart, Not from the mouth of the Lord.** They continually say to those who despise Me, 'The Lord has said, "**You shall have peace**"'; And to **everyone who walks according to the dictates of his own heart**, they say, '**No evil shall come upon you.**' "* Jeremiah 23:16-17 NKJV

3) *"**For the lips of a priest should keep knowledge, And people should seek the law from his mouth; For he is the messenger of the Lord** of hosts. But you have **departed from the***

*way; You have **caused many to stumble** at the law. You have **corrupted the covenant** of Levi,” Says the Lord of hosts. “Therefore I also have **made you contemptible and base Before all the people**, Because you have not kept My ways But have shown partiality in the law.”“ Malachi 2:7-9 NKJV*

## **B. ONE: Faith Hope Love**

- (1) Faith gives us access to His power, the same power Yahweh used to raise Y’shua from the grave.
  - (a) By **Grace** through **Faith** to access **Grace**
    1. “Therefore, **having been justified by faith**, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, **through whom also** we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.” Romans 5:1-2 NKJV
    2. Paul bridges the gap for us!
      - a) The path to justification has been firmly established; belief as an act of faith.
      - b) Now Paul says, “Therefore!” Grace—God’s divine power—gave us faith; faith fueled belief, and faith also grants us continual access to that grace.

- c) For what reason? God's grace is necessary if you want to live a life that is pleasing to Him.
- d) Paul just went to extraordinary lengths to seal our understanding of faith, and now he begins to unpack the progression from there forward.
- e) The ultimate destination is love. It is God's divine nature and that is your destiny!
- f) The progression is best summed up elsewhere...
  - 1) *"And now abide **faith, hope, love**, these three; but the **greatest of these is love**."* I Corinthians 13:13 NKJV

(2) Faith (two flavors)

(a) The Faith that is FREE!

- 1. "For **by grace you have been saved through faith**, and that not of yourselves; **it is the gift of God**, not of works, lest anyone should boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for **good works**, which God prepared beforehand **that we should walk in them**." Ephesians 2:8-10 NKJV

2. By Grace through Faith...

- a) God's gift of grace infuses the gift of faith for free; then it's time to get to work!
- b) Through grace, each is dealt a measure of faith.

1) *"For I say, **through the grace given to me**, to everyone who is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as **God has dealt to each one a measure of faith**."* Romans 12:3 NKJV

(b) Free Faith, which you when you then PRACTICE, grants you ongoing ACCESS to Grace (divine power).

1. "Simon Peter, a bondservant and apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who have obtained like **precious faith** with us **by the righteousness of our God** and Savior Jesus Christ: **Grace** and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, as His **\*divine power** has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, **that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature**, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. But also for this very reason, **giving all diligence, add to your faith** virtue, to virtue knowledge, to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness,

to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness **love**.” II Peter 1:1-7 NKJV

2. Again we see saving faith comes through God...

- a) Then grace is “multiplied”...
- b) Then with all “diligence”...
- c) We add to Faith (practice) by accessing Grace (His divine power).
- d) And we keep adding until we reach love (the Divine nature). God is love!

1) *“Beloved, **let us love one another, for love is of God;** and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. He who does not love does not know God, for **God is love.**”* I John 4:7-8 NKJV

(3) Grace and Power...

(a) Watch again how faith gives us access to His power.

1. “Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until **you are endued with power** *\*[divine power]* **from on high.**”” Luke

24:49 NKJV

2. “But **you shall receive power** *\*[divine power]* **when the Holy Spirit has come upon you;** and you shall be

witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”“ Acts 1:8 NKJV

3. **“When the Day of Pentecost had fully come**, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. **And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit** *\*[divine power]* and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.” Acts 2:1-4 NKJV

4. “and what is **the exceeding greatness of His power** *\*[divine power]* **toward us who believe**, according to the working of **His mighty power** *\*[divine power]* **which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead** and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places,” Ephesians 1:19-20 NKJV

5. The Promise of Power

- a) Y’shua pointed toward the day of Pentecost after His crucifixion.
- b) When the day of Pentecost came they were filled with the Holy Spirit *\*[divine power]*.

- c) Later Paul described that power as the same power  
\*[divine power] that the Father used to raise the  
son from the dead which is available to all those  
who believe.

### C. TWO: Faith Hope Love

- (1) Even when our journey includes struggles, we have His  
power to endure, and not only endure but thrive.
  - (a) Grace fueled faith; and faith grants continuous access to  
grace, and NOT ONLY THAT. This is leading  
somewhere.
    - 1. "And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations,  
knowing that **tribulation produces perseverance; and  
perseverance, character; and character, hope.**  
" Romans 5:3-4 NKJV
    - 2. The journey to our final destination takes a path  
through the wilderness.
      - a) It will be a time of testing through which we must  
endure.
      - b) If you have chosen the correct path, simply trust in  
the Lord and stay the course.
      - c) But, also be humble enough to check yourself.  
Trials are often a test from God, yet at times they  
result from your own poor choices.

- d) Nevertheless, the proper outcome necessitates a reshaping of your character, the chiseling away of all the flaws in your block of raw marble—all that which God desires to remove from your misshapen form.
- e) It is in that outcome in which we have great promise—HOPE.
- f) Earlier Paul stated about Abraham, "who, contrary to hope, in hope believed." What then is next as we progress from faith?
  - 1) *"(as it is written, "I have made you a father of many nations") in the presence of Him whom he believed—**God, who gives life to the dead and calls those things which do not exist as though they did; who, contrary to hope, in hope believed**, so that he became the father of many nations, according to what was spoken, "So shall your descendants be."*" Romans 4:17-18 NKJV

(2) In hope we also believe. (See [Belief is an Act of Faith](#))

(a) Through the trials, we are more than conquerors...

- 1. "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or



nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written: “For Your sake we are killed all day long; We are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.” {37} **Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.** For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, **shall be able to separate us from the love of God** which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.” Romans 8:35-39 NKJV

2. Tribulation, perseverance, character and also Hope:

- a) Once we have access to this power, all else is a journey.
- b) And even when that journey includes struggles, you have His power to endure, and not only endure but thrive, because of the hope that comes from this new revelation.
- c) Nothing can stop you from reaching the destination—*nothing shall be able to separate you from the love of God!*

(b) No matter how weak you feel, His grace is sufficient!

- 1. “And He said to me, **“My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.”**

Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ's sake. **For when I am weak, then I am strong.**" II Corinthians 12:9-10 NKJV

2. God's strength thrives in your weakness!
  - a) When you are weak, He is strong!
- (c) And you will never get more than you can handle!
  1. "Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall. **No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man;** but God is faithful, who **will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able,** but with the temptation **will also make the way of escape,** that you may be able to bear it." I Corinthians 10:12-13 NKJV
  2. Trials will never be more than you can handle.
    - a) Trials from the past are meant to be used as examples to warn us and to prove that God's provision always rises to meet our needs!
      - 1) *"Now these things became our examples, to the intent that we should not lust after evil things as they also lusted. {11} **Now all these things***

*happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages have come.” I Corinthians 10:6, 11 NKJV*

(3) The Way is in the wilderness!

(a) Tribulation, then...

1. “The voice of one crying **in the wilderness: “Prepare the way of the Lord;** Make straight in the desert A highway for our God.” Isaiah 40:3 NKJV

2. Perseverance, Character and Hope

a) The journey to the Lord always takes a path through tribulation. (After being stoned and thought dead in Acts 14:19–20, Paul...)

1) *“strengthening the souls of the disciples, exhorting them to continue in the faith, and saying, “**We must through many tribulations enter the kingdom of God.**”“ Acts 14:22 NKJV*

(4) Why are trials necessary?

(a) Be happy...

1. **“In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is**

tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ, whom having not seen you love. Though now you do not see Him, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, **receiving the end of your faith—the salvation of your souls.**” 1 Peter 1:6-9 NKJV

2. Trials test the genuineness of your faith!

a) And the outcome of your faith is an eternity with God!

(b) Trials test your faith and...

1. “My brethren, **count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience.** But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be **perfect and complete, lacking nothing.**” James 1:2-4 NKJV

2. Faith produces patience...

a) Patience finishes the job: perfect and complete, lacking nothing.

#### **D. THREE: Faith Hope Love**

(1) The next step should be apparent by now.

(a) The Love of God

1. “Now **hope does not disappoint, because the love of God** has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy

Spirit who was given to us. For when we were still without strength, in due time **Christ died for the ungodly**. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die. **But God demonstrates His own love toward us**, in that while we were still sinners, **Christ died for us.**" Romans 5:5-8 NKJV

2. Hope will never betray you because the end of the line is your participation in the divine nature—love.
  - a) If that destination seems too lofty, leave behind the spirit of man—the thoughts of man. You have access to the Holy Spirit—the mind of God.
    - 1) *"For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God."* I Corinthians 2:11-12 NKJV
    - 2) *"For 'who has known the mind of the Lord that he may instruct Him?' But we have the mind of Christ."* I Corinthians 2:16 NKJV

3. Let's walk verse-by-verse through Romans 5:6-8!

a) *"For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly."* (Romans 5:6)

Even when you did not deserve it or want it, and before you could ever conceive you needed it, Christ gave up His life for you! Just marinate in that thought for an instant.

b) *"For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die."* (Romans 5:7) Maybe you think there is a

good man out there somewhere, who would possibly surrender his life for you, if you were a good person.

c) *"But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."*

(Romans 5:8) The already infinitesimally small chance that someone would die for you evaporates once it is discovered that you have no goodness in you at all. You are a dead man walking with a blackened heart. However, God's love ignores all of that and at your lowest state of depravity, He demonstrates true love. Christ surrendered His life for yours! There is no greater exhibition of love

than a willingness to die for another. Remember that; it's your destination as well!

1) *"Greater love has no one than this, than to **lay down one's life for his friends.**"* John 15:13  
NKJV

2) *"By this we know love, **because He laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down our lives** for the brethren."* I John 3:16 NKJV

3) *"If someone says, 'I love God,' and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen? And this commandment we have from Him: that **he who loves God must love his brother also.**"* I John 4:20-21 NKJV

d) There it is, "Abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love."

(2) For your reading pleasure I Corinthians 13:1-12

(a) Love

1. "Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all

knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profits me nothing. **Love** *suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails.* But whether there are prophecies, they will fail; whether there are tongues, they will cease; whether there is knowledge, it will vanish away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part. But when that which is perfect has come, then that which is in part will be done away. When I was a child, I spoke as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child; but when I became a man, I put away childish things. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I shall know just as I also am known." I Corinthians 13:1-12 NKJV

## 2. Love is...



- a) “Love is the standard by which every thought and action is measured. It is manifested altogether and simultaneously as patience, kindness, admiration, trust, modesty, humility, and meekness. It is gracious, polite, altruistic, peaceful, soothing, virtuous, joyful, righteous, and truthful. It displays fierce loyalty; believes, hopes, and endures all things; and always succeeds and thrives, no matter what. It will never fail you!”
  - 1) “And now abide ***faith, hope, love***, these three; ***but the greatest of these is love.***” 1 Corinthians 13:13 NKJV
  - 2) And yet there is one more essential lesson here.

MUCH MORE

## 2. More Than Justification

### A. His death AND His life!

- (1) Paul then introduces a prophetic idea; he says that MUCH MORE than justification, there is something else!
  - (a) As a new creature, a child in the faith, you get to go on the journey toward maturity, adulthood in the faith. And what does that look like? It looks like the life of Y’shua.

1. **"Much more then, having now been **justified** by His blood, we shall be **saved** from wrath through Him. For if **when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled [through his death], we shall be saved by His life. And not only that, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, **through whom we have now received the reconciliation.**"****

Romans 5:9-11 NKJV

2. God is concerned for more than just your eternity.
  - a) If your eternal fate is still in doubt, then of course that is THE PRIORITY.
  - b) But, God is NOT only concerned about your eternity.
  - c) You were literally an enemy of God and Y'shua gave up His life for you; and God infused into your heart the need, desire, understanding and acceptance of that fact.
  - d) But more than just your secured redemption, Y'shua lived a life that is meant to be an example for you!
  - e) Your very existence on this side of eternity must now be modeled after His life.

- f) Be exceedingly joyful that your eternity with God is guaranteed, and use that freedom to live a life, right now, that is utterly pleasing to the Lord.

(2) Verse-by Verse Romans 5:9-11

(a) Reconciled AND also Saved (redemption and salvation)

- 1. "**Much more then, having now been justified** by His blood, we shall be **saved from wrath** through Him.

" Romans 5:9 NKJV

- 2. There is so much here:

- a) We are justified (made right) and reconciled (made whole, debt free) all by His blood/death and all for free, while we were still in darkness.
- b) But then Paul introduces a prophetic idea; he says that MUCH MORE than this, there is something more!

(b) Reconciled through His death! Saved by His life!

- 1. "For if when we were enemies we were **reconciled to God through the death** of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be **saved by His life.**" Romans 5:10 NKJV

- 2. His death paved the way for our reconciliation; His life paved the way for our example.

- a) Focus for a moment on His life, not His death.

- b) And think of your life, after your death and born-again moment.
- c) You were born-again as a new creature and as a child in the faith, you get to go on the journey toward maturity, adulthood in the faith. And what does that look like? It looks like the life of Y'shua.
- d) Yes, He rose to life from death, but think about the life he lived before His death. He lived a life of radical grace-empowered-faith-based obedience to His Father.
  - 1) *"Then Jesus answered and said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, **the Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner.**" John 5:19 NKJV*
- e) He did not come with His own doctrine and teaching, but to speak His Father's words.
  - 1) *"Jesus answered them and said, "**My doctrine is not Mine, but His who sent Me.**" John 7:16 NKJV*

## **B. What about you?**

- (1) What you are called to do?
  - (a) Walk like he walked.

1. "Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments. He who says, "I know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. By this we know that we are in Him. {6} **He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked.**" 1 John 2:3-6 NKJV
2. Live a life like His...
  - a) That is what it means to be "saved" by His life.
  - b) Saved: temporal well-being that constitutes the best life you could possibly experience on this side of eternity because your entire focus, while you yet live, is to be conformed into His image.
  - c) The safety-net: you are eternally secure.
  - d) The work to be done: walk like He walked.
- (b) Be an example
  1. "Imitate me, just **as I also imitate Christ.**" 1 Corinthians 11:1 NKJV
  2. "Brethren, **join in following my example**, and note those who so walk, **as you have us for a pattern.**" Philippians 3:17 NKJV

3. "For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, **leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps:**" 1 Peter 2:21 NKJV
4. "So when He had washed their feet, taken His garments, and sat down again, He said to them, **"Do you know what I have done to you?** You call Me Teacher and Lord, and you say well, for so I am. If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. **For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you.** Most assuredly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master; nor is he who is sent greater than he who sent him. If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them." John 13:12-17 NKJV
5. I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you.
  - a) **Lay down your life!** *"By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down our lives for the brethren."* 1 John 3:16 NKJV
  - b) **Get out of His way!** *"John answered and said, "A man can receive nothing **unless it has been given***

*to him* from heaven. {30} **He must increase, but I must decrease.**“ John 3:27, 30 NKJV

- c) **Allow Him to live through you!** “*I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.*” Galatians 2:20 NKJV

(c) Be Thoroughly Equipped

1. “All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, **that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.**“ II Timothy 3:16-17 NKJV

**C. How do you get thoroughly equipped?**

(1) Meditate on these verses...

- (a) Can you sense the magnitude of your calling now?
1. “And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, **for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry**, for the edifying of the body of Christ, **till we all come to the unity of the faith** and of the knowledge of the Son of God, **to a perfect man, to**

**the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;**  
that we should no longer be children, tossed to and  
fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by  
the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of  
deceitful plotting, but, speaking the truth in love, may  
**grow up in all things into Him who is the head—**  
**Christ—**“ Ephesians 4:11-15 NKJV

2. Take a few extra minutes to contemplate this. Do you get it?
  - a) The purpose of the church is to grow Christians from spiritual infancy to spiritual adulthood.
  - b) And what does spiritual adulthood look like? It looks like the perfect man; the stature of Christ!
  - c) And what is your work of ministry?

#### **D. Ministers of Reconciliation**

- (1) Not only do we have His life as an example...
  - (a) We have a job to do with our reconciliation!
    1. “And not only that, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through **whom we have now received the reconciliation.**” Romans 5:11 NKJV
    2. We are reconciled for eternity...
      - a) And we must access that now! To do what?



(b) He has given us the ministry of reconciliation.

1. "Now all things are of God, **who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation, that is**, that God was in Christ **reconciling the world to Himself**, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has **committed to us the word of reconciliation. Now then**, we are **ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us**: we implore you on Christ's behalf, **be reconciled to God**. For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, **that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.**" II Cor. 5:18-21

2. We have received reconciliation so we can pass on reconciliation... (\*Just like we received grace to pass on grace!) *"Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, **that it may impart grace to the hearers.**" Eph. 4:29*

a) God reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ

b) Then He gave us the ministry of reconciliation.

What is that?

1) Through Christ, God reconciled the world to Himself, which means He let Christ absorb the consequences for our sins.

- 2) Then He gave us the assignment to spread this message to the world by word and by example.
- 3) He appointed us as ambassadors for Christ, which means we are His legal representatives carrying His message and authority.
- 4) We are to appear to the world as if God were speaking directly through us. When we speak it is as if He is speaking. *"For I have not spoken on My own authority; but the Father who sent Me gave Me a command, **what I should say and what I should speak.** And I know that His command is everlasting life. **Therefore, whatever I speak, just as the Father has told Me, so I speak.**"* John 12:49-50 NKJV
- c) So, do you see how important it is to take your "reconciled" status seriously?
- d) Christ bore our sins so we would become His voice and His righteousness example in the earth.
- e) **From our Introduction:** *And maybe the most beautiful thing of all is that we are supernaturally empowered to live the life He expects of us by faith with grace. What are you waiting for?*

## Summary: THESE THREE

### 1. Faith Hope Love

#### A. Looking back

(1) “Therefore, having been justified by faith...” Romans 5:1

(a) Righteousness is imputed to whom, who believe what?

1. **To us** who **believe in the Father** who offered His Son for our sins and raised Him from the Grave to reconcile us to Himself.

a) In Chapter 5, the focus moves away from the narrative of Abraham, Sarah, and Isaac. Isaac was raised from a dead womb and aligned the imagery of three testimonies with what it means to be a Christian. (See [The Empty Womb](#))

b) Righteousness is imputed to all who believe in Yahweh, who raised Y’shua from the dead.

(2) Can you recognize how the destination of our belief is not Y’shua, but His Father and what His Father did through Him, specifically the resurrection?

(a) Believe in Him (who did the raising)...

1. A revelation of who, of what?

a) Who did the raising? Yahweh!

b) Knowledge of Him, His assignment, His succession plan, and His power!

(3) Y'shua consistently pointed to His Father throughout His ministry.

(a) "Teach us to pray," they asked.

1. And He said...

a) "When you pray, say: Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be Your name."

(b) Why was Y'shua's focus always on His Father and not on Himself?

1. Because...

a) If He bore witness to Himself, His witness would be a lie (like saying something is true just because you say so)!

b) He was not looking to be affirmed by man!

c) Completing His Father's assignment was His priority because His Father sent Him.

d) And He was content with allowing the Father who sent Him to be His witness!

e) Go ahead, search the Scriptures and you will find God's testimony about Him everywhere.

f) As such He needed no recognition from men.

g) He came in His Father's authority!

h) Besides, how can you believe men, who seek honor from one another, instead of the honor that comes from the only God?

(c) What about His doctrine?

1. He came with His Father's doctrine, not His own!
  - a) Check a man's theology and you will know who sent Him—anything other than God's word is a man speaking on his own authority.
  - b) He who speaks from a position of self-appointed authority is seeking self-glorification.
  - c) In contrast, he who seeks to glorify the One who sent Him is the true messenger and is the one in right standing with and approved by God.

(d) Not on His own authority!

1. Belief in Y'shua is belief in the one who sent Him!
  - a) Is this not EXACTLY what Paul was saying... *"It shall be imputed to us who believe in Him who raised Jesus from the dead."* Romans 4:24
  - b) Y'shua never spoke on His own authority; but from the authority of the Father who sent Him and passed on His instructions.
  - c) Y'shua was told what to say and that is what He said!

- d) How refreshing! Whatever He spoke, it was precisely what His Father told Him to say!
- 2. Speak on your own authority...
  - a) It does not go well for those he who speak on their own authority, nor those who presume to speak for the Lord when they actually don't, nor those who twist the Lord's law!

**B. ONE: Faith Hope Love**

- (1) Faith gives us access to His power, the same power Yahweh used to raise Y'shua from the grave.
  - (a) By **Grace** through **Faith** to access **Grace**
    - 1. Paul bridges the gap for us!
      - a) The path to justification has been firmly established; belief as an act of faith.
      - b) Now Paul says, "Therefore!" Grace—God's divine power—gave us faith; faith fueled belief, and faith also grants us continual access to that grace.
      - c) For what reason? God's grace is necessary if you want to live a life that is pleasing to Him.
      - d) Paul just went to extraordinary lengths to seal our understanding of faith, and now he begins to unpack the progression from there forward.

- e) The ultimate destination is love. It is God's divine nature and that is your destiny!
- f) The progression is best summed up elsewhere...
  - 1) *"And now abide **faith, hope, love**, these three; but the **greatest of these is love**." I Corinthians 13:13 NKJV*

(2) Faith (two flavors)

(a) The Faith that is FREE!

1. By Grace through Faith...

- a) God's gift of grace infuses the gift of faith for free; then it's time to get to work!
- b) Through grace, each is dealt a measure of faith.

(b) Free Faith, which you when you then PRACTICE, grants you ongoing ACCESS to Grace (divine power).

1. Again we see saving faith comes through God...

- a) Then grace is "multiplied"...
- b) Then with all "diligence"...
- c) We add to Faith (practice) by accessing Grace (His divine power).
- d) And we keep adding until we reach love (the Divine nature). God is love!

(3) Grace and Power...

- (a) Watch again how faith gives us access to His power.

## 1. The Promise of Power

- a) Y'shua pointed toward the day of Pentecost after His crucifixion.
- b) When the day of Pentecost came they were filled with the Holy Spirit *\*[divine power]*.
- c) Later Paul described that power as the same power *\*[divine power]* that the Father used to raise the son from the dead which is available to all those who believe.

## C. TWO: Faith Hope Love

- (1) Even when our journey includes struggles, we have His power to endure, and not only endure but thrive.
  - (a) Grace fueled faith; and faith grants continuous access to grace, and NOT ONLY THAT. This is leading somewhere.
- 1. The journey to our final destination takes a path through the wilderness.
  - a) It will be a time of testing through which we must endure.
  - b) If you have chosen the correct path, simply trust in the Lord and stay the course.



- c) But, also be humble enough to check yourself.  
Trials are often a test from God, yet at times they result from your own poor choices.
- d) Nevertheless, the proper outcome necessitates a reshaping of your character, the chiseling away of all the flaws in your block of raw marble—all that which God desires to remove from your misshapen form.
- e) It is in that outcome in which we have great promise—HOPE.
- f) Earlier Paul stated about Abraham, "who, contrary to hope, in hope believed." What then is next as we progress from faith?

(2) In hope we also believe. (See [Belief is an Act of Faith](#))

(a) Through the trials, we are more than conquerors...

1. Tribulation, perseverance, character and also Hope:

- a) Once we have access to this power, all else is a journey.
- b) And even when that journey includes struggles, you have His power to endure, and not only endure but thrive, because of the hope that comes from this new revelation.

- c) Nothing can stop you from reaching the destination—*nothing shall be able to separate you from the love of God!*
- (b) No matter how weak you feel, His grace is sufficient!
  - 1. God's strength thrives in your weakness!
    - a) When you are weak, He is strong!
- (c) And you will never get more than you can handle!
  - 1. Trials will never be more than you can handle.
    - a) Trials from the past are meant to be used as examples to warn us and to prove that God's provision always rises to meet our needs!
- (3) The Way is in the wilderness!
  - (a) Tribulation, then...
    - 1. Perseverance, Character and Hope
      - a) The journey to the Lord always takes a path through tribulation.
- (4) Why are trials necessary?
  - (a) Be happy...
    - 1. Trials test the genuineness of your faith!
      - a) And the outcome of your faith is an eternity with God!
  - (b) Trials test your faith and...
    - 1. Faith produces patience...

- a) Patience finishes the job: perfect and complete, lacking nothing.

**D. THREE: Faith Hope Love**

(1) The next step should be apparent by now.

(a) The Love of God

1. Hope will never betray you because the end of the line is your participation in the divine nature—love.

- a) If that destination seems too lofty, leave behind the spirit of man—the thoughts of man. You have access to the Holy Spirit—the mind of God.

2. Let's walk verse-by-verse through Romans 5:6-8!

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**Summary:** MUCH MORE

## **2. More Than Justification**

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- d) Yes, He rose to life from death, but think about the life he lived before His death. He lived a life of radical grace-empowered-faith-based obedience to His Father.
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- c) The safety-net: you are eternally secure.
- d) The work to be done: walk like He walked.

(b) Be an example

- 1. I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you.
  - a) Lay down your life!

- b) Get out of His way!
- c) Allow Him to live through you!

(c) Be Thoroughly Equipped

### **C. How do you get thoroughly equipped?**

(1) Meditate on these verses...

(a) Can you sense the magnitude of your calling now?

1. Take a few extra minutes to contemplate this. Do you get it?

a) The purpose of the church is to grow Christians from spiritual infancy to spiritual adulthood.

b) And what does spiritual adulthood look like? It looks like the perfect man; the stature of Christ!

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1. We have received reconciliation so we can pass on reconciliation... (\*Just like we received grace to pass on grace!)

a) God reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ



b) Then He gave us the ministry of reconciliation.

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e) **From our Introduction:** *And maybe the most beautiful thing of all is that we are supernaturally empowered to live the life He expects of us by faith with grace. What are you waiting for?*

## QUESTIONS & DISCUSSION

### **1. Romans 5:1 begins with “Therefore...” referring back to Romans 4:24-25.**

- A. In whom and what are you to believe?
- B. How do the following passages support your answer and demonstrate that Y’shua would also agree with you? (See: Ephesians 1:15-23; Luke 11:1-2; John 5:31-47; 7:16-19; 12:44-50)
- C. What is the fate of those who think otherwise? (See: Deuteronomy 18:20; Jeremiah 23:16-17; Malachi 2:7-9)

### **2. “And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love.” I Corinthians 13:13**

- A. How is this verse elaborated on in Romans 5:1-8?
- B. What is the final destination?

### **3. Refer to Romans 5:1-2...**

- A. Describe the two types of faith. (Use Ephesians 2:8-10; Romans 12:3; and II Peter 1:1-7 to help.)
- B. How does II Peter 1:1-7 confirm the same final destination as I Corinthians 13:13?
- C. What is the purpose of grace on the journey to our final destination? (Use Luke 24:49; Acts 1:8; Acts 2:1-4; Ephesians 1:19-20 to help.)

**4. Refer to Romans 5:3-4...**

- A. Why must the journey to our final destination take a path through the wilderness? (See: Isaiah 40:3; Acts 14:22; I Peter 1:6-9; James 1:2-4)
- B. What guarantees the arrival at our prescribed final destination? (See: Romans 8:35-39; II Corinthians 12:9-10; I Corinthians 10:6-13.)

**5. Refer to Romans 5:5-8...**

- A. What is it that ensures hope will never disappoint us?
- B. How can you use I Corinthians 2:11-16 to help create the proper mindset?

**6. Match each of the following statements with one verse:**

**Romans 5:6; 5:7, or 5:8...**

- A. Maybe you think there is a good man out there somewhere, who would possibly surrender his life for you, if you were a good person.
- B. The already infinitesimally small chance that someone would die for you evaporates once it is discovered that you have no goodness in you at all. However, God's love ignores all of that and at your lowest state of depravity, He demonstrates true love.

- C. Even when you did not deserve it or want it, and before you could ever conceive you needed it, Christ gave up His life for you!

**7. God is concerned for more than just your eternity.**

- A. What is that according to Romans 5:5-8?
- B. What does it mean to be reconciled to God through Y'shua's death and saved by His life? (See: I John 2:3-6; I Corinthians 11:1; Philippians 3:17; I Peter 2:21; John 13:12-17)

**8. Match the following statements with the corresponding passage. (See I John 3:16; John 3:27, 30; Galatians 2:20)**

- A. Get out of His way!
- B. Lay down your life!
- C. Allow Him to live through you!

**9. What does it mean to be thoroughly equipped?**

- A. How do you get there and what will it look like? (See: II Timothy 3:16-17 and Ephesians 4:11-15)

**10. Romans 5:11 admonishes you to receive your reconciliation now, and not to wait for eternity?**

- A. Why? And what are we to do with it according to II Corinthians 5:18-21? (Please write an essay elaborating on the details.)
- B. How does Jesus model this very ministry for us in John 12:49-50?