HOW TO BE BLESSED BY GOD

Discovering the Fullness of Victory - Part 4

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**Galatians 4:6 (NIV)**
Because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, *"Abba*, Father."

It is our faith that saves us. It is our faith that sustains us. If we are to live in victory, we must learn to live by faith. If we are to live in victory, we must break free forever from the chains of slavery to the law, and embrace the freedom in Christ that God has promised to all of us through faith.

THREE STEPS TO TAKE TO BE BLESSED BY GOD

1. **Accept the Father’s Affection**

**John 1:12 (NIV)**
Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God--

**Galatians 4:6 (NIV)**
Because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, *"Abba*, Father."

**Galatians 4:7 (NLT)**
Now you are no longer a slave but God’s own child. And since you are his child, God has made you his heir.

2. **Lose Your Religion**

**Galatians 4:9-11 (NLT)**
So now that you know God (or should I say, now that God knows you), why do you want to go back again and become slaves once more to the weak and useless spiritual principles of this world? You are trying to earn favor with God by observing certain days or months or seasons or years. I fear for you. Perhaps all my hard work with you was for nothing.

Do you want to experience freedom? Let go of all the man-made rules of religion and focus instead on your spiritual relationship with God. If your relationship with God is based exclusively on this building, these musical instruments, this song list, and the name on our sign out front, then you're flirting with legalism and you're courting slavery

3. **Return to your first love**

**Revelation 2:4-5 (NLT)**
“But I have this complaint against you. You don’t love me or each other as you did at first! Look how far you have fallen! Turn back to me and do the works you did at first. If you don’t repent, I will come and remove your lampstand from its place among the churches.

**Galatians 4:14-15 (NLT)**
But even though my condition tempted you to reject me, you did not despise me or turn me away. No, you took me in and cared for me as though I were an angel from God or even Christ Jesus himself. Where is that joyful and grateful spirit you felt then? I am sure you would have taken out your own eyes and given them to me if it had been possible.

**St. Augustine said the Christian life can be summarized as, "Love God and do what you like."** The idea seems so scandalous. But think about it. If you love God, then what will you want to do? You'll want to please him. So, love God and do what you like.