Living Out the Fullness of Christ

Day One — Read Ephesians 1:3-10, 15-23

In these passages underline every time the phrase 'in Christ' is used. Reflect and journal what each specific instance means to you. How can the Holy Spirit apply these life-altering realities to your life this week?

Pray and thank God for His abundant provision in Christ. Ask Him to make these 'in Christ' promises a reality in your relationships, in your workplace, and at home.

Day Two - Read Galatians 5:16-26, Romans 8:1-17

What would you say is the overarching compass of your life? Would you say your life more regularly points to the Spirit or the flesh? How can you begin to walk in the Spirit more faithfully this week? Are there areas in your life that need to be repented of? Surrendered?

Pray and thank God for His powerful grace. Ask Him to fill you with His Spirit so that you can live out of Christ's fullness and not your own abilities.

Day Three — Read Matthew 5:3-16, 2 Corinthians 5:14-21

How does Jesus define the 'blessed life'? Does this differ from how you often think of success? What does being salt and light look like for you this week? What does being an ambassador of Christ mean to you?

Pray and thank God for including YOU in His great mission to redeem the world. Ask Him for eyes to see and a heart that jumps at the opportunities to be His ambassador this week. Ask for boldness to model and speak the good news to someone this week. New Life Lessons February 21 & 22, 2015 Pastor Chad Bohi

"But What We Do Have...JESUS" Great 'Buts' of the Bible 2 #2

Acts 3:1-10

Acts 3:1–10¹ One day Peter and John were going up to the temple at the time of prayer-at three in the afternoon. ² Now a man who was lame from birth was being carried to the temple gate called **Beautiful**, where he was put every day to beg from those going into the temple courts. ³ When he saw Peter and John about to enter, he asked them for money. ⁴ Peter looked straight at him, as did John. Then Peter said, "Look at us!" ⁵ So the man gave them his attention, expecting to get something from them. ⁶ Then Peter said, "Silver or gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk." 7 Taking him by the right hand, he helped him up, and instantly the man's feet and ankles became strong.⁸ He jumped to his feet and began to walk. Then he went with them into the temple courts, walking and jumping, and praising God. 9 When all the people saw him walking and praising God, ¹⁰ they recognized him as the same man who used to sit begging at the temple gate called Beautiful, and they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him.

People are **BOUND**

Psalm 51:5 (NIV)—Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me. Romans 3:23, John 8:34, 1 John 5:19

People are **BROKEN**

Jeremiah 2:13 (NIV)—"My people have committed two sins: They have forsaken me, the spring of living water, and have dug their own cisterns, broken cisterns that cannot hold water.

Hosea 6:7, Psalm 51:16-17

People are **BEAUTIFUL**

Genesis 1:27 (NIV)—So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. John 3:16-17, 2 Corinthians 5:16

People are looking for **EMPATHY**

Hebrews 4:14–16 (NIV)¹⁴ Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. ¹⁵ For we do not have a high priest who is unable to **empathize** with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin. ¹⁶ Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need. 2 Corinthians 1:3-4

People are looking for **ENCOURAGEMENT**

Romans 15:4–6 (NIV) ⁴ For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope.

<u>**1** Corinthians 14:1, 3</u> (NIV)¹ Follow the way of love and eagerly desire gifts of the Spirit, especially prophecy...³ But the one who prophesies speaks to people for their strengthening, encouraging and comfort.

People are looking for life-changing ENCOUNTERS

<u>Acts 3:6–7</u> (NIV) ⁶ Then Peter said, "Silver or gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk." ⁷ Taking him by the right hand, he helped him up, and instantly the man's feet and ankles became strong.

Acts 3:12 (NIV)—When Peter saw this, he said to them: "Fellow Israelites, why does this surprise you? Why do you stare at us as if by our own power or godliness we had made this man walk? Zechariah 4:6

In Christ we find FORGIVENESS

Acts 3:19–20 (NIV) ¹⁹ Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord, ²⁰ and that he may send the Messiah, who has been appointed for you—even Jesus.

Acts 13:38–39 (NIV) ³⁸ "Therefore, my friends, I want you to know that through Jesus the forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you. ³⁹ Through him everyone who believes is set free from every sin... Psalm 130:3-4, 1 John 1:9, Ephesians 1:7-8, James 5:16

In Christ we find FREEDOM

Luke 4:18–19 (NIV) ¹⁸ "The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, ¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." 1 John 3:8, 2 Corinthians 3:17

John 8:31–32, 36 (ESV) ³¹ …"If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, ³² and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." ³⁶ So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed. Galatians 5:1, Ephesians 3:12

<u>Acts 26:17–18</u> (NIV) ¹⁷ ... I am sending you to them ¹⁸ to open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.'

In Christ we find FULLNESS

Acts 3:16 (NIV)—By faith in the name of Jesus, this man whom you see and know was made strong. It is Jesus' name and the faith that comes through him that has completely healed him, as you can all see. Acts 4:10-12

Colossians 2:9–10 (NIV) ⁹ For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form, ¹⁰ and in Christ you have been brought to fullness. He is the head over every power and authority.

Romans 8:31–32 (NIV) ³¹ What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³² He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? Ephesians 1:3, 2 Corinthians 1:20-22, 1 John 2:6

Acts 3:6 (NIV)BUT what I do have I give you... Matthew 10:7-8