

Belonging

Five Keys to Unlocking your Potential as a Disciple



Karoline M. Lewis

BELONGING



Table Talk

“Sometimes I do what I want to do.
The rest of the time I do what I
have to do. (Cicero to Maximus)

What do you have to do?

Confession and Forgiveness

In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

While we still were sinners, Christ died for us. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, God promises to heal us and forgive us. Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

For self-centered living, and for failing to walk with humility and gentleness:
Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

For longing to have what is not ours,
and for hearts that are not at rest with ourselves:

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

For misuse of human relationships,
and for unwillingness to see the image of God in others:

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

For jealousies that divide families and nations,
and for rivalries that create strife and warfare:

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

For reluctance in sharing the gifts of God,
and for carelessness with the fruits of creation:

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

For hurtful words that condemn, and for angry deeds that harm:
Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

For idleness in witnessing to Jesus Christ,
and for squandering the gifts of love and grace:
Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. Through the Holy Spirit God cleanses us and gives us the power to proclaim the mighty acts of the one who called us out of darkness into his marvelous light. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Grace Abounding

Grace abounding, love surrounding all God's children far and near.
Praises flowing, tributes growing, singing anthems loud and clear.
Every nation in God's creation feels elation and celebration.
God has come to conquer sin! God has come to conquer sin!

Christ victorious, kingdom glorious, here on Earth to save us all.
God all-knowing, grace bestowing, we, his children, hear his call.
Wrongs confessing, sins recanted, ours the blessing, mercy granted.
Jesus Christ is Lord of all! Jesus Christ is Lord of all!

General Themes in John



Rebirth/New Creation

Jesus' Identity as Messiah/Christ

Relationship

Witness

Abundance

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Key 3: Letting Go

John 4:25-30

The woman said, “I know that the Messiah is coming, the one who is called the Christ, When he comes, he will teach everything to us.” Jesus said to her, “I Am – the one who speaks with you.” Just then, Jesus’ disciples arrived and were shocked that he was talking with a woman. But no one asked, “What do you want?” or “Why are you talking with her?” The woman put down her water jar and went into the city. She said to the people, “Come and see a man who has told me everything I’ve done! Could this man be the Christ? ” They left the city and were on their way to see Jesus.

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Respond

When has God struck you with awe?

What inhibits you from telling others about your encounters with Jesus?

What “should’s” and “supposed to’s” are you called to leave behind when inviting others to come and see?”

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Five Keys to Discipleship



Expect **DISCOMFORT**

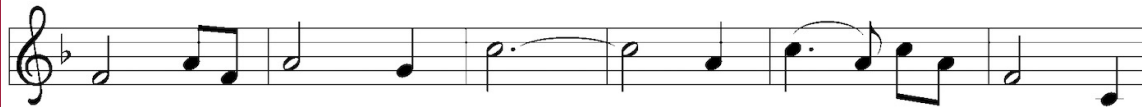
WONDER freely

Value **TRUST**

Let go ... let God.



1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that
2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his
5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me
word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to



now am found; was blind, but now I see.
grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt., sts. 1–4; anonymous, st. 5
Music: NEW BRITAIN, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

Prayer Practice

Week 1 – Give Me a Word

Week 2 – Breath Prayer

Week 3 – Prayer of Examen

Week 4 – Visio Divina





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Lord's Prayer
And
Dismissal
