

# WHAT WE HAVE AS A CHRISTIAN?

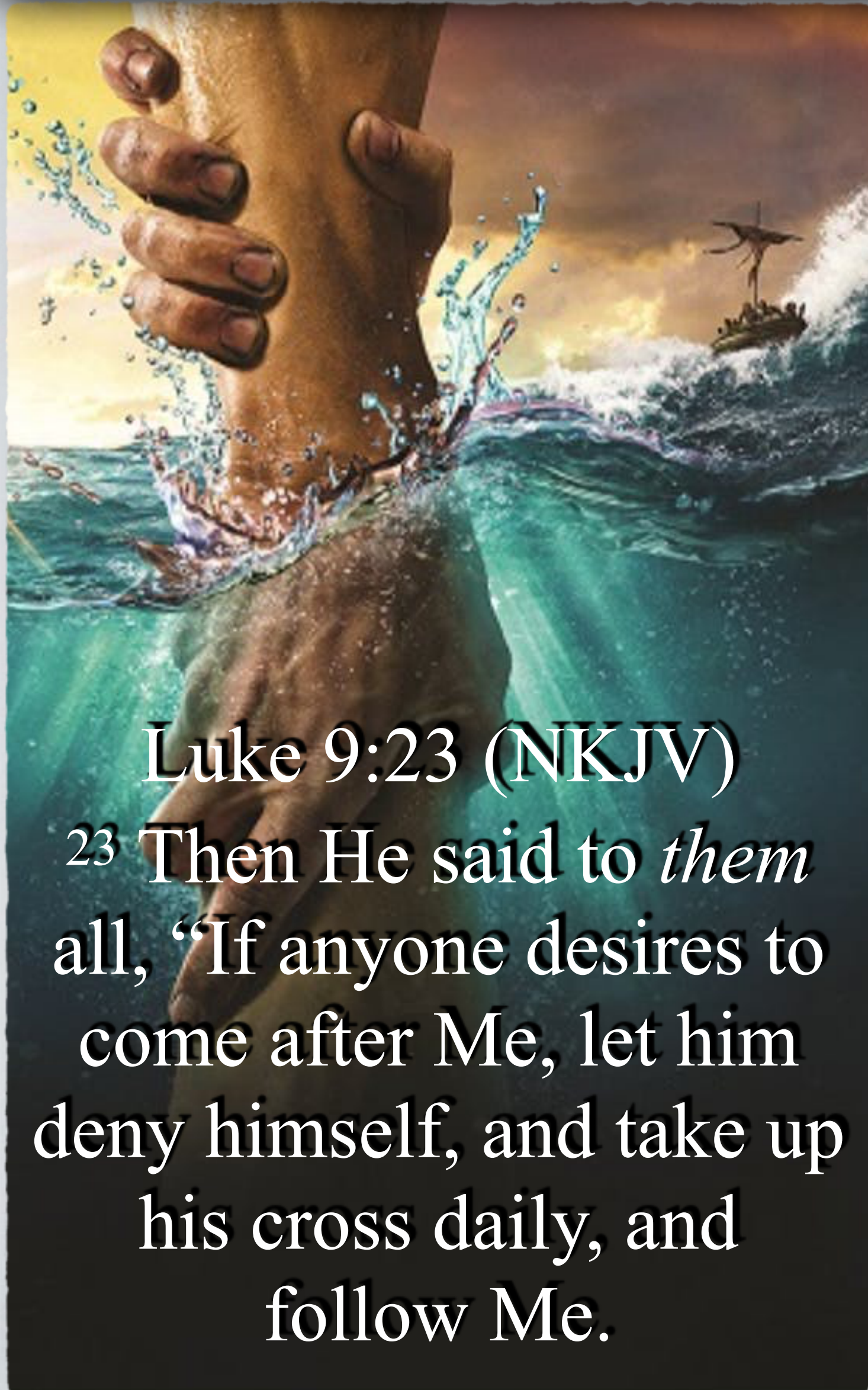
**Colossians 1:19-23; Ephesians 1:3-14**



**WALKING IN HIS STEPS**

SERMON SERIES: **GROWING IN CHRIST**

# What Becoming **A Christian** Is All about



Luke 9:23 (NKJV)

*23* Then He said to *them* all, “If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me.


- It's NOT ALL about ME — **IT's ALL ABOUT JESUS!**
- **OBEYING** the gospel of **JESUS CHRIST!**
- **LEARNING** ALL WE CAN **about JESUS!**
- **FOLLOWING** JESUS By Doing What He Says!
- **BECOMING** MORE **LIKE JESUS!!!**

# Colossians 1:19–23 (NKJV)

<sup>19</sup> For it pleased *the Father that* in Him all the fullness should dwell, <sup>20</sup> and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross. <sup>21</sup> And you, who once were alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now He has reconciled <sup>22</sup> in the body of His flesh through death, to present you holy, and blameless, and above reproach in His sight —<sup>23</sup> if indeed you continue in the faith, grounded and steadfast, and are not moved away from the hope of the gospel which you heard, which was preached to every creature under heaven, of which I, Paul, became a minister.

# WHAT A **CHRISTIAN HAS IN CHRIST**

## THE “**SPHERE**” of GOD’S BLESSINGS

- 
- ▶ 19 “For it pleased the Father that in Him all the fullness should dwell,”
- All that God provides men is available **IN CHRIST** (1:18-22; Eph 1:10; 2:16)
  - We **ARE** Complete in Christ (Col. 2:10; cf. Eph 3:19)
  - There is **NOTHING** That A Christian Needs That Is Not Found In Jesus Christ (10; 2 Pet 1:3)

# WHAT A **CHRISTIAN HAS IN CHRIST**



## THE “**SPHERE**” of GOD’S BLESSINGS

- ▶ Noah’s **ARK** — Genesis 6:17-20; 7:23
- ▶ **HOUSES** marked by the blood of the Passover lamb — Exodus 12:7,12,13,22,23
- ▶ **CITIES** of REFUGE — Numbers 35:9-11,26-28
- ▶ **Rahab’s house** — Joshua 2:18,19; 6:17 — Anyone who was in her house would be spared. Anyone who was outside the house, for whatever reason, would be destroyed. [Josh. 6:21-23]
- ▶ In the **BODY, (CHURCH) of CHRIST** — Eph. 1:3, 23; 2:16; 5:23-27; Col. 1:19; 2:9,10; Gal. 3:26,27

# WHAT A **CHRISTIAN HAS IN CHRIST**

What It **MEANS** To Be **“IN CHRIST”**

▶ **NOT** a physical “location,” but rather a **“SPIRITUAL RELATIONSHIP”**

- The Father dwells in me & I in Him (1 Jn 3:24; 4:15)
- The Holy Spirit dwells in me and I in Him (Rom. 8:9)
- Jesus dwells in me & I in Him (John 15:2-5; Romans 8:1,2)



# WHAT A **CHRISTIAN HAS IN CHRIST**

What It **MEANS** To Be **“IN CHRIST”**

▶ **NOT** a physical “location,” but rather a **“SPIRITUAL RELATIONSHIP”**

**Thus - a close, harmonious spiritual relationship in which we receive His blessings & sustained as we follow HIM.**

**(John 15:1-10; Romans 6:3-19)**



# Ephesians 1:3–14 (NKJV)

<sup>3</sup> Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly *places* in Christ, <sup>4</sup> just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, <sup>5</sup> having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, <sup>6</sup> to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved. <sup>7</sup> In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace <sup>8</sup> which He made to abound toward us in all wisdom and prudence,



# Ephesians 1:3–14 (NKJV)

<sup>9</sup> having made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Himself, <sup>10</sup> that in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth—in Him. <sup>11</sup> In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will, <sup>12</sup> that we who first trusted in Christ should be to the praise of His glory. <sup>13</sup> In Him you also *trusted*, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, <sup>14</sup> who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.

# WHAT A **CHRISTIAN** HAS IN **CHRIST**

Ephesians 2:12

Baptized Into

Ephesians 1:3-14

Rom. 6:3-6 ;Gal. 3:26,27; Acts 2:38,47

## Outside Christ: Lost / NO Hope

1. NO spiritual blessings –
2. NOT chosen –
3. NOT children of God –
4. NOT accepted –
5. NO redemption –
6. NO forgiveness –
7. NO heavenly Inheritance

## Inside Christ: Saved / Hope

1. ALL spiritual blessings
2. Chosen –
3. A child of God –
4. Accepted –
5. Redeemed –
6. Forgiven –
7. A Heavenly Inheritance

# WHAT A **CHRISTIAN HAS IN CHRIST**



- ▶ All spiritual blessings in Christ (NO SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS OUTSIDE OF CHRIST) (Ephesians 1:3)
- **Salvation** is in Christ (2 Timothy 2:10)
- **Salvation** is ONLY in and through Jesus Christ (Acts 4:12; John 14:6)
- **Salvation** is granted to “whoever calls upon the name of the Lord” (Acts 2:21, (36-41, 47); Romans 10:13-17)
- **Salvation** comes by hearing, believing & obeying the gospel (Acts 11:14; Rom 10:9-17; Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38)

# WHAT A **CHRISTIAN HAS IN CHRIST**



- ▶ All spiritual blessings in Christ (NO SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS OUTSIDE OF CHRIST) (Ephesians 1:3)
- **Reconciliation** — “in Christ” we are reconciled to God - made near to Him, at peace with Him — Eph 2:12-17
- **Redemption, & forgiveness** of sins — While guilty of sin, we were captives & slaves of Satan. When we receive forgiveness by Jesus’ blood, we are “redeemed” & belong to God again. [Phil. 4:7; 2 Cor. 5:18,19; 1 Pet. 5:14; Rom. 3:22-24; Col. 1:14]

# WHAT A **CHRISTIAN HAS IN CHRIST**



- ▶ All spiritual blessings in Christ (NO SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS OUTSIDE OF CHRIST) (Ephesians 1:3)
- Enjoy the **provision of God's LOVE** — John 3:16; Romans 5:8-10; 8:39; John 14:23; 15:10
- Enjoy the **provision of God's grace** — 2 Timothy 2:1; Titus 2:11-14; Eph. 2:1-10
- **Freedom from condemnation** — Romans 8:1; 6:16-18; Gal 3:13; 5:1
- **Eternal life** — 1 John 5:11-12; Rom. 6:23; John 1:4; 14:6; 2 Tim. 1:1

# WHAT A **CHRISTIAN HAS IN CHRIST**

## WE ARE \_\_\_\_\_ IN CHRIST

- ▶ 2 Corinthians 5:17 - A **new CREATION**
- ▶ 1 Peter 2:9 - **chosen** race, **royal priests**, **holy** nation, God's **possession**
- ▶ 2 Corinthians 5:21 - **righteousness** of God
- ▶ Galatians 3:26,27 - **children** of God
- ▶ 1 Corinthians 1:2 - **sanctified**, **saints**
- ▶ Ephesians 2:5,6 - **alive**, raised up with Him
- ▶ Ephesians 5:8 - children of **light**
- ▶ Colossians 1:22 - **holy** & **blameless**
- ▶ Romans 3:24 - **justified**, **redeemed** ...



# WHAT A **CHRISTIAN HAS IN CHRIST**

## ARE YOU IN CHRIST?

- ▶ **HEAR** — Luke 8:11ff; Acts 2:14-38; Rom 10:17
- ▶ **BELIEVE** — John 3:16; 8:24; 1 John 5:13; Heb. 11:6
- ▶ **REPENT** — Luke 13:3,5; Acts 17:30; Rom. 3:23; 6:23; 2 Cor 7:8-11
- ▶ **CONFESS** — Matt. 10:32; Luke 12:8; Acts 8:37; Rom. 10:9,10
- ▶ **BAPTISM** — we are cleansed & united to Christ - Mk 16:16; Ac 2:38; 22:16; Ro 6:3-6; Ga 3:26,27; Co 2:12,13
- ▶ **FAITHFUL** — Lk 6:46-49; 9:23-26, 57-62; 14:25-34; Jn 15:1-10; Phili 3:7-16



# WHAT A **CHRISTIAN HAS IN CHRIST**

## ARE YOU IN CHRIST?

### **Colossians 2:11–13 (NKJV)**

<sup>11</sup> In Him you were also circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the sins of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, <sup>12</sup> buried with Him in baptism, in which you also were raised with *Him* through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead. <sup>13</sup> And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses,





# WHAT A **CHRISTIAN HAS IN CHRIST**

## ARE YOU IN CHRIST?

### **Galatians 3:26–29 (NKJV)**

<sup>26</sup> For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. <sup>27</sup> For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. <sup>28</sup> There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. <sup>29</sup> And if you *are* Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.



# WHAT A **CHRISTIAN HAS IN CHRIST**

## ARE YOU IN CHRIST?

### **Romans 6:3–6 (NKJV)**

<sup>3</sup> Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? <sup>4</sup> Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. . . .



# WHAT A **CHRISTIAN HAS IN CHRIST**

## ARE YOU ABIDING IN CHRIST?

### ▶ It is not enough just to get into Christ

- 1 John 2:3-6 — We **MUST** abide in Him as we keep His commands, walking as He walked. (cf. Luke 6:46-49; Heb. 5:8,9)
- Colossians 2:6,7; 1:23 — We must walk in Him, rooted and built up in Him.
- Matthew 13:23; John 15:6 — Must bear fruit.
- 1 Corinthians 10:1-13; Hebrews 3:1-4:1 — The example of Israel after being saved from Egypt but fell in the wilderness.



# WHAT A **CHRISTIAN** HAS IN CHRIST

- ▶ **EVERY SPIRITUAL BLESSING**
- ▶ **GOD'S LOVE & GRACE**
- ▶ **ADOPTION / ACCEPTANCE**
- ▶ **SALVATION / FORGIVENESS**
- ▶ **REDEMPTION / FREEDOM** from sin
- ▶ **PEACE WITH GOD / SECURITY**
- ▶ **ETERNAL LIFE** - IF WE ABIDE IN HIM  
- WE WILL BE WITH HIM FORVER -

# WHAT A **CHRISTIAN** HAS IN **CHRIST**

## Revelation 14:13 (NKJV)

<sup>13</sup> Then I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, “Write: ‘Blessed *are* the dead who die in the Lord from now on.’” “Yes,” says the Spirit, “that they may rest from their labors, and their works follow them.”

**WALKING IN HIS STEPS**

SERMON SERIES: **GROWING IN CHRIST**

# WHAT A **CHRISTIAN** HAS IN **CHRIST**

**IF you are NOT in  
CHRIST, you CAN BE  
TODAY!**

**IF YOU ARE IN  
CHRIST WHY WOULD  
YOU WANT OUT?**

**WALKING IN HIS STEPS**

SERMON SERIES: **GROWING IN CHRIST**



# WHAT WE HAVE AS A CHRISTIAN?

**Colossians 1:19–23; Ephesians 1:3-14**



**Charts by Don McClain**

Preached November 5, 2023

Bryant church of Christ/ 9500 AR 5 Bryant AR 72002 / 501-568-1062

Prepared using Keynote

Email – [donmcclain@sbcglobal.net](mailto:donmcclain@sbcglobal.net)

Our Website: [w65stchurchofchrist.com](http://w65stchurchofchrist.com)

**WALKING IN HIS STEPS**

SERMON SERIES: **GROWING IN CHRIST**



## 2 Corinthians 5:16–19 (NKJV)

<sup>16</sup> Therefore, from now on, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we have known Christ according to the flesh, yet now we know *Him thus* no longer. <sup>17</sup> Therefore, if anyone *is* in Christ, *he is* a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. <sup>18</sup> Now all things *are* of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation, <sup>19</sup> that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation.

# WALKING IN HIS STEPS

SERMON SERIES: **GROWING IN CHRIST**

## *Where We Are Going*

1. What Becoming A Christian Is All about
2. **What We Have In Christ**
3. Increasing In The Knowledge of God
4. Standing Against Evil Forces
5. **Giving All Diligence To Grow**
6. Bearing Fruit That Honors God
7. Growing By Serving In The Body
8. **Living For Heaven - Keeping Our Focus**