



The  
**FLOW**  
Adult CURRICULUM

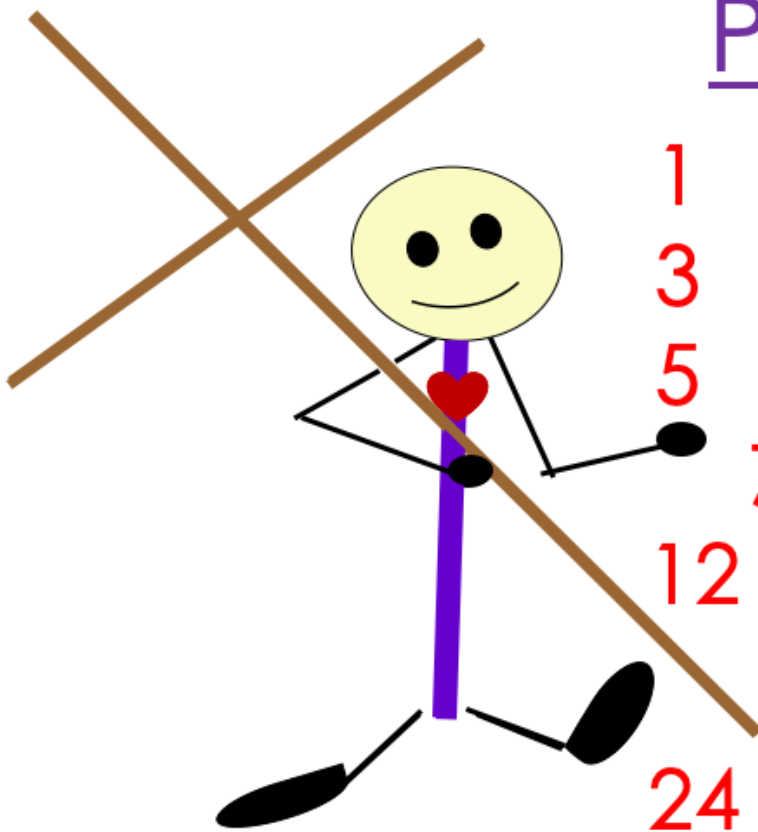
#11

FRAMEWORK

2 Timothy 2:1-10

(Come And See Christianity book pages 42-43)

# The FLOW

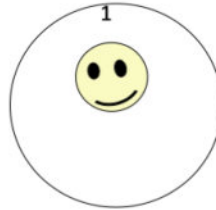


## PREVIEW:

- 1 Design
- 3 Divisions
- 5 Disciples
- 7 Details
- 12 Disciplines
- 24 Distinctives

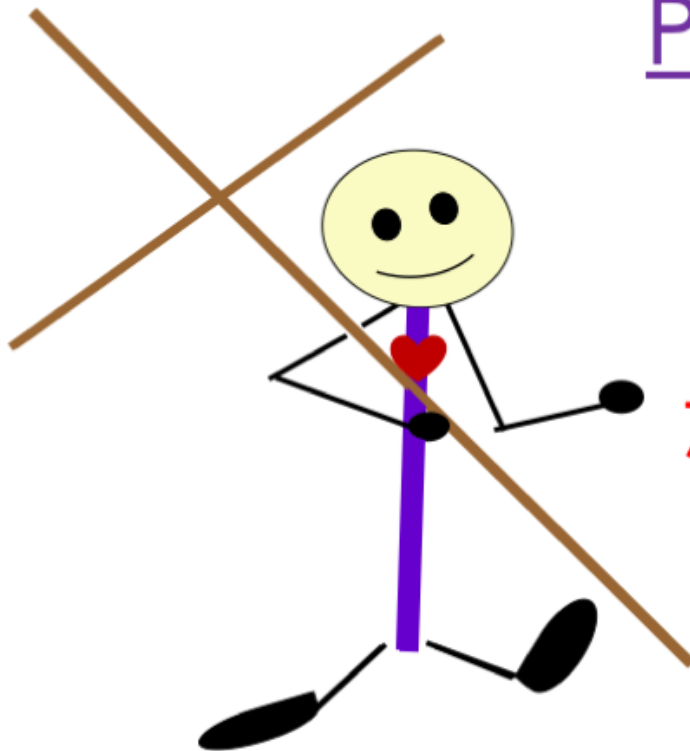
SECTION FOUR: 7 Details

The  
HEAD

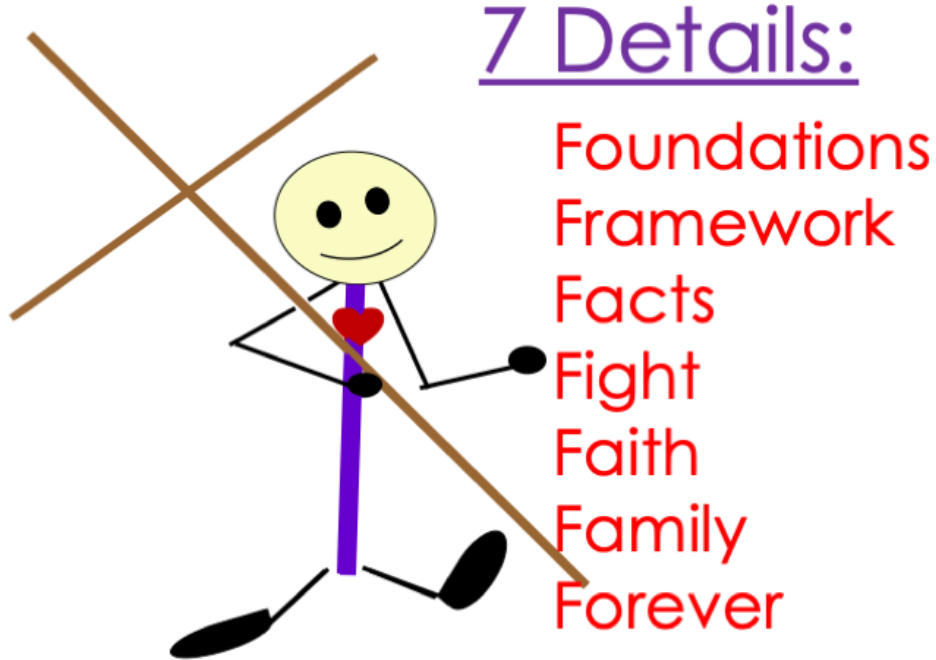


continued...

PREVIEW:



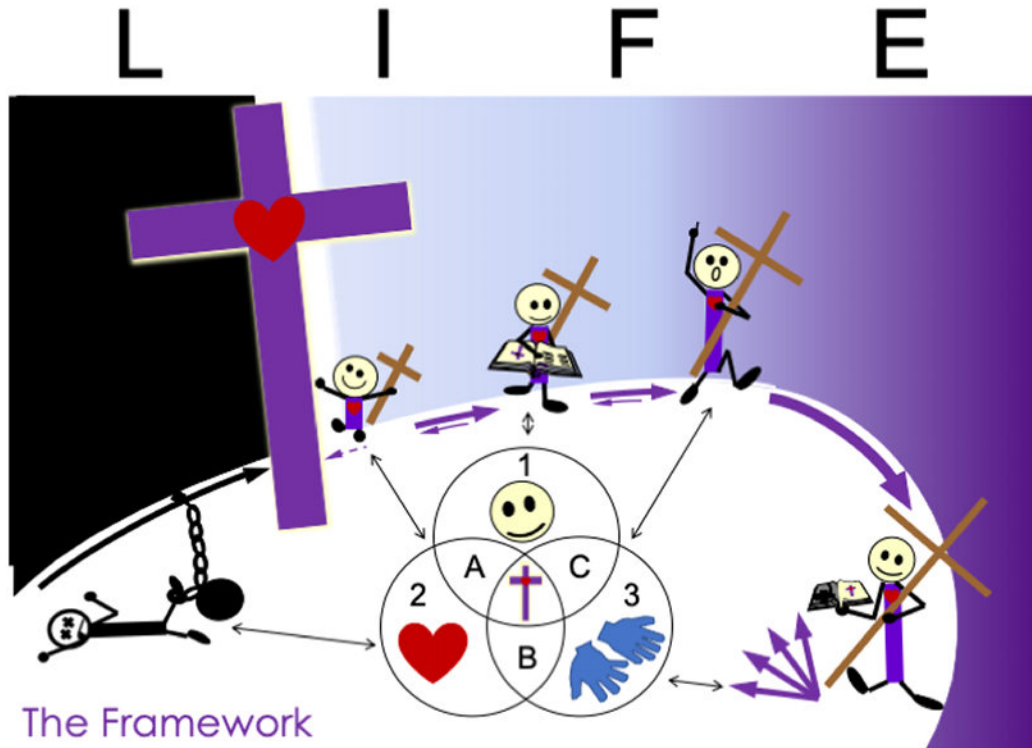
7 Details



**7 DETAILS:** The divine is in the details... Here we have what we also call **The Fundamentals**, that which explains the core & comprehensive truths of Christianity, as well as a biblical worldview.

# The FUNDAMENTALS

We have described the 7  
“details” as 7 “Fundamentals,”  
each one beginning with  
the letter “F” ...to help you  
to remember them :-)



## The FRAMEWORK:

Creator God has a **plan!**  
 God's plan involves ALL people  
 per their **Head, Heart, & Hands**,  
 regardless of their **beliefs...** This  
**"Framework"** will illustrate &  
 explain the meaning, purpose  
 & pathway of every human life.

## 2 Timothy 3:16-17

*All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for rebuking, for correction, and for training in righteousness, 17so that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.*

### INTRO:

Welcome to Come And See Christianity's section four, "**The DETAILS.**" At this point, we have already established in sections 1-3 that Almighty God has "1 Divine DESIGN" (found in His authentic biblical worldview) for all of creation. Next, we addressed the fact that every human being is made up of "3 DIVISIONS," their HEAD, HEART, and HANDS (also known as their beliefs, their beloved, and their behaviors). From there, we moved on to the "5 DISCIPLES," the LOST, LOVERS, LEARNERS, LEADERS, and LIFERS, which proved that Christianity accounts for, with definitions and descriptions, ALL people... past, present, and future, from ALL parts of the world – bar none.

With our Creator and all His image-bearing (Genesis 1:27) creatures accounted for, the next logical step on the narrow path of understanding will concentrate on the sure-footedness of core, non-negotiable, and eternally essential content. In short, **we need to know what we need to know.**

To that end, The DETAILS will define and describe, in a broad and biblical context, (7) seven progressive principles of God's truth in love (Ephesians 4:15) that serve to engage, explain, equip, empower, and exemplify the fundamentals of Christianity. Herein, we will unveil and unpack a comprehensive summary and cohesive overview of God's biblical blueprint for understanding His created reality. Having said that, in moving forward, to help paint the fuller portrait of genuine Christianity, each DETAIL will receive its own lesson. Herein, we will focus on #2, **The FRAMEWORK.**

### PRAYER:

LORD, we seek to bless You with all that is within us. Help us here, we pray, to be that blessing as we come to better understand You and Your eternal truth in love (Ephesians 4:15). Help us to see with Your eyes and love with Your love, all that You would reveal to us through Your Word, Your will, and Your ways. May we grow in our grasp of Your realities, Your means of restoration, and Your mission of reproduction. In the holy name of Jesus, we pray. Amen and Amen

## CONTEXT:

### Macro

When it comes to learning about Christ, Christianity, and the biblical Church, relatively speaking, a thousand lifetimes filled with devoted study would not dig through the endless depths of God's divine grace, gospel, and glory. Frankly (and thankfully), the fullness of Creator Christ is far beyond our ability to fully comprehend. To quote Him directly and prove the point, hear Almighty God, "Where were you when I laid the earth's foundations?" (Job 38:4). In short, we need to maintain a sense of genuine awe and reverent fear (1 Peter 1:17) when it comes to loving and learning about the LORD.

At the same time, the character, commands, and commissioning of the living God, Christianity's Christ and King, compels us to draw near to Him (James 4:8) with the promise that He will draw near to us. Moreover, the God of the Bible promises that He has miraculously given all true Christians "everything needed for life and godliness" (2 Peter 1:3), which includes an anointed understanding of His Word, will, and ways (1 Corinthians 2:14).

NOTE: the unification and blessed tension of the two paragraphs above can be harmonized when one realizes how these truths complement each other. On one hand, there are (7) fundamental details that share a progressive and straight-forward, principle-based explanation of Christianity. And, at the same time, all (7) have a divine depth and truth-filled treasure that is both bottomless and priceless – Amen!

### Christianity's 7 DETAILS or FUNDAMENTALS:

1. *The FOUNDATIONS*
2. *The FRAMEWORK*
3. *The FACTS*
4. *The FIGHT*
5. *The FAITH*
6. *The FAMILY*
7. *FOREVER*

*I seek the will of the Spirit of God through or in connection with the Word of God.  
The Spirit and the Word must be combined. If I look to the Spirit alone  
without the Word, I lay myself open to great delusions also.*

*- George Mueller*



**The FRAMEWORK is a true, visual, and biblical blueprint of LIFE.**

When thoroughly understood, The FRAMEWORK can be used to describe and explain Almighty God's 1divine DESIGN for humanity, to include what has gone wrong, where the Solution can be found, and how saved souls are sanctified through missional growth. Herein, we harmonize and display all of the previous lessons in the Come And See Christianity curriculum. In short, while there is still a lifetime of learning in front of every biblical believer, practically speaking, **to rightly understand the FRAMEWORK is to righteously understand Christianity.**

With that said, remember, the second of the DETAILS is built upon the first. More specifically, **the FRAMEWORK is built upon the FOUNDATIONS.** Take note, here, as in many aspects of LIFE, a righteous understanding of the sequence, order, and relationship between components is mission-critical. Case in point, when it comes to the FRAMEWORK, God's WORD, God's WILL, and God's WAYS come first. Only then can we know with certainty that we are building to biblical code... and our FRAMEWORK is both accurate and trustworthy.

**Understanding of the whole requires understanding of the parts.**

An essential element of the FRAMEWORK's value and helpful application is a proper understanding of its components. With that said, let us outline and explain how the FRAMEWORK's depiction of "LIFE:" the darkness, the dead man, the ball and chain, the cross, the growing men, the little crosses, and the various arrows... all come together to cohesively explain the Christian LIFE's Scope; Sin; Sequence; Salvation; and Sanctification.

1. SCOPE

All of life is designed, defined, and described, for better or for worse, by God's Word, God's Will, and God's Ways. Thus, the FRAMEWORK reveals and explains reality for ALL of humanity.

2. SIN

The Bible describes sin in many ways, but "missing the mark" of God's will is arguably the most helpful for our purposes. In the FRAMEWORK, sin is depicted as the black darkness on the far left, which marks the starting and default position for all people. The effects of sin are also shown to be deadly and divisive, separating the children of Satan from the family of God.

### 3. SEQUENCE

Christianity is anchored in a right understanding of sequence. Creator before creation... Death before life... Messiah before miracle... Grace before obedience... Mission before ministry... Sadly, most people do not believe or understand the realities of spiritual life, spiritual death, spiritual stagnation, and spiritual growth. To help, the FRAMEWORK explains how and why these dynamics, and more, all relate to one another.

### 4. SALVATION

**Christianity is all about God's glory, grace, and Gospel, as shared through the saving work of Christ and His cross...**

Per God's Word, SALVATION is a miraculous work of the Lord's sacrificial love and substitutionary grace (John 3:16), which delivers Christians from sin's power and eternal damnation (John 8:32). To that end, the FRAMEWORK's most prominent and vital component is Christ's cross. It divides the light from the dark, the living from the dead, the good news from the bad. To be sure, it is also critical to realize that there is an unbreakable, biblical relationship between SALVATION's cross of Christ and every saved sinner's perpetual carrying of their own sanctifying cross (Luke 14:27).

### 5. SANCTIFICATION

**Directional arrows are designed to show people the way...**

In Come And See Christianity's FRAMEWORK, the arrows point to and exemplify the way of SANCTIFICATION. With that in mind, there are (5) important "arrow attributes" to see and understand:

- A. *Origin:* God's miraculous love and grace (John 6:44)
- B. *Progression:* From death to the fullest of life (John 10:10)
- C. *Directions:* Christians grow up AND go back (John 20:21)
- D. *Trajectory:* Sanctification humbles Christians (John 3:30)
- E. *Perpetuity:* Christians live in God's love loop (John 7:38)

Without God's miraculous grace and Christ's cleansing cross, there would be no arrows – no hope, no healing. But, because Christ died, Christians can live! Moreover, as biblical believers grow in faith and maturity, they embrace God's living mission and become His loving missionaries – the Christlike who go back to help any and all who are behind them on their journey with Jesus... especially those still lost in the darkness of their sin. As the sanctification process continues and the Christian grows IN Christ, he/she will take on the pouring-out posture and priorities that perpetuate Christ's Gospel mission and ministries – locally, regionally, and globally (Acts 1:8).

## Message

*“We would labor earnestly to raise a believer in salvation by free will into a believer in salvation by grace, for we long to see all religious teaching built upon the solid rock of truth and not upon the sand of imagination. At the same time, our grand object is not the revision of opinions, but the regeneration of natures. We should bring men to Christ, not to our own particular views of Christianity.*

*- C.H. Spurgeon*

**BIG IDEA:      God has a plan... and the FRAMEWORK explains the placement and pathway for ALL people in the context of that plan.**

### PREVIEW:

1. God's PLAN
2. God's PEOPLE
3. God's PATHWAY

### TEXT:

#### 2 Timothy 2:1-10

*You then, my child, be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus, **2**and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also. **3**Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. **4**No soldier gets entangled in civilian pursuits, since his aim is to please the one who enlisted him. **5**An athlete is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules. **6**It is the hard-working farmer who ought to have the first share of the crops. **7**Think over what I say, for the Lord will give you understanding in everything.*

***8**Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, the offspring of David, as preached in my gospel, **9**for which I am suffering, bound with chains as a criminal. But the word of God is not bound! **10**Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory.*

# 1. God's PLAN

Illustration:

God has declared 5 FACTS that stand as His eternal pillars of truth. These non-negotiables serve to explain God's sovereign plan from the broadest perspective. While these 5 FACTS (see below) will be the focus of our next lesson (the third of seven DETAILS), they also serve as the perfect backdrop for understanding the context of the FRAMEWORK. With that said, Christianity holds to BOTH, the universal and progressive truths of these 5 FACTS (Creation, Corruption, Christ, Church, Coming-again) AND God's individual plan for each human being... See in the FRAMEWORK a portrait of God's plan for all people, in both, a micro (personal) and macro (all of humanity) context.



Explanation:

In our previous lesson ("The FOUNDATIONS"), we learned that God's Word was divinely given to humanity (2 Timothy 3:16-17) for the express purpose of teaching, correcting, rebuking, and equipping, so that His Will and His Ways would be understood and faithfully obeyed. When you pull all those truths together, you quickly realize that **God has a plan**, a divinely designed plan that will bring Him glory through the full context Gospel of Jesus Christ.

*"This life is not godliness, but growth in godliness; not health, but healing; not being, but becoming; not rest, but exercise. We are not now what we shall be, but we are on the way; the process is not yet finished, but it has begun; this is not the goal, but it is road; at present all does not gleam and glitter, but everything is being purified."*

*- Martin Luther*

Application:

*"Ah! sinner, remember this, there is no way on earth effectually to be rid of the guilt, filth, and power of sin, but by believing in the Savior. It is not resolving, it is not complaining, it is not mourning, but believing, that will make thee divinely victorious over that body of sin that to this day is too strong for thee, and that will certainly be thy ruin, if it be not ruined by a hand of faith."*

*- Thomas Brooks*

## 2. God's PEOPLE

Illustration:

*"...God has made provision for our holiness. Through Christ He has delivered us from sin's reign so that we now can resist sin. But the responsibility for resisting is ours. God does not do that for us. To confuse the potential for resisting (which God provided) with the responsibility for resisting (which is ours) is to court disaster in our pursuit of holiness."*

*- Jerry Bridges*

Explanation:

The FRAMEWORK reveals humanity's diversity to the extent that it identifies the defining relationship that exists between ALL people and their Creator (Romans 3:23). At the same time, the 5 different DISCIPLES can be seen in their progressive relationships to one another. To put it differently, the FRAMEWORK makes visible each person's need for salvation, as well as the privilege and sanctifying responsibility (1 John 3:18) that comes to ALL of God's family. In that context, it is important to realize that while ALL people are included in God's creation, only the predestined (Ephesians 1:5) elect, also known as LOVERS, LEARNERS, LEADERS, and LIFERS (those who are or will be redeemed) are biblically identified as God's children (Matthew 24:31). As the cross-carrying, imperfect but passionate Church that Christ died to give life to, **God's people learn, love, and live to bring Him glory!**

Application:

**BE-ing God's biblical people means BE-ing The biblical Church.**

Ephesians 4:1

*I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called,*

John 14:15

*If you love Me (Jesus) you will obey My commands.*

*"Though we are commanded to 'wash ourselves', to 'cleanse ourselves from sins', to 'purge ourselves from all our iniquities', yet to imagine that we can do these things by our own efforts is to trample on the cross and grace of Jesus Christ. Whatever God works in us by his grace, he commands us to do as our duty. God works all in us and by us."*

*- John Owen*

### 3. God's PATHWAY

Illustration:

*"Till sin be bitter, Christ will not be sweet."*

*- Thomas Watson*

*"We need to repent of the haughty way in which we sometimes stand in judgment upon Scripture and must learn to sit humbly under its judgments instead. If we come to Scripture with our minds made up, expecting to hear from it only an echo of our own thoughts and never the thunderclap of God's, then indeed He will not speak to us, and we shall only be confirmed in our own prejudices. **We must allow the Word of God to confront us, to disturb our security, to undermine our complacency and to overthrow our patterns of thought and behavior.**"*

*- John Stott*

Explanation:

God's missionally designed and defining pathway for ALL people and relationships can be understood by aligning three different perspectives. First, as with ALL things, God's WORD, WILL, and WAY must serve as your plumb line and establish the pathway's guardrails. Next, within those inspired boundaries, see the spiritual steppingstones that are the 5 progressive DISCIPLES (the LOST, LOVER, LEARNER, LEADER, and LIFER). With God's guardrails in place and His spiritually defined steppingstones laid before us, the last piece of this aligning map concentrates on the missional objective for each step along the narrow path of Christianity (Matthew 7:14).

To be clear, when it comes to the LOST, our goal is to missionally ENGAGE them with authenticity and all aspects of The Gospel of Jesus Christ. From there, once a person is saved and becomes a LOVER, the emphasis will be to EXPLAIN the new family into which they have been supernaturally adopted. As that baby Christian grows into a LEARNER, EQUIPPING them to BE the Church, per God's "truth in love" (Ephesians 4:15) becomes the primary focus. Continuing on, once a LEADER is identified, EMPOWERING their potential to lead, through a hands-on, apprenticeship style of discipleship is the next step. Finally, when the Lord raises up a LIFER, one who begins to beautifully EXEMPLIFY Christlikeness (in an imperfect but very spiritually mature way), intentional efforts to exponentially multiply, through effective and extensive discipleship, becomes the new bullseye.

### **1. ENGAGE the LOST**

*"Tell the young, tell the poor, tell the aged, tell the ignorant, tell the sick, tell the dying — tell them all about Christ. Tell them of His power, and tell them of His love; tell them of His doings, and tell them of His feelings; tell them what He has done for the chief of sinners; tell them what He is willing to do until the last day of time; tell it to them over and over again. Never be tired of speaking of Christ. Say to them broadly and fully, freely and unconditionally, unreservedly and undoubtingly, 'Come unto Christ, as the penitent thief did; come unto Christ, and you shall be saved.'"*

*- J.C. Ryle*

### **2. EXPLAIN to the LOVER**

*"Don't believe everything you think. You cannot be trusted to tell yourself the truth. Stay in The Word."*

*- Jerry Bridges*

*"Loving a holy God is beyond our moral power. The only kind of God we can love by our sinful nature is an unholy god, an idol made by our own hands. Unless we are born of the Spirit of God, unless God sheds His holy love in our hearts, unless He stoops in His grace to change our hearts, we will not love Him... To love a holy God requires grace, grace strong enough to pierce our hardened hearts and awaken our moribund (stagnant, dying, nearing extinction) souls."*

*- R. C. Sproul*

### **3. EQUIP the LEARNER**

*"Grace stands in direct opposition to any supposed worthiness on our part. To say it another way: Grace and works are mutually exclusive. As Paul said in Romans 11:6, "And if by grace, then it is no longer by works; if it were, grace would no longer be grace." Our relationship with God is based on either works or grace. There is never a works-plus-grace relationship with Him."*

*- Jerry Bridges*

### **4. EMPOWER the LEADER**

*"The thing we would remember from meeting a truly gospel-humble person is how much they seemed to be totally interested in us. Because the essence of gospel-humility is not thinking more of myself or thinking less of myself, it is thinking of myself less. Gospel-humility is not needing to think about myself. Not needing to connect things with myself... True gospel-humility means I stop connecting every experience, every conversation, with myself. In fact, I stop thinking about myself, it's the freedom of self-forgetfulness."*

*- Timothy Keller*

### **5. EXEMPLIFY the LIFER**

*"If heaven were by merit, it would never be heaven to me, for if I were in it I should say, "I am sure I am here by mistake; I am sure this is not my place; I have no claim to it." But if it be of grace and not of works, then we may walk into heaven with boldness."*

*- C.H. Spurgeon*



Application:

*"We must hide our unholiness in the wounds of Christ as Moses hid himself in the cleft of the rock while the glory of God passed by. We must take refuge from God in God. Above all we must believe that God sees us perfect in His Son while He disciplines and chastens and purges us that we may be partakers of His holiness"*

*- A.W. Tozer*

REVIEW: **God has a plan... and the FRAMEWORK explains the placement and pathway for ALL people in the context of that plan.**

CLOSE:

*"The universe, they say, is so vast, it makes man utterly insignificant. Why would God have bothered to create such a microscopic speck called the earth and humanity and then get involved with us? Beneath this question is a fundamental failure to see what the universe is about. It is about the greatness of God, not the significance of man. God made man small and the universe big to say something about himself. And he says it for us to learn and enjoy—namely, that he is infinitely great and powerful and wise and beautiful. The more the Hubble Telescope sends back to us about the unfathomable depths of space, the more we should stand in awe of God. The disproportion between us and the universe is a parable about the disproportion between us and God.*

*And it is an understatement."*

*- John Piper*

**For What?**

*"Great winds and storms help fruit-bearing trees. So also do corruptions and temptations help the fruitfulness of grace and holiness. The storm loosens the earth round its roots so the tree is able to get its roots deeper into the earth, where it receives fresh supplies of nourishment. But only much later will it be seen to*

*bring forth better fruit. So corruptions and temptations develop the roots of humility, self-abasement and mourning in a deeper search for that grace by which holiness grows strong. But only later will there be visible fruits of increased holiness.*

*- John Owen*

### **So What?**

*“For the essence of sin is man substituting himself for God (Genesis 3:1-7), while the essence of salvation is God substituting himself for man (2 Corinthians 5:21). Man asserts himself against God and puts himself where only God deserves to be; God sacrifices himself for man and puts himself where only man deserves to be.”*

*- John Stott*

### **Now What?**

*“Discipleship entails a life of total self-denial, a humble disposition towards others, a whole-hearted devotion to the Lord alone, a willingness to obey His commands in everything, an eagerness to sense Him even in His absence, and a motivation that comes from knowing He is well pleased.”*

*- John MacArthur*

*“We must be heavenly-minded and have heavenly tastes in the present life — or else we will never find ourselves in Heaven in the life to come!”*

*- J.C. Ryle*

*“The growth of trees and plants takes place so slowly that it is not easily seen. Daily we notice little change. But, in course of time, we see that a great change has taken place. So it is with grace. Sanctification is a progressive, lifelong work (Proverbs 4:18). It is an amazing work of God's grace and it is a work to be prayed for (Romans 8:27).”*

*- John Owen*

## PRAYER

Dear heavenly Father, thank You so much for the Truth and Love of Your Word, will, and ways. Please help us to absorb and apply ALL that You have shared and commanded in the Bible. May our heads be infilled with Your defining Scriptures, for the express purpose of informing, inspecting, and inspiring our sanctified hearts and serving hands.  
In Jesus' name we pray.  
Amen and Amen

Related SERMONS:

*"Defining Discipleship"*

2 Timothy 2:1-10

February 19, 2017

Sermon Series: Miraculous Metamorphosis