

**A TRUE  
CHRISTIAN  
NOT A RIGHT ONE**

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By Jennifer Rodriguez

**3 DAY DEVOTIONAL**

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*\*\*There is far more to the Christian life than just being one. You must be able to walk by faith, bare good fruit, and have a meaningful relationship with God. If you have been told that being a Christian is only to obey the law of God, you've got to do a whole reset and get on a new path with Him!\*\**

# DAY 1

## NOT BY WORKS ALONE

*“This good news tells us how God makes us right in His sight. This is accomplished from start to finish by faith. As the Scriptures say, “It is through faith that a righteous person has life.” Romans 1:17*

**F**aith, what is it and do you have it? Is faith doing what you are asked to do and making sure the lists are checked off for the day? Are you moving along in life being a good person and making sure you abide by every law? Is your faith based on what you do? I ask all these questions because faith is much more than just what we do. Faith is who we are.

We need to make sure that we are walking in the manner that God would have us and not in what we think He is asking us to do. Really ponder those questions and take a self evaluation of what Faith is to you. We don't become righteous by what we do (our works), we become righteous through Christ and following what He is asking us to do. Most of the time we can get busy moving along doing our own things and push to the side being truly obedient to what God has asked us to do. God asks us to obey and believe. Even then, at times we obey but we do not believe.

In order to believe, we must have faith. Have faith that God is who He says He is. Have faith that we can do all that God says we can do. If we can obtain the faith it will give us the ability to fulfill the law.

In Romans 4:1-5 it talks about how Abraham believed God and God counted him as righteous because of his faith. The scripture does not say that all the works that Abraham did counted him as righteous. It says, "because of his faith". So then, are you relying on your works to bring you some kind of validation? Are you validated by what you do and not who you are in Christ? People work and their wages are not a gift, they are what they earned. That's why works alone should not be our goal. We can do good and still have a lot of work to do on the inside. Just because we obey the law we are not guaranteed a ticket into heaven. As if Heaven had a rewards system created by man. The promises of God are for everyone, they are not subject to one system of people. As we understand the promises of God, we must be fully convinced that He is able to do whatever He promises. Do you believe that God can do whatever He promises?

As we walk in the promises of God we must allow the holy spirit to fill our hearts with His love. Adam and Eve sinned and sin entered the world which brought death to everyone. But God's wonderful grace surpassed it all. God's grace rules over our lives when we allow it to. His grace can give us right standing with Him and eternal life through Christ!

**Prayer:** *Father, let me develop my faith in who you are and who you say I am in you. By faith I have your promises to hold onto. I will walk in your will and way and not my own. I do not wish to just do good works, I wish to truly be Christ like. That I may obtain a good relationship with you so that I can share who you truly are with others. In Jesus Name, Amen!*

# DAY 2

## TRUE LIFE, GET RID OF CYCLES

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*“Don’t you realize that you become a slave of whatever you choose to obey? You can be a slave to sin, which leads to death, or you can choose to obey God, which leads to righteous living.” Romans 6:16*

If you want to truly live, you need to know that you can only live when you live in Christ. Everyone wants to live a fulfilled life but at the end of the day when you lie in bed, have you truly lived? Sin will only bring you spiritual death. If you’re living on the outside but dead on the inside, that’s no way to live. You can make the choice to die to yourself and live in Christ. You have the power within you to be free when you live by the Spirit.

How can we live by the Spirit? In this day and age we have plenty of tools and resources to help guide us to live in the spirit. We can open our bibles, do daily devotionals, pray and communicate everything within us to God, download healthy apps for good spiritual nourishment, maintain a healthy diet in our life to remain clear minded and focused, we can read books to guide us into new healthy perspectives on life, we can write out our thoughts in a journal to help clear it of overwhelming ideas or even create new ideas we can venture into, and so much more! When you live by the Spirit of God, you will no longer be captive to the power of sin. You are then filling yourself with the goodness of God. Don’t allow yourself to be muddied in sin and continually condemning yourself for it. You’re living in endless cycles and

repeated mistakes because you don't want to give up the comfort of being spiritually dead. There's no comfort in being spiritually dead. There's just a void, an emptiness that you're left with. The Devil wants to use condemnation of your sin against you so that you don't receive the true life that God has for you! Choose true freedom today. Walk with confidence on earth that you are God's child and you can obtain freedom on earth as it is in Heaven! When you choose to be led by the Spirit, God's spirit joins with ours, engrafting us as children of God.

So then, as children of God we must remember that life will bring us ups and downs but ultimately everything works for our good if we trust and believe. We just have to decide how we want to live. We must trust God before we obey. You can obey God all you want but if you don't trust Him, you'll consistently be dead inside. Believe with your heart, have real and open faith! Then we can be the feet of messengers to carry the good news of true life to others so that they too may live life abundantly!

**Prayer:** *Dear God, I choose true life! I know there is freedom in living in the spirit. Oh that I may live in the spirit and not of my own flesh that is only temporary. God I seek a fulfilled and content life in you, let me not continue to run in endless cycles. I know that I'm worth it, and that I can receive all the good things you have for me. I don't have to be empty and void. With you, I can live in true freedom! In Jesus Name, Amen!*

# DAY 3

## THERE IS FREEDOM IN THE KINGDOM

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*“And since Abraham and the other patriarchs were holy, their descendants will also be holy - just as the entire batch of dough is holy because the portion given as an offering is holy. For if the roots of the tree are holy, the branches will be, too.” Romans 11:16*

Now that you are walking in faith, obedience comes much easier. Remember that you are a branch. You are walking in righteousness because God is the tree and you are the branch. In other words, you are not the root. God is. Let God transform your thought process so you can continue to know God's Will for you. As you transform, work whatever gift God has given you and do it whole heartedly with much gladness.

Genuinely love others on this new journey, this journey that is blessed and undeserved. As you reach each milestone of goodness God has for you, don't be too proud to enjoy everyday life. You will begin to see the fruit of your life overflow and pour out into others and it will tempt you to allow pride in. Don't allow yourself to get involved with temporary pleasures. You can conquer it by continuing to humble yourself before God and doing good. It never hurts to do good for others.

As you love others you are fulfilling God's law. Aim for harmony and build each other up. What if we're sinning and we don't know it? How do we know if we're sinning? It's simple, the word of God says in Romans 14:23 "...If you do anything you believe is not right, you are sinning." Your heart



will tell you and the holy spirit will nudge you. Trust in God, confident hope and holy spirit power comes from Him alone. Be enthusiastic but know that it is all through God and not yourself.

So what are you waiting for? What's holding you back from living a fulfilled true life? You don't have to keep working so hard to receive validation from God and you don't have to keep entertaining those endless cycles in life that are keeping you stuck! Because you have deep true faith and trust God, as you believe, and then obey what He's asking you to do, you will find true freedom!

It's time to truly let Freedom ring in your life! Jesus surrendered his life for you so that you wouldn't have to be a slave to this life. You can walk with your head held high and take on whatever it is that God is asking you to do. Take that leap of faith and trust that God is leading you into the next amazing venture!

**Prayer:** *God, I declare that I am free through you! Your kingdom come and your will be done through me Lord! May I straighten my shoulders and pick up my head on this journey called life. I have your confidence because I am your child! Let my faith arise so fearlessly that I may walk paths I never thought possible! Oh that I would have faith and obey so that I can live a fulfilled life of freedom! In Jesus Name, Amen!*



*Jen*  
J N I N S P I R E S

# ABOUT THE AUTHOR

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Jennifer Rodriguez was born and raised in Southern California. God and family are vitally important to her. She loves singing and spending time with her buddy and only child, Gwyneth. Jen obtained her Bachelor's Degree from University of Phoenix in Information Technology - Visual Communication and studied shortly at San Diego State University. While at San Diego State University she was apart of the Scholars Without Borders Honor Society.

Jen believes in life long learning, and continues to pursue educational goals. She enjoys writing and encouraging others through her blog and social media sites. A few of her hobbies include: Reading, writing, music, volunteering, and of course coffee.

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