

Walking in Favour

– Personal or Small Group Study Ideas

For use with the Audio teaching by Christen Forster.
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In our exploration of walking in favour, we uncover profound truths about our relationship with God and our spiritual growth. The story of Jesus growing in wisdom, stature, and favour with God and man (Luke 2:52) challenges us to consider how we too can increase in grace. This isn't about a prosperity gospel, but rather about allowing God's grace to 'stick' to us more fully as we mature in faith. We're called to be more than just rule-followers; we're invited into a deep, transformative relationship with Christ.

This journey from slavery to friendship to sonship mirrors Israel's exodus, reminding us that our spiritual growth is a process. As we align ourselves with God's purposes and embrace both the joys and sufferings of Christ, we become living testimonies of His grace. This message encourages us to examine our lives and ask: Are we creating 'landing points' for God's favour? Are we walking in the fullness of our calling, even in seemingly mundane seasons?

Questions:

- In what ways have you experienced or observed the 'favor' of God sticking to someone's life?
- How does the concept of 'Christ in you' challenge or expand your understanding of your relationship with God?
- How might viewing Jesus as fully human change our approach to discipleship and spiritual growth?
- What does it mean to you personally to be an 'heir of God' and how might this impact your daily life?
- How do you understand the relationship between suffering and glory in the Christian life, as discussed in Romans 8?
- What are some practical ways we can move from being 'servants' to 'friends' to 'sons' in our relationship with God?
- In what ways can we use our resources and 'earthly value' to build relationships that have eternal significance?

Suggested Other Relevant Verses:

- Galatians 4:4-7 (Adoption as sons)
- Ephesians 1:3-14 (Spiritual blessings in Christ)
- 2 Corinthians 3:18 (Being transformed into Christ's image)
- 1 Peter 4:10 (Stewardship of God's grace)
- James 2:14-26 (Faith and works)
- Philippians 2:5-11 (Christ's humility and exaltation)
- 1 Corinthians 3:9 (We are God's fellow workers)
- Romans 12:1-2 (Transformed by the renewing of your mind)
- Galatians 5:22-23 (Fruit of the Spirit)
- Matthew 6:19-21 (Storing up treasures in heaven)
- These verses align with the main themes of sonship, growing in favor, stewardship, Christ in believers, and the journey of spiritual maturity discussed in the sermon.

Practical Applications:

Reflect on your current "season" and identify areas where God may be calling you to be faithful, even if they seem small or insignificant.

Practice recognizing and acknowledging God's favor in your daily life. Keep a "favor journal" for a week, noting instances where you see God's grace at work.

Evaluate how you're using your resources (time, money, talents). Are there ways you can use them more intentionally to bless others and build relationships?

Spend time in prayer, asking God to reveal any areas where you may be holding back from fully embracing your identity in Christ.

Choose one practical way to step out in faith this week, trusting in God's favor and provision as you do so.

Reflect on your journey with God. What steps can you take to deepen your relationship and move towards greater intimacy with Him?

Share with the group one area where you'd like to see growth in favor, and commit to praying for each other in these areas throughout the week.