Necessary Things…
Colossians 2: 8-15

Introduction:
A. Our text identifies some necessary things needed in order to live a successful Christian life.
B. Without these characteristics in our lives we face a grave danger.
C. What happens in a church when believers fail to walk close to Jesus? The light of the church grows dim.
D. Unbridled human emotions, called works, tradition and philosophy, fill the void.
E. Doubt and fear replace faith and rest in the Lord.
F. To prevent this condition let us:

I. Establish a Spiritual Watch. Vs. 8
A. The word ‘beware’ in verse 8 means to take heed, to look out, or to stand guard.
B. The need is certain and the danger real.
C. In the absence of sound Biblical counsel the ‘Evil One’ frustrates the plans of those who see themselves as being wise.
D. They have a zeal for God but not according to knowledge.
E. In this state a man loses real hope and is discouraged thinking God has deserted him.
II. Follow in the Steps of Jesus. Vs. 9
A. The answers to life’s challenges are not found in the teachings of mankind.
B. These answers are only found in the person of Jesus Christ.

C. As the earthly man Jesus is the fullness of God; i.e. God dwells in Him and He (Jesus in us).
D. Jesus example is one of submission and obedience to the Fathers’ will.
E. In Jesus greatest trials, Jesus found strength in fellowship with the Father in heaven.

III. Rest in the Blessings of Jesus. Vs. 10
A. Consider 5 blessings as recorded in Psalm 119.
B. Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path. Psalm 119:105
C. Believers find strength in the Presence of Jesus. He is very near. Psalm 119:151
D. Thou art my hiding place and my shield. Psalm 119: 114
E. The entrance of thy words giveth light. Psalm 119: 130
F. Plead my cause, and deliver me. Psalm 119: 154

IV. Confess the Believers Victory in Jesus. Vs. 14-15
A. Jesus satisfied my certificate of debt through His shed blood.
B. Jesus bore my sin and shame and died in my place.
C. God the Father now looks upon the believer through the atoning blood of Jesus.
D. Jesus defeated death and the grave for us. Because he lives we live.
E. Jesus broke the power that the ‘evil one’ held over us.

“For from you sounded out the word of God…” I Thessalonians 1:8a
Conclusion:
A. Believers are free in Jesus.
B. Believers should not allow heretics to steal their freedom in Jesus through rules and regulations.
C. Believers are already raised in Jesus to walk in newness of life.
D. Believers are complete in Jesus.

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"Oh! Get Real"

Webster's Dictionary list the term real as: Relating to things in law; Relating to fixed or immovable things (as land - property); Not Artificial; Genuine, not imaginary.

1. I would like to express it in the words, "taking it to a higher level."
2. Going upward from where we are.
3. Peter expressed it this way, II Peter 3:18, "But grow in Grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ."
4. Peter even tells us how, I Peter 2:2, "As new born babes desire the sincere milk of the Word that ye may grow thereby.
A. Do you have a genuine desire for the Word of God?
B. Does it matter "What God thinks or wants?"
I. First, In our Love for God.

A. The Pharisee asked, Master which is the great commandment in the law? (Matt. 22:36) To which Jesus responded, "Thou shalt love the Lord, thy God, with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it, thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

B. Other references to the same are Mark 12:30 and Luke 10:27.

"Getting Real with Jesus"
Part two

Intro. Getting real with Jesus is simply taking our relationship we have with Jesus, wherever we are, to a higher level.
1. Peter described it as a growing process. I Peter 2:2, "As new born babes desire the sincere milk of the Word that ye may grow thereby."
2. He also expressed it in II Peter 3:18. "But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ."
3. Paul Pleased in Romans 13:14 "But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfill the lusts thereof." Now that's growing! That's getting real with Jesus
4. Last week we considered Getting Real with Jesus in Our Love for Him.
A. Matt. 22:37, Jesus told the lawyer, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God, with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind."
B. Then He told his young church, John 14:15, "If ye love me, keep my commandments."
C. I John 5:3, for this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.
D. "There is a direct connection in loving God and keeping his commandments.
E. This week we will consider getting real with Jesus in our:
1. Fidelity of Doctrine.
   a. Fidelity, Faithful to; allegiance; loyalty; devotion.
   b. Doctrine - no more or no less than Jesus' teachings.
2. "Remember, He said, If you love me you will keep my commandments! My Doctrine. My teachings.
3. In 2 John 1:9-11, The Bible points
out anyone who goes too far and does not abide in the teaching of Christ, does not have God; the one who abides in the teaching, he has both the Father and the Son. If anyone come to you and does not bring this teaching, do not receive him into your house, and do not give him a greeting; for the one who gives him a greeting participates in his evil deeds.

4. Galatians 1:8-9. Paul told the Galatians, but though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. As we said before, so say I how again, if any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed.

5. 2 Peter and Jude warn of the dangers of false prophets and heretics. Jude, "certain men crept in unawares, ungodly men, turning the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ into lasciviousness and denying the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ."

6. II Peter 2: 1, "But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privy shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction.

II. Purity of Life:

A. Moral Purity. Christians are to live in obedience to the Word of God and to be exemplary in their conduct and untarnished in their testimony.

B. Immorality is a sure sign of rebellion before the Lord.

C. Paul told the Corinthian Church, I Cor. 5:1

D. I Cor. 6:9-11

E. I Cor. 6:13, Now the body is not for fornication but for the Lord.

F. I Cor 6:15, Bodies - members of Christ

G. I Cor. 6:18, Flee fornication.

H. It takes the Love for God and the power of God to say no - "wait".

I. I Cor. 7:8-9, I say therefore to the unmarried and widows, it is good for them if they abide even as I. But if they cannot contain, let them marry: for it is better to marry than to burn. (in their lusts).

J. I Cor. 7:2, to avoid fornication let every man have his own wife.

K. Even if you have to pay more taxes! Even if you get less retirement.

L. It's really a matter of our Love for Jesus!

M. I John 1:3-10. confess sin - he will forgive.

Getting Real with Jesus part 3

Intro. In our "Getting Real With Jesus" series, we have considered Getting Real With Jesus in our Love for Him and in our Fidelity of Doctrine (Faithful, having on allegiance or loyalty to His Word; His teachings). Today we will consider "Getting Real with Jesus in our Moral Purity"

1. Moral Purity.

A. Christians are to live in obedience to the Word of God and to exemplary in their conduct and untarnished in their testimony.

B. Paul testified to the church at Corinth I Cor. 15: 34 "Awake to righteousness and sin not; for some have not the knowledge of God: I speak this to your shame."

C. Immorality is a sure sign of rebellion before the Lord.

D. Paul rebukes the church at Corinth, I Cor. 5: 1, "It is reported commonly that there is fornication among you, and such fornication as is not so much as named among the Gentiles, that one should have his father's wife."

E. Paul reminds the church that they have been saved, I Cor. 6:9-12,
"Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived; neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God. And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but you're sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God. All things are lawful unto me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any.

F. The body is for the Lord - We are members of Christ I Cor. 6: 13, "Now the body is not for fornication, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body." Verse 15, "Know ye not that your bodies are the members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ, and make them the members of a harlot? God Forbid. Verse 18. "Flee fornication. Every sin that a man doeth is without the body, but he that committeth fornication, sinneth against his own body. Verses 19 and 20, What? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's."

G. Unmarried Christians are to abstain or marry. I Cor. 7:8-9, "I say therefore to the unmarried and widows, it is good for them if they abide even as I. But if they cannot contain, let them marry; for it is better to marry than to burn (in their lusts)."

H. I Cor 7:2, "To avoid fornication, let every man have is own wife, and let every woman have her own husband."

I. It takes the Love for God and the Power of God To say no - "wait"

J. Even if one has to pay more Taxes or get less Retirement.

K. It is really a matter of our Love for Jesus.

II. Testimony to the world.

A. I Cor. 15:34,"Awake to righteousness, and sin not; for some have not the knowledge of God. I speak this to your shame."

B. What kind of Testimony do we have?

1. Peter and John had this testimony, "that they had been with Jesus." Acts 4: 13

2. Enoch had this testimony, Heb. 11:5,"That he pleased God. The disciples were called Christians first at Antioch. Acts 11: 26.

3. What might we be called?

III. Story of the Fig Tree. Lu 13:6-9.

A. Finding ourselves in a new year, we should thank God that we have been spared another year.

B. It may be that God through this message (His Word) is pruning and fertilizing some. That this is our year to produce fruit unto righteousness

C. John 15:1-5, "Bearing Fruit."

D. Paul reminded the Romans, Ro. 6: 22, "But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life."

E. Concerning the pruning, Heb. 12: II, "Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby.

F. John 1:3-10, confess sin God will Forgive

"Getting Real in the Area of Integrity of Testimony"
I Peter 2:9-10

Intro:

1. Proverbs 11: 3 "The integrity of the upright shall guide them: but the
perverseness of transgressors shall destroy them.

2. Better is the poor that walketh in his integrity, than he that is perverse in his lips, and is a fool. Prov. 19: 1

3. Prov. 20:7, "The just man walketh in his integrity: his children are blessed after him.

4. Integrity - adherence to a code of values; incorruptibility; Soundness.

5. We are studying in the area of Purity of Life. Last Sunday we studied Moral Purity, today we are seeing Integrity in our Testimony.

6. Peter urged the church to keep their behavior excellent among the Gentiles. Testimony excellent I Peter 2: 11-12. 'Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul. Having your conversation honest among the Gentiles; that, whereas they speak against you as evildoers, they may by your good works, which they shall behold glorify God in the day of visitation.

7. The Church is to see itself as an alien community in the midst of spiritual darkness-Ones who must abstain from the lusts and enticements of the word.

8. We are to be conspicuous in our purity of Testimony. (Integrity of testimony). We are not to descend (stoop) to the moral or immoral environment. "


10. I Pet. 2:9-10, "We are to proclaim the Excellencies (virtues-praises) of Him who has called us out of darkness into His marvelous light.

Unity of Fellowship
Eph. 3:21

Intro:
We have thus studied Fidelity of Doctrine and Purity of Life. Today we will consider Unity of Fellowship.
A. Paul exhorts in Hebrews 10:25

1. Forsake not the assembling (the assembly)
2. No matter that some don't.
3. Exhorting - encouraging - Teaching loving
4. Be serious about encouraging. Do it often. Do it as the time demands it. (the much the more)

B. Personal relationships in the church.
1. Integrity if personal relationships.

C. Church community Togetherness
1. No divisions - Lord's Supper - I Cor. 11:26-29
3. Must be a unity of fellowship.
4. A breach in the unity of the church is a scandal in the body of Christ.
5. Romans 16:17, Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offenses contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned and avoid them.

D. Love
1. Romans 12:10, Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honor preferring one another.
2. Ro. 12:9, Let love be without dissimulation.
3. Romans 12:9-21, Church life and ethics. "Read"
4. For the Weak in Faith, Ro. 14:1, receive ye. Ro. 15:1, We then that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, and not to please ourselves.
5. Like minded toward each other. Ro. 15:5-6, Now the God of patience and consolation grant you to be like minded one toward another according to Christ Jesus: That ye may with one mind glorify God, even the father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Wherefore receive ye one another, as Christ also received us, to the glory of God.
Getting Real with God in the Area of Giving
II Corinthians 8:1-5

Intro. When we speak of getting real with God we are referring to Christians as being genuine, not two faced, practicing what we preach. In our message today, The churches found in the Roman Province of Macedonia (all of northern Greece) had gone through circumstances revealing to others their genuineness. Three of the churches of the area were Philippi, Thessalonica and Berea. At one time the Macedonia Province had been know for its natural resources but through the centuries the area had been ravaged by war and Rome had stripped it of its wealth. The churches were very poor in material wealth. They were at the point of destitution, poverty. The kind of poverty that indicates a point which a man cannot dig himself out of his dilemma, Having no visible resources available. The word Trial, sometimes translated Ordeal, in verse two could be translated Test. It refers to a severe test which someone has passed, proving himself to be genuine. The churches of Macedonia had so proved themselves. They were real with God in their giving! It was in the midst of terrible times that the believers of Macedonia gave to the needs of others. There are at least three main areas to Giving, The giving of our Time, Talents and Treasure. In today's lesson we are considering the giving of our treasure. In the remarkable story four things stand out to me:
1. The role of the Grace of God in Giving.
2. Giving beyond their own power.
3. Their willingness to Give.
4. Their persistence in Giving.

I. THE POWER of THEIR GIVING!

A. The Grace of God. V. 1.
   1. Wit-Know
B. Beyond their Power - V. 3
C. Grace of God - Divine Help, Unmerited Favor.
D. Gave themselves to the Lord, First. V.5
E. God is Able! II Cor. 9:8-11.

II. Their Willingness to Give. V. 3

A. It is found in verse two.
B. How that in a great Test of pressures, persecutions, anguish the surplus of their Joy (cheerfulness, calm delight, gladness) (their Joy exceeded the need) (Neh. 8:10, to Israel, "The Joy of the Lord is your Strength") (David, Psalm 43:4, "Then will I go unto the altar of God, unto God my exceeding Joy: Yea, upon the harp will I praise thee, O God my God") and their profoundly poor state of being (beggarly existence) overflowed unto the riches of their liberality.
C. "CALM DELIGHT!"
D. The fruit of the Spirit is Joy. Gal. 5:22
   (same word of 2 Cor. 8:2)
E. I Peter 1:8

III. Persistence in their Giving. V. 4

A. Isaiah said, Here am I send me!
B. II Cor. 9:6, Every man as he purposeth in his heart ....
C. II Cor 9:12, first a willing mind ....

Conclusion:
Giving is its own reward!
Giving, in its perfect form expects nothing in return.
Giving indicates our Love for God and others.
Jesus on the Cross. "he saved others, let him save himself." If he did he couldn't save others.

Giving Number Two

I. Their Willingness to Give.
A. Had a forwardness of mind. II Cor. 9:2.
   1. Readiness, Predisposition, Willingness.
B. Had a Zeal to Give. Verse 2.
C. Chapter 8, Verse 3, "Willing of themselves."

II. Their Supreme example in Giving.

A. Christ Jesus, 8:9, "For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich."
B. Phil. 2:5-11, Christ emptied himself!
C. On the Cross His accusers jeered saying, Matt. 27:41- 42, "Likewise also the chief priests mocking him, with the scribes and elders, said, He saved others; himself he cannot save. If he be the king of Israel, let him now come down from the cross, and we will believe him."
   1. Would have been selfish.
   2. Save Himself - couldn't have saved others.
      a. Someone must die!
      b. He gave the ultimate gift, His life.
   1. Christ did not grudgingly die.
   2. Heb. 12:2, "Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God."

III. Rules of Giving.

A. Not grudgingly
B. of Necessity
C. Soweth sparingly - reap sparingly
D. Sow Bountifully reap Bountifully
E. God will give Bread for food.
F. Multiply seed sown
G. Increase fruits of Righteousness.

IV. Summary of Giving. II Cor. 9:7

A. Every man - person - in the church.
B. Purpose in His Heart.
   1. Not what in the billfold but what's in the heart.
      a. Greed
      b. Little Faith
         1. That God will multiply seed sown, v. 10
         2. Increase the fruits of your righteousness
      c. Give.
C. Abound mentioned at least 15 times in these two chapters.

GIVING IS ITS OWN REWARD!

Getting Real with Jesus in the area of Personal Responsibility
Galatians 6:1-9, (V. 4&5)

Introduction: Verses 4 & 5 share with us the fact that we are to realize our own duty and responsibility. We are personally responsible to the Lord for our own behavior.

We are to Prove (Test) our own works - taking responsibility. V. 5, Every man shall bear his own burden. Be responsible for his own actions. Motives, etc. We all have our own burdens, own weight of faults and sin to bear.

I. BLAME.

A. Everyone wants to blame someone else. Kids are told to blame parents. Spouses blame spouses.
B. Adam - Gen. 3:12, "And the man said, The woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat.
   1. Adam first blamed Eve
   2. Then he blamed God.
   3. Didn't want to take responsibility

II. ADMIT FAULTS!
A. Pharaohs' butler - Gen. 4:19. I do remember my faults this day.
B. Prodigal Son - Luke 15:21, Father, I have sinned.

III. Recognize Law of Harvest.
A. Gal. 6:7, Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.
B. Gal. 6:9, Let us not be weary in well doing; for in due season we shall reap if we faint not.

IV. WE WILL BE HELD RESPONSIBLE!
A. Romans. 14:12, Give account
B. Romans. 14:10, Stand before the Judgement seat of Christ.
C. Il Cor. 5:10, Receive for the things done in our body.
D. Matt. 12:30, Every Idle Word.

Conclusion: Choose Today!
1. Joshua told Israel, Joshua 24:15, Choose ye this day.
2. Make the right choice.
3. Joshua, "As for me and my house."
4. Without me ye can do nothing
5. I can through Christ
6. Il Cor. 4:7, This treasure in earthen vessels.

When Sin gets in the Family
I Cor. 5, II Cor. 2, Matt. 18

Introduction:
There are two types of sin mentioned in the Bible, Public and Private. Each sin is to be dealt with in specific God given ways.

The first sin mentioned is concerning private sins. Instructions on how to deal with it is found in Matthew 18:15-17. First, The person sinned against is to go to the person who he feels has sinned privately. Second, When private confrontation does not work the sinned against party is to take one or two others with him and confront the trespasser. Third, when both of the first two attempts fail the person who feels he has been sinned against is to tell it to the church. Fourth, if he will not make it right before the church he is to be to the church as a heathen man and a publican (the church excludes him/her from it's membership).

The second sin mentioned is concerning public offences (sins). Instructions are found in I Cor. 5 and II Cor. 2. The sin in I Corinthians became public and the sinning person nor the church did anything to stop it. In fact, it seems to me that both were enjoying the continuation of it. The church was instructed to exercise discipline excluding the person from the membership of the church. Exclusion was done to show the gravity of the sin. In II Cor. 2:6-8, the church is admonished to forgive the person and comfort him, thus confirming their love toward him. Simply put, the church was admonished to receive him back into their fellowship in love without suspicions and doubting.

I wish to make this point: When someone comes before the church and admits sin and asks the church to forgive them. We must! We also must react toward them as if it is forgiven and treat them as it never happened. We are not to continue to keep it alive by telling others of their sin.

I. Continued talk of the matter hinders the resolving of the matter.
A. The more knowledgeable the sin is the harder it is for the person to do what is right. (II Cor. 2:7, preventing being swallowed up with overmuch sorrow.)

II. Scriptures to ponder.
A. James 3:5, speaking of the tongue, "How great a matter a little fire kindleth.
B. Proverbs 26:20,"Where no wood is, there the fire goeth out: where there is no talebearer, the strife ceaseth.
C. Leviticus 19:16, This was part of the law, "Thou shalt not go up and down as a talebearer among thy people;"
D. Prov. 11:13, "A talebearer revealeth secrets; but he that
is of a faithful spirit concealeth the matter."
E. Prov. 18:8 "The words of a talebearer are as wounds, and they go down into the inner most parts of the belly."
F. Prov. 16:28 A forward man soweth strife: and a whisperer separateth chief friends.
G. Prov. 17:9a He that covereth a transgression seeketh love: but he that repeateth a matter separateth very friends.
H. Prov. 3:3, Let not mercy and truth forsake thee; bind them about thy neck, write them upon the table of thine heart.
I. Eph. 4:15, speak the truth in love.
J. Eph. 4:25, speak every man truth with his neighbor.
K. Eph. 4:32, And be ye kind one to another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.

"Holy Spirit Work in Our Lives is Real
Romans 8:16

I. Holy Spirit indwells the believer.
   A. Ro. 8:9-11
   B. We have the witness in us. I John 5:10-13

II. Reveals Bible Truth to us.
   A. I Cor. 2:9-14
      1. Witnesses that Jesus' offering for sin is sufficient. Heb. 10:14-17
      2. Beareth Witness that we are the Children of God. Ro.8:15-16

III. Leads us through this life.
   1. Ro. 8:14

IV. Intercedes in our prayers.
   1. Rom. 8:26-27

Getting Real with Jesus Produces Dependable Saints!
Psalms 1:1-6

Intro. Three things set apart the dependable saints:
1. They walk not in the counsel of the ungodly.
2. They do not stand in way of sinners.
3. Never found sitting in the seat of the scornful.

I. Blessed is the Man!
   A. Psalms 1:1
   B. He's on the receiving end. "Blessed".
   C. He has his reward.

II. His Delights.
   A. Psalms 1:2
   B. Dependable
   C. His joy

III. His Produce.
   A. Psalms 1:3
   B. Dependable
   C. Productive

IV. The ungodly are not so!
   A. Psalm 1:4-6
   B. No blessing - no produce.
   C. Has wrong delights.

Conclusion: The Lord knoweth the way of the righteous. V. 6.

Getting Real with Jesus" Series.

"Christ Crucified"
The Cross testifies of the realness of Jesus. No more real could one get than to die on the Cross
Philippians 2:8

"AND BEING FOUND IN FASHION AS A MAN, HE HUMBLED HIMSELF, AND BECAME OBEDIENT UNTO DEATH, EVEN THE DEATH OF THE CROSS."

Intro.
1. Paul to Corinth: I Cor. 1:23, "But we preach Christ Crucified, unto the Jews a stumbling block, and unto the Greeks foolishness."
2. I Cor. 1:18. "For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness, but unto us which are saved it is the power of God."

Christ Crucified
2. Mark 15:24, "When they had crucified Him."
4. John 19:16, (of Pilate) "Then delivered he him therefore unto them to be crucified." V. 18, "Where they crucified Him."

I. Our only message.
1. I Cor. 2:2, "For I determined not to know anything among you, save Jesus Christ and Him crucified."
2. Paul testified in Gal. 6:14, "But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified (dead) unto me, and I (am dead) unto the world."

II. Our Only Hope!

Getting Real with Jesus
Jesus Got Real with us!
Matt. 7:13-27

1. V. 13-14, The straight and narrow gates.
2. V. 15, beware of false prophets
3. V. 16-20, Good tree verses corrupt tree.
4. V. 21-23, Entering the kingdom of heaven - he that doeth the will of my father which is in heaven.
5. V. 24-27, the wise man which built his house on the rock and the foolish man that built his house upon the sand.

I'm Glad Jesus got real with us!
Phil. 2:5-8

1. Left Heaven - Phil. 2:5-6
2. Put on Form of Servant - mankind - v.7-8
3. Became obedient to death - v. 8
4. His life prophesied - Isa. 53:1-12

All this that we might know the righteousness which is of God by faith. Phil 3:9

"Hope is built on nothing less than Jesus Christ and His righteousness."

You can Live on it (hope)! Bank on it! You can die on it!

Jesus is the resurrection and the life!
John 11:25-26

I. "He Grew the Tree!"

A. The Cross was no afterthought of God!
B. Rev. 13:8, Jesus is the Lamb slain before the foundation (Conception) of the World!
C. In Genesis 22:13, He is the Ram caught in a thicket. Jehovah-jireh, meaning The God who provides. He provided a sacrifice in Isaac's place.
D. In Exodus 12, He is the Israel's Passover Lamb.
E. He is the suffering, saving message of Moses and all the prophets of Old, Luke 24, 27, And beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, he expounded unto them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself."
F. In John 3:16, He is the gift of God to all the world of all times.

II. "Love grew where the Blood Fell."

A. Romans 5:6-9, For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die. But God commendeth His Love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for
us.

B. I Peter 1:18-19, Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; but with the precious blood of Christ, as a lamb without blemish and without spot.

III. "Then came the Morning"
A. Luke 24:1-8. Verse 6, "He is not Here"
B. He appeared to Mary at the tomb, John 20: 17
C. He appeared to His disciples, John 20:19
D. He told Thomas in John 20:27, "Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side: and be not faithless, but believing.
E. John 20:31, But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name.

DO WE REALLY BELIEVE?

We say we believe in God.
Yet, sometimes His promises we doubt. 
We say we love Him so.
Yet, sometimes we leave obedience out.

We say we trust His way:
Yet, we try to manage problems alone. 
We say we believe He has the answers.
But do we always ask Him to guide our home?

If we truly believe in God
Then we must humbly kneel and pray.
Ask forgiveness for our lack of faith; 
Get our willful pride out of the way.

Bring us back, our blessed Lord,
To a faith that makes us great and strong. 
A faith that allows us to live and love, 
A faith that dedicates our life to You along.

Pastor Darrell Streeter Graduated to Glory

Pastor Darrell Streeter was born to Emmett Ervin and Frances Lavelle Hogan Streeter on February 2, 1945, in Bastrop, Louisiana. He went to be with his Heavenly Father on June 22, 2010, following a 7 year battle with cancer.

He married Ivorie June Glenn Streeter in Warren, Arkansas on June 7, 1966. He graduated from Hamburg High School, Hamburg, Arkansas, he attended the University of Arkansas and the Missionary Baptist Seminary and Institute in Little Rock, Arkansas. He pastored churches in Arkansas, Louisiana and Texas. At the time of his passing, he was pastor of Alvin Missionary Baptist Church for 38 years.

Bro. Darrell, as he was known to his congregation, was not only a pastor and shepherd of the congregation where he pastored, but was also a pastor's pastor. He embraced and lived by Jesus' words to "love one another" which he passed on to all those around him. In addition, throughout his battle with cancer he never lost his will and perseverance to serve the Lord and minister to his congregation in love. He shared with many during the last few days hat they were on his heart and mind and in his prayers. Complimenting his loving style of ministry was a sincere humility grounded in the Lord and God's Word. Even the words of this short biography would cause him to blush. He never sought the attention to be lifted up, but rather sought to give God the glory. He often reminded people that it wasn't about him, but it was all about Jesus. Bro. Darrell's love and humility fostered a hope in Christ that lives on in all those he touched. Truly we were blessed to know him.

Finally, consider the words of his favorite passage, wait upon the Lord and keep your eyes on Jesus.

Isaiah 40:31 But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.
THIS MAN

This man was God's messenger, dedicated, firm, loving, and true
He loved to share God's word, with God's children, and sinners too

This man loved to share his sermons, with his younger brother preachers.
He had a volume of God's knowledge, he was a wonderful gospel teacher.

This man's life really showed, his love for God's wonderful grace.
And he always, had a little story, that would bring a little smile, to your face.

This man was God's warrior, bravely fighting the battles of life.
He knew that, old satan was always here, to try to bring him, sorrow and strife.

But this man, like unto Job, he always knew God was near, he would carry him thru this strife, and bring him to rest in heaven so fair.

Now this man God's precious child, will be missed from our view.
But aren' you glad that we can know he's with his heavenly father, and one day we'll meet him there too.

Dovie Brown

What Cancer Cannot Do

Cancer is so limited
It cannot cripple love
It cannot shatter hope
It cannot corrode faith
It cannot destroy peace
It cannot kill friendship
It cannot suppress memories
It cannot silence courage
It cannot invade the soul
It cannot steal eternal life
It cannot conquer the spirit

Anonymous