

# “FLESH TO FAITH”

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If you could frame a life verse in your home, engrave it on your tombstone or dare I say tattoo it on your heart as a testament, a reminder of God's great love for you...what would it be?

What matters to your heart?

**Galatians 2:20** *“I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.”*

What we do and say and think and act here, very much matters later.

The glorious exchange that occurs in all who believe in Jesus Christ says a lot about death to self. A life lived in Jesus is a new life raised in oneness with the Lord.

Are you ready to die to the self today...surrendering all to Jesus and taking on the new life?

**Paul appeals to us to make the decision that WE must decrease, so that Jesus would increase. Christ exalting RATHER THAN self-promoting.**

My death in Christ means that the old ME, the old SELF, the old \_\_\_\_\_ died at the cross, when Jesus died on the Cross. My new spirit severed all the connections I had with my old nature.

By faith, YOU are part of a new creation, in Christ, which means that death no longer has power over YOU - nor does sin/Satan, or the Law.

Because Christ has set YOU free!

A quote from Dallas Willard...

The gospel is presented today with very little connection to the complete surrender of our lives to God. This leads to the real possibility that we will miss the central necessity of dying to self.

Choose Life...so DIE TO SELF EVERYDAY!

You might have said yes to Jesus years ago, or maybe never...**YET TODAY IS THE DAY** that you must recognize you must die to yourself and walk out your faith.

Walk your faith by fleshing it out, but remember OUR WEAK FLESH IS A POWERFUL ENEMY!

How do we do it? How do we submit to His gentle guidance and gracious leading?

### 3 Actions Steps:

#### 1. We HAVE TO BECOME AWARE OF OUR EMOTIONS

**1Corinthians 10:13** (The Message) *“No test or temptation that comes your way is beyond the course of what others have had to face. All you need to remember is that God will never let you down; He’ll never let you be pushed past your limit; He’ll always be there to help you come through it.”*

**Ephesians 6:10-12** <sup>10</sup> *“A final word: Be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power. <sup>11</sup> Put on all of God’s armor so that you will be able to stand firm against all strategies of the devil. <sup>12</sup> For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places.”*

#### 2. We PRAY

**Ephesians 6:18** (The Message) *“Pray hard and long. Pray for your brothers and sisters. Keep your eyes open. Keep each other’s spirits up so that no one falls behind or drops out.”*

#### 3. We ACT in FAITH

**2 Corinthians 5:5-9** <sup>5</sup> *“God Himself has prepared us for this, and as a guarantee He has given us His Holy Spirit. <sup>6</sup> So we are always confident, even though we know that as long as we live in these bodies we are not at home with the Lord. <sup>7</sup> For we live by believing and not by seeing. <sup>8</sup> Yes, we are fully confident, and we would rather be away from these earthly bodies, for then we will be at home with the Lord. <sup>9</sup> So whether we are here in this body or away from this body, our goal is to please Him.”*

### 3 Reflective and Challenging Responses:

1. I will invite Jesus to help me process my emotions and thoughts. Today I will choose to posture in a stance of surrendering.
2. I will choose to die to self and to live completely for Jesus. This week I will let some things go that I know I’ve been wrestling with.
3. I am choosing to pray earnestly, trust in Jesus and act in faith.