

SRMBC FAMILY BIBLE STUDY

Join Us For A 5 – Week Bible Study Based On The Movie:

OVERCOMER

WHAT DO YOU ALLOW TO DEFINE YOU?



**SOLID ROCK MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
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HARRISBURG PA 17111**

OVERCOMER

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Study Schedule October 2019

Date	Session Title
10/2/2019	Who are You?
10/9/2019	You Are Broken
10/16/2019	You Are Chosen
10/23/2019	You Surrender
10/30/2019	You Declare

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Session 3: You Declare



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Questions

- How is Hannah different? What changed?
- What spiritual truth revealed by Hannah in this segment do you resonate with most?
- What do you think Christians are still wrestling with in regard to identity?

Movie Clip: "You Declare"

The Hannah we see in this week's clip is different from the young girl we encountered two weeks ago.

Armed with faith in Christ, Hannah is certain of her worth because her identity is no longer rooted in the father who deserted her, the asthma that plagued her, the sin that followed her, or the sport that defined her.

She now boldly declares her relationship with Christ and her citizenship in heaven. Her identity is wrapped up in Jesus.

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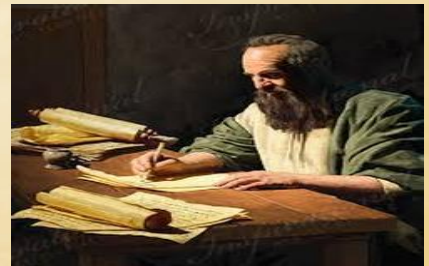
WHAT DO YOU ALLOW TO DEFINE YOU?

Saul/The Apostle Paul

- Paul was originally called Saul. He was born in Tarsus in Cilicia around AD 1–5.
- At an early age Saul was sent to Palestine to learn from a rabbi named Gamaliel, becoming a lawyer/pharisee, a member of the Sanhedrin.
- Zealous for his faith, Saul's religious extremism led him to persecute the early church and followers of Jesus.
- Paul's met the Risen Christ on the Damascus road and was radically changed from a persecutor to a preacher of the Gospel.
- Paul became an Apostle – planting and instructing the early church. Paul's writings make up over half of the NT.
- According to church tradition, Paul died a martyr's death in the mid-to-late AD 60s in Rome.



Saul's Damascus Road Conversion



The Apostle Paul Writing Epistles/Scripture

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Philippians 3:3 – 8 (NKJV)

3 For we are the circumcision, who worship God in the Spirit, rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh,

4 though I also might have confidence in the flesh. If anyone else thinks he may have confidence in the flesh, I more so:

5 circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of the Hebrews; concerning the law, a Pharisee;

6 concerning zeal, persecuting the church; concerning the righteousness which is in the law, blameless.

7 But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ.

8 Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ.

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WHAT DO YOU ALLOW TO DEFINE YOU?

Philippians 3:9 – 14 (NKJV)

9 and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which is from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith;

10 that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death,

11 if, by any means, I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.

12 Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me.

13 Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead,

14 I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

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WHAT DO YOU ALLOW TO DEFINE YOU?

1. Name the reasons Paul considered himself the ideal Jewish leader in verses 4-6

Reasons	Remarks
Confidence in the Flesh – Self Confidence	Confidence in the flesh.... I more so – More confident than anyone else around (“I am all that – and you’re not!”)
Obedience In the Flesh - Self – Religious	Circumcised on the 8 th day – (“Sprinkled” as a baby; I was born “saved”)
Dependence in the Flesh - Self Reliance	Family Background – Stock of Israel, the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews (Trump, Biden...) My Title – A Pharisee
Exuberance of the Flesh - Self Righteousness	Zeal/Passion – Even judging the church because my walk is “perfect” (especially when compared with the rest of you)

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2. Describe Paul's new goals in life, outlined in verses 7-14

- To renounce his old ways of living and thinking – for the new life and knowledge of Christ.
- To have a greater experience and appreciation for the righteousness provided and imputed on my behalf via faith Jesus Christ.
- To Know Christ more and more and to be imbued with His Resurrection Power.
- To join Him in the sacrificial life and suffering for the sake of the Gospel.
- To press and to give my all in the pursuit of the life and eternal rewards Christ gave His life for me to obtain.
- To not get stuck over the guilt and shame (or earthly success/pleasures of the past) but to strive for better eternal goals.
- To Fulfill my calling (what God has created and gifted me to be and do) – to hear Jesus say, "Well Done, good and faithful servant!").

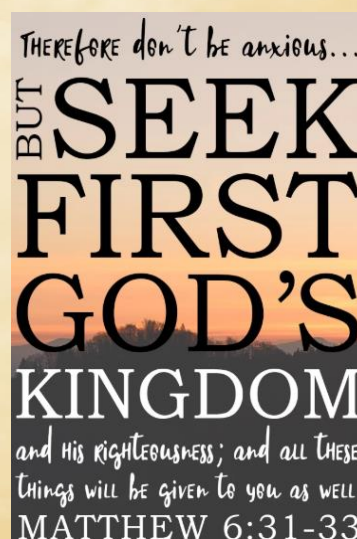


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3. What are some good, even God-honoring pursuits people find their identities in?

- Missionary/Church Work – Some people give their all to serve in other Countries/Places in order to feel good about themselves. They secretly love the accolades and admiration people give.
- Job/Occupation – Some find their identity in the Work that they do. While it is God-honoring to work to earn a living and provide for our families, jobs cannot be our identity.
- Home/Possessions – It is good to have a nice house, home car etc. Some people put too much of their identity in the things they have rather than their position/possession in Christ (She-Shed...)
- Appearance - Looking good is important and even Godly - We can spend too much time on the outside – instead of our identity on the inside.

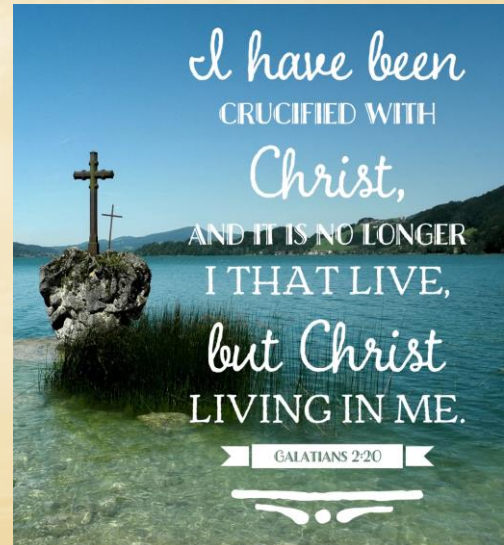


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4. What labels are used in the church to elevate people over simply being crucified with Christ?

- **Church Titles** – Apostle, Bishop, Prophet, Reverend, Most- Right - etc.
- **Spiritual Titles** – Anointed, Spirit-Filled, Psalmist, Visionary, Mand – of God
- **Organizational Titles** - Board President, Charter Member of the Church, Church Mother
- **Relational Titles** - First lady, Son/Daughter In the Ministry, Preacher's Kid (PK)



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Acts 28:30 – 31 (NKJV)

30 Then Paul dwelt two whole years in his own rented house, and received all who came to him,

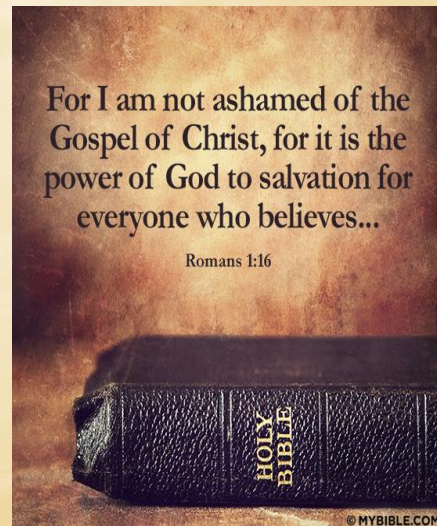
31 preaching the kingdom of God and teaching the things which concern the Lord Jesus Christ with all confidence, no one forbidding him.

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5. What do you think it means to live a life that declares faith “with all boldness”?

- To live with a supreme confidence in the Power, Plans and Purpose of God in the Gospel of Christ.
- To know that all things in my life – good or bad will work together for my good and God’s Glory.
- To be a demonstration of Holy Spirit living in me that people can see Jesus in my everyday activities.
- To be ready at a moment’s notice to effectively present the Gospel to anyone and everyone the Lord brings across my path.



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6. What does it mean to have no hindrance?

- Having God’s power in me that overrides my fears and shortcomings.
- To have the peace of knowing that my past failures and my eternal future is covered.
- To know that even under the worst of Satan’s attacks, they will not prevail and in the Gospel, I/we will always be victorious.
- Through fervent prayer God’s power and provision are always readily available.



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2 Corinthians 12:8-10 (NKJV)

8 Concerning this thing I pleaded with the Lord three times that it might depart from me.

9 And He said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

10 Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ’s sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

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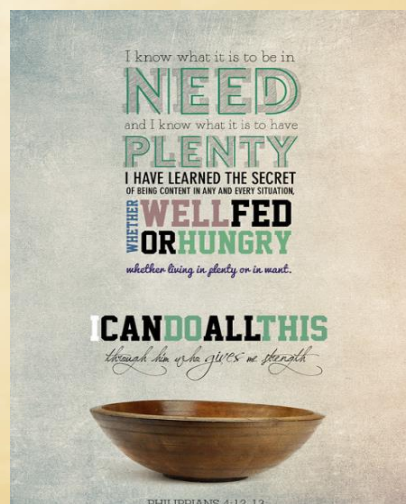
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7. Who’s more inspiring to you—believers fervently following Jesus with no scars or marks of their trials or believers with deep wounds who remain radically faithful?

- **Believers no scars or marks:** - Sometimes it might be harder to continue in fervent service to the Lord when everything is easy and comfortable. Persevering with Christ in easy times is commendable.
- **Believers with deep wounds:** - Those who suffer through trial and persecutions are particularly commendable. Believers who remain faithful through suffering are examples to rest of the Church.

I don’t think that there are any Christians that are without scars or marks from trials as they are walking with Christ. As we follow Christ there is a Cross that each of us has to bear.

...In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.” (John 16:33)

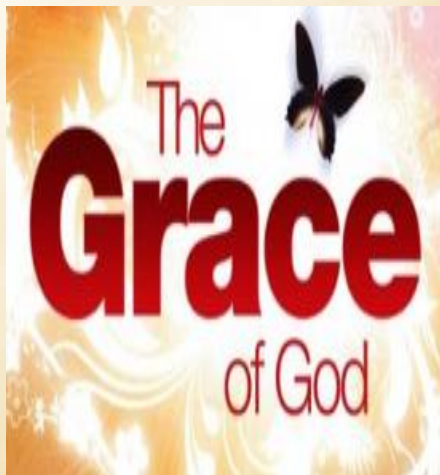


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8. Highlight each word that conveys hardship. What is relationship and purpose of God's grace in our times of hardship?

- (This) Thing
- Pleaded
- Weakness
- Infirmities
- Reproaches
- Needs
- Persecutions
- Distresses



- The greater the trial/hardship – the more Grace God provides.
- The greater gift/revelation a person is given, the greater the hardships – but God provides more Grace.
- God's Grace helps us to depend totally on the Lord for the work of ministry assigned to us.
- God's grace helps us put our trials and hardships in the proper perspectives.

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Glorious Father, I thank You for revealing Yourself to me by Your Amazing Grace. I ask Your forgiveness Lord God, for my sins and shortcomings against You and others.

I thank You for the precious gift of eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord.

Father, I re-dedicate my life to You, to the Gospel and to the Church of Jesus Christ, Your Son. Empower me with Your Holy Spirit To Live for You.

I pray this in the name of Jesus. Amen.