

# Influencing Children's Hearts

What I REALLY Wish I Knew When My Children Were Young

**Reb  
Bradley**

A painting depicting a woman in a white dress sitting in a chair, holding a young girl on her lap. The girl is looking towards a baby in a cradle. The scene is set in a room with dark wood paneling and a blue canopy over the cradle.

# **Influencing Children's Hearts**

*What I REALLY Wish I Knew When My Children Were Young*

Reb Bradley

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# Solving the Crisis in Homeschooling

## I. THE PROBLEM

⇒ Many conscientious homeschool parents are watching their children grow up and

## II. BASIC CAUSES OF THE PROBLEM

A. We become oriented

⇒ Our dreams for our kids are really and as parents

B. Preoccupation with results can turn the into a of success

1. The family can become a

2. The children become for parents a of feeling

3. Our is not measured by the effect we have upon others, but by our to God. We obey – *God* bears the fruit (1 Cor 3:6).

C. Preoccupation with leads to emphasis on

1. We emulate the of those who appear in their training

2. We mold our kids', but miss their

3. Preoccupation with outward brings with it a tendency to by our

⇒ We end up on the

⇒ With judgment comes and

4. It was the not Jesus who were preoccupied with  
Mat 6:1-2, 5, 16; 23:5-6, 23-28; John 7:24

*Mat 23:5 "Everything they do is done for men to see: They make their phylacteries wide and the tassels on their garments long;*

*Mat 6:1 "Be careful not to do your 'acts of righteousness' before men, to be seen by them. If you do, you will have no reward from your Father in heaven. 2 "So when you give to the needy, do not announce it with trumpets, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, to be honored by men. I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full ... 5 "And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by men. I tell you the truth, they have*

received their reward in full ... 16 "When you fast, do not look somber as the hypocrites do, for they disfigure their faces **to show men** they are fasting. I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full.

Mat 23:23 "Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You give a tenth of your spices--mint, dill and cummin. But **you have neglected the more important matters** of the law--justice, mercy and faithfulness. You should have practiced the latter, without neglecting the former ... 25 "Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You **clean the outside** of the cup and dish, but inside they are full of greed and self-indulgence. 26 Blind Pharisee! **First clean the inside of the cup and dish, and then the outside also will be clean.** 27 "Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You are like whitewashed tombs, which **look beautiful on the outside** but on the inside are full of dead men's bones and everything unclean. 28 In the same way, **on the outside you appear** to people as righteous but on the inside you are full of hypocrisy and wickedness.

John 7:24 Stop judging by mere appearances, and make a right judgment.

5. Jesus' approach: Invest in the \_\_\_\_\_ and watch it

Mat 23:26 Blind Pharisee! First clean the inside of the cup and dish, and then the outside also will be clean.

⇒ The Pharisees were preoccupied with what \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus emphasized what \_\_\_\_\_

D. Preoccupation with outward \_\_\_\_\_ develops a \_\_\_\_\_ view of the \_\_\_\_\_

1. We develop a false confidence in \_\_\_\_\_

⇒ For our kids, Christianity becomes mostly about \_\_\_\_\_ influences \_\_\_\_\_

2. We develop a false security in our \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

⇒ Relying on your authority to intimidate teens will gain only \_\_\_\_\_

⇒ We \_\_\_\_\_ Proverbs 22:6

Prov 22:6 Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

The book of Proverbs: Promises or Probabilities? Prov 22:4, 11, 14, 16, & 26

E. Over reliance on \_\_\_\_\_ easily leads to a \_\_\_\_\_ approach to parenting \_\_\_\_\_

1. We look for and rely upon \_\_\_\_\_ and self-working \_\_\_\_\_

2. We forget that they are \_\_\_\_\_

F. Emphasis on \_\_\_\_\_ breaks down

1. Without \_\_\_\_\_ we do not have their hearts

2. Without their hearts we cannot \_\_\_\_\_ their

3. Without the ability to influence their values, the best we can do is \_\_\_\_\_ their

4. We may \_\_\_\_\_ them into \_\_\_\_\_ but fail to \_\_\_\_\_ their \_\_\_\_\_ into submission.

⇒ Intimidation may merely foster

### III. BASIC SOLUTIONS TO THE PROBLEM

A. Relate with your children as \_\_\_\_\_ not

B. Cease making your family into a

*1 John 5:21 Dear children, keep yourselves from idols.*

⇒ Choose your \_\_\_\_\_ over other people's

C. \_\_\_\_\_ a relationship of \_\_\_\_\_ with them

*Proverbs 23:26 My son, give me your heart and let your eyes keep to my ways*

⇒ Drink continually from God's \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ so that you have plenty to \_\_\_\_\_ onto your children

*1 John 4:16 And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in him.*

D. Make it your top goal to understand and live out the \_\_\_\_\_ in your home

*Mal 4:6 He will turn the hearts of the fathers to their children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers; or else I will come and strike the land with a curse."*

E. Invest more into their \_\_\_\_\_ than into changing the \_\_\_\_\_ of their

*Matt 23:26 Blind Pharisee! First clean the inside of the cup and dish, and then the outside also will be clean.*

F. Listen to the \_\_\_\_\_ of the

# WINNING OUR CHILDREN'S HEARTS

## I. WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO HAVE OUR CHILDREN'S HEARTS?

*Proverbs 23:26 My son, give me your heart and let your eyes keep to my ways*

A. To have their hearts means they are motivated by \_\_\_\_\_ for you, not just by \_\_\_\_\_ of your

*Deu 10:12 And now, O Israel, what does the LORD your God ask of you but to **fear the LORD** your God, to walk in all his ways, to **love him**, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul,*

*Rom 11:22 Behold then the **kindness and severity of God**; to those who fell, severity, but to you, God's kindness, if you continue in His kindness; otherwise you also will be cut off.*

*Rom 2:4 Or do you show contempt for the riches of his kindness, tolerance and patience, not realizing that **God's kindness leads you toward repentance**?*

*Phile 1:8 Therefore, although in Christ **I could be bold and order you** to do what you ought to do,<sup>9</sup> yet **I appeal to you on the basis of love**. I then, as Paul--an old man and now also a prisoner of Christ Jesus--*

B. Be careful. Do not be content merely because your children are very

1. It is possible to \_\_\_\_\_ them into \_\_\_\_\_, but fail to \_\_\_\_\_ their

*Mat 21:28 "What do you think? There was a man who had two sons. He went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work today in the vineyard.' 29 "I will not,' he answered, but later he changed his mind and went. 30 "Then the father went to the other son and said the same thing. He answered, 'I will, sir,' but he did not go.*

2. Intimidation may foster \_\_\_\_\_ and strengthen the will.

C. If we do not reach their hearts before adolescence, \_\_\_\_\_ may result:

1. As teens they may easily become \_\_\_\_\_ us.

2. We will have little ability to \_\_\_\_\_

3. They will be far more vulnerable to \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ influences they face in the world.

D. How do we win their hearts?

1. We will fail to gain their hearts if we \_\_\_\_\_

*Eph 6:4 Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.*

2. We will fail to gain their hearts if we strive to \_\_\_\_\_ their

3. We must live out the gospel \_\_\_\_\_ in our home.

*Mal 4:6 He will turn the hearts of the fathers to their children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers; or else I will come and strike the land with a curse."*

4. We will more likely gain their hearts if we \_\_\_\_\_ them as \_\_\_\_\_ people.

*1 John 4:19 We love because he first loved us.*

## II. WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO LOVE THEM?

*Rom 2:4b ...God's kindness leads you toward repentance*

A. \_\_\_\_\_ them for who they are

1. Do you communicate to them that you are never completely \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, or \_\_\_\_\_ with them or their efforts?

2. If our kids fail to find our acceptance, they will welcome it from the \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ who offers it.

3. Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ in his experience with the woman at the well (John 4:4-42)

⇨ He did not agree with her moral choices, but \_\_\_\_\_ no

⇨ He did not return her

⇨ He was \_\_\_\_\_ with her

4. Are you a \_\_\_\_\_ person for your children?

⇨ Listen to their feelings without immediately giving them the \_\_\_\_\_ you think they need.

⇨ Values come out of the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ who a person

*Luke 6:45 ... out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks.*

⇨ If their values are immature, then devise a plan to \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ which those values.

5. Consider: Is it possible you have difficulty accepting your children as they are, because you do not believe \_\_\_\_\_ you as you

*Rom 5:8 But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us...10 For if, when we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life!*



B. \_\_\_\_\_ to them when they share their heart

1. Begin to give them opportunities to \_\_\_\_\_ with you.
2. Be \_\_\_\_\_ with their heart. Following a leader requires
3. Share with them \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ you are having in your own life.

C. \_\_\_\_\_ them when they offend you

1. Abiding \_\_\_\_\_ will \_\_\_\_\_ you and them  
*Eph 4:26 "In your anger do not sin" : Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, 27 and do not give the devil a foothold.*  
*Heb 12:15 See to it that no one misses the grace of God and that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many.*
2. Give them continued \_\_\_\_\_. Don't \_\_\_\_\_ of them.  
*Eph 4:32 Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.*
3. Don't bring up \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ them for them time and again  
*Heb 10:17 Then he adds: "Their sins and lawless acts I will remember no more."*
4. Ask \_\_\_\_\_ of them  
*Mat 5:23 "Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, 24 leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to your brother; then come and offer your gift.*
5. Do not \_\_\_\_\_ your anger  
*James 1:20 for the wrath of man does not produce the righteousness of God.*

D. Express \_\_\_\_\_ to them in \_\_\_\_\_ ways

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Be \_\_\_\_\_ toward them.  
*1 Th 2:7 but we were gentle among you, like a mother caring for her little children.*  
*Isa 66:13a As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you ...*
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Discipline yourself to \_\_\_\_\_ at them.  
*Prov 16:15 When a king's face brightens, it means life; his favor is like a rain cloud in spring.*  
*Mark 10:21a Jesus looked at him and loved him...*
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Remove the \_\_\_\_\_ at the end of their name.  
*Eph 6:4a **Fathers, do not exasperate your children...***  
*1 Th 2:11 For you know that we dealt with each of you as a father deals with his own children, 12 **encouraging, comforting and urging** you to live lives worthy of God, who calls you into his kingdom and glory.*
4. \_\_\_\_\_ Are they \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_  
*1 Tim 3:4a He must manage his own family well ...*

# BEYOND OBEDIENCE: Raising Children who Love God

## I. The Good Thing:

Children must learn to honor and obey their parents. As they do – they develop the virtue of self control which is the foundation for maturity, and prepares their hearts to receive values instruction.

## II. The Troubling Thing:

Many conscientious parents think the ultimate goal is to raise obedient, self-controlled children. They are  
Obedience is merely the

## III. The Real Thing:

The \_\_\_\_\_ is to raise to children who are \_\_\_\_\_ of God and \_\_\_\_\_ of their families, neighbors, and enemies.

*Mat 22:37 Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' 38 This is the first and greatest commandment. 39 And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'*

## IV. Raising children to love God

A. \_\_\_\_\_ them \_\_\_\_\_ God is – the \_\_\_\_\_ being who has ever

*1 John 4:7 Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. 8 Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.*

*1 John 4:16 And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in him.*

*Psalms 78:4-8 We will not hide them from their children; we will **tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the LORD, his power, and the wonders he has done.** 5 He decreed statutes for Jacob and established the law in Israel, which he commanded our forefathers to teach their children, 6 so **the next generation would know them,** even the children yet to be born, and they in turn would tell their children. 7 Then they would put their trust in God and would not forget his deeds but would keep his commands. 8 They would not be like their forefathers-- a stubborn and rebellious generation, whose hearts were not loyal to God, whose spirits were not faithful to him.*

⇒ \_\_\_\_\_ was a perfect example of one who knew God and desperately desired Him

*Ps 42:1-2 "... As the deer pants for streams of water, so **my soul pants for you, O God.** 2 My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When can I go and meet with God?"*

*Ps 27:4 "One thing I ask of the LORD, this is what I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, **to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD** and to seek him in his temple.*

1. David found God to be absolutely and totally wonderful.

***I have seen you** in the sanctuary and beheld your power and your glory. 3 Because your love is better than life, **my lips will glorify you.** 4 I will praise you as long as I live, and in your name I will **lift up my hands.** 5 My soul will be **satisfied** as with the richest of foods; with singing lips my mouth will **praise you.** 6 On my bed **I remember you; I think of you** through the watches of the night. 7 Because you are my help, **I sing in the shadow of your wings.** 8 **My soul clings to you; your right hand upholds me.** Psalm 63:2-8*

2. David loved God because he appreciated how He rescued and provided him safety in times of trouble.

*From the ends of the earth I call to you, I call as my heart grows faint; lead me to the **rock** that is higher than I. 3 For you have been my **refuge**, a strong **tower** against the foe. 4 I long to dwell in your **tent** forever and take **refuge** in the **shelter** of your wings. Psalm 61:2 (Also 62:1; 59:16 )*

*But I will sing of your strength, in the morning I will sing of your love; for you are my fortress, my refuge in times of trouble. Psalm 59:16*

*My soul finds rest in God alone; my salvation comes from him. 2 He alone is my rock and my salvation; he is my fortress, I will never be shaken. Psalm 62:1*

3. David loved God for the wisdom and practical value of His laws.

*The law of the LORD is perfect, **reviving the soul**. The statutes of the LORD are trustworthy, making wise the simple. Psalm 19:7 (Also Ps 119:97, 129, 167-168*

*Oh, how I love your law! I meditate on it all day long. Psalm 119:97*

*Your statutes are wonderful; therefore I obey them. Psalm 119:129*

*I obey your statutes, for I love them greatly. 168 I obey your precepts and your statutes, for all my ways are known to you. Psalm 119:167-168*

4. He found Him completely faithful and dependable.

*For the word of the LORD is right and true; he is **faithful in all** he does. Psalm 33:4*

*Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures through all generations. The LORD is faithful to all his promises and loving toward all he has made. Psalm 145:13*

5. David was enthralled with God as the Creator.

*Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation. 2 Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song. 3 For the LORD is the great God, the great King above all gods. 4 In his hand are the depths of the earth, and the mountain peaks belong to him. 5 The **sea** is his, for he made it, and his hands formed the **dry land**. 6 Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the LORD our **Maker**; 7 for he is our God and we are the people of his pasture, the flock under his care. Psalm 95:1-7*

*For you **created** my inmost being; you **knit** me together in my mother's womb. 14 I praise you because I am **fearfully** and **wonderfully made**; your works are wonderful, I know that full well. Ps 139:13*

6. He was in awe of God's omnipresence.

***Where** can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? 8 If I go up to the **heavens**, you are there; if I make my bed in the **depths**, you are there. Psalm 139:7-8*

7. David was amazed by God's omniscience.

*O LORD, you have searched me and **you know me**. 2 You know **when I sit** and **when I rise**; you **perceive my thoughts** from afar. 3 You discern **my going out** and **my lying down**; you are **familiar with all my ways**. 4 Before a word is on my tongue you know it completely, O LORD. 5 You hem me in--behind and before; you have laid your hand upon me. 6 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to attain. Psalm 139:1-6*

8. He revered God for His incredible power.

*The mountains melt like wax before the LORD, before the Lord of all the earth. Psalm 97:5*

*I have seen you in the sanctuary and beheld your power and your glory. 3 Because your love is better than life, my lips will glorify you. Psalm 63:2-3*

*Great is the LORD and most worthy of praise; his greatness no one can fathom. 4 One generation will commend your works to another; they will tell of your mighty acts. 5 They will speak of the glorious splendor of your majesty, and I will meditate on your wonderful works. 6 They will tell of the power of your awesome works, and I will proclaim your great deeds. Ps 145:3-6*

*"How awesome are your deeds! So great is your power that your enemies cringe before you. Psalm 66:3*

9. David feared God for His great authority

*My flesh trembles in fear of you; I stand in awe of your laws. Psalm 119:120*

*If you, O LORD, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand? 4 But with you there is forgiveness; therefore you are feared. Psalm 130:3-4*

*Taste and see that the LORD is good; blessed is the man who takes refuge in him. 9 Fear the LORD, you his saints, for those who fear him lack nothing ... 11 Come, my children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the LORD. Psalm 34:8-11*

⇒ If we are to help our children find God ourselves

we must

Him deeply

B. Those who love God, do so because they

His love

*1 John 4:19 We love him, because he first loved us*

1. We must first believe that God

us as

*Rom 5:8 But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. 9 Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! 10 For if, when we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life!*

2. God can

our children to Himself

*John 14:8 Philip said, "Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us." 9 Jesus answered: "Don't you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'?"*

C.

yourself and

whom your children will want to

*John 13:15 I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you.*

⇒ Are they drawn to our Jesus or is our "religion" just a them?

they feel

*Luke 11:46*

*Mat 11:28 "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. 29 Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. 30 For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."*

# The Power of a Strong Family

## I. A “strong” family is ...

- A. Characterized by a \_\_\_\_\_ of its members to each other
- ⇒ \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ challenges from within and without
- ⇒ There is great \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ for one another
- B. Each member \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ his or her
- C. One in which \_\_\_\_\_ with family than with friends or the youth subculture

## II. God’s means for strengthening family bonds

*Mal 4:6 He will turn the hearts of the fathers to their children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers... (Luke 1:17)*

- A. John the Baptist held the \_\_\_\_\_ for strong family
- ⇒ Strong family bonds were meant to be a \_\_\_\_\_ of his
- B. God intends that parents & children \_\_\_\_\_ have their \_\_\_\_\_ together
- ⇒ A \_\_\_\_\_ is necessary because the heart is naturally turned towards

## III. What in John’s ministry does God use to knit family hearts?

- A. He preached the \_\_\_\_\_
- Luke 3:18 And with many other words John exhorted the people and **preached the good news** to them.*
- ⇒ The core of the good news is that God \_\_\_\_\_ with
- Rom 5:6 You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. 7 Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, though for a good man someone might possibly dare to die. 8 But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.*
- ⇒ He proclaimed the need for and availability of \_\_\_\_\_ of
- Mark 1:4 And so John came, baptizing in the desert region and preaching a baptism of repentance **for the forgiveness of sins**.*
- ⇒ If we do not know God is merciful we will \_\_\_\_\_ Him.
- Mat 25:24 "Then the man who had received the one talent came. 'Master,' he said, 'I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed.*

B. He sought to \_\_\_\_\_ people to God.

*Luke 1:16 Many of the people of Israel will he bring back to the Lord their God.*

⇒ Reconciliation has

*Rom 5:10 For if, when we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life!*

*2 Cor 5:18 All this is from God, **who reconciled us to himself** through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: 19 that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. 20 We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God.*

*Heb 10:10 And by that will, **we have been made holy** through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ **once for all**.*

⇒ The fruit of knowing your are accepted by God is

*Rom 8:31 What, then, shall we say in response to this? **If God is for us, who can be against us?** 32 He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all--how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? 33 Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. 34 Who is he that condemns? Christ Jesus, who died--more than that, who was raised to life--is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. 35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? 36 As it is written: "For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered." 37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. 38 For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, 39 neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

*1 John 4:18 There is no fear in love. But **perfect love drives out fear**, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love.*

⇒ He accepts us as

*2 Cor 4:7 But we have this treasure **in jars of clay** to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us.*

*2 Cor 12:9 But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for **my power is made perfect in weakness**." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me.*

C. \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ played a key role in reconciliation.

*Mat 3:6 Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River.*

*Prov 28:13 He who conceals his sins does not prosper, but whoever confesses and renounces them finds mercy.*

⇒ The pressure on homeschoolers to appear \_\_\_\_\_ can

⇒ We will alienate our children if we are \_\_\_\_\_ and live behind

*James 5:16 Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective.*

D. He pointed people to

*Mat 3:3 This is he who was spoken of through the prophet Isaiah: "A voice of one calling in the desert, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.'"*

*John 1:26 "I baptize with water," John replied, "but among you stands one you do not know."*

*John 1:34 I have seen and I testify that this is the Son of God."*

*John 3:36 Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God's wrath remains on him."*

1. In Jesus alone is there \_\_\_\_\_ with God and

*Acts 4:12 Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved."*

2. He portrayed Jesus as the sacrificial Lamb who would \_\_\_\_\_ for

*John 1:29 The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"*

*John 1:36 When he saw Jesus passing by, he said, "Look, the Lamb of God!"*

*Eph 3:17 ...I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, 18 may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, 19 and to know this love that surpasses knowledge--that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.*

3. He \_\_\_\_\_ Himself and came as a \_\_\_\_\_ to us

*Phil 2:6 Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, 7 but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. 8 And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death-- even death on a cross!*

4. He has \_\_\_\_\_ us \_\_\_\_\_ our

*Col 2:13 When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your sinful nature, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins,*

*Heb 8:12 For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more."*

*1 John 2:12 I write to you, dear children, because your sins have been forgiven on account of his name.*

5. He has \_\_\_\_\_ us

*Rom 5:1 Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,*

*Rom 5:9 Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him!*

6. He gave us the \_\_\_\_\_ he earned

*Rom 3:22 This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference,*

*Rom 4:24 but also for us, to whom God will credit righteousness--for us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead.*

7. He has made us \_\_\_\_\_ with God  
*Rom 5:1 Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, **we have peace with God** through our Lord Jesus Christ,*
8. He brought us \_\_\_\_\_ him  
*Eph 2:13 But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away **have been brought near** through the blood of Christ.*
9. He gave us a \_\_\_\_\_  
*2 Cor 5:17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a **new creation**; the old has gone, the new has come!*  
*1 Cor 6:11 And **that is what some of you were**. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.*
10. He \_\_\_\_\_ us as His children  
*Eph 1:5 he **predestined us to be adopted** as his sons through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will--*
11. He allows us to \_\_\_\_\_ His presence  
*Heb 4:16 Let us therefore **come boldly unto the throne** of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.*  
*Heb 10:19 **Having** therefore, brethren, **boldness to enter** into the holiest by the blood of Jesus,*
12. He \_\_\_\_\_ for us now in heaven  
*Rom 8:34 Who is he that condemns? Christ Jesus, who died--more than that, who was raised to life--is at the right hand of God and is also **interceding for us**.*  
*Rom 8:27 And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because **the Spirit intercedes for the saints** in accordance with God's will.*  
*1 John 2:1 My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, **we have one who speaks to the Father in our defense**--Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. 2 He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world ... 5 For there is one God and one **mediator between God and men**, the man Christ Jesus,*  
*1 Tim 2:6 who **gave himself as a ransom** for all men--the testimony given in its proper time.*
13. He did all our \_\_\_\_\_ for us and gave us the task of \_\_\_\_\_ in him  
*John 6:28 Then they asked him, "What must we do to do the works God requires?" 29 Jesus answered, "**The work of God is this: to believe in the one he has sent.**"*  
*Rom 4:4 Now when a man works, his wages are not credited to him as a gift, but as an obligation. 5 However, to the man who does not work but trusts God who justifies the wicked, his faith is credited as righteousness.*
14. He relates to us as a \_\_\_\_\_ by his \_\_\_\_\_ (Song of Solomon)  
*John 3:29 The bride belongs to the bridegroom. The friend who attends the bridegroom waits and listens for him, and is full of joy when he hears the bridegroom's voice. That joy is mine, and it is now complete.*  
*Rev 19:7 Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory! For the wedding of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready.*



## Other materials by Reb & Beverly Bradley

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