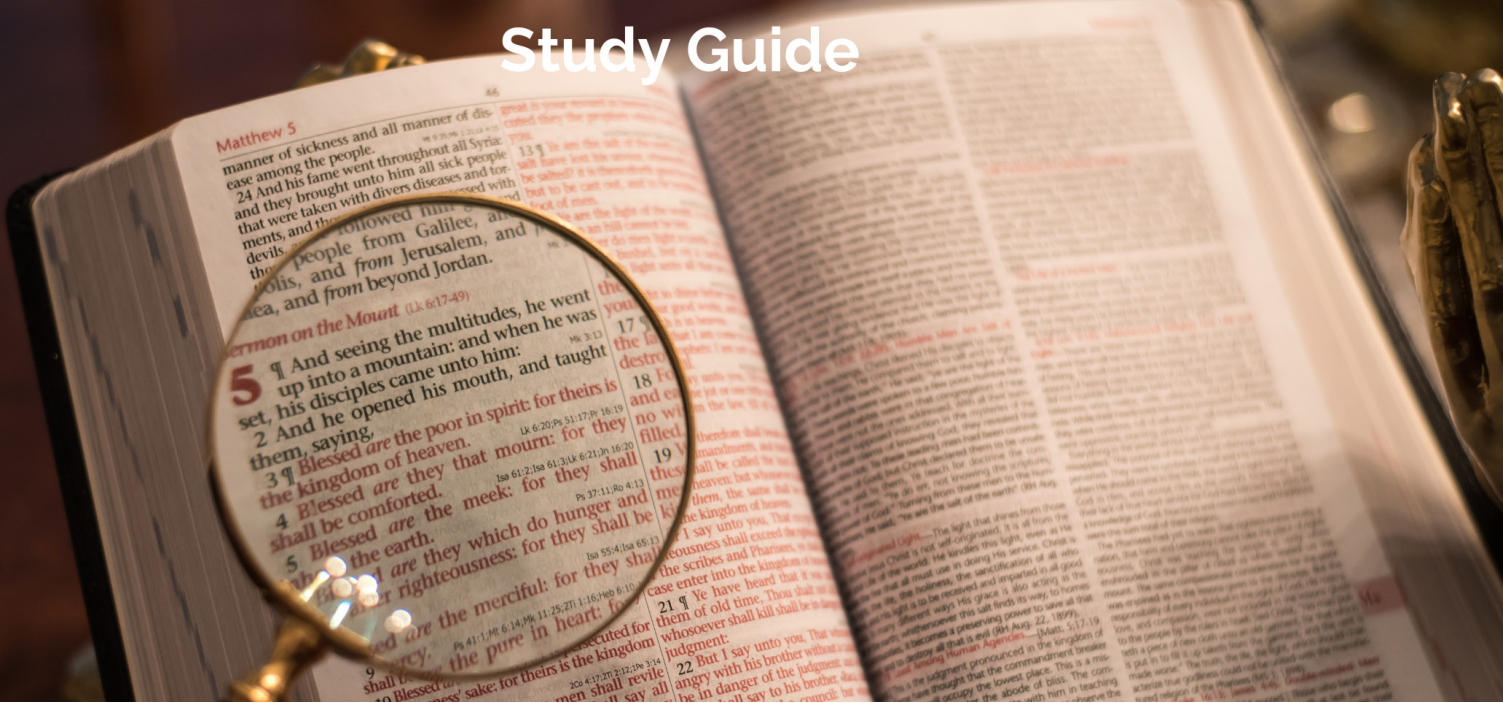


IT [♡] IS
WRITTEN
OF

YOU

GARY HARGRAVE

Study Guide



The Word of the Kingdom Is All About You

Yeshua (Jesus) gave a parable about the Kingdom of God and said, “When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. ... And the one on whom seed was sown on the good soil, this is the man who hears the word and understands it; who indeed bears fruit and brings forth, some a hundredfold, some sixty, and some thirty” (Matthew 13:19, 23). This parable is about the tactic of satan coming against the Word of God as it is being sown in us. But I think the devil is specifically coming against the sons of God relative to the Kingdom of God. Even when we think we hear the Word, even when it takes root, the percentage of effectiveness can still be low because of satan’s determination to battle it.

Mark 4 and Luke 8 repeat this story.

And He was teaching them many things in parables, and was saying to them in His teaching, “Listen to this! Behold, the sower went out to sow; as he was sowing, some seed fell beside the road, and the birds came and ate it up. Other seed fell on the rocky ground where it did not have much soil; and immediately it sprang up because it had no depth of soil. And after the sun had risen, it was scorched; and because it had no root, it withered away. Other seed fell among the thorns, and the thorns came up and choked it, and it yielded no crop. Other seeds fell into the good soil, and as they grew up and increased, they yielded a crop and produced thirty, sixty, and a hundredfold.” And He was saying, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear.” (Mark 4:2-9)

Notice that in Matthew 13 Yeshua did not say “the word of salvation”; He said “the word of the kingdom.” This parable is not talking about our salvation experience. It is talking about us and who we are in what God is doing and bringing forth in His Kingdom. Everything about the Word of God is about you. This is where the enemy battles our minds, but God is speaking to you as an individual and the Word of God is about you.



Transformed by the Renewing of Your Mind

If we are going to be transformed, then we must be braced for a fight to get this seed of the Word of the Kingdom and hold on to it. To hold on to the Word, our thinking must be transformed. So let us look at Romans the twelfth chapter.

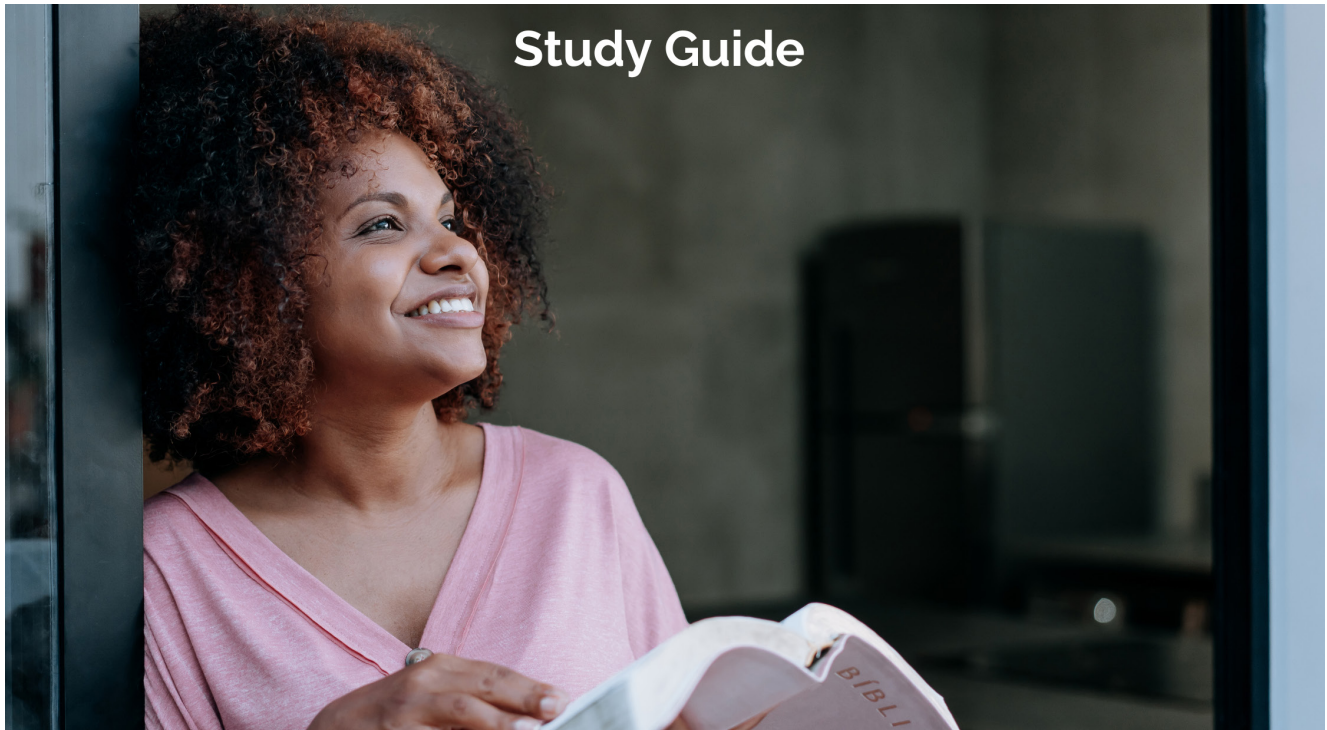
Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect. (Romans 12:1–2)

This idea that the transformation of our minds brings about perfection in us is a key point. Again you must understand that everything concerning the Word of God is about you. You must grasp this concept; otherwise, this is where we help Satan in what he is doing. The tendency of your mind is to reject the issue that God is speaking specifically to you.

According to Psalm 40 and Hebrews 10, Yeshua presented Himself to the Father and said, “BEHOLD, I HAVE COME (IN THE SCROLL OF THE BOOK IT IS WRITTEN OF ME) TO DO YOUR WILL, O GOD” (Hebrews 10:7). Yeshua knew that the will of God, which He presented Himself to the Father to do, was written in the Word of God. We see this when Yeshua appeared to the two disciples on the road to Emmaus. He explained, beginning with Moses and with all the prophets, “the things concerning Himself in all the Scriptures” (Luke 24:27). Yeshua was actually able to find the will of God for Himself in the Scriptures.

We all joyfully acknowledge that the Word is about Yeshua. We understand that He was destined. His birth was miraculous, and He performed signs and wonders and miracles. He died on the cross as the sacrifice for our sin, was resurrected, redeemed us, and brought our salvation. But the problem comes in how we think about ourselves. So I want to be specific here: the real fight that comes into play is how you think about yourself.

The renewing of your mind is the replacing of your thoughts about yourself with God's thoughts. In God's mind you are just as destined as Yeshua was. The Word of God coming to us as believers is very specific about who we are and what we are to see happen. You can get a thousand things out of the Scriptures or from a message or teaching, but if you miss the part about you, then you have missed the whole thing. And if you are being robbed of what the Word is saying to you about you, then you are not understanding what is being said. You are not seeing or hearing (Mark 8:18).



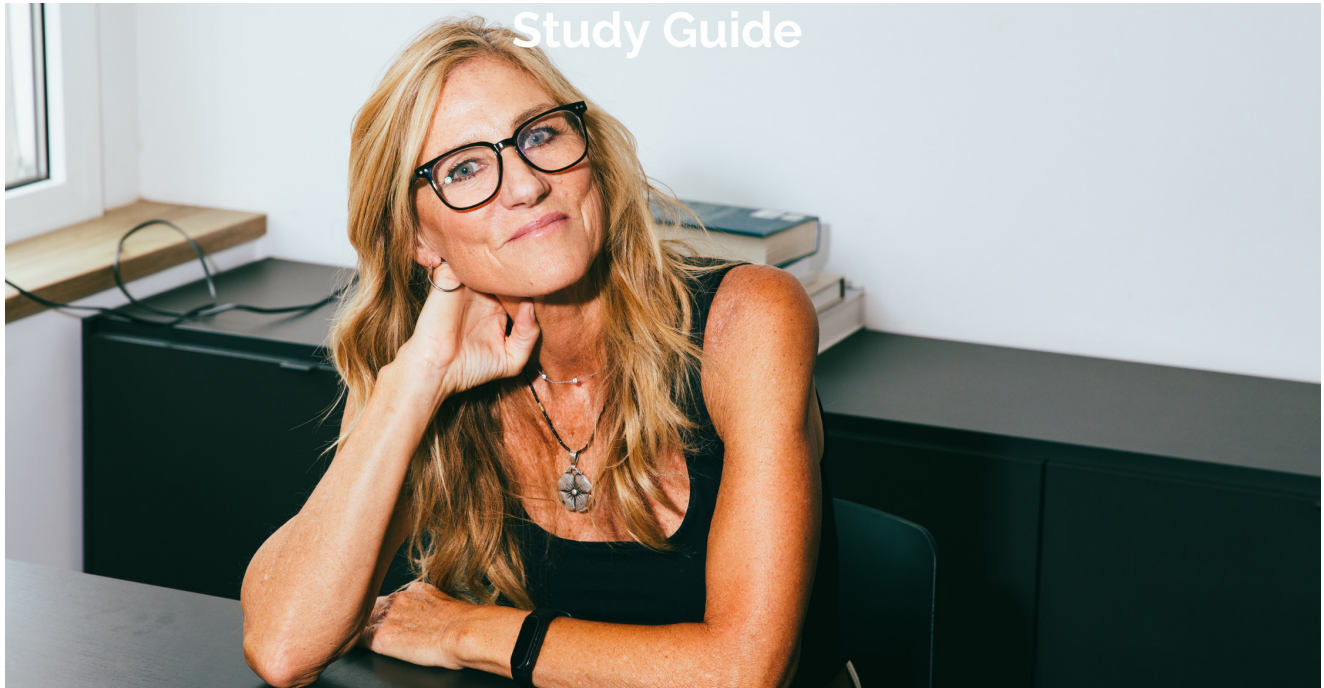
Accept Who You Are in Relationship to the Father

The fulfillment of the sons of God coming forth is absolutely dependent on the transformation of our minds into the mind of Christ. What is the mind of Christ? Christ saw Himself in the Scriptures when He said, "Father, I am here to do Your will. 'It is written of Me in the scroll of the book, I come to do Your will'" (see Psalm 40:7-8). Yeshua came to do the Father's will about Himself. That is what Christ was saying, "I am here to do Your will about Me. I am here to do what You are thinking about Me and who I am." We can easily accept that idea about the Lord because we see Christ as being something entirely different from us. The mind of man hates this issue of claiming to be like God. In fact, that is why Yeshua was persecuted and crucified; He made Himself out to be like the Father (John 8:19). Yeshua thought about Himself just as the Father did. How does the Father think about you? He wants to bring you into His image (2 Corinthians 3:18). He disciplines you so you can become a partaker of His holiness (Hebrews 12:10). We are here to become the righteousness of God.

The greater works will come out of what we finally accept in our thinking about ourselves. The truth is that everything Yeshua did was a result of Him accepting who He was in relationship to

the Father. That is what made salvation work because the Father said that Yeshua was salvation (Isaiah 12:2). How is it that Yeshua could hang on a cross and bring salvation to the world? There were thousands of people during that day who hung on crosses. No one else brought salvation by hanging on a cross. Why did it work that time? Because God said it would work: “If You hang on this cross, You will bring salvation” (see Galatians 3:13–14).

Yeshua still contended over that in the Garden of Gethsemane. But He said, “Father, if You are willing, remove this cup from Me; yet not My will, but Yours be done. I am going to perform Your will about Me, through Me, and in Me” (see Luke 22:42). Since it was obedience to what God had said about Him, it triggered salvation. It was Yeshua’s will set to know who He was by the mind of the Father that triggered salvation. But the Scriptures also speak to us: “By this will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all” (Hebrews 10:10). As sons of God, we also say, “I will to do Your will. It is written of me in the scroll of the book.” When we have that set of heart, then things will happen. Signs follow that kind of thinking.



The True Issue Is You About You

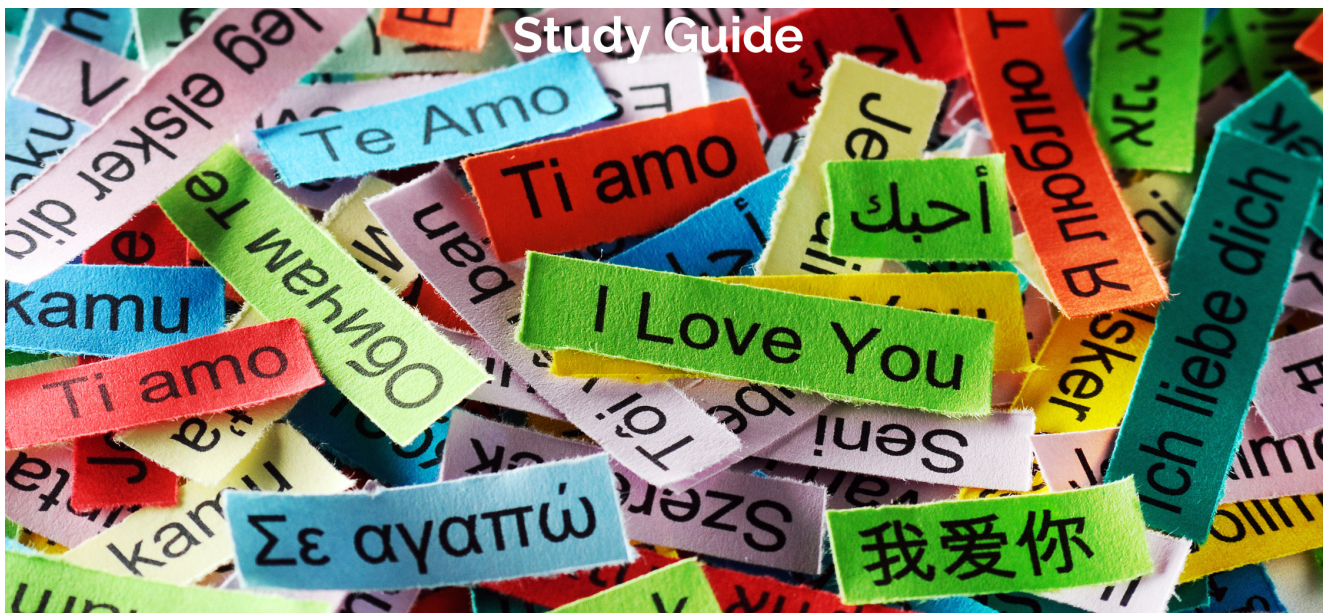
The true battle is going to be won or lost in the way that we think about ourselves. God keeps planting the seed of His Word in us, but the battle keeps stealing it out of our hearts. We allow it to be choked out. Even if the Word is rooted firmly in our hearts, something about our resistance to it does not allow the fruitfulness. But I declare that by grace the sons of God are coming to birth, and the way you come to birth is by this transformation of your mind in how you think about yourself (Romans 8:14–23). Yeshua said, “The ruler of the world is coming, and he has nothing in Me” (John 14:30). What was He talking about? Spiritual warfare works on the basis that we agree with what satan is saying in his lies: “Indeed, has God

said?” (Genesis 3:1). The devil is saying everything opposite of what God is saying about you. When you willingly concur with him, your life can be like a roller coaster. One minute you are thinking like God and the next minute you can be thinking like satan. The true issue is about you. And God will continue to speak to you until your mind is conformed to His Word and transformed.

There is a level of repentance we need that almost comes out of an anger when we allow our minds to track against what God is saying. We may not even see our refusal as a sin or a problem, but it is the greatest offense there is. In the first chapter of Ephesians, Paul says,

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we would be holy and blameless before Him. (Ephesians 1:3-4)

Are you getting this? The Father chose you. This Scripture is talking to believers. He chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world that we should be holy and blameless before Him. Salvation is just the beginning point. You were chosen to be holy and blameless in His image. That is what it is saying. And “in love He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will” (Ephesians 1:5). If God predestined something to happen, it is going to happen. If He predestined sons to come forth in this earth, then before everything culminates and Yeshua returns, sons of God must come forth on the earth. We cannot try to jump over this experience of the transformation of our thoughts about ourselves. Do not let something come and choke out this Word from God to you.



The Father's Will for You Is Not Vague

God wants you to think about yourself the way He does. He wants you to become who you are as prescribed in the Word of God about you. According to the kind intention of His

will, you are predestined to adoption as a son through Yeshua our Messiah to become holy and blameless before Him. That is what the Book says about you. Yeshua is the firstborn among many brethren (Romans 8:29). He is the first illustration that this can be done. You might be thinking, “How can this Scripture be talking about me?” So I want this teaching to pierce your spirit because honestly the resistance in us says, “That cannot be true.” It allows this seed of the Word to be choked out because it seems impossible for our minds to believe it. That is why Paul says in Romans that there must be a transformation of your mind. God must somehow get that human thinking out of us and get His thinking into us.

The Father’s will for you is not vague: you are to be conformed to the image of His Son. Stand before Him, quote chapter and verse, and say, “It is written of me in Ephesians 1:4 that I was chosen before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before You. I am a son of God, conformed to Your image, and I come to do that will.” Do not let the will of God be some generalized thing in your life. “Oh, what is the will of God? I am seeking the will of God for a new job. I want the will of God for a relationship in my life. Should I buy a blue car or a red car?” I think there is a will of God in those things, but it is born out of becoming His will first. God cares about every little thing in your life when you are His son given to do His will and become His thinking about yourself. As Paul said,

I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you will know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe. These are in accordance with the working of the strength of His might which He brought about in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. And He put all things in subjection under His feet, and gave Him as head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all. (Ephesians 1:18–23)

Here is another will of God for you. The will of God about you is that you be the fullness of Christ who was the fullness of the Father. There is a lot in the scroll of the book that is written about you!

Study Guide



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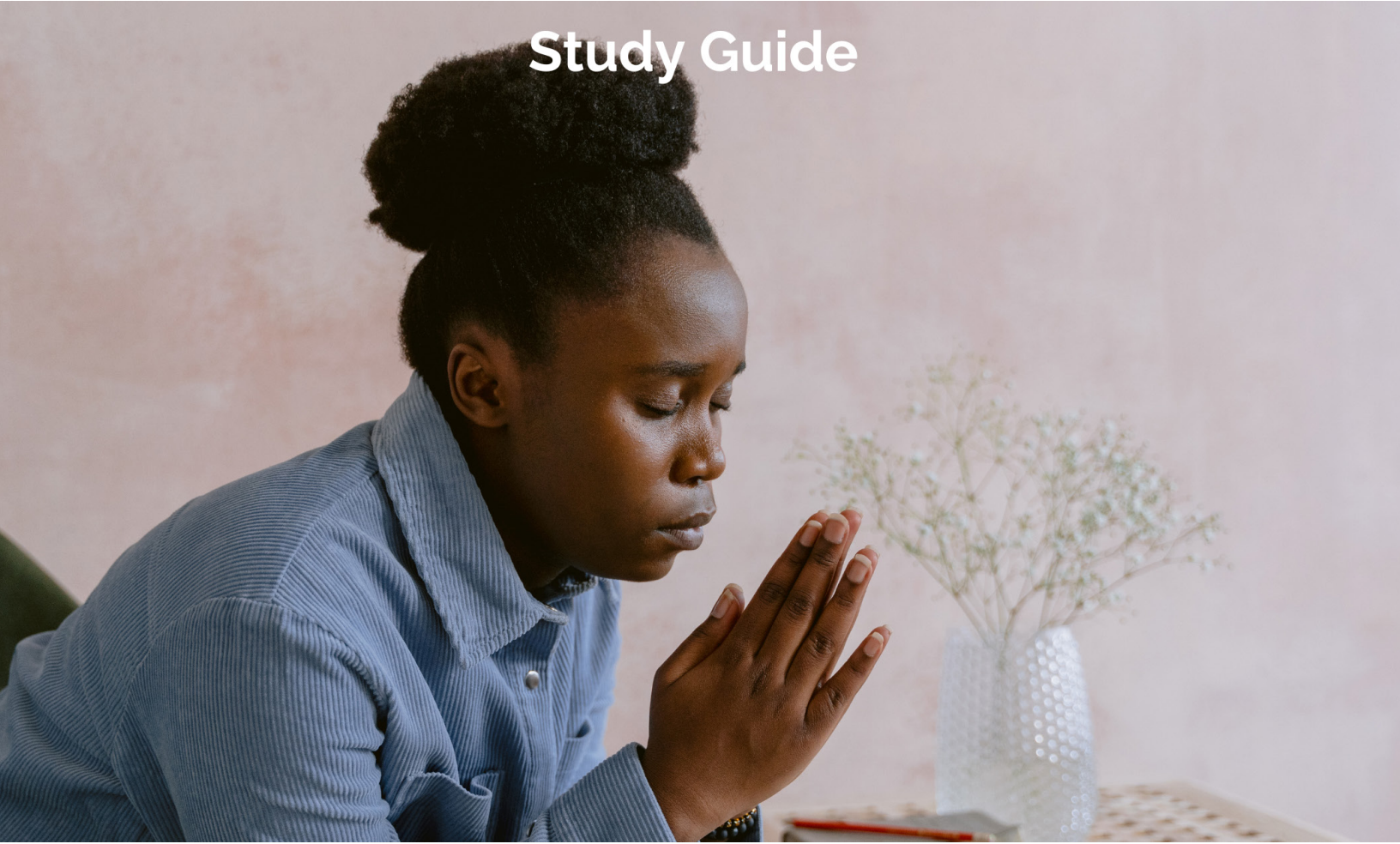


Be Filled to All the Fullness of God

When you think God's thoughts about yourself and know His love for you, then you will automatically be filled up to all the fullness of God. "And to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled up to all the fullness of God" (Ephesians 3:19). You are to know the love of God and what He is saying about you. When your mind is transformed, you will know the love Christ for you. Yeshua came for more than just bringing salvation; He came to finish the job. His love is a complete package that includes the whole will of God for you. The will of God for you is not to just have a salvation experience and then try to live a good life until you die and go to heaven. When we know this personal love for each one of us, we will be filled up to all the fullness of God.

Christianity says, "You can't think that way. You are making yourself out to be like God. You're competing with God." Yet Philippians 2:6 says that Yeshua did not compete with God; He "did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped." In other words, Yeshua did not go after it on a human level, and neither will we. It is a transformation of grace. And it is God's will for you to be just like Yeshua. You are to be filled up to all the fullness of God. On a human level this is impossible. But with God all things are possible. Come and submit yourself to the Father just as Yeshua did, and say, "Behold, I am here as it is written in the scroll of the book about me; I come to do Your will, O God." Yeshua had a fixed focus on the Father, and God is disciplining us to fix our focus.

Study Guide



Lord, Keep My Mind Fixed on You

If your mind started absolutely thinking the thoughts of God about you, then life would come to you (Proverbs 4:22). Your sickness would fall away (Psalm 107:20). Your sin would fall away (Psalm 119:9). You can do this. Ask your Father, “Keep my mind fixed on You.” Maybe you can only do it for five minutes a day. Good, then start with five minutes a day and build on it. That is why you put a cast on a broken arm. Something has to hold it in place until it literally grows in the shape set by the cast. God does the same thing for our minds. He disciplines us to continually bring our minds back into His mind. Position yourself there and say, “I am here to do Your will, and I know exactly what Your will is because it is written of me in Your Word. So I am putting my mind there. I am going to think about me the way You think about me, and my mind is going to be transformed into that reality. ‘For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the Spirit is life and peace’” (Romans 8:6).

This Word is being planted in your heart. Do not let it be stolen. Do not let it be choked out. Memorize some of these Scriptures. Write them down. Review them while you are driving to work, while you are brushing your teeth. Believe that as you are doing these things your mind is being renewed and transformed into the mind of Christ. If you think like Him, you will become Him.

Scriptures to Help You Get You Started

Luke 1:38. “And Mary said, ‘Behold, the bondservant of the Lord; may it be done to me according to your word.’”

John 5:24. “He who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me ... has passed out of death into life.”

John 14:30. “The ruler of the world is coming, and he has nothing in Me.”

John 15:7. “If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.”

Romans 4:20–21. “Being fully assured that what God had promised, He was able also to perform.”

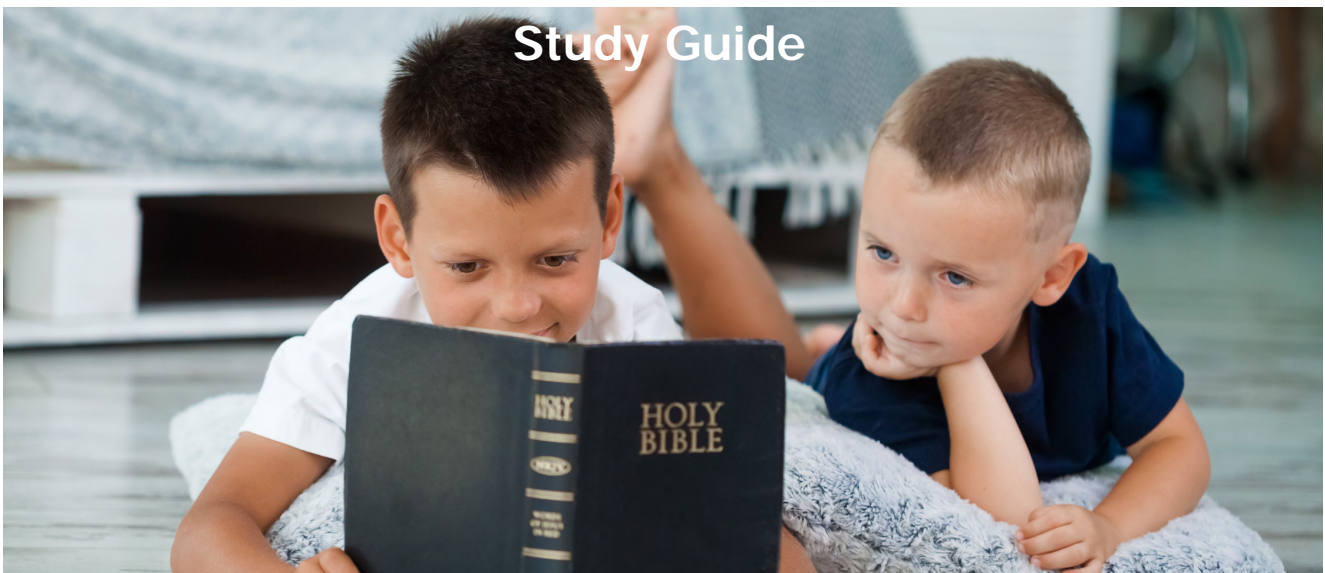
Romans 8:6. “For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the Spirit is life and peace.”

Romans 12:1–2. “Be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.”

Ephesians 1:3–4. “He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we would be holy and blameless before Him.”

Ephesians 3:19. “And to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled up to all the fullness of God.”

2 Timothy 1:13–14. “Guard, through the Holy Spirit who dwells in us, the treasure which has been entrusted to you.”



All Scripture references are from the New American Standard Bible 1995 (NASB1995).

ABOUT GARY HARGRAVE



GARY HARGRAVE has a passion for leading people into spiritual maturity. Gary effectively ministers the life-changing truth of God's Word through Bible teaching and prophetic revelation that emphasizes the Lordship of Christ.

Gary embraces the teachings and insights of the Hebrew Scriptures as the essential foundation of God's Kingdom and the roots of Christian faith.

By cultivating spiritual maturity in Christians, Gary is deeply committed to teaching and inspiring unity in the Body of Christ and between Christians and the Jewish people.

Throughout decades of ministry, Gary has worked closely with leaders in the Jewish, Catholic, and Protestant communities to build relationships based on commonality and understanding. He frequently leads study tours to Israel in the land of the Bible.

Gary is the host of a weekly podcast entitled *Growing In God* and is the founder of Shiloh University, an accredited online Bible college and seminary.

Gary and his family reside in Hawaii.

For other insightful resources by Gary Hargrave, including podcasts, books, articles, videos, and other educational materials, please visit: www.HargraveMinistries.org.

ABOUT HARGRAVE MINISTRIES

The calling of the Lord upon this ministry is to lead people into spiritual maturity by revealing biblical truth. **Our passion is to see the Kingdom of God manifest on earth** as the Body of Christ grows in unity, power, and love.

Everything we do flows from the revelation of the Jewish foundations of our Christian faith. It is our desire and privilege to bless the land and people of Israel. Our Israel outreach includes our ability to:

- **Feed the poor and break the cycle of poverty in Israel**
- **Support the orphans and widows of fallen Israeli soldiers**
- Provide physical and emotional care to **child victims of terrorism**
- **Build bridges between Christians and Jews with biblical study and research**
- Support archaeology and preservation of the **biblical City of David**
- Provide 24/7 **care for Holocaust survivors**
- **Help persecuted Jews around the world return to Israel and start new lives**
- Plant trees to **reforest Israel** and help create **"The Gospel Trail"** between Nazareth and Capernaum

Hargrave Ministries is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization supported through the generous contributions of ministry friends and partners. To learn more about the work of Hargrave Ministries or to partner in its outreach to Israel, please visit: www.HargraveMinistries.org

