



MAIN SCRIPTURES

- Rom. 9:16, 8:28; 1 Tim. 6:6-7
- Phil. 4:11; John 3:27

SURRENDER MY RIGHTS

- Surrender Expectations
- Practice Inspiration

FOUNDATIONAL SCRIPTURES:

“Beloved, now we are children of God. **It is not yet revealed what we will be; but we know that when He is revealed, we will be like Him**, for we will see Him just as He is.” 1 John 3:2 WEBUS

“So then **it is not of him who wills, nor of him who runs, but of God** who has mercy.” Romans 9:16 WEBUS

“But **godliness with contentment is great gain**. For we brought nothing into the world, and we certainly can't carry anything out.”
1 Timothy 6:6-7 WEBUS

“Not that I speak because of lack, for **I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content in it.**” Philippians 4:11 WEBUS

“We know that **all things work together for good** for those who love God, for **those who are called according to his purpose.**”
Romans 8:28 WEBUS

“John answered, “**A man can receive nothing unless it has been given him from heaven.**” John 3:27 WEBUS

INTRODUCTION:

Cease resistance; abandon control of your life entirely, and come into complete submission to God. That's what it means to surrender. When Y'shua returns, some of you will be like Him. And for that transformation to occur, it requires that you surrender expectations and practice inspiration.

Pray this without ceasing: "Father, release me from the bondage to making assumptions about what You have planned or that things must happen to my satisfaction. Help me to be mindful about what I presume about You, myself, others, outcomes, or to what I feel entitled. Help me to be especially careful about what hopes I fabricate in my mind about others; I know they will only lead to sorrow and disappointment. I acknowledge that it is in the rare person in whom I might safely place any real confidence at all. Instead of being disappointed that things did not work out the way I planned, or that people seem to always fall short of what I hoped for in them, I will be encouraged that Your purpose must include something even better! Instead of allowing every setback or moment of dissatisfaction in You, myself, others, outcomes, or to what I feel entitled irritate me, I will let them motivate Me!"

Whoever won't surrender their expectations and instead practice being inspired by disappointment simply won't become like Him.

SURRENDER THAT I HAVE ANY RIGHTS AT ALL!

1. **Surrender My Rights: Surrender Expectations and Practice**

Inspiration

A. Surrender Expectations

(1) **Introduction:** Surrender that God and others must perform to your liking!

(a) **Surrender Expectations:** It is a form of bondage to make assumptions about what God has planned or that things must happen to your satisfaction. Be mindful about what you presume about God, yourself, others, outcomes, or to what you feel entitled. Be especially careful about what hopes you fabricate in your mind about others; high expectations will only lead to sorrow and disappointment. It is in the rare person in whom you might safely place any real confidence.

1. “So then **it is not of him who wills, nor of him who runs, but of God** who has mercy.” Romans 9:16
WEBUS

a) God’s Sovereignty: Nothing happens in the earth outside of God’s will, and for His purpose.

1) “*For being not yet born, neither having done anything good or bad, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of*

works, but of him who calls, Romans 9:11

WEBUS

- b) Who are you to question God? It not as if you are a robot simply doing God's bidding, however God does have foreknowledge of everything that will happen and He has coordinated it all for His purpose. And even as such, you are not permitted to question Him, nor have unmet expectations.
 - 1) *"You will say then to me, "Why does he still find fault? For who withstands his will?" But indeed, O man, who are you to reply against God? Will the thing formed ask him who formed it, "Why did you make me like this?"*" Romans 9:19-20

WEBUS

- (b) The Parable of "It's a bad idea to question God!"
 - 1. *"For the Kingdom of Heaven is like a man who was the master of a household, who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. When he had agreed with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard.* He went out about the third hour, and saw others standing idle in the marketplace. He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and whatever is right I will give you.'

they went their way. Again he went out about the sixth and the ninth hour, and did likewise. About the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing idle. He said to them, 'Why do you stand here all day idle?' "They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' "He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and you will receive whatever is right.' "When evening had come, the Lord of the vineyard said to his manager, **'Call the laborers and pay them their wages, beginning from the last to the first.'** "When those who were hired at about the eleventh hour came, they each received a denarius. When the first came, they supposed that they would receive more; and they likewise each received a denarius. When they received it, they murmured against the master of the household, saying, **'These last have spent one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat!'**

"But he answered one of them, **'Friend, I am doing you no wrong.'** Didn't you agree with me for a denarius? Take that which is yours, and go your way. It is my desire to give to this last just as much as to you." Matthew 20:1-14 WEBUS

- a) The Great Lesson: The master did exactly what he had planned with what belonged to him.
- b) In other words: "*Who are you to question God?*"
- c) **Cont.** *Parable of "It's a bad idea to question God!"*
 - 1) ***Isn't it lawful for me to do what I want to with what I own? Or is your eye evil, because I am good? So the last will be first, and the first last. For many are called, but few are chosen.***

Matthew 20:15-16 WEBUS

(2) Expectations of Yahweh...

- (a) They are often restricted by your limited understanding and thus your unmet hopes and dreams are actually God's providence in action.
 - 1. What He has for you is far greater than you could ever imagine (and ultimately far greater than what you want for yourself).
 - 2. What Yahweh has seemingly withheld from you, He apparently knows you don't need, or even more critical to recognize, would be harmful to you.
 - 3. Yes, God withholds many things you have desperately hoped for, things you are certain would be excellent, but are not!
 - 4. The truth: He withholds nothing good from you!

a) “*For Yahweh God is a sun and a shield. Yahweh will give grace and glory. **He withholds no good thing from those who walk blamelessly.***” Psalms 84:11 WEBUS

- 1) For clarification, however, there’s a nuance; you might be deceptively convinced that whatever you want, desire, or hope for, is always good!

(b) How can you know what is good? How can you discover what God wants for you? **Ask Him!** There are, however, critical conditions attached to your asking...

1. “**Ask**, and it will be given you. **Seek**, and you will find. **Knock**, and it will be opened for you.” Matthew 7:7 WEBUS

a) Ask for anything—in agreement with one another...

- 1) “*Again, assuredly I tell you, that **if two of you will agree on earth concerning anything that they will ask, it will be done for them by my Father who is in heaven.***” Matthew 18:19 WEBUS

b) Ask for anything—in prayer believing...

- 1) “*Therefore I tell you, all things **whatever you pray and ask for, believe** that you have received*

them, and you shall have them.” Mark 11:24

WEBUS

- c) Ask for anything—in His name...
 - 1) *“Whatever you will ask in my name, I will do it, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you will ask anything in my name, I will do it.”*
John 14:13-14 WEBUS
- d) Ask for anything—but abide in Him and His word...
 - 1) *“If you remain in me, and my words remain in you, you will ask whatever you desire, and it will be done for you.”* John 15:7 WEBUS
- e) Ask for anything—according to His will...
 - 1) *“This is the boldness which we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will, he listens to us. And if we know that he listens to us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions which we have asked of him.”*
1 John 5:14-15 WEBUS
- f) Ask for anything—at the right time...
 - 1) *“In that day you will ask me no questions. Most certainly I tell you, whatever you may ask of the Father in my name, he will give it to you.”*

*Until now, you have asked nothing in my name.
Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be
made full.” John 16:23-24 WEBUS*

- g) Ask for anything—with godly motives...
 - 1) “*You ask, and don’t receive, because you ask with wrong motives, so that you may spend it on your pleasures.*” James 4:3 WEBUS
- (c) If you are asking, seeking, knocking, and God is not answering, you are **asking for the wrong things, seeking in the wrong place, knocking on the wrong door, or... expecting an answer that is not God’s will, at the wrong time, or you have the wrong motives, (or He has already answered and you just don’t like it!)**
 - 1. ““For my thoughts are not your thoughts, and your ways are not my ways,” says Yahweh. **For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.**” Isaiah 55:8-9 WEBUS
 - a) You may feel disappointed that God has withheld something from you that you expect, until you recognize and acknowledge that God’s plans for you are better than your plans for you.

1) “*For I know the thoughts that I think toward you,*” says Yahweh, “*thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you hope and a future.*” Jeremiah 29:11 WEBUS

(3) Expectations of Self...

(a) This is the most interesting of expectations. What can and should you expect of yourself and why?

1. “**being confident of this very thing**, that **he who began a good work in you will complete it** until the day of Jesus Christ.” Philippians 1:6 WEBUS

a) What is legitimate and what is unrealistic?

b) You should expect a lot of yourself, but these expectations must be kept in context:

1) Who are you now? What you can expect of yourself has nothing to do with who you were before you had an intimate encounter and subsequently an ongoing relationship with the Father through the Son.

2) Anything you might have taken credit for in the past: any gift, talent, ability, strength, trait, or accomplishment, must now be authentically credited to who He is in you!

(b) The award goes to...?

1. “the mystery which has been hidden for ages and generations. But now it has been revealed to his saints, to whom God was pleased to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles, which is **Christ in you, the hope of glory.** We proclaim him, admonishing every man and teaching every man in all wisdom, **that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus;** for which I also labor, striving according to his working, which works in me mightily.” Colossians 1:26-29 WEBUS
 - a) “Christ in you, the hope of glory.”
2. “I have been crucified with Christ, and **it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me.** That life which I now live in the flesh, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself up for me.” Galatians 2:20 WEBUS
 - a) “It is no longer you who live, but Christ lives in you.”
3. “For we are his workmanship, **created in Christ Jesus for good works,** which God prepared before that we would walk in them.” Ephesians 2:10 WEBUS
 - a) “You are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works.”

(c) It's not the old you; it's the new you... Your new identity is (in and through whom God sees you; not in what you attain or accomplish and how you perform)...

1. "Therefore if anyone is in Christ, **he is a new creation.** The old things have passed away. Behold, all things have become new." 2 Corinthians 5:17 WEBUS
 - a) "You are a new creation."
2. "Don't lie to one another, seeing that **you have put off the old man with his doings, and have put on the new man, who is being renewed in knowledge after the image of his Creator**, where there can't be Greek and Jew, circumcision and uncircumcision, barbarian, Scythian, bondservant, or free person; **but Christ is all, and in all.**" Colossians 3:9-11 WEBUS
 - a) You have been renewed by intimately connecting with the image of your Creator because Christ is in you!
3. "But you didn't learn Christ that way, if indeed you heard him and were taught in him, even as truth is in Jesus: that you **put away, as concerning your former way of life, the old man** that grows corrupt after the lusts of deceit, and that you be renewed in the spirit

of your mind, and **put on the new man, who in the likeness of God** has been created in righteousness and holiness of truth." Ephesians 4:20-24 WEBUS

- a) You have put away the old nature and put on the new nature, who is the likeness of God. How?

4. "knowing this, **that our old man was crucified** with him, that the body of sin might be done away with, so that we would no longer be in bondage to sin."

Romans 6:6 WEBUS

- a) The old nature was crucified with Christ!

(d) A new Spirit to live by...

1. "May it never be! We who died to sin, how could we live in it any longer? Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were buried therefore with him through baptism into death, **that just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we also might walk in newness of life.**" Romans 6:2-4 WEBUS

- a) The new nature was resurrected with Christ.

(4) Expectations of Others...

(a) Placing your hopes in human frailty is a catastrophic strategic error.

1. You cannot remedy disappointments in life by placing your confidence in what another person can do for you.
2. That will only lead to exponential dissatisfaction.

(b) Cursed is the man; Blessed is the man...

1. "Yahweh says: **"Cursed is the man who trusts in man, relies on strength of flesh,** and whose heart departs from Yahweh. For **he will be like a bush in the desert,** and **will not see when good comes,** but **will inhabit the parched places in the wilderness,** an uninhabited salt land. **"Blessed is the man who trusts in Yahweh, and whose confidence is in Yahweh.** For he **will be as a tree planted by the waters,** who spreads out its roots by the river, and **will not fear when heat comes, but its leaf will be green,** and **will not be concerned** in the year of drought. It won't cease from yielding fruit."Jeremiah 17:5-8 WEBUS

- a) Nothing good will ever come from placing your trust and confidence in another person.
- b) "*Blessed is the man who trusts in Yahweh, and whose confidence is in Yahweh.*"

(c) Chasing Swine...

1. “Don’t give that which is holy to the dogs, **neither throw your pearls before the pigs**, lest perhaps they trample them under their feet, and turn and tear you to pieces.” Matthew 7:6 WEBUS
 - a) Casting your pearls before swine infers that you are wasting your wisdom and advice on someone who has zero interest in what you have to say.
 - b) The cost is only accentuated when you put yourself in a position that makes you dependent on that someone responding to that advice.
 - (d) No matter how you try to dress up a pig, you should only have only one expectation—it’s still a pig.
1. “**Like a gold ring in a pig’s snout**, is a beautiful woman who lacks discretion. The desire of the righteous is only good. **The expectation of the wicked is wrath.**” Proverbs 11:22-23 WEBUS
 - a) And, no amount of mental gymnastics will change a **pig-headed liability** into a **level-headed asset**.
 - 1) “*The fear of Yahweh is the beginning of knowledge, but the foolish despise wisdom and instruction.*” Proverbs 1:7 WEBUS
 - (e) And speaking of fools: one who expects a fool to act wisely is a fool himself...

1. “**Don’t answer a fool according to his folly, lest you also be like him.** Answer a fool according to his folly, lest he be wise in his own eyes. **One who sends a message by the hand of a fool is cutting off feet and drinking violence.** Like the legs of the lame that hang loose, **so is a parable in the mouth of fools.** As one who binds a stone in a sling, **so is he who gives honor to a fool.** Like a thorn bush that goes into the hand of a drunkard, **so is a parable in the mouth of fools.**” Proverbs 26:4-9 WEBUS

- a) Depend on a fool for anything and you should certainly have these expectations...
 - 1) You will become like one.
 - 2) Your words will be fruitless.
 - 3) Your life will have conflict.
 - 4) Your efforts will be ineffective.
 - 5) Your disappointment will be painful.

(5) Expectations of Outcomes...

- (a) A need to feel fulfilled that is ultimately dependent on acquisitions, results, or accomplishments will never be satisfied.

1. It leads only to wanting, and wanting more—an appetite that can never be quenched and a hunger that can never be satiated.
 - a) *"All of man's labor is for nothing more than to fill his stomach – yet his appetite is never satisfied! So what advantage does a wise man have over a fool? And what advantage does a pauper gain by knowing how to survive? It is better to be content with what the eyes can see than for one's heart always to crave more. This continual longing is futile – like chasing the wind."* Ecclesiastes 6:7-9

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- (b) It's what pagans are after (*the continual longing for more*)... earthly treasures that never last!
 1. "Don't lay up **treasures for yourselves on the earth, where moth and rust consume, and where thieves break through and steal**; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consume, and where thieves don't break through and steal; for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." Matthew 6:19-21 WEBUS

- a) Once you commit to chasing the things of this world (the lusts of the flesh) to fill your needs, you

will be inviting a life of anxiety focussed on acquisitions, results, and accomplishments.

- 1) *"No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be devoted to one and despise the other.*

You can't serve both God and Mammon.

Therefore I tell you, don't be anxious for your life: what you will eat, or what you will drink; nor yet for your body, what you will wear. Isn't life more than food, and the body more than clothing? See the birds of the sky, that they don't sow, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns. Your heavenly Father feeds them. Aren't you of much more value than they? "Which of you by being anxious, can add one moment to his lifespan? Why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow. They don't toil, neither do they spin, yet I tell you that even Solomon in all his glory was not dressed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today exists and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, won't he much more clothe you, you of little faith?

*Therefore **don't be anxious, saying**, 'What will we eat?', 'What will we drink?' or, 'With what will we be clothed?' **For the Gentiles seek after all these things; for your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first God's Kingdom and his righteousness; and all these things will be given to you as well."***

Matthew 6:24-33 WEBUS

- b) No matter how much you gain, you will never feel it's enough; you will always be trying to produce more to fill the emptiness that comes from expecting outcomes to satisfy you. This lust of the flesh continuously seeks to build bigger barns.
 - 1) *"He spoke a parable to them, saying, "The ground of a certain rich man produced abundantly. He reasoned within himself, saying, 'What will I do, because I don't have room to store my crops?' He said, 'This is what I will do. I will pull down my barns, build bigger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. I will tell my soul, "Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years. Take your ease, eat, drink, and be merry.'" "But God said to him,*

'You foolish one, tonight your soul is required of you. The things which you have prepared—whose will they be?' So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God." He said to his disciples, "Therefore I tell you, don't be anxious for your life, what you will eat, nor yet for your body, what you will wear. Life is more than food, and the body is more than clothing." Luke 12:16-23 WEBUS

- (c) The lusts of the flesh always battles against the Spirit of God in you. The temptation for the things of the world becomes your greatest desire.
 - 1. "But I say, **walk by the Spirit, and you won't fulfill the lust of the flesh. For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh;** and these are contrary to one another, **that you may not do the things that you desire.**" Galatians 5:16-17 WEBUS
 - a) Riches predicated on acquiring things is an evil trap that leads only to sorrow...
 - 1) "But **those who are determined to be rich fall into a temptation, a snare, and many foolish and harmful lusts, such as drown men in ruin and destruction.** **For the love of money is a root**

of all kinds of evil. Some have been led astray from the faith in their greed, and have pierced themselves through with many sorrows.” ¹

Timothy 6:9-10 WEBUS

- b) The natural conclusion of the lusts of the flesh is death...
 - 1) *“Let no man say when he is tempted, “I am tempted by God,” for God can’t be tempted by evil, and he himself tempts no one. But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own lust and enticed. Then the lust, when it has conceived, bears sin. The sin, when it is full grown, produces death.”* James 1:13-15

WEBUS

- (d) The remedy for a life of false expectations is to find your true satisfaction and fulfillment in the things of the Lord.
 - 1. “According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I laid a foundation, and another builds on it. But let each man be careful how he builds on it. **For no one can lay any other foundation than that which has been laid, which is Jesus Christ.** But if anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, costly stones, **wood, hay, or straw,**

each man's work will be revealed. For the Day will declare it, because it is **revealed in fire**; and **the fire itself will test what sort of work each man's work is.**

If any man's work remains which he built on it, he will receive a reward. **If any man's work is burned, he will suffer loss**, but he himself will be saved, but as through fire." 1 Corinthians 3:10-15 WEBUS

- a) Every action you took, every inspiration and desire, every effort to attain anything will all be put to the test in the end.
- b) If what you built cannot withstand the fiery furnace of God, they will all simply disintegrate, and "*The things which you have prepared—whose will they be?*"
- c) Build your life, instead, on the the solid ground of hearing and obeying God's word. It's the only foundation that will stand
 - 1) *“Everyone therefore who hears these words of mine and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it didn’t fall, for it was founded on the rock. Everyone who*

hears these words of mine and doesn't do them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. The rain came down, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell—and its fall was great.”

Matthew 7:24-27 WEBUS

(6) Expectations of Entitlements...

- (a) The assumption that you are entitled to something..
 - 1. The belief that you have the **rights to**, the **privilege of**, or that you are **deserving because**, proves that you don't truly understand God's grace, nor His mercy.
 - 2. Without God's sovereignty (by grace) exerting pressure on your perverted will...
 - 3. And without God's compassion (by mercy) forgiving you over and over again...
 - 4. You are entitled to just one thing: eternal separation from God (AKA: death).
 - a) But by His kindness, mercy and grace you have been renewed to the hope of eternal life!
 - 1) *“But when the **kindness of God our Savior** and his love toward mankind appeared, not by works of righteousness which we did ourselves, but according to his mercy, he saved us through*

*the washing of **regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ** our Savior; that **being justified by his grace**, we might be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.” Titus 3:4-7 WEBUS*

- b) A disposition of feeling entitled leads one to believe he can do just about anything he wants and God owes him a blessing anyway! “I can do my own thing, my own way, and still I am blessed.”
 - 1) *“so that there may not be among you man or woman or family or tribe, whose heart turns away today from the Lord our God, **to go and serve the gods of these nations**, and that **there may not be among you a root bearing bitterness** or wormwood; and so it may not happen, when he hears the words of this curse, **that he blesses himself in his heart**, saying, ‘I shall have peace, even though I follow the dictates of my heart’—as though the drunkard could be included with the sober.”*

Deuteronomy 29:18-19 NKJV

(b) Let's spend a little time setting the record straight. We will review what you really deserved (were truly entitled to), and what you got instead! And let's be clear; no one is exempt from this reality. All fall short and deserve death!

1. **"for all have sinned, and fall short of the glory of God; being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God sent to be an atoning sacrifice through faith in his blood, for a demonstration of his righteousness through the passing over of prior sins, in God's forbearance;"**

Romans 3:23-25 WEBUS

a) You are entitled to... death, and His Spirit gave you life!

1) **"For if you live after the flesh, you must die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live."** Romans 8:13 WEBUS

b) You are entitled to... death, and the free gift in Christ is eternal life!

1) **"For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."**

Romans 6:23 WEBUS

- c) You are entitled to... death because of your sin, and you were made alive with Christ!
 - 1) *"even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—"* Ephesians 2:5
WEBUS
- d) You are entitled to... be forgotten as a sinner, and in His love Christ died for you!
 - 1) *"But God commends his own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."* Romans 5:8 WEBUS
- e) You are entitled to... carry the burdens and sickness of your own sin, and Christ bore the weight for you, so that you would be healed!
 - 1) *"He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live to righteousness. You were healed by his wounds."*
1 Peter 2:24 WEBUS
- f) You are entitled to... be seen as unrighteous, and the sinless One made you righteous!
 - 1) *"For him who knew no sin he made to be sin on our behalf, so that in him we might become the"*

righteousness of God.” 2 Corinthians 5:21

WEBUS

(7) And when the whole process is “Oh so painful...”

- (a) Remember your help comes from the Lord...
 - 1. “I will lift up my eyes to the hills. Where does my help come from? **My help comes from Yahweh, who made heaven and earth.”** Psalms 121:1-2 WEBUS
 - a) Remember when you are weak, that is when you are truly strong...
 - 1) *“Therefore I take pleasure in weaknesses, in injuries, in necessities, in persecutions, and in distresses, for Christ’s sake. For when I am weak, then am I strong.”* 2 Corinthians 12:10 WEBUS
 - b) Remember that there is “to no one else” or “to nowhere else” to go...
 - 1) *“At this, many of his disciples went back and walked no more with him. Jesus said therefore to the twelve, “You don’t also want to go away, do you?” Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom would we go? You have the words of eternal life.”* John 6:66-68 WEBUS

B. Practice Inspiration

(1) **Introduction:** Practice being motivated when what you hoped for from God, yourself, others, or the results you wanted don't materialize as expected. When all you felt entitled to never comes to fruition—be encouraged.

(a) **Practice Inspiration:** Instead of being disappointed that things did not work out the way you planned, or that people seem to always fall short of what you hoped for in them, be encouraged...

1. God's purpose must include something even better!
 - a) Instead of allowing every setback or moment of dissatisfaction in God, yourself, others, outcomes, or to what you feel entitled irritate you, let them motivate you!
- (b) If you love God; you can be inspired that regardless of what it looks like today, it will all work out just as God has planned.
 1. "We know that **all things work together for good** for those who love God, for **those who are called according to his purpose.**" Romans 8:28 WEBUS

(2) (About Yahweh) Be inspired that...

(a) Yahweh always knows better than you...

1. And God always has greater plans for you than you do for you!

(b) **REVIEW** He withholds nothing good from you!

1. “**...He withholds no good thing from those who walk blamelessly.**” Psalms 84:11 WEBUS

a) Ask for anything...

1) *“Ask, and it will be given you. Seek, and you will find. Knock, and it will be opened for you.”*

Matthew 7:7 WEBUS

b) HOWEVER—there are critical conditions attached to your asking...

1) Ask in agreement with one another...

2) Ask in prayer believing...

3) Ask in His name...

4) Ask and abide in Him and His word...

5) Ask according to His will...

6) Ask at the right time...

7) Ask with godly motives...

c) And, remember what God thinks about you...

1) His plans for you are greater than your own; He has a great future planned for you.

(c) You will always have everything you need...

1. “Grace to you and peace be multiplied in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, seeing that **his divine power has granted to us all things that**

pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and virtue," 2 Peter 1:2-3 WEBUS

- a) How? If you need it, God will supply it...
 - 1) *"My God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus."*

Philippians 4:19 WEBUS

- (d) And what He has for you is more than you can imagine.

If you can conceive of it, it is greater still...

- 1. "Now to him who is able to do **exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think**, according to the power that works in us," Ephesians 3:20

WEBUS

- (e) You might be missing Him, however, and that is because you are looking in all the wrong places. He oftentimes appears in "**a still small voice...**"

- 1. "He said, "Go out and stand on the mountain before Yahweh." Behold, Yahweh passed by, and a great and strong wind tore the mountains and broke in pieces the rocks before Yahweh; but **Yahweh was not in the wind**. After the wind there was an earthquake; but **Yahweh was not in the earthquake**. After the earthquake a fire passed; **but Yahweh was not in the**

fire. After the fire, there was a still small voice.” 1

Kings 19:11-12 WEBUS

- (f) And remember... the story does not end with (Isaiah 55:8-9)... *“His thoughts are not your thoughts, and your ways are not His ways.”*
 - 1. Sure, His ways are higher than your ways, and His thoughts higher than your thoughts...
 - a) But, when you learn to put on the *mind of Christ* (*1 Cor. 2:16*) and you conquer everything in your life that exalts itself above intimacy with God by knowing His heart for you, and *bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ* (*2 Cor. 10:5*)
 - 1) The story continues with (Isaiah 55:10-13)...
- (g) When you learn to ask, seek, and knock in agreement with others, in prayer believing, in His name, abiding in Him, in His will, at the right time, and with godly motives... He always answers... *“...all things work together for good for those who love God, for those called according to his purpose.”* (Romans 8:28)
 - 1. “For as the rain comes down and the snow from the sky, and doesn’t return there, but waters the earth, and makes it grow and bud, and gives seed to the

sower and bread to the eater; **so is my word that goes out of my mouth: it will not return to me void, but it will accomplish that which I please, and it will prosper in the thing I sent it to do. For you shall go out with joy, and be led out with peace.** The mountains and the hills will break out before you into singing; and all the trees of the fields will clap their hands. Instead of the thorn the cypress tree will come up; and instead of the brier the myrtle tree will come up. **It will make a name for Yahweh**, for an everlasting sign that will not be cut off.”” Isaiah 55:10-13 WEBUS

- a) Sit with this for a moment... “The word that goes out of God’s mouth (***great promises**) will never return void; it will always accomplish what is pleasing to God (***all things...**), and it will prosper (*****withholds no good thing**) in the all things He has purposed for them.
 - 1) *“...*He has granted to us his precious and exceedingly great promises...*” 2 Peter 1:4
 - 2) **“...*his divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness...*” 2 Peter 1:3

3) ***“...Yahweh **withholds no good thing** from those who walk blamelessly.” Psalms 84:11

(3) (About Self) Be inspired to...

- (a) Instead of feeling disappointed in yourself—be godly...
 - 1. To do so, you must peel away all the layers of the world, with its lusts, that have any grip on you.
 - a) Your soul is aligned with God’s heart.
 - b) You walk in your new identity, not with your old man...
- (b) **REVIEW** and the credit goes to... Christ in you!
 - 1. “...**he who began a good work in you will complete it...**” Philippians 1:6
 - 2. “...**Christ is all, and in all.**” Colossians 3:11
 - 3. “...it is no longer I who live, but **Christ lives in me.** ...” Galatians 2:20
 - 4. “For we are his workmanship, **created in Christ Jesus for good works...**” Ephesians 2:10
 - 5. “...**Christ in you, the hope of glory.**” Colossians 1:27
 - 6. “...if anyone is in Christ, **he is a new creation...**” 2 Corinthians 5:17
 - 7. “**put on the new man, who in the likeness of God...**” Ephesians 4:24

8. "knowing this, **that our old man was crucified** with him..." Romans 6:6
9. "...**just as Christ was raised from the dead** through the glory of the Father, **so we also might walk in newness of life.**" Romans 6:4

(c) Your source of contentment is your godliness...

1. "But **godliness with contentment is great gain.** For we brought nothing into the world, and we certainly can't carry anything out." 1 Timothy 6:6-7 WEBUS
 - a) Godliness is attained in the pursuit of God.
 - b) Your desire to please God in all things is what makes you godly.
 - c) And because the pursuit of God is the secret to godliness, it is also the secret to your contentment.
 - d) If you can pursue God, which is always your choice, you can be content, which is always your choice.
 - e) In other words, you can always be content because you can always pursue God.
 - 1) "...**I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content in it.**" Philippians 4:11

(d) Peeling away lusts...

1. "But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own lust and enticed. Then the **lust, when it has conceived, bears sin.** The sin, when it is full grown, produces death." James 1:14-15 WEBUS

a) The lust of the flesh no longer has a hold on you!

1) Your life in the faith makes you a, "*partaker of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption in the world manifesting as lust.*" 2

Peter 1:4

(e) To fully grasp how to reconcile both your new identity and the temptations of your old nature, you must acknowledge and understand that you have two coexisting natures... "*the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another...*" Galatians 5:17

1. "For who among men 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 **God's Spirit.** But **we received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit which is from God**, that we might know the things that were freely given to us by God." 1 Corinthians 2:11-12 WEBUS

- a) You were born with the spirit of a man and you were born again with the Spirit of God.
- b) When you were born again you were not given another measure of the human spirit, instead you gained access to the Holy Spirit.
- c) But now you must make a decision: which one will you access at any given moment?
 - 1) *"There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, **who don't walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.**"* Romans 8:1 WEBUS
 - 2) **Note to Self:** as a non-believer, you never had a choice. You could only walk according to the flesh. And to be truly free now, you must also live as if you **have no choice**; to live according to the Holy Spirit should be your only self-imposed option.
- 2. "For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are children of God. **For you didn't receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption,** by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!"" Romans 8:14-15 WEBUS

- a) Again, good news! You did not receive another dose of the human spirit that animates the old nature and leads to bondage—you received the Holy Spirit that animates your new identity.
- b) And more good news! When the old nature rises up, you are not to identify with it as if it is you (it's not your new identity). You don't simply revert back to being the old person because you sinned!
 - 1) *"For we know that **the law is spiritual, but I am fleshly, sold under sin.** For I don't understand what I am doing. For I don't practice what I desire to do; but what I hate, that I do. But if what I don't desire, that I do, I consent to the law that it is good. So now **it is no more I that do it, but sin which dwells in me.**"* Romans 7:14-17 WEBUS

- (f) The New Identity Sandwich (walking according to the lust of the flesh or walking according to the Spirit)
 - 1. **The Top Slice:** *"There is therefore now **no condemnation** to those who are in Christ Jesus, who **don't walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.**"* Romans 8:1 WEBUS

2. **The Meat:** *“But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you won’t fulfill the lust of the flesh. For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, that you may not do the things that you desire.”* Galatians 5:16-17 WEBUS
3. **The Bottom Slice:** *“But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if it is so that the Spirit of God dwells in you. But if any man doesn’t have the Spirit of Christ, he is not his.”* Romans 8:9 WEBUS
 - a) This is your new identity (no credit it you!)...
 - 1) *“...Christ in you, the hope of glory. We proclaim him, admonishing every man and teaching every man in all wisdom, that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus;”*
Colossians 1:27-28 WEBUS

(4) (About Others) Be inspired that...

- (a) People are your ministry. They are not your source of satisfaction! You’ve been called to the ministry of reconciliation.
 1. “But all things are of God, who reconciled us to himself through Jesus Christ, and **gave to us the ministry of reconciliation**; namely, that God was in

Christ reconciling the world to himself, not reckoning to them their trespasses, and having committed to us the word of reconciliation. **We are therefore ambassadors on behalf of Christ**, as though God were entreating by us: we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For him who knew no sin he made to be sin on our behalf, **so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.**" 2

Corinthians 5:18-21 WEBUS

- a) You are an ambassador for Christ.
- b) You are to speak on His behalf.
- c) You are to represent His righteousness to others.

(b) **REVIEW** blessed is the man... cursed is the man... One who expects a fool to act wisely is a fool himself.

1. **“Cursed is the man who trusts in man**, relies on strength of flesh..." Jeremiah 17:5
2. **“Don’t give that which is holy to the dogs, neither throw your pearls before the pigs..."** Matthew 7:6
3. **“Don’t answer a fool according to his folly**, lest you also be like him." Proverbs 26:4
4. **“...the foolish despise wisdom and instruction.”**
Proverbs 1:7

5. “**The labor of fools wearies every one** of them...”

Ecclesiastes 10:15

(c) Your Hope is in God alone; in Him alone you can place your trust...

1. “Now, Lord, what do I wait for? **My hope is in you.**”

Psalms 39:7 WEBUS

2. “**Trust in Yahweh** with all your heart, and **don't lean on your own understanding.**” Proverbs 3:5 WEBUS

3. “When I am afraid, I will put **my trust in you.**” Psalms 56:3 WEBUS

(d) Your confidence should be in Yahweh alone...

1. “It is better to take **refuge in Yahweh**, than to put confidence in **man**. It is better to take **refuge in Yahweh**, than to put confidence in **princes.**” Psalms 118:8-9 WEBUS

2. “**For you are my hope, Lord Yahweh, my confidence** from my youth. **I have relied on you from the womb.** You are he who took me out of my mother's womb. I will always praise you.” Psalms 71:5-6 WEBUS

(e) It's better to give to others than to have any expectations of what they might give you...

1. “In all things **I gave you an example**, that so laboring you ought to **help** the weak, and to remember the

words of the Lord Jesus, that he himself said, '**It is more blessed to give than to receive.**'⁷⁷ Acts 20:35

WEBUS

- (f) And if people don't want to receive what you are offering—walk away and wipe the dust off your feet...
 - 1. "Into whatever city or village you enter, find out who in it is worthy, and stay there until you go on. As you enter into the household, greet it. If the household is worthy, let your peace come on it, but if it isn't worthy, let your peace return to you. **Whoever doesn't receive you or hear your words, as you go out of that house or that city, shake the dust off your feet.**" Matthew 10:11-14 WEBUS
 - a) One tempting source of dissatisfaction and disappointment is when what you offer to others (what you know is best for them) is not received or worse yet, utterly rejected.
 - b) At those times you are called to walk away; it's not your fault and there is nothing you should do about it—at the moment except...
 - c) Pray and release them to God.

(g) Every once in a while—you might get more than you expected from someone. And even then, what he has to give and his ability to do so, comes from the Lord.

1. “Moreover, brothers, we make known to you the grace of God which has been given in the assemblies of Macedonia, how in a severe ordeal of affliction, the abundance of their joy and their deep poverty abounded to the riches of their generosity. **For according to their power, I testify, yes and beyond their power, they gave of their own accord, begging us with much entreaty to receive this grace and the fellowship in the service to the saints. This was not as we had expected, but first they gave their own selves to the Lord, and to us through the will of God.**” 2 Corinthians 8:1-5 WEBUS

(5) (About Outcomes) Be inspired that...

(a) The journey is always more critical than the destination. (You are in control of how you experience the journey, and only God is in control of your ultimate destination.)

1. “Godliness with contentment is great gain.” (1 Timothy 6:6)

- a) A journey inspired by the desire to please God in every area of life is the only source of true contentment for a child of God.
- b) Fortunately, to do so is entirely your choice 100% of the time.
- c) In other words, you are the arbiter of your happiness and satisfaction.

(b) **REVIEW of Expectation of Outcomes**, so you can fully appreciate the contrast to what pagans are after—a hunger that is never satisfied...

1. “All the **labor of man is for his mouth**, and yet the appetite is not filled.” Ecclesiastes 6:7
2. ““Don’t lay up **treasures for yourselves on the earth**, where moth and rust consume, and where thieves break through and steal;” Matthew 6:19
3. ““No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be devoted to one and despise the other. **You can’t serve both God and Mammon.**” Matthew 6:24
4. ““Therefore don’t be anxious, saying, ‘What will we eat?’, ‘What will we drink?’ or, ‘With what will we be clothed?’ **For the Gentiles seek after all these things;**

for your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things." Matthew 6:31-32

5. "For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, that you may not do **the things that you desire.**" Galatians 5:17
6. "But each one is tempted when he is **drawn away by his own lust** and enticed." James 1:14
7. "He said, 'This is what I will do. **I will pull down my barns, build bigger ones**, and there I will store all my grain and my goods." Luke 12:18
8. "But **if anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay, or straw, each man's work will be revealed.** For the Day will declare it, because it is revealed in fire; and **the fire itself will test what sort of work** each man's work is." 1 Corinthians 3:12-13
9. "Everyone who **hears these words of mine and doesn't do them** will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand." Matthew 7:26

(c) Here is the true measure of success. It's an upside down Kingdom. God's standard for excellent outcomes is the opposite of how the world measures outcomes.

1. “**Blessed are the poor in spirit**, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven. **Blessed are those who mourn**, for they shall be comforted. **Blessed are the gentle**, for they shall inherit the earth. **Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness**, for they shall be filled. **Blessed are the merciful**, for they shall obtain mercy. **Blessed are the pure in heart**, for they shall see God. **Blessed are the peacemakers**, for they shall be called children of God. Blessed are those who have been persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven. “**Blessed are you when people reproach you, persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely, for my sake.**

Rejoice, and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven. For that is how they persecuted the prophets who were before you.” Matthew 5:3-12

WEBUS

- a) Blessed are the poor in spirit.
- b) Blessed are those who mourn.
- c) Blessed are the gentle.
- d) Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness.
- e) Blessed are the merciful.

- f) Blessed are the pure in heart.
- g) Blessed are the peacemakers.
- h) Blessed are you when you are reproached, persecuted, spoken evil about, and falsely accused.

(d) And again... “Life is more than food, and the body is more than clothing.” (Luke 12:23)

1. **“But those who are determined to be rich fall into a temptation, a snare, and many foolish and harmful lusts, such as drown men in ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some have been led astray from the faith in their greed, and have pierced themselves through with many sorrows.”** 1 Timothy 6:9-10 WEBUS
 - a) Those who chase riches always end with regrets.
It's what pagans do!
 - 1) *“Don’t seek what you will eat or what you will drink; neither be anxious. For the nations of the world seek after all of these things, but your Father knows that you need these things. But seek God’s Kingdom, and all these things will be added to you.”* Luke 12:29-31 WEBUS
 - b) It's what the world is after!

1) *"Don't love the world or the things that are in the world. If anyone loves the world, the Father's love isn't in him. For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—isn't the Father's, but is the world's. The world is passing away with its lusts, but he who does God's will remains forever."* ¹ John 2:15-17 WEBUS

(e) Choose instead the narrow gate....

1. *“Enter in by the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and there are many who enter in by it. How narrow is the gate and the way is restricted that leads to life! There are few who find it.”* Matthew 7:13-14 WEBUS

- a) The more difficult path leads to life; it's the path that few people choose.
- b) The wide path leads to destruction; it's the direction most people choose.
- c) How about you!?

1) *"Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter into the Kingdom of Heaven, but he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. Many will tell me in that day, 'Lord,*

Lord, didn't we prophesy in your name, in your name cast out demons, and in your name do many mighty works?' Then I will tell them, 'I never knew you. Depart from me, you who work iniquity.'" Matthew 7:21-23 WEBUS

- (f) Be inspired that no matter how it appears at the moment; the end will be better than the beginning...
 - 1. **"Better is the end of a thing than its beginning.** The patient in spirit is better than the proud in spirit."
 - Ecclesiastes 7:8 WEBUS
 - a) It is God's pleasure to give you the Kingdom, a treasure in the heavens that doesn't fail!
 - 1) **"Don't be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the Kingdom.** Sell what you have and give gifts to the needy. Make for yourselves purses which don't grow old, **a treasure in the heavens that doesn't fail,** where no thief approaches and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."
 - Luke 12:32-34 WEBUS
- (g) Job is the perfect example: the end is better than the beginning.

1. “**In all this, Job didn’t sin**, nor charge God with wrongdoing.” Job 1:22 WEBUS
 - a) Job... in the end
 - 1) “*Let it still be my consolation, yes, let me exult in pain that doesn’t spare, that I have not denied the words of the Holy One. What is my strength, that I should wait? What is my end, that I should be patient?*” Job 6:10-11 WEBUS
 - 2) “**Though He slay me, yet will I trust Him.** Even so, I will defend my own ways before Him.” Job 13:15 NKJV
 - 3) “**So Yahweh blessed the latter end of Job more than his beginning...**” Job 42:12 WEBUS
 - (h) Victory after the suffering... God knows we don’t like to wait, so He reminds us of the necessary process: First suffering, sorrow and pain, and then guaranteed permanent victory.
 1. “Therefore you **now have sorrow, but I will see you again**, and your heart will rejoice, and **no one will take your joy away from you.**” John 16:22 WEBUS
 - a) And all things work for the good for those who love God and align their lives with His purpose...

- 1) *"We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, for those who are called according to his purpose."* Romans 8:28
WEBUS
- 2) *"What then shall we say about these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who didn't spare his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how would he not also with him freely give us all things? Who could bring a charge against God's chosen ones? It is God who justifies. Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, yes rather, who was raised from the dead, who is at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Could oppression, or anguish, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? Even as it is written, "For your sake we are killed all day long. We were accounted as sheep for the slaughter." No, 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 things present, nor*

*things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, **nor any other created thing will be able to separate us from God's love** which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." Romans 8:31-39 WEBUS*

(6) (About Entitlements) Inspired that...

- (a) I am owed nothing—entitled to nothing.
 1. Everything good or truly important that I will ever need, I already have or will have from God.
 2. And everything that I already have that is good or truly important, I never earned on my own or deserved because of who I am or what I've done—apart from God.
- (b) **REVIEW** Just in case you think you are owed something... "Lord, to whom would we go? You have the words of eternal life." John 6:68
 1. "**not by works of righteousness which we did ourselves, but according to his mercy**, he saved us through the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit," Titus 3:5
 2. "**for all have sinned, and fall short of the glory of God; being justified freely** by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus," Romans 3:23-24

3. “**For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God** is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.” Romans 6:23
4. “even **when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive** together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—” Ephesians 2:5
5. “But God commends his own love toward us, in that **while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.**” Romans 5:8
6. “For him who knew no sin he made to be sin on our behalf, so that **in him we might become the righteousness of God.**” 2 Corinthians 5:21
 - a) In other words...
 - 1) *“But far be it from me to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.” Galatians 6:14*
 - b) In other words... I am not owed but I do owe...
 - 1) *“Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for he who loves his neighbor has fulfilled the law.” Romans 13:8*
 - (c) Be inspired! What you do have you received from God...

1. "John answered, "**A man can receive nothing unless it has been given him from heaven.**" John 3:27 WEBUS
2. "For who makes you different? **And what do you have that you didn't receive?** But if you did receive it, why do you boast as if you had not received it?" 1 Corinthians 4:7 WEBUS
 - a) Can you recognize how empty it is to think you should be expecting any good thing from your own efforts apart from God?
 - b) Or... even that **THERE IS** anything good thing apart from God?
 - 1) "*Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom can be no variation nor turning shadow.*" James 1:17 WEBUS
 - c) God is the source of all true riches, power, and the fruit of a man's labor
 1. "*Every man also to whom God has given riches and wealth, and has given him power to eat of it, and to take his portion, and to rejoice in his labor—this is the gift of God.*" Ecclesiastes 5:19 WEBUS

2. *"But you shall remember Yahweh your God, for **it is he who gives you power to get wealth**, that he may establish his covenant which he swore to your fathers, as it is today."* Deuteronomy 8:18 WEBUS

d) And it's all for God...

1) *"For **by him** all things were created in the heavens and on the earth, visible things and invisible things, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. **All things have been created through him and for him.**"* Colossians 1:16 WEBUS

e) And... it all belongs to Him anyway, even people.

1) *"The earth is Yahweh's, with its fullness; the world, and those who dwell in it."* Psalms 24:1 WEBUS

2) *"For **of him** and **through him** and **to him are all things.** To him be the glory for ever! Amen."*
Romans 11:36 WEBUS

f) Reminder: you came into this world with nothing and you will exit this world with nothing.

1. *"He said, "Naked I came out of my mother's womb, and naked will I return there.* Yahweh

*gave, and Yahweh has taken away. Blessed be
Yahweh's name.”* Job 1:21 WEBUS

2. ***“For we brought nothing into the world, and
we certainly can't carry anything out.”*** 1

Timothy 6:7 WEBUS

(d) Anything you might have to give back to God came from Him in the first place.

1. “Therefore David blessed Yahweh before all the assembly; and David said, “You are blessed, Yahweh, the God of Israel our father, forever and ever. Yours, Yahweh, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the victory, and the majesty! **For all that is in the heavens and in the earth is yours. Yours is the kingdom, Yahweh**, and you are exalted as head above all. **Both riches and honor come from you**, and you rule over all! In your hand is power and might! It is in your hand to make great, and to give strength to all! Now therefore, our God, we thank you and praise your glorious name. **But who am I, and what is my people, that we should be able to offer so willingly as this? For all things come from you, and we have given you of your own.”** 1 Chronicles 29:10-14

WEBUS

- a) So contemplate this: all that exists in the heavens and in the earth is God's.
- b) The idea that you own anything that you are willingly able to offer to God is a comical premise.
- c) Everything you have came from Him, and all you are doing is giving back what is already His!
- d) In the end, to what are you entitled? Precisely what you have right now is your entitlement. Why?
- e) It was God's to give, He gave it, and you must offer it back to Him anyway.
- f) That's all you need to know!

Prayer: I SURRENDER MY EXPECTATIONS (*Father, I break any bondage to making assumptions about what You have planned or that things must happen to my satisfaction. I am mindful about what I presume about You, myself, others, outcomes, or to what I feel entitled. I am especially careful about what hopes I fabricate in my mind about others; I know high expectations will only lead to sorrow and disappointment. I acknowledge that it is in the rare person that I might safely place any real confidence at all.*) AND I WILL PRACTICE INSPIRATION (*Instead of being disappointed that things did not work out the way I planned, or that people seem to always fall short of what I hoped for in them, I am encouraged*

that Your purpose must include something even better! Every setback or moment of dissatisfaction in You, myself, others, outcomes, or to what I feel entitled no longer irritates me; instead, they motivate Me!)

ASSIGNMENT #6

1. Pray about and meditate on these Scriptures:

- A. “*For the word of God is living and active, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and is able to discern the thoughts and intentions of the heart. There is no creature that is hidden from his sight, but all things are naked and laid open before the eyes of him to whom we must give an account.*” Hebrews 4:12-13 WEBUS
- B. “*But there is nothing covered up that will not be revealed, nor hidden that will not be known.*” Luke 12:2 WEBUS
- C. “*For God will bring every work into judgment, with every hidden thing, whether it is good, or whether it is evil.*” Ecclesiastes 12:14 WEBUS
- D. “*For no one can lay any other foundation than that which has been laid, which is Jesus Christ. But if anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay, or straw, each man's work will be revealed. For the Day will*

declare it, because it is revealed in fire; and the fire itself will test what sort of work each man's work is.” 1 Corinthians 3:11-13 WEBUS

E. “*For the time has come for judgment to begin with the household of God. If it begins first with us, what will happen to those who don't obey the Good News of God?*” 1 Peter 4:17 WEBUS

2. Surrender Expectations: “*So then it is not of him who wills, nor of him who runs, but of God who has mercy.*” Romans 9:16 WEBUS

- A. Search your heart humbly and honestly.
 - 1) Are you in bondage to making assumptions about what God has planned or that things must happen to your satisfaction?
 - 2) Are you mindful about what you presume about God, yourself, others, outcomes, or to what you feel entitled?
 - 3) Are you especially careless about what hopes you fabricate in your mind about others?
 - 4) Do you often feel sorrowful and disappointed in God and others?
 - 5) Do you struggle to recognize that it is in the rare person in whom you might safely place any real confidence?

3. Practice Inspiration: “*We know that **all things work together for good** for those who love God, **for those who are called according to his purpose.***” Romans 8:28 WEBUS

A. What would it look like for you to no longer be disappointed that things did not work out the way you planned, or that you were not surprised that someone fell short of what you hoped for in them?

- 1) How would your life be improved if you really believed and were always encouraged that God’s purpose must include something even better?
- 2) If every setback or moment of dissatisfaction in God, yourself, others, outcomes, or to what you feel entitled no longer irritated you, but instead motivated you, how would life be different?
- 3) Who can you ask to hold you accountable when you are tempted to feel disappointed in God or others?