

# **Thought We Are Insignificant People ...**

**[Short Word Meditation (20)]**

**James Kim**

## **Although we should do our best to get along with everyone ...**

Although we should do our best to get along with everyone,  
We must not associate with those who claim to believe  
yet engage in immoral behavior, greed,  
idolatry, cursing, drunkenness, or deceit.  
We must avoid associating with  
those who persistently commit sins without repentance  
and have a negative influence on the entire church  
(Romans 12:18; 1 Corinthians 5:11-12).

## **We must convey the correct knowledge of the gospel of Jesus Christ, even through testimony.**

A Pharisee who strictly adhered to the law, Saul, also known as Paul,  
was considered blameless according to the law.  
However, he zealously persecuted the church (Philippians 3:5-6).  
But his zeal at that time did not come from true knowledge (Romans 10:2).  
Instead, it was done in ignorance when he did not believe in Jesus Christ (1 Timothy 1:13).  
When Saul, who was like that, met Jesus on the road to Damascus, repented,  
and received a calling to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ,  
he said to the crowd who sought to kill him,  
'I was as zealous for God as any of you are today.  
In fact, I persecuted the followers of Jesus to their death,  
arresting both men and women and throwing them into prison' (Acts 22:3-4).  
The apostle Paul recognized that before the crowd believed in Jesus,  
his zeal for God was genuine,  
but it did not come from a true understanding of Jesus Christ (Romans 10:2).

Therefore, Paul intended to proclaim  
the true knowledge of the gospel of Jesus Christ  
to those crowds seeking to kill him through his testimony.  
His reason was that if by any means his own people could be saved,  
he was willing to be cursed and cut off from Christ  
if that would save them (Romans 9:3).  
Even if those who zealously act without true knowledge of Jesus Christ  
persecute us as we continue to grow in our knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
we must, through our testimony,  
compassionately share the true knowledge of the gospel.  
We must proclaim Jesus Christ with our lips and our lives (1 Timothy 1:13).

## **For the glory of the same Holy Trinity!**

We must, according to the guidance of the Holy Spirit,  
utilize the spiritual gifts given to each of us, serving the Lord's church.  
We must be faithful to our respective duties, serving the one Lord.  
Additionally, we must quietly carry out the ministry entrusted to each of us  
for the glory of God who works among us  
(Ref.: 1 Corinthians 12:4-6).

## **People in the world who have not been born again ...**

The people of this world, who have not been born again, have received the spirit of the world instead of the Spirit from God. Because of this, they do not understand spiritual truths, and they lack spiritual discernment and understanding. As a result, they do not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God; rather, they consider them foolishness (1 Corinthians 2:12-14).

## **A life of rejection**

The beginning of Jesus' earthly ministry saw Him coming to His own land, but His own people did not receive Him; they rejected Him. (John 1:11). Likewise, at the end of His earthly journey, His own people rejected Him before Pontius Pilate, the Roman governor (Acts 3:13-14). Thus, Jesus' life on this earth, from beginning to end, was marked by rejection from people. However, in my opinion, the greatest rejection that Jesus endured was when He cried out loudly on the cross, "Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?" (which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?") (Matthew 27:46). I believe that when Jesus, the only begotten Son, sought His Father with a loud voice on the cross, God the Father's silence can be seen as a rejection of Jesus' plea. I think experiencing rejection from our loving parents, spouse, or children while living on this earth is much harder than being rejected by people. However, I believe the most difficult thing is the silence of God amidst the fervent search for the Lord in the midst of life's crises, with no response to any prayer: "Hear my prayer, Lord, listen to my cry for help; do not be deaf to my weeping" (Psalms 39:12). "O God, do not remain silent; do not turn a deaf ear, do not stand aloof, O God" (83:1).

## **False pastor?**

False pastors preach false healing and false gospel,  
thus preventing intellectually-minded seekers  
of the truth from believing in Jesus,  
who desire to hear the word of God.

False pastors are offspring of the devil,  
full of lies and evil, enemies of all righteousness,  
and they do not stop hindering the Lord's way  
(Reference: Acts 13:6-10, Modern

## **We must not become someone who stumbles.**

For the sake of the salvation of one soul,  
we should not seek our own benefit but rather the benefit of that person.  
Therefore, we should refrain from exercising our own freedom  
if it might cause someone to stumble  
(1 Corinthians 10:28-33).

## **What is the Lord's purpose for deliverance?**

In situations where our lives are threatened,  
the purpose of the Lord saving us and prolonging our lives  
is to send us out to proclaim the message of life to all people  
(Acts 5:18-20).

## **Encouragement, acceptance, benefit**

Brothers and sisters in the Lord must accept each other,  
encourage each other, and be of great benefit to each other  
(Ref.: Acts 18:27).

## **Words of encouragement**

Those who break God's commandments while adhering to human traditions  
trouble new believers with words not commanded in the Bible, confusing their hearts.  
But those who speak according to the will of the Holy Spirit  
encourage new believers with words of encouragement, making them joyful  
(Matthew 15:3; Acts 15:24, 31).

## **Ultimately, God makes us resemble Jesus Christ.**

For those who love God and are called according to his purpose,  
God works all things together for good,  
so that they may be conformed to the image of his Son, Jesus Christ  
(Romans 8:28-29).

## **We should never do that without departing from the truth.**

When we become His servants  
and wisely spread the gospel of Jesus Christ for the salvation of one soul,  
we must never deviate from the truth  
(1 Corinthians 9:19-22).

## **We can spend time together even with those who could never be together.**

Saul, who had been threatening and persecuting the disciples of the Lord,  
spent several days with the disciples in Damascus (Acts 9:1, 19).  
This is one of the results of the transformation of Saul into Paul by the Lord.  
When the Lord brings about a remarkable transformation,  
even those who could never be together can spend time together.

## **The faithful servants of Christ with humble hearts ... (1)**

The faithful servants of Christ with humble hearts  
know that God has distinguished them.  
And they understand that they have received nothing that they did not receive from God.  
So they boast only in the Lord and know that they have nothing to boast about themselves  
(Romans 3:27; 1 Corinthians 4:1-2, 6-7).

## **The faithful servants of Christ with humble hearts ... (2)**

The faithful servants of Christ with humble hearts become fools for Christ's sake.  
And they serve their neighbors by becoming weak,  
and being treated like the lowest of all like prisoners facing death row  
(1 Corinthians 4:1-2, 6, 9-10).

## **The faithful servants of Christ with humble hearts ... (3)**

The faithful servants of Christ with humble hearts  
bless those who curse them, endure persecution,  
and respond to slander with kind words  
(1 Corinthians 4:1-2, 6, 12-13).

## **The faithful servants of Christ with humble hearts ... (4)**

The faithful servants of Christ with humble hearts  
become like rubbish and refuse of the world and the dregs of all things,  
for the sake of Christ and his brothers and sisters in Christ  
(1 Corinthians 4:1-2, 6, 10, 13).



## **A godly head of household**

A godly head of household leads his entire family to fear God together,  
helping many poor people, and always praying to God  
(Acts 10:2).

## **If only we had listened to the Lord's warning ...**

If we had listened to the Lord's warning,  
we would not have suffered such damage and loss  
(Ref.: Acts 27: 10, 21).

## **God who warns us ...**

God, who warns us that we should not like evil,  
tells us not to complain like the Israelites did during the Exodus  
who were destroyed in the wilderness  
(1 Corinthians 10:5-6, 10).

**We must continue to learn more accurately  
and convey it accurately.**

As we learn the word of the Lord diligently,  
we must learn the word of God more accurately.  
In such a situation, when we diligently evangelize,  
we must teach accurately about Jesus  
(Ref.: Acts 18:25-26).

**The reason we feel sad and disappointed  
during hardships is because there is no hope.**

The reason we feel sad and disappointed  
during hardships is because there is no hope.  
Christians who have the assurance of hope  
that they will participate in God's glory are thankful and rejoice  
because they long for and hope for the Lord in the midst of suffering  
(Romans 5:2-5).

**Are we the ones who give suffering or the one who suffers?**

The one who used to bring suffering to the Lord's disciples became a disciple of the Lord  
who suffers for the Lord after encountering the Lord who suffered (Acts 9:16).  
Those who have not undergone transformation are those who bring suffering,  
but those who have been transformed suffer for Jesus and the gospel.

## **Cup of suffering, cup of blessing, cup of grace**

The wine we receive by faith during the communion symbolizes the blood of Christ, and the cup of wine is a cup of blessing (1 Corinthians 10:16).

Because Jesus received the cup of suffering on the cross according to the will of God the Father, we are able to receive the cup of blessing (Luke 22:42).

We also must receive the grace of suffering given for the sake of Christ, following the example of Jesus (Philippians 1:29).

## **We Christians who are stubborn and do not listen to the word of God?**

The Jews who betrayed and killed the righteous Jesus were stubborn and, like the Gentiles, did not listen to the word of God. Like their ancestors, the Jews continued to rebel against the Holy Spirit and were prophets sent by God who prophesied the coming of the righteous Jesus Christ. They persecuted and killed others, and even after receiving the law given by angels, they did not keep it (Acts 7:51-53).

How about us?

Are we not now, perhaps, corrupt like the Jews, betraying the righteous Jesus and subjecting him to public disgrace by crucifying him again? (Hebrews 6:6)

Are we not now, perhaps, stubbornly refusing to believe in Jesus like the people of the unbelieving world, not paying attention to the word of God?

Could it be that we are currently committing the sin of murder, in our hearts, by continuing to resist the Holy Spirit and persecuting the servants of the Lord whom the Lord has sent, who proclaims the coming of Jesus Christ? (1 John 3:15)

We are now receiving the word of God given by the Lord but not keeping it.

## **When a community faces a major crisis ...**

When a community faces a major crisis,  
the spiritual leader of the community must receive the word of God's promise  
and must be courageous with unwavering faith and assurance of salvation.  
And he must reassure the members of the community,  
convey the word of God's promise with confidence,  
and also offer prayers of thanks to God and eat food with faith.  
Then, the members of the community will also be encouraged  
by the spiritual leader, eat food, and gain strength  
(Ref.: Acts 27:14-36).

## **Hypocrites cultivating a sense of merit?**

We believe that we are saved only by the grace of the Lord Jesus  
through faith in the Son of God, our Lord Jesus Christ.  
But some believe that we are saved by our strength and works (good deeds)  
(Acts 15:11; Ephesians 2: 8-9).  
However, the strange thing is that among us  
who have been saved by God's grace by believing in Jesus,  
we lack a sense of grace and instead build up a sense of merit.

## **Are church gatherings truly beneficial?**

Are church gatherings truly beneficial?

Isn't it actually causing harm?

The Bible says that God cannot tolerate those who hold religious meetings amid divisions in the church but still do evil (Isaiah 1:13; 1 Corinthians 11:17-18).

## **To what extent do I truly desire the salvation of my friends' souls?**

To what extent do I truly desire the salvation of my friends' souls?

Like Apostle Paul, if they can only gain salvation,

do I want to do so even if I have to be cursed and fall away from Christ?

Am I experiencing great sadness and endless heartache right now?

Does my conscience testify in the Holy Spirit that I tell the truth in Christ and do not lie?

(Ref.: Romans 9:1-3)

## **Is the church really establishing proper officials right now?**

A church that moves forward by establishing its officials based on the Word of God will have the Word of God spread widely and the number of believers will greatly increase (Acts 6:3-7).

However, the church that appoints the wrong officials in an unbiblical way spreads unbiblical and sinful things widely, testing believers and causing people in the world who do not believe to point fingers at the church.

## **In order not to have a proud heart ...**

In order not to have a proud heart,  
we need to give up all your privileges  
and come down from a position of respect  
to be treated with contempt  
(1 Corinthians 4:6, 10; Philippians 2:7).

## **Proud people?**

Proud people in the church may appear pious on the outside when they speak,  
but they deny the power of godliness  
(1 Corinthians 4:19-20; 2 Timothy 3:5).

## **People who harass church members and disturb their hearts**

Even within the church,  
there may be people who harass church members and disturb their hearts  
by saying things they have not been told to do  
(Ref.: Acts 15:24).

## **We should not be afraid of being criticized by church people.**

When considering the criticism that Peter faced from the circumcised believers for going to the uncircumcised Gentiles' house and eating with them, rather than the news that even the Gentiles had received the word of God (Acts 11:1-3), it was because for those circumcised believers, Peter's association and closeness with Gentiles as a Jew was considered a violation of the law (10:28), hence the criticism. However, despite the fact that Jesus himself did not associate with Samaritans and Jews, he engaged in conversation with a Samaritan woman who came to draw water at Jacob's well in the Samaritan town of Sychar. As a result, not only did the Samaritan woman believe in Jesus, but also many Samaritans from that town believed in him upon hearing her words (John 4:5-9, 39).

We should not fear the criticism from believers who prioritize legalistic laws, as we still violate such legalistic laws that remain within us. For example, if we seek to share the gospel of Jesus Christ with homosexual individuals and approach them to dine together in fellowship, aiming for the salvation of their souls, we should not fear being murmured against and criticized by church members due to it. We should not fear the criticism from believers who condemn us for dining together with others, focusing on that news rather than the news that they have accepted the gospel of Jesus Christ and come to believe in Him.

The reason is that hypocrites honor God with their lips but their hearts are far from Him. They teach human-made laws as if they were God's teachings, worshiping God in vain, and nullifying His word because of their traditions (Matthew 15:1-9).

Additionally, the reason is that the Lord has appointed us to be a light to all people, to bring salvation to the ends of the earth (Acts 13:47).

## **There needs to be an opportunity to move forward through conflict within the church.**

Within the church, conflicts can present an opportunity to establish and progress the roles of pastors, elders, and ordained deacons. However, when each is responsible for their respective roles and must handle team ministry, it may not always be easy for pastors or elders to find ordained deacons with the Spirit and wisdom to delegate ministry, leading to a balanced team ministry. Therefore, conflicts within the church can serve as a catalyst for change, establishing well-praised ordained deacons with the Spirit and wisdom among the congregation (Reference: Acts 6:1-7).

## **A factional fight between pastors and elders in the church?**

We should not love the pastor to the extent of forming factions around them. We should not love the elders to the extent of forming factions around them either. This way, when conflicts arise and the pastor and elders behave like people of the world, there won't be factional fights, saying, "I belong to Pastor so-and-so" or "I belong to Elder so-and-so." This is to prevent further harm to the congregation, to prevent the church from breaking apart, and to avoid causing pain to the heart of the Lord, who is the head of the church. This way, the church of the Lord will no longer commit shameful sins in the eyes of the world (Ref.: 1 Corinthians 3:1-4).



## **Why is there jealousy and strife in the church?**

The reason for jealousy and strife within the church right now is because, despite being in the church for a long time, some worldly-minded individuals still think, speak, and act just like people of the world.

Especially when they assume positions of authority within the church and form factions saying, "I belong to Pastor so-and-so," "I belong to the elders," "I belong to the associate pastor," "I belong to the ordained deacons," "I belong to the council members," "I belong to the Gyeongsang Province faction," "I belong to the Jeolla Province faction," etc., they break the unity of the church.

Just because someone has been in the church for a long time does not mean they should be appointed as leaders, especially if they are still worldly-minded.

Leaders should not be appointed recklessly  
(Ref.: 1 Corinthians 3:1-4).

## **There must be many peacemakers in the church who are mature in their faith.**

In the church, there are many who promote peace with mature faith.

But there are also worldly-minded individuals who, like immature children in Christ, stir up jealousy and disputes.

The few who disrupt peace should be prevented from spreading false rumors and stirring up people to create disturbances within the church

(Ref.: Matthew 5:9; Acts 21:21, 27, 31; 1 Corinthians 2:6; 3:1-3).

## **Rules decided by pastors and elders within the church?**

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(Ref.: Matthew 5:9; Acts 21:21, 27, 31; 1 Corinthians 2:6; 3:1-3).

## **Complaints or resentments that arise within the church...**

Complaints or resentments that arise within the church  
can be a good opportunity for change.  
One of these opportunities  
is for pastors to realize and prioritize the task  
of faithfully delivering God's Word and praying.  
Additionally, it involves delegating tasks,  
such as inadequate preaching of God's Word leading to neglect of ministry,  
to elders or ordained deacons  
who are praised for being filled with the Spirit and wisdom  
(Ref.: Acts 6:1-4).

## **A person who causes unrest even within the church?**

We must be wary of evil forces  
that recklessly incite people to accuse innocent people and cause unrest,  
even though they cannot provide any evidence  
(Ref.: Acts 24:5, 13).

## **People who do wrong even in the church**

The people who wrong others,  
while claiming they have done nothing wrong  
and providing no evidence to the contrary,  
are unaware of their own shame even though they commit wrongs.  
Their actions are twisted and wrong.  
They are mistaken in their thoughts and actions  
(Ref.: Proverbs 2:15; 19:2; Zephaniah 3:5;  
Matthew 22:29; John 16:8; Acts 25:5, 7, 10).

## **Even in the church, one person ...**

Even within a church, one person can incite the church members  
by spreading rumors that are not based on facts and cause a stir in the church  
(Ref.: Acts 21:20-31).

## **People who ignore legal procedures and recklessly cause trouble even within the church?**

When the plaintiff sued the defendant,  
it was natural for the defendant to be given the opportunity  
to defend themselves against the accusation.  
However, the Jewish chief priests and elders  
requested Governor Festus of Rome to condemn Apostle Paul,  
charging him with guilt (Acts 25:1-2, 15-16).  
In this way, the Jewish chief priests and elders  
wanted to get rid of Apostle Paul  
without regard for the legal" procedures of the Romans (19:39)  
and sought to eliminate him recklessly (21:36).  
As Christians, we should resolve issues through legal assemblies  
if there are problems rather than holding illegal gatherings  
to create disorder recklessly (19:39-40).

## **Elders in the church**

The Holy Spirit has appointed elders in the church as overseers among the flock,  
so that God's church, which He purchased with His own blood, may be cared for.  
Therefore, elders in the church must be vigilant for themselves and for the flock.  
The reason is that savage wolves, like false teachers,  
will come among them and not spare the flock.  
Even from among them, such people will arise  
and teach perverse things, enticing believers to follow them.  
Therefore, elders in the church must be alert  
and remember how the Lord's servant admonished everyone with tears day and night  
(Acts 20:17, 28-31).

## **I hope that the church will remain safe and strong.**

The Lord transformed Saul, who persecuted the church,  
enabling him to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ.  
As a result, the church experienced peace  
and grew stronger throughout Judea, Galilee, and Samaria.  
They walked in fear of the Lord and the comfort of the Holy Spirit,  
and their numbers increased  
(Acts 9:1-31).

## **The reason the church does not glorify God with one heart and one mouth is ...**

In establishing His church,  
the Lord enables us to imitate Christ Jesus,  
aligning our hearts to be of one mind and one voice,  
glorifying God together  
(Matthew 16:18; Romans 15:5-6).

The reason why the church  
does not glorify God with one heart and one voice  
is that we all fail to imitate Christ Jesus,  
speaking and acting according to our own will  
rather than God's will.

## **A community called a church ...**

A community called a church should have people with strong faith take care of those with weak faith and please their neighbors so that they can benefit and build each other up, and not just please themselves. The reason is because Christ did not please himself (Romans 15:1-3).

## **What is the main cause of conflict in the church?**

The main cause of conflict in the church is that those who are not filled with faith, the Holy Spirit, and wisdom, and who are not praised by all believers, are appointed as church officials. (Acts 6:3, 5). Officials should not be appointed carelessly.

## **When there is division within the church ...**

When there are factions within the church and divisions occur in the church due to factional fights, those who receive God's approval are bound to be revealed (1 Corinthians 11:18-19).

## **The splendor of the church?**

The splendor of the church should be complete  
through the glory that the Lord has given to the church,  
but is it not because of the splendor that people have decorated the church  
that the church's reputation is spreading among the people of the world?  
(Ezekiel 16:14)

### **Pastors and church members who believe in the splendor of the church and take advantage of the church's reputation?**

Woe to the pastors and church members  
who believe in the splendor of the church  
and use the church's reputation to go out into the world  
and idolize money and act like prostitutes  
(Ezekiel 16:15, 23).

### **We must be patient in asserting and enjoying our rights.**

Although we have the right to assert our rights and to enjoy them,  
if asserting and enjoying those rights even a little  
would hinder the preaching of the gospel of Christ,  
we must endure not asserting and enjoying those rights.  
The reason is that the priority is the preaching of the gospel of Jesus Christ  
over enjoying our rights  
(1 Corinthians 9:12).

## **The result is eternal life.**

Having died and been resurrected with Jesus Christ,  
we have been freed from sin, become servants of God,  
and have lived a holy life, and the result is eternal life  
(Romans 6:4-8, 22).

## **What would happen to that country ...**

What would happen to the country if there were many people  
who did evil things but rebelled against the authority established by God,  
did not fear the ruler, and did not obey the government authorities?  
(Romans 13:1-3)

## **Not throwing away the leaven of malice and wickedness ...**

Even though the leaven of malice and wickedness  
is permeating the entire lump of dough within the church,  
they are still not discarding the leaven of malice and wickedness,  
striving instead to become a new lump of dough  
without the leaven of malice and wickedness,  
but with the leaven of purity and truth  
(1 Corinthians 5:6-8).



## **It cannot be called true communion.**

Gathering together to eat the Lord's Supper amid divisions in the church cannot be called true communion  
(1 Corinthians 11:18-20).

## **Therefore, we cannot boast.**

If we were saved by our own strength and good deeds,  
then we would have something to boast about before God.  
But obtaining salvation through our own efforts is not a rightful reward;  
it is not received as a gift.  
However, the Scriptures tell us that the gift given freely by God  
is eternal life in our Lord Jesus Christ.  
We receive salvation as a gift from God; we have no merit of our own.  
We are saved by the grace of God through faith in Christ.  
Therefore, we cannot boast  
(Romans 4:2-6; 6:23; Ephesians 2:8-9).

## **Even so, the pastor ...**

Even when unbelievers, who have heard the pastor's preaching,  
instigate other members and harbor ill will towards the pastor,  
the pastor must rely on the Lord and boldly proclaim the message of God's grace  
(Acts 14:1-3).

## **We should not associate with such people.**

Even if someone claims to believe in Jesus,  
if they engage in immoral behavior, greed, idolatry, cursing, drunkenness, or cheating,  
we should not associate with such people or even eat with them  
(1 Corinthians 5:11).

## **People who do such things are not punished and driven out with a bitter heart.**

Even among the unbelievers in the world,  
there are none who engage in the kind of behavior that is happening  
among those who claim to believe in Jesus within the church.  
Despite engaging in such immorality to the point where it becomes notorious,  
the people of the church are proud and do not punish or expel  
those who engage in such actions with a heavy heart  
(1 Corinthians 5:1-3).

## **The grace of God given to us in Christ Jesus**

The grace given to us by God in Christ Jesus includes:

- (1) Enrichment in all things, including speech and knowledge, within Christ.
- (2) The confirmation of Christ's testimony among us.
- (3) The enjoyment of all spiritual blessings.
- (4) Our anticipation of the return of our Lord Jesus Christ

(1 Corinthians 1:4-7).

## **Just as Christ lives forever for God ...**

Just as Christ died once for sin and lives for God eternally,  
we, too, though dead to sin, live for God in Christ Jesus,  
having already obtained eternal life and will live forevermore  
(John 6:51; Romans 6:10-11; 1 John 5:14).

## **The saints who were truly pierced in their hearts after hearing the gospel of Christ ...**

Saints who are deeply moved by the gospel of Jesus Christ  
repent and live according to its message,  
but those who are not properly moved instead harbor resentment  
towards the servants of the Lord who proclaimed the gospel,  
to the point of being infuriated  
(Acts 2:37-38; 7:54; Philippians 1:27).

## **Because of Christ's bloodshed and death on the cross**

We will be saved from God's wrath  
because we have been justified and reconciled to God  
through Christ's bloodshed and death on the cross  
(Romans 5:9-10).

## **What is required of Christ's servants is loyalty.**

The mystery of God is Christ (Colossians 2:2).

What is required of Christ's servants

who are entrusted with this mystery of God is loyalty

(1 Corinthians 4:1-2).

## **Christians must spread the gospel of Jesus Christ.**

We Christians must spread the gospel of Jesus Christ.

We must voluntarily spread the good news of Jesus Christ.

We have been given the mission to spread the gospel, even if not voluntarily.

If we do not preach the gospel, misfortune will befall us

(1 Corinthians 9:16-17).

## **Despite suffering for being a Christian ...**

The reason we can rejoice even though we suffer for being Christians

(1 Peter 4:16) is because we have the hope of participating in the glory of God

by imitating Jesus with refined character

(Romans 5:2-4).

## **I want to hear the word “Christian.”**

I would rather hear the word “Christian” than “pastor”  
(Acts 11:26).

## **Saints who willingly accept the Word**

Some saints eagerly accept the words of the Lord's servants  
after hearing the gospel of Jesus Christ,  
while there are congregants  
who are reluctant to accept the words of the Lord's servants  
(Acts 2:41).

True disciples of Jesus willingly accept the gospel  
preaching of the Lord's servants not as human words, but as God's word  
(1 Thessalonians 2:13).

## **Why is prayer blocked?**

The reason prayers are blocked  
may be because husbands do not respect their wives  
(1 Peter 3:7).

## **To the praying evangelizer ...**

A preacher of the gospel  
is a person who prays,  
and the Lord gives encounters to he who prays  
so that he can spread the gospel  
(Ref.: Acts 16:13-14).

## **While praying ...**

Saul encountered Ananias while praying  
and was appointed as a preacher of the Gospel,  
a Gentile apostle (Romans 11:13) enduring hardships for the name of Jesus  
according to the Lord's will,  
receiving his commission (Acts 9:11-20).  
Paul, seeking a place of prayer, met Lydia by the riverside outside the city gates,  
where the Lord opened her heart to heed Paul's message.  
According to the Lord's will,  
she and all her household believed in Jesus and were baptized (16:13-15).  
Thus, through divine encounters orchestrated by prayer,  
they received the astonishing work and calling of salvation according to God's plan,  
becoming individuals willing to give up their lives for Jesus Christ and the Gospel  
(Mark 8:35).

## **If we do not learn the meaning of the word not to go beyond the scope of the written Word of God ...**

If we do not learn the meaning of the word  
not to go beyond the scope of written Word of God,  
we will have a proud heart,  
boasting about some and despising others  
(1 Corinthians 4:6).

## **The miracle among miracles ...**

The miracle among the miracles  
is the fact that we, who were spiritually dead,  
have not only been raised to life again  
because Jesus Christ, the Son of God, died on the cross,  
but we have also obtained eternal life (everlasting life).  
We cannot deny this.  
We have nothing more to say about it.  
We can only give glory to God  
(Ref.: Acts 4:14, 16, 21).

## **A group of people who persistently oppose preachers of the gospel ...**

The adversaries who persecute and even plot to kill the disciples of Jesus who give up their lives for Jesus Christ and the gospel constantly and persistently strive to achieve their goals (Mark 8:35; Acts 23:12-30; 25:2-3).

## **He will protect us and strengthen us until the end.**

The Lord will protect and strengthen us until the end so that we may be blameless on the day of the second coming of our Lord Jesus Christ (1 Corinthians 1:8).

## **While I myself am breaking the word of God ...**

While I myself am breaking the word of God, am I judging and criticizing my brothers and sisters in the Lord according to the word of God (even in my heart)? (Ref.: Acts 23:3)



**I am not doing the good things I want,  
but I am doing the evil things I do not want.**

My heart loves the law of God and follows it,  
but my flesh follows the law of sin.  
This law of sin is at war with my mind,  
making me a slave to the sin that is still within me.  
Therefore, I am not doing the good things I want,  
but I am doing the evil things I do not want to do.  
If I do something I do not want to do,  
it is not I who does it, but the sin within me  
(Romans 7:20-25).

**I don't belong to this church?**

God placed many different parts in one body just as He wanted,  
so why do we not humbly accept this fact in faith?  
Why are we called “feet” and not “hands”?  
Why are we called “ears” and not “eyes”?  
If we say in dissatisfaction, ‘I do not belong to this body (church)’  
because things did not turn out the way you wanted,  
what would happen to the church, the body of the Lord?  
(1 Corinthians 12:14-18)

## **I will not be shaken because I always see the Lord before me.**

I will not be shaken because I always see the Lord before me.  
Therefore my heart will be glad, and my body will live in hope.  
The Lord will never leave me in the grave  
but will lead me to the path to eternal life.  
Therefore, my joy will be full before the Lord  
(Ref.: Acts 2:25-28).

## **My prayer**

I am praying that a path will be opened for you in God's will  
(Ref.: Romans 1:10).

## **I must not allow any part of my body to become an instrument of sin ...**

I must not let sin dominate my body and follow evil desires.  
I must not allow any part of my body to become an instrument of sin,  
but I must present my body to God as a weapon of righteousness  
(Romans 6: 12-13).

## **My "Jerusalem"**

Jesus' apostles, who did not leave Jerusalem as Jesus said and waited for the Holy Spirit, the gift promised by God the Father, received the baptism and power of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost and became witnesses of Jesus from Jerusalem.

(Acts 1:4-5, 8; Chapter 2).

Where is our "Jerusalem," where we waited for the Holy Spirit without departing as the Lord said?

My "Jerusalem" is the Victory Presbyterian Church where I currently serve, and also my family.

Therefore, I am once again taught that I must follow the words of the Lord and become a witness of Jesus in my family and in the church I serve.

## **Those who help others**

Among the members that God has established in the church, there are people who help others.

At the church in Cenchria, there was a helper named Phoebe.

She helped many people, and even the apostle Paul received a lot of help from her.

It is good to have many helpful people like Phoebe in the church

(Romans 16:1-2; 1 Corinthians 12:28).

## **Even if my conscience is clear ...**

Even if drinking alcohol does not offend our conscience,  
if it offends someone else's conscience,  
we should not drink alcohol for the sake of others' conscience  
(Ref.: 1 Corinthians 10:25-28).

## **The prayer place I am looking for, the prayer place that the Lord is leading me to?**

While Apostle Paul and Silas were going to a place of prayer,  
they encountered a slave girl who was possessed by a fortune-telling spirit,  
and in the name of Jesus Christ, they drove the demon out of her.  
They were captured by her masters, taken to Roman officials, and ended up in prison.  
They were imprisoned and prayed in prison (Acts 16:16-25).  
Clearly, the place of prayer  
that Apostles Paul and Silas were looking for was not a prison.  
However, I think that Paul and Silas used the prison as a place of prayer,  
guided by God, who in His sovereignty also uses  
the guidance of those whom He wanted and did not want.  
I think that the fact that we prayed with this in mind (v. 16)  
is a lesson from God to each of us.  
If we are currently trapped in the East, West, South, and North,  
and the solution to the problem is clearly visible,  
perhaps that prison-like situation may be the prayer place that the Lord wants for us.

## **We were more than conquerors.**

Even though we face the risk of death all day long for the Lord,  
we are more than conquerors through Christ who loves us  
(Romans 8:36-37).

## **Who would like this promise of God?**

Who would like God's promise  
that 'your descendants will be strangers in a foreign land,  
enslaved and mistreated for 400 years'?

(Acts 7:6)

Who would accept this negative promise as a promise from God?  
If God had not promised us heaven,  
the true land of Canaan and the promised land,  
we would have had no choice but to live without hope in this sinful land.

## **Through whom does God accomplish his will?**

God accomplishes His will through those whom He likes  
(Acts 13:22).

## **Beauty of the old people**

Even elderly people can have dreams  
when they are filled with the Holy Spirit.

The beauty of old people is  
that they convey the strength  
and power of the Lord to all generations to come.

This is God's word of promise:

‘I will be your God and watch over you until you are old and gray.

I made you, and I will watch over you and watch over you.

I will help you and save you’

(Psalms 71:18; Proverbs 20:29; Isaiah 46:4, Acts 2:17).

## **We are all sinners ...**

What sense does it make to say  
that some are better than others when we are all sinners?  
It's just a resurgence of acorn height  
[This means that even though all objects are insignificant  
and not in a state of comparison,  
they try to determine whether they are better or worse (Internet)]  
(Ref.: Romans 3:9).

## **The resurrected Jesus will come again!**

Standing outside the empty tomb, Mary Magdalene wept and stooped to look inside.

Two angels dressed in white asked her, "Woman, why are you crying?"

(John 20:11-13).

Similarly, when Jesus ascended into heaven,

two men in white robes stood beside the disciples who were gazing up at the sky.

They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand here looking into the sky?"

This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven,

will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven"

(Acts 1:10-11).

Rising from death again

and appearing to Mary Magdalene at the empty tomb,

Jesus, who ascended into heaven,

will come back at the time appointed by God the Father's authority:

"Yes, I am coming soon."

"Amen. Come, Lord Jesus"

(Revelation 22:20).

## **We can't die again.**

Having risen and ascended to the right hand of God,

Christ, knowing that He will never die again

and that death will no longer have dominion over Him,

we, who are also confident that we will undoubtedly rise with Christ and never die again,

are assured that death will no longer have dominion over us

(Romans 6:5, 8, 9, Modern Bible; Hebrews 4:14; 10:12).

## **“Take courage!”**

Even in truly fearful and daunting situations,  
our Lord stands by our side and speaks to us, saying, "Take courage,"  
providing us with the assurance and hope  
that He will surely fulfill the promise He has given us  
(Ref. Acts 23:10-11).

## **We must be courageous.**

We must be courageous  
because of the grace God has given us  
(Romans 15:15).

## **The church session must realize what is undesirable.**

When within the church, through complaints and grumbling,  
the session must realize what is undesirable and strives to correct it,  
all believers should joyfully embrace the right proposals of the session  
and work together in unity to advance the work of the Lord accordingly.  
The purpose should be solely for the wider dissemination of God's Word  
and the significant increase in the number of believers  
(Acts 6:1-7).



## **He who wants to win more people will win an incorruptible crown.**

Those who, while exercising the freedom within the Lord that has been given to them, restrain themselves and become servants to all in order to win more people for the gospel, will receive an imperishable crown (1 Corinthians 9:19, 25).

## **We must not bother them anymore.**

We, who have received salvation by believing in the Lord Jesus Christ through the grace of God, should not trouble our brothers and sisters within the Lord by emphasizing human-made traditions of "you must do this" or "you must do that," which are not God's commandments (Ref.: Acts 15:19).

## **We are no longer bound by the law and serve God in the old ways according to the law.**

Through Christ, who was crucified and resurrected concerning the law, those who have become Christ's people produce fruit for God by becoming like Christ, who died and rose again. They no longer serve God in the old way of the law, being bound by it, but they serve God in the new way of the Spirit (Romans 7:4-6).

## **Something unbelievable happened.**

When Saul, who had been killing Jesus' disciples, went to Jerusalem and tried to associate with the disciples of Jesus, they were all afraid of him and did not believe that he had become a disciple of Jesus (Acts 9:26).

It was truly an unbelievable event.

How could anyone believe that someone like Saul could become a disciple of Jesus?

Even those who would have thought,

'That person will never ever believe in Jesus and become His disciple,' the Lord can indeed transform them completely.

## **Even in impossible situations ...**

Christians who believe in God, who raises the dead and creates things that did not exist, hope and believe in God even in impossible situations (Ref. Romans 4:17-18).

## **A man obsessed with money**

A man who has become obsessed with money is so addicted to it that he cannot endure life without loving money. Therefore, he is willing to do anything to make money (Acts 16:16-21; 19:21-41; 1 Timothy 6:10).

## **To think that money can also buy God's gift ...**

To think that one can purchase God's gift with money  
is a wicked thought, born from a heart filled with envy and captured by sin.  
One must repent and pray to the Lord  
(Acts 8:18-23).

## **Hoping to receive money?**

Pastors should not meet and talk more often with their members  
in hopes of receiving money from them  
(see Acts 24:26).

## **Church members who think money is everything**

There are still members in the church who,  
following the habits of old people  
whose hearts are not right before God,  
try to buy God's gifts, thinking that money is everything.  
They will perish along with the money  
(see Acts 8:18-21).

## **To love our countrymen and try to save them ...**

To love our fellow countrymen and try to save them,  
we must first realize that God must call us  
and use us at God's time and in God's way,  
according to God's will  
(Acts 7:25).

## **Don't be afraid and keep speaking.**

Those who spread the gospel of Jesus Christ and the word of God  
must continue to speak without fear of those who oppose and curse.  
They must not remain silent.  
The reason is because God is with them and no one can harm them  
(Ref.: Acts 18:6, 8-10).

## **If we don't know what we should know ...**

No matter how much we think we know,  
what good is all that knowledge if we don't know  
what we should know in the Lord's eyes?  
It just makes us proud  
(Ref.: 1 Corinthians 8:1-2).

## **A couple whose hearts are full of Satan**

A couple whose hearts are full of Satan  
consult and plot with each other, test and deceive the Holy Spirit,  
the Spirit of the Lord, and lie to God  
(Acts 5:1-11).

## **Those who do not like to have God in their hearts**

The hearts of those who do not like to have God in their hearts  
are bound to become corrupted.  
As a result, we do things that are unworthy in the eyes of God,  
that is, evil things  
(Romans 1:28)

## **We must obey with your heart.**

Having been freed from sin and becoming servants of righteousness,  
we must obey God's word with our hearts  
(Romans 6:17-18).

## **I hope the Lord opens our hearts.**

May the Lord open our hearts to listen to His servant  
(Ref.: Acts 16:14).

## **According to the shameful lusts of our hearts**

Those who block the truth of God with evil actions live in obscenity according to the shameful lusts of their hearts, abandoning a normal sexual life, and burning with lust among men and women among women, defile each other's bodies and commit shameful acts  
(Romans 1:18, 24, 26-27).

## **We must be very wary of hardening our hearts.**

Through the servant of the Lord,  
we who receives God's word should be very cautious of our hearts becoming hardened.  
The reason is that in a hardened state of heart,  
not only will we not believe while hearing the word of God,  
but we may also openly criticize the teachings of the pastor  
(Ref.: Acts 19:9).

## **We must serve only the Lord without being distracted.**

Living a righteous life and serving only the Lord without being distracted by worldly concerns is important. However, when engaged in family ministry, our hearts may become divided, thinking about how to please our spouse or children, and getting preoccupied with worldly matters. Consequently, we fail to focus solely on how to please the Lord and attend to His work (1 Corinthians 7:32-34).

## **If the pastor's plans and work are not from God but from man ...**

If the pastor's plans and work come from God, no one will be able to destroy them; rather, he will become an opponent of God (Acts 5:38-39).

However, if the pastor's plans and work are not from God but from people, we must block those plans and work.

The reason is that the pastor is not thinking about the things of God, but rather the things of men (Matthew 16:23).

The plan to promote man's work by labeling it as God's will and God's work is the action of someone who stumbles the Lord, who is the head of the church (v. 23).

## **If we enjoy the grace and blessing of being a martyr while preaching the gospel ...**

When Jesus was dying on the cross,

He said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing"

and "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit"

before He breathed his last breath

(Luke 23:34, 46).

Stephen, on the other hand, said, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit" and

"Lord, do not hold this sin against them" before he fell asleep

(Acts 7:59-60).

If it is God's will,

I pray that I may also have the grace and blessing of martyrdom

while proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ,

filled with the Holy Spirit like Jesus and following the example of Stephen,

offering such prayers to the Lord and peacefully falling asleep.

## **If you do evil things ...**

If you do evil things,

fear God's servants who work for your good

(Romans 13:4).



## **If we persevere through suffering ...**

If we persevere through suffering and develop endurance (Romans 5:3), as we follow the command of the Lord to "endure," then the Lord will say to us, 'I will also keep you from the hour of trial that is going to come on the whole world to test the inhabitants of the earth' (Revelation 3:10).

## **If we died on the cross with Christ ...**

If we died on the cross with Christ, we believe that since Christ rose from the dead, we too will certainly be resurrected with Christ (Romans 6:5, 8).

## **If we trust in the Lord with all our heart and acknowledge Him in all things ...**

When the Lord tells us to go on the wilderness road, if we rely on our own wisdom and think ourselves wise, we will not venture onto the vast uncultivated field-like wilderness road. However, if we trust the Lord with all our hearts and acknowledge Him in all our ways, like Philip, we will immediately obey. When we obey in faith, the Lord will show us the right path and eventually, like Philip, lead us to encounter someone to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ, so that a soul may be saved (Proverbs 3:5-7, Acts 8:26-38).

**If we live in imitation of this world  
without being changed by the renewing of our mind ...**

If we do not renew our minds and continue to conform to this world,  
we will not be able to discern what is the good, pleasing, and perfect will of God  
(Romans 12:2).

Therefore, we live not according to God's will but according to our own.

Worship offered to God while living according to our own will is not spiritual worship (v. 1).

**If we offer our bodies as slaves to sin  
and live for uncleanness and lawlessness ...**

If we offer our bodies as slaves to sin and live for injustice and iniquity,  
there is no benefit to be gained as a result, and all we can do is feel ashamed.

The result of such a life is eternal death

(Romans 6:19-21).

**If we are not doing what we want, but what we hate ...**

If we are not doing what we want, but rather what we hate,  
we are carnal and enslaved to sin

(Romans 7:14-15).

## **If we are harming our neighbors ...**

Even if we do not commit adultery, murder, steal, or covet,  
if we harm our neighbor, we are violating Jesus' commandment  
to "love your neighbor as yourself"  
(Romans 13:9-10).

## **An eloquent speaker who is knowledgeable in the Scripture**

We should strive to become eloquent speakers like Apollos,  
knowledgeable in the Scriptures.  
Therefore, we should use the Scriptures to testify  
that Jesus is the Christ and shut the mouths of those  
who oppose us and slander us in front of the public  
(Ref.: Acts 18:6, 24, 28).

## **It was written as a warning to us who are facing the end times.**

The Israelites were destroyed in the wilderness  
because they delighted in idolatry, sexual immorality,  
testing the Lord, and complaining, all of which displeased God.  
These things happened to them as examples and were written down  
as warnings for us who live in the end times  
(1 Corinthians 10:5-11).

## **Those who listen to the Word and misunderstand the truth of God.**

Those who hear the Word of God through the Lord's servants,  
but then misunderstand God's truth and lie about it,  
thereby slandering the Lord's servants,  
should naturally be treated as sinners  
(Ref.: Romans 3:7, 8).

## **These are not people who just listen to the Word.**

Christians who have been justified by faith in Jesus Christ by the grace of God  
are not just people who listen to the word of God,  
but people who live according to the word  
(Ref.: Romans 2:13, Modern Bible; Romans 3:24, 26; 5: 1; Acts 13:39; Titus 3:7).

## **The prayer of Jesus' disciples seeking the kingdom of God first.**

For 40 days before His ascension, Jesus, who was resurrected from the dead,  
appeared to His disciples from time to time, showing them many convincing proofs  
that He was alive and speaking to them about the kingdom of God.  
However, the apostles were more concerned about  
when Jesus would restore the kingdom to Israel than about the kingdom of God  
(Acts 1:3-6).  
Jesus said, "But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness" (Matthew 6:33).  
We are the people of God who seek first the kingdom of God as Jesus taught.  
Therefore, according to the prayer taught by Jesus, we must pray,  
"Your kingdom come" (Luke 11:2).

## **Not everything is beneficial.**

Although we have the freedom to do whatever we want,  
not everything is beneficial  
(1 Corinthians 6:12).

## **The Lord who frees us from all expectations.**

When King Herod had James, the brother of John, killed with the sword,  
the Jews who were pleased with this event probably hoped  
that Herod would also kill Peter with the sword.  
However, the Lord sent an angel to rescue Peter from Herod's hands  
and deliver him from all the expectations of the Jews  
(Acts 12:1-11).

The Lord delivers us from all the expectations of those who delight in our misfortune.

## **It should benefit everyone.**

We must use the gifts that God has graciously given each of us  
according to the guidance of the Holy Spirit to benefit all people  
(1 Corinthians 12:4, 7).

## **How many churches are praised by everyone?**

How many churches are praised not only by the Lord but also by everyone?

How many churches are there

where the Lord increases the number of people being saved every day?

(Acts 2:47)

How many churches are reviled by the world?

How many churches steal members from other churches?

## **Immanuel God who saves us from all difficulties**

Even if our beloved brothers and sisters become jealous of us and abandon us,

“But God is with Joseph (us).”

Emmanuel God, who is with us, has “delivered him (us) from all our troubles”

and will deliver him not only now but also in the future

(Acts 7:9-10).

## **We must be temperate in all things.**

We must be temperate in all we do for the sake of the gospel

(1 Corinthians 9:23, 25).

## **A church that gathers and disperses**

The church should not stop gathering,  
but should encourage one another and make more efforts  
to gather together as the day of the Lord's coming approaches  
(Hebrews 10:25).

At the same time, the church should spread out  
and spread the word of the gospel wherever it goes,  
even through great persecution  
(Acts 8:1, 4).

## **Saints who suffer together with the pastor**

It is a great grace and blessing that there are pastors in the church  
who are respected by the pastors and believers who suffer together  
(Ref.: Romans 16:7).

## **The evaluation of pastors' ministry will be known on the Day of Judgment.**

The evaluation of pastors' ministry will be revealed on the Day of Judgment.  
Each one's work will be tested with fire, and if what they have built survives,  
they will receive a reward.  
But if it is burned up, they will suffer loss;  
they themselves will be saved,  
but only as one escaping through the flames  
(Ref.: 1 Corinthians 3:10-15).

## **Who is a pastor and who is an elder?**

Who is a pastor and who is an elder?

They are simply servants who made you believe as the Lord told them to do.

The pastor planted the word of God and the gospel of Jesus Christ,  
and the elder provided the caring water.

But it is God who made you grow.

Therefore, the pastor who plants and the elder who waters are nothing,  
but God who causes growth is the most important

(Ref.: 1 Corinthians 3:5-7; 1 Timothy 3:5).

## **Pastors should teach and testify to believers ...**

Pastors should teach and testify to believers,  
both publicly and from house to house, without hesitation,  
whatever is profitable for them.

They should urge everyone to repent and turn to God,  
and to have faith in our Lord Jesus, without holding back

(Acts 20:20-21).

## **Listening to the pastor's sermon ...**

While some people listen to and believe in the pastor's sermons,  
others, who do not believe, incite other congregants  
to harbor ill feelings towards the pastor

(Ref.: Acts 14:1-2).



## **As a pastor, I ...**

As a servant of Jesus Christ,  
I have been called as a pastor and set apart for the gospel of God,  
and I serve God with my heart in the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God  
(Romans 1:1, 9).

### **Pastors should hate bribes.**

The pastor must refrain from frequently calling the believers  
to talk with the intention of receiving bribes (Acts 24:26).  
The reason is that bribery blinds the eyes of the wise  
and perverts the words of the righteous (Deuteronomy 16:19),  
making everything unjustly handled (Proverbs 17:23).  
In short, the reason is that bribery corrupts the heart of man (Ecclesiastes 7:7).  
The pastor must abhor bribery (Proverbs 15:27).

### **Pray and praise the God of salvation with faith!**

We were thrown into a deep prison, our feet firmly secured in the stocks.  
Yet, even in that darkness, if we find ourselves now held fast by various kinds of chains  
binding our hands, feet, and bodies, rendering us unable to do anything, struggling in deep despair,  
let us, like Paul and Silas, pray and praise God.  
Suddenly, a great earthquake will shake our lives,  
and all the chains that bound us will be loosed.  
No matter how deep the prison, its doors will open wide.  
Let us pray and praise the God of salvation with faith!  
(Ref. Acts 16:24-27).

## **Christians who live a life enlightened by faith**

Christians who live a life enlightened by faith  
do not eat or drink extravagantly, do not get drunk,  
abstain from sexual immorality,  
debauchery, fighting, and jealousy, and act decently.  
They only clothe themselves with the Lord Jesus Christ  
and do not pursue the things of the flesh to satisfy their lusts  
(Romans 13:12-14).

## **Anything that is not done in faith is a sin.**

It is a sin not to do by faith what you think is right before God  
(Romans 14:22-23).

## **Values of people of faith**

Those who believe in Jesus choose to suffer with God's people  
rather than enjoy the temporary pleasures of sin.

And they consider suffering for Christ  
to be more valuable than the treasures of this world  
(Hebrews 11:25-26).

People of faith rejoice in being considered worthy enough  
to endure humiliation for Jesus  
(Acts 5:41).

## **A Christian with an immature faith**

A spiritual Christian who has matured in faith  
spiritually discerns, spiritually understands,  
and accepts the things of the Holy Spirit.

However, Christians who are immature in their faith  
have weak spiritual discernment and lack spiritual understanding,  
so they cannot easily accept the works of the Holy Spirit  
(Ref.: 1 Corinthians 2:14).

## **Christians who are mature in their faith**

Christians who are mature in their faith  
know the mysterious wisdom of God hidden  
through the Holy Spirit, who is God's spirit.  
That is, they know the heart of the Lord,  
the thoughts of the Lord, and the works of the Lord.  
It was ordained by God before the ages for our glory.  
This is what God has prepared for those who love him.  
God revealed the secret to us through the Holy Spirit.  
Therefore, we know the gift  
that God has graciously given us through the Holy Spirit  
(1 Corinthians 2:6-16).

The free gift that God has given us by grace  
is eternal life in our Lord Jesus Christ  
(Romans 6:23).

## **A spiritual Christian with mature faith**

A spiritual Christian with mature faith  
judges everything correctly with the Holy Spirit of God,  
but people in the world do not evaluate him properly  
(1 Corinthians 2:6, 15).

## **We must not offend the weak conscience of a brother who is weak in faith.**

No matter how clear our conscience may be,  
if we arrogantly abuse our freedom in the Lord  
and offend the weak conscience of our brothers and sisters who are weak in faith,  
we are sinning against Christ  
(1 Corinthians 8:8-12).

## **It is God's guidance and God's promise that cannot be accepted without faith.**

After God appeared to Abraham and said, "Go to the land I will show you,"  
the place He eventually led him to was not the land He would give to Abraham's descendants.  
Even though Abraham had no children yet, God promised him,  
"I will give this land to your descendants" (Acts 7:2-5).  
Ultimately, the "land I will show you" from God was not the "land to set foot on" for Abraham.  
Moreover, God promised Abraham, who had no children,  
that He would give "this land" to "his descendants."  
How should we perceive God's guidance and promises?  
They are God's guidance and promises that cannot be accepted without faith.

## **Without faith, we cannot understand the words of the Bible.**

Mary Magdalene saw only the stone that had been moved from Jesus' empty tomb, and the disciple whom Jesus loved saw only the linen cloths lying there.

However, Peter went into the tomb and saw the linen cloths lying there, as well as the cloth that had been wrapped around Jesus' head.

It was then that the other disciple, who had arrived at the tomb first, also went in, saw, and believed.

Yet, they still did not understand the Scripture that Jesus must rise from the dead (John 20:1-9).

Though they saw Jesus' empty tomb with their own eyes, they did not grasp the Scripture concerning His resurrection in their hearts.

Even if one sees all the evidence and miracles with their physical eyes, without faith, they cannot understand the words of the Bible.

## **Why we shouldn't abandon our unbelieving spouses.**

If a believing man/woman has an unbelieving wife/husband, and she/he is willing to live with them, they should not divorce him/her.

The reason is that the unbelieving wife/husband may be sanctified through the believing wife/husband and come to believe in Jesus Christ and receive salvation.

"Otherwise, your children would be unclean"

(1 Corinthians 7:12-14, 16).

## **What Saul did without knowing when he didn't believe**

When considering the zealous opposition of Jesus Christ's gospel and its proclaimers, who come even to the point of stirring up crowds and causing disturbances, Saul came to mind (Acts 17:13).

Saul persecuted the church zealously, which he did unknowingly when he did not believe in Jesus Christ (Philippians 3:6; 1 Timothy 1:13).

I am reminded of Jesus Christ's prayer on the cross:

"Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing" (Luke 23:34).

## **I hope to become a person like Barnabas.**

We should strive to be like Barnabas, full of the Holy Spirit and faith.

Furthermore, like Barnabas, we should rejoice when we see someone come to believe in Jesus Christ by the grace of God. Like Barnabas, we should always encourage all our brothers and sisters to rely on the Lord with steadfast hearts.

Through people like Barnabas, I pray that many will come to believe in the Lord (Acts 11:23-24).

## **We must not miss the opportunity to obey ‘at that very moment’.**

While praying, when the Holy Spirit brings to mind the word of God,  
we should, after finishing our prayer,  
seize the opportunity to obey that word in spiritual discernment.  
We should not doubt but obey God in faith  
when He provides the opportunity to obey His word ‘at that very moment’  
(Ref.: Acts 11:5-12).

## **Zeal overflowing from a source other than sound knowledge can disrupt the peace of the church.**

Among the saints in the church who zealously strive,  
in their own perception, for the right purpose for the Lord,  
there also seem to be individuals who overflow with fervor to the extent  
of refusing to adhere to the regulations set by pastors and elders (the session)  
(Acts 16:4; Numbers 16:3, 7).  
For they are zealous for God, but their zeal is not based on knowledge  
(Romans 10:2).  
Zeal without knowledge is not good,  
and hasty individuals make many mistakes  
(Proverbs 19:2).

## **We should throw away what needs to be thrown away.**

A crisis can be a good opportunity  
to throw away what needs to be thrown away  
(Acts 27:17-19; Ref.: Jonah 1:4).

## **We must not abandon our spouses.**

A wife must not separate from her husband.  
And her husband must not abandon his wife either.  
(1 Corinthians 7:10-11).

## **A Christian who lives by what is seen and not by faith, like Thomas?**

Why was Thomas not there when the resurrected Jesus first appeared to the disciples?  
While the other disciples rejoiced at seeing  
only the nail marks in Jesus' hands and the wound in His side,  
why did Thomas insist on putting his finger into the nail marks  
and his hand into Jesus' side before believing?(John 20:19-20, 24-25).  
Perhaps the reason is that Thomas had a lot of fear about death (John 11:16).  
Maybe the reason is that Thomas truly did not understand Jesus,  
who is the way, the truth, and the life (John 14:4-7).  
It seems that the reason is that Thomas was "a doubter" (John 20:27).  
Such a doubter lives by what is seen, not by faith,  
even seeing and touching with their own hands (2 Corinthians 5:7).



## **Though we are insignificant people ...**

The Lord is enabling us to boldly spread the gospel of Jesus Christ through people who seem insignificant in the eyes of the world.  
(Acts 4:13).

## **Those who spread the gospel of Jesus Christ**

Those who spread the gospel of Jesus Christ are debtors to all people and are not ashamed of the gospel, believing that it is the power of God for salvation to all who believe  
(Ref.: Romans 1:14-16).

## **Those who preach the gospel**

Those who preach the gospel must convey God's will without hesitation whether they listen or not  
(Ezekiel 2:5, 7; 3:11; Acts 20:27).

## **Pastors and church members who don't know the gospel?**

Like our church leaders who do not know the gospel of Jesus Christ, our congregation members who follow us also do not know the gospel. Therefore, because they do not live according to the gospel of Christ in this world, they become stumbling blocks to the ministry of testifying to the gospel of Jesus Christ (Ref.: Acts 3:17; Romans 9:32; 1 Corinthians 8:9, 10:32; Philippians 1:27).

## **Church officials who treat service and ministry as if they were disposable napkins**

Judas Iscariot treated service and the apostolic ministry as if they were disposable napkins (Acts 1:25). Outwardly, he appeared to care for the poor, but in reality, he was a thief who was in charge of the money box (John 12:6). He betrayed Jesus to the chief priests and elders for thirty pieces of silver (Matthew 27:3). Judas Iscariot loved money, so he betrayed Jesus out of love for money and disregarded service and the apostolic ministry. Even today, there are church officials who love money, like the Pharisees (Luke 16:14). Although they seem to love and serve God outwardly, they actually serve money out of love for it, thus treating service and ministry as if they were disposable napkins. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs (1 Timothy 6:10).

## **Those who will not be put to shame and those who will stumble**

Those who are justified by faith in Jesus Christ will not be put to shame,  
but those who seek to be justified by human efforts and works will stumble  
(Romans 9:32-33)

## **When a married couple is unable to have a normal sexual life because they do not fulfill their sexual obligations to each other**

When a married couple does not devote themselves to prayer  
and instead becomes unrestrained towards each other,  
failing to fulfill their sexual duties to one another,  
they cannot lead a normal married life,  
and when sexual satisfaction is not met,  
they may become unable to exercise self-control.  
Then Satan can tempt the husband or wife sexually  
with someone other than their spouse  
(1 Corinthians 7:1-5).

## **When a married couple does not have a normal sex life ...**

When a married couple fail to fulfill their sexual duties to one another and reject each other's bodies, leading to an abnormal sexual relationship, there is a risk that the husband may be drawn to another woman, and the wife to another man. If they are unable to resist sexual temptation towards the opposite sex, Satan may tempt them, ultimately leading to adultery and infidelity (1 Corinthians 7:1-5).

## **A person who thinks beyond his means**

A person who thinks more about himself than he should and who speaks and acts excessively is at risk of breaking the unity of the church (Romans 12:3).

## **A church without conflict?**

All the various parts of the body of Christ, the church, are necessary. The parts of the body that seem weaker are actually necessary. We should consider the parts of the body that seem less important to be even more important. We should consider the parts of the body that aren't very beautiful to be even more beautiful. In this way, God has made the body's harmony by giving greater honor to the parts that lack it. So in the church, which is Christ's body, there is no conflict, but all the parts work together to care for one another (1 Corinthians 12:22-25).

## **One person with impure motives can cause great turmoil in a church.**

To resolve the issue in a lawful assembly would suffice,  
but the reason for seeking to resolve the problem  
through unlawful gatherings and unlawful means is because of impure motives  
(Acts 19:23-41).

Even within the church, one person with discontent  
can cause significant turmoil within the church  
by holding unlawful gatherings and using unlawful means with impure motives (v. 23).

## **Church members who value money more than the salvation and freedom of one poor soul?**

The owners of a slave girl who was possessed by a spirit  
were making a lot of money from her fortune-telling.  
When the Apostle Paul, in the name of Jesus Christ,  
commanded the spirit to come out of her,  
seeing that their hope of making money was gone,  
they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them to the authorities in the marketplace.  
They brought them before the Roman officials and said,  
"These Jews are stirring up trouble in our city  
by advocating customs unlawful for us Romans to accept or practice  
(Acts 16:16-21).

To the owners of that woman, the joyful event of her being set free  
from the spirit in the name of Jesus Christ seemed to only mean  
the disappearance of their hope for making money.  
To parishioners who value money more than the salvation and freedom of a poor soul,  
a suffering individual in need will only appear to be someone who can bring them profit.

## **If we cannot control our burning passion, we must get married.**

Unmarried individuals and widows, especially younger widows,  
should marry if they cannot control their passions  
(1 Corinthians 7:8-9).

## **Although people in the world say that there are many gods and lords in heaven and earth ...**

Although people in the world say that there are many gods and lords in heaven and earth,  
we Christians believe that idols are nothing in this world  
and that there is only one God  
(1 Corinthians 8:4-5).

## **Although we know in part now ...**

Although we know in part now,  
when the fullness comes, I will see the Lord Jesus Christ face to face,  
and I will know fully, even as the Lord knows us  
(1 Corinthians 13:9, 10, 12).

## **Why do people not receive much grace from pastors?**

The reason people do not receive great grace  
is because pastors do not properly testify  
the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ with great power.  
(Acts 4:33).

## **A plan from man or a plan from God?**

Although plans and works that come from man will be destroyed,  
no one can destroy the plans or works that come from God  
(Acts 5:38-39).

## **Though people never change ...**

Though people never change,  
the Lord of absolutes transformed even someone like me,  
who was absolutely unchanging,  
into a pastor to live for Jesus Christ and the gospel.  
The Lord, who changed 'Saul' into 'Paul,'  
accomplished this remarkable transformation  
(Acts 9:1-20).

The Lord who initiated this remarkable transformation  
will, when the last trumpet sounds, instantaneously transform me  
(1 Corinthians 15:51),  
so that my humble body will be conformed  
to the body of His glory (Philippians 3:21).

## **The standard of human choice**

God's standard of choice lies not in man's actions but in God's will  
(Romans 9:11).

## **Knowledge without love ...**

Knowledge without love only makes one proud,  
and love without knowledge does not edify  
(1 Corinthians 8:1).

## **Freedom that is not controlled by love cannot be edifying.**

The freedom we enjoy by grace in the Lord  
needs to be controlled by love for our neighbors.  
Our freedom, excluding love of our neighbors, can never be edifying  
and only builds up our own arrogance  
(Ref. 1 Corinthians 8:1, 9-13).



## **Love never disappears.**

Love never fails (1 Corinthians 13:8).

Love is eternal. The love of God is eternal (Psalms 136).

The eternal God loves us with an everlasting love (Jeremiah 31:3).

## **Love is not arrogant.**

Love is not arrogant (1 Corinthians 13:4).

Only by pride comes contention (Proverbs 13:10).

When pride comes, then comes disgrace (11:2).

God hates pride (8:13; Romans 1:30)

and does not tolerate the proud (Psalms 101:5)

but repays those who act in pride severely (31:23).

God humbles those who act in pride (Daniel 4:37).

Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall (Proverbs 18:12).

Therefore, let us not have a proud heart (1 Corinthians 4:6).

## **Love bears all things.**

Love bears all things (1 Corinthians 13:7).

Love bears trials (James 1:12).

Love bears hardships (2 Corinthians 1:6).

Love patiently bears, even when we are treated as servants,  
exploited, or mistreated, even when we are insulted or slapped (11:20).

Love holds fast to God's Word in the depths of our hearts,  
bearing when suffering or persecution comes because of that Word (Matthew 13:21).

Love is strengthened by all the glorious power of God,  
enabling us to bear joyfully in all things (Colossians 1:11).

## **Love believes all things.**

Love believes all things (1 Corinthians 13:7).

Love believes in the Lord (Acts 18:8).

Love believes that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God  
who is coming into the world (John 11:27).

Love believes that Jesus died and rose again.

Love believes that even those who have died in Jesus,  
God will bring with him (1 Thessalonians 4:14).

Love believes in receiving salvation through the grace of the Lord Jesus (Acts 15:11).

Love believes in God (27:25).

Love believes all the words recorded in the Bible (24:14).

Love believes that what God has promised will surely be fulfilled (27:25).

Love believes that God has delivered us from great peril of death,  
and he will deliver us, and will continue to deliver us (2 Corinthians 1:10).

## **Love hopes all things.**

Love hopes all things (1 Corinthians 13:7).

Love hopes for everything.

Love places its hope in God (Psalms 42:5, 11; 43:5).

Love hopes for the salvation of the Lord (119:166).

Love does not depart from the hope of the gospel (Colossians 1:23).

Love eagerly anticipates the blessed hope—

the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ (Titus 2:13).

## **Love endures all things.**

Love endures all things (1 Corinthians 13:7).

Love endures and endures.

Love is patient (James 5:8).

Love is patient and kind (1 Corinthians 13:4).

Love waits (1 Peter 3:20).

Love endures persecution (1 Corinthians 4:12).

Love waits before the Lord (Psalms 37:7).

Love endures and serves (Acts 20:19).

Love endures for the glory of God (Isaiah 48:9).

## **Love is not rude.**

Love does not act rudely (1 Corinthians 13:5).

However, wicked people without love rudely

criticize the righteous with arrogant and stubborn words (Psalms 31:18).

## **Love does not delight in unrighteousness but rejoices with the truth.**

Love does not rejoice in unrighteousness but rejoices with the truth (1 Corinthians 13:6).

Love hates unrighteousness and believes in truth (2 Thessalonians 2:12).

Love follows truth and does not follow unrighteousness (Romans 2:8).

Love does not practice unrighteousness, does not deceive, but practices truth (Zephaniah 3:5; 1 Corinthians 6:8; Psalms 119:3).

Love blocks unrighteousness with truth (Romans 1:18)

The love of truth conquers all deceit of unrighteousness (2 Thessalonians 2:10).

## **Love is not easily angered.**

Love is not easily angered (1 Corinthians 13:5).

Provoking someone's anger with harsh words is not love (Proverbs 15:1).

Quick anger is foolishness (12:16).

An angry person stirs up conflict,  
and a hot-tempered person commits many sins (29:22).

It is better to live alone in the desert than with a quarrelsome, hot-tempered spouse (21:19).

Human anger does not bring about the righteousness that God desires (James 1:20).

We should be slow to anger (v. 19).

## **Love does not envy.**

Love does not envy (1 Corinthians 13:4).

Those who are worldly envy (3:3).

Envy rots the bones (Proverbs 14:30).

If there is bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts,  
do not boast about it or deny the truth (James 3:14).

For where you have envy and selfish ambition,  
there you find disorder and every evil practice (v. 16)

Envy kills the fool (Job 5:2).

Therefore, rid yourselves of all malice and all deceit,  
hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind (1 Peter 2:1).

## **Love keeps no record of wrongs.**

Love does not think evil (1 Corinthians 13:5).

Love does not keep a record of wrongs done to me by others.

And love does not repeatedly bring up what others have done wrong to me;  
instead, love covers their faults (Proverbs 17:9).

## **Love is gentle (kind).**

Jesus is gentle and humble in heart (Matthew 11:29).

Love is gentle (kind) (1 Corinthians 13:4).

One of the fruits of the Spirit is gentleness (Galatians 5:23).

As God's people, we should pursue gentleness (1 Timothy 6:11).

As saints who have been called by God,

we should always be humble and gentle (Ephesians 4:1-2).

We should always show gentleness to everyone (Titus 3:2).

We should live with wisdom, possessing a gentle heart and doing good deeds (James 3:13).

The gentle will inherit the land and enjoy abundant peace (Psalms 37:11).

"Blessed are the gentle, for they shall inherit the earth" (Matthew 5:5).

## **Love is not self-seeking.**

Love is not self-seeking (1 Corinthians 13:5).

The one who loves does not seek their own benefit,

but rather the benefit of others and the benefit of many (1 Corinthians 10:24, 33).

Making an effort to do good deeds that benefit people

is considered beautiful in the sight of God (Titus 3:8).

## **Love does not boast.**

Love does not boast (1 Corinthians 13:4).

The wise should not boast about their wisdom,  
the strong should not boast about their strength,  
and the rich should not boast about their wealth. (Jeremiah 9:23).

We should not boast about our actions (Ephesians 2:9).

We should not boast about the desires of our hearts (Psalms 10:3).

We should not boast in vain. Such boasting is evil (James 4:16)

We should not boast about tomorrow's work. (Proverbs 27:1).

Those who boast should boast in the Lord (1 Corinthians 1:31; 2 Corinthians 10:17).

We should boast in the Lord all day long (Psalms 34:2; 44:8).

We should boast about the work of God in Christ Jesus (Romans 15:17).

And we should boast about our weaknesses (2 Corinthians 11:30).

## **Without love ...**

Speaking without love is nothing more than a sounding cymbal.

Faith without love is nothing.

Giving without love is of no benefit to me

(1 Corinthians 13:1-3).

## **Because of my beloved brothers and sisters in the Lord ...**

When I meet my beloved brothers and sisters in the Lord  
for the first time in a long time,  
I give thanks to God and gain courage  
(Ref.: Acts 28:15).

## **Jesus and we cannot be bound by death**

Jesus could not be held by death,  
so God raised him from the agony of death  
(Acts 2:24).  
Just as we cannot be held by death,  
"if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you,  
he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies  
because of his Spirit who lives in you  
(Romans 8:11).

## **When we are misunderstood due to rumors that are not based on facts ...**

When we are misunderstood due to rumors that are not based on facts,  
of course, there is a need to try to resolve the misunderstanding.  
But if they are a group of people who hate us anyway and want to kill us,  
then such people will incite the crowd by turning the rumors into facts  
(Ref.: Acts 21:20-31).



## **A person with wrong thoughts that are not based on facts.**

The fact is that food itself is not unclean,  
but to someone who considers it unclean,  
their own belief that the food is unclean will seem right to them.  
In this way, those who hold unfounded and incorrect beliefs  
may become the target of criticism even within the church.  
However, the Bible says,  
"I am convinced, being fully persuaded in the Lord Jesus, t  
hat nothing is unclean in itself.  
But if anyone regards something as unclean,  
then for that person it is unclean.  
If your brother or sister is distressed because of what you eat,  
you are no longer acting in love.  
Do not by your eating destroy someone for whom Christ died"  
(Romans 14:14-16).

## **The Lord not only saves people like Saul, but also gives them a mission to testify the gospel of Jesus Christ.**

When the persecutor Saul did not believe in Jesus,  
he did not understand and threatened and persecuted the Lord's disciples.  
He intended to arrest anyone who believed in Jesus,  
regardless of gender, and bring them to Jerusalem.  
But Jesus, who appeared to him, said, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?"  
(Acts 9:1-5; 1 Timothy 1:13).  
Even someone like Saul, who persecuted believers out of ignorance in unbelief,  
the Lord not only saved but also entrusted with a mission to testify to the gospel of Jesus Christ.

## **Satan's work of jealousy**

When the gospel of Jesus Christ is preached  
and the work of God's salvation takes place,  
the work of Satan incites his agents to jealousy,  
even mobilizing thugs to roam around in gangs,  
causing disturbances and turmoil,  
opposing and persecuting the preachers of the gospel  
(Acts 17:1-8; Ref.: Matthew 27:18; Acts 5:17; 13:45).

## **Disciples who follow Jesus glorify God through life and death**

While walking along the shores of the Sea of Galilee,  
Jesus saw Peter (and his brother Andrew) casting a net into the sea and said to them,  
"Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men" (Matthew 4:18-19).  
After his resurrection, Jesus,  
who appeared to Peter again at the Sea of Tiberias while fishing,  
revealed to him the kind of death by which he would glorify God,  
and then said, "Follow me" (John 21:1, 3, 19).  
As those called by the Lord,  
we are to be his followers, disciples who,  
through our lives, sacrifice ourselves for Jesus and the gospel  
(Mark 8:35), even in our death, we are to glorify God.

## **Three three three Peter?**

Peter denied Jesus three times (Luke 22:56-61)

and received a three command from Jesus (John 21:15-17).

Through a vision, the Lord spoke to him three times (Acts 10:9-16).

As a result, Peter came to the realization,

"God does not show favoritism but accepts from every nation

the one who fears him and does what is right" (vv. 34-35).

Why did these three events need to occur three times for Peter?

Couldn't they have happened just once?

The repetition of these events underscores their significance

and emphasizes the transformation and lesson that Peter needed to learn.

It was a profound way for Peter to understand the depth of his denial,

the importance of his mission, and the universality of God's grace and acceptance.

Each repetition served to reinforce these lessons

and deepen Peter's understanding and commitment to his role in spreading the gospel.