

## Confidence, Peace, & Great Expectation in 2026

### **Your Ministry... you should expect great things in 2026**

**John 14:12 (NLT)** <sup>12</sup>“I tell you the truth, anyone who believes in me will do the same works I have done, and even greater works, because I am going to be with the Father.

### **Your Life Over Time As A Christian... run that race with endurance in 2026**

**Hebrews 12:1–2a (NLT)** Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of witnesses to the life of faith, let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily trips us up. And let us run with endurance the race God has set before us. <sup>2</sup>We do this by keeping our eyes on Jesus, the champion who initiates and perfects our faith.

### **If you're tired or weary, readjust, make up your mind, and continue in strength in 2026**

**Hebrews 12:12–13 (NLT)** <sup>12</sup>So take a new grip with your tired hands and strengthen your weak knees. <sup>13</sup>Mark out a straight path for your feet so that those who are weak and lame will not fall but become strong.

### **It's God's power at work within us to accomplish more than we can imagine in 2026**

**Ephesians 3:19–20 (NLT)** <sup>19</sup>May you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully. Then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God. <sup>20</sup>Now all glory to God, who is able, through his mighty power at work within us, to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think.

### **You, as a Christian, are the oasis in the desert... in 2026**

**Isaiah 35:1–6 (NLT)** <sup>1</sup>Even the wilderness and desert will be glad in those days.

The wasteland will rejoice and blossom with spring crocuses. <sup>2</sup>Yes, there will be an abundance of flowers and singing and joy! The deserts will become as green as the mountains of Lebanon, as lovely as Mount Carmel or the plain of Sharon. There the Lord will display his glory, the splendor of our God. <sup>3</sup>With this news, strengthen those who have tired hands, and encourage those who have weak knees. <sup>4</sup>Say to those with fearful hearts, “Be strong, and do not fear, for your God is coming to destroy your enemies. He is coming to save you.” <sup>5</sup>And when he comes, he will open the eyes of the blind and unplug the ears of the deaf. <sup>6</sup>The lame will leap like a deer, and those who cannot speak will sing for joy! Springs will gush forth in the wilderness, and streams will water the wasteland.

- **The Purpose of Crossroad Christian Fellowship is to lead people into a Life-Changing and Life-Giving Relationship with Jesus!**
- Our Mission is to help people Know God, Find Freedom, Grow Personally, Discover Their Purpose, and Make a Difference!

## Two Areas of Knowing God

### **I. Begin the Relationship**

1 John 5:11–12 (NLT) <sup>11</sup>And this is what God has testified: He has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. <sup>12</sup>Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have God's Son does not have life.

### **II. Actually Know God in an Ongoing Relationship**

Revelation 3:20 (NLT) <sup>20</sup>“Look! I stand at the door and knock. If you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in, and we will share a meal together as friends.

## Session #3 You Can Know God!

### Three Facts

- a. This Life Ends
- b. New Testament - Jesus said there are both Heaven and Hell
- c. New Testament – Jesus said I'm the Way To Heaven

The "Good News" (Gospel) of Jesus is the message that God offers salvation, forgiveness of sins, and eternal life through Jesus' life, sacrificial death, and resurrection, freeing people who choose Him from sin and death and restoring the relationship with God. Good News is the message that Jesus lived perfectly, died for people's sins, rose again, and offers new, transformed life to those who believe, making them adopted children of God.

### Steps To Peace With God – Billy Graham Evangelistic Association

**John 3:3; 6–21 (NLT)** <sup>3</sup>Jesus replied, “I tell you the truth, unless you are born again, you cannot see the Kingdom of God.”

<sup>16</sup>“For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. <sup>17</sup>God sent his Son into the world not to judge the world, but to save the world through him. <sup>18</sup>“There is no judgment against anyone who believes in him. But anyone who does not believe in him has already been judged for not believing in God’s one and only Son. <sup>19</sup>And the judgment is based on this fact: God’s light came into the world, but people loved the darkness more than the light, for their actions were evil. <sup>20</sup>All who do evil hate the light and refuse to go near it for fear their sins will be exposed.

**Luke 16:19–31 (NLT)** *Parable of the Rich Man and Lazarus*

- *Earthly social and wealth status is unrelated to eternal status.*
- *Two eternal options – paradise or I am in anguish in these flames.*

<sup>24</sup>“The rich man shouted, ‘Father Abraham, have some pity! Send Lazarus over here to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue. I am in anguish in these flames.’

<sup>31</sup>“But Abraham said, ‘If they won’t listen to Moses and the prophets, they won’t be persuaded even if someone rises from the dead.’ ”

**John 14:6 (NLT)** <sup>6</sup>Jesus told him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me.

### True Belief in Jesus, Is Surrender!

**Matthew 7:21 (NLT)** <sup>21</sup>“Not everyone who calls out to me, ‘Lord! Lord!’ will enter the Kingdom of Heaven. Only those who actually do the will of my Father in heaven will enter.

**Ephesians 2:8–9 (NLT)** <sup>8</sup> God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God. <sup>9</sup> Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it.

**Matthew 16:24–26 (NLT)** <sup>24</sup> Then Jesus said to his disciples, “If any of you wants to be my follower, you must give up your own way, take up your cross, and follow me. <sup>25</sup> If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake, you will save it. <sup>26</sup> And what do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose your own soul? Is anything worth more than your soul?”

**Matthew 10:37–39 (NLT)** <sup>37</sup> “If you love your father or mother more than you love me, you are not worthy of being mine; or if you love your son or daughter more than me, you are not worthy of being mine. <sup>38</sup> If you refuse to take up your cross and follow me, you are not worthy of being mine. <sup>39</sup> If you cling to your life, you will lose it; but if you give up your life for me, you will find it.

**John 12:24–25 (NLT)** <sup>24</sup> I tell you the truth, unless a kernel of wheat is planted in the soil and dies, it remains alone. But its death will produce many new kernels—a plentiful harvest of new lives. <sup>25</sup> Those who love their life in this world will lose it. Those who care nothing for their life in this world will keep it for eternity.

### **We Must Turn From Sin (Repent From Sin)**

**Acts 2:38 (NLT)** <sup>38</sup> Peter replied, “Each of you must repent of your sins and turn to God, and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. Then you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

**Acts 3:19 (NLT)** <sup>19</sup> Now repent of your sins and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped away.

**Luke 13:5 (NLT)** <sup>5</sup> No, and I tell you again that unless you repent, you will perish, too.”

**1 Corinthians 6:9–11 (NLT)** <sup>9</sup> Don't you realize that those who do wrong will not inherit the Kingdom of God? Don't fool yourselves. Those who indulge in sexual sin, or who worship idols, or commit adultery, or are male prostitutes, or practice homosexuality, <sup>10</sup> or are thieves, or greedy people, or drunkards, or are abusive, or cheat people—none of these will inherit the Kingdom of God. <sup>11</sup> Some of you were once like that. But you were cleansed; you were made holy; you were made right with God by calling on the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

**Galatians 5:19–21 (NLT)** <sup>19</sup> When you follow the desires of your sinful nature, the results are very clear: sexual immorality, impurity, lustful pleasures, <sup>20</sup> idolatry, sorcery, hostility, quarreling, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambition, dissension, division, <sup>21</sup> envy, drunkenness, wild parties, and other sins like these. Let me tell you again, as I have before, that anyone living that sort of life will not inherit the Kingdom of God.

**Hebrews 12:14 (NLT)** <sup>14</sup> Work at living in peace with everyone, and work at living a holy life, for those who are not holy will not see the Lord.

### **Repentance, surrender, Lordship**

Doing the will of the father is an indicator of our Belief

**Will you receive Jesus Christ right now?**

**Here is how you can receive Christ:**

- **Admit your need.** (*I am a sinner.*)
- **Be willing to turn from your sins** (*repent*) **and ask for God's forgiveness.**
- **Believe that Jesus Christ died for you on the cross and rose from the grave.**
- **Through prayer, invite Jesus Christ to come in and control your life through the Holy Spirit.** (*Receive Jesus as Lord and Savior*)

We suggest a prayer like this one:

"Dear God, I know I am a sinner. I want to turn from my sins, and I ask for Your forgiveness. I believe that Jesus Christ is Your Son. I believe He died for my sins and that You raised Him to life. I want Him to come into my heart and to take control of my life. I want to trust Jesus as my Savior and follow Him as my Lord from this day forward. In Jesus' Name, amen."

### **The Roman Road To Salvation**

#### **The Verses (Key Steps)**

1. **All have sinned:** Everyone has fallen short of God's glory.
  - **Romans 3:23:** "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God".
2. **The penalty for sin:** The consequence of sin is spiritual death.
  - **Romans 6:23a:** "For the wages of sin is death...".
3. **God's gift:** God offers eternal life as a free gift through Jesus Christ.
  - **Romans 6:23b:** "...but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord".
4. **How to receive it:** Belief in Jesus and confession of Him as Lord leads to salvation.
  - **Romans 10:9-10:** "that if you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved... for with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved".
5. **Peace with God:** Through faith, believers have peace with God.
  - **Romans 5:1:** "Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ".