

One thing to do with these scriptures - pray through them, putting “me” and “I” into them.

Example: **1 John 3:2** “But we know that when he appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.”

Becomes, “I know that when you appear, Jesus, I will be like You simply because I will see You as You really are.”

We are not made like Jesus through our efforts – it comes simply from hanging out with Him and seeing Him (also called abiding):

He didn't come to BE served by me – His goal isn't make me into a good servant; He came to serve ME:

Mark 10:45

For even the Son of Man did not come to be served (by me), but to serve (me), and to give his life as a ransom for many (like me).

John 15:15 I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends,

John 1:12-13

He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

John 15:16 You did not choose me, but I chose you...

Psalms 23:6 Surely goodness and love will follow me
all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD
forever.

2 Timothy 2:13

if we are faithless, He will remain faithful, for He cannot disown himself.

Hosea 2:19-20 I will betroth you to Me forever; Yes, I will betroth you to Me In righteousness and justice, In lovingkindness and mercy, I will betroth you to Me in faithfulness and you shall know the Lord.

Romans 8:15

For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father."

Psalm 81:10 I am the LORD your God, who brought you up out of Egypt. Open wide your mouth and I will fill it.

1 John 4: 19 We love because he first loved us.

Isaiah 61: 2 "He has sent me [Jesus] to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound."

Matthew 7:7-8 "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. **For everyone who asks receives;** he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened"

Zephaniah 3:17 The LORD your God is with you,
he is mighty to save.
He will take great delight in you,
he will quiet you with his love,
he will rejoice over you with singing."

Psalm 27:10 Though my father and mother forsake me,
the LORD will receive me.

Psalm 18:19 He brought me out into a spacious place;
he rescued me because he delighted in me.

Psalm 18:32 It is God who arms me with strength
and makes my way perfect.

Psalm 18:3 I call to the LORD, who is worthy of praise,
and I am saved from my enemies.

Isaiah 46:4 Even to your old age and gray hairs
I am he, I am he who will sustain you.
I have made you and I will carry you;
I will sustain you and I will rescue you.

Acts 17:25 And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything, because he himself gives all men life and breath and everything else.

Matthew 11:28-29 "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

Hebrews 12:28-29 Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us

be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe, for our "God is a consuming fire."

THE I MORE RECEIVE, THE MORE HE TEACHES!:

Mark 4:24-25 "Consider carefully what you hear," he continued. "With the measure you use, it will be measured to you—and even more. **Whoever has will be given more**; whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken from him."

Psalms 23 – *Job of shepherd, job of sheep: Shepherd protects, establishes, celebrates, leads, defends, prepares, opens His house. Sheep follows and in following receives what the shepherd does for them. That's it. Really? Yep. That's it. No working really hard, no earning no "getting it" – just following. What's following? Receiving.*

1 Corinthians 13:1-3 "If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give all I possess to the poor and surrender my body to the flames, but have not love, I gain nothing."

Have love. That means you've received it. It's not "earned love" or "worked love up" – it's have love. That's very different; and extremely freeing. All the things listed in this passage (speaking, tongues, prophecy, knowledge, faith, offering, sacrifice) are dead works apart from love. They CANNOT be the starting point.

Hebrews 12:18-24 You have not come to a mountain that can be touched and that is burning with fire; to darkness, gloom and storm; 19to a trumpet blast or to such a voice speaking words that those who heard it begged that no further word be spoken to them, 20because they could not bear what was commanded: "If even an animal touches the mountain, it must be stoned." 21The sight was so terrifying that Moses said, "I am trembling with fear."

Hebrews explaining life with the Lord before Jesus, a new covenant and a relationship with a Father. Sounds pretty distant

Hebrews 12:22-24 But you have come to Mount Zion, to the heavenly Jerusalem, the city of the living God. You have come to thousands upon thousands of angels in joyful assembly, to the church of the firstborn, whose names are written in heaven. You have come to God, the judge of all men, to the spirits of righteous men made perfect, to Jesus the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

This is How God receives us, the difference that Jesus had made between now and before he had come. And how he Literally moved heaven and earth to call us His sons

Psalms 81:10 Open wide your mouth and I will fill it up.

Deuteronomy 23:5 He turned the intended curse into a blessing because the Lord your God loves you.

Psalms 146:7+8 The Lord frees the prisoners. The Lord opens the eyes of the blind. The Lord lifts up those who are oppressed.

Psalms 18:19 He brought me into a spacious place; he rescued me because he delighted in me.

Hosea 3:1 Then the Lord said to me, "Go and love your wife again, even though she commits adultery with another lover. This will illustrate that the Lord still loves Israel, even though the people have turned to other gods and love to worship them."

Colossians 3:12 God chose you to be the holy people he loves...

1 Thessalonians 1:4 We know, dear brothers and sisters, that God loves you and has chosen you to be his own people.

1 John 3:1 See how very much our Father loves us, for he calls us his children, and that is what we are.

Jude 1:1 I am writing to all who have been called by God the Father, who loves you and keeps you safe in the care of Jesus Christ.

Exodus 15:13 With your unfailing love you lead the people you have redeemed. In your might, you guide them to your sacred home.

Exodus 34:6+7 The Lord passed in front of Moses, calling out, "Yahweh! The Lord! The God of compassion and mercy! I am slow to anger and filled with unfailing love and faithfulness. I lavish unfailing love to a thousand generations. I forgive iniquity, rebellion, and sin."

Deuteronomy 7:7+8 The Lord did not set his heart on you and choose you because you were more numerous than other nations, for you were the smallest of all nations! Rather, it was simply that the Lord loves you...

Deuteronomy 10:14+15 Look, the highest heavens and the earth and everything in it all belong to the Lord your God. Yet the Lord chose your ancestors as the objects of his love. And he chose you, their descendants, above all other nations, as is evident today.

Deuteronomy 30:6 The Lord your God will change your heart.

James 1:18 He chose to give birth to us by giving us his true word. And we, out of all creation, became his prized possession.

1 Chronicles 16.34 His faithful love endures forever.

Nehemiah 9.17+18 They refused to obey and did not remember the miracles you had done for them. Instead, they became stubborn and appointed a leader to take them back to their slavery in Egypt! But you are a God of forgiveness, gracious and merciful, slow to become angry, and rich in unfailing love. You did not abandon them, even when they made an idol shaped like a calf and said, "This is your god who brought you out of Egypt!" They committed terrible blasphemies.

Nehemiah 9.30 In your love, you were patient with them for many years.

Job 10.12 You gave me life and showed me your unfailing love. My life was preserved by your care.

Job 37.13 He makes these things happen either to punish people or to show his unfailing love.

Psalms 5.7 Because of your unfailing love, I can enter your house.

Psalms 17.6+7 I am praying to you because I know you will answer, O God. Bend down and listen as I pray. Show me your unfailing love in wonderful ways. By your mighty power you rescue those who seek refuge from their enemies.

Psalms 23.1-3 The Lord is my shepherd; I have all that I need. He lets me rest in green meadows; he leads me beside peaceful streams. He renews my strength. He guides me along right paths, bringing honor to his name.

Psalms 23.6 Surely your goodness and unfailing love will pursue me all the days of my life, and I will live in the house of the Lord forever.

Psalms 42.8 But each day the Lord pours his unfailing love upon me.

Psalms 51.17 The sacrifice you desire is a broken spirit. You will not reject a broken and repentant heart, O God.

Psalms 59.10 In his unfailing love, my God will stand with me. He will let me look down in triumph on all my enemies.

Psalms 86.5 O Lord, you are so good, so ready to forgive, so full of unfailing love for all who ask for your help.

Psalms 86.13 For your love for me is very great. You have rescued me from the depths of death.

Psalms 94.18 I cried out, "I am slipping!" but your unfailing love, O Lord, supported me.

Proverbs 3.12 For the Lord corrects those he loves, just as a father corrects a child in whom he delights.

Proverbs 15.17 A bowl of vegetables with someone you love is better than steak with someone you hate.

Joel 2.13 He is eager to relent and not punish.

Malachi 1.2 "I have always loved you," says the Lord.

Matthew 3.17 And a voice from heaven said, "This is my dearly loved Son, who brings me great joy."

Jeremiah 1.5 I knew you before I formed you in your mother's womb. Before you were born I set you apart and appointed you to be my prophet to the nations.

Acts 17.28 We are his offspring.

Psalms 139.16 You saw me before I was born. Every day of my life was recorded in your book. Every moment was laid out before a single day had passed.

Psalms 139.1 You know everything about me.

Psalms 71.6 Yes, you have been with me from birth; from my mother's womb you have cared for me.

1 John 4.16 God is love.

1 John 3.1 See how very much our Father loves us, for he calls us his children, and that is what we are!

Matthew 7.11 So if you sinful people know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give good gifts to those who ask him.

Matthew 5.48 But you are to be perfect, even as your Father in heaven is perfect.

Being perfect isn't a task that God expects me to accomplish, it's a gift that He gives me:

James 1.17 Whatever is good and perfect comes down to us from God our Father.

Matthew 6.32 but your heavenly Father already knows all your needs.

Jeremiah 29.11 "For I know the plans I have for you," says the Lord. "They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope."

Jeremiah 31.3 I have loved you with an everlasting love. With unfailing love I have drawn you to myself.

Jeremiah 33.3 Ask me and I will tell you remarkable secrets you do not know about things to come.

Zephaniah 3.17 For the Lord your God is living among you. He is a mighty savior. He will take delight in you with gladness. With his love, he will calm all your fears. He will rejoice over you with joyful songs.

Jeremiah 32.40+41 And I will make an everlasting covenant with them: I will never stop doing good for them. I will put a desire in their hearts to worship me, and they will never leave me. I will find joy doing good for them and will faithfully and wholeheartedly replant them in this land.

Exodus 19.5 Now if you will obey me and keep my covenant, you will be my own special treasure from among all the peoples on earth; for all the earth belongs to me.

Deuteronomy 4.29 And if you search for him with all your heart and soul, you will find him.

Psalms 37.4 Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you your heart's desires.

Philippians 2.13 For God is working in you, giving you the desire and the power to do what pleases him.

Ephesians 3.12 Because of Christ's faithfulness, we can now come boldly and confidently into God's presence.

Ephesians 3.20 Now all glory to God, who is able, through his mighty power at work within us, to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think.

PAUL'S PRAYER FOR MY SPIRITUAL GROWTH... Ephesians 3.16-19

Dear _____,

I pray that from his glorious, unlimited resources he will empower you with inner strength through his Spirit. Then Christ will make his home in your hearts as you trust in him. Your roots will grow down into God's love and keep you strong. And may you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep his love is. May you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully. Then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God.

Your bro,

Paul

Ephesians 2.10 For we are God's masterpiece.

2 Thessalonians 2.16+17 Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and by his grace gave us eternal comfort and a wonderful hope, comfort you and strengthen you in every good thing you do and say.

2 Corinthians 1.3+4 God is our merciful Father and the source of all comfort. He comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort others.

Psalms 34.17+18 The Lord hears his people when they call to him for help. He rescues them from all their troubles. The Lord is close to the brokenhearted; he rescues those whose spirits are crushed.

Isaiah 40.11 He will feed his flock like a shepherd. He will carry the lambs in his arms, holding them close to his heart.

Revelation 21.3 Look, God's home is now among his people! He will live with them, and they will be his people. God himself will be with them.

Revelation 21.4 He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain. All these things are gone forever.

John 17.22+23 I have given them the glory you gave me, so that they may be one as we are one. I am in them and you are in me. May they experience such perfect unity that the world will know that you sent me and that you love them as much as you love me.

Hebrews 1.3 The Son radiates God's own glory and expresses the very character of God, and he sustains everything by the mighty power of his command.

Romans 8.15 So you have not received a spirit that makes you fearful slaves. Instead, you received God's Spirit when he adopted you as his own children. Now we call him, "Abba, Father."

Romans 8.31 If God is for us, who can ever be against us?

Romans 8.35 Can anything ever separate us from Christ's love? Does it mean he no longer loves us if we have trouble or calamity, or are persecuted, or hungry, or destitute, or in danger, or threatened with death? No.

Romans 8.38+39 And I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God's love. Neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither our fears for today nor our worries

about tomorrow – not even the powers of hell can separate us from God's love. Now power in the sky above or in the earth below – indeed, nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2 Corinthians 5.19 For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself, no longer counting people's sins against them.

1 John 4.10 This is real love – not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins.

Romans 8.32 Since he did not spare even his own Son but gave him up for us all, won't he also give us everything else?

Luke 15.7 There is more joy in heaven over one lost sinner who repents and returns to God than over ninety-nine others who are righteous and haven't strayed away.

Luke 15.20 So he returned home to his father. And while he was still a long way off, his father saw him coming. Filled with love and compassion, he his son, embraced him, and kissed him.

John 1.12 But to all who believed in him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God.

John 6.29 Jesus told them, "This is the only work God wants from you: Believe in the one he has sent."

Romans 5.5 For we know how dearly God loves us, because he has given us the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with his love.

Romans 5.8 But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners.

Romans 10.20 I was found by people not looking for me. I showed myself to those who were not asking for me.

2 Corinthians 5.14 Christ's love controls us.

2 Corinthians 8.9 Though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that by his poverty he could make you rich.

Ephesians 2.4 But God is so rich in mercy, and he loved us so much, that even though we were dead because of our sins, he gave us life when he raised Christ from the dead.

Colossians 3.12 God chose you to be the holy people he loves.

1 Peter 1:2 God the Father knew you and chose you long ago, and his Spirit has made you holy.

1 Peter 4:8 Love covers a multitude of sins.

Jude 24 Now all glory to God, who is able to keep you from falling away and will bring you with great joy into his glorious presence without a single fault.

Matt 11:28 "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

Reminds me he is here for me – I'm not here for him. I receive gentleness and rest from him

Phillipians 1:6 "being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus."

He's doing all the work – I just have to receive what he is showing me

Zephaniah 3:17 The LORD your God is with you,
he is mighty to save.
He will take great delight in you,
he will quiet you with his love,
he will rejoice over you with singing."

It is God's will to deliver us and GIVE us grace and peace:

Galatians 1:3-5 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and our Lord Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for our sins, that He might deliver us from this present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, to whom be glory forever and ever.

Galatians 2:16 Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified.

Galatians 2:20-21 I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. I do not set aside the grace of God, for if righteousness could be gained through the law, Christ died for nothing!"

Galatians 3:2-3 I would like to learn just one thing from you: Did you receive the Spirit by observing the law, or by believing what you heard? Are you so foolish? After beginning with the Spirit, are you now trying to attain your goal by human effort?

Galatians 4:4-7 But when the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born

under law, to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons. Because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, "Abba, Father." So you are no longer a slave, but a son; and since you are a son, God has made you also an heir.

Galatians 5:5 For we through the Spirit eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness by faith.

Galatians 5:1 It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.

Galatians 5:18 But if you are led by the Spirit you are not under the law.

Galatians 5:22-23 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.

Psalms 103:1-22

Psalms 103:8 The Lord is merciful and gracious, Slow to anger, and abounding in mercy (love).

Psalms 90:14

Satisfy us in the morning with your unfailing love, that we may sing for joy and be glad all our days.

Song of Solomon 2:4

He has taken me to the banquet hall, and his banner over me is love.

"Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God."

Romans 8:26-27 ESV

<http://bible.com/59/rom.8.26-27.esv>