

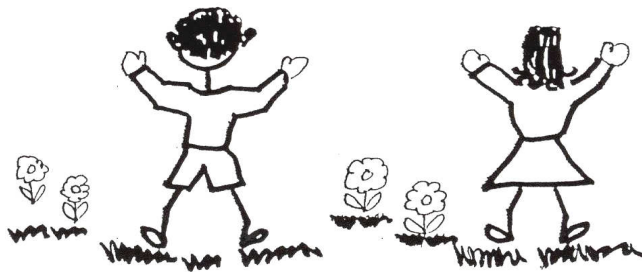
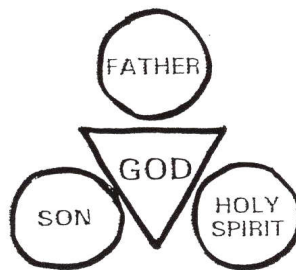
It's  
Not  
About  
**You**  
or  
**Me**

# IT'S ABOUT GOD AND HIS MATCHLESS GRACE!

(Matchless grace means that no one can outdo God in giving.)

## Grace

Grace means favor [or concern], kindness, and mercy [forgiveness]. God is able to show concern, kindness, and mercy to us because of the Lord Jesus Christ's saving work on the cross. Grace is all that God is free to do for mankind without giving up any part of His divine nature. It is free, unmerited love and favor from God alone. IT'S NOT ABOUT US! Isn't that a relief?



Thank You God.

2 Peter 3:18 "...but grow by means of the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ."

Psalm 19:7 "The doctrine of the Lord is perfect, restoring the soul..."

Psalm 40:11 "Thy lovingkindness and Thy truth will continually preserve me."

Grace is the plan of God the Father, the work of God the Son, and the enabling power of the Holy Spirit. It required God the Father to bring about a plan. It took an amazing, unique [one of a kind], action called the Cross of Jesus Christ to set it up. It takes ongoing, unlimited power coming from the Holy Spirit to mankind to keep it in action. Isn't the awesome?

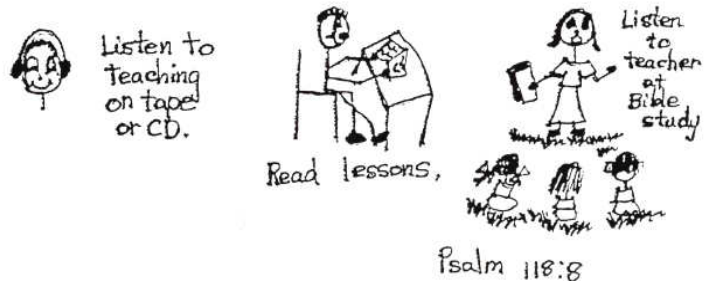
IT'S ALL ABOUT GOD!

God has a plan for your life.

1. Salvation



3. Learn and follow doctrine, God's way of thinking.

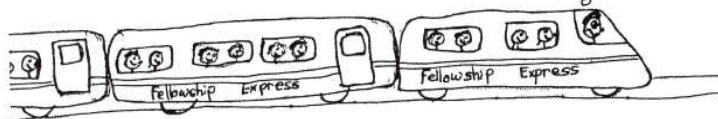


Psalm 118:8

2. Be led by the Holy Spirit.

1 John 1:9

When I'm filled with the Holy Spirit, I'm on the right track.



4. Spend eternity with Him in Heaven.



Acts 16:31

2 Peter 1:2 "Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.

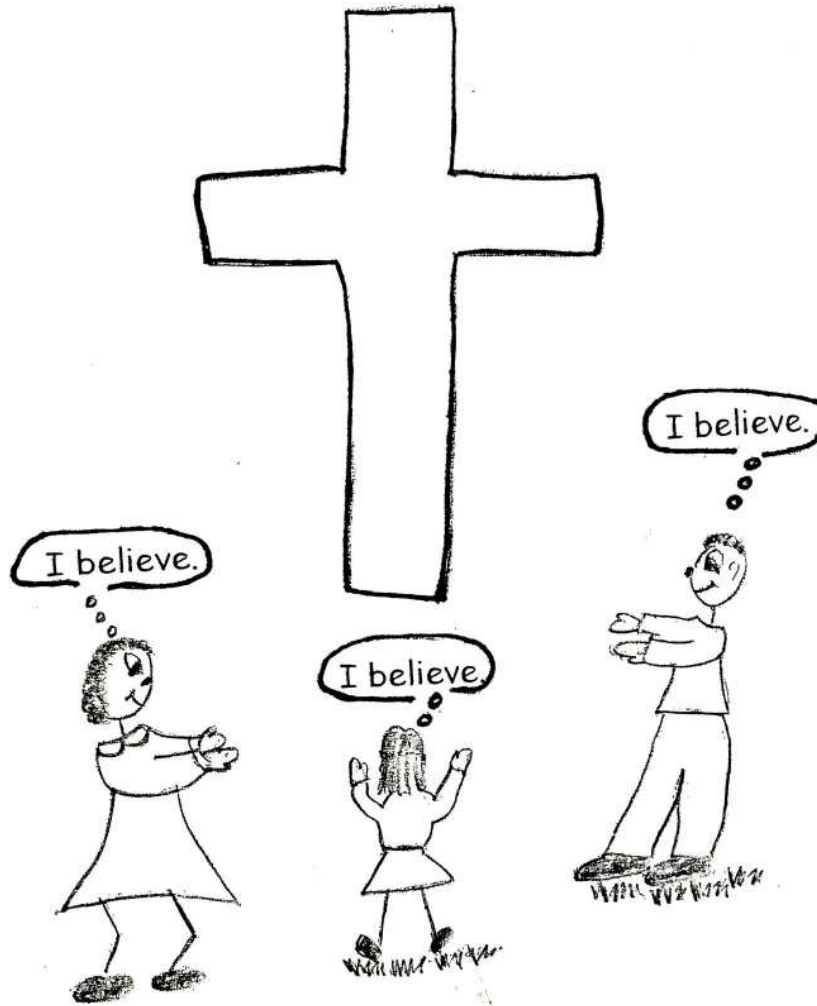
Grace is the freedom that God has to show His love to all mankind. He showers us with gifts. We don't earn them or deserve them. The work of the Lord Jesus Christ on the cross is one of God's biggest grace gifts. All we have to do is to believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and we have salvation forever. We never lose it! It doesn't wear out! What a gift! IT IS FOR US!



John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish [be destroyed] but have eternal life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through Him."

Since salvation is a gift, we don't have to pay for it. God doesn't say, "I'll give you the key to heaven, but you have to work for it!" God, in His wisdom, knew that we would be bragging all over the place if we worked for our salvation. We cannot take the credit for salvation, and that is good. God gets the credit.

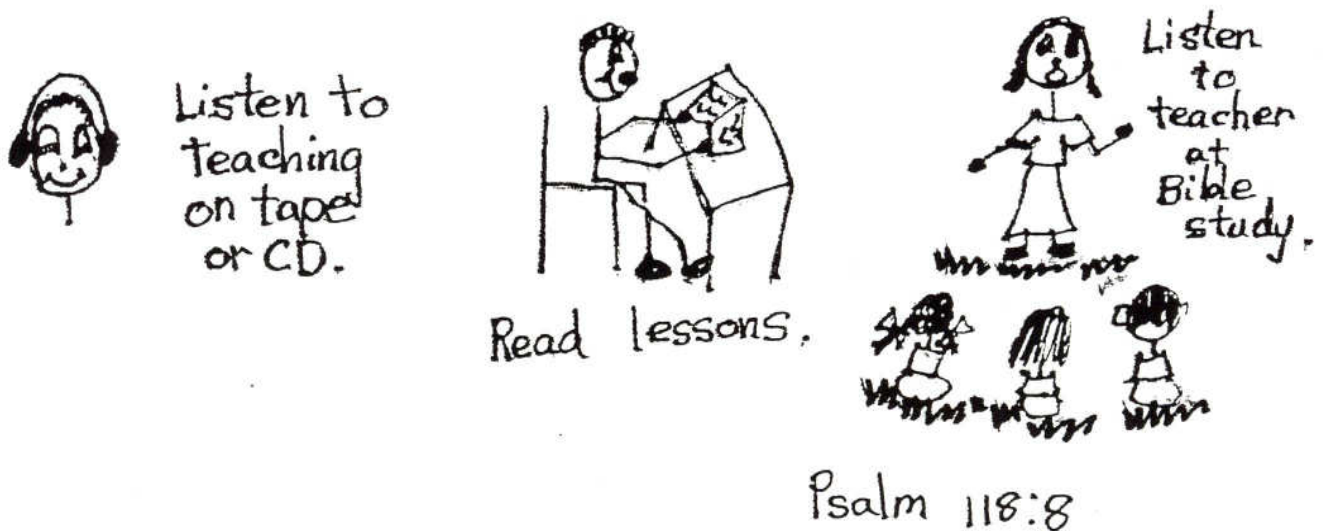
IT'S ABOUT GOD!



Ephesians 2:8 "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith - and this[is] not from yourselves, it is the gift of God - not of works, so that no one can boast [brag]."

The more we learn about God, the more the Holy Spirit changes our way of thinking. Then we have the thinking of the Lord Jesus Christ and the capacity or ability to do things God's way. That is grace working. God changes us! He does it His way!

IT'S NOT ABOUT OUR WAY!



Psalm 118:8

Philippians 2:3 "Do nothing motivated by contentiousness [arguments] or ambitious pride, but with humility of mind [by means of grace orientation] let each of you keep on considering one another as more important than himself..."

Philippians 2:4-5 "Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others. Keep on thinking this [doctrine] within yourselves which was also resident in Christ Jesus, ..."

God gives through His grace to us. He gives us time, talents and treasures. The more we know about Him through studying His Word, the more capacity we have to use the time, talents and treasures He gave us. God gives us opportunities to help others so that we can express our love and devotion to Him. We give of our time, talents and treasures. However, we are not paying God back! We are sharing our gifts so that others can be blessed. God isn't stingy and He doesn't want us to be stingy.

### IT'S NOT ABOUT US!

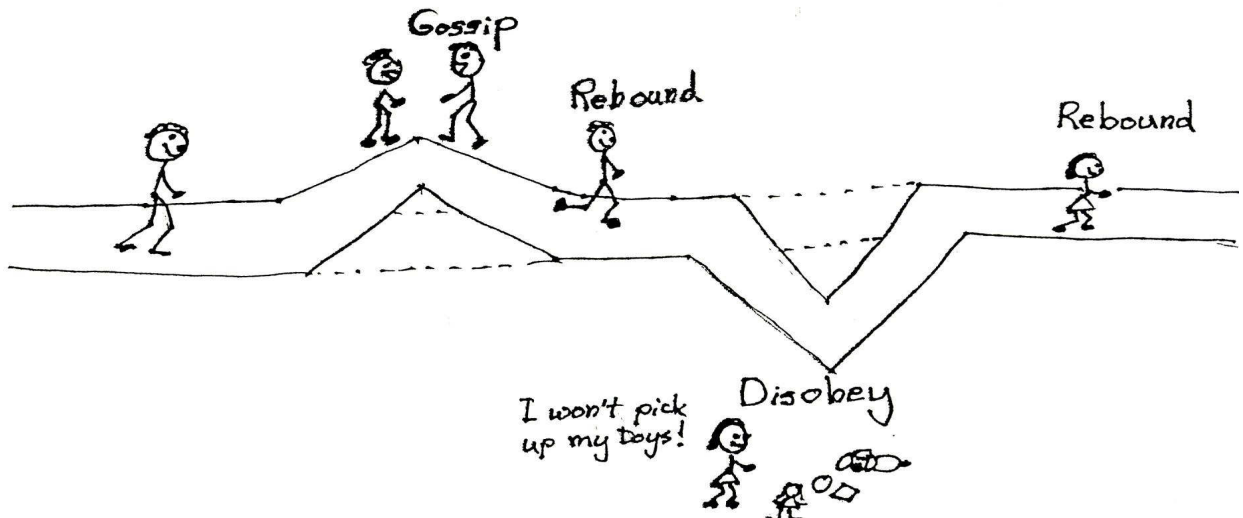


Romans 12:6 "We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. If a man's gift is prophesying, let him use it in proportion to his faith. If it is serving, let him serve; if it is teaching, let him teach; if it is encouraging, let him encourage; if it is contributing to the needs of others, let him give generously; if it is leadership, let him govern diligently; if it is showing mercy, let him do it cheerfully."

Grace is not held back or withdrawn because of failure. God does not take His gift back. It stops being grace if God has to take it away when we fail or sin. What God does with grace in our life may be different when we fail or sin because God wants to get us back on the right track. God doesn't even lesson grace when we fail or sin. We get the same amount, but again just in a different way. That should make us sit back, relax and realize that IT'S NOT ABOUT US AND ALL ABOUT GOD!

### Rebound 1 John 1:9

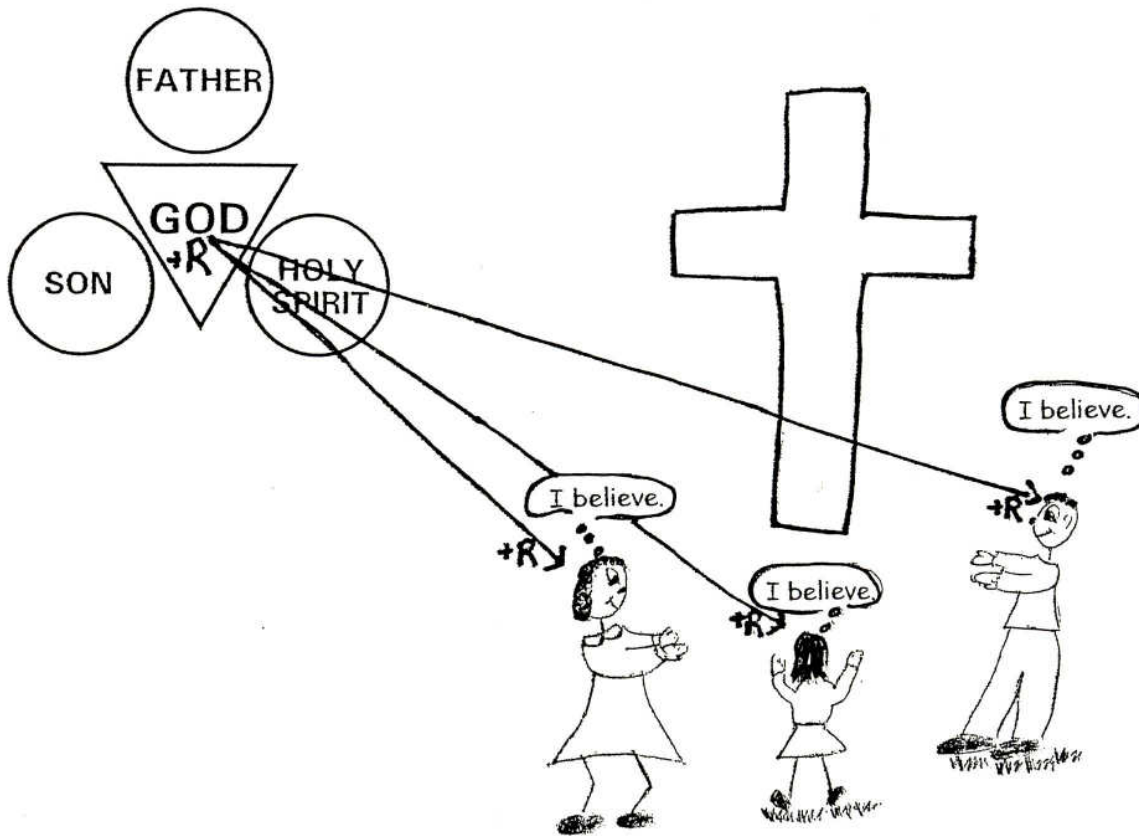
When we sin, we lose the filling of the Holy Spirit. Then we need to privately tell God the Father our sins, or REBOUND. When we do that our sins are forgiven, we are filled with the Holy Spirit and back on the right path. That's grace.



Hebrews 8:12 "For I will be merciful to their iniquities [wickedness], and I will remember their sins no more."

God never blesses us because of human works but because we have His righteousness as born-again believers. When we made the non-meritorious decision to believe in Jesus Christ, God gave us at least 40 grace gifts. One of them was His righteousness. Because of His righteousness, He can grace us out or bless us for the rest of our lives!!!

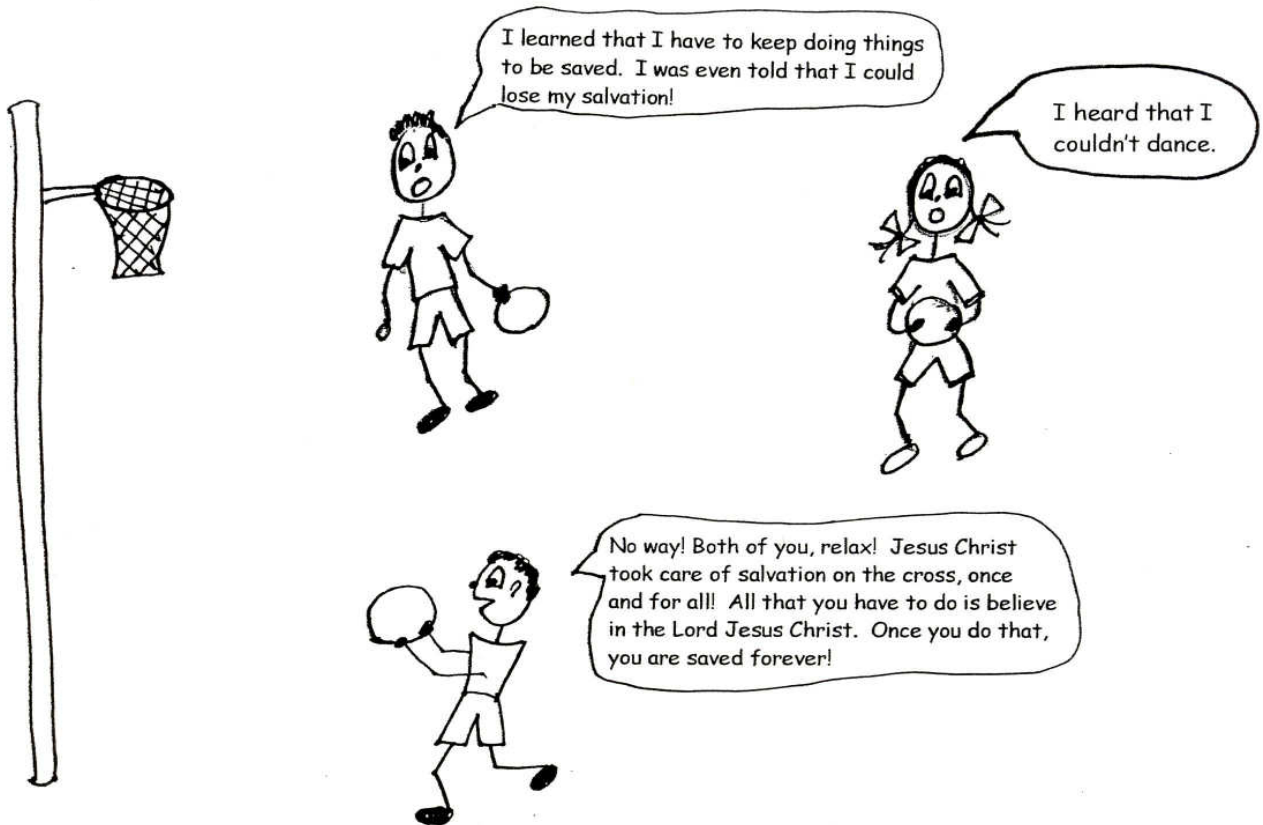
IT'S ALL ABOUT GOD!



Titus 3:5-7 "He saves us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit, Whom He poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, that being justified by His grace we might be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life."

Legalism is a big word that means that man is trying to gain salvation. It also means that he continues to work in God's plan by way of some system of dos and don'ts. He tries to help God along. But grace rejects human plans, games and viewpoint.

IT'S NOT ABOUT US!

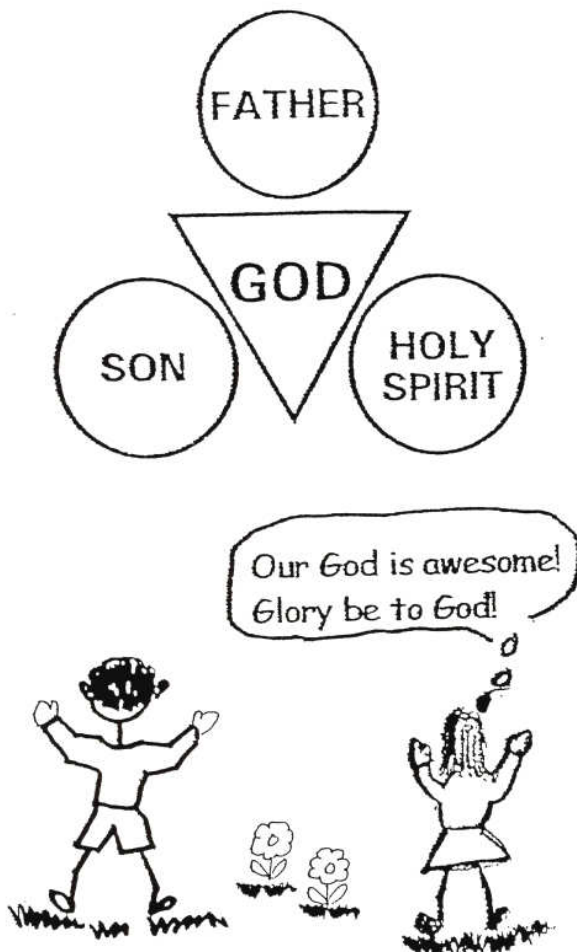


Romans 11:6 "But if it is by grace, it is no longer on the basis of works, otherwise grace is no longer grace."

Psalm 26:3 "For Thy lovingkindness [grace] is before my eyes, and I have walked in Thy doctrine."

Satan hates the grace system because God does all the work and gets all of the credit. Satan wants us to work in the cosmic system, not in the grace system. He wants creatures, him being #1, to get the credit for doing human good. He wants us to do works and more works in his cosmic system to make this world, his domain, a better place. Satan wants to get all the glory but he doesn't have the ability to make that happen. Only God has that ability. Only God gets the glory!

IT'S NOT ABOUT YOU OR ME!



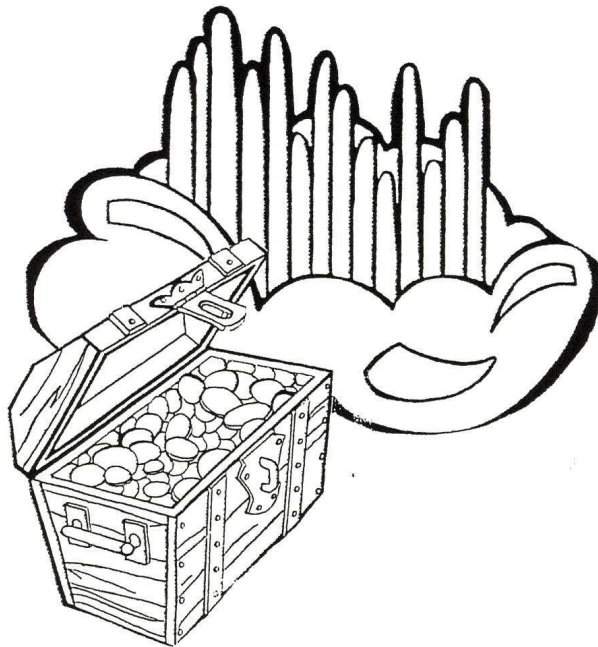
SATAN

Isaiah 14:14 "I will make myself [Satan] like the Most High."

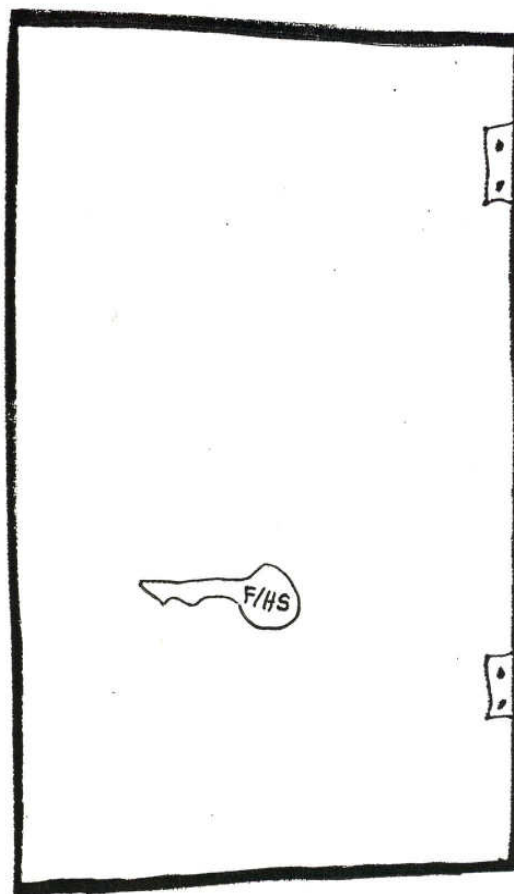
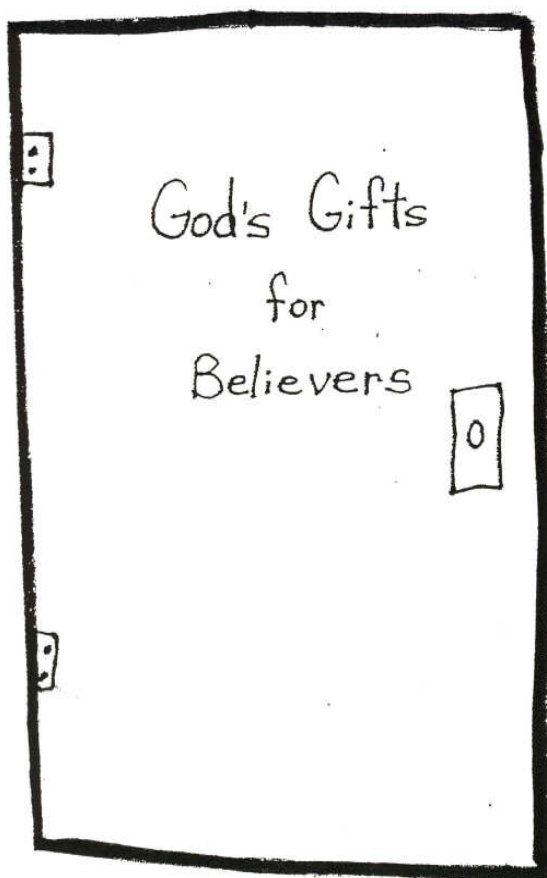
2 Corinthians 2:11 "...in order that Satan might not outwit us. For we are not unaware of his schemes."

GOD IS WAITING TO BE GRACIOUS TO US, TO GIVE US GIFTS!  
He is waiting for our cup of capacity to be ready so that He can fill it.  
This cup is our very own soul and its capacity is built from Bible  
doctrine. What are we waiting for???

IT'S ABOUT GOD AND HIS MATCHLESS GRACE!



Isaiah 30:18 "Yet the Lord longs to be gracious to you; He rises to show you compassion. For the Lord is a God of justice. Blessed are all who wait for Him!"



Cut out these doors and put them on page 11 to open to the treasure God has waiting for us.

*It's Not About You or Me*

References used: Robert McLaughlin Bible Ministries Lessons:  
10-11-02, 5-12-04, 5-13-04, 5-14-04, 5-15-04, 5-20-04, 6-30-04,  
11-18-04

Tree of Life: 5-9-04, 5-16-04

Jr. Tree of Life: 6-13-04

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