

How are we transformed into abiding in Christ, so as to become His disciples?

2 Corinthians 3:18, "We all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord."

The purpose being:

Romans 15:13, "That you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."

As such:

Psalm 145:18, "The LORD *is* near to all who call upon Him, to all who call upon Him in truth."

What's more?

Romans 8:28, "We know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to *His* purpose."

The reason Jesus said:

John 14:1, "Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me."

Therefore:

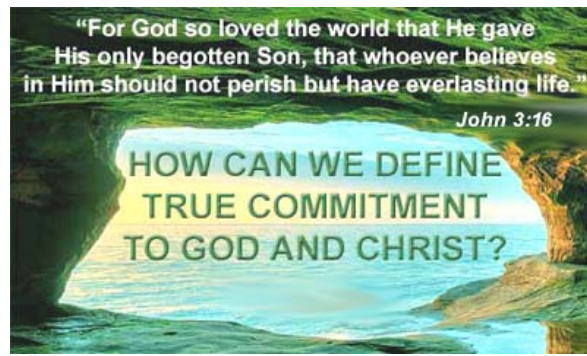
Proverbs 3:5-6, "Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths."

Joshua 1:9, "Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the LORD your God *is* with you wherever you go."

1 Peter 4:1-2, "Arm yourselves also with the same mind, for he who has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin, that he no longer should live the rest of *his* time in the flesh for the lusts of men, but for the will of God."

Am I in?

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To what extent must we commit ourselves to follow Christ if we truly believe in God?

Matthew 22:37, "You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind."

As such Jesus said:

Mark 8:34-35, "Whoever desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it."

Why?

Psalm 91:2, "*He is* my refuge and my fortress; my God, in Him I will trust."

What's more?

Galatians 5:24-25, "Those *who are* Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit."

Luke 9:62, "No one, having put his hand to the plow, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God."

Isaiah 26:3, "You will keep *him* in perfect peace, *whose mind is* stayed on You, because he trusts in You."

Jeremiah 17:7, "Blessed *is* the man who trusts in the LORD, and whose hope is the LORD."

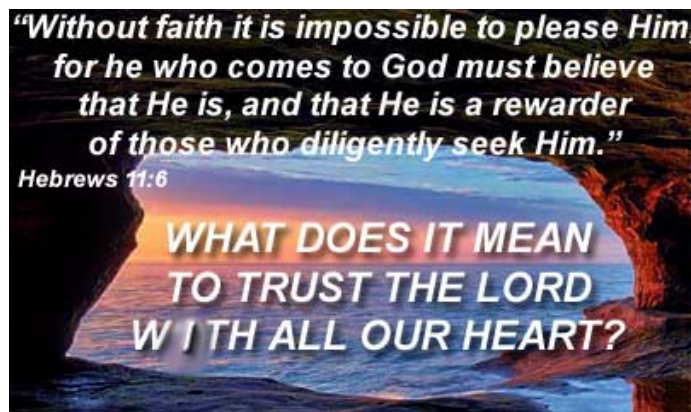
Therefore:

1 Kings 8:61, "Let your heart therefore be loyal to the LORD our God, to walk in His statutes and keep His commandments."

1 Corinthians 16:13, "Watch, stand fast in the faith, be brave, be strong."

Is my commitment to follow Christ only in words, or is it from the heart
In truth and action?

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How is true faith in God and Christ empowered in a believer's life?

2 Peter 1:3-4, "His divine power has given to us all things that *pertain* to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption *that is* in the world through lust."

As such:

1 Timothy 6:12, "Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, to which you were also called and have confessed the good confession in the presence of many witnesses."

In Jesus' own words:

John 14:1, "Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me."

Why?

John 14:6, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."

What's more?

Philippians 3:7-9, "What things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ. 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 and be found in Him."

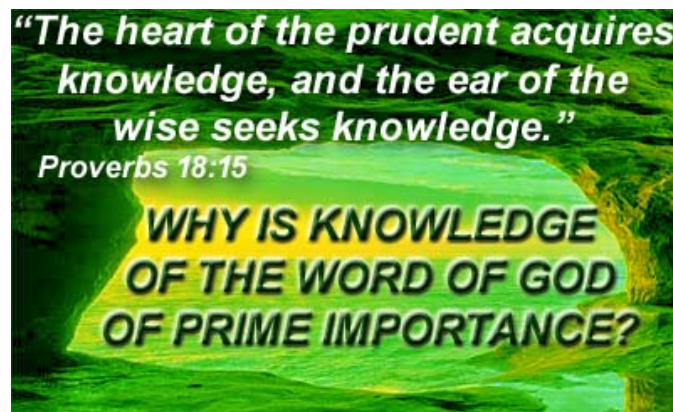
Therefore:

James 1:22, "Be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves."

Does my faith rest on the "Rock" of Christ?

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How does one get to know who God really is and what He wills for mankind, so as to not be deceived?

2 Timothy 3:16-17, "All Scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work."

As such:

Proverbs 15:14, "The heart of him who has understanding seeks knowledge, but the mouth of fools feeds on foolishness."

Why?

Hosea 4:6, "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge."

Where then can I find the true and secure knowledge of God?

Romans 10:17, "Faith *comes* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."

The purpose being:

Colossians 1:10, "That you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing *Him*, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God."

Therefore:

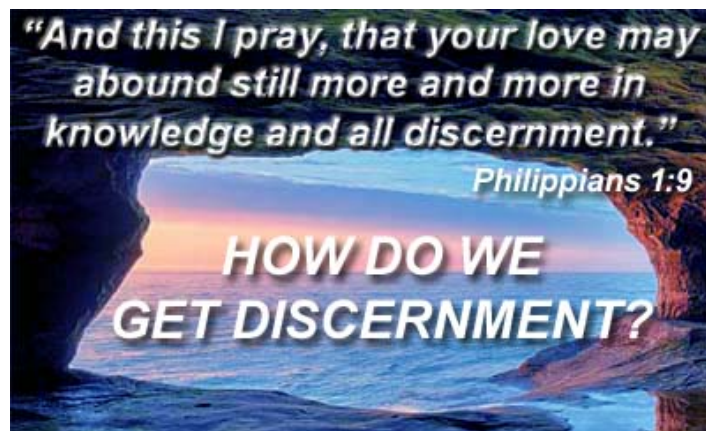
Romans 12:2, "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what *is* that good and acceptable and perfect will of God."

What's more?

2 Peter 3:18, "Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ."

Do I steadfastly study the Word of God to get sound knowledge, so as not to be fooled and deceived by the world?

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How do we ascertain the power of discernment so we truly live to abide in Christ?

Hebrews 4:12, "The word of God *is* living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart."

What's more?

Hebrews 5:14, "Solid food is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil."

The purpose being:

Philippians 1:10, "That you may approve the things that are excellent, that you may be sincere and without offense till the day of Christ."

As such:

1 Corinthians 2:14, "The natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know *them*, because they are spiritually discerned."

However as true believers:

1 Corinthians 2:12, "We have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God."

As such Jesus said:

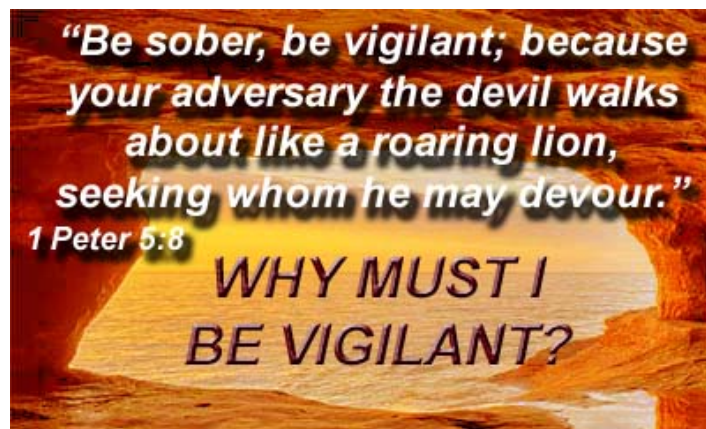
John 8:12, "I am the light of the world; He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life."

John 15:10, "If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love."

Clear enough?

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Why must we be vigilant against the enemy of our faith?

Mark 14:38, "Keep watching and praying, so that you will not come into temptation; the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak."

As such:

Romans 12:2, "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what *is* that good and acceptable and perfect will of God."

What else must we do to live victoriously for the Lord?

Ephesians 6:11, "Put on the whole armor of God that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil."

Why?

Ephesians 6:12, "For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual *hosts* of wickedness in the heavenly places."

Therefore:

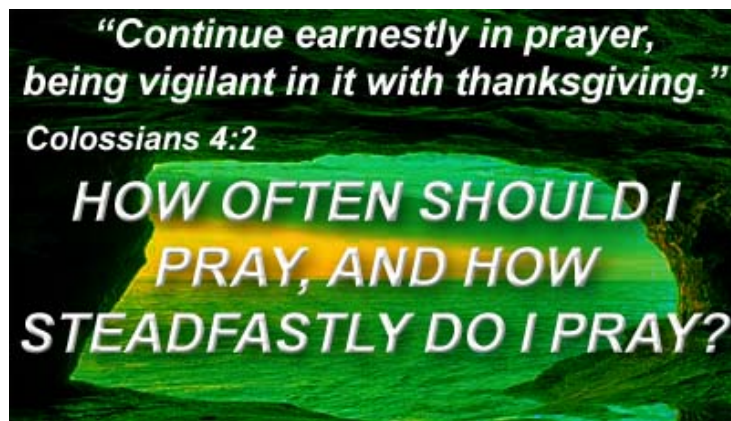
Joshua 1:9, "Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the LORD your God *is* with you wherever you go."

What's more?

Ephesians 6:14-16, "Stand, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one."

How vigilant and firm am I to stand with God?

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How did Jesus clearly enjoin us to be faithful and earnest in prayer?

Matthew 26:41, "Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed *is* willing, but the flesh *is* weak."

Luke 21:36, "Watch therefore, and pray always, that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man."

Luke 18:1, "Men always ought to pray and not lose heart."

Matthew 6:7, "And when you pray, do not use vain repetitions as the heathen *do*. For they think that they will be heard for their many words."

John 15:7, "If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you."

Why?

Psalms 145:18, "The LORD *is* near to all who call upon Him, to all who call upon Him in truth."

Psalms 9:10, "You, LORD, have not forsaken those who seek You?"

What's more?

2 Corinthians 5:7, "We walk by faith, not by sight."

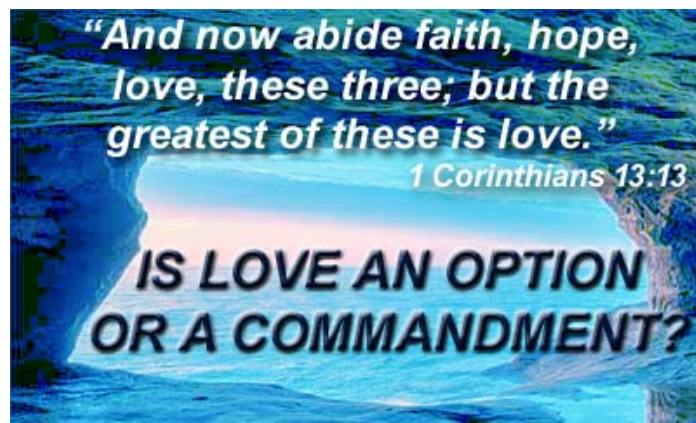
James 1:5, "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him."

Therefore:

Jeremiah 33:3, "Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know."

Am I earnest and vigilant in prayer, so as to abide in Christ?

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The greatest example of love is:

John 3:16, "God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."

Love, in other words, is the bond that connects us to God's heart.

As such Jesus added:

John 13:34-35, "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all will know that you are My disciples."

And...

John 15:10, "If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love."

How far must our love extend?

Luke 6:27-28, "I say to you who hear: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, and pray for those who spitefully use you."

What's more?

1 John 4:8, "He who does not love does not know God, for God is love."

Therefore:

Colossians 3:12-14, "As *the* elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, even as Christ forgave you, so you also *must do*. But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection."

So...

1 Corinthians 16:14, "Let all *that* you *do* be done with love."

How strongly do I channel God's love through my life?

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