

Message Notes

True Discipleship

Scripture Passages

(taken from the New International Version)

Introduction – “Have a great summer!”

If you want to be my disciples, here's what it is going to look like:

Your SOUL's happiness is set on Jesus
(Luke 6:20-26)

Your HEART is filled with love for all
(Luke 6:27-36)

Your RELATIONSHIPS are generous
(Luke 6:37-42)

Your BELIEFS will on solid ground
(Luke 6:43-49)

Today's Message from Luke:
The Greatest Sermon Ever Preached (part 4):
True Discipleship
Luke 6:43-49

1. Good Trees. Bad Trees. Luke 6:43-45

a. The Facts

b. The Point

Proverbs 18:21

Ephesians 4:29

“out of the overflow of the heart, the mouth speaks...”

c. Where does good speech come from?

Ephesians 4:29 in context

2. True Belief. Luke 6:46

a. Lord, Lord?

b. The Analogy

c. How do you get there?

Come to Jesus

Hear Jesus

Obey Jesus

3. False Belief

a. The analogy

b. The only difference

How do we “put into practice” the words of Jesus?
Philippians 2:12-13

Gospel Application – “Is Jesus your Lord? Do you obey him? How is unbelief keeping you from obeying Jesus?”

Luke 6:43-49

⁴³“No good tree bears bad fruit, nor does a bad tree bear good fruit. ⁴⁴Each tree is recognized by its own fruit. People do not pick figs from thornbushes, or grapes from briers. ⁴⁵A good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and an evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of.

⁴⁶“Why do you call me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ and do not do what I say? ⁴⁷As for everyone who comes to me and hears my words and puts them into practice, I will show you what they are like. ⁴⁸They are like a man building a house, who dug down deep and laid the foundation on rock. When a flood came, the torrent struck that house but could not shake it, because it was well built. ⁴⁹But the one who hears my words and does not put them into practice is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation. The moment the torrent struck that house, it collapsed and its destruction was complete.”

Proverbs 18:21

The tongue has the power of life and death, and those who love it will eat its fruit.

Ephesians 4:17-29

¹⁷So I tell you this, and insist on it in the Lord, that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their thinking. ¹⁸They are darkened in their understanding and separated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them due to the hardening of their hearts. ¹⁹Having lost all sensitivity, they have given themselves over to sensuality so as to indulge in every kind of impurity, and they are full of greed. ²⁰That, however, is not the way of life you learned ²¹when you heard about Christ and were taught in him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus. ²²You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; ²³to be made new in the attitude of your minds; ²⁴and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness. ²⁵Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to your neighbor, for we are all members of one body. ²⁶“In your anger do not sin”: Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, ²⁷and do not give the devil a foothold. ²⁸Anyone who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with their own hands, that they may have something to share with those in need. ²⁹Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.

Philippians 2:12-13

¹²Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed—not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence—continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, ¹³for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose.

The Gospel of **LUKE**

The King and His Kingdom

Luke 3:21 to Luke 9:50

Jesus' Twelve Apostles

Luke 6:12-16

¹²One of those days Jesus went out to a mountainside to pray, and spent the night praying to God. ¹³When morning came, he called his disciples to him and chose twelve of them, whom he also designated apostles:

¹⁴Simon (whom he named Peter), his brother Andrew, James, John, Philip, Bartholomew, ¹⁵Matthew, Thomas, James son of Alphaeus, Simon who was called the Zealot,
¹⁶Judas son of James, and Judas Iscariot, who became a traitor.

The Greatest Sermon Ever Preached



~ Carl Heinrich Bloch (1834–1890)

The Sermon On the Mount, 1877

oil on copper

104 × 92 cm (40.9 × 36.2 in)

Museum of National History at Frederiksborg

Castle

The Greatest Sermon Ever Preached

Part One

Your **SOUL's** happiness is set on Jesus (Luke 6:20-26)

The Greatest Sermon Ever Preached

Poor = Blessed Rich = Woe

Luke 6:20

²⁰Looking at his disciples,
he said:

“Blessed are you who are poor,
for yours is the kingdom
of God.

Luke 6:24

²⁴“But woe to you who are rich,
for you have already received
your comfort

The Greatest Sermon Ever Preached

Hungry = Blessed Well-fed = Woe

Luke 6:21a

²¹Blessed are you who
hunger now,
for you will be satisfied.

Luke 6:25a

²⁵Woe to you who are
well fed now,
for you will go hungry.

The Greatest Sermon Ever Preached

Mourners = Blessed Carefree = Woe

Luke 6:21b

Blessed are you who weep
now,
for you will laugh.

Luke 6:25b

Woe to you who laugh now,
for you will mourn and weep.

The Greatest Sermon Ever Preached

Excluded = Blessed Spoken well of = Woe

Luke 6:22-23

²²Blessed are you when people hate
you,
when they exclude you and insult you
and reject your name as evil,
because of the Son of Man.

²³“Rejoice in that day and leap for joy,
because great is your reward in
heaven. For that is how their fathers
treated the prophets.”

Luke 6:26

²⁶Woe to you when all
people
speak well of you,
for that is how their
fathers
treated the false
prophets.”

The Greatest Sermon Ever Preached

Part One

Your **SOUL's** happiness is set on Jesus (Luke 6:20-26)

Part Two

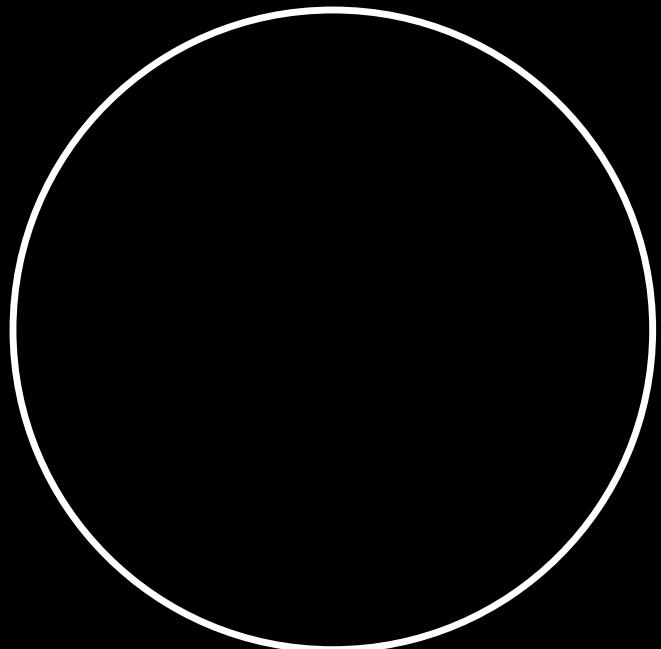
Your **HEART** is filled with love for all (Luke 6:27-36)

The Greatest Sermon Ever Preached

Part Two

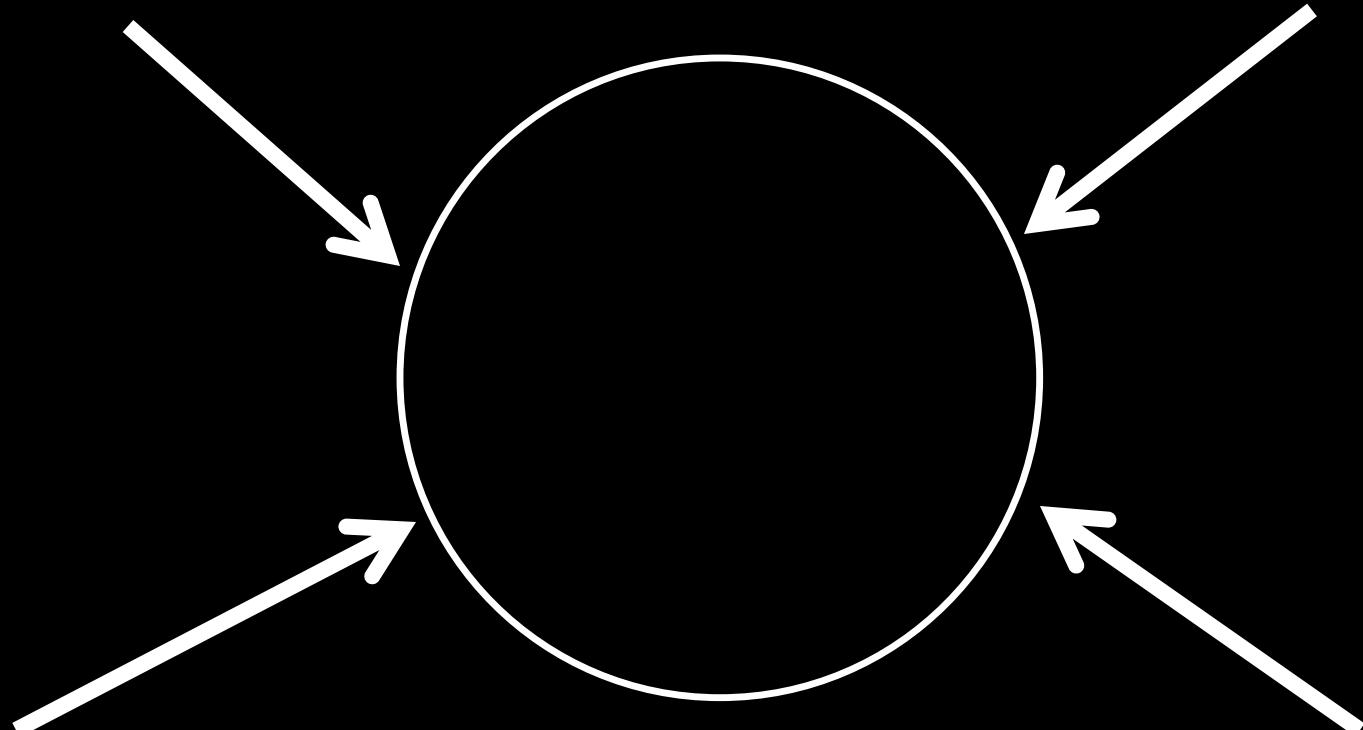
Luke 6:35-36

³⁵But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked. ³⁶Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.



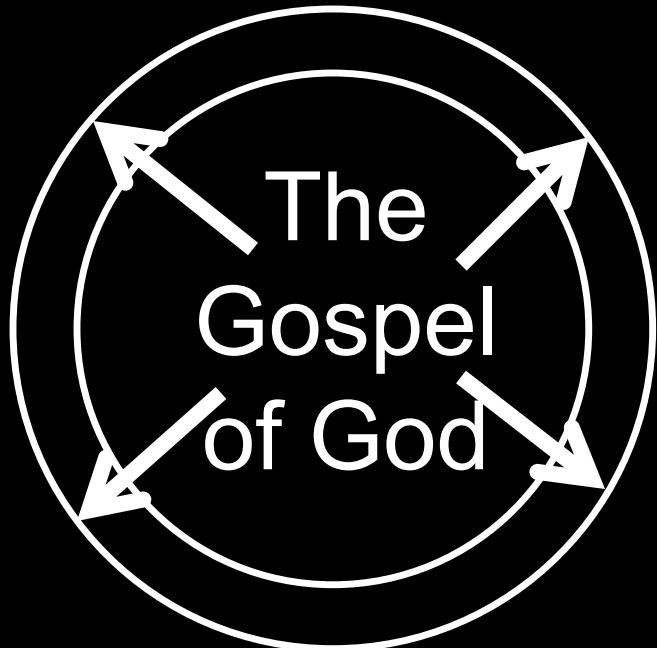
ENEMIES (6:27–28, 35)

RIDICULERS (6:29)



EXPLOITERS (6:29)

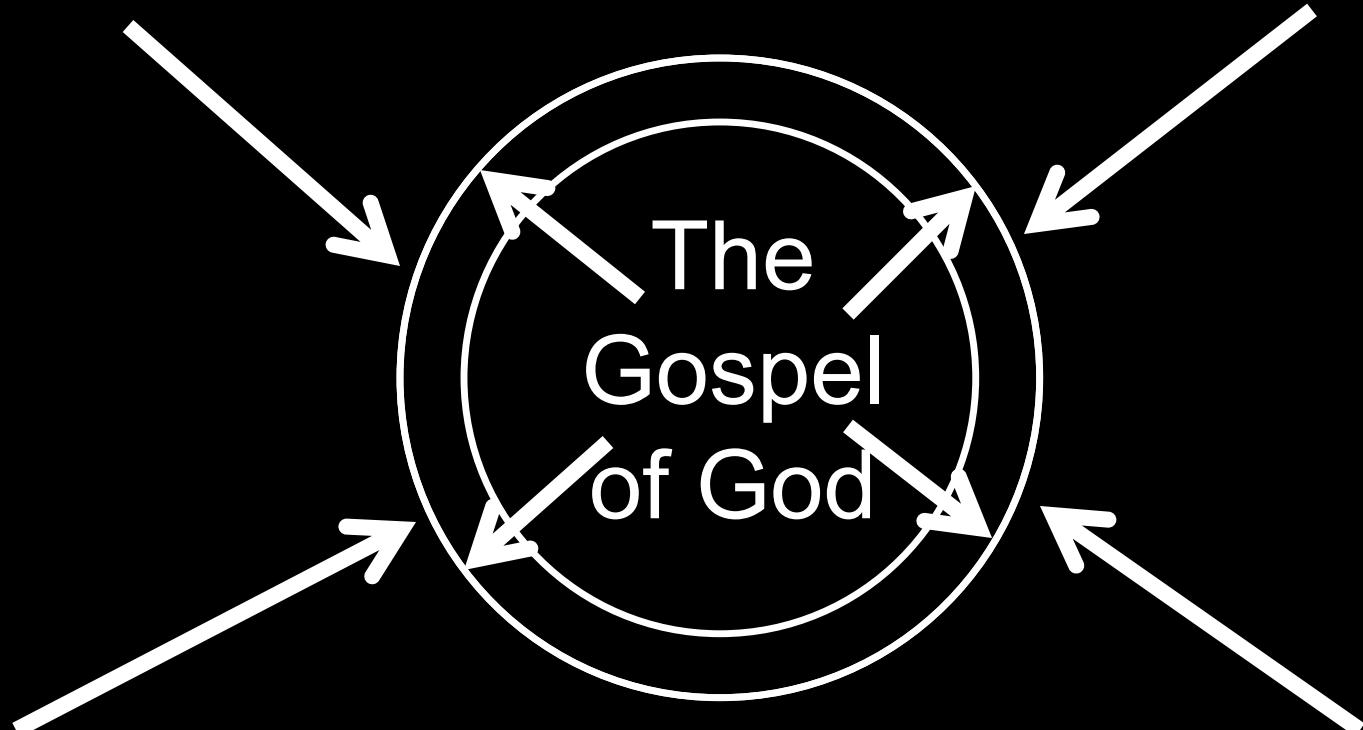
TAKERS(6:30, 35)



ENEMIES (6:27–28, 35)

RIDICULERS (6:29)

The
Gospel
of God



EXPLOITERS (6:29)

TAKERS(6:30, 35)

1 John 4:19

We love because he first loved us.



The Greatest Sermon Ever Preached

Part One

Your **SOUL's** happiness is set on Jesus (Luke 6:20-26)

Part Two

Your **HEART** is filled with love for all (Luke 6:27-36)

Part Three

Your **RELATIONSHIPS** are generous (Luke 6:37-42)

The Greatest Sermon Ever Preached

Part Three

Luke 6:37-38

37“Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven. 38Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.”

The Greatest Sermon Ever Preached

Part One

Your **SOUL's** happiness is set on Jesus (Luke 6:20-26)

Part Two

Your **HEART** is filled with love for all (Luke 6:27-36)

Part Three

Your **RELATIONSHIPS** are generous (Luke 6:37-42)

Part Four

Your **BELIEFS** have solid foundations (Luke 6:43-49)

Today's Message: The Greatest Sermon Ever Preached (pt 4) *“True Discipleship”* Luke 6:43-49

Luke 6:43-49

43“No good tree bears bad fruit, nor does a bad tree bear good fruit. 44Each tree is recognized by its own fruit. People do not pick figs from thornbushes, or grapes from briars. 45A good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and an evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of.

Luke 6:43-49

46“Why do you call me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ and do not do what I say? 47As for everyone who comes to me and hears my words and puts them into practice, I will show you what they are like. 48They are like a man building a house, who dug down deep and laid the foundation on rock. When a flood came, the torrent struck that house but could not shake it, because it was well built.

Luke 6:43-49

⁴⁹But the one who hears my words and does not put them into practice is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation. The moment the torrent struck that house, it collapsed and its destruction was complete.”

1. Good Trees. Bad Trees.

Luke 6:43-45

43“No good tree bears bad fruit, nor does a bad tree bear good fruit. 44Each tree is recognized by its own fruit. People do not pick figs from thornbushes, or grapes from briars. 45A good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and an evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of.

1. Good Trees. Bad Trees.

a. The Facts

Luke 6:43-44

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1. Good Trees. Bad Trees.

b. The Point

Luke 6:45

43“No good tree bears bad fruit, nor does a bad tree bear good fruit. 44Each tree is recognized by its own fruit. People do not pick figs from thornbushes, or grapes from briars. 45A good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and an evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of.

Proverbs 18:21

The tongue has the power of life and death,
and those who love it will eat its fruit.

Ephesians 4:29

29Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.

The inner disposition determines the kind of fruit that comes from one's life. One can attempt an external veneer of goodness, but the truth will become known through one's words and deeds. Significantly, Jesus emphasizes here that the mouth is what provides the primary empirical evidence of the state of one's soul: "For out of the overflow of the heart the mouth speaks" (v. 45b).



~ R. Kent Hughes, *Luke: That You May Know the Truth*, Preaching the Word, 241.



But, what if I
have a potty
mouth?

1. Good Trees. Bad Trees.

c. Where does good speech come from?

Luke 6:45

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Ephesians 4:17-29

17So I tell you this, and insist on it in the Lord, that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their thinking. 18They are darkened in their understanding and separated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them due to the hardening of their hearts. 19Having lost all sensitivity, they have given themselves over to sensuality so as to indulge in every kind of impurity, and they are full of greed.

Ephesians 4:17-29

²⁰That, however, is not the way of life you learned
²¹when you heard about Christ and were taught in him
in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus. ²²You were
taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put
off your old self, which is being corrupted by its
deceitful desires; ²³to be made new in the attitude of
your minds; ²⁴and to put on the new self, created to be
like God in true righteousness and holiness.

Ephesians 4:17-29

²⁵Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to your neighbor, for we are all members of one body. ²⁶“In your anger do not sin”: Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, ²⁷and do not give the devil a foothold. ²⁸Anyone who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with their own hands, that they may have something to share with those in need. ²⁹Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.

Scripture does seem clear that regenerated people do bear some sort of fruit. Total absence of fruit, particularly love, does raise the question about the presence of regeneration and faith (Rom. 8:1-16; James 2:14-26; 1 John 3:1-9). We are not here confusing salvation by faith with salvation by works. We are not saying that works save. Salvation is by faith through grace, but that grace bestows a changed heart that accepts God as Father and responds at least to some degree to his presence. If the seed of new faith is present, it will sprout, though to varying degrees in different people.



~ Darrell L. Bock, *Luke*, The NIV Application Commentary (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing House, 1996), 200.

**“We are saved by
faith alone, but the
faith that saves is
never alone.”**

MARTIN LUTHER



2. True Belief

Luke 6:46-48

46“Why do you call me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ and do not do what I say? 47As for everyone who comes to me and hears my words and puts them into practice, I will show you what they are like. 48They are like a man building a house, who dug down deep and laid the foundation on rock. When a flood came, the torrent struck that house but could not shake it, because it was well built.

2. True Belief

a. *Lord, Lord...*

Luke 6:46

46“Why do you call me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ and do not do what I say? 47As for everyone who comes to me and hears my words and puts them into practice, I will show you what they are like. 48They are like a man building a house, who dug down deep and laid the foundation on rock. When a flood came, the torrent struck that house but could not shake it, because it was well built.

Mere [acknowledgement of] calling Jesus “Lord” is no ticket of admission to heaven. Saying “Lord, Lord!” means to claim that relation to Jesus which is expressed in that title. The duplication indicates the urgency made in that claim...

Like the English word “lord,” it was often little more than our “sir,” a title of respect. But in the present connection the sense would be lost if less were meant than “divine Lord.” The point lies in the claim of a connection with Jesus as the divine Lord, Messiah, and Savior, which is spurious because those who make it fail to do what he says. Their doing (that is, their course of action) fails to call Jesus “Lord.



~ R. C. H. Lenski (1864-1936), *The Interpretation of St. Luke's Gospel* (Minneapolis, MN: Augsburg Publishing House, 1961), 383.

2. True Belief

b. *The Analogy*

Luke 6:48

⁴⁶“Why do you call me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ and do not do what I say? ⁴⁷As for everyone who comes to me and hears my words and puts them into practice, I will show you what they are like. ⁴⁸They are like a man building a house, who dug down deep and laid the foundation on rock. When a flood came, the torrent struck that house but could not shake it, because it was well built.

2. True Belief

c. *How you get there*

Luke 6:47

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“There is a great market for religious experience in our world; there is little enthusiasm for the patient acquisition of virtue, little inclination to sign up for a long apprenticeship in what earlier generations of Christians called holiness.”

~ Eugene H. Peterson, *A Long Obedience in the Same Direction: Discipleship in an Instant Society*



3. False Belief

Luke 6:49

⁴⁹But the one who hears my words and does not put them into practice is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation. The moment the torrent struck that house, it collapsed and its destruction was complete.”

3. False Belief

a. *The Analogy*

Luke 6:49

⁴⁹But the one who hears my words and does not put them into practice is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation. The moment the torrent struck that house, it collapsed and its destruction was complete.”

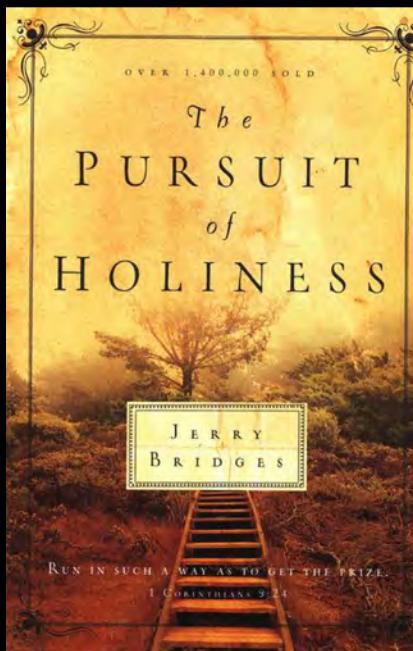
3. False Belief

b. The only difference

Luke 6:49

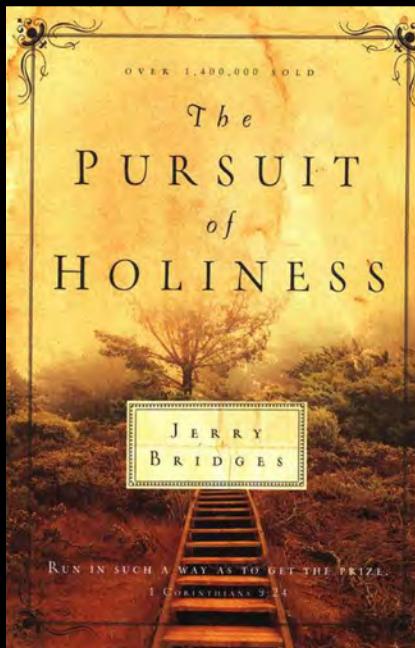
⁴⁹But the one who hears my words and does not put them into practice is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation. The moment the torrent struck that house, it collapsed and its destruction was complete.”

A farmer plows his field, sows the seed, and fertilizes and cultivates – all the while knowing that in the final analysis he is utterly dependent on forces outside of himself. He knows he cannot cause the seed to germinate, nor can he produce the rain and sunshine for growing and harvesting the crop. For a successful harvest, he is dependent on these things from God. Yet the farmer knows that unless he diligently pursues his responsibilities to plow, plant, fertilize, and cultivate, he cannot expect a harvest at the end of the season.

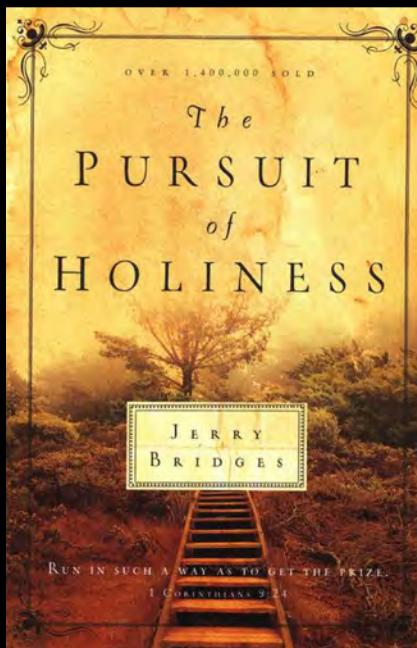


In a sense he is in a partnership with God, and he will reap its benefits only when he has fulfilled his own responsibilities. Farming is a joint venture between God and the farmer. The farmer cannot do what God must do, and

God will not do what the farmer should do. We can say just as accurately that the pursuit of holiness is a joint venture between God and the Christian. No one can attain any degree of holiness without God working in his life, but just as surely no one will attain it without effort on his own part.



Two primary reasons can be given for this. First, we are simply reluctant to face up to our responsibility. We prefer to leave that to God. **We pray for victory when we know we should be acting in obedience.**



The second reason is that we **do not understand the proper distinction between God's provision and our own responsibility for holiness.**

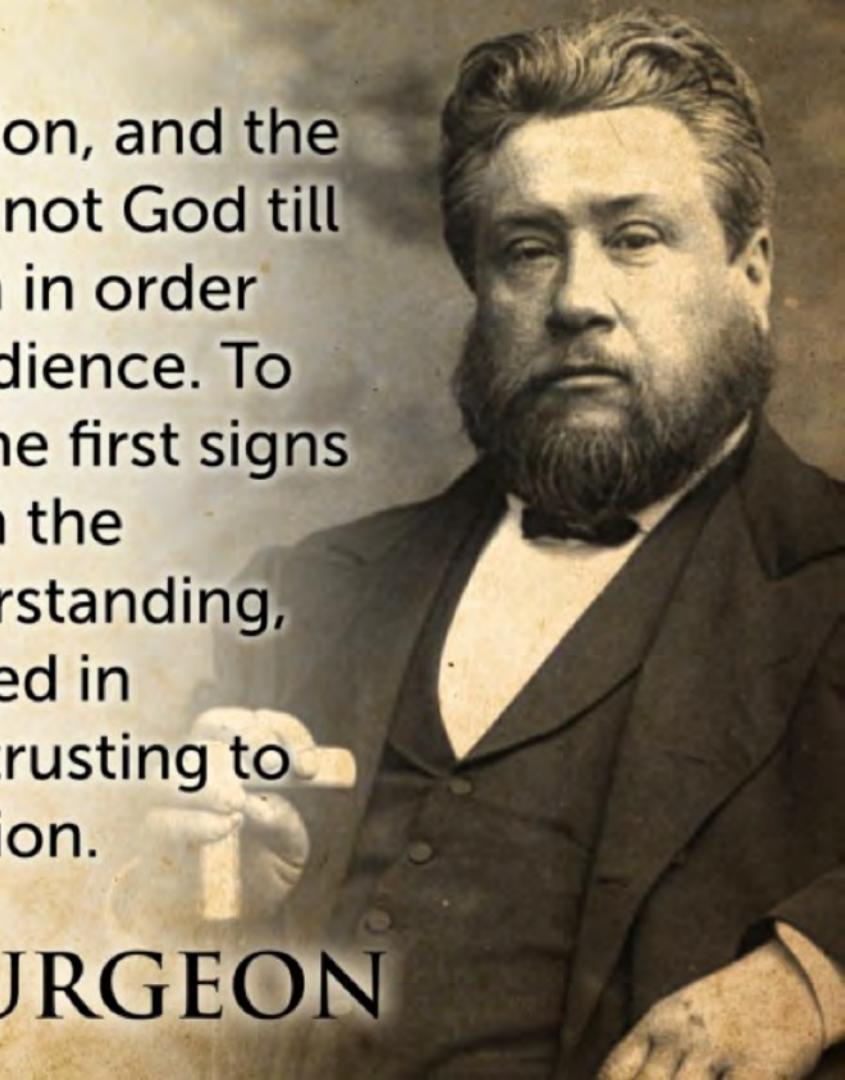
~ Jerry Bridges., (1978). *The pursuit of holiness*, Colorado Springs: Navpress, page 9.

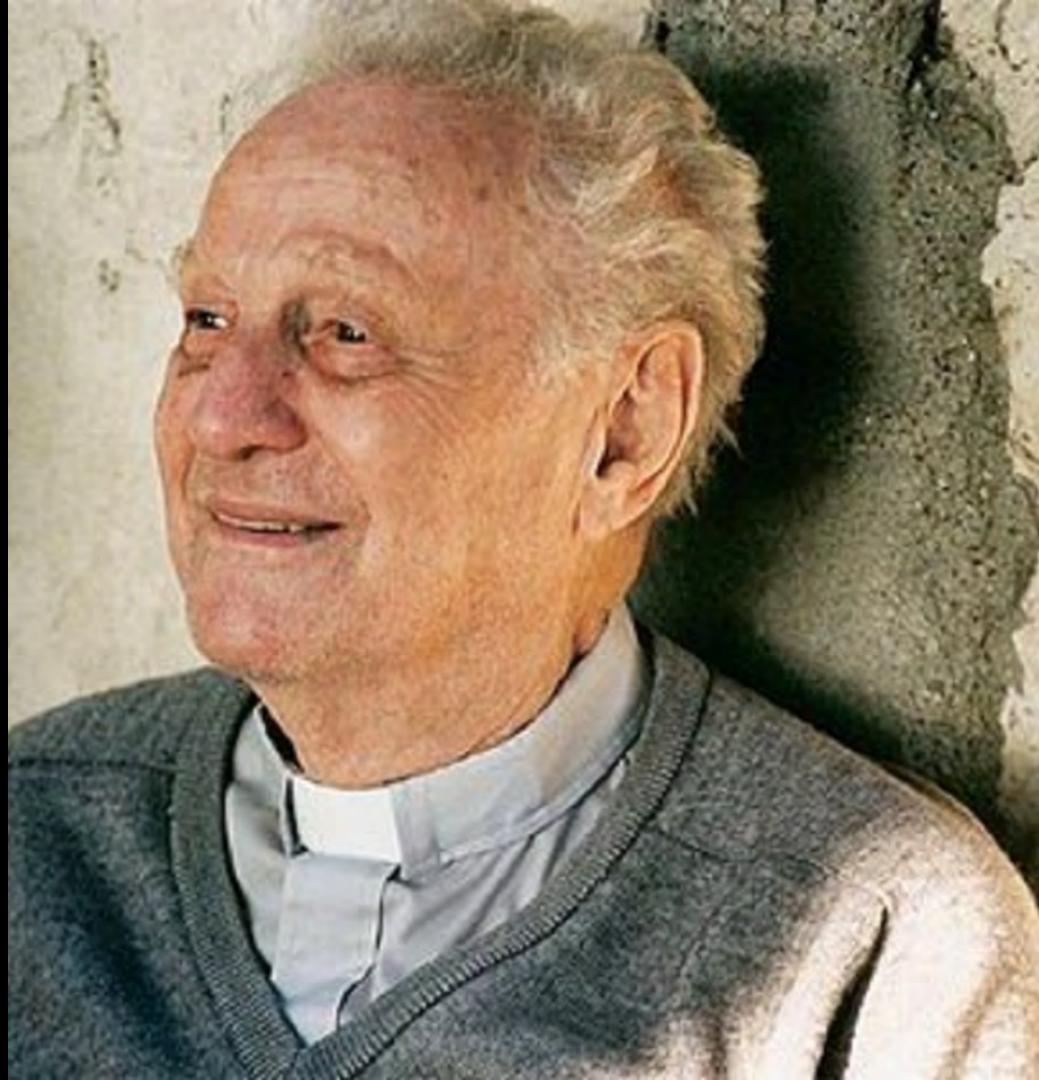
Philippians 2:12-13

¹²Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed—not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence—continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, ¹³for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose.

Faith is the fountain, the foundation, and the fosterer of obedience. Men obey not God till they believe him. We preach faith in order that men may be brought to obedience. To disbelieve is to disobey. One of the first signs of practical obedience is found in the obedience of the mind, the understanding, and the heart; and this is expressed in believing the teaching of Christ, trusting to his work, and resting in his salvation.

CHARLES SPURGEON

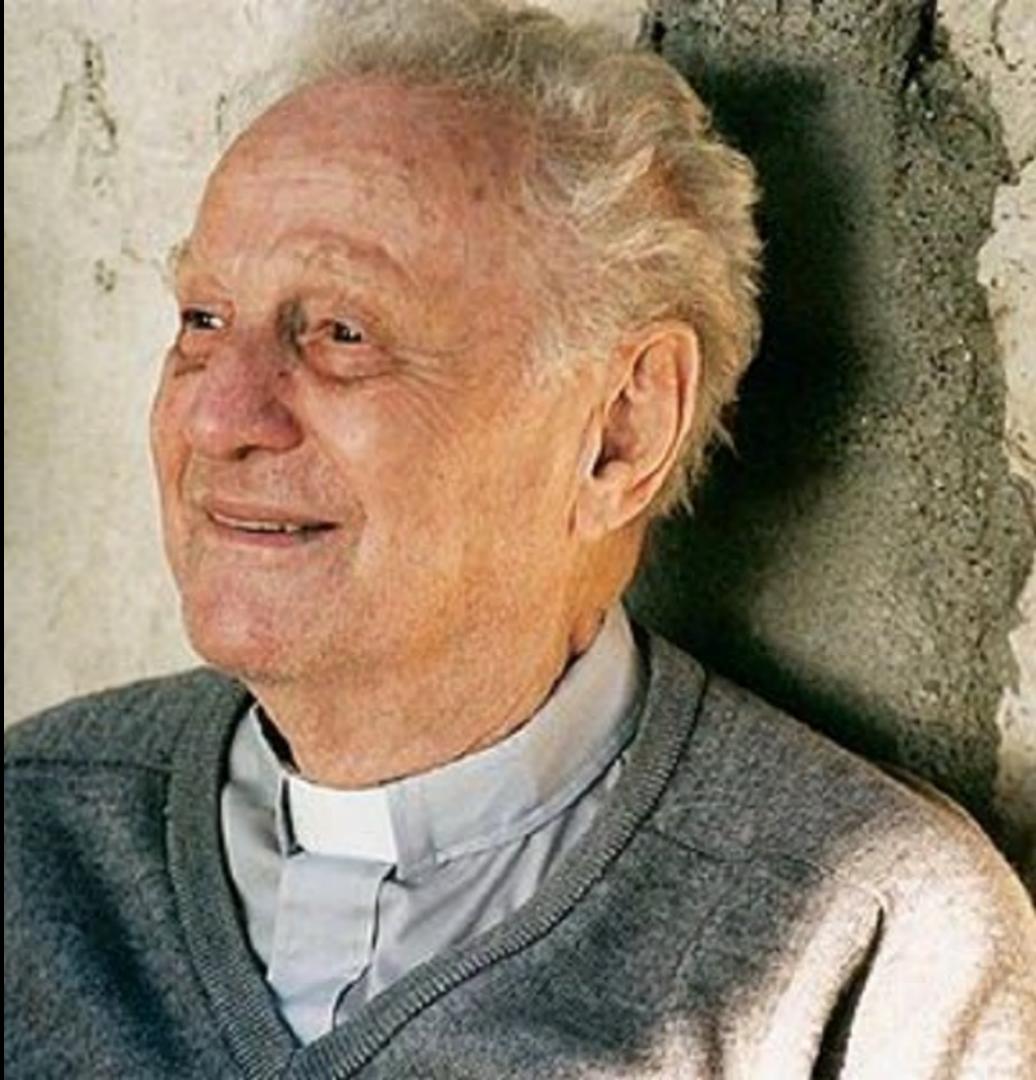




Tortured *for* Christ



Richard Wurmbrand



The tortures and brutality continued without interruption. When I lost consciousness or became too dazed to give the torturers any further hopes of confession, I would be returned to my cell. There I would lie, untended and half dead, to regain a little strength so they could work on me again. Many died at this stage, but somehow my strength always managed to return. In the ensuing years, in several different prisons, they broke four vertebrae in my back, and many other bones. They carved me in a dozen places. They burned and cut eighteen holes in my body.

When my family and I were ransomed out of Romania and brought to Norway, doctors in Oslo, seeing all this and the scars in my lungs from tuberculosis, declared that my being alive today is a pure miracle! According to their medical books, I should have been dead for years. I know myself that it is a miracle. God is a God of miracles. I believe God performed this wonder so that you could hear my voice crying out on behalf of the Underground Church in persecuted countries. He allowed one to come out alive and cry aloud the message of your suffering, faithful brethren.

~ Richard Wurmbrand, *Tortured for Christ*

It was strictly forbidden to preach to other prisoners. It was understood that whoever was caught doing this received a severe beating. A number of us decided to pay the price for the privilege of preaching, so we accepted their [the communists'] terms. It was a deal; we preached and they beat us. We were happy preaching. They were happy beating us, so everyone was happy.

I have seen Christians in Communist prisons with fifty pounds of chains on their feet, tortured with red-hot iron pokers, in whose throats spoonfuls of salt had been forced, being kept afterward without water, starving, whipped, suffering from cold and praying with fervor for the Communists. This is humanly inexplicable! It is the love of Christ, which was poured out in our hearts.

~ Richard Wurmbrand, Tortured for Christ

Gospel Application

Gospel Application

Do you call Jesus, “Lord”?

Gospel Application

Do you call Jesus, “Lord”?

Are you obeying him?

Gospel Application

Do you call Jesus, “Lord”?

Are you obeying him?

How is unbelief hindering your obedience?