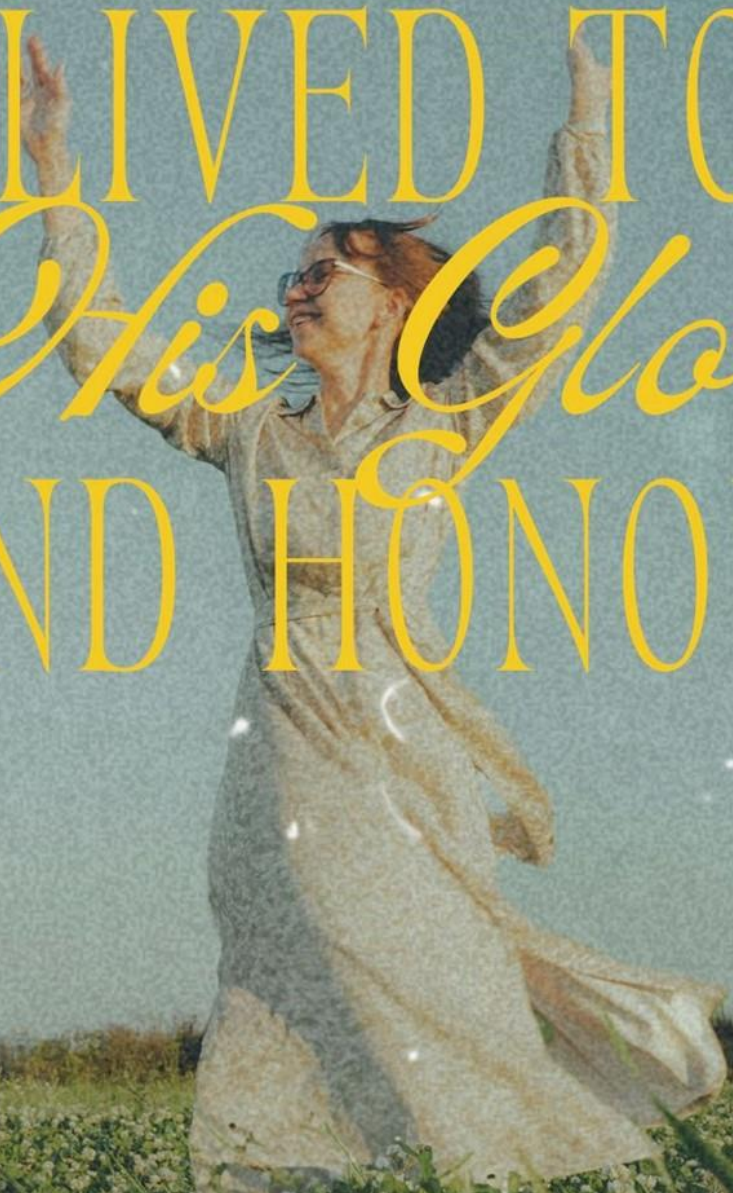


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magazine
September '24

A LIFE
LIVED TO
His Glory
AND HONOUR



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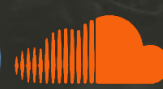
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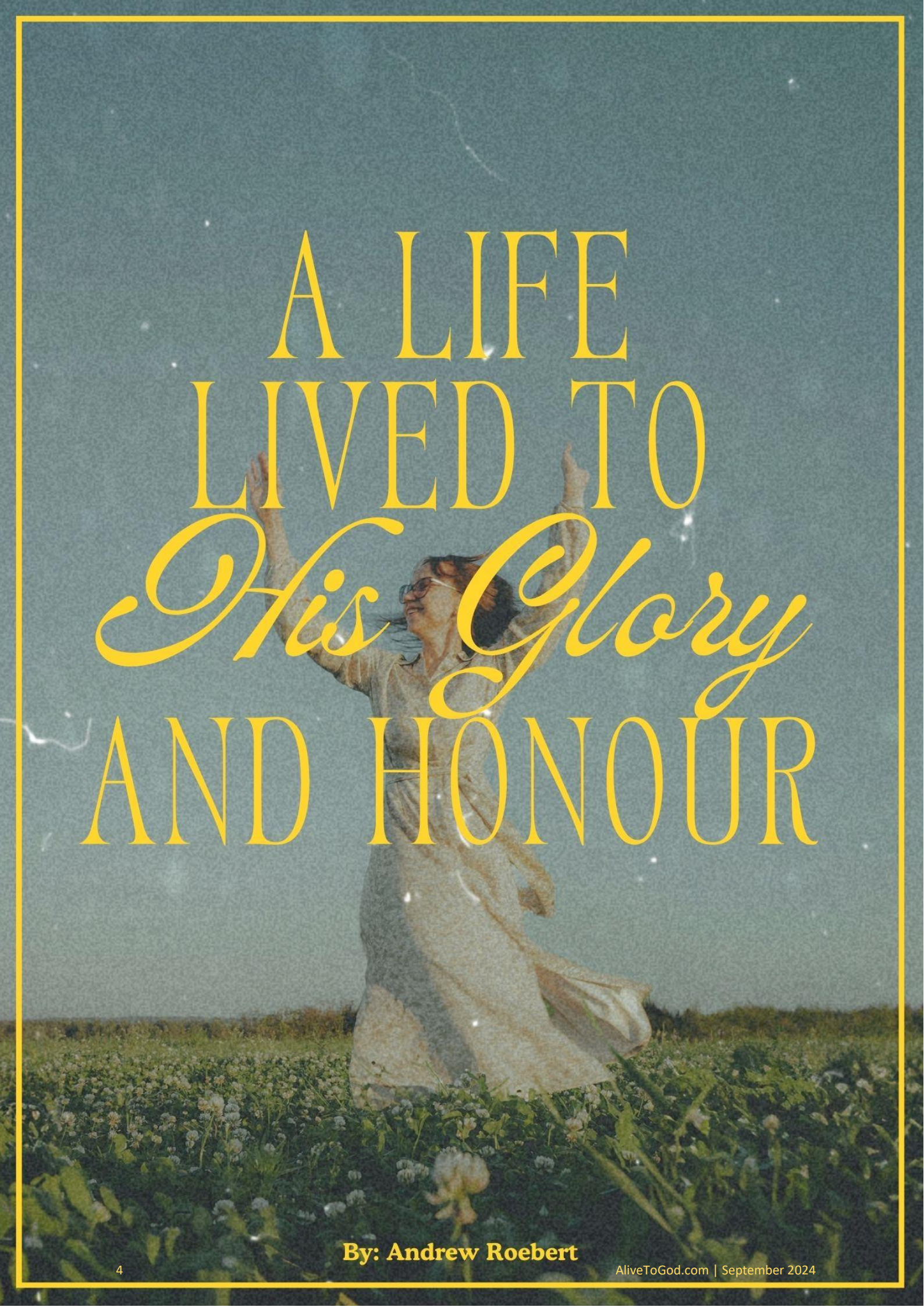
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A woman in a long, flowing white dress stands in a field of white flowers, her arms raised in a gesture of praise or joy. The background is a dark, starry night sky. The text is overlaid in a golden-yellow color.

A LIFE
LIVED TO
His Glory
AND HONOUR

By: Andrew Roebert

SCRIPTURE READING:

Exodus 25:8-9

'Have the people build Me a holy sanctuary so I can live among them. You must build this Tabernacle and its furnishings exactly according to the pattern I will show you.' (NLT)

GOD HAS A PLAN AND A PURPOSE FOR YOU

In this story we see how God had a plan to build a tabernacle, or a sanctuary. The purpose was so that He could have a place where He could meet with His people and live with them. It's always been God's plan to engage with us and for us to know and experience His presence. But the people had a role to play in this plan – they had to build this place of meeting. They had to bring what they had and put it towards making the plan a possibility.

Exodus 25:8

'Have the people build Me a holy sanctuary...'

Part of God's plan and purpose for your life is for you to make space for Him in your life. It is something you have to actively work on and deliberately pursue. He wants you to actively pursue Him so that you can experience Him for yourself. The truth is that God wants to be with you. He wants to make His dwelling (live among) with you.

Exodus 25:8

'...so I can live among them.'

God has a plan to use your life and to involve you in the process.

Psalm 90:1

‘Lord, You have been our dwelling place throughout all generations.’

WE NEED TO GET BUSY MAKING ROOM FOR GOD

In this story the people were on a journey and that journey took them through a wilderness. In this wilderness they had frustrations and spent much of their time going round and round the same mountain. Now the time had come for them to make a priority out of making space for God in their lives. The Lord instructed them to make this space where He could meet with them. In each of our lives we need to make space for more of God in our lives. We tend to get so busy and distracted that we don't end up spending time with God or focusing on the Lord. We need to restructure our lives so that we make room for Him in our lives, and He can become the priority He should be. Even if our journey is long and frustrating and we find ourselves wandering in the wilderness of life, we can redeem the time by making time for God. Let us make those quality decisions and set aside time and effort to make room for God in our lives.



GOD PROVIDES FOR WHAT HE HAS ASKED US TO DO

When God told them to build the sanctuary, He told everyone to bring what they had available. They brought what they had, and it was exactly what was needed to build the Tabernacle. God provided them with what they needed so that they could do what was requested in order to experience Him and His presence in their lives. God provides for what He wants to do and for what He wants to see happen. If they had decided that they wanted to do more or include more than what He had requested, they would have had to find it themselves. This is often where we make our mistake. Work with what God has given you, use the time you have and follow the passion He has placed in your heart for Him. Don't get fancy and don't get distracted by waiting for perfect conditions before you pursue Him. Take what you have, give Him your heart and He will work with what you have offered and begin to make Himself a living reality to you.

DO EXACTLY AS HE SHOWS YOU TO AVOID ANXIETY

Following God involves doing what He tells us to do and obeying His instructions.


Exodus 25:9

'You must build this Tabernacle and its furnishings exactly according to the pattern I will show you.'

Often when we follow our own ideas or do what seems good to us, we take on burdens and responsibilities that God did not intend for us to carry. When we think we can do it (life) on our own or on our own terms we bring anxiety into our lives. When we insist on doing it our way, we have to carry something that we were never meant to carry. Sometimes we take on so many unnecessary things that the load becomes too much to carry. How much better things could be if we just did what He told us to do and learnt to be content with God's pattern and program. He wants to meet with you and show you which way to go.

Exodus 25:22

'I will meet with you and give you all My commands...'



IN THE PROCESS GOD
WANTS TO WORK IN
OUR LIVES

Your life is important to God. He loves you just the way you are but loves you too much to leave you just the way you are. He wants each one of us to learn from Him and in the process our very natures can be changed, and we can become more like Him.

Romans 8:28

'And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to His purpose for them.'

This is one of the greatest joys we can know in life, the joy of knowing that we are called for His purposes and plans. In my years of being in the ministry, I have discovered that I am at my happiest and at my most fulfilled when I am doing what God destined, called and purposed for me to do. When I take a detour along the road of my own making, I find myself to be anxious and troubled. This is because I need to get back to the main thing and that is loving and serving God and seeking His presence in my life daily. At the end of the day God is particularly concerned about us as individuals and He wants to see His nature reflected in our character because of our interaction and relationship with Him.

ASK HIM TO LEAD YOU DAY BY DAY

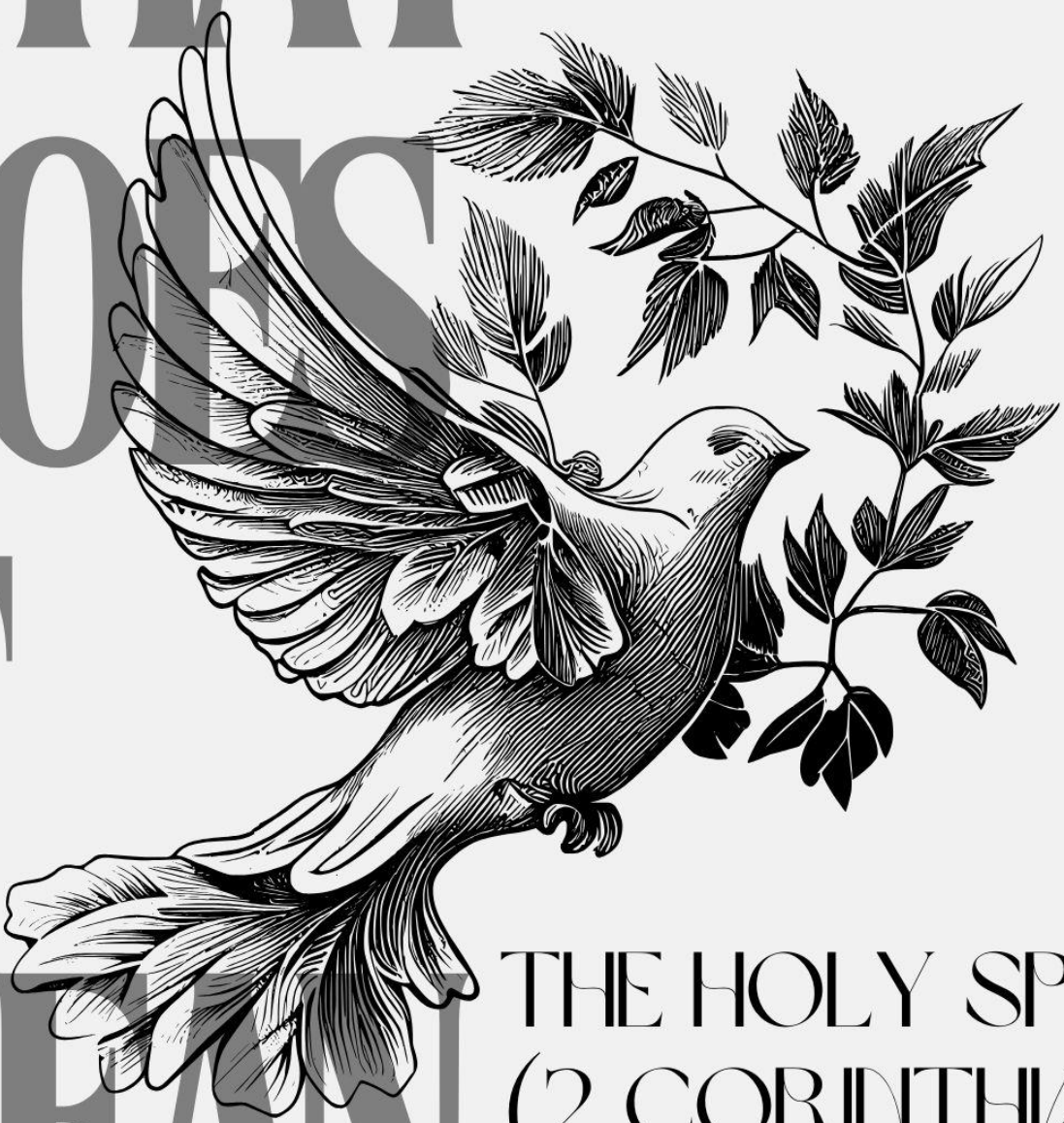
A life lived to His glory and honour is a life that is determined to pursue Him and to do what He says we should do. Our hearts should be open and yield to His leading in our lives. Often He will lead us step by step and day by day. We may not always see the big picture, but as we do what honours Him in each small decision of the day, we will find we have made progress on the path He has for us. Let us stay connected to God. Let us do what He shows us to do. Let us not do anything that we know He would not have us do. Let us follow His example and let us be changed to look more like Him, do more of what He would do and live a life that pleases Him. Then our lives will become a living tabernacle, a living sanctuary where we can experience and enjoy His presence. And in that place we will find His presence and experience His glory like we have not known it before.

2 Corinthians 3:18

'So all of us who have had that veil removed can see and reflect the glory of the Lord. And the Lord – Who is the Spirit – makes us more and more like Him as we are changed into His glorious image.'

Ask Him to lead you day by day and step by step and live life to His glory and honour.

TO HAVE THE COMMUNION OF



BY:GOTQUESTIONS.ORG

THE HOLY SPIRIT (2 CORINTHIANS 13:14)?

In 2 Corinthians, the apostle Paul emphasizes the importance of restoring relationships with other believers and preserving unity in the church. Therefore, it is fitting that he concludes his letter with this final benediction: “The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all” (2 Corinthians 13:11–14, NKJV).

Second Corinthians 13:14 is referred to as “the benediction of the Trinity” by Bible scholar Warren Wiersbe. Commenting on the passage, he writes, “The ‘grace of our Lord Jesus Christ’ takes us back to Bethlehem, where He became poor for us (2 Cor. 8:9); ‘the love of God’ takes us to Calvary, where God the Father gave His Son; and ‘the communion of the Holy Spirit’ takes us to Pentecost, where the Spirit baptized all believers into the body of Christ” (Wiersbe’s Expository Outlines on the New Testament, Victor Books, 1992, p. 512). These three elements—grace, love, and communion—are vital to the spiritual well-being of the church.

Koinōnia is the original Greek word translated as “communion” in 2 Corinthians 13:14 (NKJV, KJV). It’s a rich and multifaceted word, meaning “participation fellowship — the act of sharing in the activities or privileges of an intimate association or group; especially used of marriage and churches” (Lexham Research Lexicon of the Greek New Testament). The communion of the Spirit goes beyond mere participation to the deep, intimate, interconnected sense of community that is a quality of our relationship with the Holy Spirit. Other Bible translations of 2 Corinthians 13:14 use the phrase fellowship of the Holy Spirit (ESV, NIV, NLT).

Paul makes a similar appeal to the Philippians, reminding them that our union with Christ calls us to live together humbly as one body joined in the communion of the Holy Spirit: “Is there any encouragement from belonging to Christ? Any comfort from his love? Any fellowship together in the Spirit? Are your hearts tender and compassionate? Then make me truly happy by agreeing wholeheartedly with each other, loving one another, and working together with one mind and purpose” (Philippians 2:1–2, NLT).

nisi
nec
non neque
auctor non turpis at, auctor hen
Vivamus pelientesque vel ex eu gravia
turpis. Quisque hendrerit ante
tempus. Cras gravida metus risus,
consectetur. Donec diam velit, viver
auctor quam mi sit amet
amet, auctor quis erat.
aliquid quis ac tellus. Ut euismod
interdum nunc.



At salvation, every Christian receives the Holy Spirit. The Spirit enters us and enables us to commune with the Father. The Holy Spirit also empowers us in our daily walk of faith. God comes to live in us and respond to others through us by the Spirit's indwelling power. Likewise, the communion of the Holy Spirit permits mutual participation and acceptance among the members of Christ's body. We find common ground, shared objectives, and reciprocal concerns with people who are different but united in one family of God (Ephesians 2:18-19).



True Christian fellowship is the Holy Spirit's gift to the church (John 14:16-17). The church is the body of Christ on earth. It does not consist of a building or a denomination but is a union of redeemed individuals who participate in a united life of fellowship (1 Corinthians 10:16-17; 12:27; Ephesians 5:23; Colossians 1:24). The communion of the Holy Spirit makes us—

the collective body of believers—all part of the same body. This body is made up of many parts, each belonging to the other (Romans 12:5; 1 Corinthians 12:20; Ephesians 4:13, 25). We are all one in Jesus Christ (Galatians 3:28; 1 Corinthians 6:15).

As members of the same body, we are not just recipients of the communion of the Holy Spirit, but God also calls us to live out its implications. We are to live in love, harmony, humility, and service to one another (John 13:35; 1 Peter 3:8; 4:8; Romans 12:16; Ephesians 2:21-22; 4:2-3). This fellowship of the Holy Spirit is a transformative force, producing sanctification (Romans 15:16; 1 Corinthians 6:11; 2 Corinthians 3:18; 1 Peter 1:2) and drawing us into an ever-deepening love relationship with God and our brothers and sisters in Christ (1 John 4:12).



WHAT DOES

that whatsoever
is born of God
overcomes
the world
(1 John 5:4)?

BY: GOTQUESTIONS.ORG

TIME



In 1 John 5:1–12, the apostle John discusses the victory of the Christian faith. Genuine Christians believe Jesus Christ is the incarnate Son of God and Saviour of the world, and they demonstrate that faith through loving God the Father and obeying His commands. Such faith holds a special reward, which is victory over the world: “For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith” (verse 4, NKJV).

Being “born of God” literally means “to be fathered of God.” Redeemed, “born of God” believers have the divine nature within them through the indwelling Holy Spirit (John 3:5–8). Those who put their faith in Jesus Christ “become children of God—children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband’s will, but born of God” (John 1:12–13)

The verb translated as “overcomes” in 1 John 5:4 is a favourite of John’s (see 1 John 2:13–14; Revelation 2:7, 11, 17, 26; 3:5, 12, 21). It refers to winning a victory over something or someone, as in a contest or military conflict. Christians are overcomers not because of any particular virtue of their own but because they are born of God, having the Spirit of Christ living inside them. This indwelling spiritual source is greater than any power in this world (1 John 4:4).

WHAT

There are different types of conflicts in the Christian life that believers overcome. "The world" here in 1 John 5:4 refers explicitly to the worldly system, comprised of those living in sin and rebellion against God and ruled by satanic powers of darkness (see John 3:19-20; Galatians 1:4; 1 John 2:15-16).

Christians are engaged in a real battle against the devil and his spiritual forces. Believers are "not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places" (Ephesians 6:12, NLT; see also 1 Thessalonians 2:18; 1 Peter 5:8-9). Jesus Christ, through His death on the cross, disarmed these spiritual forces and gave us victory over them (Colossians 2:15). Jesus broke the devil's powerful death grip upon us (John 11:25-26; Hebrews 2:14; 1 Corinthians 15:22-23, 54-57).

THE

Nevertheless, in Ephesians 6:11–17, the apostle Paul teaches believers that they must continue to overcome the world through prayer and spiritual warfare, staying alert and on guard against surprise attacks from the devil: “Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes” (verse 11; see also 1 Peter 5:8–9).

Overcoming “the world” also refers to the believer’s victory over sin: “No one who is born of God will continue to sin, because God’s seed remains in them; they cannot go on sinning, because they have been born of God” (1 John 3:9; see also 1 John 5:18; Romans 6:11–14; 7:24–25). John isn’t saying we will never sin again as Christians (see 1 John 1:8, 10). Instead, he is encouraging a lifestyle of careful, consistent resistance to sin (Acts 20:28; 1 Corinthians 15:34; 1 Peter 2:11; Hebrews 3:13; James 1:21) so that, when we fall short, we humbly confess our sins and receive His cleansing forgiveness (1 John 1:9). When we fail, we don’t give up. When we fall, we stand back up, firm in our confession of faith until the end (1 Corinthians 16:13; Galatians 5:1; 1 Thessalonians 3:8). When we are tempted, we resist the devil (James 4:7; Romans 6:13; Ephesians 4:26–27) and look for the way of escape that God always provides (1 Corinthians 10:13; Hebrews 2:18; 4:15–16). Every day, we depend on God alone for strength, grace, direction, purpose, and wisdom to live for Him and follow His plan (Proverbs 3:5–6; 2 Corinthians 12:9; Titus 2:11–13; 2 Peter 1:3–4).

We who are born of God overcome this world as we endure afflictions, troubles, trials, suffering, and heartache (John 16:33; James 1:12; Romans 8:35–39). Through it all, the ever-present love of Christ sustains us, and “despite all these things, overwhelming victory is ours through Christ, who loved us” (Romans 8:37, NLT). Ultimately, we receive the victor’s crown of eternal life (1 Corinthians 9:25; James 1:12; 2 Timothy 4:7–8; 1 Peter 5:4; Revelation 2:7, 10; 4:4, 10).



BY: GOTQUESTIONS.ORG

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO

RUN

THE

RACE

SET BEFORE US [HEBREWS 12:1]?

“Since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us” (Hebrews 12:1). What kind of race do believers run? Who sets the race parameters? Is it a race we define and purpose for ourselves? The passage in question draws from the rich imagery of the footraces of ancient Israel, Greece, and the amphitheaters of Rome. It was written to encourage and challenge believers to persevere in their faith, especially in the midst of trials and persecution (2 Timothy 2:15; Hebrews 10:36; 12:7).

Athletes in a race were surrounded by rows and rows of spectators, pictured for us as “a great cloud of witnesses.” The “witnesses” of the believers’ race are listed in the previous chapter of Hebrews: the men and women of God whose faithful lives were recorded in the Old Testament. These saints persevered despite unimaginable oppression and cruelty (Hebrews 11:33–38) and were commended for their faithfulness. Whether the saints of Hebrews 11 are actually watching us run our “race” today is doubtful; the point of the passage is that their testimony lives on. Their unyielding faith bears witness to the promises of Jesus Christ, urging us to follow their example and “run with perseverance the race marked out for us” (Hebrews 12:1).

The “race,” then, is the Christian life. It’s a marathon, not a sprint, and we are called to stay the course and remain faithful to the end. Paul used this same imagery near the end of his life: “I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith” (2 Timothy 4:7).





The steadfastness of the Old Testament “witnesses” speaks to believers today of the rewards of staying in the race, of never giving up (1 Corinthians 9:24; Philippians 3:14). A marathon is a strenuous test of fitness and endurance. The race set before us requires faith, stamina, commitment, and discipline in order to live faithfully (1 Corinthians 9:25–26; Philippians 3:12–14; 1 Timothy 6:12).

The race is “set before us”; we did not select the course, for it is God who established it. This race we run for Christ. We stay the course in spite of trials and persecutions (Hebrews 12:4–11). As we run, we must “fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith” (Hebrews 12:2). Because He perfectly finished His race, He is the focus of our lives. We look away from all distractions because He is already at the finish line (Lamentations 3:25; Matthew 6:33; Romans 2:7).

The race demands that we do away with “everything that hinders”—sin and whatever else threatens our relationship with God (Hebrews 12:1). Anything that will slow us down or trip up us must be cast off. The apostle Paul says “to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness” (Ephesians 4:22–24). With the encouragement of those who have gone on before, we rid ourselves of thoughts, attitudes, and habits that impede our progress (Romans 12:2; Titus 3:3; 1 Peter 1:14).

Seeing that the race God set out for us is a lifelong marathon, we must commit ourselves to run to the very end. A daily regimen of prayer, worship, reading God's Word and examining our lives for impediments will help. We will persevere by maintaining a Christlike attitude even in the midst of trials (1 Peter 2:21; 4:1; 1 John 2:6).

RUN

THE

RACE

No matter how long the race may be, we keep our eyes on Jesus, "the champion who initiates and perfects our faith" (Hebrews 12:2, NLT). There is joy awaiting. In the words of songwriters Twila and Starla Paris, "Runner, when the race is won, you will run into His arms."

TIMELESS CHRISTIAN RESOURCES

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FREE DAILY BIBLE VERSE

...founded' be all they that serve
images, that boast themselves
"worship him, all ye gods.
heard, and was glad; and the
rs of Judah rejoiced because
dgments, O LORD.
"Thou, LORD, art high above
earth: "thou art exalted far
l gods.
hat love the LORD, "hate evil:
erveth the souls of his saints;
ereth them out of the hand
cked.
ht is sown for the righteous,
ness for the upright in heart.
rice in the LORD, ye right-
nd give thanks 'at the re-
nce of "his holiness.

PSALM 98

A Psalm.

...unto the LORD a new song:
e hath "done marvellous
is right hand, and his holy
gotten him the victory.
LORD hath made known his
"his righteousness hath
shewed in the sight of the
th remembered his "mercy
ruth toward the house of
the ends of the earth have
salvation of our God.
a joyful noise unto the
the earth): "make a loud
rejoice, and sing praise.
unto the LORD with the
the harp, and the "voice of
strings and sound of cry-
a joyful noise before the
King.
New Testam (1971)
PS 98:1-4

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Trevor & Violet

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BURNING IN YOUR HEART OR SIMPLY WANT TO
OFFER SUPPORT TO OTHERS THROUGH
PRAYER, THIS IS THE PLACE.

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support to others by lifting them up in
prayer. It's as simple as clicking the "I PRAYED
FOR THIS" button, and a notification will be
sent to them, letting them know that
someone is holding them in prayer.

Together, through our collective prayers and
support, we can create a community filled
with warmth, love, and genuine care. Thank
you for being a part of it!



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