

[Faith, Hope & Love\\_Part22](#)

In completing our study on the trinity and understanding who each member of the Godhead is and why we should place our faith in God and God alone, I want to finish up our study of faith with an aspect of the Son that we addressed in our study of the names, but I want us to apply it even further and take it to the “Nth” degree, or as far as practically possible. After all, if the truth does not become our truth, then we will never learn to live by faith. We will have a lot of knowledge of the truth, but practically we will be powerless and still ruled and controlled by our fear, *wrong belief* and *unbelief*. I hate to say it, but some of us are practically powerless; but take hope, the Lord wants to change that all around. He is patiently teaching you who He is so you can understand why you should believe Him with all of your heart, mind, soul, and strength. Of course, you will need to dig down deep into your soul and decide that He is worth it; but He is showing you that He is.

I want to address a passages that speak about the Son with the understanding that the Son’s goal is the ultimate conquest of the souls of His **beloved**. Jesus wants to have every part of us; remember, He is **Jehovah Qanna**—the Lord whose name is jealous. Yet, too often we miss the point that Jesus is a conqueror and He does not like to share possession of us with His enemies. We know that when He returns, He will come with a sword and put down His enemies with a mere spoken word, but He is also the one who is now leading the war over our souls and is fighting against His enemies. You see, in order for Jesus to fully possess us and have us to Himself, He has to judge, put down, and abolish every other so called authority in our life that arrogantly raises itself up against the rule and reign of our Lord.

**1 Corinthians 15:20-28**

But now Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who are asleep. For since by a man came death, by a man also came the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all will be made alive. But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, after that those who are Christ's at His coming, then comes the end, when He hands over the kingdom to the God and Father, when He has abolished all rule and all authority and power. For He must reign until He has put all His enemies under His feet. The last enemy that will be abolished is death. For HE HAS PUT ALL THINGS IN SUBJECTION UNDER HIS FEET. But when He says, "All things are put in subjection," it is evident that He is excepted who put all things in subjection to Him. When all things are subjected to Him, then the Son Himself also will be subjected to the One who subjected all things to Him, so that God may be all in all.

This passage gives us a quick summary of things pertaining to resurrection and the end of all things. But in the middle of all this, the Spirit says: "For He [Jesus] must reign until He has put all His enemies under His feet." It is clear that the Father has already subjected all things to Jesus. He has given all judgment to the Son (**John 5:27**) as well as all authority in heaven and earth (**Matthew 28:18**) to conquer, vanquish, and have complete victory over His enemies. This plays out tangibly in the lives of the **beloved**. In our study of the names, we learned that the Lord wants us to let Him go through the territory of our soul, much like the Israelites did in the Promise Land, and eliminate each and every enemy that raises itself up in defiant and proud opposition to His rule and reign. Accordingly, Jesus invades the lives of

the **beloved** and begins to judge every thought, motive, action, and all that does not derive from Him. He judges our flesh and fights against His enemies in our soul in order that He might live His life in and through our own—that is the *design point* and is why He wages war. And He will not stop. He will be relentless with you until He abolishes all rule and all authority and power and has put all His enemies under His feet. The Son is a warrior who is always fighting on behalf of His **beloved**.

With this background in mind, I believe we have a lot of work to do. We have been studying the Kingdom of God for 24 weeks now and have been studying faith for the last 22; but it still seems that our faith is not as strong as it needs to be. There is still too much fear, self-protection, and emotional unavailability in operation in this body. It has become clear to me that the foundational truths we have learned about the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit have not yet become your truths. We must choose to surrender the *unbelief* and *wrong belief* that impairs our faith. And with the “war” that is coming, we have no time to waste. Therefore, let’s start with a review—a little test really (that pretty much everyone whom I have asked has failed). I have said that there are 3 foundational truths that if we were to truly believe in them, just in these 3, then everything else would fall into place. Do you remember what they are?

1. Jesus is Yahweh—Jesus is the Lord!
2. Only God is good.
3. We are aliens and strangers and DO NOT BELONG to this world.

If Jesus is the Lord, then every single detail of your life has been determined by your Lord. Nothing has been random or arbitrary. He has been the author of all things; and, all things, without exception, have come from His hand. It is why Jesus

declares that He is the Alpha and the Omega the Beginning and the End. Everything starts with Him, proceeds from Him, and ends with Him. Even the enemy is just a tool carrying out the will of **Jehovah Sabaoth**—the Lord of Hosts. This is a radical truth; however, I think that we have studied this issue enough that most of us are convinced and now believe that Jesus is the one and only Lord. We may not like it, but we believe it. Where I think we still struggle in terms of our faith is with the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> foundational truth.

If only God is good, then it means that everything that flows from His hands is inherently “*agathos*” or good. It has no darkness and can be accused of no error or shortcoming; it is all good. This would include: His choosing of you while not choosing others; His complete separation of your life; His love for you; all that you have endured, every little thing He has allowed including every wound (large or small) that has ever caused you pain; and the good, perfect, and pleasing plans He has for your life for which you must painfully wait. All of it is good; and this becomes clear when you understand that everything He has done and all that He will do is connected to the fact that you are an alien and stranger and DO NOT BELONG to this world.

You have to ask yourself, what did you want from God when you choose Him? Did you want Him to make things in this life good for you? Did you want Him to carve out a place for you in the history of this world? If so, I am afraid you made a big mistake. True believers come to Jesus because He is the only way, He is the truth, and He is the life. He is everything we need all the time, for He is good. He never promised any of us a place in this world; rather, He promised to separate us and remove us from this world. That was the deal.

Moreover, this truth that only God is good also means that you are not good, for you are not God. Face it, accept it, get over it, and stop trying so hard to be good and do it right for God; you simply can't. The beauty of this truth is that you do not have to live in shame, failure, guilt, or defeat; after all, you were never intended to be good, for only God in you can be good. On our own we can never produce any goodness; we need Him to do that for us (just like we need Him to do everything for us). That is why we need to die to all our attempts at being righteous. It is through death to ourselves—to our *Old Sinful Nature*—that we begin to experience true life as Jesus is then free to live in and through us. Again, this is why He wars.

Only God is good is a truth that I am sure every single one of you can recite back to me; we have covered this subject time and time again. In fact, I often hear someone say in regards to some fleshly reaction, "Oh that was my goodness." So I know you understand it; still, it has not yet become solidified as your truth. Too many of you still live cloaked in shame, failure, guilt, and defeat and you have not learned to live according to the greater grace that is provided to you by the Spirit of God—the grace that empowers you to hate this world, declare yourself an enemy of it, and humble yourself before God allowing Him to cause you to always submit to Him (**James 4:1-10**). Collectively, we have a lot of work to do in this area as this is the issue where a lot of our *wrong belief and unbelief* still resides.

And if we are aliens and strangers and DO NOT BELONG to this world, then everything that has transpired in our lives has been for the very specific purpose of causing us to learn to live like the aliens we are. This is the very reason why we can be confident that all that Jesus has caused and allowed in our lives as our Lord is inherently good. It is all been for this purpose—to extract us from this world. This

is a truth we have barely scratched the surface of understanding. In fact, I believe that in this area of truth, most of you have had a full-on Charlie Brown experience. I present you the truth, bathe you in scripture after scripture, and all you hear is waaah, waaah, waaah, waaah, waaah, waaah. Surely you know what I am talking about? When the teachers or parents would talk in the Charlie Brown cartoons, all that the kids would hear was an indecipherable waaah, waaah, waaah, waaah, waaah, waaah. That is what has been happening here and is why there is so much fear, self-protection, and emotional unavailability still running through this body. We have yet to accept the fact that we DO NOT BELONG to this world. We kind of get it in our heads, but that's as far as it goes. This is a radical truth with radical implications; and it is the heartbeat of the Kingdom of God. Again, these are all truths you have been taught, can recite, and can even teach others; but they must now go beyond your mental understanding and invade your heart, soul, and strength and become your way of life. Let's quickly review a few of the scriptures pertaining to this truth.

In speaking to Pilot in **John 18:36**, Jesus said: "My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, then My servants would be fighting so that I would not be handed over to the Jews; but as it is, My kingdom is not of this realm." In speaking to the Jews in **John 8:23-25**, Jesus said, "You are from below, I am from above; you are of this world, I am not of this world." And if you have been chosen by **Jehovah Mekoddiskem** and have truly chosen Him in return, then like Jesus you are not of this world and your Kingdom is not of this realm. Jesus iterated this truth when He was praying to His Father shortly before giving up His life. He said:

**John 17:14-19**

I have given them Your word; and the world has hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. I do not ask You to take them out of the world, but to keep them from the evil one. They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth. As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world. For their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they themselves also may be sanctified in truth.

How crazy is this truth? You were chosen from before the foundations of the world to belong to Jesus; and, *in love*, He predestined the affairs of your life—every single moment—to ensure that you would one day belong to Jesus and be adopted into His family. In fact, according to the kind intention of His will, you were chosen to be holy and blameless before Him (***Ephesians 1:4-5***). But this wonderful and glorious privilege of belonging to the Kingdom of God has its responsibilities. You came into the world because He sent you in to the world as His ambassador to beg the world to be reconciled to God (***2 Corinthians 5:20***); but you DO NOT BELONG to this world. Thus, there must be a complete separation of your mind, your body, your emotions, and your relational connections to this world.

1) There must be a complete separation of your ***mind*** from this world, hence, He desires to transform you by the renewal of your mind in order that you might prove out the will of God, that which is good, pleasing, and perfect (***Romans 12:1-2***). After all, the mind set on flesh (on the things of this world), is hostile toward God for it does not subject itself to the law of God, for it is not even able to do so, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God (***Romans 8:7-8***). This is why you are

commanded by the Spirit to set your mind on the things above and not on the things that are on the earth (***Colossians 3:2***). The Spirit makes clear our need for mental separation when He contrasts the mind of the Gentiles, or those who don't know God, with our need to be renewed in the spirit of our mind.

***Ephesians 4:17-24***

So this I say, and affirm together with the Lord, that you walk no longer just as the Gentiles also walk, in the futility [or worthlessness] of their mind, being darkened in their understanding, excluded from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the hardness of their heart; and they, having become callous, have given themselves over to sensuality for the practice of every kind of impurity with greediness. But you did not learn Christ in this way, if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught in Him, just as truth is in Jesus, that, in reference to your former manner of life, you lay aside the old self, which is being corrupted in accordance with the lusts of deceit, *and that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind*, and put on the new self, which in the likeness of God has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth.

When you live according to your own wisdom and your own perceptions of this life, you are a fool, just like everyone who does not know God. You are darkened in your understanding, ignorant, and excluded from the life of God because of the hardness of your heart. How intense is this reality. This is where some of you are stuck; you have not wanted to relent of your own wisdom and your own demands



of God. This is why there must be a complete renewal of your mind by the Spirit in order that you might know and speak from the mind of Christ, which we studied last week. There must be a complete separation of your mind away from the way this world thinks—the way you would naturally think without the Spirit.

2) There must be a complete separation of your **body** from this world in order that you might no longer live for the lusts of this world. For all that is in the world, the lusts of the flesh, the lusts of the eyes, and the boastful pride of life is not from the Father, but is from the world (**1 John 2:15-16**). Hence, you are called to actively put to death the unrighteous deeds of darkness which dwell in your body; and if by the Spirit you are putting to death the deeds of the body, you will live (**Matthew 5:29-30; Romans 6:6-7; 8:13; 1 Corinthians 6:13; 2 Corinthians 4:10; Colossians 3:5**). Further, we are not to fear those who can hurt our bodies but are unable to kill the soul (**Matthew 10:28**); after all, we can be confident that as soon as we are done with these weak and broken bodies of flesh we will instantly be in the presence of the Lord (**2 Corinthians 5:8; Philippians 1:23**).

3) There must be a complete separation of your emotional connections to this world. Jesus commands us: “Do not *love* the world nor the things in this world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world. The world is passing away, and also its lusts; but the one who does the will of God lives forever” (**1 John 2:15-17**). We have heard this verse quoted so many times that I think we have become numb to it. How much do you love this world? How often are you trying to get the world to love you, validate you, prefer you, honor you, and give you a bloody chance? Do

you seek validation and tend to find your identity in this world through work, your accomplishments, education, advancements, your associates, or even through your family? If so you have a problem and there needs to be separation for you cannot serve two masters. You will love one and hate the other, it is just a matter of time (**Matthew 6:24**). You adulteresses, don't you know that friendship with the world is hostility toward God. Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God (**James 4:4-5**). Ironically, Jesus says you were chosen out of this world and so the world hates you—hates (**John 15:19**)! The world is not your friend; yet, you try so hard to get it to love you. No! There must be a complete separation. In fact, the sobering reality is that if you strive to please men, it is an indication that you are not truly a bond servants of Jesus (**Galatians 1:10**).

4) There must be a complete separation of your relational connections to those in this world. Those in the world, no matter who they are, must not be able to control, manipulate, or own you. Jesus made this clear when He quoted **Micah 7:6**:

**Matthew 10:34-39**

Do not think that I came to bring peace on the earth; I did not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I came to SET A MAN AGAINST HIS FATHER, AND A DAUGHTER AGAINST HER MOTHER, AND A DAUGHTER-IN-LAW AGAINST HER MOTHER-IN-LAW; and A MAN'S ENEMIES WILL BE THE MEMBERS OF HIS HOUSEHOLD. He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me; and he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me. He who has found his life will lose it, and he who has lost his life for My sake will find it.

Jesus came to divide even the most intimate of familial relationships; and it is good, for all that God does is good. This separation is for the purpose of helping you choose to live like an alien and a stranger in this world. The truth is you belong to Jesus and your family is now all of those who do the will of the Father in heaven (**Matthew 12:47-50**). You know this truth; still you marginalize its implications in your life and you freak out as soon as you have some tension and pressure from family, friends, and those who hate the fact that you are willing to take Jesus at His word. I know you hate the tension, the conflict, and the pain that this causes everyone, but there must be complete separation; that is the calling of the **beloved**. And you must not be confused by those who claim to be “Christians” and do all manner of religious works, but do not do the will of the Father. Jesus said:

***Matthew 7:21-23***

Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven will enter. Many will say to Me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?' And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; DEPART FROM ME, YOU WHO PRACTICE LAWLESSNESS.'

***Luke 6:46***

Why do you call Me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I say?

Words alone do not make someone a believer. You can say to Jesus “Lord, Lord” and it still not mean anything if you do not do the works of the Father. You can even do amazing things, great religious works, even miracles in Jesus’ name, but if you do not do the works of the Father you do not belong to the Kingdom of God. In fact, with regard to those who belong to this world—even those of our own physical family—the Lord, quoting *Isaiah 52:11*, says:

### ***2 Corinthians 6:14-18***

Do not be bound together with unbelievers; for what partnership have righteousness and lawlessness, or what fellowship has light with darkness? Or what harmony has Christ with Belial, or what has a believer in common with an unbeliever? Or what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God; just as God said, "I WILL DWELL IN THEM AND WALK AMONG THEM; AND I WILL BE THEIR GOD, AND THEY SHALL BE MY PEOPLE. Therefore, COME OUT FROM THEIR MIDST AND BE SEPARATE," says the Lord. AND DO NOT TOUCH WHAT IS UNCLEAN; and I will welcome you. And I will be a father to you, and you shall be sons and daughters to Me, says the Lord Almighty.

I know this is hard, this is intense, this is beyond uncomfortable, but this is the calling of the **beloved**. This is why Jesus said that we must count the cost.

**Luke 14:26-33**

If anyone comes to Me, and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be My disciple. Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple. For which one of you, when he wants to build a tower, does not first sit down and calculate the cost to see if he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who observe it begin to ridicule him, saying, 'This man began to build and was not able to finish.' Or what king, when he sets out to meet another king in battle, will not first sit down and consider whether he is strong enough with ten thousand men to encounter the one coming against him with twenty thousand? Or else, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for terms of peace. So then, none of you can be My disciple who does not give up all his own possessions.

The cost to live in the Kingdom of God is everything that belongs to this world; even our own lives. Very few people are cut out for this kind of radical living; hence, the religion of Christianity. But this is what our Lord requires and there is no room for compromise in this regard; there must be complete separation. Going back to **2 Corinthians 6:14-18**, this is a command; it is not a suggestion. We are to dig down deep in our souls and in our now choose to not be *bound* to those who do not do the will of the Father. There is no communion, fellowship, accord, or agreement with them. Hence, we are commanded to always come forth out from them (this command is in the *aorist active imperative*) and let the Lord cause us to always be

separate from them (this command is in the *aorist passive imperative*). He will be the one to do it as that is His desire; it is His will. He wants us separated.

And this leads me to the key part of this message, about us being aliens and strangers, which I want you to understand. The Lord will separate you from this world; that is what He does. He literally circumcises you so you stand out as one who is separate and distinct from all others. This is why the image or “typology” of physical circumcision was so important all throughout the Bible. The foreskin which attaches you to this world must be cut away and you must be freed in order to be separate unto the Lord. That is what the Lord does. Using this imagery, let’s dive into how this works because from the beginning He has and is continuing to perform this surgery on you to cause a complete separation of your mind, body, emotions, and relational connections from this world. Let’s take a moment to think on all the things that cause within you serious grief in this world and all the deep, deep wounds created by:

- The relationship with your family (parents, siblings, grandparents, children, etc.) and all your “loved ones.”
- The relationship with your spouse or significant other.
- The relationship with your friends and with those who consider you to be an enemy—those who have hated you.
- The relationship with your boss and co-workers, your coach, teachers, and civic leaders.
- The relationship with your spiritual leaders and spiritual institutions.
- The relationship with your things and your money (or lack thereof).
- The relationship with your health and your desire for pleasure, fun,

excitement, and overall general well-being.

- The relationship with your mind and your capacity to learn, to exercise your smarts, and to have peace of mind.

All of these relationships are just tools which the Lord uses to circumcise you from this world. For example, take this one issue of the wounds you faced, or are even now facing, at the hands of your parents, relatives, or any other person in your life that has wounded you. As the Lord brings to your attention and you begin to come to grips with all the “protective” and “coping” dysfunctions in your life which limit your ability to know and experience intimacy and love in relationship, you start to explore the roots of the damage. You quickly realize that you are a product of your parents own dysfunction and brokenness, and you start off being very mad at them. You struggle with what is in you and you start to hate it and want it out of your body, but it does not seem to go. So you confront your parents about the damage they did; and, for the most part, that goes nowhere. You feel stuck.

At this stage of things, you really do not believe that Jesus is Lord—that He is the one who did all these things to you through your parents. Then over time, with the proper instruction, you start to accept the truth that Jesus is to blame and is responsible for what happened to you; and you get mad at Him. You don’t believe He is good. You believe He is mean, a jerk, was careless, unloving, and so many other things that are the opposite of “good.” And once again you feel stuck and don’t seem to progress in your desire to have all this brokenness and dysfunction removed from your life. So you get depressed, disillusioned, and even take on this “I don’t care” attitude and spray it all over everyone in your life.

But the beauty of it all, the glory of it all, the marvel of it all, and the mystery of

it all comes together when you can finally accept the truth that you are an alien and stranger and DO NOT BELONG to this world. You see if you truly believe that Jesus is Lord, and that only God is good, then you can understand that your parents (or any of the others who wounded you or who are now wounding you) were never ever able to do it right for you. They were NOT supposed to. They were put in place by the Lord, your God Almighty, to circumcise you from this world. They were very specific surgical instruments deigned and perfectly chosen, from before time, by the Lord to carry out His purpose in your life in order to fulfill your true desire: to be one with Him. There is simply no way to be one with the Lord if you are still attached to this world.

The ironic thing is that you never ever truly belonged to your parents anyways. Let that sink into your mind. They were just stewards designed to help you separate from this world. If you truly believe what we learned about **Jehovah Mekoddiskem**, then God sanctified you, He separated you out from everyone else, and He purposed you to live as a child of the Kingdom of God and not the kingdom of this world. But since you were born into this world and had all the sin and trappings that come from being human and being born into this worldly kingdom, He had to circumcise you from this world. He had to cut off the foreskin that attached you to this world so you could live as the **beloved** who is holy—set apart for God and God alone. Again, you DO NOT BELONG to this world. Thus, from before time, when God choose you and predestined all of the affairs of your life, He personally determined the best surgical instruments to effect your circumcision.

Think about it. Since those who wounded you were never ever intended to not wound you, all you anger and bitterness is misplaced. God chose them as the



perfect knife to cut away a piece of your foreskin so that you might come to know Him and have life and have it abundantly. And I have realized that for some of us the foreskin was thicker than with others, so we needed deeper cuts. But it was all designed perfectly by **Yahweh** to free you from this world to which you DO NOT BELONG. Every cut, every wound, every tear was designed for your freedom. Sure it hurt, circumcision is not a painless procedure. But if you want to live as a child of God, then you must be circumcised; there is no way around it. If you hold to this world, are trying to find your identity in this world, want to be loved, accepted, approved, and honored by this world, then you will not live as a child of the Kingdom of God; you will not know true salvation, you will not have His life.

And this is where we must get into touch with the Fatherhood of God and the role of Jesus who relentlessly wars against the enemies in our soul. Based on what we have learned about our Father's personal touch in our lives and Jesus' relentless pursuit, none of us should have an identity or a worth issue. We are valuable beyond imagination. We are that pearl of great price, that treasure of unspeakable worth Jesus talks about in **Matthew 13:44-46**. He has planned everything in your life and has overseen every single detail and ensured that every cut was to the right depth, and no more. It is all perfect and beautiful. If we were to walk by faith and really bet our lives upon all that we have learned, every one of us would rejoice over our past, every one of us would be thankful for what our Dad has done with us, and every one of us would be able to move beyond the anger, the hurt, the pain, the bitterness, and realize that we are loved beyond our wildest imagination. Everything was perfect and beautiful. With this in mind there is no room for the victim—poor me—mentality; and there is no room for that “whatever,” I don't

care, it doesn't matter attitudes. It does matter and it was all perfect and beautiful.

It is this truth about our being aliens and strangers, it is this purpose, which ultimately frees us to love those in this world who have hurt us—to love our enemies (those who have wounded us). They had to hurt us and it was for a good purpose; thus, we can have mercy on them and be thankful for them. Without their wounds, we would not know God and nothing is more important to the heart of a true believer than knowing God. Thus, we can do “good” to those who have mistreated us and in so doing, we will prove to be sons of the Most High; for He Himself is kind to ungrateful and evil men. Therefore, we are to be merciful, just as our Father is merciful (**Luke 6:27-36**). Thus, separation from this world in our mind, body, emotions, and relational connections is about being free from the evil, selfishness, darkness, and corruption of this world in order to love and show mercy; it is not about being free to hurt others in return or to hole up in ourselves with layers of self-protection. Let's this truth transform your life; let it in to the deepest parts of you.

If you are a true believer, if you are one of the chosen, if you are the **beloved**, then you DO NOT BELONG to this world; everything that flows from our Father's hand in your life has been about separating you from the world and transplanting you into the Kingdom of God where you belong. This is good! Rejoice and let this truth bring you closer and closer to your Dad. Rest in this truth. He loves you, Jesus loves you, and they want you to have all that flows from their character and nature. They want you to know His love and peace in your heart, mind, soul, and body. The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit always team to accomplish this purpose in your life. Hence, it is time you decide to bet your life on the fact that Jesus is the Lord,

that God is good, and that you are an alien and stranger and you DO NOT BELONG to this world. Wrap your mind around these truths, let your emotions be comforted with these truths, and let your body embrace it all as your very own. Stop the fight and relent and be rooted in this profound and radical truth. And then rejoice, be thankful, and fall before your Father who loves you. Become one of the few who are willing to live this radical life and let the Word of God be your ultimate authority not your pain.

“Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the true knowledge of our God and of Jesus our Lord; seeing that His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness, through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence. For by these He has granted to us His precious and magnificent promises, so that by them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world by lust” (**2 Peter 1:2-5**). Yes, you are one of the few, the chosen, who get to partake of the divine nature. And since Jesus is the radiance of the Father’s glory and the exact representation of His nature, so will you be. You belong to the Kingdom of God; now choose *by faith* to live like it!

Let’s Pray