

ROMANS 15:14-... BEING BOLD FOR CHRIST

ROMANS 15:1-13

15 WE THEN WHO ARE STRONG OUGHT TO BEAR WITH THE ^[A]SCRUPLES OF THE WEAK, AND NOT TO PLEASE OURSELVES. ² LET EACH OF US PLEASE HIS NEIGHBOR FOR HIS GOOD, LEADING TO ^[B]EDIFICATION. ³ FOR EVEN CHRIST DID NOT PLEASE HIMSELF; BUT AS IT IS WRITTEN, "THE REPROACHES OF THOSE WHO REPROACHED YOU FELL ON ME." ⁴ FOR WHATEVER THINGS WERE WRITTEN BEFORE WERE WRITTEN FOR OUR LEARNING, THAT WE THROUGH THE ^[C]PATIENCE AND COMFORT OF THE SCRIPTURES MIGHT HAVE HOPE. ⁵ NOW MAY THE GOD OF PATIENCE AND COMFORT GRANT YOU TO BE LIKE-MINDED TOWARD ONE ANOTHER, ACCORDING TO CHRIST JESUS, ⁶ THAT YOU MAY WITH ONE MIND AND ONE MOUTH GLORIFY THE GOD AND FATHER OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST.

⁷ THEREFORE RECEIVE ONE ANOTHER, JUST AS CHRIST ALSO RECEIVED ^[D]US, TO THE GLORY OF GOD. ⁸ NOW I SAY THAT JESUS CHRIST HAS BECOME A ^[E]SERVANT TO THE CIRCUMCISION FOR THE TRUTH OF GOD, TO CONFIRM THE PROMISES MADE TO THE FATHERS, ⁹ AND THAT THE GENTILES MIGHT GLORIFY GOD FOR HIS MERCY, AS IT IS WRITTEN:

**"FOR THIS REASON I WILL CONFESS TO YOU AMONG THE GENTILES,
AND SING TO YOUR NAME."**

¹⁰ AND AGAIN HE SAYS:

"REJOICE, O GENTILES, WITH HIS PEOPLE!"

¹¹ AND AGAIN:

**"PRAISE THE LORD, ALL YOU GENTILES!
LAUD HIM, ALL YOU PEOPLES!"**

¹² AND AGAIN, ISAIAH SAYS:

**"THERE SHALL BE A ROOT OF JESSE;
AND HE WHO SHALL RISE TO REIGN OVER THE GENTILES,
IN HIM THE GENTILES SHALL HOPE."**

¹³ NOW MAY THE GOD OF HOPE FILL YOU WITH ALL JOY AND PEACE IN BELIEVING, THAT YOU MAY ABOUND IN HOPE BY THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

LAST WEEK WE ENDED WITH VERY ENCOURAGING AND UPLIFTING WORDS FROM THE APOSTLE PAUL.

HOPE FOR THE JEWISH PEOPLE AS WELL AS THE GENTILES.

ROMANS 15:13

13 NOW MAY THE GOD OF HOPE FILL YOU WITH ALL JOY AND PEACE IN BELIEVING, SO THAT YOU WILL ABOUND IN HOPE BY THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

PAUL IS A TOUGH CHARACTER BUT THIS VERSE REVEALS HIS TENDER HEART TOWARDS THE PEOPLE HE IS WRITING TO.

WE HAVE TO KEEP IN MIND, WHAT HAS TAKEN US ALMOST A YEAR TO COVER IS A SINGLE LETTER.

SO THE THINGS SAID THROUGHOUT MAY NOT BE FRESH ON OUR MIND BUT THEY CERTAINLY WERE FRESH ON THE MIND OF THOSE THAT HAD JUST READ IT.

DESPITE ALL THE DIFFICULT THINGS PAUL ADDRESSED HE STILL WANTED THEM TO KNOW THAT HE LOVED THEM.

THAT HE WANTED THEM BE FILLED WITH HOPE, JOY AND PEACE.

MINISTRY IS DIFFICULT, IT REQUIRES US TO BE INVOLVED IN EACH OTHER'S LIVES AND VERY OFTEN IT MEANS ADDRESSING DIFFICULT THINGS JUST LIKE PAUL HAD TO.

BUT AT THE END OF THE DAY AS PASTORS WE DESIRE THE SAME AS PAUL.

FOR GOD TO FILL EACH ONE OF YOU WITH JOY AND PEACE.

WHICH MEANS WHEN WE SEE SOMETHING THAT ISN'T RIGHT, WE HAVE TO SAY SOMETHING.

WHY?

WHY CAN'T WE JUST LEAVE PEOPLE ALONE AND LET THEM LIVE THEIR LIFE THE WAY THEY WANT?

WELL FIRST OF ALL GOD HAS COMMANDED US TO HOLD EACH OTHER ACCOUNTABLE.

BUT ANOTHER REASON IS THAT IF YOU'RE ENGAGED IN SIN, YOU CAN'T HAVE TRUE PEACE OR JOY.

SO, IF WE WANT THOSE THINGS FOR YOU, WE MUST ADDRESS THE SIN.

GOD IS THE SOURCE OF JOY, HOPE AND PEACE.

OUR SIN IS WHAT KEEPS US FROM EXPERIENCING THOSE THINGS THE WAY GOD INTENDED US TO EXPERIENCE THEM.

THAT IS WHY WE ARE CALLED TO REPENT, TO TURN FROM OUR SIN AND EMBRACE CHRIST.

THAT'S WHERE THAT PEACE AND JOY COMES FROM.

IN THE BEGINNING OF CHAPTER 15 PAUL CALLS THE STRONGER BELIEVERS TO BEAR THE WEAKNESS OF THOSE WITHOUT STRENGTH.

DOES THAT MEAN THAT WE DON'T ACKNOWLEDGE IT?

NO! IT MEANS THAT WE ARE PATIENT WITH THEM!

IT MEANS WE USE THE AREAS WE ARE STRONG IN TO SHORE UP OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS THAT ARE WEAK IN THAT AREA.

WE STILL OFFER WISE COUNSEL AND GUIDANCE BUT WE DO SO KNOWING THAT THEY ARE WEAK AND WILL PROBABLY FAIL.

AND WHEN THEY FAIL WE DON'T GIVE UP, WE KEEP SHORING THEM UP.

WE KEEP ENCOURAGING AND WE KEEP LOVING.

THIS DOESN'T MEAN ENABLING THEM BUT WALKING THROUGH THE DIFFICULT TIMES WITH THEM.

LISTEN TO WHAT THE HOLY SPIRIT SAYS THROUGH THE APOSTLE PAUL IN THESE FEW VERSES.

1ST CORINTHIANS 6:9-11

⁹ OR DO YOU NOT KNOW THAT THE UNRIGHTEOUS WILL NOT INHERIT THE KINGDOM OF GOD? DO NOT BE DECEIVED; NEITHER THE SEXUALLY IMMORAL, NOR IDOLATERS, NOR ADULTERERS, NOR ^[E]EFFEMINATE, NOR HOMOSEXUALS, ¹⁰ NOR THIEVES, NOR THE GREEDY, NOR DRUNKARDS, NOR REVILERS, NOR SWINDLERS, WILL INHERIT THE KINGDOM OF GOD. ¹¹ AND SUCH WERE SOME OF YOU; BUT YOU WERE WASHED, BUT YOU WERE SANCTIFIED, BUT YOU WERE JUSTIFIED IN THE NAME OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST AND IN THE SPIRIT OF OUR GOD.

EPHESIANS 2:13

¹³ BUT NOW IN CHRIST JESUS YOU WHO FORMERLY WERE FAR OFF ^[H]HAVE BEEN BROUGHT NEAR BY THE BLOOD OF CHRIST.

EPHESIANS 5:8

⁸ FOR YOU WERE FORMERLY DARKNESS, BUT NOW YOU ARE LIGHT IN THE LORD; WALK AS CHILDREN OF LIGHT

COLOSSIANS 1:21-23

²¹ AND ALTHOUGH YOU WERE FORMERLY ALIENATED AND ENEMIES IN MIND AND IN EVIL DEEDS, ²² BUT NOW HE RECONCILED YOU IN THE BODY OF HIS FLESH THROUGH DEATH, IN ORDER TO PRESENT YOU BEFORE HIM HOLY AND BLAMELESS AND BEYOND REPROACH—²³ IF INDEED YOU CONTINUE IN ^[Z]THE FAITH FIRMLY GROUNDED AND STEADFAST, AND NOT MOVED AWAY FROM THE HOPE OF THE GOSPEL, WHICH YOU HAVE HEARD, WHICH WAS PROCLAIMED IN ALL CREATION UNDER HEAVEN, AND OF WHICH I, PAUL, ^[AA]WAS MADE A ^[AB]MINISTER.

NOW WHY DID I JUST READ ALL THOSE VERSES?

WHAT DO THEY HAVE TO DO WITH WHAT WE ARE TALKING ABOUT?

OVER AND OVER IN SCRIPTURE WE ARE REMINDED OF WHO WE USED TO BE.

NOT SO THAT WE CAN BEAT OURSELVES UP ABOUT IT OR LIVE IN A CONSTANT STATE OF GUILT AND SELF-DEGRADATION.

BUT SO WE REMEMBER WHAT GOD SAVED US FROM.

SO THAT WE REMEMBER THE UNFATHOMABLE AMOUNT OF GRACE THAT HAS BEEN POURED OUT OVER US.

SO THAT WE REMAIN HUMBLE.

SO THAT WHEN WE DO GO TO A BROTHER OR SISTER, WE DO SO REMEMBERING WHERE WE CAME FROM AND WHO WE USED TO BE UNTIL GOD SAVED US.

SO MANY TIMES, WE HEAR “FORGET ABOUT THE PAST”

“NEVER LOOK BACK”

“IT DOESN’T MATTER WHERE YOU CAME FROM ONLY WHERE YOU END UP”

WELL, I THINK SCRIPTURE HAS MADE IT CLEAR THAT WE NEED TO BE REMINDED OF OUR PAST AND WHAT GOD SAVED US FROM.

NOW THAT DOESN’T MEAN THAT WE LET OUR PAST DEFINE US.

IT DOESN’T MEAN THAT WE DWELL ON THE THINGS OF THE PAST.

WE HAVE TO REMEMBER GOD USED OUR PAST...

HE USED OUR MISTAKES AND FAILURES.

HE USED OUR LOSS AND TRAUMA.

HE USED PAST ENEMIES.

HE USED ALL OF THOSE THINGS TO REFINE YOU, TO SHAPE YOU. HE USED THOSE THINGS TO DRAW YOU TO HIMSELF.

AND ALTHOUGH IT WAS PAINFUL AND FULL OF DARKNESS EVERY SINGLE PERSON THAT IS HEAVEN WILL TELL YOU IT WAS WORTH IT!

EVERY PERSON IN THIS ROOM IS A RESULT OF YOUR PAST.

YOU HAVE TO ASK YOURSELF IF YOU'RE GOING TO BE A VICTIM OR A VICTOR.

YOU CAN BE A VICTIM OF YOUR PAST AND LET IT DICTATE EVERY WAKING MOMENT OF YOUR LIFE OR YOU CAN GIVE IT TO JESUS.

AND THROUGH HIM HAVE VICTORY OVER IT!

ONE OF MY FAVORITE OLD HYMNS SPEAKS ABOUT THIS VERY THING.

VICTORY IN JESUS MY SAVIOR FOREVER, HE SOUGHT ME AND BOUGHT ME WITH HIS REDEEMING BLOOD.

THE CHOICE IS YOURS...

VICTIM OR VICTOR....

AND THAT BRINGS US TO THE LESSON FOR TODAY.

ROMANS 15:14

14 NOW I MYSELF AM CONFIDENT CONCERNING YOU, MY BRETHREN, THAT YOU ALSO ARE FULL OF GOODNESS, FILLED WITH ALL KNOWLEDGE, ABLE ALSO TO ADMONISH ^[E]ONE ANOTHER.

WHAT A COMPLIMENT COMING FROM PAUL.

WE LEARNED FROM CHAPTER 14 AND THE FIRST FEW VERSES OF CHAPTER 15 THAT THE CHURCH IS FULL OF ALL DIFFERENT LEVELS OF BELIEVERS.

FROM THE NON-BELIEVER TO THE VERY MATURE MEN AND WOMEN OF GOD.

EACH ONE OF THEM PLAYING A ROLE IN THE CHURCH AND HOW GOD INTENDED IT TO FUNCTION.

WE ARE CALLED TO MAKE DISCIPLES, WELL IN ORDER FOR THAT TO HAPPEN THERE MUST BE PEOPLE THAT ARE CAPABLE OF DISCIPLING AND PEOPLE THAT NEED TO BE DISCIPLED.

THIS VERSE CONTINUES ON IN THAT SAME THEME.

IMAGINE A CHURCH THAT OPERATES THIS WAY...

PEOPLE THAT ARE WILLING TO HAVE THE DIFFICULT CONVERSATIONS, PEOPLE THAT HOLD EACH OTHER ACCOUNTABLE.

PEOPLE THAT ENCOURAGE AS WELL AS OFFER CORRECTION WHEN NECESSARY...

IF THAT SOUNDS SCARY TO YOU THEN YOU MUST ASK YOURSELF IF YOU REALLY WANT TO GROW IN MATURITY.

BECAUSE THIS IS THE WAY A HEALTHY CHURCH MUST OPERATE.

IF YOU REMEMBER IN ROMANS CHAPTER 1 PAUL SPEAKS VERY HIGHLY OF THE ROMAN CHURCH.

ROMANS 1:8

FIRST, I THANK MY GOD THROUGH JESUS CHRIST FOR YOU ALL, THAT YOUR FAITH IS SPOKEN OF THROUGHOUT THE WHOLE WORLD.

THIS TELLS US THAT THIS CHURCH DEFINITELY HAD SOME VERY MATURE BELIEVERS AMONG THEM.

ROMANS 15:14

14 NOW I MYSELF AM CONFIDENT CONCERNING YOU, MY BRETHREN, THAT YOU ALSO ARE FULL OF GOODNESS, FILLED WITH ALL KNOWLEDGE, ABLE ALSO TO ADMONISH ONE ANOTHER.

PAUL IS EXPRESSING THAT HE HIMSELF HAS CONFIDENCE IN THIS CHURCH AND THEIR ABILITY TO WALK ACCORDING TO WHAT GOD HAS COMMANDED OF THEM.

DESPITE PAUL'S VERY STRONG WARNINGS AND ADMONITIONS HE WAS WELL AWARE OF THE FAITH THAT THE ROMAN CHURCH POSSESSED.

ROMANS 15:15,16

15 NEVERTHELESS, BRETHREN, I HAVE WRITTEN MORE BOLDLY TO YOU ON SOME POINTS, AS REMINDING YOU, BECAUSE OF THE GRACE GIVEN TO ME BY GOD, 16 THAT I MIGHT BE A MINISTER OF JESUS CHRIST TO THE GENTILES, MINISTERING THE GOSPEL OF GOD, THAT THE OFFERING ¹⁶OF THE GENTILES MIGHT BE ACCEPTABLE, SANCTIFIED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT.

ALL THROUGHOUT THE BOOK OF ACTS PAUL IS DESCRIBED AS SPEAKING OUT BOLDLY IN THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST...

DID YOU KNOW WE ARE CALLED TO BE BOLD; WE ARE CALLED TO BE COURAGEOUS...

THIS DOESN'T MEAN CARELESS OR RECKLESS THOUGH.

IT MEANS WE SHOULD ABSOLUTELY BE BOLD WHEN IT COMES TO THE GOSPEL, WHEN IT COMES TO OUR LORD.

THIS DOESN'T MEAN THAT WE ARE PRIDEFUL OR THINK MORE HIGHLY OF OURSELVES THAN WE SHOULD.

BUT IT DOES MEAN THAT WE SHOULD HAVE COMPLETE CONFIDENCE IN THE LORD AND HIS PLAN.

SOMEWHERE ALONG THE WAY THE AMERICAN CHURCH EMBRACED THIS IDEA THAT CHRISTIANS SHOULD NEVER SPEAK UP.

THAT WE SHOULDN'T SPEAK ABOUT HELL AND JUDGEMENT.

THAT WE SHOULDN'T SPEAK ABOUT THE BLOOD OF JESUS.

WELL ALL OF THOSE ARE LIES STRAIGHT FROM THE PIT OF HELL.

JOSHUA 1:9

9 HAVE I NOT COMMANDED YOU? BE STRONG AND OF GOOD COURAGE; DO NOT BE AFRAID, NOR BE DISMAYED, FOR THE LORD YOUR GOD IS WITH YOU WHEREVER YOU GO."

THESE ARE WORDS DIRECTLY FROM THE LORD TO JOSHUA AFTER THE DEATH OF MOSES.

THESE ARE THE WORDS GOD SAID TO JOSHUA AFTER HE GAVE THE COMMAND TO CROSS THE RIVER JORDAN.

2ND CORINTHIANS 3:12

12 SINCE THIS NEW WAY GIVES US SUCH CONFIDENCE, WE CAN BE VERY BOLD.

ACTS 4:29

29 AND NOW, O LORD, HEAR THEIR THREATS, AND GIVE US, YOUR SERVANTS, GREAT BOLDNESS IN PREACHING YOUR WORD.

THIS WAS A PRAYER FROM PETER AND JOHN AND THE OTHER DISCIPLES WHO HAD BEEN EXPERIENCING GREAT PERSECUTION BY THE RELIGIOUS LEADERS.

BUT NOTICE THEY DIDN'T ASK GOD TO DELIVER THEM FROM THESE TRIALS.

THEY DIDN'T ASK GOD TO MAKE THEIR MINISTRY EASIER...

THEY PRAYED THAT GOD WOULD GIVE THEM BOLDNESS IN PREACHING HIS WORD... BOLDNESS IN THE FACE OF THREATS AND PERSECUTION.

THE AMOUNT OF SCRIPTURE THAT SPEAKS ABOUT MEN OF GOD BOLDLY PROCLAIMING TRUTH IS STAGGERING.

WHICH SHOULD INSPIRE US TO BE OF THE SAME MINDSET.

IF YOU HAVE A PROBLEM WITH BEING BOLD FOR JESUS, THEN DO WHAT THE EARLY BELIEVERS DID...

PRAY FOR BOLDNESS.

PAUL IS BOLD IN HIS PRESENTATION OF THE GOSPEL BECAUSE HIS DESIRE IS FOR THE GENTILES TO HEAR THAT MESSAGE, TO RECEIVE IT AND ACT ON IT.

WE HAVE TO BE CONFIDENT IN OUR FAITH, WE HAVE TO BE BOLD.

WHY?

BECAUSE WHO IS GOING TO LISTEN TO SOMEONE THAT SEEMS NOT TO BELIEVE WHAT THEY SAY.

IN ALL OF THAT WE MUST REMEMBER OUR CONFIDENCE MUST NEVER BE IN OURSELVES OR OUR ABILITIES BUT IN GOD AND HIS ABILITY TO WORK THROUGH US.

I AM TERRIBLY FLAWED; I HAVE EXPERIENCED MORE FAILURE THAN SUCCESS.

I AM INCAPABLE OF PREACHING, TEACHING, DISCIPLING...

BUT I CAN DO ALL THOSE THINGS THROUGH CHRIST WHO STRENGTHENS ME!!!!!!

IT IS NOT MY CONFIDENCE IN MY ABILITY THAT ALLOWS ME TO GET UP HERE IN FRONT OF A ROOM FULL OF PEOPLE AND PREACH.

IT'S BECAUSE I COMPLETELY SUBMIT MYSELF TO THE LORD AND THE CALLING HE HAS PLACED ON MY LIFE.

I DIDN'T CHOOSE TO BE A PASTOR GOD CHOSE IT FOR ME.

AND ALTHOUGH HE DOESN'T CALL US ALL TO BE PASTORS, WE ARE ALL CALLED TO MINISTER AND WE SHOULD DO THAT WITH CONFIDENCE IN THE LORD AND HIS PLAN.

GOD CAN AND WILL USE EACH AND EVERY ONE OF US TO ACCOMPLISH HIS WILL.

ROMANS 15:15,16

15 NEVERTHELESS, BRETHREN, I HAVE WRITTEN MORE BOLDLY TO YOU ON SOME POINTS, AS REMINDING YOU, BECAUSE OF THE GRACE GIVEN TO ME BY GOD, 16 THAT I MIGHT BE A MINISTER OF JESUS CHRIST TO THE GENTILES, MINISTERING THE GOSPEL OF GOD, THAT THE OFFERING ^[G]OF THE GENTILES MIGHT BE ACCEPTABLE, SANCTIFIED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT.

PAUL'S GOAL WAS TO PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL OF JESUS TO THE GENTILES SO THAT THROUGH THAT MESSAGE THEY MIGHT BE SAVED AND IN TURN BE A PEOPLE WORTHY TO BE AN OFFERING TO GOD.

ROMANS 15:17

17 THEREFORE I HAVE REASON TO GLORY IN CHRIST JESUS IN THE THINGS WHICH PERTAIN TO GOD.

THE GREEK WORD USED FOR THE WORD GLORY HERE IS
(KAUCHĒSIN)

IT MEANS BOASTING, GLORYING OR EXULTATION.

PAUL HAS NO PROBLEM BOASTING ABOUT CHRIST.

ABOUT WHAT CHRIST HAS DONE IN HIM, ABOUT WHAT CHRIST HAS ACCOMPLISHED THROUGH HIM.

HE IS QUICK TO TELL US ABOUT HOW GOOD GOD IS AND ABOUT THE SALVATION THAT LIES IN CHRIST JESUS.

THINK ABOUT PAUL'S TESTIMONY, GOING FROM PERSECUTING GODS CHURCH TO BOLDLY PROCLAIMING THE VERY MESSAGE HE SOUGHT TO UTTERLY DESTROY.

I THINK THAT'S WHY HE WAS SO BOLD, SO EAGER TO EVANGELIZE.

HE HAD EXPERIENCED FIRST-HAND THE SAVING POWER OF OUR LORD AND WANTED THE ENTIRE WORLD TO KNOW ABOUT IT.

WE MAY NOT ALL BE PAUL'S BUT THOSE OF US THAT ARE CHRISTIANS SHOULD HAVE THAT SAME EAGER EXCITEMENT TO SHARE THE TRUTH ABOUT GODS SAVING GRACE.

IT'S LIKE OUR LITTLE CHURCH HERE.

I HAVE NO PROBLEM GLORIFYING GOD AND BOASTING ABOUT WHAT HE HAS DONE IN THIS LITTLE CHURCH.

IT'S NOT BECAUSE BO OR KENRIC OR MYSELF.

IT'S NOT BECAUSE OF THE ELDERS OF THE CHURCH THAT WE HAVE GONE FROM 12 PEOPLE MEETING ON THE SHOWROOM FLOOR OF BOAT DEALERSHIP A LITTLE OVER 3 AND HALF YEARS AGO TO OWNING OUR OWN BUILDING AND AVERAGING OVER 100 PEOPLE ON SUNDAY MORNINGS...

ITS BECAUSE OF GOD ALMIGHTY!!!!!!!!!!!!

IT'S BECAUSE HE HAS MOVED MIGHTILY IN THE HEARTS OF HIS PEOPLE.

IT'S BECAUSE YOU GUYS HAVE EAGERLY SHARED WHAT GOD HAS DONE FOR YOU AND BECAUSE OF THAT MORE PEOPLE HAVE COME.

I HAVE NO PROBLEM PROCLAIMING GODS GOODNESS AND HOW HE HAS CONTINUED TO PROVIDE EVERYTHING WE NEED OFTEN BEFORE WE EVEN ASK.

ITS OK TO BRAG ABOUT GOD.

IN FACT, HE'S THE ONLY THING IN THE WORLD THAT IS ACCEPTABLE TO BRAG ABOUT.

IT'S COMPLETELY ACCEPTABLE TO BOLDLY PROCLAIM WHAT HE HAS DONE YOUR LIFE!

WE SHOULD BE EAGER AND EXCITED TO SHARE THE GOSPEL!

ROMANS 15:18

18 FOR I WILL NOT DARE TO SPEAK OF ANY OF THOSE THINGS WHICH CHRIST HAS NOT ACCOMPLISHED THROUGH ME, IN WORD AND DEED, TO MAKE THE GENTILES OBEDIENT—

HE'S SAYING "I'M NOT BOASTING ABOUT WHAT I HAVE ACCOMPLISHED AS AN APOSTLE BUT WHAT CHRIST HAS DONE THROUGH ME"

PAUL KNEW THAT HE WAS HUMAN, HE KNEW HE WAS SINFUL, HE KNEW HE WAS INCAPABLE OF PRODUCING ANYTHING GOOD APART FROM THE LORD.

AND OUT OF ALL THE APOSTLES PAUL WOULD HAVE THE MOST TO BOAST ABOUT.

HE TRAVELLED THE MOST, HELPED START THE MOST CHURCHES, HE WAS INTRICAL IN HELPING SET UP PROPER CHURCH GOVERNANCE.

HE WAS USED TO WRITE THE MOST BOOKS OF THE NEW TESTAMENT AND THE MAJORITY OF THE BOOK OF ACTS SPEAKS OF HIS MINISTRY.

AFTER JESUS HE WAS LIKELY THE MOST INFLUENTIAL PERSON IN THE NEW TESTAMENT.

BUT HE IS NOT BRAGGING ABOUT HIS ACCOMPLISHMENTS.

HE IS BRAGGING ABOUT GOD, BECAUSE TO PAUL THE THINGS THAT HE HAD DONE WASN'T HIM AT ALL.

PAUL WAS TORMENTED BY HIS SIN AND SHORT COMINGS.

ANOTHER SIGN OF A TRUE BELIEVER...

AND WHY IS BEING TORMENTED BY YOUR SIN THE SIGN OF A MATURE BELIEVER?

BILLY GRAHAM SAID "THE CLOSER YOU WALK WITH JESUS THE MORE SINFUL YOU WILL FEEL"

AND I DON'T KNOW IF TRUER WORDS HAVE EVER BEEN SPOKEN.

PAUL KNEW WHO HE WAS, HE DIDN'T LIE TO HIMSELF.

HE DIDN'T HOLD HIMSELF ABOVE OTHERS BECAUSE OF HIS APOSTLESHIP.

ROMANS 7:15

15 FOR WHAT I AM DOING, I DO NOT UNDERSTAND. FOR WHAT I WILL TO DO, THAT I DO NOT PRACTICE; BUT WHAT I HATE, THAT I DO.

THIS IS THE POINT WE GET TO WHEN WE STOP LYING TO OURSELVES.

AND IF YOU SAY YOU DON'T LIE TO YOURSELF, THEN YOU JUST LIED TO YOURSELF....

THIS IS WHAT HAPPENS WHEN JESUS IS YOUR ALL IN ALL.

YOUR SIN IS PAINFUL BECAUSE IT CAUSES YOU TO FEEL SEPARATED FROM GOD.

AND AS CHRISTIANS WE DESPERATELY NEED TO FEEL CLOSE TO HIM IN ORDER TO FEEL COMPLETE.

WE SEARCH FOR COMPLETENESS IN SO MANY THINGS, TRYING TO FIND APPROVAL FROM PEOPLE AND SATISFACTION FROM THIS WORLD.

ALL OF WHICH IS POINTLESS AND COUNTER PRODUCTIVE TO THE FOLLOWER OF JESUS.

DON'T WASTE YOUR TIME AND ENERGY SEEKING THE APPROVAL OF PEOPLE!

IT WON'T ADD A DAY TO YOUR LIFE, IT WILL NEVER BRING YOU TRUE SATISFACTION AND EVENTUALLY WILL LEAVE YOU FEELING EMPTY AND DEFEATED.

GALATIANS 1:10

10 FOR DO I NOW PERSUADE MEN, OR GOD? OR DO I SEEK TO PLEASE MEN? FOR IF I STILL PLEASED MEN, I WOULD NOT BE A BONDSERVANT OF CHRIST.

YOU CANNOT LIVE FOR HUMAN APPROVAL AND BE A CHRISTIAN.

BUT YOU CAN BE A CHRISTIAN WHO IS GUILTY OF SEEKING THE APPROVAL OF MAN WHICH IS A SIN.

WE LIVE OUR LIVES WAY TOO WORRIED ABOUT WHAT OTHER PEOPLE THINK ABOUT US.

I LOVE YOU GUYS AND I DO APPRECIATE YOUR COMPLIMENTS BUT THAT IS NOT WHY I DO WHAT I DO.

IF THAT WAS MY MOTIVATION I WOULD FIND MYSELF QUICKLY DISSATISFIED AND SEEKING SOMETHING ELSE.

PREACHING IS ONE OF THE MANY WAYS I WORSHIP OUR WONDERFUL LORD.

I FIND GREAT SATISFACTION IN PROCLAIMING HOW WONDERFUL HE IS.

I AM A BUILDER BY TRADE, I HAVE BUILT OVER 1,000 HOMES IN MY CAREER.

EACH ONE BRINGING ITS OWN TRIALS AS WELL AS A SENSE OF ACCOMPLISHMENT.

BUT I HAVE NEVER FELT MORE SATISFIED THAN AFTER SPENDING A WEEK OF STUDYING AND THEN DELIVERING A MESSAGE ON SUNDAY MORNING.

OUTSIDE OF MY SALVATION AND MY FAMILY THIS MINISTRY IS THE MOST FULFILLING AND GREATEST GIFT GOD HAS BLESSED ME WITH.

ROMANS 15:19

19 IN MIGHTY SIGNS AND WONDERS, BY THE POWER OF THE SPIRIT OF GOD, SO THAT FROM JERUSALEM AND ROUND ABOUT TO ILLYRICUM I HAVE FULLY PREACHED THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST.

BEFORE THE FULL GOSPEL MESSAGE WAS RECORDED IN SCRIPTURE GOD OFTEN CONFIRMED TRUE PREACHING WITH SIGNS AND WONDERS.

BUT EVEN IN THE DAYS OF THE APOSTLES THE MOST MIRACULOUS CONFIRMATION OF THE GOSPEL WAS NOT THROUGH SIGNS AND WONDERS BUT THROUGH THE REGENERATION OF A HUMAN SOUL FROM SINNER TO SAINT.

FROM BEING AN ENEMY OF GOD TO BEING A CHILD OF GOD.

BEING TRANSFORMED FROM A CHILD OF WRATH TO A CHILD OF LIGHT.

THE GREATEST DIVINE AFFIRMATION OF MINISTRY WAS AND REMAINS THE SPIRITUAL TRANSFORMATION OF SOULS.

THE TRUTH OF THE GOSPEL TODAY IS AUTHENTICATED BY GODS COMPLETED WORD IN THE NEW TESTAMENT, BUT THE POWER OF THE GOSPEL IS DEMONSTRATED BY THE LIVES THAT ARE TRANSFORMED.

THERE IS NO GREATER PROOF TO THE EXISTENCE OF GOD THAN TO WITNESS THE TRUE REGENERATION OF A HUMAN HEART.

PAUL SAYS HE WENT FROM JERUSALEM TO ILLYRICUM PROCLAIMING THE GOOD NEWS OF JESUS CHRIST.

THAT'S ABOUT 1400 MILES OF TRAVEL.

WHICH WOULD BE LIKE GOING FROM HERE TO BOSTON... WITHOUT A CAR.

SOME OF THE JOURNEY OF COURSE WAS BY BOAT, WHICH STILL WAS NOT A FUN WAY TO TRAVEL, THE WEATHER WAS VERY UNPREDICTABLE, STORMS WOULD POP UP OUT OF NOWHERE.

PAUL EVEN SPEAKS OF THE DANGERS WHEN HE TELLS US HE WAS SHIPWRECKED THREE TIMES.

PAUL SAYS HE FULLY PREACHED THE GOSPEL MESSAGE, WHICH COULD MEAN TWO THINGS...

EITHER PREACHING THE FULL GOSPEL MESSAGE OR PREACHING THROUGHOUT THE FULL GEOGRAPHICAL AREA IN WHICH HE WAS CALLED TO MINISTER.

BOTH OF WHICH DESCRIBE HIS MINISTRY APPROPRIATELY.

THERE WAS NOTHING THAT WAS GOING TO STAND IN THE WAY OF HIM FULFILLING THAT WHICH GOD HAD CALLED HIM TO DO!

2ND CORINTHIANS 11:23-30

23 ARE THEY MINISTERS OF CHRIST?—I SPEAK AS A FOOL— I AM MORE: IN LABORS MORE ABUNDANT, IN STRIPES ABOVE MEASURE, IN PRISONS MORE FREQUENTLY, IN DEATHS OFTEN. 24 FROM THE JEWS FIVE TIMES I RECEIVED FORTY STRIPES MINUS ONE. 25 THREE TIMES I WAS BEATEN WITH RODS; ONCE I WAS STONED; THREE TIMES I WAS SHIPWRECKED; A NIGHT AND A DAY I HAVE BEEN IN THE DEEP; 26 IN JOURNEYS OFTEN, IN PERILS OF WATERS, IN PERILS OF ROBBERS, IN PERILS OF MY OWN COUNTRYMEN, IN PERILS OF THE GENTILES, IN PERILS IN THE CITY, IN PERILS IN THE WILDERNESS, IN PERILS IN THE SEA, IN PERILS AMONG FALSE BRETHREN; 27 IN WEARINESS AND TOIL, IN SLEEPLESSNESS OFTEN, IN HUNGER AND THIRST, IN FASTINGS OFTEN, IN COLD AND NAKEDNESS— 28 BESIDES THE OTHER THINGS, WHAT COMES UPON ME DAILY: MY DEEP CONCERN FOR ALL THE CHURCHES. 29 WHO IS WEAK, AND I AM NOT WEAK? WHO IS MADE TO STUMBLE, AND I DO NOT BURN WITH INDIGNATION? 30 IF I MUST BOAST, I WILL BOAST IN THE THINGS WHICH CONCERN MY ^[b]INFIRMITY.

PAUL FACED WHAT SEEMED TO BE INSURMOUNTABLE ODDS.

STATISTICALLY SPEAKING HE SHOULD'VE DIED COUNTLESS TIMES.

BUT GOD WASN'T THROUGH WITH HIM...

AND YOU KNOW WHAT?

GODS NOT THROUGH WITH YOU EITHER!

HOW DO I KNOW?

BECAUSE YOU'RE STILL ON THIS EARTH, WHICH MEANS YOU HAVE YET TO ACCOMPLISH WHAT YOUR CREATOR WANTS YOU TO ACCOMPLISH!

SO IF YOU FEEL DEFEATED, IF YOU FEEL INSIGNIFICANT OR LIKE YOUR LIFE DOESN'T MATTER...

IT DOES!

IF YOU'RE GOING THROUGH VARIOUS TRIALS COUNT IT ALL AS JOY!

YOU ARE IN GREAT COMPANY FROM THE APOSTLE PAUL TO JESUS HIMSELF.

AND MAY I REMIND YOU, YOU DON'T HAVE TO GO THROUGH THEM ALONE!

YOU HAVE A LOVING CHURCH FAMILY, BUT YOU ALSO HAVE A LOVING FATHER THAT WILL NEVER LEAVE YOU NOR FORSAKE YOU.

ROMANS 15:20,21

²⁰ AND SO I HAVE MADE IT MY AIM TO PREACH THE GOSPEL, NOT WHERE CHRIST WAS NAMED, LEST I SHOULD BUILD ON ANOTHER MAN'S FOUNDATION, ²¹ BUT AS IT IS WRITTEN:

"TO WHOM HE WAS NOT ANNOUNCED, THEY SHALL SEE; AND THOSE WHO HAVE NOT HEARD SHALL UNDERSTAND."

PAUL'S DESIRE WAS TO SHARE THE GOSPEL MESSAGE WITH PEOPLE THAT HAD NEVER HEARD THE NAME OF JESUS.

HE WAS THE EPITOME OF AN EVANGELIST.

HE WAS PIONEER MISSIONARY AND CHURCH PLANTER.

PEOPLE WHO HAVE HAD NO NEWS OF CHRIST OR HAVE NOT HEARD THE GOSPEL ARE EVERYWHERE!

EVERY COUNTRY, EVERY TOWN, EVERY CITY, EVERY COMMUNITY AND NEIGHBORHOOD.

NOW GOD DOESN'T CALL EVERYONE TO BE AN EVANGELIST BUT HE ABSOLUTELY CALLS EVERYONE TO BE A WITNESS!

AND WE MISS OPPORTUNITIES ALL THE TIME.

WE COULD ALL DO A BETTER JOB OF BEING READY TO BOLDLY PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL, MYSELF INCLUDED.

THERE'S ALWAYS ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT,

JUST AS WE NEVER STOP GROWING AND MATURING IN CHRIST WE SHOULD NEVER STOP BEARING WITNESS TO THE WONDERFUL THINGS HE HAS DONE!!!

PAUL IS NOT SAYING THAT HE DOESN'T WANT TO BUILD ON SOMEONE ELSE'S TEACHING, HE'S SAYING HIS DESIRE IS TO SHARE THE TRUTH WITH THOSE THAT HAVE NEVER HEARD IT.

THERE IS NOTHING WRONG WITH BUILDING ON A FOUNDATION THAT ANOTHER BELIEVER HAS SET.

1ST CORINTHIANS 3:6

I PLANTED, APOLLOS WATERED, BUT GOD GAVE THE INCREASE.

AS LONG AS THE SEED THAT WAS PLANTED IS TRUTH IT DOESN'T MATTER WHO PLANTED IT...

GOD IS THE ONE THAT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE GROWTH!

WHETHER IT BE PAUL OR APOLLOS OR ME OR YOU!

ALL GLORY TO OUR HEAVENLY FATHER FOR HIS BOUNTIFUL GRACE!

ROMANS 15:22

22 FOR THIS REASON I ALSO HAVE BEEN MUCH HINDERED FROM COMING TO YOU.

PAUL HAD A DESIRE TO VISIT THE ROMAN CHURCH BUT IT WASN'T PART OF GODS PLAN AT THAT TIME.

HE HAD TO FIRST ACCOMPLISH THE MISSION GOD HAD SET BEFORE HIM IN THE AREAS HE HAD BEEN TO.

REMEMBER HE HAD TRAVELLED GREAT DISTANCES SPREADING THE GOSPEL AND PLANTING CHURCHES IN PLACES THAT HAD NOT YET HEARD THE GOSPEL.

AND PAUL KNEW THAT THIS WAS ALL PART OF GODS PLAN.

HE EXPRESSED THIS QUITE CLEARLY IN THE VERY FIRST CHAPTER OF ROMANS.

ROMANS 1:9-15

⁹ FOR GOD IS MY WITNESS, WHOM I SERVE ¹⁰ WITH MY SPIRIT IN THE GOSPEL OF HIS SON, THAT WITHOUT CEASING I MAKE MENTION OF YOU ALWAYS IN MY PRAYERS, ¹⁰ MAKING REQUEST IF, BY SOME MEANS, NOW AT LAST I MAY FIND A WAY IN THE WILL OF GOD TO COME TO YOU. ¹¹ FOR I LONG TO SEE YOU, THAT I MAY IMPART TO YOU SOME SPIRITUAL GIFT, SO THAT YOU MAY BE ESTABLISHED— ¹² THAT IS, THAT I MAY BE ENCOURAGED TOGETHER WITH YOU BY THE MUTUAL FAITH BOTH OF YOU AND ME.

¹³ NOW I DO NOT WANT YOU TO BE UNAWARE, BRETHREN, THAT I OFTEN PLANNED TO COME TO YOU (BUT WAS HINDERED UNTIL NOW), THAT I MIGHT HAVE SOME FRUIT AMONG YOU ALSO, JUST AS AMONG THE OTHER GENTILES. ¹⁴ I AM A DEBTOR BOTH TO GREEKS AND TO BARBARIANS, BOTH TO WISE AND TO UNWISE. ¹⁵ SO, AS MUCH AS IS IN ME, I AM READY TO PREACH THE GOSPEL TO YOU WHO ARE IN ROME ALSO.

PAUL IS ENDING HIS LETTER IN THE SAME WAY HE STARTED IT BY EXPRESSING HIS DEEP DESIRE TO VISIT THE FAITHFUL PEOPLE OF THE ROMAN CHURCH.

REITERATING THAT THE ONLY REASON HE HADN'T VISITED WAS BECAUSE GOD HAD NOT YET ALLOWED HIM TO GO THERE.

WHICH WE CAN LOOK BACK ON THAT NOW AND SEE THE SOVEREIGN HAND OF GOD AT WORK IN PAUL'S LIFE AND THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH.

JUST LIKE WE CAN LOOK BACK AT OUR OWN LIFE AND THE DIFFERENT SEASONS OF LIFE AND SEE HOW GOD PROTECTED US FROM CERTAIN THINGS.

HOW HE ALLOWED CERTAIN THINGS TO HAPPEN THAT MAY HAVE BEEN DIFFICULT BUT HAD A PURPOSE.

I CAN TRULY SAY I AM GRATEFUL FOR WHAT WAS THE MOST DIFFICULT AND TRYING TIME OF MY LIFE.

IT WAS DURING THAT TIME THAT GOD BROUGHT ME THE LOVE OF MY LIFE, MY PRECIOUS WIFE REBECCA.

IT WAS DURING THAT TIME THAT HE BROUGHT ME INTO THE OFFICE OF PASTOR BO SMITH.

13 YEARS AGO I WALKED INTO HIS OFFICE A SHELL OF A MAN, BROKEN IN A WAY THAT NO ONE THOUGHT THERE WAS ANY HOPE FOR ME.

BUT GOD USED THAT TO BRING ME WHERE I AM TODAY.

GOD USED PAUL'S PAST ALSO TO HELP SHAPE AND MOLD HIM, TO PREPARE HIM TO BE THE APOSTLE TO THE GENTILES.

AND YOU ARE NO DIFFERENT THAN MYSELF OR PAUL.

GOD USED YOUR PAST TO PREPARE YOU FOR THE FUTURE.

THERE ARE ALSO THINGS THAT HAPPEN IN OUR THAT KEEP US FROM DOING WHAT WE WANT OR ACCOMPLISHING WHAT WE SET OUT TO DO.

FROM LARGE THINGS TO SMALL THINGS.

SOMETIMES GOD USES THOSE THINGS TO PROTECT US FROM SOMETHING MUCH WORSE.

SOMETIMES HE USES THOSE THINGS TO BLESS US MORE ABUNDANTLY LATER...

PAUL SAID HE DESIRED TO VISIT THE ROMAN CHURCH BUT HAD BEEN KEPT FROM COMING

ROMANS 15:22

22 FOR THIS REASON I ALSO HAVE BEEN MUCH HINDERED FROM COMING TO YOU.

VERY OFTEN WE EXPERIENCE DELAYS OR DISAPPOINTMENTS.

SOMETHING DOESN'T GO OUR WAY OR SOMEONE ELSE DOES SOMETHING THAT INTERFERES WITH OUR PLANS.

AND THESE THINGS CAN BE VERY FRUSTRATING IN THE MOMENT.

WRITER AND ACTOR SETH MCFARLANE HAD BEEN DUE TO FLY ON AMERICAN AIRLINES FLIGHT 11 ON THE MORNING OF 9/11. HOWEVER, THANKS TO A GNARLY HANGOVER AND A MIX-UP WITH FLIGHT TIMES, SETH MISSED HIS FLIGHT BY JUST 10 MINUTES. AN HOUR LATER, WHILE WAITING FOR HIS REPLACEMENT FLIGHT, FLIGHT 11 FLEW INTO THE NORTH TOWER, KILLING EVERYONE ON BOARD.

SETH WASN'T THE ONLY CELEBRITY DUE TO FLY ON FLIGHT 11 THAT MORNING. ACTOR MARK WAHLBERG WAS ORIGINALLY PLANNING TO BE ON THE SAME FLIGHT, BUT A LAST-MINUTE CHANGE OF HEART SAW HIM TAKING A FLIGHT TO CANADA TO ATTEND A FILM FESTIVAL INSTEAD.

WHEN GEORGE KEITH'S BMW UNEXPECTEDLY SHIFTED INTO FIRST GEAR WHILE DRIVING ON 10TH SEPTEMBER, HE WAS LESS THAN IMPRESSED. THE INVESTMENT BANKER WANTED HIS PRIZED BMW UP AND RUNNING TO DRIVE INTO MANHATTAN FOR HIS 8AM MEETING AT THE WORLD TRADE CENTRE THE FOLLOWING MORNING.

ARRIVING AT THE GARAGE AT 7AM, GEORGE WAS FRUSTRATED TO LEARN THAT THE MECHANICS REFUSED TO WORK THAT EARLY IN THE MORNING, FORCING HIM TO WAIT AN EXTRA HOUR FOR A REPAIR THAT TOOK LESS THAN FIVE MINUTES.

ONCE HIS CAR WAS REPAIRED, GEORGE MADE FOR THE OFFICE BUT FOUND HIMSELF STUCK IN TRAFFIC. AS HE LOOKED UP TOWARDS THE TOWER WHERE HIS MEETING WAS SUPPOSED TO TAKE PLACE,

HE SPOTTED PLUMES OF SMOKE. SWITCHING ON THE CAR RADIO, HE LEARNED THAT A PLANE HAD JUST CRASHED INTO THE NORTH TOWER.

ACCORDING TO JERMAINE JACKSON'S AUTOBIOGRAPHY, [MICHAEL JACKSON WAS SUPPOSED TO BE IN A MEETING](#) AT THE TOP OF ONE OF THE TOWERS ON THE MORNING OF SEPTEMBER 11TH BUT HAD OVERSLEPT AND MISSED HIS APPOINTMENT. THE POP STAR HAD STAYED UP UNTIL 3AM THE NIGHT BEFORE TALKING TO HIS MUM AND SISTERS.

EIGHT AND A HALF MONTHS PREGNANT WITH HER UNBORN SON, 37-YEAR-OLD MARYA HAD DECIDED TO TAKE THINGS SLOW ON THE MORNING OF 11TH SEPTEMBER. RUNNING MUCH LATER THAN USUAL, MARYA HAD DECIDED TO GET A LATER SUBWAY TRAIN AND THEN GET OFF A STOP EARLY SO SHE COULD ENJOY THE BEAUTIFUL DAY. INSTEAD, SHE SAW HER OFFICE ENGULFED IN FLAMES BEFORE COLLAPSING.

WHEN WRITER NICHOLAS REIHER TWISTED HIS ANKLE WHILE HIKING ON VACATION TO MAINE, HE HAD TO MISS HIS FLIGHT HOME. THIS SMALL TWIST OF FATE MEANT THAT NICHOLAS MISSED HIS SEAT ON AMERICAN AIRLINES FLIGHT 11 - THE FIRST OF THE PLANES TO BE HIJACKED THAT MORNING.

THESE ARE JUST A FEW OF THE HUNDREDS OF STORIES LIKE THIS.

NOW SOME OF YOU ARE WONDERING WHAT IN THE WORLD THIS HAS TO DO WITH PAUL OR YOU.

WE CAN LOOK AT THESE INSTANCES AND KNOW THAT IT WAS THE WILL OF GOD THAT KEPT THESE PEOPLE FROM BEING INVOLVED IN THIS HORRIFIC EVENT.

BUT OFTEN IN OUR OWN LIVES WE NEVER KNOW WHAT OUR DELAYS OR DISRUPTIONS PROTECT US FROM.

ON THE OTHER HAND, SOMETIMES, WE CAN LOOK BACK AT OUR PAST AND CLEARLY SEE WHY SOMETHING HAPPENED.

IN BOTH CASES WE SHOULD REST EASY KNOWING THAT GOD HAS A PLAN AND A PURPOSE FOR ALL OF IT.

SO IF YOU'RE GOING THROUGH SOMETHING NOW AND YOU JUST DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY.

ASK GOD FOR GUIDANCE.

ASK HIM TO BE LED BY HIS SPIRIT AND GUIDED BY HIS HAND.

ASK HIM TO HELP YOU TO SEE WHAT HE IS TRYING TO TEACH YOU.

ASK HIM HOW YOU CAN USE THIS TIME IN YOUR LIFE TO HELP OTHERS.

BUT I ENCOURAGE YOU DON'T BE SCARED AND DON'T WORRY.

LUKE 12:29-31

29 "AND DO NOT SEEK WHAT YOU SHOULD EAT OR WHAT YOU SHOULD DRINK, NOR HAVE AN ANXIOUS MIND. 30 FOR ALL THESE THINGS THE NATIONS OF THE WORLD SEEK AFTER, AND YOUR FATHER KNOWS THAT YOU NEED THESE THINGS. 31 BUT SEEK ^{LE}THE KINGDOM OF GOD, AND ALL THESE THINGS SHALL BE ADDED TO YOU.

MY HOPE FOR EACH OF YOU IS THAT YOU LEAVE HERE ENCOURAGED TODAY.

THAT YOU LEAVE WITH A NEW PERSPECTIVE ON YOUR LIFE AND WALK WITH CHRIST.

THAT YOU LEAVE INSPIRED TO BE BOLD AND COURAGEOUS, READY TO PROCLAIM THE TRUTH OF THE SAVING GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST.

AND IF YOU DON'T KNOW HIM THAT TODAY YOU CRY OUT TO HIM, CONFESS YOUR SINS AND REPENT AND WALK IN THE GLORIOUS LIGHT OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST.

