



Homecoming

A Journey of Reconciliation and Restoration



Celebration

Jesus, be the centre

**Jesus, be the centre
Be my source, be my light
Jesus**

**Jesus, be the centre
Be my hope, be my song
Jesus**

**Be the fire in my heart
Be the wind in these sails
Be the reason that I live
Jesus, Jesus**

**Jesus, be my vision
Be my path, be my guide
Jesus.**

MICHAEL FRYE



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Celebration

Congratulations

You have been re-united with the Lord and are of one spirit with Him (*1 CORINTHIANS 6:17*).

You have successfully renounced the lie that you are unloved and unworthy, and profess that in Christ you are redeemed and forgiven (*COLOSSIANS 1:14*), and completely acceptable (*ROMANS 5:1*).

You have successfully rejected the notion that you are guilty and abandoned. Instead you are confident that in Christ you are pardoned (*ROMANS 8:31-34*) and protected (*ROMANS 8:35-39*).

You have come to the end of the journey and the Father has just prepared a feast for you. You have overcome, and the body of believers that suffered with you, now rejoices with you (*1 CORINTHIANS 12:26*).

Guard your heart

Now guard your heart, because the devil does not like your victory. Your freedom must be maintained - you must assume responsibility over your thought life. Your heart must stay focused on the things that are Godly.

Put on the armor of God so you can fight your spiritual battles

knowing that with Him you will win. Carry the shield of faith so you can stop the devil's temptations in the name of Jesus. Be confident; after all, you ARE wearing the helmet of salvation and wielding the Spirit's sword (*EPHESIANS 6:10-17*). Ephesians continues to counsel you to be on your knees and pray on all occasions; for yourself and the body of believers (*EPHESIANS 6:18*).

Stay involved in a church that is both loving and caring. Always be open and honest with your fellow believers. You are all of the same body - treat them accordingly.

Study the bible daily, and meditate on the words you are reading.

Pray that God will reveal to you the wisdom hidden in His Word. Share what you discover with others so they may experience God's love through you (*PSALM 19:14*).

Reject all lies, focus on truth and stand firm. Continue to be obedient to Christ with all of your heart, your soul, your strength and your mind (*LUKE 10:27*).

Cleanse your home of all things that may lead you to ungodly thoughts or behaviour. Claim each room in prayer as a place of spiritual safety for you and your family, and ask for protection by God's army of angels to ward off any attacks by the enemy.

When assaulted by temptation, you can tell the enemy with confidence that you are washed in the blood of the Lamb, and as such it has no more power over you. In Jesus Christ you have the authority to renounce evil spirits and command them to be gone (*TITUS 2:11-15*).

Don't let occasional failure dishearten you. The devil will use it as proof that you are weak and not worthy to your claim of victory. He will try to convince you that

you may as well take charge of your own destiny. Do not argue with the devil, but instead turn your face to God, admit your failure, ask for forgiveness and renewed strength to continue your battle. In the light of God, the devil must flee (*JAMES 4:7*).

“If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare His own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will He not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies.”

ROMANS 8:31-33

Accountability

It is good to have a friend you can trust and lean on in times of assault by the enemy - a partner you can admit your weakness to. Meet and call your partner on a regular basis and share each other's victories and failures. Together you can pray for God's protective power over your thoughts, your actions and your desires.

Character Inspection Chart

Another helpful tool is to keep track of daily growth in character.

On the opposite page you will find a chart that you can photocopy, and on which you can evaluate where your strengths and weaknesses are on a scale from 1 to 5. Thank God daily for your strengths, and pray for His helping hand in your weaknesses. Do this as long as necessary. God is patient and will help you grow.

Each day rate your behaviour between good (5) and weak (0).

When you can honestly respond with a 4 or a 5, give humble thanks to God. Bring your 2 and 3 grades before Him. If you find a pattern of 0 and 1 scores, please consider speaking with your pastor, or taking the *Homecoming* journey once more.

Add up the monthly totals for each character trait and compare these each month (take in consideration the amount of days in each month). Your totals should remain high, or increase. If they go down, you'll need to consider pastoral care or repeat the *Homecoming* journey.



Suggested Prayers

Affirmation

“Lord God you have delivered me from the domain of sin into your eternal kingdom. I praise your name! I denounce any residue of power that the devil has over me and reject any temptation he throws at me. I cannot do so in my own strength, but am enabled by your Holy Spirit. Through the sacrificial death and victorious resurrection of Jesus Christ, I now belong to His body and live assured in your gift of salvation and eternal life.

I have put on the armour of Christ and will reject Satan’s hold over my thoughts, actions and desires. By the authority you have given me I can command all evil spirits and all enemies of Jesus Christ to leave. I commit myself to you O God, and to your will from this day forward. Amen”.

Submission

“Heavenly Father, I approach your throne as your child, reconciled by the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ. You are the Lord of the Universe and the Lord of my life. I submit my heart, my soul, my strength and my mind to you as an instrument of righteousness; a living and holy sacrifice. I want to glorify you in my body. Lord, fill me with your Holy Spirit I pray in the name of the risen Lord. Amen”.

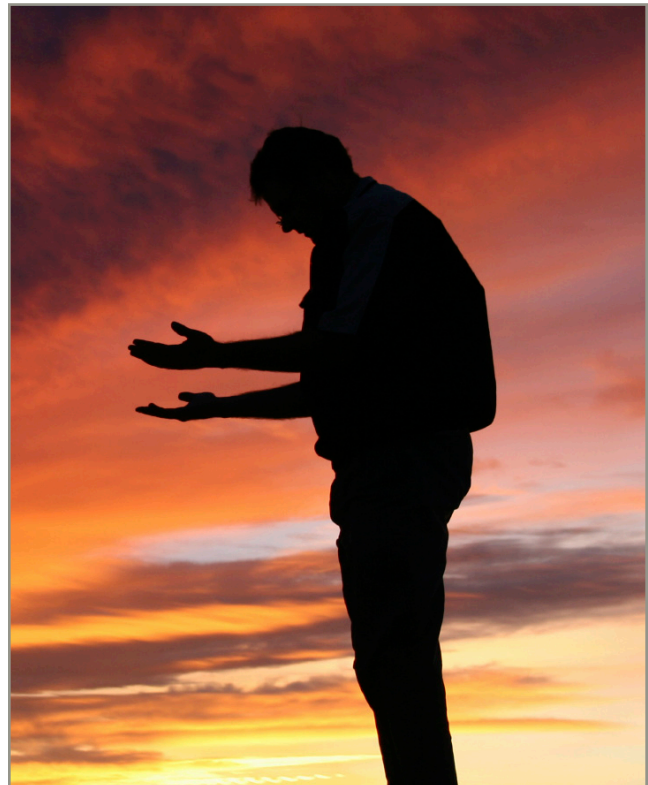
Thankfulness

“Almighty God and wonderful Father, I praise your Holy name for the discoveries you have awarded me. I no longer need to depend upon my inadequate performance - I have discovered that your Spirit will guide my life. I no longer need to worry about my self-worth - I have discovered you have created me wonderful and unique, that I am made in your own image. I no longer have to be anxious about my future - I have discovered that you will provide my needs from day to day. I no longer need to fear death - I have discovered that your Son has paid for my sins, and that your grace is sufficient for my salvation. I no longer need to linger on the pain that Christ endured on my behalf - I have discovered that I am forgiven and therefore I am able to love and forgive those who have caused me pain. Thank you Father for these wonderful discoveries; for everything that you have done for me. Lord God I glorify your name in all the earth. Amen”.

Confession

“Dear heavenly Father, today I have offended you. I covered my ears so I would not bear your instructions. I covered my eyes and lost your directions. I closed my heart and ignored your knocking. Instead I satisfied my own desires and (specify your relapse). I hear the snickering of demons and smell the foul stink of defeat. I realize that the pleasures of sin are short and demeaning, yet I allowed myself to be fooled by empty promises and thrilling lies. God in heaven forgive my relapse. I am so sorry for insulting you and causing you pain. O how I need you Lord to make me see your light, to keep me on a righteous path and open the door when you knock. Will you please continue to stand with me and clothe me in the armour of your love? Father, I adore you; I want to follow you. In your name I want to denounce my sinful desires. Dear God thank you for letting me try again; for the assurance that I am yours forever; for the knowledge that nothing - not even the devil himself can separate me from you!

Thank you Lord for listening to me; by your grace I choose to walk by faith in the power of the Holy Spirit. In Jesus’ name I pray. Amen”.



Fill your mind with things that are Godly

Teaching

JAMES 1:12 - Blessed is the man who perseveres under trial...
ECCLESIASTES 4:9-11 - Two are better than one...
JAMES 5:16 - Therefore confess your sins to each other...
PROVERBS 3:5-6 - Trust the Lord with all your heart...
PHILIPPIANS 4:8-9 - Whatever is true, whatever is noble...
MATTHEW 6:14-15 - For if you forgive men...
LUKE 6:27-31 - Love your enemies...
MATTHEW 5:23-24 - First go and be reconciled to your brother...
EPHESIANS 4:22-24 - Put off your old self...
LUKE 6:49 - But the one who hears my words...
EPHESIANS 5:1-2 - Be imitators of God...
ROMANS 6:11-12 - Count yourself dead to sin but alive in God...
PSALMS 139:23-24 - Search me, O God and know my heart...
COLOSSIANS 3:5-8 - Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs...

Supporting

MARK 11:24 - Whatever you ask for in prayer...
PSALMS 25:4-5 - Show me your ways, O Lord...
PSALMS 119:105-106 - Your word is a lamp to my feet...
PHILIPPIANS 4:6 - Do not be anxious about anything...
ISAIAH 30:21 - Whether you turn to the right or to the left...
GALATIANS 6:1 - If someone is caught in a sin...
LUKE 8:16-18 - No one lights a lamp and hides it in a jar...
2 CORINTHIANS 12:9-10 - My grace is sufficient for you...
PROVERBS 28:26 - He who trusts in himself is a fool...
LAMENTATIONS 3:19-22 - I remember my afflictions...

Assuring

JEREMIAH 29:11-14 - For I know the plans I have for you...
JOHN 3:16-17 - For God so loved the world...
JAMES 4:10 - Humble yourself before the Lord...
PSALMS 34:18-22 - The Lord is close to the brokenhearted...
ISAIAH 41:10 - So do not fear for I am with you...
MATTHEW 11:28-30 - Come to me all you who are weary...
JAMES 1:12 - Blessed is the man who perseveres...
2 THESSALONIANS 3:3 - But the Lord is faithful...
1 JOHN 3:14-15 - This is the assurance we have...
PHILIPPIANS 1:6 - He who began a good work in you...

Uplifting

EPHESIANS 1:5-6 - He predestined us to be adopted as His sons...
COLOSSIANS 1:13-14 - He has rescued us from the dominion of darkness...
ROMANS 8:1-2 - Therefore there is now no condemnation...
COLOSSIANS 2:10 - You have been given fullness in Christ...
PHILIPPIANS 3:20 - But our citizenship is in heaven...

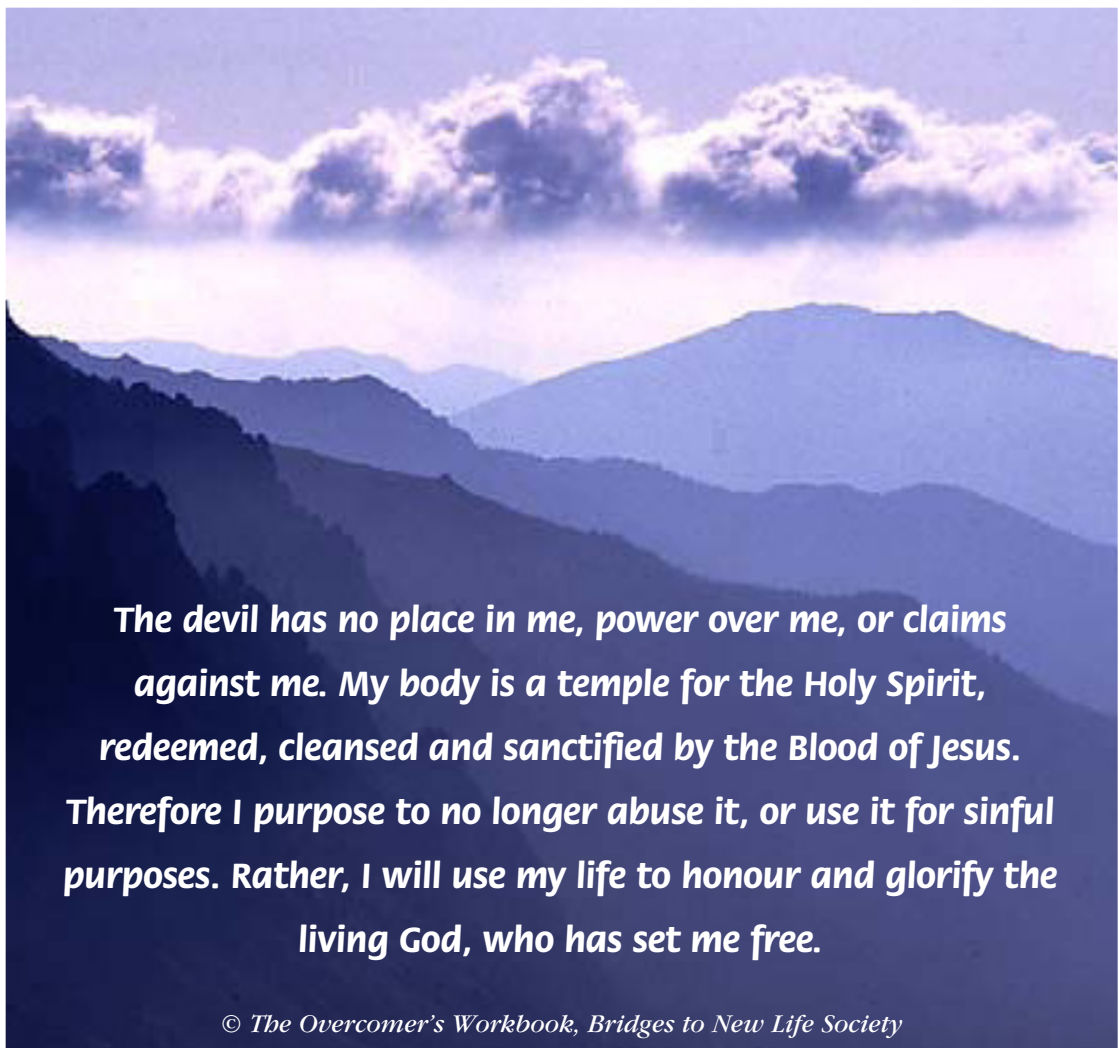
Praising

GALATIANS 2:20 - I have been crucified With Christ...
PSALMS 144, 145, 146, 148 and 150



“For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the presence nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord”.

ROMANS 8: 38-39



The devil has no place in me, power over me, or claims against me. My body is a temple for the Holy Spirit, redeemed, cleansed and sanctified by the Blood of Jesus. Therefore I purpose to no longer abuse it, or use it for sinful purposes. Rather, I will use my life to honour and glorify the living God, who has set me free.

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“Blessed is the man who perseveres under trial, because when he has stood the test, he will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love Him”.

JAMES 1:12

Dear Traveller, we celebrate with you the completion of your *Homecoming* journey. We pray that you will continue to experience the warm embrace of His unconditional love.