

## Words Matter

Christ Followers find assurance of God's love and His purposes for us in His Word.

**Romans 8:18** *For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us.*

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### **New Normal:**

#### **Luke 10:27**

*And he answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself."*

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#### **Matthew 28:18-20**

*And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."*

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### **Uncertain**

#### **John 16:33**

*I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world."*

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#### **Matthew 9:36**

*When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.*

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**Romans 8:38-39**

*For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, <sup>39</sup> nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

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**I John 5:13**

*I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life.*

**Unprecedented:**

**Romans 5:6-11**

*For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup> For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— <sup>8</sup> but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. <sup>9</sup> Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. <sup>10</sup> For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. <sup>11</sup> More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.*

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**Essential:**

**Matthew 16:16-19**

*Simon Peter replied, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” <sup>17</sup> And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. <sup>18</sup> And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.*

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**2 Corinthians 11:2**

*I am jealous for you with a godly jealousy. I promised you to one husband, to Christ, so that I might present you as a pure virgin to him.*

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## 1 Corinthians 12:12&21-26

*For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ.*

*The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." <sup>22</sup> On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, <sup>23</sup> and on those parts of the body that we think less honorable we bestow the greater honor, and our unpresentable parts are treated with greater modesty, <sup>24</sup> which our more presentable parts do not require. But God has so composed the body, giving greater honor to the part that lacked it, <sup>25</sup> that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. <sup>26</sup> If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together.*

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### **Application: Follow up questions.**

- Hold on to God's promise that He has a plan and purpose for your life and follow that plan and purpose.
- Hold on to God's promised unfailing, unending love he has for you and His church.
  
- What is the normal part of life you are continuing?
- Where do you see God asking you to create a "new normal"?
- Where are you feeling uncertain?
- Where do you find comfort in God's certainty?
- In this world we will have trouble...have you maintained the assurance of God's love for you during this pandemic and social unrest? Has this been a focus or do you need to refocus?
- How can you be more essential in the Kingdom of God?
- Share some ideas of how the church can become even more essential everyday.

### **Action:**

- This week, share an assurance you have in God's Word with someone struggling.