

WELCOME TO WORD OF FAITH LIFE GROUPS **WE ARE BETTER TOGETHER**

LIFE GROUP LESSON PLAN

“How To Live Life The Faith Way” Pt.2b

Thursday, January 12, 2023 – 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm

Teaching The Bible Through Practical Biblical Teaching

VIP Silver Saints - Conference Call # (717) 908-1834 – Dial *6 to Mute

OPENING PRAYER (5 MINUTES)

WELCOME TO OUR GROUP (5 MINUTES)

If this is your first time joining us, please introduce yourself! We are glad you took the time to join us today. Our group has four purposes:

1. **L... Learning together from God's Word**
2. **I... Interceding through prayer**
3. **F... true Fellowship in the Spirit of Christ**
4. **E...Evangelizing the lost**

PRAISE & WORSHIP (5 MINUTES)

FACILITATION OF LESSON

Sermon Title: “How To Live Life The Faith Way” Pt.2b

POINT I

God has a way for you to achieve or receive whatever you want in life. His way is succinct. Jesus gave it to us in **Matthew 6:33**, *“But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.”* The Kingdom of God is God’s way of doing things. There are three primary ingredients in the Kingdom of God:

1. The first ingredient is faith.
2. The second ingredient in the Kingdom of God is love.
3. Seed is the third necessary ingredient in the God's kingdom.

The principle of seed, time and harvest is prevalent throughout the Word of God. Beginning in the book of **Genesis 8:22** where it states, *“While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease.”* God’s way of faith is connected to the principal of seed, time and harvest because it takes faith to sow seed when you have a need.

It takes faith to sow seed and be a blessing to someone who has hurt you, yet that is exactly what Jesus said to do in **Matthew 5:44** where it states, *“But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you..”*

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Once again, we see the contrast between the World’s Way and God’s Way of doing things. Standard practice for those outside the Kingdom of God is to get even. The World’s way of dealing with injury is to do something to the offending party. God’s way is to do something for the offending party.

QUESTION

1. What does faith have to do with seed? Share any experiences!
2. According to Matthew 5:44 what is the contrast between the World’s Way and God’s Way of doing things

POINT II

Sowing is one of the ways you give action to your faith. If you are believing God for friends, then by faith, you need to be friendly. **Proverbs 18:24** tells us, *“A man that hath friends must shew himself friendly: and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother.”* If you are believing God for joy, then by faith, you offer joy to another person who needs it. If you are believing God for increase in finances, give money. It takes faith to give money when you need money. But that is how God’s system works. It all begins with faith, love, and seed.

QUESTION

1. Whatever you are believing God for what must you do? Name some things!

POINT III

In **Matthew 6:33** where it states, *“But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you,”* we also have to have faith in God’s impartial distribution of justice. Jesus told us to seek not only the Kingdom of God (*God’s way of doing things*), but he also told us to seek God’s righteousness. The word *“righteous”* is *“Dikaiosune”* in the Greek, it means *equity or the impartial distribution of justice*. When you have Faith in God’s righteousness you know that God will handle every situation. To forgive the way that Jesus taught us is seen in **Luke 17:1**, *“Then said he unto the disciples, it is impossible but that offences will come: but woe unto him, through whom they come!”* So, offenses will come!

QUESTION

1. What is God’s righteousness?
2. Can we stop offenses? Why or why not?

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The passage in **Luke 17**, continues to say in **verses 2-5**:

*2 It were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and he cast into the sea, than that he should offend one of these little ones. You are one of those little ones. You are little compared to God. Verse 3-4 goes on to say, 3 Take heed to yourselves: If thy brother trespass against thee, rebuke him; and if he repent, forgive him. 4 And if he trespass against thee **seven times in a day**, and **seven times in a day** turn again to thee, saying, I repent; thou shalt forgive him. Some of your reactions to this passage is no difference from the disciple in that day. Verse 5 states, 5 And the apostles said unto the Lord, Increase our faith.” You need to know that God will make it right. You don’t have to take vengeance into your own hands.*

QUESTION

1. How do most people react when reading this passage? Why does this passage seem so difficult?

POINT IV

You don’t have to try to get even. Get out of the way! Trust God to make it equitable. Believe in his impartial distribution of justice. God tells us in His Word not to seek revenge or to threaten retaliation. Look at **Proverbs 20:22** it states, *“Say not thou, I will recompense evil; but wait on the LORD, and he shall save thee.”* Instead of plotting retribution, you should do what according to **1 Peter 5:7**, *“Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.”* The Amplified reads **1 Peter 5:7**, *“Casting all your cares [all your anxieties, all your worries, and all your concerns, once and for all] on Him, for He cares about you [with deepest affection, and watches over you very carefully].* When you roll all of your worries, concerns, and fears upon God, then you aren’t carrying them anymore. They are no longer your concern. Cast the whole of your cares upon the Lord and have faith in his righteousness, his impartial distribution of justice.

QUESTIONS

1. What should you do and what should you not do when someone comes after you?
2. What happens when you keep some of those concerns?

You have to train your body and your mind to do what I’m talking about. God’s way of faith requires that you train your body and your mind. You may think you’re too old to change habits and thought patterns, but you’re never too old to get in line with God’s word.

The scriptures are medicine that brings health to all of your body according to **Proverbs 4:22** where it states, *“For they are life to those who find them, and healing and health to all their flesh.”* Medicine

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doesn't always taste good, but you know in the end it will do you good. The Word of God will bring healing to your body and mind. It will elicit laughter and joy. Never allow life's problems to get you down. Stress and worry will make you sick! However, if you react to challenges with God's way of faith, you'll be able to laugh.

It will break up that knot in your stomach. It will destroy a cancerous tumor. The Joy of the Lord will cause your body to work the way the creator intended it to work. Your body and your mind will learn to respond to whatever stimulus you continually feed them. Smokers for example after a while become addicted to inhaling poison. If smokes can train their bodies to accept the carcinogens in cigarettes, don't you think you can train your body not to respond in anger when someone offends you.

QUESTIONS

1. What makes it possible to train your body and mind no matter how old you are? Explain!
2. How should you deal with life's problems?
3. What does the body and mind respond to? Give examples!

POINT V

Your body is waiting for you to tell it what to do. Are you going to let it sleep in tomorrow or are you going to make it get out of bed so that you can study the Word before you leave the house? When you wake up on Sunday morning and you don't want to get out of bed, get dressed, and drive to church, are you going to go along with what your body desires, or what the Word of God commands in **Hebrews 10:25**, *“Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.”* “When you feel like coming to church the least is when you need to come the most. You can't listen to your body and mind. Your body and your mind will cause you to miss out on what God has for you. If you're really listening to the Holy Spirit in your spirit, He would never tell you to stay home because that would go against the Word of God. So, the question is who are you listening to and obeying? Your body and your mind that still needs to be renewed or the Word of God.

QUESTIONS

1. What should you be telling your body when it doesn't feel like getting up and going to church or reading the Word?
2. Have you ever made yourself go to church and got blessed because you did? Give examples!
3. Why can't you listen to your body and mind?

Your mind can learn to think what the Word of God says rather than what you heard online or on the radio or television.

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You can become accustomed to letting offenses go rather than persevering over them, but it will take faith in God’s promises and discipline to retrain the way you react. You are a spirit, you live in a body, and you possess a mind, will and emotions. Your spirit, led by the Holy Spirit and God’s Word, should tell your body, mind and will and emotions how to react to things. The only way that can happen is by renewing your mind. You may look at your track record and think, I just don’t know if I can do that. It must be possible to change your behavior, or God wouldn’t have put **Romans 12:2** in the Bible where it states, *“And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.”* God’s way is the faith way. It’s a pattern of living that includes forgiveness, casting your cares on the Lord, and not holding grudges. The faith way is the way of love and it never fails!

QUESTIONS

1. What will it take to retrain the way you react to things?
2. What is included in God’s way of doing things in connection to faith?

CALL - TIME OF DECISION (EVERYONE BOW YOUR HEADS)

PRAISE REPORTS - *2-MINUTES PER PERSON

PRAYER FOCUS / INDIVIDUAL PRAYER REQUEST (10 MINUTES)

Prayer focus:

- 1) Your Circle (friends and family)
- 2) Life Group members
- 3) Word of Faith Leadership:
 - a. Pastor Ronald D. Walker, Jr., Evangelist Sharon L. Walker, Minister Promise Walker, Brittany and Christian, Carmelo and the ministerial staff.
 - b. Bishop Keith A. Butler and Pastor Deborah Butler

Have you reached out to your circle today?

ANNOUNCEMENTS (5 MINUTES)

1. Join us for **30 Days of Prayer**
 - a. Visit **pray30.org** or text **PRAY** to **248-266-9990** to receive the daily devotionals right to your inbox.
 - b. Watch or Read the Daily Devotionals and Pray at Least 30 Minutes Daily.

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Our youth are invited to follow **youthpray30** on **Instagram** and **subscribe** to the channel on **YouTube**

c. In addition, the youth videos will be posted on the **pray30.org/ignite** website page

Children’s Ministry will have special lessons for the month and a ZOOM meet up every Saturday from 12:00 Noon – 12:30 Noon EST.

- Singles with Purpose**, What are you believing God for in 2023? Make your request known unto God. Let's come together, join our faiths and jump-start your year with Prayer. Just for one hour. **January 13, 2023, 6:00 am to 7:00 am**, in the Sanctuary. For more information see Minister Bachelor or email singlewithpurpose2019@gmail.com.
- Join the SWAT Team for their next SWAT Outing, **Saturday, January 14th and 28th at 11:00 am**. For more information contact Minister Julie Francis.
- Join us for **Baby Dedication Services, Sunday, January 15th at 10:00 am**. To register your child please call the church office or see Minister Abbott.
- Join us for Membership Classes, **Saturday, January 21, 2023 from 9:00 am – 1:00 pm**. To register for class, please see Minister Abbott.
- Join Covenant Partner's for "Fit & Fitly" Joined together. **Friday, January 27, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.** Come on out and receive health tips and information to get you to a better you for the kingdom! For more information contact Minister Lavern Oysterman at covenantpartners@gmail.com.
- Join us for Family Day on Sunday, January 29, 2023 at 10:00 am. Dress down Sunday. Food donations are needed contact Minister Maria Creque for more information.
- Join us for Early Morning Prayer, **Monday- Friday from 6:00 am - 7:00 am** and Saturday's at 10:00 am. Join us on the Miracle Line on Tuesday's and Thursday's at 11:00 am by conference call, Facebook, YouTube and the Word of Faith Website. The call-in number for the Early Morning Prayer and the Miracle Line is (717) 908-1834, access code 755875#.
- Then Join us for Noon Day Prayer, with Evangelist Sharon Walker. Join us for 1-hour to pray. This is an In-person Prayer Service at Word of Faith.

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10. Monetary donations are being accepted to be a blessing to those truly in need. When making your donation to please write *"Gift for WOFICC CARES."* **WOFICC CARES** about our church family! **WOFICC CARES** about our community! **WOFICC CARES** about the Islands of the Caribbean!

OFFERING

- <https://wordoffaithstthomas.com/give-online/>
- <https://www.givelify.com/>

CLOSING PRAYER & DISMISSAL
