



April 2020

Dear Partner,

Happy Easter! I hope you're enjoying our theme this year, "Great Expectation Gets Great Results"—I know I am! As you may know, this year I am focusing on the power of *expectation* and how it motivates us to think, speak, and act in faith, and not just on Sunday but every day of the week! Easter is a great time to stretch your faith and expectation in what God can do—the resurrection reminds us of God's amazing love and power. We serve a God Who does miracles, and Easter is proof of that. Jesus died and rose again so that we could not only be saved and make Heaven our home, but also so we could live victoriously right here on earth in every single way.

I love to put my "expecters" out there. I love to receive what I am aiming for with great expectation—and so does my Savior, Jesus Christ! The ministry of Jesus, when He was on this earth, was marked by great expectation, and that is why He had such great results. Jesus knew that ALL things were possible with God.

Throughout the Gospels we see that Jesus never promoted doubt in God; He did not teach that we should just go by our senses. Jesus taught and promoted faith in God. He wanted us all to get our expectations higher—to realize that we serve a Father Who loves us and has given us power within ourselves to think, speak, act, and receive in faith. Let's get into this month's lesson on expectation.

You Are God's Child—Imitate Him and Practice Walking in Love

Every Good Thought, Word, and Action Is an Offering You Give to God

Have you ever noticed that children imitate their parents or others they look up to and admire? They are supposed to do that! That's how they learn about life. Well, as believers, we are supposed to learn by imitating our Heavenly Father, God.

Ephesians 5:1 NKJV tells us, "*Therefore be imitators of God as dear children,*" and the next verse goes on to show us that one way we imitate Him is to look at how His Son spoke and acted when He was on this earth. Ephesians 5:2 says, "*And walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma.*" So, this tells me that we aren't supposed to stink up the world with malice or hatred, but we're supposed to bring a sweet aroma to this world by walking in love. One thought, word, and action at a time, we imitate Christ by choosing to love others, and that brings glory to God. Remember that whether somebody "deserves it" or not isn't the point—we love other people because Christ first loved us, and when we act like Him, we are honoring God and obeying His Word.

As a parent, you teach your children well when you teach them the Word and the ways of Jesus Christ. When they learn to apply the ways of Christ, it helps them to find peace, joy, and goodness within themselves, as well as in the lives of others they encounter as they go about their day. You begin a tradition, a pattern, that says, "This is the best way to live" that goes down through the generations.

Now, is it easy to imitate God and act like Christ? Is it easy to walk in love with others? No, it sure isn't always easy, but it is right! You have to practice doing it to get good at it. So, I want you to start seeing that being an imitator of God and living Christlike is an *offering* you give to God—one that you practice every day. I want you to consider walking in love as a *seed* you sow, and sometimes sacrificially. It's like a sacrifice you make to

God that helps your family, your community, and even the world. One soul at a time, you touch others with what you say and do throughout the day.

Think of it like this. Every day that you wake up, you get a new opportunity to have faith and expectation—to do things God’s way or the fleshly way. I like to say to myself, “I could stink this day up with a lot of doubt, hate, criticalness, and a bunch of doom and gloom...but instead, I’m going to make strides toward my future and be a blessing along the way, too. I’ve got great expectations, and I will receive great results! I’m going to make life sweeter today for myself and everybody I encounter by bringing on the faith, love, grace, and joy of Jesus instead!”

Again, is it easy? NO. Some days your mind wants to just “tell it like it is,” but having great expectation and doing things like Jesus is about “telling it like you want it to be.” As you’ve heard me say many times, don’t say what you *have*—say what you *want*. Speak in faith and act in love. It’s not easy every day, but it is doable every day! How? It’s doable by realizing you’re NOT doing it alone. You are *never* alone.

Through Christ, You Are in Touch with an Unlimited Power Source ***You Can Do ALL Things Through Christ Who Gives You Strength***

The apostle Paul said, “*I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me*” in Philippians 4:13. Partner, I believe that is one of the most powerful statements in the Bible, but what does it mean to *you*? To me, it means you have the power and strength to do *anything* and *everything* God has put on your heart because ALL power resides in Christ Jesus—and He is with you. He never leaves you or forsakes you.

So, you’re not alone when you set your expectation and aim for your best. Jesus is the One Who’s going to give you the strength to fulfill your vision—to “do all things” that you set your mind to do. Jesus turns “I can’t” into “I can!” So, the first point I want you to really receive into your heart today is this: **You are in touch with unlimited power.** Read Philippians 4:13 again and think about it for a minute. Notice the Word doesn’t say you can do *some* things—it says that through Christ, you can do *ALL* things. How is that possible? It’s possible because Jesus *never* runs out of the power it takes to give you the strength you need. Moment by moment and for whatever goal you are aiming for and expecting in faith, Christ is an *unlimited* power source for you.

So, when you start speaking Philippians 4:13 over yourself and believing it in your heart, notice that your expectations rise higher. If you’ve dipped a little, it will pick you up. Faith comes when you speak that verse over yourself—and it’s because you are sowing the living Word of God, and faith comes by hearing it. Christ *in you* will give you greater strength to do ALL the things He has put on your heart. Your great expectations create a momentum that bring you great results.

Whether your aim is spiritual growth, health for your body, success for your business, or increase in your finances, your relationships, or whatever—great results follow great expectation. You have to get to a point of not just believing but *knowing* that you have *unlimited power* inside of you because of *Jesus Christ*.

Well Doing Is Worth Doing—Decide Now That You Won’t Bend To the Pressure of “Time” ***Doubt and Weariness Are Overcome One Decision at a Time, Every Time!***

What happens when you feel like “it’s not working” when you pray? We are all growing in our faith and sometimes our own mind can get in the way of our progress. We might doubt our initial aim and think, *This is flat unbelievable*. Or maybe that word “time” gets in our way and we start to think, *This can’t happen. It’s not working*. These kinds of thoughts come to many people, including me! But do you know what I’ve decided? I’ve already decided ahead of time that I will NOT go by what I see—I will go by what I believe. I will not bend to the pressure of “time,” and I will not give up on God’s Word or what He put on my heart.

I’m not saying it’s easy to choose what you *believe* over what you *see* when time has passed. But what I am saying is that if you choose belief over sight, you will activate more *courage* in your own heart—it will help you to not be moved, and that will help results to come. Partner, you can chip away at your own courage by entertaining doubt and, in turn, stunt your own progress. You can give up great future results by giving up today. But if you choose to focus on what God said and what you *believe*, regardless of time or circumstance, you will find that the Word lifts you up, activates greater courage, and increases your strength to hold fast to your faith.

Galatians 6:9 says, “*And let us not be weary in well doing...*” God’s Word wouldn’t have to tell us to *not* get weary if it wasn’t a fact of life that human beings can get weary in “well doing.” This means that it’s just a fact of life that when you’re doing everything you know to do that is right and you do not yet see change, there will be times when you’re tempted to give up. Galatians 6:9 goes on to say that if you choose NOT to allow weariness to steer you away from your faith, you’ll get results—“*for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.*”

“Due season” is talking about time. Remind your natural mind, when necessary, that you are going by what you believe, not by what you see, and you won’t give up pre-season! Just keep doing what is right knowing that your “well doing” is a wonderful attribute of your faith, and working in the unseen realm. It will become seen in due season, but only if you keep the faith in the “unseen” times when you are still living by faith.

I know that it may seem exhausting to you at times, but remind yourself that **you’re not alone in your great expectations**. The apostle Paul said you have Christ strengthening you too, so you’re not alone in your belief. Jesus is with you. He will not leave you. You are NOT forsaken! Partner, well doing is worth doing, and the Lord is with you through it ALL—and that includes the time before “due season.” Refuse to give up!

Be Contented No Matter What Condition or Circumstance Comes Your Way

Nothing Deserves More Attention or Faith than God—Choose Contentment

This expectation is a mission God has given all of us. That leads me to my next point today: **We should be contented no matter what condition or circumstance comes our way**. It doesn’t make a difference what Satan does—God has put us on a mission and that mission is HIS will, and so it should be our will too. If we are Christians, then we believe what God says above all else. We stand fast in God’s Word and choose His way over every other way that comes our way!

Being content does *not* mean you give up your goals or dreams because you don’t care about anything. Being content is not the same as being passionless! Contentment is not laziness or living in apathy. Contentment is KNOWING that God is with you in all things—He is your Source and your Peace no matter what—and that whatever is going on is a temporary experience in light of Who God is, who YOU are, and the reality of your eternity. Again, it makes no difference what Satan does. He is a defeated foe, and acting like a roaring lion won’t make him a winner—it just keeps reiterating the point that he’s a sore loser.

In Christ, we gain strength for impossible situations. In Christ, we rest and find contentment, no matter what. **Whatever is happening here on earth, whether good or not so good, is temporary; but it’s what we do here each day that is creating eternal memories.**

So, decide that you’re going to make some faith memories today—ones you’ll remember with joy when you cross Heaven’s gates. Decide that you are not going to buckle to time or faint in weariness, but that you are going to STICK! Stick to believing what God said and being content that He has your back. Your life is not your own, but you get the adventure of living it! No matter what, you win—remind yourself of just WHO you serve and what Christ did for you on the cross.

As God’s children, we do *not* believe this world’s words over our Father’s eternal Word. We don’t live by changing emotional tides or fleeting whims. We give our attention and faith to what matters, not just today but eternally. We choose contentment over anxiety because we don’t live by fear—we live by our faith in the Son of God, Who died for us and made us righteous. We choose faith because we know in Christ we can do *all* things—and that no matter what happens, we have access to a limitless supply of strength. Choose contentment.

You Have a Living Word, Living Faith, Living Grace, and Living Power Inside of You

Courage Comes When You Know That “Greater is He that is in me, than he that is in the world!”

Talk to yourself and say good things like, “I will complete my destiny, reach my destination, and *all* my great expectations will bring about great results. I’m bound for Heaven, but Jesus is with me right here on earth, too. I’m never alone! I’m getting stronger in Christ today than I was yesterday—because I’m growing, I’m learning, and I’m speaking God’s Word and believing for great results in this life. Greater is He that is in me than he that is in this world.”

Scatter the seeds of quiet exhortation in your own way—knowing that your personality is wonderful and perfectly suited to your destiny. Partner, Christ in you, the hope of glory, will only cause you to become the best version of yourself. Christ will give you the strength to live as the purest version of yourself. Without the baggage of fear, you’ll be able to extend faith and walk in love. Without the baggage of guilt or shame, you’ll be able to live each day with such freedom. Everything Christ died to give us and free us from makes life better. We’ve already won and each of us has a personality that was created by God on purpose—each of us is like a facet of His personality walking this earth.

So, don’t talk badly about yourself. Scatter the seeds of quiet exhortation to yourself as needed throughout the day—let your faith rise. **Have great expectations in God and yourself. If you do, you’re going to find that “due season” shortens up!** The progress and the results of your great expectation will either come quicker, or the waiting time will be easier because you’ll have no anxiety surrounding your goals. You’ll have contentment—

strength of heart knowing that ALL things are coming to pass. When you start living like that (knowing you CAN do all things through Christ) and speaking it, you just might hear the Holy Spirit inside of you say, “Amen to that!”

You see, when you stir up the gift of God, when you choose faith over doubt, you activate more *courage*—and your expectation becomes like a force unto itself that motivates you to stand taller, feel more confident, and inspired to continue speaking the truth of the Word. You just start rising above earthly things when you set your mind in line with your spirit instead of just your natural eyes.

Every word you speak that lines up with God’s Word is a seed you are sowing with your mouth—and when you put more Word-seed into the ground, more of what the Word brings is what’s going to spring up in your life. That’s more peace, joy, power, blessings, and opportunities. In other words, RESULTS!

Satan is a flesh devil. Do you know that you can say something he just can’t believe? **You have a living Word, living faith, living grace, and living power inside of you.** Remember the scripture 1 John 4:4, “*Greater is He that is in you, than he that is in the world,*” and focus on that word “greater” because with Christ, that’s what you are! By focusing on Who is *inside* of you and His greater power more than anything *outside* of you, you’ll be able to produce greater expectations much more easily, which will lead to greater results.

You Can’t Generate Your Own Spiritual Power

Through Christ, You Are Given Power as You Need It and as You Stay in Touch with Him

The last point I want to leave you with today is this: **Spiritual power is not generated within you, but it is given to you by staying in touch with Christ in you (the hope of Glory). The blindest believer is the one who has no use for their faith.**

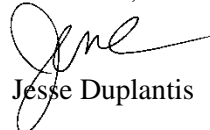
Your faith was not given to you to be stagnant. Faith is alive, and so are you. Never exclude God from your thoughts. Stay close to His truth, practice it, and live by it. Just accept that you can’t do it on your own—you can’t generate spiritual power on your own. Just like faith is something you receive as you hear the Word, spiritual power is something you receive as you stay in touch with Christ—as you lean on Him and receive His strength moment by moment. If you want to do all the things God has put on your heart, you will need to stay close to the One Who can give you the strength you need to accomplish those things. So, don’t let yourself or your faith be stagnant. Let it be a joy to stay close to Christ every single day.

I hope you are receiving a revelation today! I’ve learned to stay close to God everywhere I go. I love being close to God. I like to call it the grace of God! **Grace comes in to help us, and faith shows us how to appropriate that help.** We are never alone.

Partner, thank you for standing with this ministry. Your faithful financial support gets many people saved, healed, and blessed each week—this Word we are sharing is bringing great comfort to many people, and it’s because of Partners like you that we are able to reach out to so many. Thank you. When I go out and preach the Word, joy is restored to people. Sin is destroyed with every person who reaches out to God and receives salvation through this ministry’s work. So many tell me that their depression has been destroyed and their sicknesses are being obliterated by the Word of God that is going out of this ministry all the time.

Every life matters to God, and I just want to thank you again for helping us to touch this world for Jesus. I hope you have a wonderful Easter, and as you sow your seed today, I encourage you to have great expectation and speak the Word over it, commanding great results to come. Partner, results are your destiny, and the Lord is with you every step of the way. Until next time, keep the faith!

Love You,



Jesse Duplantis

P.S. Partner, for your April Partnership of \$50 or more, I’m excited to share my message with you, ***What’s the Hold Up? Hindrances to Prayer*** (available on DVD, CD, or both formats). And for your April Partnership of any amount, this message is available by request on CD. See the enclosure for details or go to jdm.org and select “Donate.” I believe you’ll gain wisdom and insight from it, and that it will minister greatly to you. Enjoy it and be blessed!



You Can Do **ALL** Things Through
Christ Who Gives You **STRENGTH!**

GREAT **EXPECTATION** 2 KINGS 6:16-17
GETS GREAT **RESULTS**

April 2020
Partner Letter
Bible Study Notes

I Can Do ALL Things Through Christ Who Gives Me STRENGTH!

1st Week April 2020 Bible Study Outline

Open Bible Study Time in Prayer (led by Group Leader or someone they choose)

I hope you're enjoying our theme this year, "Great Expectation Gets Great Results"!

- This year we are focusing on the power of *expectation* and how it motivates us to think, speak, and act in faith, and not just on Sunday but every day of the week!

***Instruct the group to turn to Ephesians 5 NKJV.**

Easter is a great time to stretch your faith and expectation in what God can do.

- The resurrection reminds us of God's amazing love and power.

We serve a God Who does miracles, and Easter is proof of that.

- Jesus died and rose again so that we could not only be saved and make Heaven our home, but also so we could live victoriously right here on earth in every single way.

We can put our "expecters" out there.

- We can receive what we are aiming for with great expectation—that's what Jesus did.
- His ministry was marked by great expectation, and that is why He had such great results.
- Jesus knew that ALL things were possible with God.

Throughout the Gospels we see that Jesus never promoted doubt in God.

- He didn't teach to just go by our senses. He taught and promoted faith in God.
- He wanted us all to get our expectations higher—to realize that we serve a Father Who loves us and has given us power within ourselves to think, speak, act, and receive in faith.

Let's get into this month's lesson on expectation.

***Invite someone in the group to read Ephesians 5:1 NKJV:**

"Therefore be imitators of God as dear children."

Children imitate their parents or others they look up to and admire.

- They are supposed to do that! That's how they learn about life.

Well, as believers, we are supposed to learn by imitating our Heavenly Father, God.

- You Are God's Child. You should imitate Him.
- One way is to look at how His Son spoke and acted when He was on this earth.

***Invite someone in the group to read Ephesians 5:2 NKJV:**

"And walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma."

This tells us that we aren't supposed to stink up the world with malice or hatred.

- Instead, we're supposed to bring a sweet aroma to this world by walking in love.
- We imitate Christ by choosing to love others—one thought, word, and action at a time.

***Group Discussion: *How has God's love for you changed the way you respond to others?**

Remember that whether somebody "deserves it" or not isn't the point.

- We love other people because Christ first loved us.
- When we act like Him, we are honoring God and obeying His Word.

Parents teach their children well when they teach them the Word and the ways of Jesus.

- When they learn to apply the ways of Christ, it helps them to find peace, joy, and goodness within themselves, as well as in the lives of others.

- This action begins a tradition, a pattern, that says, “This is the best way to live” that goes down through the generations.

***Group Discussion: *Is it easy to imitate God and act like Christ? Is it easy to walk in love with others?**

It isn’t always easy to imitate God and walk in love, but it is right!

- You have to practice doing it to get good at it.

Every good thought, word, and action is an offering you give to God.

- You need to start seeing that being an imitator of God and living Christlike is an *offering* you give to God—one that you practice every day.

I want you to consider walking in love as a *seed* you sow, and sometimes sacrificially.

- It’s like a sacrifice you make to God that helps your family, your community, and even the world.
- One soul at a time, you touch others with what you say and do throughout the day.

***Instruct the group to turn to Philippians 4:13.**

Every day that you wake up, you get a new opportunity to have faith and expectation—to do things God’s way or the fleshly way.

- You can say to yourself, “I could stink this day up with a lot of doubt, hate, criticalness, and a bunch of doom and gloom...but instead, I’m going to make strides toward my future and be a blessing along the way, too. I’ve got great expectations, and I will receive great results! I’m going to make life sweeter today for myself and everybody I encounter by bringing on the faith, love, grace, and joy of Jesus instead!”

Is it easy?

- No. Some days your mind wants to just “tell it like it is,” but having great expectation and doing things like Jesus is about “telling it like you want it to be.”
- Don’t say what you *have*—say what you *want*. Speak in faith and act in love.

It’s not easy every day, but it is doable every day!

- How? It’s doable by realizing you’re NOT doing it alone. You are *never* alone.

***Invite someone in the group to read Philippians 4:13:**

“I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.”

This is one of the most powerful statements in the Bible.

***Group Discussion: What does this verse mean to you, today?**

This scripture in Philippians 4:13 means that you have the power and strength to do *anything* and *everything* God has put on your heart.

- ALL power resides in Christ Jesus. He is with you and never leaves you or forsakes you.
- So, you’re not alone when you set your expectation and aim for your best.
- Jesus is the One Who’s going to give you the strength to fulfill your vision—to “do all things” that you set your mind to do. Jesus turns “I can’t” into “I can!”

Repeat 3 Affirmations this week:

- Whatever God has put on my heart, I can DO! Christ lives in me and He gives me the strength to do ALL things—I have the power to think, speak, act, and receive in faith.
- I trust the Lord! I can’t generate my own spiritual strength—but Christ is the One Who gives me power as I need it and as I stay in touch with Him. I am never, ever alone.
- Jesus didn’t promote doubt; He promoted faith—so I follow His lead! I live by faith and walk in love. I don’t “tell it like it is,” I “tell it how I want it to be!” I speak good things.

Close in Prayer

I Can Do ALL Things Through Christ Who Gives Me STRENGTH!

2nd Week April 2020 Group Bible Study Outline

Open Bible Study Time in Prayer (led by Group Leader or someone they choose).

***Let's open our bibles again to Philippians 4:13.**

Let's all begin today's study by declaring our theme: "Great Expectation Gets Great Results!"
The power of *expectation* can motivate us to think, speak, and act in faith every day!

***Invite someone in the group to read Philippians 4:13:**

"I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."

Through Christ, you are in touch with an *unlimited* power source.

- Read Philippians 4:13 again, think about it and really receive this powerful truth into your heart today.

You are in touch with *unlimited* power.

- It doesn't say you can do *some* things—it says you can do *ALL* things through Christ.

***Group Discussion: How is that possible?**

Jesus *never* runs out of the power it takes to give you the strength you need.

- Moment by moment and for whatever goal you are aiming for and expecting in faith, Christ is an *unlimited* power source for you.

When you start speaking Philippians 4:13 over yourself and believing it in your heart, notice that your expectations rise higher.

- If you've dipped a little, it will pick you up.
- Faith comes when you speak that verse over yourself—and it's because you are sowing the living Word of God, and faith comes by hearing it.
- Christ *in you* gives you greater strength to do ALL the things He has put on your heart.
- Your great expectations create a momentum that bring you great results.

Whether your aim is spiritual growth, health for your body, success for your business, or increase in your finances, your relationships, or whatever—great results follow great expectation.

- You have to get to a point of not just believing but *knowing* that you have *unlimited* power inside of you because of *Jesus Christ*.

***Group Discussion: What happens when you feel like "it's not working" when you pray?**

We are all growing in our faith and sometimes our own mind can get in the way of our progress.

- We might doubt our initial aim and think, *This is flat unbelievable*.
- Or that word "time" gets in our way and we think, *This can't happen. It's not working*.

These kinds of thoughts come to many people, including each one of us!

- We must decide ahead of time that we will NOT go by what we see—we will go by what we believe.
- We will not bend to the pressure of "time," and we will not give up on God's Word or what He puts on our heart.

That doesn't mean that it's easy to choose what you *believe* over what you *see* when time has passed.

- But if you choose belief over sight, you will activate more *courage* in your own heart.
- It will help you to not be moved, and that will help results to come.

***Instruct the group to turn to Galatians 6:9.**

You can chip away at your own courage by entertaining doubt and stunt your progress.

- You can give up great future results by giving up today.
- But if you choose to focus on what God said and what you *believe*, regardless of time or circumstance, you will find that the Word lifts you up, activates greater courage, and increases your strength to hold fast to your faith.

***Invite someone in the group to read Galatians 6:9.**

Well doing is worth doing—decide now that you won’t bend to the pressure of “time.”

- Doubt and weariness are overcome one decision at a time, every time!

Look again at the first part of Galatians 6:9, “*And let us not be weary in well doing...*”

- God’s Word wouldn’t have to tell us to *not* get weary if it wasn’t a fact of life that human beings can get weary in “well doing.”
- This means that it’s just a fact of life that when you’re doing everything you know to do that is right and you do not yet see change, there will be times when you’re tempted to give up.

Galatians 6:9 goes on to say, “*for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.*”

- **If you choose NOT to allow weariness to steer you away from your faith, you’ll get results.**
- “*Due season*” is talking about time.

Remind your natural mind that you are going by what you believe, not by what you see, and you won’t give up pre-season!

- Just keep doing what is right knowing that your “*well doing*” is a wonderful attribute of your faith, and working in the unseen realm.
- It will become seen in due season, but only if you keep the faith in the “unseen” times when you are still living by faith.

That it may seem exhausting to you at times, but remind yourself that you’re not alone in your great expectations.

- The apostle Paul said you have Christ strengthening you too, so you’re not alone in your belief.
- Jesus is with you. He will not leave you. You are NOT forsaken!

Well doing is worth doing, and the Lord is with you through it ALL.

- And, that includes the time before “*due season.*”
- Refuse to give up!

Repeat 3 Affirmations this week:

- I have an unlimited power source within me at all times. Jesus gives me courage and strength for whatever I’m aiming for in faith. I don’t just believe “I can do all things,” I *know* it!
- I choose ahead of time how I’ll deal with feeling “weary in well doing”—I choose now to re-activate my courage by choosing to focus on what I believe. Is it easy? No, but I’m doing it anyway!
- I don’t give up “pre-season”—I keep the faith until “due season!” I know my “well-doing” is working in the unseen realm first—I will reap because I don’t faint!

Close in Prayer

I Can Do ALL Things Through Christ Who Gives Me STRENGTH!

3rd Week April 2020 Group Bible Study Outline

Open Devotional Time in Prayer (led by Group Leader or someone they choose).

***Instruct the group to turn to Philippians 4 KJV again this week.**

The word is packed with supernatural power when we believe it and declare it!

- All this year we will be declaring our theme: “Great Expectation Gets Great Results!”

The power of *expectation* can motivate us to think, speak, and act in faith every day!

- This expectation is a mission God has given all of us.

***Invite someone in the group to read Philippians 4:11-13KJV:**

“Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content. I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.”

We should be contented no matter what condition or circumstance comes our way.

- It doesn’t make a difference what Satan does.

***Invite someone in the group to read Philippians 4:13 (AMPC):**

“I have strength for all things in Christ Who empowers me [I am ready for anything and equal to anything through Him Who infuses inner strength into me; I am self-sufficient in Christ’s sufficiency].”

God has put us on a mission and that mission is HIS will, and so it should be our will too.

- If we are Christians, then we believe what God says above all else.
- We stand fast in God’s Word.
- We choose His way over every other way that comes our way!

***Lets turn in our bibles to Hebrews 13.**

Nothing deserves more attention or faith than God—choose contentment.

- Being content does *not* mean you give up your goals or dreams because you don’t care about anything.
- Being content is not the same as being passionless!
- Contentment is not laziness or living in apathy.

***Invite someone in the group to read Hebrews 13:5-6:**

“Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.”

Contentment is KNOWING that God is with you in all things.

- He is your Source and your Peace no matter what.

***Group Discussion: How can choosing contentment affect your day to day life?**

Whatever is going on is a temporary experience in light of Who God is, who YOU are, and the reality of your eternity.

***Lets turn in our bibles to Romans 8.**

It makes no difference what Satan does.

- He is a defeated foe.

- Acting like a roaring lion won't make him a winner.
- It just keeps reiterating the point that he's a sore loser.

***Invite someone in the group to read Romans 8:37-39 KJV:**

"Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

In Christ, we gain strength for impossible situations.

- In Christ, we rest and find contentment, no matter what.

Whatever is happening here on earth, whether good or not so good, is temporary.

- It's what we *do* here each day that is creating *eternal* memories.

***Lets turn in our bibles to Galatians 6:9.**

Decide that you're going to make some faith memories today.

- Ones you'll remember with joy when you cross Heaven's gates.

***Group Discussion: Do you have a great expectation for faith memories? What great results do you expect?**

Decide that you are not going to buckle to time or faint in weariness.

***Invite someone in the group to read Galatians 6:9:**

"And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not."

Instead of getting weary, decide that you are going to STICK!

- Stick to believing what God said and being content that He has your back.

Your life is not your own, but you get the adventure of living it!

- No matter what, you win!
- Remind yourself of just WHO you serve.
- Remind yourself of what Christ did for you on the cross.

***Group Discussion: How does knowing that God has your back change the way you respond to challenges of life?**

As God's children, we do *not* believe this world's words over our Father's eternal Word.

- We don't live by changing emotional tides or fleeting whims.
- We give our attention and faith to what matters, not just today but eternally.

We choose contentment over anxiety because we don't live by fear.

- We live by our faith in the Son of God, Who died for us and made us righteous.
- We choose faith because we know in Christ we can do *all* things.

No matter what happens, we have access to a limitless supply of strength.

- Choose contentment.

Repeat 2 Affirmations this week:

- My faith is in God and in myself, and I refuse to doubt my Father. I draw close to Him and His grace comes in to help me! My faith shows me how to appropriate His help every day.
- So, I choose contentment over anxiety and trust over fear. God is my Source and my Peace, no matter what. I have a living Word, living grace, and living power inside of me!

Close in Prayer

I Can Do ALL Things Through Christ Who Gives Me STRENGTH!

4th Week April 2020 Group Bible Study Outline

Open Devotional Time in Prayer (led by Group Leader or someone they choose).

***Instruct the group to turn to Philippians 4:13 KJV.**

And, all this month, we have been releasing the power of God's Word by declaring it.

***Invite someone in the group to read Philippians 4:13 KJV:**

"I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."

Each time you say God's Word with your mouth and believe it in your heart, it releases God's power and strength to do *anything* and *everything*.

- He is with you and never leaves you or forsakes you.
- So, you're not alone when you set your expectation and aim for your best.

You have a living word, living faith, living grace, and living power inside of you.

***Instruct the group to turn to 1 John 4:4.**

You can release God's power when you talk to yourself and say good things like:

- "I will complete my destiny, reach my destination, and *all* my great expectations will bring about great results.
- I'm bound for Heaven, but Jesus is with me right here on earth, too. I'm never alone!
- I'm getting stronger in Christ today than I was yesterday. I'm growing, I'm learning, and I'm speaking God's Word and believing for great results in this life.

***Invite someone in the group to read 1 John 4:4 (KJV):**

"Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is He that is in you, than he that is in the world."

Courage comes when you know and confess this verse for yourself:

- "Greater is He that is in me, than he that is in the world!"

Christ in you, the hope of glory, will only cause you to become the best version of yourself.

- Christ will give you the strength to live as the purest version of yourself.
- Without the baggage of fear, you'll be able to extend faith and walk in love.
- Without the baggage of guilt or shame, you'll be able to live each day with such freedom.

Everything Christ died to give us and free us from makes life better.

- We've already won and each of us has a personality that was created by God on purpose.
- Each of us is like a facet of His personality walking this earth.

***Group Discussion: What facet of God's personality would you like to reflect to the earth?**

You can scatter the seeds of quiet exhortation in your own way and let your faith rise.

- Know that your personality is wonderful and perfectly suited to your destiny.
- So, don't talk badly about yourself.

Have great expectations in God and yourself.

- If you do, you're going to find that "due season" shortens up!
- The progress and the results of your great expectation will come quicker, or the waiting time will be easier, because you'll have no anxiety surrounding your goals.
- You'll have contentment; strength of heart knowing that ALL things are coming to pass.

When you start living like that (knowing you CAN do all things through Christ) and speaking it, you just might hear the Holy Spirit inside of you say, “Amen to that!”

- You can stir up the gift of God, choose faith over doubt, and activate more *courage*.
- That’s when your expectation becomes like a force unto itself.
- It will motivate you to stand taller, feel more confident, and inspired to continue speaking the truth of the Word.
- You will rise above earthly things when you set your mind in line with your spirit instead of just your natural eyes.

Every word you speak that lines up with God’s Word is a seed you sow with your mouth.

- When you put more Word-seed into the ground, more of what the Word brings is what’s going to spring up in your life.
- That’s more peace, joy, power, blessings, and opportunities. In other words, RESULTS!

Most people do not realize that Satan is a flesh devil.

- Do you know that you can say something he just can’t believe?
- You have a living Word, living faith, living grace, and living power inside of you.

Remember 1 John 4:4, “*Greater is He that is in you, than he that is in the world.*”

- Focus on that word “*greater*” because with Christ, that’s what you are!
- Focus on *Who* is *inside* of you and His greater power, more than anything *outside* of you.
- When you do, you’ll be able to produce greater expectations which lead to greater results.

You can’t generate your own spiritual power but, through Christ, you are given power as you need it and as you stay in touch with Him.

- Spiritual power is not generated within you, but it is *given* to you by staying in touch with Christ in you (the hope of Glory).

The blindest believer is the one who has no use for their faith.

- Your faith was not given to you to be stagnant. Faith is alive, and so are you.
- Never exclude God from your thoughts. Stay close to His truth, practice it, and live by it.

Just accept that you can’t generate spiritual power on your own.

- Just like faith is something you receive as you hear the Word, spiritual power is something you receive as you stay in touch with Christ—lean on Him and receive His strength moment by moment.

If you want to do all the things God has put on your heart, stay close to the One Who can give you the strength you need to accomplish those things.

- So, don’t let yourself or your faith be stagnant.
- Let it be a joy to stay close to Christ every single day everywhere you go.

Every day grace comes in to help us, and faith shows us how to appropriate that help.

- We are never alone. Every life matters to God.

Always have great expectation, over everything you do and every seed you sow.

- Results are your destiny, and the Lord is with you every step of the way.

Repeat 2 Affirmations this week:

- Every word I speak is a seed I’m sowing—I speak well and I live well. Everything here is temporary, but I’m making eternal memories with my faith, love, grace, and joy. I’m eternal!

- Greater is He that is in me than he that is in the world—I'm completing my destiny and reaching my destination. All my great expectations get great results because the Lord is with me!

Close in Prayer