



EXAMINE
YOUR FAITH

2 CORINTHIANS 13:5

Psalm 18

¹ A David song, which he sang to God after being saved from all his enemies and from Saul.

I love you, God—you make me strong. ² God is bedrock under my feet, the castle in which I live, my rescuing knight. My God—the high crag where I run for dear life, hiding behind the boulders, safe in the granite hideout. ³ I sing to God, the Praise-Lofty, and find myself safe and saved. ⁴ The hangman's noose was tight at my throat; devil waters rushed over me.

Psalm 18

⁵ Hell's ropes cinched me tight; death traps barred every exit. ⁶ A hostile world! I call to God, I cry to God to help me. From his palace he hears my call; my cry brings me right into his presence— a private audience!

¹⁶ [... He caught me]—reached all the way from sky to sea; he pulled me out Of that ocean of hate, ¹⁷ that enemy chaos, the void in which I was drowning.

Psalm 18

¹⁸ They hit me when I was down, but God stuck by me. ¹⁹ He stood me up on a wide-open field; I stood there saved—surprised to be loved! ²⁰ God made my life complete when I placed all the pieces before him.

When I got my act together, he gave me a fresh start.

²¹ Now I'm alert to God's ways; I don't take God for granted. ²² **Every day I review the ways he works;** I try not to miss a trick.

Psalm 18

23 I feel put back together, and I'm watching my step. **24** God rewrote the text of my life when I opened the book of my heart to his eyes.





EXAMINE
YOUR FAITH

2 CORINTHIANS 13:5

Lord Jesus, I long to be perfectly whole / NSB 721

1. Lord Jesus, I long to be
perfectly whole,
I want thee for ever
to live in my soul;
Break down every idol
Cast out every foe,
Now wash me, and I shall be
Whiter than snow.



Lord Jesus, I long to be perfectly whole / NSB 721

*Whiter than snow, yes
Whiter than snow,
Now wash me, and I shall be
Whiter than snow.*

Lord Jesus, I long to be perfectly whole / NSB 721

2. Lord Jesus let nothing
unholy remain,
Apply thine own blood
And remove every stain;
To get this blest washing I
All things forgo;
Now wash me, and I shall be
Whiter than snow.

Lord Jesus, I long to be perfectly whole / NSB 721

*Whiter than snow, yes
Whiter than snow,
Now wash me, and I shall be
Whiter than snow.*

Lord Jesus, I long to be perfectly whole / NSB 721

3. Lord Jesus, thou seest
I patiently wait;
Come now, and within me
A new heart create;
To those who have sought thee
Thou never saidst: No!
Now wash me, and I shall be
Whiter than snow.

Lord Jesus, I long to be perfectly whole / NSB 721

*Whiter than snow, yes
Whiter than snow,
Now wash me, and I shall be
Whiter than snow.*

Lord Jesus, I long to be perfectly whole / NSB 721

4. The blessing by faith
I receive from above.
O glory, my soul is made
perfect in love!
My prayer has prevailed
And this moment I know
The blood is applied
I am whiter than snow.

Lord Jesus, I long to be perfectly whole / NSB 721

*Whiter than snow, yes
Whiter than snow,
Now wash me, and I shall be
Whiter than snow.*



EXAMINE
YOUR FAITH

2 CORINTHIANS 13:5

What can I say to cheer a world of sorrow / NSB 944

1. What can I say to cheer a
World of sorrow?

How bring back hope where men
Have sorely failed?

Just where I am I'll speak the
Word of comfort,
Tell how for me Christ's
Sacrifice availed.

Miriam Mary Richards

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What can I say to cheer a world of sorrow / NSB 944

*Just where he needs me
My Lord has placed me,
Just where he needs me
There would I be!
And since he found me
By love he's bound me
To serve him joyfully.*

Miriam Mary Richards

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What can I say to cheer a world of sorrow / NSB 944

2. What can I do to ease
Life's heavy burdens?

What can I do to help mankind in
need?

Just where I am I'll share my
Neighbour's hardship,
Lighten his load
And prove a friend indeed.

Miriam Mary Richards

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What can I say to cheer a world of sorrow / NSB 944

*Just where he needs me
My Lord has placed me,
Just where he needs me
There would I be!
And since he found me
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What can I say to cheer a world of sorrow / NSB 944

3. What can I do to justify my living?

What can I be to make this
Life worthwhile?

I'll be a voice to call men to the

Saviour,

Just where I am

And win my Father's smile.

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What can I say to cheer a world of sorrow / NSB 944

*Just where he needs me
My Lord has placed me,
Just where he needs me
There would I be!
And since he found me
By love he's bound me
To serve him joyfully.*

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EXAMINE
YOUR FAITH

2 CORINTHIANS 13:5



2 Corinthians 13:1-10 (NLT)

Paul's Final Advice

13 This is the third time I am coming to visit you (and as the Scriptures say, “The facts of every case must be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses”). ²I have already warned those who had been sinning when I was there on my second visit. Now I again warn them and all others, just as I did before, that next time I will not spare them.



2 Corinthians 13:1-10 (NLT)

Paul's Final Advice

³ I will give you all the proof you want that Christ speaks through me. Christ is not weak when he deals with you; he is powerful among you. ⁴ Although he was crucified in weakness, he now lives by the power of God. We, too, are weak, just as Christ was, but when we deal with you we will be alive with him and will have God's power.



2 Corinthians 13:1-10 (NLT)

Paul's Final Advice

⁵ Examine yourselves to see if your faith is genuine. Test yourselves. Surely you know that Jesus Christ is among you; if not, you have failed the test of genuine faith. ⁶ As you test yourselves, I hope you will recognize that we have not failed the test of apostolic authority.



2 Corinthians 13:1-10 (NLT)

Paul's Final Advice

⁷ We pray to God that you will not do what is wrong by refusing our correction. I hope we won't need to demonstrate our authority when we arrive. Do the right thing before we come—even if that makes it look like we have failed to demonstrate our authority. ⁸ For we cannot oppose the truth, but must always stand for the truth.



2 Corinthians 13:1-10 (NLT)

Paul's Final Advice

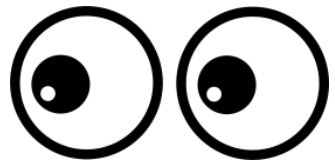
⁹ We are glad to seem weak if it helps show that you are actually strong. We pray that you will become mature.

¹⁰ I am writing this to you before I come, hoping that I won't need to deal severely with you when I do come. For I want to use the authority the Lord has given me to strengthen you, not to tear you down.



EXAMINE
YOUR FAITH

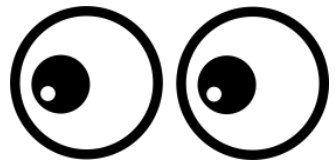
2 CORINTHIANS 13:5



Looking Back...

Occasionally you have to look back in order to realise just how far you have come.

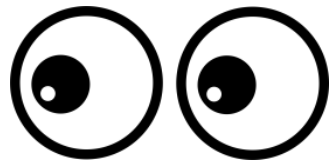
Looking back on 2017...



Looking Back...

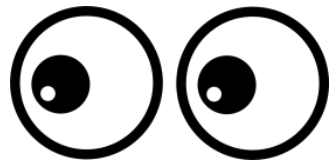
The Apostle Paul believed that God Himself authenticates the Christian leader, and motivates believers through spiritual means, to respond to God's purposes.

Paul suggested that believers check the authenticity of their faith in God.



Looking Back...

Examine yourselves to see whether you are still in the Christian faith. Test yourselves! Don't you recognize that you are people in whom Jesus Christ lives? Could it be that you're failing the test? 2 Corinthians 13:5 (GW)



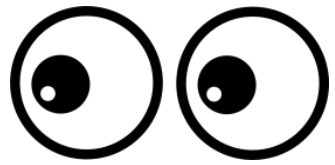
Looking Back...

Step one: *Examine yourself...*

...see whether you are still in the Christian faith. 2 Corinthians 13:5 (GW)

Paul is asserting here that sin can easily be seen for what it stifles or what it produces.

...conflict, disunity, and harm to others and oneself – that life is destructive or critical, and hinders progress.



Looking Back...

Step one: *Examine yourself...*

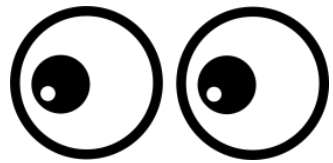
...no spiritual growth or progress.

He should not compare himself with others.

Each person should judge his own actions.

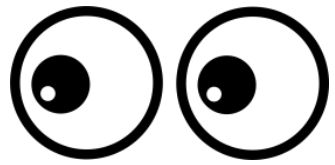
(Gal 6:4 ICB)

The first step is a practical one: Examine yourself...



Looking Back...

Examine yourselves to see whether you are still in the Christian faith. Test yourselves!
Don't you recognize that you are people in whom Jesus Christ lives? Could it be that you're failing the test? 2 Corinthians 13:5 (GW)

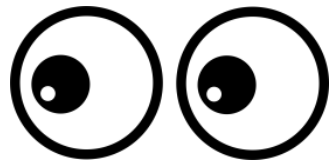


Looking Back...

Step two: *Test yourself...*

Paul knew of the subterfuge that occurred in the market place when the unscrupulous paid their debt with precious metals.

So we test ourselves. Do not accept any misrepresentations.



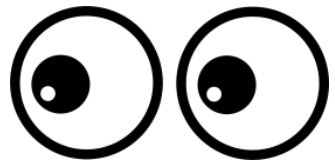
Looking Back...

Step two: *Test yourself...*

Test what you believe in.

Test that you are producing Fruit.

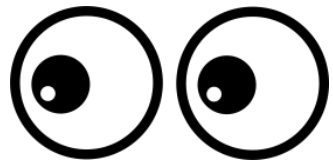
**Galatians 5:22-23 *Love, joy, peace,
patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,
gentleness and self-control.***



Looking Back...

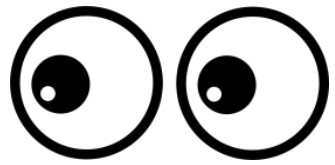
Step two: *Test yourself...*

So we test ourselves. To see if we have been all that God had promised we could be.



Looking Back...

Examine yourselves to see whether you are still in the Christian faith. Test yourselves! Don't you recognize that you are people in whom Jesus Christ lives? Could it be that you're failing the test? 2 Corinthians 13:5 (GW)

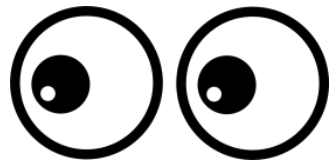


Looking Back...

Could it be that you're failing the test?

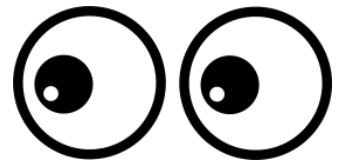
The believer lives to honour God by thought, word and deed...

So, could it be that there are areas in your life this past year – incidents, over which God's approval cannot be certain?



Looking Back...

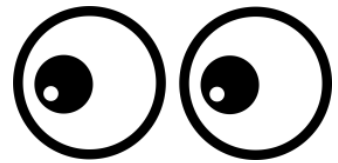
**As for 2018... Will you be ready spiritually?
Will you be prepared to make the changes
and sacrifices necessary to accept and
embrace the ministry and mission
opportunities that belong to you 2018?**



Looking Back... **Examine yourself...**

...conflict, disunity, and harm to others and oneself – that life is destructive or critical, and plagued with guilt.

...that life produces no spiritual fruit, growth or progress to speak of.



Looking Back...

Test yourself...

***Don't you recognize that you are people in
whom Jesus Christ lives?***

He is able, more than able / NSB 836

He is able, more than able
To accomplish what
concerns me today.

He is able, more than able
To handle anything that
comes my way.



Greg Ferguson, Rory Noland

1989 Maranatha! Praise Inc./Universal Music/Small Stone Media BV, Holland (Print/Sync UK/ Eire by Song Solutions www.songsolutions.org).

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He is able, more than able / NSB 836

He is able, more than able
To do much more than I could
Ever dream.

He is able, more than able
To make me what he wants
me to be.

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EXAMINE
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2 CORINTHIANS 13:5

Praise My Soul / NSB 55

1. Praise, my soul
The King of Heaven,
To his feet thy tribute bring;
Ransomed, healed,
restored, forgiven,
Who like thee his praise should sing?
Praise him! Praise him!
Praise him! Praise him!
Praise the everlasting King.



Praise My Soul / NSB 55

2. Praise him for his grace and favour
To our fathers in distress;
Praise him still the same as ever,
Slow to chide and swift to bless;
Praise him! Praise him!
Praise him! Praise him!
Glorious in his faithfulness.

Praise My Soul / NSB 55

3. Fatherlike he tends and spares us;
Well our feeble frame he knows,
In his hands he gently bears us,
Rescues us from all our foes.
Praise him! Praise him!
Praise him! Praise him!
Widely as his mercy flows.

Praise My Soul / NSB 55

4. Angels in the heights adore him,
Ye behold him face to face;
Sun and moon bow
down before him:
Dwellers all in time and space,
Praise him! Praise him!
Praise him! Praise him!
Praise with us the God of grace.