

(All scripture passages are from the NIV 1984 unless otherwise noted.)

This is an extremely hard book to teach, but I think it will be easier when we get into the stories. Let us go the Lord in prayer. “Father, we do pause, and if you do not teach us, we are not going to learn. And of course, we know that is the truth in anything spiritual, that it has to be your Holy Spirit that enlightens us. So, we ask that you do that, and we thank you in advance for it, in Jesus ‘name, amen.”

John 1:1-13 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was with God in the beginning. 3 Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. 4 In him was life, and that life was the light of men. 5 The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it. 6 There came a man who was sent from God; his name was John. 7 He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all men might believe. 8 He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light. 9 The true light that gives light to every man was coming into the world. 10 He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. 11 He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. 12 Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God—13 children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God

That is deep stuff. In the beginning was the Word, the Word was with God and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. Then verse three says, “*through him, all things were made, and without him was, nothing was made that has been made.*” Nothing can ever turn into something unless energy is applied to it. And that is what Jesus Christ did, He put his energy into it. In John’s day, the science said that the father Heaven (or the father Sky, Uranus), and Mother Earth, Gaia, were the two original gods and through copulation, the Titans were created. The Titans were a giant race of men, the people who ruled the world until the Olympian gods came and defeated them. Then there was the understanding that through the Father Sky and Mother Earth, the unicorns were created. Of course, we know that the unicorns were sent to Tartarus (Hell), and that really broke Mother Earth’s heart that they had to be condemned to that. Now that was the science of the day. Okay, John wrote this: “*Through him all things were made, and without him, nothing was made that has been made.*” Isn’t that interesting? All around people were saying, “do you want to believe something like that? Don’t you know about unicorns? Don’t you know about the Titans? And don’t you know about the Olympian gods?” And today, of course, we have another thing. Science says, there was nothing, and nothing became billions and billions of galaxies and, and universes from nothing, zero, not even a molecule of oxygen, and all these things were made. Obviously, that makes more sense?! And the thing is, when it

says that nothing without him was nothing made, that has been made, I want you to notice that applies to Christ also. He was not created by anyone. Nothing was made that he did not make. In other words, he was not created. He has always existed. There is a belief out there that Jesus Christ was created at some juncture, by God. That is impossible, because everything that has been made is made by him. He is eternal in nature. I want you to notice what it says in Colossians.

Colossians 1:15-16 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. 16 For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him.

Yes, Satan himself was created by the person of Jesus Christ. Now I want you to notice something about the creator, because there is more to it than that. We finally see it in First Corinthians 8:5, listen to this.

1 Corinthians 8:5-6 For even if there are so-called gods, whether in heaven or on earth (as indeed there are many "gods" and many "lords"), 6 yet for us there is but one God, the Father, from whom all things came and for whom we live; and there is but one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom all things came and through whom we live.

Did you get that? Yet for us **there is but one God the Father from whom all things came**. Now read Ephesians 3:8-9 where Paul is talking to the Ephesians. *Although I am less than the least of all God's people, this grace was given me to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, and to make plain to everyone the administration of this mystery, which for ages past, was kept hidden in **God, who created all things**.*

Then we find in Hebrews 1:1, *In the past, God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets that many times and in various ways, but in these last days, he has spoken to us by His Son, whom he appointed heir of all things. And through whom, (that's the son), he, the father, made the universe. But in these last days, he has spoken to us by His son whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom he made the universe.* Jesus Christ is the instrumentality that was used to make things, but it is very obvious that it was under the direction of God the Father. God is a trinity, so the trinity is involved in all this.

Romans 11:35, says this: *"Who has ever given to God, that God should repay him?" For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever! Amen.* Did you get that? "from him", is God the Father, "and through him", is God the Son, "and to him" is the Holy Spirit. The Trinity made everything that exists or the instrumentality of the Son. When someone says the Bible doesn't teach the Trinity, I hope you get a picture of this. *All things were made by him and without Him was not anything made that is made.* Nothing! Jesus Christ made it all! He is not a man, or he would have been created. If he was a man, he couldn't have created himself.

John 1:4 In him was life, and that life was the light of men. There are two words that are used in the Greek to speak of life. One is bio, and it is a high-level word. It speaks of the manner in which someone lives, it speaks about the type of lifestyle they had. We get the word biography from it because it speaks of a personal life someone had. The second word is Zoey. Zoey speaks of all life, or life in general, whether it be eternal life, or just life on this earth. We get the word Zoo from that word. If you go to the zoo, you go to where animal life is. Normally, in secular writings in John's day, the word bio, being a higher word, spoke of loftier things, usually being used to refer to men. But bio was not used here. It said in him, Zoe was the life, the life in general, life period. What he is saying is that Christ is the reason for life and anyone that lives. I John 5:11-12 confirms this: *And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. 12 He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life.* It is just that simple.

It is interesting that people want to make religion work for them. Life is an entity. It is not an accident; it is not a reaction to some chemicals and electrical charges. An entity is a thing that is distinct and independent. It is something that is by itself, it's in and of itself, it is life. When someone says, "Well, I do not know, I just know that God is good. And I know that I have tried to be the best I can be---." That does not implant life in someone. It is when you are born again, that life comes into you. That is why it is something that takes place at a point in time. It is something that God does. It's the reason man will never be able to produce life. They have been trying forever to produce life in a test tube, but they never will because life is its own entity. They will have to borrow it from somewhere else to make life. In other words, they can clone something, they can take a little bit of life from somewhere else and bring it over. They can take wheat that has been in a pyramid for 1000s of years, and they can add water, put it in the ground, and it grows. It has life in there. But nobody knows what life is.

That's what makes this book so hard. *In him was the life and the life was the light of men.* What does that mean? Those are small words, all real small Greek words. But they have tremendous meaning. When he says this, "*and Him was life, and the life was a light of man*", it gives us an idea, because it goes back to the Garden of Eden. *Genesis 2:7* helps explain it: *the LORD God formed the man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.* Your body is not made out of something from nothing. Your body is made of dirt. All you have to do is to be left on the roadside long enough, after you are dead, and you'll go back to dirt. Your body is made out of dirt. But life is something different. The Bible says that God created man and he used the word barah which means to make something out of nothing. So God created the body of a man out of the dirt, but when he created human life, he breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and man became a living being. Now I want you to picture this with me, God breathing life into man's nostrils, and let's say that life looks like 100 brilliant shining pearls on a string, a necklace of pearls. God put into us this circle of pearls that glows, and it's life. Go to *Genesis 2:7* again: "*the LORD God formed the man from the dust of the ground and*

breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.” That's his soul and his spirit. You're a **trichotomous** individual, you have a body, you have a soul, (which is your personality. It makes you who you are.) and you have a spirit which is made to commune with God, God is spirit. And those who worship God will worship Him in spirit and in truth. So, you have a soul and a spirit which are in you, which gives you a radiance that that's the orchestra leader that makes the body function. Here you are, you have this ring of pearls in you that brings life.

Let's look at Genesis 2:15-17 *The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. 16 And the LORD God commanded the man, "You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die." And the LORD God commanded the man, "You are free to eat from any tree in the garden.*

Think about this for a minute. Man, (Adam and Eve.) was put in the Garden of Eden, and God said “you can turn 360 degrees. You can do anything you want to do. It's fine by me. Except for one thing. Leave the tree of the knowledge of good and evil alone. That is all I'm asking.”

Gen 3:6 When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it.

They both died. Now, they don't look dead, but the spirit in the string of pearls is broken. The Spirit in them died and the spirit was 98 of those pearls. Gone, quenched, dead. There are only two pearls left – the body and the soul. We look at them and say “they look alive to me.!” You know why? Because we've never seen anybody with all 100 pearls in place. I don't even know what that looks like. What does somebody REALLY alive look like? Total communion with God! Take a guess. They look just like Jesus Christ. Life without him looks like life to you. It looks like life to me because we don't know what a real live person looks like. Not someone who has not been tainted, and the pearls killed. God looked down on man. And as he looked, he said “man's in big trouble. He's so dim, he's barely functioning.” It's like a flashlight. I've got one of those that's about a half million watts. I keep it my boat so I can see where I'm going at night, or shine it up on a hill, or have fun with the guy in the back of the boat, turn to him talk to him and shine it right in his eyes. Then for five minutes, he can't see a thing. But if you don't have the proper battery and try hooking it up to a little 12-volt battery you won't have any light since it has got to have power. Man is just like that battery; he has about 10 volts going through him when he needs to have a million. God looked down, and he said, “Man is in trouble.” That is another difference between the real God and the gods of the Romans and the Greeks. If you have studied anything about the Greek gods and the Roman gods, you know that they looked down on man for entertainment. They didn't help man. They just watched man and all of his confusion and all of his pain and all of his sorrow and they used him for entertainment. But the idea of intervening to help man

wasn't there. And so that was the science of that day. The gods just looked down and watched. In reality, God became man and intervened in our lifestyle.

John 1:6-7 There came a man who was sent from God; his name was John. (7) He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all men might believe.

In other words, because all we know is that life looks just like a couple of dim bulbs when there are supposed to be 100 glowing out of us. Jesus Christ is going to come into the world and all 100 are going to glow. He is the light of the world. When people see Christ, there is a problem. We see Christ perform a miracle this morning in Sunday school, see him feed 5000 men, plus women and children, with just five loaves of bread and two fish. We talked about the fact some people really believe that he was backed up to a cave, and men were handing food out to him, and then he was handing it to the people to make them believe that he was performing a miracle. Now, you've got to be really smart to think he was prepared or ready to feed a minimum of 15,000 people with food in a cave. The truth is man cannot comprehend that he literally took five loaves of bread and two fish and fed all those people. Do you know why? Because we have never seen anyone who had all their lights going. We've never seen anyone who had all the pearls going. Christ didn't do that as God, He did that as a man. He did not perform any miracles as God on this earth. You say, "Well, he was all God." Yes, he was, but He set aside all the rights of God.

Philippians 2:5-7 Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: (6) Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, (7) but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.

He set aside those rights, and he lived on this earth as a man. What was the great sin. When Satan came to Christ in the wilderness and tempted him for 40 days? What was the great sin when Satan said, "You're hungry, turn these rocks into bread?" The sin was He would have done it as God. Do you see, Christ came and functioned as a man the whole time he was on Earth? The sin would have been doing something he wanted to do, without the Father telling him to do. He said, Everything I hear, everything I say are the words of the Father. Everything I do are things I'm instructed to do. He was what a man looks like when all of him is functioning. And we've never seen anyone like that. I look at you, you look at me. When I say you're okay, and you say I'm okay, and we say we're okay, the truth is, we're not. Jesus Christ is the only one who ever functioned the way man was set up to function. When man was in the Garden of Eden, he was not perfect, he was innocent. Innocent meant that he hadn't been tested yet. It was not the same kind of glow that came off of Christ. The glow that Adam had was a tremendous glow, but it wasn't the kind you and I have, because he hadn't sinned yet and because he was in fellowship with God. Scripture says, "*They walk through the garden in the cool of the day together.*" But when Adam was tested, he failed. Now Christ has been tested, and he succeeded! So you see, he's that string of pearls that all light. That's why he

could walk into a room where there was a dead person, and say, "little girl Get up," and she would stand up. He was functioning the way a man was supposed to function. Adam and Eve had authority over nature. (Scripture is pretty clear on that.) If they wanted the sun to shine, it would shine. And if they wanted haze, I am assuming it would be hazy. They were lords over the world. They lost that authority because they sinned. Jesus Christ never lost that. When Jesus was in the ship sound asleep, and the disciples come over to him saying Lord, Don't you care that we perish? And Jesus got up and said, "be still" the water flattened out just like that. He never lost that authority. And so, we see man function in the way God intended for man to function.

Now, do you know what is interesting about that? I just wonder how we are going to function when we get to heaven. If you think this is life, I want you to know what we have here is a very dim bulb of what life is, **this** isn't much. *There came a man who was sent from God, his name was John. He came as a witness to testify concerning that life, so that through him all men might believe.* God's goal is for every man to believe in Jesus Christ, and to allow God to implant into him light, and then when we get to heaven, to really let it shine. Colossians 3:4 (NASB95) says, *When Christ, who is our life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory.* His light is going to shine through us. There are people who believe that Christ only died for certain individuals. I want you to know the Bible does not teach that. That's human reasoning.

1 Timothy 2:3-6 This is good, and pleases God our Savior, (4) who wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. (5) For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, (6) who gave himself as a ransom for all men—the testimony given in its proper time.

That's why he had to live on this earth as a man, *who gave himself a ransom for all men*, ALL men, not just some, but ALL men.

2 Peter 3:9 The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

It's God's desire, that every man believe in Jesus Christ and come to saving knowledge.

John 1:6-9 There came a man who was sent from God; his name was John. (7) He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all men might believe. (8) He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light. (9) The true light that gives light to every man was coming into the world.

Now then this question been asked of me many times, maybe it's been asked of you. What about the people over in Africa? "What about the people back in the outback in Australia? What about the people down in the jungles of Peru." I want you to know that there's not a person to whom God has not revealed himself. If they come to an age of accountability, and if their mind is where they can accept those things, God comes to every single individual. How are those people saved? Let me tell you something, you

either put your trust in Jesus Christ or you're not saved. It doesn't matter where you live. You say, That's not fair. That's more than fair. *Psalm 19:1 The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands.* Say a man goes out at nighttime in the outback of Australia, and he is an aborigine that hasn't been to town. But he looks up and he sees those stars, God speaks to him. (That's why astronomers have to make the decision to become an atheist, because God speaks to them through his creation.) *Romans 1:18-20 The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men who suppress the truth by their wickedness, (19) since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. (20) For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse.* So, someone in Africa, looks up and says, "I know God, you're out there, I can tell you have spoken to my heart, and I know these things are your creation. I want to know more about you." Back here, at Sager Creek, God puts it on our heart to support some missionaries, and they go straight out there to where that man is, and they share the gospel with that man, because he wants to know more about God. I promise you, there has never been a person who wanted to know about God, and went to their grave without knowing, because God will see to it that somebody is there to share the gospel with them. That's what missionaries are all about. That's why we give to missionary causes and endeavors. Because somebody out there wants to know about God. Everyone who espouses evolution, everyone who decides that things come from nothing, I want you to know that that individual has suppressed the knowledge of God in their mind. They overtly took a point in time when they decided they did not want to believe in God, because they did not want to have to answer to him someday. And you know the story, about the ostrich sticking its head in the sand (I don't guess they really do that.), but in our case, if you're in trouble and you want to hide, you close your eyes. And that's what man does. And he thinks he's hiding from God.

John 1:10 He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him.

This is written in the imperfect tense. It means he was not just in the world when he became Jesus Christ incarnate on Christmas. It means he has always been in the world. It was Jesus Christ in His pre incarnate state before he became flesh. He looked like a man, but he was not a man who walked through the garden and the cool of the day with Adam and Eve. It was Jesus Christ, who walked up with those two angels, and talked to Abraham and said, I am going to destroy Sodom, and I need to tell you about it because you're my friend. And the two angels went ahead and destroyed it. Wow, Christ talked to Abraham. It was Christ too when Jacob was running from him on the other side of the brook Jabbok. He wrestled with this man all night long. Finally at daylight, the man says, "Let me go", and Jacob says, "I will not let you go unless you bless me." The man was Christ. And he let Jacob prevail until he came to the point where Jacob said, "I've got to have a blessing from you." Then Christ asked Jacob, "What is your

name?" The last time somebody asked Jacob what his name was his dad, Isaac. Do you know what he said to Isaac? He did not say "my name is Jacob," he pretended to be his brother and said, "my name is Esau." When Christ asked, "What's your name?" He said, "my name is Jacob." Then Christ said, "That's right. You are a sneak you are a usurper of men. Now I can bless you." He was Christ, Christ has always been on the earth. He has always been around. Man chose not to have anything to do with him. And then it says, *and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him*. It is kind of interesting. The world chose to suppress the knowledge of God, the Canaanites chose to believe in someone else and something else. And men began to make god out of frogs and bugs and animals, to keep from having to deal with a living God who made the world. Men are still doing it today.

John 1:10-11 He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. (11) He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him.

"When He came to that which was his own," is in the neuter gender. It meant that he came to things that were his. The world was his, **is** the creation of the world was his. All the things in the world were his. He came to all these things, it's in the aorist **tense**, he came at a point in time, and to his own, and his own is very intense. It is a very intense possession. Jesus Christ owns everything. So, when it says he came to that which was his own, I want you to know, he came to his own stuff, it belongs to him. The atheist may not like the fact that God exists, and he may use air to curse God, but I want you to know he's using God's air when he does it. He uses God's dirt to feed himself. That all belongs to God. We may not like what he does **w**ith it but that's our problem, not His.

He came to that which was his own. This is talking about His incarnation. This is talking about when he became a man. At first, he was here, He's always been here. But now it talks about the point in time when he was born at Bethlehem. "He came to his own things" is in the neuter gender, and it says his own received Him not, and that is in the masculine gender. Do you know what that is talking about? His own nature, his own nation, his own family. His own people did not receive Him. There is a song that I thought about it when I was studying. All I remember are some of the words: "He grew the tree that He knew would be used to crucify him for you and me." Have you thought about that? He grew the tree that he knew would be used to crucify him. He chose to do that. He came unto his own, his own stuff did not receive him. He came to his own people, family, friends, they did not receive Him. In fact, Scripture says when he went back to his own hometown, he could not perform very many miracles. (Many people think that means they didn't have the faith, and so he couldn't produce the works. That is not what that means.) He is going throughout that part of the world healing people. And you know what, they do not come out to see him, don't even come to check on him. They do not bring their sick to him, but they knew him when he was growing up! He came into his own and his own received Him not.

John 1:12 Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God—

This is structured in such a way that is remarkably interesting. It is trying to define belief. What is it to be saved? What does it mean to believe in Jesus Christ? Some people say you have to repent of your sins. And if you are not sorry enough for your sins, you will not go to heaven. Some people say you have to confess before **men**, I don't know whether that's two men or 200? How many men is that? How many tears do you have to shed to be sorry? Is it nine tears, and if you only shed eight, you don't get saved? How do we do this? What do you add to believing in Christ? Well, he is going to explain it right here. Here is what he says, "*Yet to all who received Him*" and the way this is worded, it points straight back to those who accepted him. And it is the opposite of those who rejected him. In other words, there are people who, even though they had the knowledge of Him, suppress the truth. This is just the opposite. This is embracing the truth, that He is God, and that he created the world. And that He is all that he says he is and that he came to pay for your sins in mind that he's God incarnate in flesh. And he was a perfect man, we embrace that. We accept it. It is the opposite of what they did. They said no to that. And you just say yes to it. In fact, to all who receive Him, is the opposite of what they did. And then we have an explanation clause to those who believe in his name. *Yet to all who receive him to those who believe in his name*. My translation says *he gave the **right***. This is an extraordinarily strong word. It is more than just a privilege; it has strength to it. There is a demand in it almost. You **can** be his child.

If you doubt your salvation, if you don't know if you've repented enough, if you don't know if you've been sorrowful enough? If you don't know if you've been sincere enough, I just want to say to you, are you doing what those do who reject Him and suppress the truth? Or do you embrace the truth? If you embrace the truth and say "Yes, I'm thrilled that there's a savior. I am thrilled that God became man for mankind. And I want that," then you have believed in Christ. It does not matter how long you've gone to church. It does not matter how much money you've given. It doesn't matter what else you've done. Until you accept him, until you believe in him you haven't done anything. The world's full of people today who give a lot of money, whether it's Christian Science, or whatever, it might be to think they can buy and pay for the bad things they've done. But they do not have enough money. Jesus Christ already paid for all those things.

John 1:12-13 Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— (13) children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

Verse 13 makes it very clear. *Not of natural descent* means not by ancestry. Your parents might be saved but that does not save you. You have to believe on your own. *Not by human decision* - that means a man can't make the decision who's saved and who isn't. The Pope doesn't have a single solitary thing to say about someone else's salvation. **Period!!** *Or by the husband's will*, - not even by sexual desire, or some other kind of weird thing, nor is buying a natural way that man is saved. *But born of*

God, the children, children born not of natural descent, not of human decision, not the husband's will. But born of God, God came to you and he has spoken to you about a relationship with him. If he had not, you would not believe in him. He has, and therefore when you embrace the truth that others suppress, you have become a believer. No one can help you with your salvation except God. No one, no man, no ancestry, no natural way that a man can be saved other than belief in Jesus Christ.

The world was made by him, the world received him not. He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received Him, He gave the right to be called the children of God, even to those who believe on his name. The pearls have won. When man fell, there was a woman that had two pearls, a body and a soul, but no spirit to commune with God. There was a man who had a body and soul but no spirit to commune with God. And they had children, and do you know what kind of children they had? They had children that had a body and a soul but no spirit. That's why you've got to be born again - to turn the light back on. Jesus Christ is the light of the world. I want to tell you that inside of you, he puts light. Now it's true, that it is veiled in flesh today, it was even veiled when he was on this earth. But the day is coming when it will not be veiled anymore. The day is coming, when the brightness that God has put in you will come out and shine forth.

Colossians 3:2-4 Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. (3) For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. (4) When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

These 100 pearls that are in you, that he put inside of you, these bright pearls are now hidden with God. Your life is now hidden with Christ in God and when Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him. In glory in literally means when his glory shines forth, your glory is going to shine forth. What glory are you going to have? You are going to have the pearls he put inside of you.

We have come to the Christmas season, and we need to celebrate because God became flesh and dwelt among us. This morning, if you haven't put your trust in Christ, you need to because there's no life outside of him. I want to tell you something. Most of you have put your trust in him. But when such magnificent things happen, if you spend your life living for any other purpose, other than the purpose of a relationship with Christ, then you've wasted time. I want you to know you can start over. Life has no value outside of Jesus Christ. You can draw a line in the sand, and you can start fresh. *If we confess our sins, He's faithful and just to forgive us of our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.* You can do that right now. Simply turn to him and say: "Lord, I know I haven't lived for you. But by your grace, I'm going to start." I want to encourage you to live for Him like there is no tomorrow because you know what? There may not be one, but we have forever. Let's go the Lord in prayer. "Father, thank you so much for your word and how relevant it is and I pray that you will help us to live for you more than we ever have. I pray that when you see us face to face, you'll be pleased with us because we have given ourselves to you in Jesus name. Amen."