

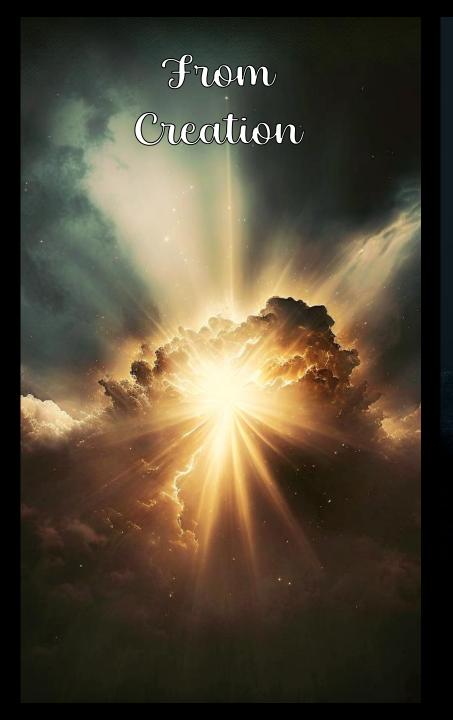
Php 3:12-14 Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus. (13) Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, (14) I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

In Review

- What does sit mean to Pursue?
- God's Pursuit of Man
- Man's Pursuit of Sin
- In Pursuit of Christ as a Person and an Ideal
- In Pursuit of Endurance
- In Pursuit of Holiness
- In Pursuit of a Resurrected Life
- In Pursuit of Mastery of Gifting
- In Pursuit of Producing Fruit

Today



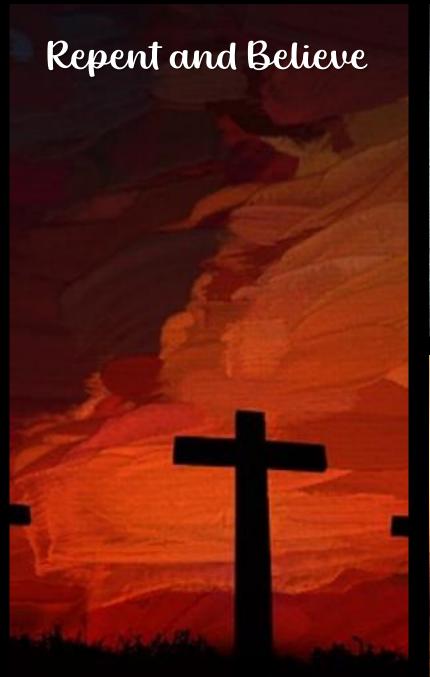


Man has
Pursued
Death



But God aought to Redeem

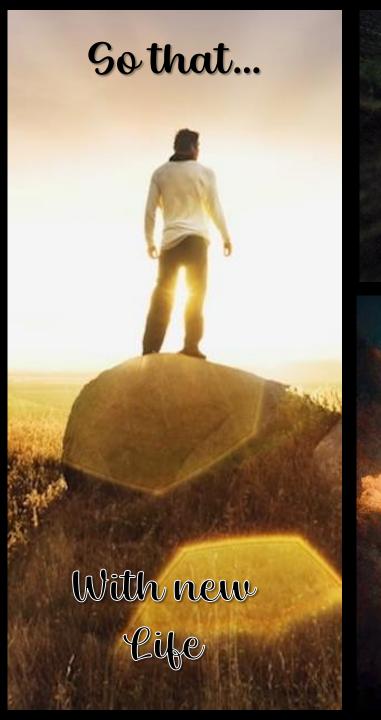




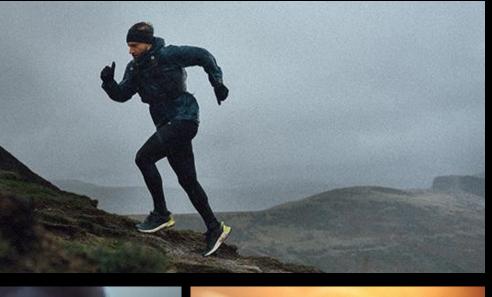








We may Pursue With endurance...





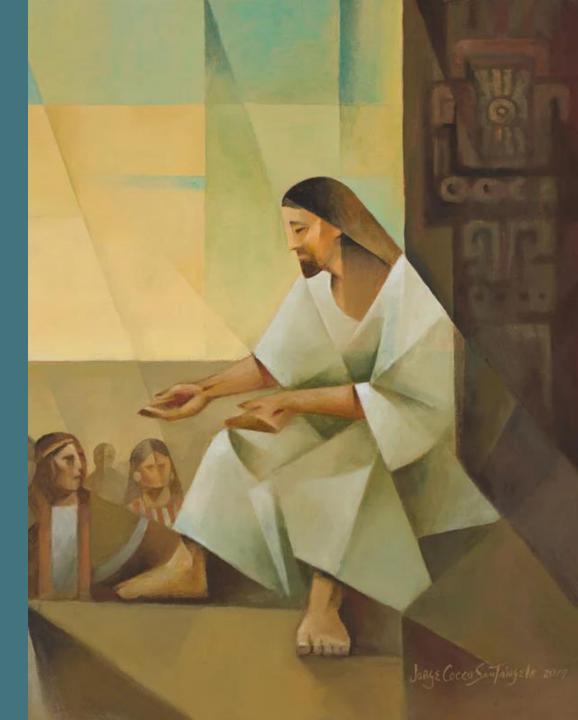


Fruit



Why Pursue?

- We are Ambassadors.
- We must be at our best to compel other believers to be their best.
- All so that we can do the Job Christ gave to the church.
- Rom 10:14-15 How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? (15) And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!



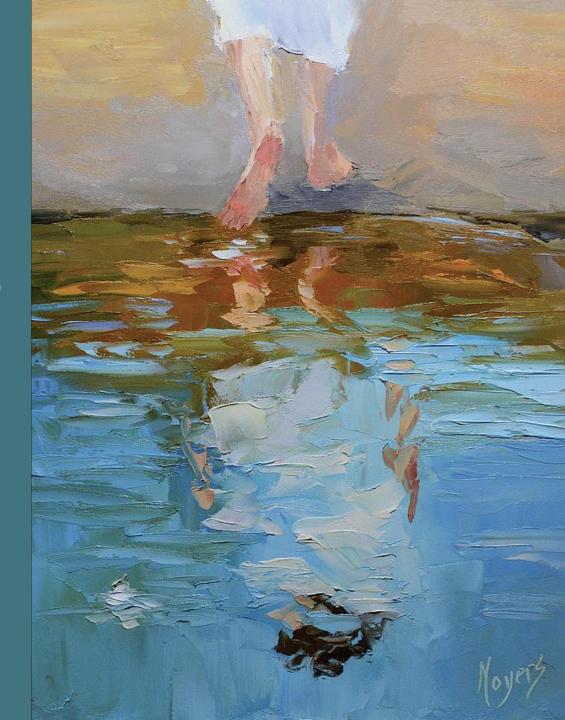


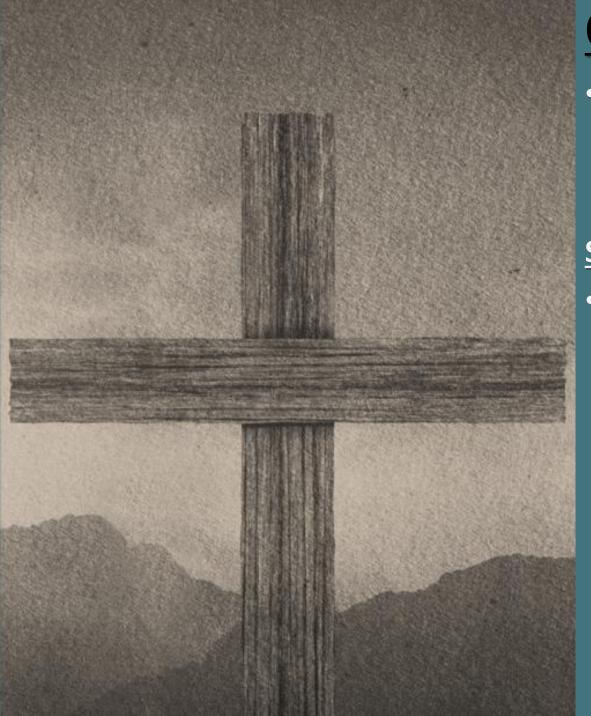
The Great Commission

• Mat 28:18-20 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. (19) Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: (20) Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

Outlined

- **Go ye therefore...** Go (therefore) because, all power if given to Jesus in heaven and on earth. So go, don't wait, sit, stop, resist, retreat from this task.
- Teach all nations... μαθητεύω (mathēteuō) 1)
 to be a disciple of one 1a) to follow his
 precepts and instructions 2) to make a
 disciple 2a) to teach, instruct.
- Baptizing them...
 - Insinuates salvation, being born again.
 - In the name of father, son, and Holy Ghost. Not some hybrid excluding one, triune God.
 - Public declaration of new life.





Outlined

• Teaching them to observe all things... Sound doctrine, teaching fundamentals as a church community, filtered down from the church's leadership.

So what is the gospel?

- Rom 10:9 That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.
 - Confess with thy mouth- To agree with or consent. About what? About sin and our need for grace and salvation.
 - Believe in thine heart- To think a thing to be true.
 - That God hath raised him from the dead.
 - Thou shalt be saved.

It is more... so much more

What does it mean to be saved, to be born again, to be a true follower of Jesus Christ.

- Believing in Jesus? Yes, of course, but so much more...
 - Belief is easy and common. Self, systems, ideologies, philosophies. These are things preached by the secular world all the time.
 - Followers of Christ believe (think a thing to be true) that only one thing ultimately is true, Christ, him crucified and risen again for our sins.
 - So there is more to it than just common belief...
- Its Faith in Jesus and God, right? Of course, without faith it is impossible to please god. But also faith without works is dead, so its not just faith, it is more...



So, what then?

- An agreement about sin and our condition. An acceptance of our helplessness without Jesus.
- The burden of the cross, it is a burden do not doubt.
 - The All-joy Christianity myth.
 - The reality of misery, and joyful endurance.
 - Happiness is contentedness and patience. The ability to adapt and overcome because of Christ.
- Understanding we are not, nor will we be perfect this side of heaven and being honest about that.
 - Not as an excuse, but as a reality.

