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For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

2 Corinthians 5:21 (ESV)

I delight greatly in the Lord; my soul rejoices in my God. For he has clothed me with garments of salvation and arrayed me in a robe of his righteousness,

ISAIAH 61:10a

My passion is to be consumed with him and not cling to my own "righteousness" based in keeping the written Law. My only righteousness" will be his, based on the faithfulness of Jesus Christ—the very righteousness that comes from God.

PHIL 3:9

Powerful is your arm Strong is your handl
Your right hand is lifted high in glorious strength. Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne. Unfailing love and truth walk before you as attendants. Happy are those who hear the joyful call to worship, for they will walk in the light of your presence, Lord.

PSALM 89:13-15

...we know that no one receives God's perfect righteousness as a reward for keeping the law, but only by the faith of Jesus, the Messiahl
His faithfulness has saved us, and we have received God's perfect righteousness.

GALATIANS 2:16a

That you may walk
(live & conduct yourselves) in a
manner worthy of the Lord, fully
pleasing to Him and desiring to
please Him in all things, bearing fruit
in every good work and steadily
growing and increasing in and by
the knowledge of God [with fuller,
deeper, and clearer insight,
acquaintance, and recognition].

COLOSSIANS 1:10

For we do not have a high priest who is unable to feel sympathy for our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are - yet he did not sin. Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

HEBREWS 4:15-16

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

1 JOHN 1:9

We encourage you to read Romans 5:1-2 in the Passion Translation. There are more scriptures on page 3 of this download for you to look up.

# RIGHTEOUSNESS

### Bible Pocket Journaling

This is a FREE introduction to Pocket Journaling.

A simple, yet effective way to dwell on scripture. No artistic skills necessary.

To purchase other downloads Bible Downloads, visit www.faithtreasury.com

This 'Righteousness' themed pocket journaling, is part of our series on The Armour of God. This download comes with an invitation. An invitation for you to draw closer to God and see how He has gifted you with His righteousness. Not through self-effort, but only through the costly sacrifice of Jesus' death and resurrection. This is an invitation to seek and discover. An invitation to make spiritual progress and go deeper.

Incredibly, the invitation giver, is the God of the universe, who will meet you right where you are.

## STOP.... DWELL... STRENGTHEN

So, take some time over this coming season to create margin in your life. To STOP and breathe.

Time to DWELL, on scripture and allow His life giving Word to take root in your life as you choose to build your life on the only foundation that can never be shaken.

To discover the vast treasure to be found in His Word and His presence.

To rest and be STRENGTHENED in the knowledge of your Saviour, as you come to know Him more and more deeply, and respond to the wonder of all He has done and continues to do in your life.

### How it works

Each day simply:

- 1. STOP. Begin with a simple prayer asking the Holy Spirit for His help in this time ahead.
- 2. Read the day's scripture on the Pocket Journaling sheet.
- 3. DWELL on the scripture. Here are some ideas to help you look at scripture:
  You can look up other translations or simply think on the words.
  Think on what the writer is saying. Underline what stands out to you? What does each word contribute?
  Ask, what does this teach me about God and His character, Jesus and His church, the Holy Spirit?
  How can I apply this? Can you paraphrase the passage or make it personal, such as a prayer or declaration.
  Look for commands to obey, promises to hold, warnings to hear, places to pause and be thankful.
- 4. Use the blank box for each scripture to record a response. Each one is numbered. These are provided as an A5 flat sheet (see page 2). Alternatively, you can create a zine mini book by following the instructions provided on a separate sheet of this download. For each scripture/response you can:
  - Use the pictures provided to trace or cut out and collage.
  - Journal the scripture through pictures and word.
  - Consider recording one word, or sentence that has stood out.
  - Write a short prayer/response.
  - Doodle around a particular phrase.

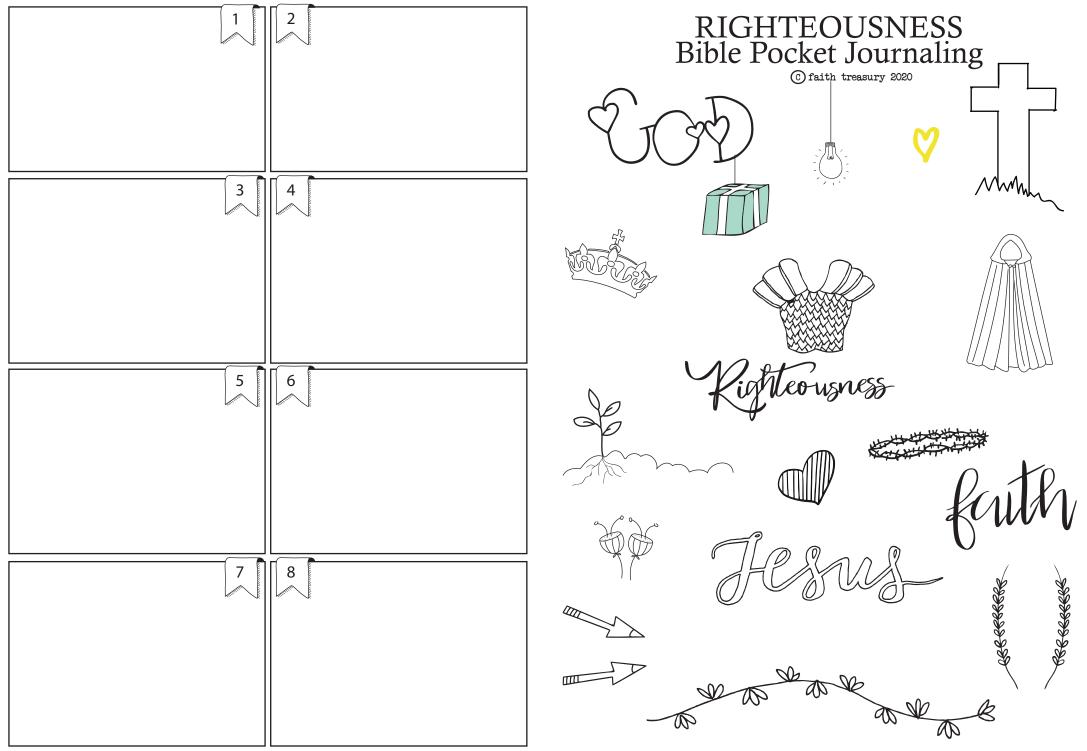
This little box is completely between you and God.

5. Finish by praying. Ask God to STRENGTHEN you as you walk out the coming day in His Presence and recall in your heart and mind His Life-giving Word.

So, enjoy, be encouraged and spend time with The Only One who knows all, sees all, and has chosen to love you friend. For you are His.

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Page 1 of 3



Here are a few of our thoughts on the Breastplate... **BREASTPLATE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS** God is Perfectly Righteous. Isa 64:6 says 'When we display our righteous deeds, they are nothing but filthy rags'. We need a saviour.

Did you know that Jesus' righteousness covers you? (2 Cor 5:21) This means when God looks at you He sees Jesus' righteousness. You are clothed in His Righteousness! (Isa 61:10) Another name for this is imputed Righteousness (justification). When you trust and follow Jesus, the penalty of sin is removed and Jesus' righteousness is credited to you as an incredible gift from God (Rom 4:24, 5:17). It defines and declares you innocent before all your accusers. The enemy doesn't want you to rest in that your sins are forgiven and that you are righteous before God. He doesn't want your confidence, significance and security to be in Jesus. Dr Martin Lloyd Jones\* tells us to remind the enemy your position does not rest on what you do, but on Jesus' righteousness. You are God's Child. Put the Breastplate on today.

Hebrews 4:15-16 says you are free to approach His throne with confidence. Not through your own self-effort (self-righteousness), but through the grace that has been extended to us through Jesus' costly death and resurrection (Phil 3:9). King Jesus is now seated at the right hand of the Father. He is our sinless Great High Priest who intercedes for us. He even knows our weaknesses. So, we can humbly, yet confidently come into His presence, knowing we are clothed and covered by His grace filled salvation and righteousness.

Alongside imputed righteousness, we also walk daily in practical righteousness (sanctification). The breastplate protects the heart, which is the centrepeice of the soul. It is the intersection of the mind, emotion, will and conscience. Prov 4:23 says, 'Guard your heart above all else, for it is the source of life'. We need to allow God to soften and change our hearts (Ezek 36:26). Moment by moment we have a choice to walk righteously (rightly) in a manner worthy of the calling with which we have been called (Eph 4:1). To make spiritual progress. To choose to walk with God in His presence daily, in the power of the Holy Spirit and desire to please our King (Col 1:10). For love to motivate. Jesus said, "If you love me, you will keep my commandments" (John 14:15).

That means also getting our flesh to cooperate. Romans 7 describes Paul saying that he wished he could do what he wanted to, and not do what he did! So, this isn't perfectionism at work, as we are saved by grace alone (Eph 2:8-9). As we confess our sins, He forgives (1 John 1:9). However, scripture admonishes us to both put off and put on certain things (Col 3 v 1-17). As we walk we can be continually changed. Christ lives in you. We are called to die to the self-life and walk in the power of the Holy Spirit (Rom 8:9-10). As we stay alert to His promptings, He will strengthen and give patient endurance and joy for what lies ahead (Col 1:11). Finally, its good to remember we are all a constant work in progress and ever learning. John Newton said, 'But by the grace of God, I am what I am. I am not what I ought to be, I am not what I want to be, I am not what I hope to be, but thank God I am not what I used to be.'

Put on the Full Armour of God in prayer (personalised):

# Suit Up!

I will be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power.

I will put on the full armour of God, so that I can take my stand against the devil's schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Therefore I will put on the full armour of God, so that when the day of evil comes, I may be able to stand my ground, and after I have done everything, to stand. I declare that I will stand firm then!

I put on and fasten the belt of truth around my waist.
I gird myself with Your Word, may Your truth underpin my whole life today.
(1 John 4:4, Ephesians 4:27, Heb 13:5, Deut 31:6, Colossians 1:22-23)

I put on the breastplate of righteousness (1 John 1:9, Isaiah 61:10, 2 Corinthians 5:21, Phil 3:9

I put on the shoes of the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace (Galatians 5:16, Psalm 37:23, Romans 1:16, 1 Peter 3:15)

I take up the shield of faith, to extinguish ALL the flaming arrows of the evil one. (2 Corinthians 5:7, Hebrews 11:1, Romans 5:1, Isaiah 54:17)

I put on the helmet of salvation (Romans 12:2, 1 Cor 2:16, Psalm 27:1, Ephesians 2:8, Titus 3:5-7)

I take up the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God (Hebrews 4:12, John 1:1, Psalm 119:89, Psalm 119:11)

And I will pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. (Colossians 1:9-11)

Recommendation: We encourage you to study the Armour of God for yourself. Priscilla Shirer does a great study on this subject - The Armor of God. \*Dr Martin Lloyd Jones is an old Bible scholar. His book 'The Christian Soldier' is a great read. Be blessed