sundaymaythirdtwothousandtwentysixad

What Does He Want?

THE GOD WE GET WRONG

Lesson #1

He Wants Me To _____ Him

He Desires A _____

- Relationship with friends / spouse / family

Romans 5:10 For since our friendship with God was restored by the death of his Son while we were still his enemies, we will certainly be saved through the life of his Son. **11** So now we can rejoice in our wonderful new relationship with God because our Lord Jesus Christ has made us friends of God. *(NLT)*

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." **16** For his Spirit joins with our spirit to affirm that we are God's children. 17 And since we are his children, we are his heirs. In fact, together with Christ we are heirs of God's glory. But if we are to share his glory, we must also share his suffering. *(NLT)*

2 John 1:8 Watch out that you do not lose what we have worked so hard to achieve. Be diligent so that you receive your full reward. **9** Anyone who wanders away from this teaching has no relationship with God. But anyone who remains in the teaching of Christ has a relationship with both the Father and the Son. *(NLT)*

Lesson #2

He Wants Me To _____ For Him

He Desires _____

Luke 11:5 Then, teaching them more about prayer, he used this story: "Suppose you went to a friend's house at midnight, wanting to borrow three loaves of bread. You say to him, **6** 'A friend of mine has just arrived for a visit, and I have nothing for him to eat.' **7** And suppose he calls out from his bedroom, 'Don't bother me. The door is locked for the night, and my family and I are all in bed. I can't help you.' **8** But I tell you this—though he won't do it for friendship's sake, if you keep knocking long enough, he will get up and give you whatever you need because of your shameless persistence. **9** "And so I tell you, keep on asking, and you will receive what you ask for. Keep on seeking, and you will find. Keep on knocking, and the door will be opened to you. **10** For everyone who asks, receives. Everyone who seeks, finds. And to everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. **11** "You fathers—if your children ask for a fish, do you give them a snake instead? **12** Or if they ask for an egg, do you give them a scorpion? Of course not! **13** So if you sinful people know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him." *(NLT)*

Lesson #3

He Wants Me To _____ To His Voice

He Desires _____

John 10:1 "I tell you the truth, anyone who sneaks over the wall of a sheepfold, rather than going through the gate, must surely be a thief and a robber! **2** But the one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. **3** The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep recognize his voice and come to him. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. **4** After he has gathered his own flock, he walks ahead of them, and they

follow him because they know his voice. **5** They won't follow a stranger; they will run from him because they don't know his voice." *(NLT)*

John 10:27 "My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me." *(NLT)*

Lesson #4

He Wants Me To _____ In (For) Him

He Desires _____

- Giving up my desires for God's desires

Ephesians 4:30 And do not bring sorrow to God's Holy Spirit by the way you live. Remember, he has identified you as his own, guaranteeing that you will be saved on the day of redemption. **31** Get rid of all bitterness, rage, anger, harsh words, and slander, as well as all types of evil behavior. **32** Instead, be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God through Christ has forgiven you. *(NLT)*

Galatians 3:2 Let me ask you this one question: Did you receive the Holy Spirit by obeying the law of Moses? Of course not! You received the Spirit because you believed the message you heard about Christ. **3** How foolish can you be? After starting your new lives in the Spirit, why are you now trying to become perfect by your own human effort? *(NLT)*

Galatians 5:16 So I say, let the Holy Spirit guide your lives. Then you won't be doing what your sinful nature craves. **17** The sinful nature wants to do evil, which is just the opposite of what the Spirit wants. And the Spirit gives us desires that are the opposite of what the sinful nature desires. These two forces are constantly fighting each other, so you are not free to carry out your good intentions. *(NLT)*

Galatians 5:24 Those who belong to Christ Jesus have nailed the passions and desires of their sinful nature to his cross and crucified them there. **25** Since we are living by the Spirit, let us follow the Spirit's leading in every part of our lives. *(NLT)*

Lesson #5

He Wants Me To _____ From Him

He Desires _____

- Spiritual: πνευματικός; (Greek - pneumatikos [pnyoo-mat-ik-os']); non-carnal; (humanly), (divinely) supernatural, regenerate, religious -- spiritual; produced by the sole power of God himself without natural instrumentality, supernatural.

- Gift: χάρισμα; (Greek - charisma [khar'-is-mah]); free gift, favor, spiritual gift; a (spiritual) endowment, ("grace-gift") divinely empowers a believer to share God's work with others; a gift of grace; a favor which one receives without any merit of his own.

- Gift: δωρεά; (Greek - dórea [do-reh-ah']); gift, without cost, freely, needlessly, without a cause, without charge, without paying; a gift, freely given and hence not acquired by merit or "entitlement."

1 Corinthians 1:4 I always thank my God for you and for the gracious gifts he has given you, now that you belong to Christ Jesus. **5** Through him, God has enriched your church in every way—with all of your eloquent words and all of your knowledge. *(NLT)*

He Desires _____

1 Corinthians 12:4 There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit is the source of them all. **5** There are different kinds of service, but we serve the same Lord. **6** God works in different ways, but it is the same God who does the work in all of us. **7** A spiritual gift is given to each of us so we can help each other. *(NLT)*

He Desires To _____

1 Corinthians 12:8 To one person the Spirit gives the ability to give wise advice; to another the same Spirit gives a message of special knowledge. **9** The same Spirit gives great faith to another, and to someone else the one Spirit gives the gift of healing. **10** He gives one person the power to perform miracles, and another the ability to prophesy. He gives someone else the ability to discern whether a message is from the Spirit of God or from another spirit. Still another person is given the ability to speak in unknown languages, while another is given the ability to interpret what is being said. **11** It is the one and only Spirit who distributes all these gifts. He alone decides which gift each person should have. *(NLT)*

1 Corinthians 12:28 Here are some of the parts God has appointed for the church: first are apostles, second are prophets, third are teachers, then those who do miracles, those who have the gift of healing, those who can help others, those who have the gift of leadership, those who speak in unknown languages. **29** Are we all apostles? Are we all prophets? Are we all teachers? Do we all have the power to do miracles? **30** Do we all have the gift of healing? Do we all have the ability to speak in unknown languages? Do we all have the ability to interpret unknown languages? Of course not! **31** So you should earnestly desire the most helpful gifts. But now let me show you a way of life that is best of all. **13:1** If I could speak all the languages of earth and of angels, but didn't love others, I would only be a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. **2** If I had the gift of prophecy, and if I understood all of God's secret plans and possessed all knowledge, and if I had such faith that I could move mountains, but didn't love others, I would be nothing. **3** If I gave everything I have to the poor and even sacrificed my body, I could boast about it; but if I didn't love others, I would have gained nothing. *(NLT)*

Romans 12:6 In his grace, God has given us different gifts for doing certain things well. So if God has given you the ability to prophesy, speak out with as much faith as God has given you. **7** If your gift is serving others, serve them well. If you are a teacher, teach well. **8** If your gift is to encourage others, be encouraging. If it is giving, give generously. If God has given you leadership ability, take the responsibility seriously. And if you have a gift for showing kindness to others, do it gladly. **9** Don't just pretend to love others. Really love them. Hate what is wrong. Hold tightly to what is good. **10** Love each other with genuine affection, and take delight in honoring each other. **11** Never be lazy, but work hard and serve the Lord enthusiastically. **12** Rejoice in our confident hope. Be patient in trouble, and keep on praying. **13** When God's people are in need, be ready to help them. Always be eager to practice hospitality. *(NLT)*

_____ Gifts - _____ In Action

Prophecy: Speaking forth God's truth into specific situations. In the NT context, it primarily means forth-telling - declaring what God says - not necessarily predicting the future.

Serving / Ministry: From *diakonia (Greek)* - "to wait at tables." The practical gift of meeting needs, completing tasks, and supporting the body in tangible ways that free others to minister.

Teaching: From *didaskalos (Greek)* - the same root as "didactic." The ability to explain Scripture clearly, accurately, and in ways that build understanding and change lives.

Encouragement / Exhortation: From *paraklesis (Greek)* - the same family as parakletos, a name for the Holy Spirit. The gift of coming alongside someone and calling forth what is best in them.

Giving: Not merely the ability to be generous - the supernatural grace to give in ways that are consistently, even inexplicably, beyond what seems proportional to one's means.

Leadership: From *proistemi (Greek)* - to stand before and guide. The gift of motivating others toward God's purposes with such clarity and diligence that the body follows willingly.

Mercy: A heightened sensitivity to those who suffer, and the impulse to move toward them — practically, compassionately, and cheerfully. "Do it cheerfully," Paul adds, because mercy offered grudgingly is not mercy.

_____ Gifts - _____ In Action

Word of Wisdom: The ability to speak into complex situations with God's perspective — not just intellectual wisdom, but supernatural insight that brings clarity, peace, and right direction.

Word of Knowledge: The ability to understand and apply biblical truth deeply, including knowing things about a situation or person that could only have come from divine revelation.

Faith: Not saving faith, which all believers share. A supernatural endowment of trust in God's power that allows a person to pray and act with extraordinary confidence even when evidence is absent.

Gifts of Healing: Note the plural - "gifts" of healings. God uses certain people as instruments through which He brings physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual restoration to others.

Miraculous Powers: The capacity to be an instrument of God's supernatural intervention in natural circumstances - signs that demonstrate the reality and power of the Kingdom of God.

Distinguishing Spirits / Discernment: The ability to recognize whether something is from the Spirit of God, from human flesh, or from a demonic source. An essential gift for protecting the church from deception.

Administration / Governance: From *kubernesis (Greek)* - a ship's helmsman or captain. The gift of steering people and ministries toward their God-given destination with planning, organization, and oversight.

Helps: The gift of coming alongside others to support and assist in ways that free them for ministry they could not otherwise do. The body's engine room - often invisible, always essential.

Gift of Tongues: Speaking in a language unknown to the speaker in a public setting, for prayer and praise directed to God, it does require interpretation.

Interpretation of Tongues: The ability to translate or interpret the content of tongues speech for the understanding of the whole congregation. Necessary for tongues to edify the gathered body.

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Tongues as a Prayer Language: The evidence of a "spirit-empowered life" is seen by the evidence of speaking in tongues ***(Initial Physical Evidence)***. This DOES NOT need to be interpreted as it is not in a corporate setting. It is available to every believer.

Matthew 3:11 "I baptize with *[in]* water those who repent of their sins and turn to God. But someone is coming soon who is greater than I am—so much greater that I'm not worthy even to be his slave and carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. *(NLT)*

Matthew 28:18 Jesus came and told his disciples, "I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. **19** Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations *[all peoples]*, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. **20** Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age." *(NLT)*

John 20:21 Again he said, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I am sending you." **22** Then he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit." *(NLT)*

Luke 24:48 "And now I will send the Holy Spirit, just as my Father promised. But stay here in the city until the Holy Spirit comes and fills you with power from heaven." *(NLT)*

Acts 1:4 Once when he was eating with them, he commanded them, "Do not leave Jerusalem until the Father sends you the gift he promised, as I told you before. **5** John baptized with water, but in just a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit." *(NLT)*

Acts 1:8 "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." *(NLT)*

Acts 2:1 On the day of Pentecost *[50 days after Passover, Crucifixion]* all the believers were meeting together in one place. **2** Suddenly, there was a sound from heaven like the roaring of a mighty windstorm, and it filled the house where they were sitting. **3** Then, what looked like flames or tongues of fire appeared and settled on each of them. **4** And everyone present was filled with the Holy Spirit and began speaking in other languages,*[in other tongues]* as the Holy Spirit gave them this ability. *(NLT)*

John 15:26 "But I will send you the Advocate—the Spirit of truth. He will come to you from the Father and will testify all about me. **27** And you must also testify about me because you have been with me from the beginning of my ministry." *(NLT)*

Romans 8:26 And the Holy Spirit helps us in our weakness. For example, we don't know what God wants us to pray for. But the Holy Spirit prays for us with groanings that cannot be expressed in words. **27** And the Father who knows all hearts knows what the Spirit is saying, for the Spirit pleads for us believers in harmony with God's own will. **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. *(NLT)*

_____ Gifts - _____ In Action

Ephesians 4:11 Now these are the gifts Christ gave to the church: the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers. **12** Their responsibility is to equip God's people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ. **13** This will continue until we all come to such unity in our faith and knowledge of God's Son that we will be mature in the Lord, measuring up to the full and complete standard of Christ. *(NLT)*

Apostle: From *apostolos (Greek)* - "one who is sent." Foundational sense: the twelve + Paul. Broader sense: pioneer missionaries and church planters who establish the gospel in new territory.

Prophet: Those who speak God's truth with urgency and clarity into the church's current situation. Building, strengthening, comforting - and at times, rebuking with love and authority.

Evangelist: From *euangelion (Greek)* - the gospel. The supernatural ability to share the good news in ways that bring people to genuine faith. Philip *(Acts 21:8)* and Timothy *(2 Tim 4:5)* are named examples.

Pastor / Shepherd: In the original Greek, "pastors and teachers" may be a single office. The pastor's defining gift is tending the flock - feeding, protecting, caring for, and leading God's people with a shepherd's heart.

Teacher: The equipping gift of teaching operates at a church-wide level - building the whole body in biblical understanding so that every member can "do works of service."

_____ Gifts - _____ In Action

1 Peter 4:8 Most important of all, continue to show deep love for each other, for love covers a multitude of sins. **9** Cheerfully share your home with those who need a meal or a place to stay. **10** God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another. **11** Do you have the gift of speaking? Then speak as though God himself were speaking through you. Do you have the gift of helping others? Do it with all the strength and energy that God supplies. Then everything you do will bring glory to God through Jesus Christ. All glory and power to him forever and ever! Amen. *(NLT)*

Hospitality: "*xenia*," *(Greek)* a concept that emphasizes generosity and kindness towards guests and strangers. It involves providing food, shelter, and respect. The word used in Romans is "*philoxenia*" *(Greek), Philo (Greek)* being "brotherly love" - the literal meaning is "love of strangers."

Stewardship of Grace: handling what God has given with faithfulness, not ownership. Your gift does not belong to you. You are a steward of it, accountable for how you deploy it in the body.

Speaking: When we speak words of encouragement to each other, we are delivering God's words. The words you speak carry weight, and they should always reflect and imitate God.

Helping Others: When we sacrifice time and energy to meet each other's needs, we draw on God's own strength. The things you do and the things people see should point them to recognize and bring glory to God.

Paul gives the detailed list - Peter gives the principle.

- Every spiritual gift operates in one of two modes — speaking or serving.

2 Timothy 1:6 This is why I remind you to fan into flames the spiritual gift God gave you when I laid my hands on you. **7** For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love, and self-discipline. *(NLT)*

1 Corinthians 13:8 Prophecy and speaking in unknown languages and special knowledge will become useless. But love will last forever! **9** Now our knowledge is partial and incomplete, and even the gift of prophecy reveals only part of the whole picture! **10** But when the time of perfection comes, these partial things will become useless. *(NLT)*