

GRACE CHANGES EVERYTHING



THIS BOOK BELONGS TO

"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." EPHESIANS 2:8-9

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"Why Grace Changes Everything"

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Written by: Larry Enterline

Layout & Design by: Matt Enterline



GRACE
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Bible Study
NUMBER SIX



THE STRUGGLE BEGINS

The *flesh* is a terribly **STRONG** enemy.

Sadly, some *Christians* seem to be fighting a losing **BATTLE** with it!

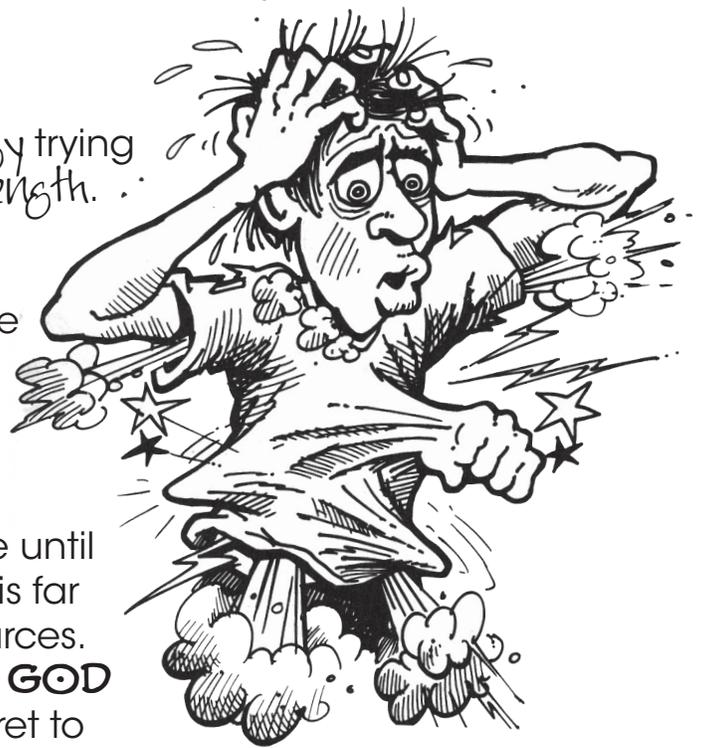
So... why do some believers never enjoy **GOD'S** victory?



THE ANSWER IS SIMPLE:

they spend all their *effort* and *energy* trying to live a godly life in their own *strength*.

Instead of turning their lives and struggles over to **GOD**, they keep *searching* for some new *technique* – some new *method*, some new *program* to make them righteous. And, none of them ever work!



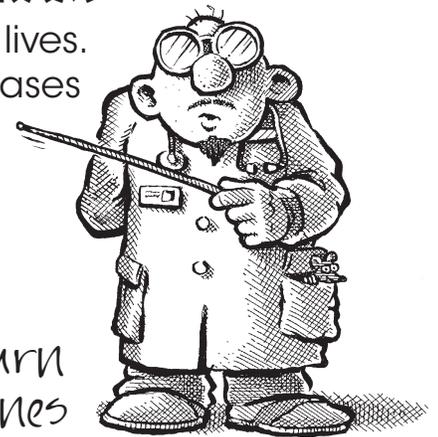
Our **HELP** doesn't come until we realize the answer is far beyond our own resources. Amazingly, crying out to **GOD** in weakness is the secret to our deliverance.



NOT ANOTHER SELF-IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

We **CANNOT** change our own lives.
We **CANNOT** live a life that pleases **GOD** by our own efforts.

It is only when we admit we are powerless that we find hope. When we finally turn to the grace of God, the Lord intervenes and begins to do a work inside of us that we cannot do for ourselves.





We are in a **FIGHT!** Who can deny there is a **BATTLE** going on inside each of us?



LOOK Up, Read & Fill in the Blanks of **GALATIANS 5:17** and see what the apostle Paul tells us:

“For the _____ lusts against the _____, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish.”

Peter knew all about this struggle. At one time, this fisherman turned apostle, boasted to **Ἰησοῦς** that even if all the other disciples fled, he would not.

Yet, before the night was over he denied his Lord three times. (**MARK 14:26-31, 66-72**)

Ἰησοῦς had been right all along:

The **Spirit** is willing but the **flesh** is weak.



Although we began to experience and enjoy the benefits of the **Spirit** when we committed our lives to **CHRIST**, and although the **fleshy** nature was taken off the throne of our lives, the **BATTLE** is not yet over. Before our conversion, the **flesh** enjoyed dominating and controlling our lives, and until our bodies are in heaven, it will never give up its struggle to bring us back under its power.

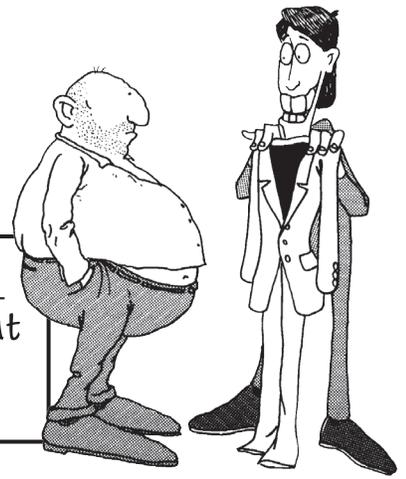


The Master's Battle Plan:

At this point the question arises, so then, what are we to do with the **flesh**? **GOD** has made a provision for the **flesh**. He calls it **“THE CROSS”**.



We cannot redeem the **flesh**. We cannot dress it up.
The **flesh** must be crucified!



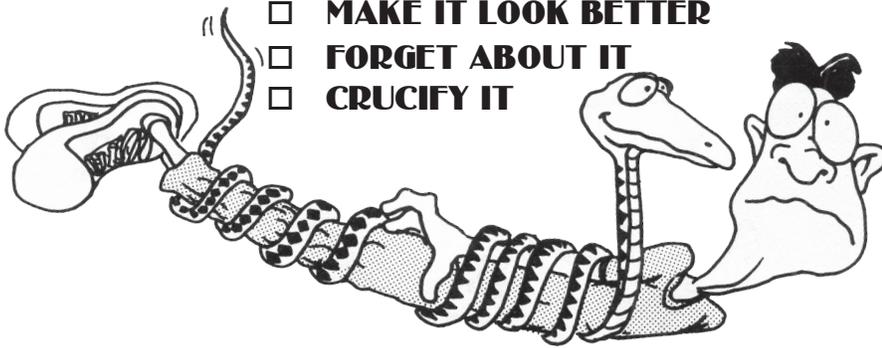
LOOK Up, READ, & Fill in the Blanks of ROMANS 6:6

“Knowing this, that our old man was _____
with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that
we should no longer be _____ of sin.”



What should we do with our **flesh**?

- TRY TO CHANGE IT**
- FEED IT**
- MAKE IT LOOK BETTER**
- FORGET ABOUT IT**
- CRUCIFY IT**



Whenever we encounter an area of the **flesh** that still controls us, we need to honestly acknowledge the **BATTLE** of the **flesh**; then by **FAITH**, we need to bring that specific area of weakness to the cross and reckon (consider) it crucified.

When we allow the **Spirit** of **GOD** to take over and work in our lives, we can triumph over our fallen nature - the **flesh**.

When **JESUS** awakens our **spirit**, He also gives us a new set of desires. We begin to long for intimate fellowship with **GOD**, a deeper knowledge and understanding of His Word, and closer communion with others who are alive in **CHRIST JESUS**. Our lives begin to change!



LOOK Up, READ, & Fill in the Blank of 1 JOHN 1:3

“That which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have _____ with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ.”



Living for the **flesh** always compelled us to reach out for something more, something just beyond our grasp, something that would finally bring a sense of lasting satisfaction. Yet the promised fulfillment always escaped us.

As we live after the **Spirit**, however, we discover a peace that the world can't understand. The endless struggle - the aching emptiness - is gone and we discover a wonderful sense of purpose and meaning.



The **flesh** no longer has the appeal it once did and the **BATTLE** inside us is won!

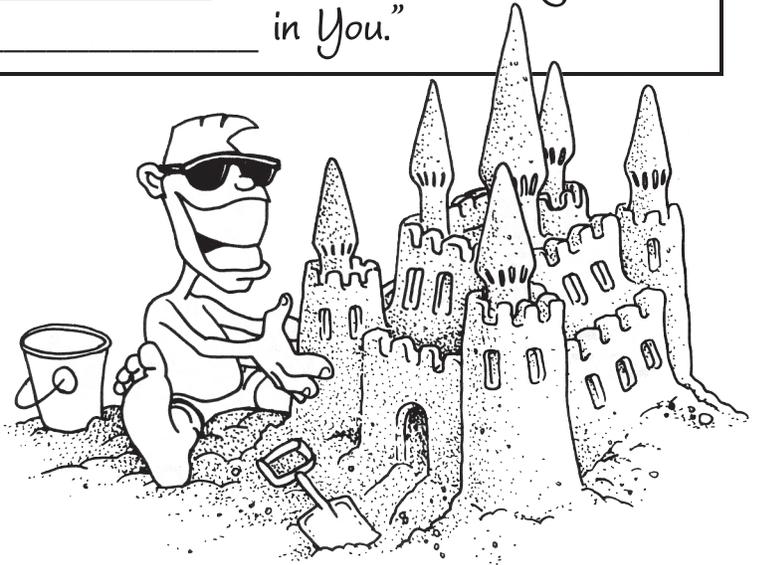
LOOK Up, READ, & Fill in the Blanks of **ISAIAH 26:3**



"You will keep him in perfect _____, whose mind is stayed on You, because he _____ in You."

NO CAUSE TO BOAST

Only when we admit that we are incapable of delivering ourselves from the law of sin and death, can the doors be opened for the glorious power of **GOD** to work within us and do for us what we are incapable of doing for ourselves.



LOOK Up, READ, & Fill in the Blanks of **GALATIANS 6:14**



"But God forbid that I should _____ except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world has been _____ to me, and I to the world."

IT IS THE WORK OF GOD

When **GOD** reveals to us an area of the **flesh** He wants to change, we always start out with the best intentions. We see the ugliness of our sin and vow we will never fall in that manner again. So, we come up with various ways to deal with the problem. But, sooner or later, we watch as all our plans fall apart. We get so frustrated that we cry out "**GOD**, help!" and then amazingly enough, He does. His **Spirit** miraculously begins to transform our lives.



As we overflow with gratitude, we see how **GOD'S** way of **TRANSFORMATION** is so wonderfully simple and yet much better than our own misguided efforts.

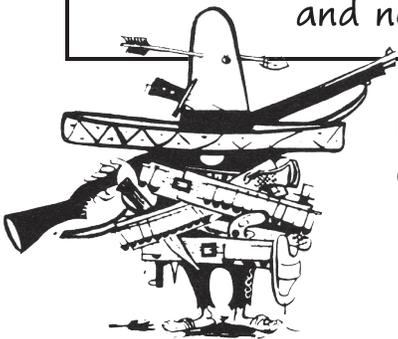


GOD never intended for the *flesh* to rule over us, and He has provided the resources and the power for us to experience victory. But, as long as we are committed to trying to work out our own struggles, even our best efforts get in the way.

When our victory comes from **GOD'S** work alone, outside of our own efforts, the end result is glory and praise unto **GOD**.

LOOK Up, READ, & Fill in the Blanks of ISAIAH 40:31

“But those who wait on the Lord shall renew their _____; they shall mount up with wings like _____, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.”



In His **GRACE**, **GOD** has made it possible for us to enjoy consistent victory. Still, this side of Heaven, **THE BATTLE NEVER ENDS.**

Every day presents the choice that we each must make. Will we live for the desires of the *flesh*, or will we yield our lives to the transforming power of the **Spirit** of **GOD**?



We can now have such a wonderful relationship with **GOD**, that it is no longer we who live, but **CHRIST** who lives in us. The life we now live, we live by **FAITH** in the Son of **GOD**, who **LOVED** us and gave Himself for us.



Because of **GOD'S GRACE**, each of us are now a new creation in **CHRIST JESUS**. Old things are passed away; everything has become new.

LOOK UP, READ, & Fill in the Blanks of 2 CORINTHIANS 5:17

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new _____; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become _____.”



When we become children of **GOD**, the **spiritual** side of us comes alive!



We suddenly realize that there is more to life than obeying the desires of the **flesh**. We come to understand that the inner hunger which our **flesh** could never satisfy can be fulfilled in a **LOVING** relationship with **GOD**. The more we come to know **GOD**, the more we experience His peace and joy. We discover that the level of satisfaction that we enjoy, as we walk in the **Spirit**, is so much greater than anything we seek after in the **flesh**.

How **BEAUTIFUL** it is when we let go of our own futile efforts and allow the **Spirit** to work! For His victory comes from the inside out, not the outside in, and that's the kind of victory that lasts!



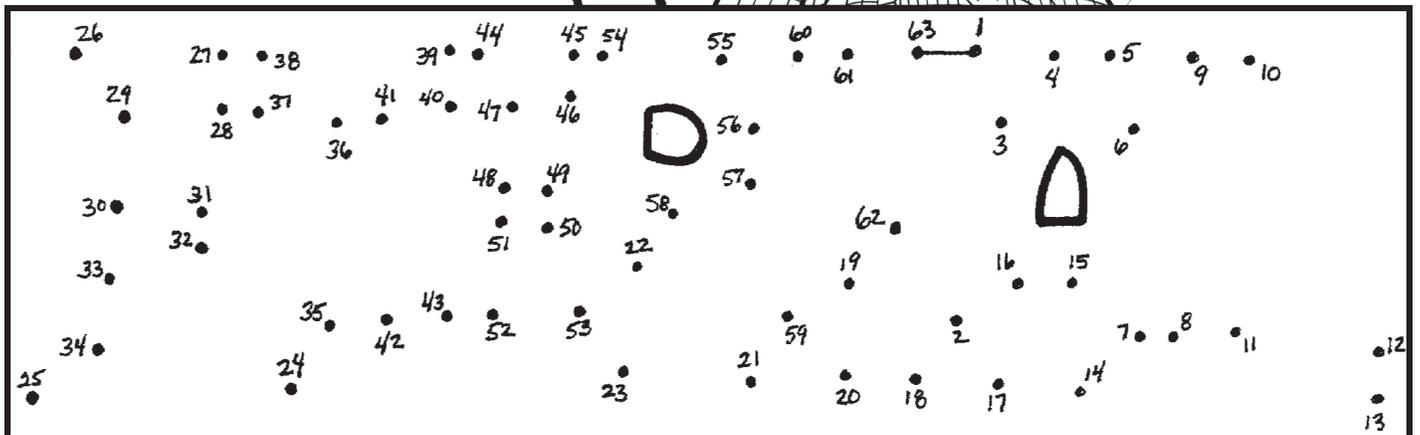
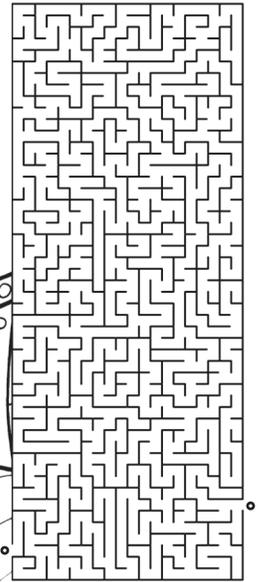


ACTIVITY PAGE

Men of the Bible

ADAM
 ENOCH
 NOAH
 MOSES
 JOSHUA
 JONAH
 JOB
 DAVID
 DANIEL
 SOLOMON
 ISAIAH
 JOHN THE BAPTIST
 SIMON PETER
 BARTIMAEUS
 JUDAS
 ZACCHAEUS
 JESUS
 JOHN
 LUKE
 PAUL

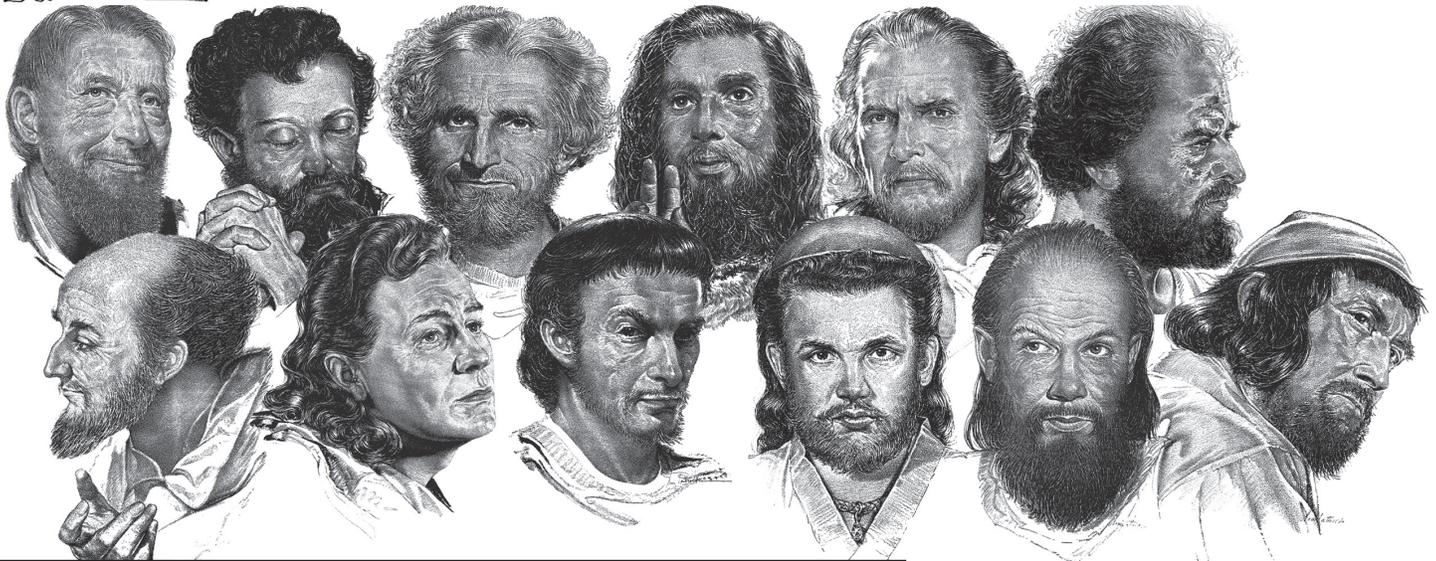
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ACTIVITY PAGE

2



Jesus' 12 Disciples

Find the below words in the wordsearch

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Peter
(Brother of Andrew)

Andrew
(Brother of Peter)

James
(Brother of John)

John
(Brother of James)

Matthew
(Tax Collector)

Philip

James
(Son of Alphaeus)

Thomas
(also called Didymus)

Bartholomew
(also called Nathanael)

Judas
(also called Thaddaeus)

Simon the Zealot
Judas Iscariot