

MY GOD IN MOTION...

What Does Imitate Christ Look Like?

*“Imitate me, just as I also imitate Christ.”*  
1 Corinthians 11:1

Virtual Home Group Bible Study

16 Oct 2024

# Agenda

- Purpose and Opening
- Topic: What, Why, How
- Discussion
- Resources
- Feedback and Future Topics
- Closing and Send off

# Purpose & Opening

## Purpose: Exhort one another into Love and Good Works

“And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works,  
Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some,  
but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.”

Hebrews 10:24-25

## Opening Prayer:

Thank you for opportunity

Give me Words to deliver Your message

Give us Eyes to See wonderful things from Your perspective

Give us Ears to Hear and understand Your Word

Help us get to know You through Your Word

Help us be transformed into the person You intended us to be

Help us turn Your Words into loving action through our flesh

Help us bring You glory in all we do

# Topic

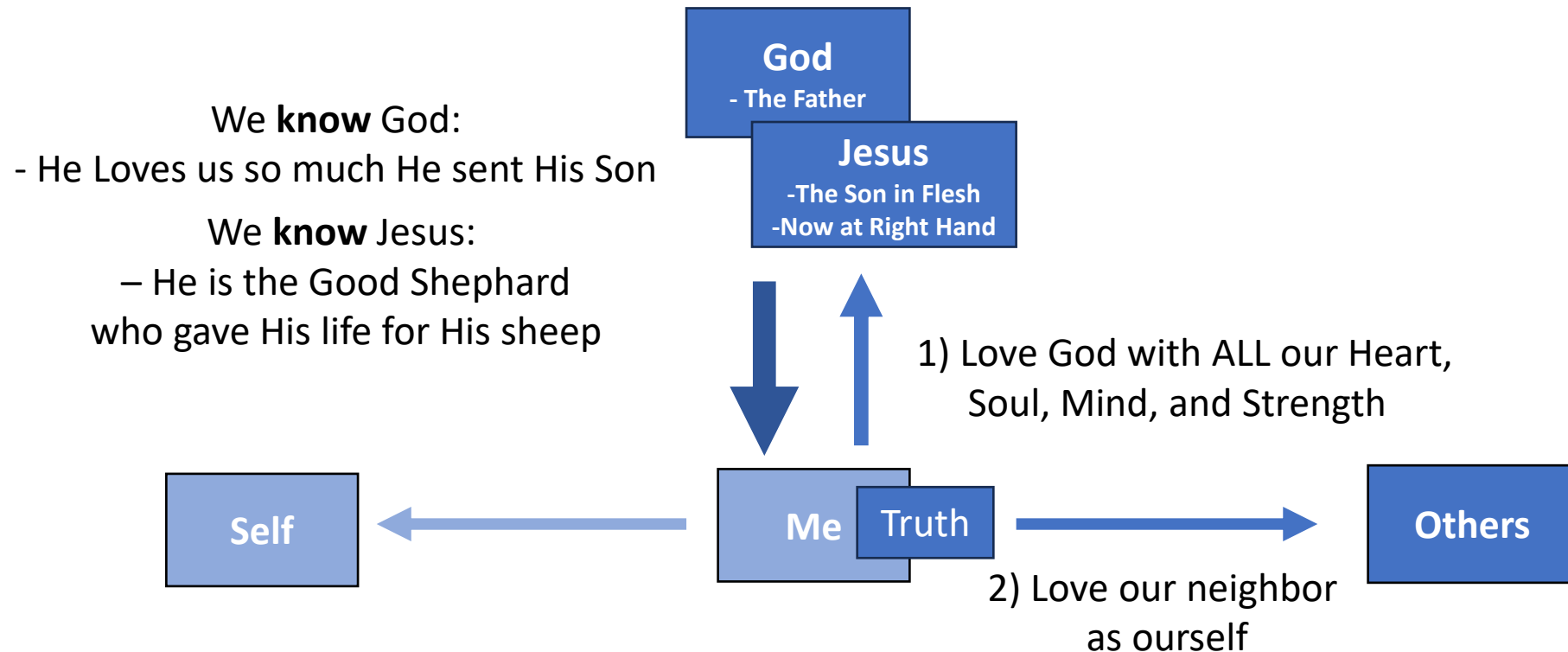
- What: What does imitate Christ look like
- Why:
  - Knowing ABOUT Jesus is good, but not enough
  - You must KNOW Jesus, and He must know YOU
  - We know Him when we are willing to do what He asks
  - He knows US when we follow His example and Imitate Him
    - Become Like Him, Walk as He walked
    - Be Obedient, Willing to sacrifice
    - Have the same love

# We Know Jesus if we do what He asks

## 1 John 2:3-4

**3 Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments.**

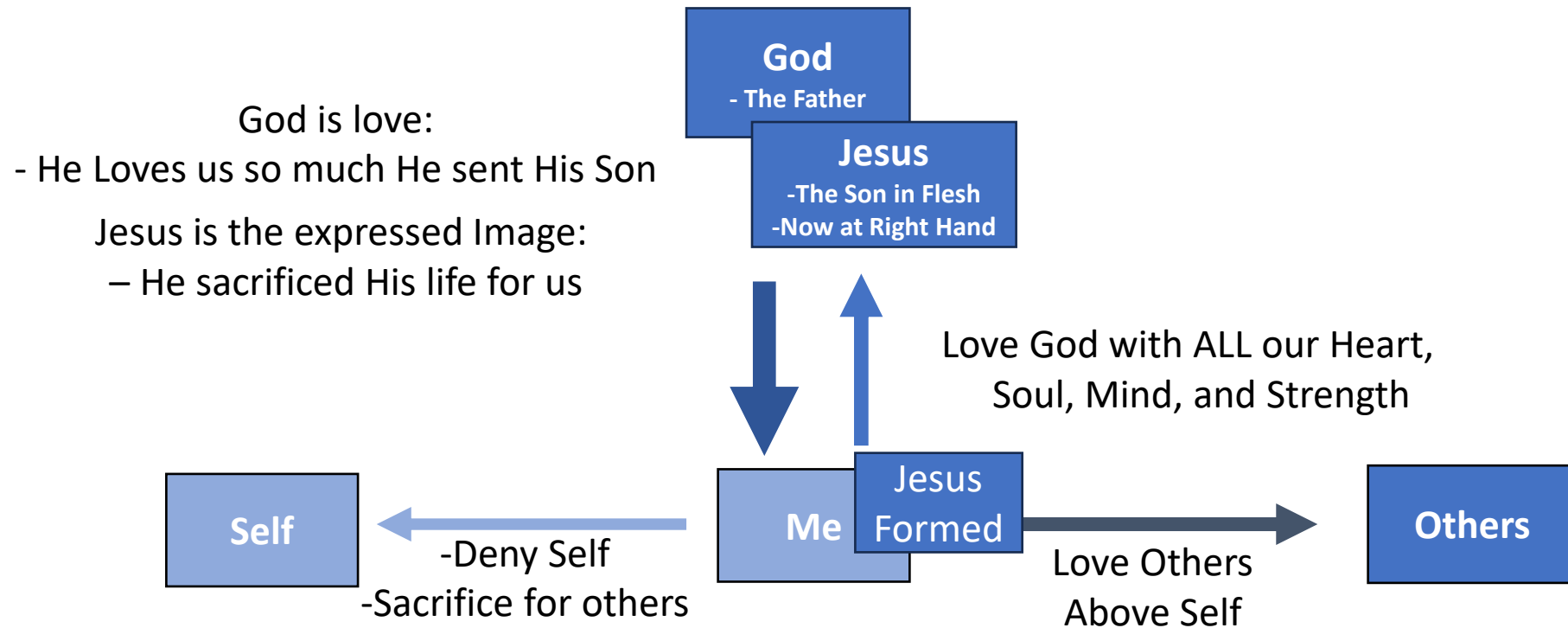
4 He who says, "I know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not **in** him.



# Perfect God's Love, Become Like Jesus

1 John 4:17

**Love has been perfected** among us in this: that we may have boldness in the day of judgment; because **as He is, so are we** in this world.



# Follow His Example – Walk as He Walked

## 1 John 2:5-6

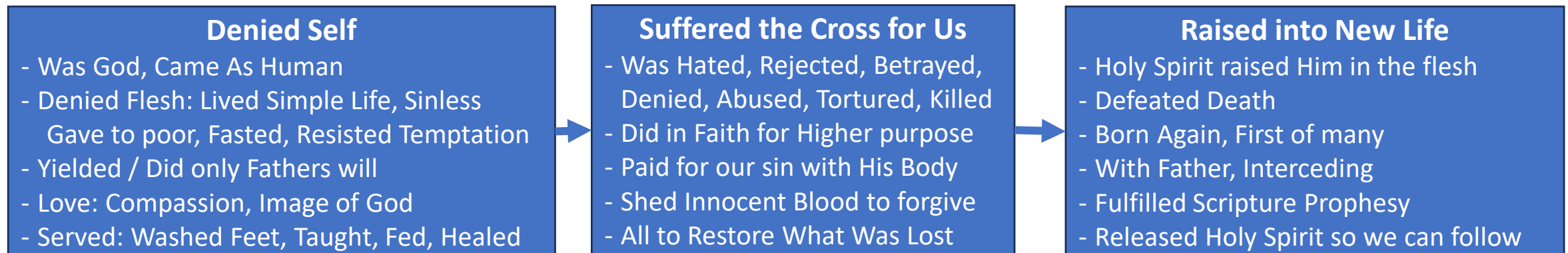
5 But whoever keeps His word, truly the **love of God is perfected** in him. By this we know that we are in Him. 6 He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to **walk just as He walked**.

## John 13:15

For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you.

## Matthew 16:24

Then Jesus said to His disciples, “If anyone desires to come after Me, let him **deny himself**, and **take up his cross**, and **follow Me**.”



# Humble and Obedient to the point of death

## Philippians 2:5-8

5 **Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus**, 6 who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, 7 but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men.

8 And being found in appearance as a man, **He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.**

## Revelation 12:11

And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and **they did not love their lives to the death.**



# Be Like Minded, Have The Same Love

## Philippians 2:1-5

2 Therefore if there is any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and mercy, 2 fulfill my joy by **being like-minded, having the same love**, being of one accord, of one mind.

3 Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, **but in lowliness of mind** (Humility) **let each esteem others better than himself**. 4 Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others.

# Love IS: 1 Cor 13:4-7

- NKJV: 4 Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; 5 does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; 6 does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; 7 bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.
- NIV: 4 Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. 5 It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. 6 Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. 7 It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.
- AMP: 4 Love endures with patience and serenity, love is kind and thoughtful, and is not jealous or envious; love does not brag and is not proud or arrogant. 5 It is not rude; it is not self-seeking, it is not provoked [nor overly sensitive and easily angered]; it does not take into account a wrong endured. 6 It does not rejoice at injustice, but rejoices with the truth [when right and truth prevail]. 7 Love bears all things [regardless of what comes], believes all things [looking for the best in each one], hopes all things [remaining steadfast during difficult times], endures all things [without weakening].

# What Does Love Look Like: 1 Cor 13:4-7

## Self-Consciousness Is

## Love Is

Impatient	↔	<b>Patient</b> , Endures with serenity
Uncaring, Inconsiderate, Mean, Stingy	↔	<b>Kind</b> , Thoughtful, Compassionate, Generous
<b>Covet</b> , Envy, Jealous, Want, Take	↔	Content, Satisfied
<b>Boastful</b> , Brag, Parading	↔	Modest, Unassuming
<b>Arrogant</b> , Proud, Know-it-all	↔	Humble, Approachable, Receptive
<b>Rude</b> , Dishonor Others	↔	Polite, Respectful
<b>Self-Seeking</b> , Self-Centered, Selfish Ambition	↔	Ignore Self, Focus on Others, Sacrifice Self
<b>Easily Provoked</b> , Irritable, Overly Sensitive	↔	Rational, Even Tempered
Takes Offense, Resentful, Holds Grudge	↔	<b>Take no account of wrongs endured</b> , Forgiving
<b>Delight in Evil</b> , Iniquity, Injustice and Suffering	↔	<b>Rejoices in Truth</b> , Justice, Well-being of All
Avoid, Find fault, Pick apart, Complain	↔	<b>Bears all things</b> , Protects others, Suffer quietly
Cynical, Deny, Doubting, Unbelief	↔	<b>Believes all things</b> , Trusts God, Has Faith
Fear, Worry, Discouragement, Despair	↔	<b>Hopes all things</b> , High Expectations
Wears Down, Gives Up, Gives In	↔	<b>Endures all things</b> , Persevere, Character

# Put Carnality to Death, Put on Love

## Colossians 3

3 If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. 2 Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. 3 For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. 4 When Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.

5 Therefore **put to death your members** which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. 6 Because of these things the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience, 7 in which you yourselves once walked when you lived in them.

8 But now you yourselves are to **put off all these**: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth. 9 Do not lie to one another, since you have **put off the old man** with his deeds, 10 and have **put on the new man** who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him, 11 where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcised nor uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave nor free, but Christ is all and in all.

12 Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, **put on** tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; 13 bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do. 14 But above all these things **put on love**, which is the bond of perfection. 15 And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful. 16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. 17 And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

# Put Carnality to Death, Put Off Old, Put On Love

## Old Self: Carnality

Focus on earthly life and things  
Sensual, self-centered drives

Corrupted “Earthly Members”

- Fornication
- Uncleanness (Excesses)
- Consuming Passions
- Evil Desire (Obsession, Lust)
- Covetousness (Greed, Idolatry)

Corrupted Actions / Reactions

- Anger
- Wrath
- Malice
- Blasphemy
- Filthy Language
- Lies

## Transformation / Baptism

Put Off the old man and His deeds

- Put to death earthly “members”
- Bury Corrupted Body with Jesus

Be raised in Christ to new life

- Past Dead and Hidden in Christ
- Born Again – Child of God

Put On the new man

- Holy and Blessed, Elect of God
- Renewed in knowledge
- Image Restored
- Christ in and Through You

## New Man: Spiritual, Love

Set your mind on things above

- Love and pursue God and His kingdom
- Word of God dwells richly in wisdom
- Teach and admonish others
- Sing with grace in your heart to the Lord
- Peace of God rules in your heart, One Body
- Do all in the name of the Lord, Thanks to God
- Glory When Christ appears in you and thru you

Love Others - Put on Love

- Tender mercies
- Kindness
- Humility
- Meekness
- Patience
- Bearing with one another
- Forgiving others, as Christ forgave
- Always Thankful

# Do I Love God or Love My Self?

## Love Self

It Is All About Me

Who Am I Here and Now

How Much Pleasure Can I Get

What I Look Like

What Status, Job, Title, Position

What Things I Have

What Others Think / Say

Take Credit for Good / Avoid Blame

It Is My Life, I am in Control

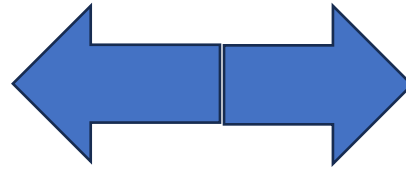
Use Others For My Gain

What Do Others Have

Pursue, Take, or Destroy

Diminish Others To Raise Myself

Deny or Minimize God / Eternity



## Love God

It is All About God & The Kingdom

Do everything you do FOR Him

Learn About Him, Embrace Him, Believe

Spend Time With Him, Talk, Listen

Allow Him To Lead, Trust Him, Have Faith

Acknowledge Him, Share Testimony

Change – Pursue Righteousness

Deny Yourself – It is NOT about you

Repent, Keep His Commandments

Live Life Worthy, Be Example

Invest in Kingdom: Love Neighbor – Attitude, Resources

Serve Others – Do Good Works, Be Beacon

Forgive Others – Overcome Evil with good

Pick Up Your Cross – Suffer wrongs when needed

# How: Next Steps

- What can we do going forward?
  - Pause / Reflect: Do I Love God or Love Myself more?
    - Time, Thoughts, Actions, Resources
  - Ask: Where is “Self” still keeping Jesus (Love) from forming in me?
    - Pride? Ego? Fear? Faith?
  - Ask God for insight on your journey
    - Where is MY will still not aligned with YOUR will
- How do we know it is working?
  - You seek His face and let Him lead you through opportunities
    - You start to care and notice more opportunities
    - You recognize more internal barriers to address
- What do we do when we notice a barrier?
  - Run to God
    - Thank Him for helping your notice, Caring is the first step
    - Seek to understand the driver (usually your self-centered will)
  - Repent
  - Claim calling to be better: We are clay, He is the potter, He will finish His work

# Discussion

- Does this make sense?
  - Questions
  - Clarification
  - Other Inputs
- Practical Experiences in this Area
  - Successes
  - Struggles / Barriers
  - Strategies to Overcome
  - Lesson Learned

## Discussion:

- Folks struggle when they still see flaws in themselves after striving to do well. Are they really doing ok? Are they on the right track. Huge lesson is that caring is the first step. Before you cared you were oblivious to the issue and didn't recognize the flaw or its consequences. Now you notice and care, and that is a big deal. Now run to God with it and let Him help change you.
- We are each on a journey with unique situations and unique internal barriers.
- It is wonderful when you can be connected to God, Listen to input, respond, and see results.
- We have opportunities to leverage our new born again identity and fight back against the fallen world. I have some teaching to help. Several on the call have testimonies to share at some point

## Success:

- Heard God suggest creating a Church info card to hand out
- Created Church Card with Church, Paster, Service times, Address, Prayer Numbers, Her Name
- Offer to folks who are receptive
- Several recent folks acknowledged need to find a church
- Felt Joy in spirit for listening, doing, and then seeing result



# Resources

## Identity and Purpose

- Dan Mohler: How to live each day with purpose  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s2fzsxXwapE>

## Transformation

- Dan Mohler: Water Baptism is a big deal [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gF\\_vyFvVGy8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gF_vyFvVGy8)
- My Blog: Deny Yourself  
<https://mygodinmotion.org/about-him-god-jesus/principles/deny-yourself-pick-up-your-cross-daily-follow-jesus/>

## Become Love

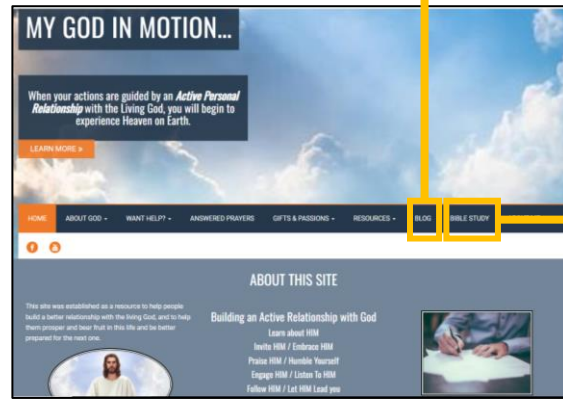
- Random Acts of Kindness: <https://www.randomactsofkindness.org/>
- My Blog: Become Like Jesus, Become Love  
<https://mygodinmotion.org/about-him-god-jesus/principles/become-like-jesus-become-love/>
- My Blog: Have you become Love? Here is a test...:  
<https://mygodinmotion.org/about-him-god-jesus/principles/have-you-become-love-here-is-a-test/>

# “My God In Motion” Resources

Website: <https://mygodinmotion.org/>

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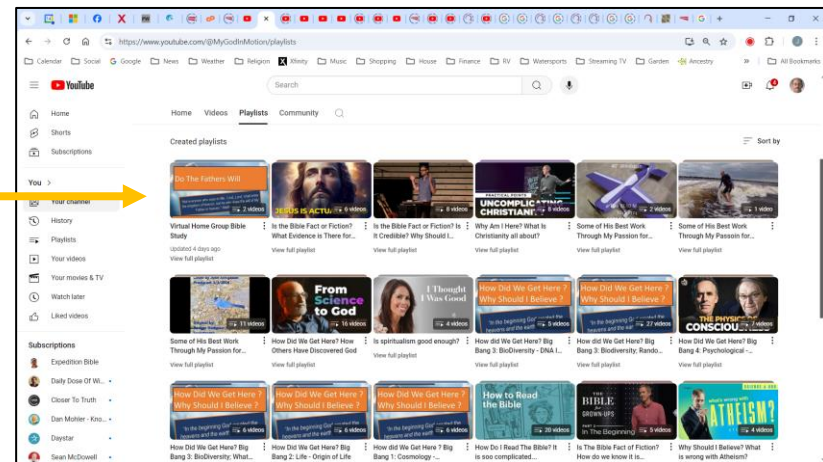
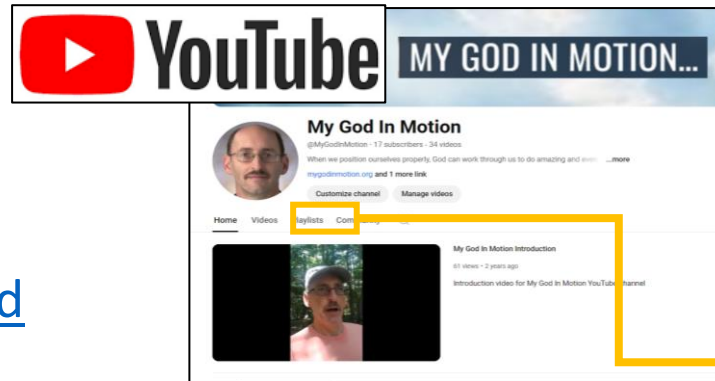
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Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/MGIMonFB>

# Feedback

- What is working: Keep doing
  - ✓ Good content - Food for thought
  - ✓ Good mix of content & discussion
  - ✓ Good Format - Casual / Informal – Easy to engage
  - Graphics are good/helpful - Draw the story together
- What could be better: Suggestions to consider
  - ✓ Let folks do a quick intro to get familiar
  - ✓ Host to log in at 6:45 so others can get settled online and start on time

# Future Topics

Candidate topic for next week: What Happened in The Garden

Some Recent Activity / Potential Topics:

- What is Lust of the Eye?
- How do you Eat the Word of God?
- What does it mean to be a Branch?
- How is God's Love perfected through us?

Any hot topics on your mind?

- How to stand in Faith in end times

Range of Candidate Topics In Appendix

# Closing

- Thank You for this opportunity, fellowship, sharing
- Thank you for the gift of Your Word, and Your Son who made it flesh
- May we See, Hear, and Embrace your Word in our Heart, and assimilate it into our flesh
- May we recognize the opportunities within us and around us
- May we seek Your face and embrace Your help to root out our selfish agendas
- May we transform into Your image and perfect the flow of Your love to others
- May we be inspired into the good works that You have prepared
- May we walk in the light as Jesus was in the light
- May we shine as a light in this dark world
- May we become bright beacons for Your kingdom
- May we do all in Your name to bring glory to the Father who sent You

“...if My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.” 2 Chronicles 7:14

# Appendix

# Potential Topics – 1 of 3

God	
	Why should an intelligent person believe in God?
	How can a loving and benevolent God allow suffering?
	Is God "in control" of what happens here?
	What is God's will and How can I understand it?
	When He says love Him with ALL our heart, does he really mean ALL?
Bible	
	What is the Bible and what makes it special/unique?
	What evidence do we have that the Bible is credible?
	Hasn't the bible been corrupted over the years?
	What are the key messages in the bible?
	Am I supposed to take everything in the Bible literally?
	What are the best practices for reading the Bible?
	How does scripture come alive?
	What does it mean to "Eat the word of God"
	What is the "sword of the spirit" and how do I use it
Heaven and Hell	
	What evidence do we have that there is life after death
	What is heaven like
	What is hell like
	How do folks end up in heaven or hell
	Why would a loving God punish people for eternally in hell
	How can I know if I will end up in heaven or hell

Adam/Eve/Sin/Fallen world	
	What happened in the Garden?
	How does sin separate us from God?
	How is all sin rebellion against God?
	How did we inherit a flawed sinful nature from Adam?
	What are the consequences/wages so sin?
Jesus	
	What evidence outside the Bible tells us Jesus was a real person?
	Why did Jesus come here? Just so you could get to heaven?
	Why is it important that Jesus came here as a human - the son of man?
	Was Jesus God? Did he claim to be God?
	Did Jesus exist before He appeared on earth?
	What does it mean that "The Word became Flesh"
	What evidence do we have that Jesus was raised from the dead?
	What evidence do we have that Jesus was the messiah/the Christ?
	What were Jesus' key teaching messages?
	What did He really accomplish on the cross?
	How could Jesus "Become Sin"?
	What is special about His blood and His body?
Holy Spirit	
	What is the trinity and how does that work?
	How do we receive the Holy Spirit?
	What does the Holy Spirit do in us?
	How do I know if I have the Holy Spirit in me?
	Are miracles for today?

# Potential Topics – 2 of 3

Salvation
Why do i need a saviour?
I think I am a good person ! Won't that get me into heaven?
My good far outweighs my bad - Won't that tip the scales and get me in?
I am very religious, go to church, do stuff for God - Won't that buy my way in?
God is love, I dont think He would ever punish someone in hell? Woud He?
I said the sinners prayer once? That is all I need to do to get in, isnt it?
What does it mean to "repent" of your sins? Have I done that?
What does it mean to "believe God raised Jesus from the dead"? Do I?
What does it mean to "confess Jesus as Lord"? Have I done it?
What do I have to give up if I make Jesus lord of my life?
What happens when I am saved? How do i know if I am saved?
Sanctification
What is the difference between salvation and sanctification?
What does baptism accomplish? Is it necessary?
I was baptized as an infant is that good enough?
What does "crucify your flesh" mean?
What does it mean to "bury your body of sin"
What does it mean to "put off the old man" and "put on Christ" mean?
What does "Deny yourself, pick up your cross daily, and follow me" mean?
What does it mean to "Be transformed by the renewal of your mind"
What does it mean for "Jesus to form in me"?
What does it mean for "Jesus to live through me"?
What does it mean to "take all thoughts captive"?

Your Identify
What does it mean to be made in God's image?
How do we know God loves us?
What does it mean to be born again?
What does it mean to become a "Child Of God"?
What does it mean to be "the Body of Christ"?
What does it mean to be "In Christ"?
How can God see me as innocent and holy after all I have done?
Guilt, shame, and condemnation is normal isn't it?
Am I really forgiven?
What does it mean to "focus forward"?
Your Purpose
Why are we here? What is our purpose?
How can I find my specific purpose?
We are called to become love. What does that look like?
What stops the flow of God's love?
How do we "perfect" God's love?
We are called to be ambassadors for Christ? How do we do that?
Do you walk in the light as HE is in the light?
Are you a bright light in this dark world?
Are you a bright beacon on a hill?



# Potential Topics - 3 of 3

Developing a personal relationship with God	
	How do you have a personal relationship with God?
	What is the difference between knowing about God and Knowing God?
	How can you get to know God?
	How can we know God's will? Isn't he mysterious and unknowable
	How can I hear God's voice?
	What does it mean to have communion with God?
	What the difference between belief and faith?
	How does prayer work? What are some best practices?
	What is fervent prayer?
	How can I be lead by the spirit?
	What does it mean to put your trust in Him?
	How do I avoid a spirit of fear?
Spiritual Warfare	
	Is Satan / The devil real? Is there an active evil force at work?
	What are his tactics?
	How to i resiet the devil?
	What is the armour of God? How do i put it on?
	What authority do I have? How do I use it?
	What is the sword of the spirit? and how do i use it?
	How do Jesus stripes heal us?
	What does it mean to be "clothed in righteousness"?
	What does it mean to "do the works that Jesus did"?
	What does it mean to "Speak to your mountain"?
	WHY do we "ask in Jeuss name"?
	What does it mean to "Believe when you pray"?
	What signs will follow "those who believe"?

Be led By the Spirit	
	What does the holy spirit do in me
	How can I be led by the spirit
	How can I hear its' voice
	What is Faith? Where does it come from?
	What is Grace? How do I receive it?
	How does flesh war with the spirit?
	What power doe the holy spirit have?