



THANKS FOR  
COMING. WE  
WILL START  
SHORTLY  
:)



# SPIRITUAL READINESS

*ARE YOU READY FOR THE MISSION  
FIELD?*

## LIST OF TOPICS


1. ~~What is Discipleship~~
2. ~~What is Missions~~
3. ~~His Mission, not ours~~
4. ~~Discerning God's Will~~
5. ~~Helping the poor~~
6. **Spiritual Readiness**
7. ~~Serving Cross-Culturally~~
8. ~~Relationships and conflicts~~

# LESSON OBJECTIVES

- my circumstances = God's training plan
- Desire to develop myself spiritually

## INTRODUCE YOURSELF

What is one trait that makes a missionary successful?



# 1. WHAT ARE THE SIGNS OF SPIRITUAL READINESS?

# ATTITUDE IN PRAYER

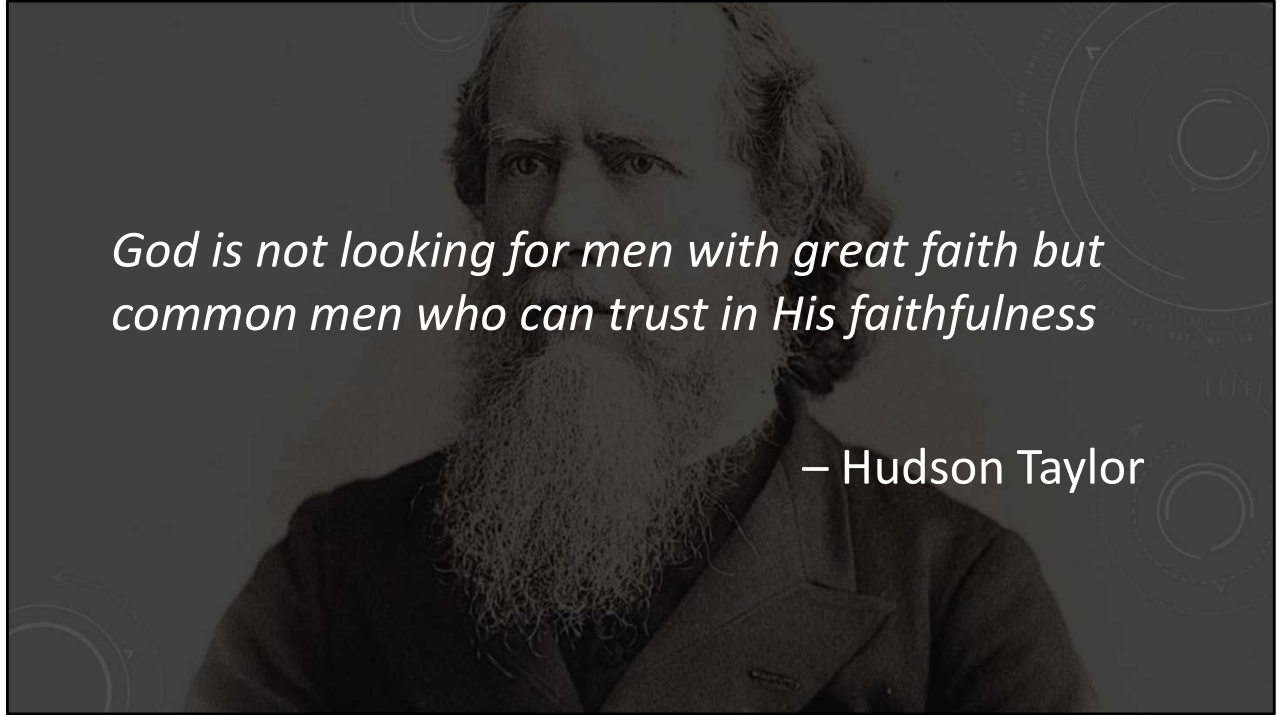
DO YOU PRAY  
LIKE AN  
ATHEIST?

- Babbling with many words
- Repeating phrases
- Not sure if God will answer



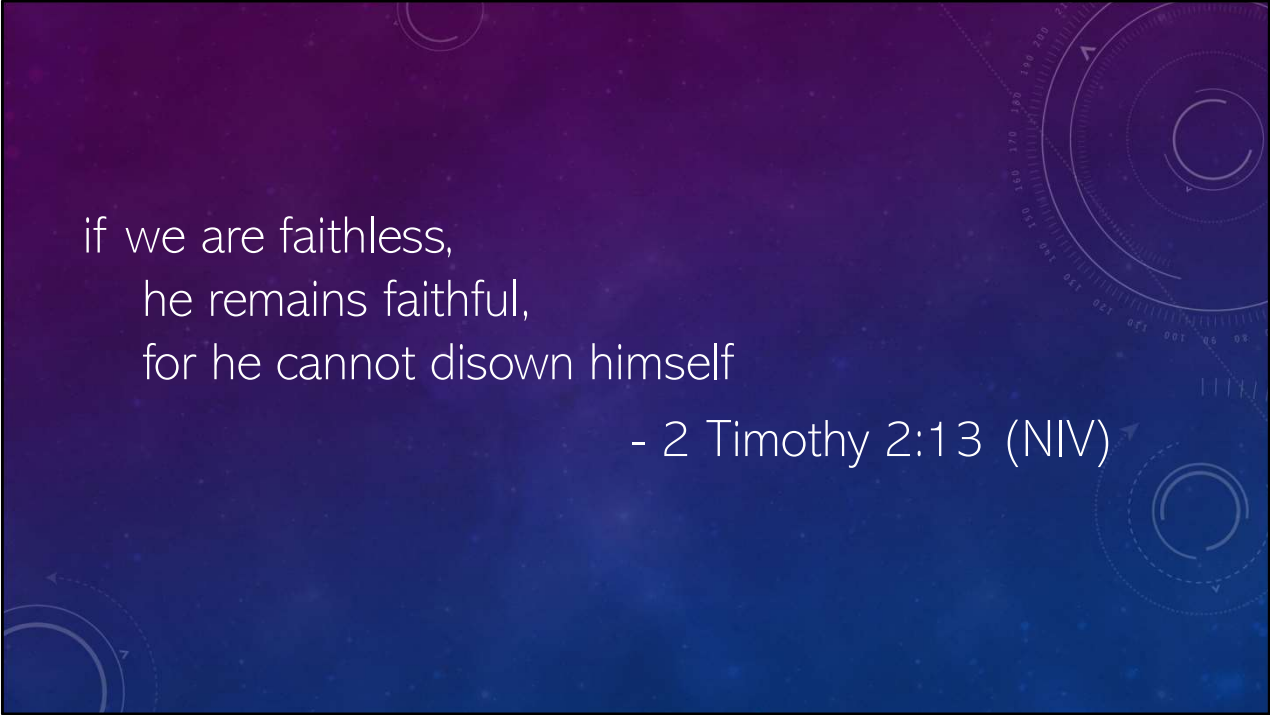


# A GROWING TRUST IN GOD'S FAITHFULNESS



Img source:

<https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/d/d1/HudsonTaylorin1893.jpg/1200px-HudsonTaylorin1893.jpg>



if we are faithless,  
he remains faithful,  
for he cannot disown himself

- 2 Timothy 2:13 (NIV)

## HUDSON TAYLOR AND THE BAG OF RICE



Image source: <https://hokkienharvest.files.wordpress.com/2018/10/download.png?w=685>  
Story source:

<https://hokkienharvest.wordpress.com/2018/10/17/last-bag-of-rice/>

- Takes five months to transfer funds on a ship from London to Shanghai
- Hudson Taylor was running a hospital and it is running low on supplies
- He prayed
- The cook told Hudson that they are running out of rice

What was Taylor's response?

"Then the Lord's time for helping us must be close at hand"

Before the rice was gone, they receive a letter from UK with 50 pounds – worth about 30k

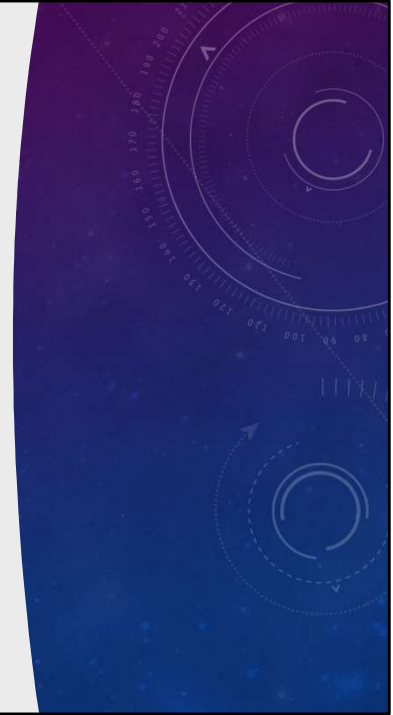
so she said to Abram, "The LORD has kept me from having children. Go, sleep with my slave; perhaps I can build a family through her." Abram agreed to what Sarai said.

- Genesis 16:2 (NIV)



Abraham reasoned that God could even raise the dead, and so in a manner of speaking he did receive Isaac back from death.

– Hebrews 11:9 (NIV)





# HEALTHY LIFESTYLE

## TEMPERATE IN ALL THINGS

No one serving as a soldier gets entangled in civilian affairs, but rather tries to please his commanding officer.

– 2 Timothy 2:4 (NIV)

- Are you spending too much on your hobby in time, thoughts and money?
  - o Video games, K drama, Netflix, sports, food!!
- Do you live within your means?





## 2. HOW DO YOU TRAIN FOR SPIRITUAL READINESS?



## DISCUSSION...

HOW DO YOU  
TRAIN FOR  
SPIRITUAL  
READINESS?



# THE PERFECT TRAINING PLAN

YOU LET HIM LEAD

## GOD ENGINEERS CIRCUMSTANCES IN OUR LIVES TO TRAIN US

- Joseph is trained as a prime minister of Egypt by being a slave and a prisoner
- David is trained as a king by Saul persecuting him

God is the one who orchestrated those events  
Looks bad – but is for good

## CLIFF'S TRAINING PLAN

- First is Toronto homeless
- Second is Cambodia against child sex trafficking
- Third is Singapore – full time 'missionary'
- Fourth is Uganda - full time missionary

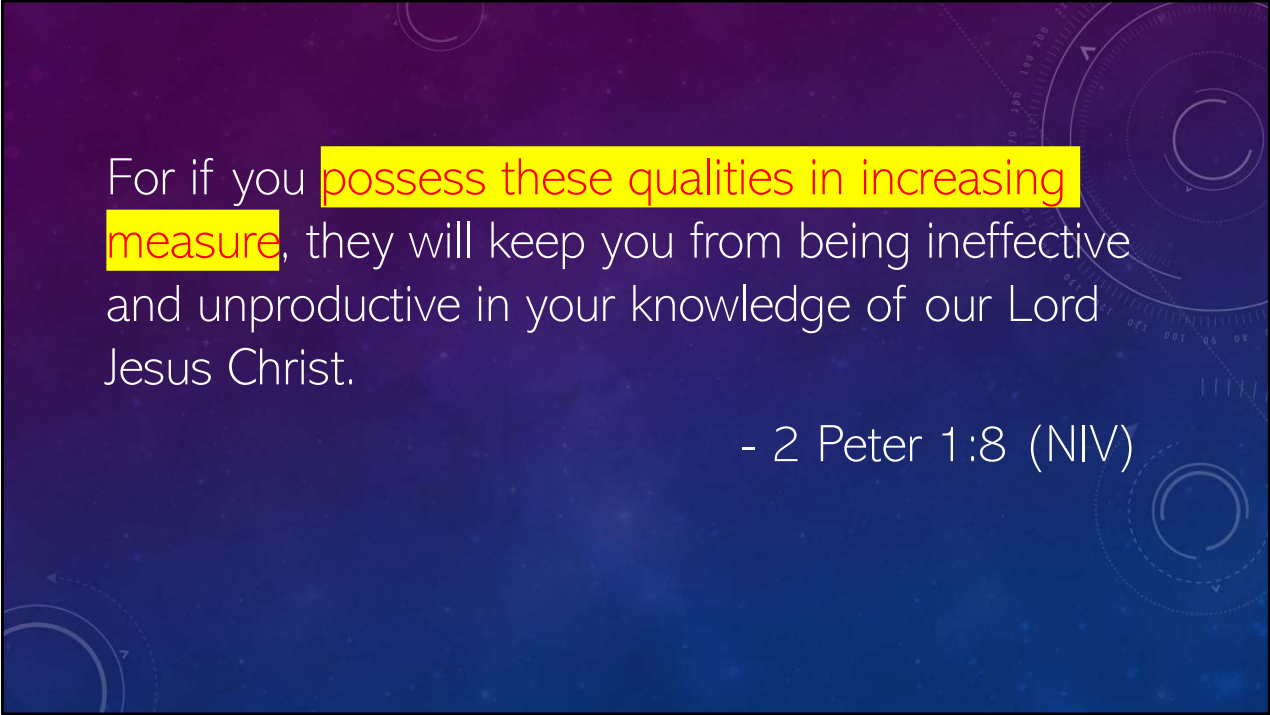
God leads one step at a time

## THE NEVER STUMBLE PLAN!

Therefore, my brothers and sisters, make every effort to confirm your calling and election. For if you do these things, **you will never stumble**, and you will receive a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

- 2 Peter 1:10-11

What are the things we need to do to keep us from stumbling?

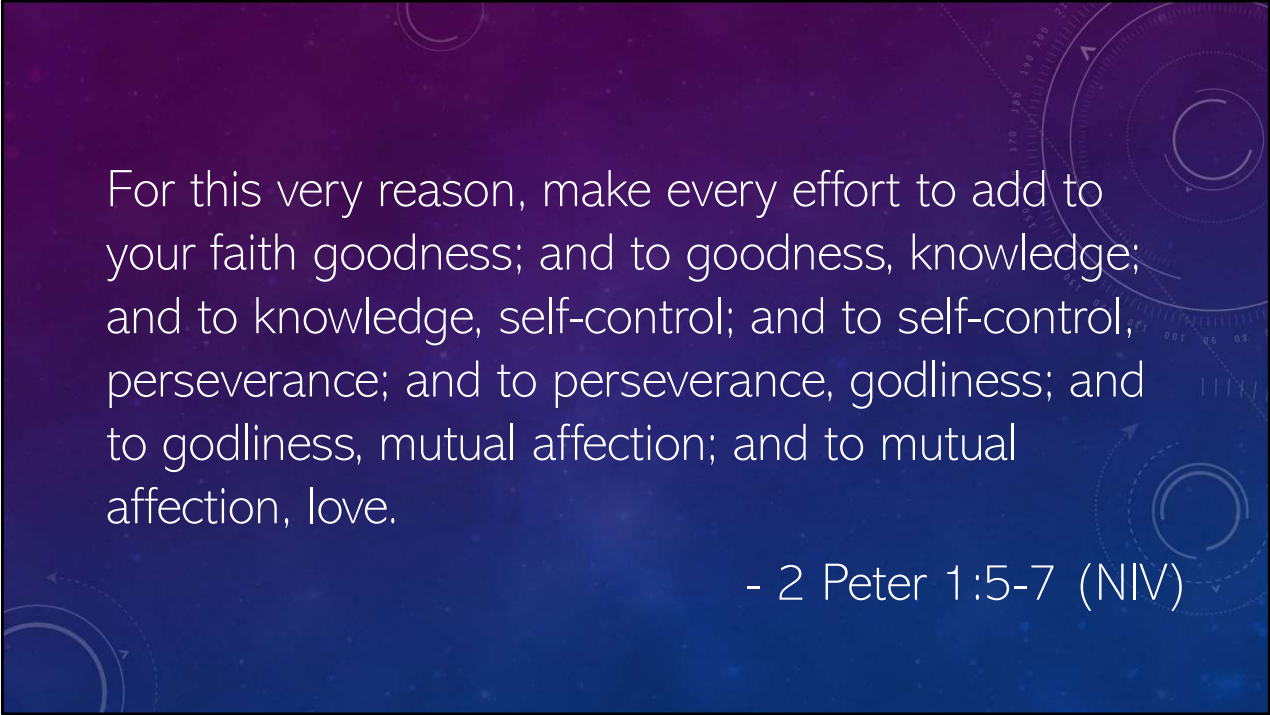


For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

- 2 Peter 1:8 (NIV)

What qualities?





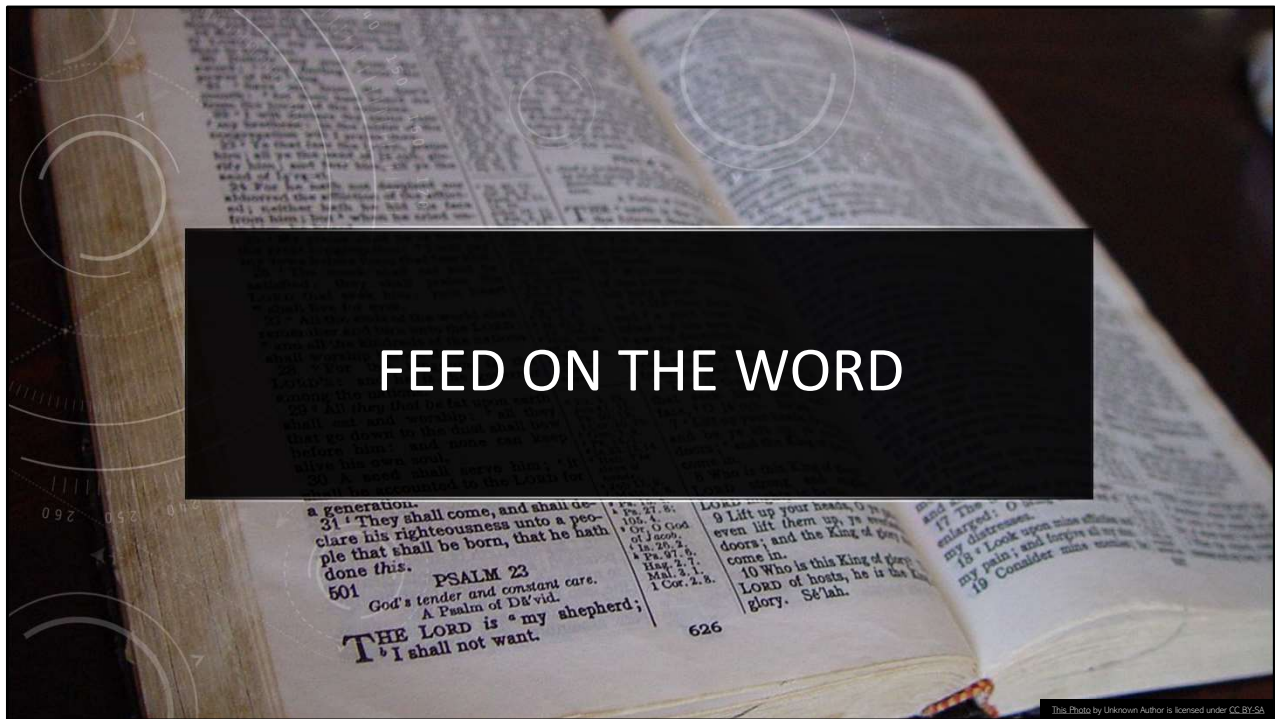
For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; and to godliness, mutual affection; and to mutual affection, love.

- 2 Peter 1:5-7 (NIV)

What qualities?



HOW IS GOD USING  
YOUR CURRENT  
CIRCUMSTANCES TO  
DEVELOP THESE  
VIRTUES IN YOUR LIFE?



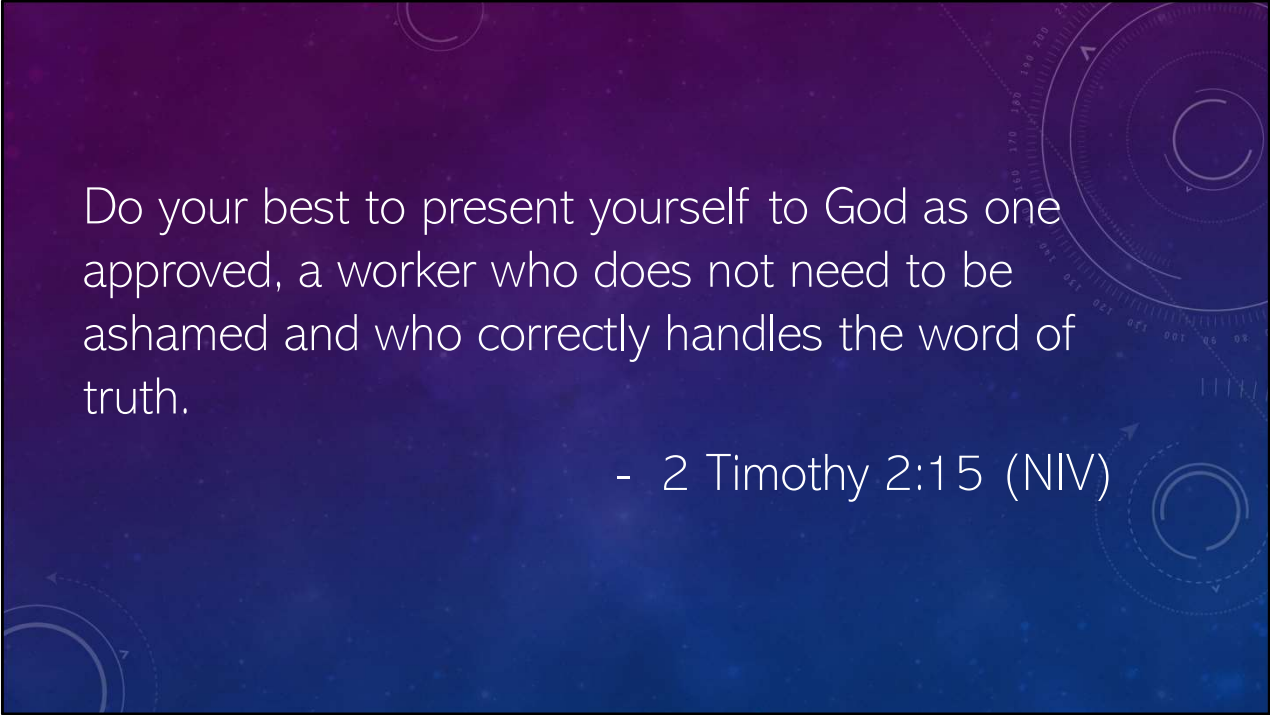
# FEED ON THE WORD

a generation.  
31 They shall come, and shall declare his righteousness unto a people that shall be born, that he hath done this.  
501 **PSALM 23**  
God's tender and constant care.  
A Psalm of David.  
**THE LORD is my shepherd;**  
I shall not want.

626  
9 Lift up your heads, O ye gates, even lift them up, ye ancient doors; and the King of glory shall come in.  
10 Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, he is the LORD of glory. Selah.

17 The LORD enlarged my distresses.  
18 Look upon mine affliction and my pain; and forgive all my iniquities.  
19 Consider mine enemies, O LORD; for they are multiplied; and they have not feared thee, O LORD God.

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Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth.

- 2 Timothy 2:15 (NIV)

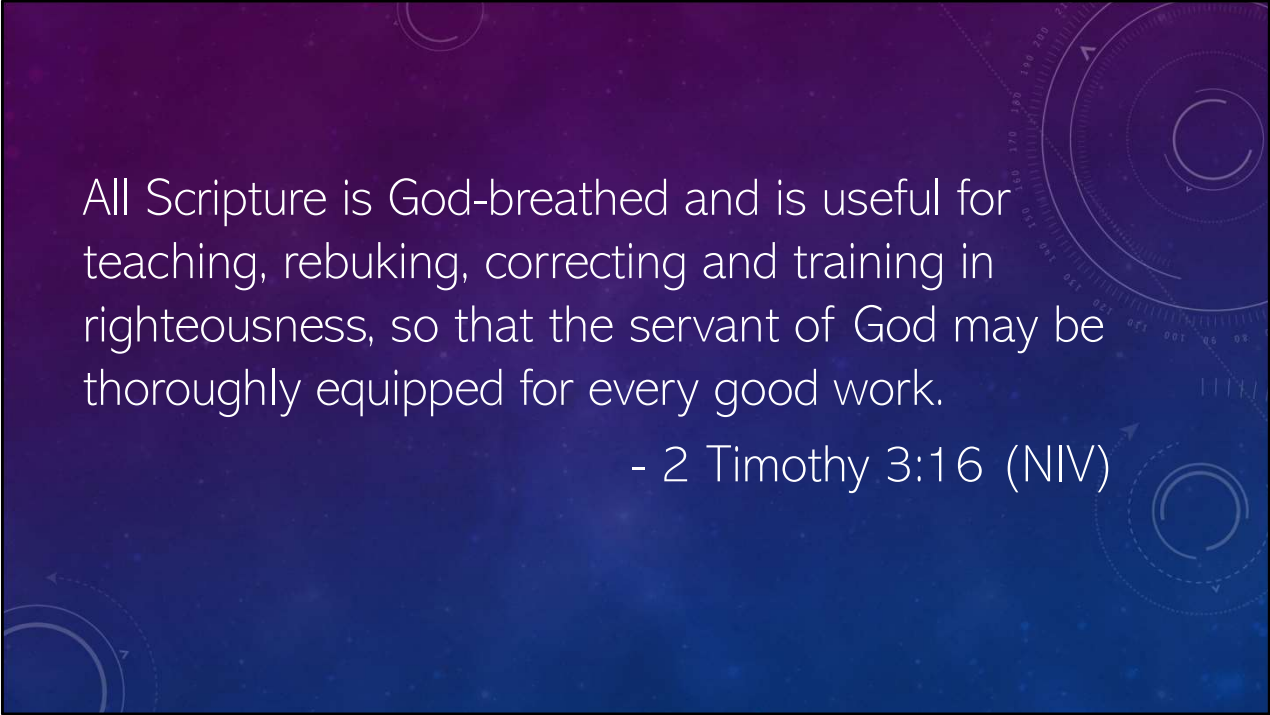
- Don't need to be a theologian BUT when you go on mission trip, you are seen as a teacher and will be asked to share, teach, preach etc.
- Go to a Bible school graduation, what would you say?

## MEAT, NOT MILK

Brothers and sisters, I could not address you as people who live by the Spirit but as people who are still worldly—mere infants in Christ. 2 I gave you milk, not solid food, for you were not yet ready for it. Indeed, you are still not ready. 3 You are still worldly. For since there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not worldly? Are you not acting like mere humans?

- 1 Corinthians 3:1-3 (NIV)

- Do you need your church, pastor, cell group leader to provide you feeding?
  - On the field, you have to feed yourself most of the time



All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

- 2 Timothy 3:16 (NIV)



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## EPHESIAN 6:10-17

- Belt of truth
- Breastplate of righteousness
- Gospel of Peace (boots)
- Shield of faith
- Helmet of Salvation
- Sword of the Spirit

- Satan will do whatever it takes to keep you from doing God's will
  - How do you fight against that?
    - Eph 6
      - Belt of truth – can you tell God's truth from deception?
      - Breastplate of righteousness – are you walking righteously
      - Gospel of Peace (boot) – is His peace with you, are you abiding in His peace?
      - Shield of faith – are you exercising your faith muscle?
      - Helmet of salvation –
      - Sword of the Spirit – Do you know God's words?
    - How do satan tempt/trick you?
      - By twisting God's words
        - Tempt Eve
        - In the wilderness – quoting scriptures



## THE 'PRACTICAL'

- Learn the language, culture, people
- Ask other missionaries
- Short term mission
- Ask for help in the church
- Mentor and/or mission organizations
- Prayer groups
- CMDF, HIM
- Read about other missionaries



### 3. SIGNS OF SPIRITUAL READINESS

# GROWING TRUST IN GOD

Love the Lord, you become less self-reliant and learn to trust

- a growing relationship

## PETER (BEFORE)

From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life. Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. "Never, Lord!" he said. "This shall never happen to you!"

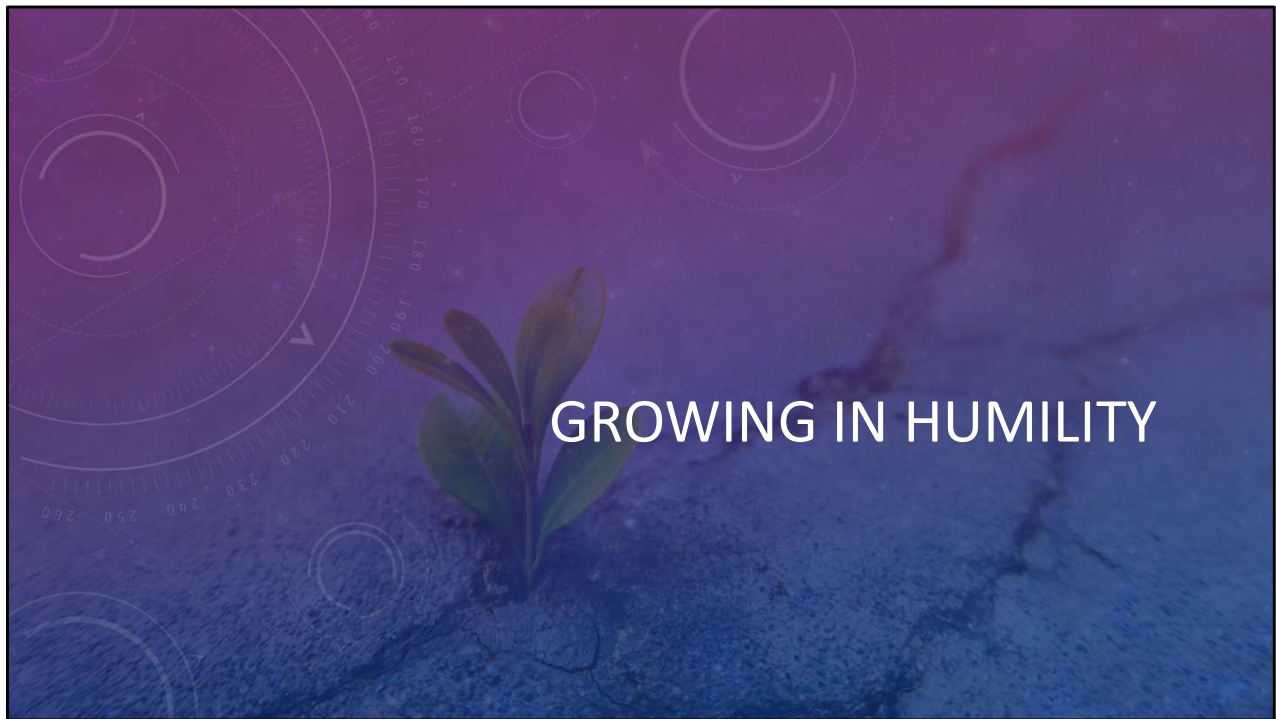
- Matthew 16:21-22 (NIV)

## PETER (AFTER)

Very truly I tell you, when you were younger you dressed yourself and went where you wanted; but when you are old you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will dress you and lead you where you do not want to go."

- John 21:18 (NIV)

Peter, died on the cross upside down bc he didn't deserve the same death as Jesus



# GROWING IN HUMILITY

## WRITTEN AROUND 56 AD

For I am the **least of the apostles** and do not even deserve to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.

- 1 Corinthians 15:9 (NIV)

## WRITTEN AROUND 61 OR 61 AD

Although I am less than the **least of all the Lord's people**, this grace was given me: to preach to the Gentiles the boundless riches of Christ,

- Ephesians 3:8 (NIV)



## WRITTEN BETWEEN 62-64 AD

Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom **I am the worst.**

- 1 Timothy 1:15 (NIV)



Cliff, WJ and serving God in Singapore

## TURN YOUR EYES UPON JESUS

Look full in His wonderful face,  
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim,  
In the light of His glory and grace.

## NEXT WEEK: SERVING CROSS-CULTURALLY

- Need to do some reading before hand
- Write to [cliff.tam@gmail.com](mailto:cliff.tam@gmail.com) for any questions, suggestions, and thoughts!
- Feedback at [bit.ly/audienceofonefeedback](http://bit.ly/audienceofonefeedback)