

Romans: A Life of Faith
Week #19 “How to be strong”
Romans 14:13-18
November 13, 2022
羅馬書：信仰的生活
第19週：“如何堅強”
羅馬書14:13-18
2022年11月13日

Worship 敬拜

祢神蹟如此真實

作詞：Jonathan Prawira 作曲：Jonathan Prawira

主你能力何其的偉大
在你也沒有任何限制
雖然我看到的是
不可能的現實
在你卻沒有難成的事

主你能力何其的偉大
在你也沒有任何限制
雖然我看到的是
不可能的現實
在你卻沒有難成的事

當我感到軟弱無助
你能力顯得完全
我要全心的相信
你神蹟如此真實
不是自己倚靠勢力
乃是倚靠你的靈
我向你全心祈禱
你神蹟如此真實

主你能力何其的偉大
在你也沒有任何限制
雖然我看到的是
不可能的現實
在你卻沒有難成的事

當我感到軟弱無助
你能力顯得完全
我要全心的相信
你神蹟如此真實
不是自己倚靠勢力
乃是倚靠你的靈
我向你全心祈禱
你神蹟如此真實

神蹟確實靠近
在一直運行
而我 要憑信心的生命

當我感到軟弱無助
你能力顯得完全
我要全心的相信
你神蹟如此真實
不是自己倚靠勢力
乃是倚靠你的靈
我向你全心祈禱
你神蹟如此真實
我向你全心祈禱
你神蹟如此真實
我向你全心祈禱
你神蹟如此 真實

Great Are You Lord 你是偉大神
你是愛，賜生命；

你的愛驅走黑暗；

賜盼望, 祢恢復,
每一顆破碎的心;
Great are you Lord

你氣息, 在我心;
我們獻上讚美, 獻上讚美;
你氣息, 在我心;

我們獻上讚美, 獻上讚美; 只為你

全地歌頌你聖名;
我心呼求, 我靈歌唱;
Great are you Lord !

Great are you Lord !

來到祭壇前 **O Come to the Alter**

詞曲 / Steven Furtick, Chris Brown, Wade Joye, Mack Brock 中譯詞 / 馮康恬 Audrey Feng
樂團/台南活水基督教會

Verse 1 :

是不是感到痛苦受傷
被壓倒在罪惡的重量
耶穌在呼喚
有沒有曾經走到盡頭
很渴望喝杯水從井中
耶穌在呼喚

Verse 2 :

放下你的錯誤和後悔
不要再等待 就是今天
耶穌在呼喚
你憂傷祂能變為喜樂
從灰燼祂能使你重生
耶穌在呼喚

Chorus :

喔來到 祭壇前
天父雙臂已經敞開
被原諒 得赦免
因耶穌基督主寶血

Bridge :

喔我的救主 祂是多麼完美
唱哈利路亞 基督復活
跪拜祂面前 因祂完全掌權
唱哈利路亞 基督復活

Offering 奉獻

Announcements 公告

- + Thanksgiving Food Boxes | Collecting through November 20. If you would like to volunteer, sign up on our website today. We will be giving 300 boxes to families in our community this Thanksgiving. 感恩節食品盒| 收集到11月30日。如果你想成為志願者, 請今天在我們的網站上註冊。這個感恩節, 我們將向我們社區的家庭發放300個食品盒。
- + Prime Timer's Thanksgiving Luncheon | This Wednesday 11 am. You're invited! 老年弟兄姊妹感恩節午餐會| 這個週三上午11點, 邀請你參加!
- + B4 Basics | Next Sunday, Nov. 20 @ 10am. If you are new to B4 and want to learn more about us or want to know of ways to get involved, join us for an hour. We can't wait to get to

know you. • B4基礎| 下週日, 11月20日上午10點。如果你是B4的新成員, 想更多地了解我們或者想知道更多的參與方式, 加入我們一個小時。我們迫不及待地想認識你。

Message 佈道

- Now, I'd like you to turn in your Bibles to Romans 14. 現在, 我請你翻到你的聖經羅馬書14章。
- As we dive into the message today...and it may not be a very long one...I want to connect where we are going in Romans with what we've just seen, in Baptism. 當我們進入到今天的講道...這可能並不是很長的一章...我想將我們在羅馬書中要讀到的和我們剛才看到的洗禮聯繫起來。
- There isn't anything more beautiful or unifying than moments like the one we have shared today. 沒有什麼比我們今天分享的時刻更美好或者更合一的了。
 - It's pretty simple. 這很簡單。
 - And it's pretty clear. 這很清楚。
 - This is the stuff that really matters, stories of people's lives, you and me, changed by the person of Jesus. 這是真正重要的東西, 人們人生的故事, 你和我, 被耶穌改變了。
 - That's it. 就是這樣。
 - That's the most important thing. 這是最重要的事情。
- But what's fascinating is how short our attention span can be. 但是令人著迷的是我們的注意力範圍是多麼地短。
 - When we're focused on the right thing, this WHOLE thing, seems pretty simple and joy-filled. 當我們專注於正確的事情時, 整個事情, 看起來很簡單和充滿喜樂。
 - But maintaining focus? 但是保持專注?
 - That isn't the easiest thing to do. 這不是最容易做的事情。
- And staying united? 保持合一呢?
 - That's even harder to do, especially in a culture that is continually criticizing and canceling. 這是很難做到的, 尤其是在不斷地批評和抹除的當今文化中
 - Can I still say cancel? Is that still allowed? (It's a joke!) 我能說抹除嗎? 這還允許嗎? (這是個笑話)
- As I mentioned last week, one of Paul's largest sections in his letter to the Roman church is on how we do life and get along with each other, when we have strong, differing, opinions. 正如我在上週提到的, 保羅在給羅馬教會的這封信最大的部分之一就是, 當我們有強烈的、不同的觀點時, 我們如何生活和如何相處。
 - Which means that as intense our recent history has felt, this isn't a new human experience. 這意味著, 正如我們對最近的歷史的感受一樣, 這不是一種新的人類體驗。

- It turns out, people have been disagreeing for more than few years. 事實證明，人們的分歧已經不止這麼幾年了。
- And TRUE Christianity, (Note: Not ALL Christianity), but TRUE Christianity has been presenting an alternative way forward, from the very beginning. 真正的基督教，（注意：不是所有的基督教），但是真正的基督教從很早開始，就提出了不同的前進道路。
- But that way forward isn't rooted in policy or philosophy. 但是這種前進的道路不是根植於政治或者哲學。
 - It's rooted in relationships. 它根植於人際關係。
 - It's rooted in the attitude of our hearts, and the way we treat those around us. 它根植於我們內心的態度，我們對待周圍人的方式。
- So whether...Christ follower or not, new, or veteran, old or young, male or female, we have an opportunity to take in some instruction that is really relevant for the cultural moment we find ourselves in. 因此，無論...基督信徒與否，新人或退伍軍人，年長或者年輕人，男人或者女人，我們都有機會接受與我們文化時刻相關的一些指導。
 - There's a deposit of wisdom in these pages. 這羅馬書裡蘊藏著智慧。
- Paul is talking to this group of Christ followers and telling them, "This is how you live together...and if Paul took as much time talking about this, it would make sense we did the same...so last week we closed with verse 13, but this week I want to start there. 保羅正在與這群基督信徒交談，並說，“這就是你們共同生活的方式...如果保羅花更多的時間討論這件事情，我們也這樣做是有道理的...所以上週我們以第13節經文結束，但是這週我想從那裡開始。
 - He says this: 他這樣說：

Romans 14:13 羅馬書14:13

Therefore let us not pass judgment on one another any longer, but rather decide never to put a stumbling block or hindrance in the way of a brother.

所以，我們不可再彼此論斷，寧可定意誰也不給弟兄放下絆腳跌人之物。

- Remember, he's speaking to the "Strong" in faith. 記住，他在對信仰中的“強者”說話。
 - He's assuming they are strong, vs weak. 他假設他們是強者，或者弱者。
 - And I'm assuming you're strong. 我假設你是強者。
- Well, There's a principle here for the strong that can't be ignored. 好吧，這裡有一個強者原則，不容忽視。
 - Catch this. 抓住這點。

The 'strong in faith' don't judge. '信仰堅強'的人不去評判。

- It's pretty clear. 這很清楚。
 - It's pretty simple. 這很簡單。
- If you're strong in faith, you don't judge others. 如果你有堅定的信心，你就不會評判他人。
- But that also means this...if you're judging others...well...you can work the logic, right? 但這也意味著...如果你去評判他人...嗯...你可以按照邏輯，對嗎？
- If you're judging others then you're weak in faith. 如果你在評判他人，那麼你的信心就軟弱。
- Paul says, "Strong people of faith don't judge and aren't known for being judgement." 保羅說，“有堅強信心的人不會去評判，也不以評判他人而聞名。”
- But we also need make sure we are clear about judgement, right? 但是我們也要確保我們要有清楚的判斷力，對嗎？
- Because some of have a tendency to call one thing, another thing, even though it's the very thing we are talking about. 因為有些人傾向於將一件事稱之為另一件事，即使這正是我們在討論的事情。
- We do that with judgment. 我們這樣做是憑著判斷力。
 - We do things like, RIGHT before we judge, we say something like, "Im not judging, please, understand, BUT..." And then we go on to point something out... 我們會這樣做，在我們評判之前，我們會說，“我不是在評判，請理解，但是....”然後我們繼續指出一些事情....
 - Words are powerful, but they aren't THAT powerful. 文字很強大，但是沒有那麼強大。
 - Otherwise I'd tell Ice Cream that it's actually Salad I'm eating. 否則我會告訴冰激凌，實際上我正在吃的是沙拉。
 - YOU are not Ice Cream... 你不是冰激凌....
- So maybe I should add, strong people don't judge, and they don't try to veil their judgment under some other qualifier like, "I'm just talking about how different we are." 也許我應該補充，強大的人不去評判，他們不會試圖用其他限定詞掩蓋他們的評判，比如，“我只是在討論我們有多麼的不同。
 - No. 不對。
 - No you're not. 不，你不是的。
- We have a natural tendency to draw lines and criticize the beliefs or behaviors of others when the are different from ours, in an attempt to ELEVATE our own. 當他人的信仰或者行為和我們的不同時，我們有一種天生的傾向，即劃清界線並批評他人的信仰或行為，以抬高自己。
 - We feel slightly if not significantly superior. 我們覺得即使不是顯著的優勢，也有輕微的優勢。

- But if you're strong, you grow out of that. 但如果你很強大, 你會從中成長。
- But THEN, Paul takes this life together to a WHOLE. NEW. LEVEL. 然而, 保羅將這種生活帶到一個整體, 新的, 水平。
- He says, 他說,

Romans 14:13 羅馬書 14:13

Therefore let us not pass judgment on one another any longer, but rather decide never to put a stumbling block or hindrance in the way of a brother.

所以, 我們不可再彼此論斷, 寧可定意誰也不給弟兄放下絆腳跌人之物

- So the replacement behavior for judgment is to DECIDE to never put a stumbling block or hindrance in the way of a brother. 所以評判的替代行為是, 決定永遠不給弟兄放下絆腳跌人之物。
- Two things about this. 關於這一點我要說兩件事。
- First, let's talk about this funny little phrase he uses here: Stumbling Block. 首先, 讓我們看一下他在這裡所用的一個有趣的短語: 絆腳跌人之物。
- The Hebrew word for this idea is: Mikshowl 希伯來語相應的詞是: Mikshowl。
- There are a couple of places we find this word, but one is Leviticus 19:14, that says this: 我們也可以在聖經裡其它的一些地方看到這個詞。其中一處在利未記19:14, 是這樣說:

Leviticus 19:14 利未記19:14

Do not curse the deaf or put a stumbling block in front of the blind, but fear your God. I am the Lord. 不可咒罵聾子, 也不可將絆腳石放在瞎子面前。只要敬畏你的神。我是耶和華。

- Can we just pause for a moment here and marvel at the fact that this HAD TO BE SAID? 我們可以在這裡停一下, 想想在這裡究竟說了什麼嗎?
- How dark does your soul have to be that you have to be told..."hey...THAT's BAD." 當你不得不被告知..."嗨...那很不好。"這時你的靈魂是處在一個多麼黑暗的光景啊。
- But you get the idea... 但是你卻也得到了這個信息...
- Paul says, "Hey, if you're strong, DECIDE not to trip others up in their journey. 保羅說, "嗨, 如果你是堅強的, 就定意不要讓別人在他們的路上絆倒。
- Which I appreciate this, and it's the second thing I wanted to note here. 我很感謝, 這是我想在這裡提出的第二件事。
- I appreciate Paul's realism. 我很欣賞保羅的實事求是。

- He says, “DECIDE”... 他說, “定意”...
 - The focus is on your intention. 重點是你的企圖。
- Can you control whether you ARE not going to? Maybe NOT. 你能控制得了你不會做? 恐怕做不到。
- But you can determine your motive, or intent. 但是你可以確定你的心意, 或者說企圖。
- And he says, “When it comes to faith and differences...don’t trip each other up.” 然後他說, “如果因為信仰而產生分歧...不要把別人絆倒。”
- Even if you KNOW you’re right...which is what Paul gets to next. 即使你認為你是對的...保羅隨後解釋。
 - Look at this: 請看這段:

Romans 14:14 羅馬書 14:14

I know and am persuaded in the Lord Jesus that nothing is unclean in itself, but it is unclean for anyone who thinks it unclean. 我凭着主耶穌確知深信, 凡物本來沒有不潔淨的。惟獨人以為不潔淨的, 在他就不潔淨了。

- I know, and am persuaded “In the Lord Jesus” that NOTHING is unclean. 我知道, 並且被規勸“在主耶穌裡”凡物沒有不潔淨的。
 - He didn’t always believe that way, by the way. 順便說一下, 他並不是總這樣相信。
 - Remember there were all kinds of differences of opinions about what could and couldn’t be consumed. 請記得有各種觀點, 關於什麼是可以吃或者不可以吃的。
 - Most of this stemmed from the difference between the Jewish Christians and the Gentile Christians, coming from wildly different backgrounds. 這些都出於非常不同的文化背景, 在猶太基督徒和外邦基督徒中間。
 - But Paul was convinced, in other words he knew with every fiber of his being, NOTHING is UNCLEAN. 但是保羅知道, 或者說他確信, 任何東西, 沒有不潔淨的。
 - But notice that he gave some context. “IN THE LORD JESUS:”, it’s all good. 但是要記得他在上下文裡限定的, 是“在主耶穌裡”, 一切都是好的。
 - By saying “IN THE LORD JESUS” he’s referring to this realm of walking in with a particular posture, or in a particular position with, Jesus. 通過說“在主耶穌裡”, 他指的是以一個特定的姿態或特別的地位在耶穌的國度裡。
 - If you’re THERE, in that place where he’s leading your life...then nothing is unclean. 如果你在那兒, 在那個耶穌帶領的生活中...沒有什麼是不潔淨的。
 - That’s the STRONG position. 那是堅固的地位。

- So, if you're strong, and if nothing is unclean, THEN what? 所以，如果你在一個堅固的地位，沒有什麼是不潔淨的，那會怎麼樣？
 - Well, Paul continues. 保羅繼續闡述。
- You do what v. 15 says... 你就要做第15節所說的 ...

Romans 14:15-16 羅馬書 14:15-16

For if your brother is grieved by what you eat, you are no longer walking in love. By what you eat, do not destroy the one for whom Christ died. 16 So do not let what you regard as good be spoken of as evil. 你若因食物叫弟兄忧愁，就不是按着爱人的道理行。基督已经替他死，你不可因你的食物叫他败坏。16 不可叫你的善被人毁谤。

- Now, this, I think needs some clarifying. 這裡，我想應該澄清一些事。
- See, Paul makes this really clear. 看，保羅在這裡說得很清楚。

The 'strong in faith' are concerned for the other. “在信仰裡堅定的”會為別人考慮。

- This, by the way, IS the way of Jesus. 這，順便說一下，也是耶穌的方式。
 - To be concerned for the heart and soul of the other - to the point that you give up YOUR freedom? 掛念別人的心靈與靈魂 - 以至於放棄自己的自由。
 - Sound familiar? 聽起來很熟悉嗎？
 - It's not lost on me how much this grates against the psychology of the west. 我並不是不知道這和西方的心理學有多麼大的違背。
 - Those of you from eastern, more communally driven cultures have an advantage on those of us from the individualist west where the mantra is “My way or the highway”. 對於你們從東方來的人來說，那種相對於我們這些崇尚“老子天下第一”的個人主義思想氾濫的西方社會而言，你們擁有的集體主義的精神更具有優勢。
 - Here we see, “I'll do what's best for you, even if it's not my preference.” 這裡我們看到，“我要做對你最好的事，哪怕這在我並不是最想做的。”
 - And that's quite revolutionary for many of us. 這對於我們中的許多人而言是顛覆性的。
- It takes a big person to make that kind of sacrifice. 這對於個人而言是很大的犧牲。
- One of the greatest symbols of true liberty is our ability to act in and use self-denial. 真正自由的重大象徵之一是我們採取行動和使用克己的能力。
- It's the greatest act of freedom, to sacrifice yours for the sake of someone else. • 這是最大的自由行為，為了別人而犧牲自己。

- We're tempted to say, or to ask, "what about me...why can't they bend my way, why can't they compromise? I don't have that conviction..." 我們很想說或問：“那我呢.....為什麼他們向我靠近，為什麼他們不能妥協？我並沒有那個信念.....”
- But Paul says, the strong bend first. 但是保羅說，堅強的因先(舍己)。
- But. There's a need to be clear. 但是。必需要很清楚
- The concern is not for the legalistic moralistic behavior of others. 關注的不是他人的律法主義道德行為
 - But for the growth of others - the spiritual growth of others. 而是為了他人的成長——他人的靈性成長。
- There's a big difference between conscience and legalism. 良心和律法主義有很大的不同。
- Legalism is obeying rules to please, appease, win favor of God. 律法主義是遵守規則來取悅、安撫、贏得上帝的青睞。
- Paul deals directly with that throughout this letter. 保羅在這封信中直接處理這個問題。
- Legalism erodes the spirituality of Jesus - the relational reality of a living God. 律法主義侵蝕了基督信仰的靈性——與永生神在一個關係中的現實。
 - So we KNOW, he's not telling us to support the legalistic behaviors or beliefs of others. 所以我們知道，他並不是要我們支持他人的律法主義的行為或信仰。
- He's talking about matters of conscience. 他是在說良心。
 - It's deeper. 是更深的。
 - It's connected to something more than a religious spirit. 是連結到比宗教的靈更大的一位。
- I think this is a good point to pump the brakes and mention this unhealthy correlation that frequently gets made in Christian communities...that somehow length of faith equals strength of faith. 我認為這是一個很好的剎車點，來提到這種在基督教社區中經常出現的不健康的相關性.....不知何故，我們認為信仰的長度等於信仰的強度。

Length of faith DOES NOT equal strength of faith. 信仰的長度不等同於信仰的強度

- Some of you are brand new to this adventure...but you already have the liberty and freedom and perspective of the strong. 對你們中的一些人，這次(信仰的)冒險是全新的.....但你們已經擁有強者的自由和遠見。
- See, Paul is recalibrating all of our thinking and he's saying this to everyone. 看，保羅正在重新調整我們所有的想法，他對每個人都這麼說。
 - Be concerned about whether or not that person with you is moving into deeper connection with Christ, and don't trip them up. 關心和你在一起的那個人是否

正在與基督建立更深的聯繫，不要絆倒他們。

- That's it. 就是這樣。

- And there's a double challenge there. 這裡有雙重的挑戰
- There's a challenge for those who've established hard and fast rules...strong opinions about negotiable issues. 對於那些制定了嚴格而快速的規則的人來說，這是一個挑戰.....因為對可協商的問題有強烈意見。
- Don't judge that other person, because they don't have the same opinion as you. 不要評判另一個人，只因為他們的觀點與你不同。
 - (Now, Don't compromise, because if God has told you something about who you are, your DNA that has caused you to take a particular stance, then you should never compromise that stance). (現在，不要妥協，因為如果上帝告訴了你一些關於你是誰的事情，你的 DNA 導致你採取特定的立場，那麼你永遠不應該妥協那個立場)。
 - Simply know what your stand is, and live in harmony with people who have a different one. 只需知道你的立場是什麼，並與擁有不同立場的人和諧相處。
- Then, for those who, like Paul, have a greater sense of liberty than other people, be sensitive to what your actions could possibly do to effect another person. 然後，對於那些像保羅一樣比其他人有更大自由感的人，請注意你的行為可能會對他人造成什麼影響。
- It's really a message to everyone to shift the way you think about the people in your life. 這確實是給每個人的信息，要轉變您對生活中的人的看法。
- Let me offer this example, and it may not work for some of you, but I hope you can track. 讓我提供這個例子，它可能對你們中的一些人不起作用，但我希望你們能夠跟著聽。
Illustration: Car / Steve 故事：汽車/史蒂夫
 - Imagine this. 想像一下
 - It's a perfect Sunday afternoon, and you want to go for a drive in the country. 這是一個完美的周日下午，你想去鄉下兜風。
 - And I throw you the keys to my 1989 Porsche 911 Convertible. • 我把 1989 年保時捷 911 敞篷車的鑰匙扔給你。

Picture: Porsche 圖片：保時捷

- (I don't have one, but I figured that since I'm letting you imagine something, I could have my own moment.) (我沒有，但我想，因為我讓需要讓你想像些什麼，我就選我喜歡的吧。)
- So I throw you the keys to the 911. 所以我把 911 的鑰匙扔給你了。
- And you head out into the beautiful country around us. • 你前往我們周圍美麗的鄉村

Picture: Oregon Road 圖片:俄勒岡路

- And your zipping through corners and letting the wind fly through your hair. • 你在角落裡穿梭, 讓風吹過你的頭髮。
- But then you come around a corner, maybe even the best corner on the ENTIRE road, and there's a car going 22mph. • 但是當你繞過一個拐角時, 甚至可能是整條道路上最好的拐角處, 一輛汽車正以每小時 22 英里的速度行駛。
- You hit the brakes and realize, they aren't going to go any faster than that. • 你踩剎車並意識到, 他們不會開的比這更快了。
- And there, you see it, the student driver sticker. • 在那裡, 你看到了, 學生司機貼紙。
- Question: How do you feel? • 問題: 你感覺如何?
- Second Question: How do you feel if it's YOUR student driver? • 第二個問題: 如果是你的學生司機, 你感覺如何?
- Do you feel that difference of HOW you see that person? • 你覺得你看待那個人的方式有什麼不同嗎?
 - Instead of being in your way, you want them to learn, slowly, rightly. • 不是嫌他們妨礙你, 你希望他們慢慢地、正確地學習。
 - THAT is what Paul is getting at. • 這就是保羅的意思。
- And here's why: • 原因如下:

Romans 14:17

For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking but of righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

羅馬書 14:17

17 因為神的國不在乎吃喝, 只在乎公義、和平, 並聖靈中的喜樂。

- In other words, this isn't about rules regulations and it's not about what you can or can't eat, or drink, or wear, or listen to, or you name it. • 換句話說, 這與規則無關, 也與您可以或不能吃什麼、喝什麼、穿什麼、聽什麼或您說出什麼無關。

- It's about living in unity with Christ and accepting his invitation to walk this road of goodness and wholeness alongside of him. • 這是關於與基督合一生活，並接受他的邀請，與他一起走這條美善和完全的道路。
 - It's about shalom - becoming and extending wholeness. • 這是關於沙龍 - 成為和擴展完全。
 - It's about joy - because you actually have this odd sense that maybe God is REALLY moving in your life. • 這是關於喜樂——因為你確實上有一種奇怪的感覺，也許上帝真的在你的生活中工作。

- Let's read what's next: 讓我們接著讀

Romans 14:18

Whoever thus serves Christ is acceptable to God and approved by men.

羅馬書 14:18

18 在這幾樣上服事基督的，就為神所喜悅，又為人所稱許。

- Wait, who did he say we are serving when we do this? 等等，保羅是說我們在這樣做的時候是在服事誰？
 - Oh - CHRIST. 哦——基督。
 - See, we get hung up on the human standing in front of us. 看，我們因為我們面前站的人過不去。
 - We think its about them. 我們以為是關於他們。
 - But Paul says, no no no...when you do this, when you live this way, you're actually serving Jesus. 但是保羅說，不不不。。。當你這樣做，當你這樣活，你就是在服事耶穌。
- And when you do this, you kill two birds with one stone. 當你這樣做，你其實一石二鳥。
 - Kill Two Birds...strange saying... 殺兩隻鳥。。真是奇怪的說法。
- But the idea is that Two things happen. 但是意思就是兩件事情同時發生了。
 - You are acceptable to God and approved by men. 你被神接受，被人喜愛。
- Now, I want to say I don't like the word acceptable - for two reasons. 現在，我想要說我不喜歡接受這個詞——有兩個原因。
- FIRST, IF I had you over to my house for dinner. 首先，如果我請你到我家共進晚餐。
 - If I dreamt up a great new recipe. 如果我構想了一個很好的新菜譜。
 - If I paired everything perfectly. 如果我把所有東西都搭配完美。
 - If we lingered over the table laughing and telling stories... 如果我們走到桌前有說有笑。

- And the NEXT DAY, someone asked, “How was dinner last night?” 然後第二天, 有人問, “昨晚的晚餐聚會如何?”
 - And you said, “Acceptable.” 你說, “還好, 可以接受。”
 - Well, let’s just say you’re not getting another invite. 那麼, 這也就是說你不會再被邀請了。
- This challenge that Paul has thrown down, for us to be the strong in faith, it’s not easy. 聖保羅丟出給我們的挑戰, 為了讓我們堅固信心, 但並不容易。
 - And I really hope that at the end of any given day of me walking in strong faith I get an image of God shrugging his shoulders saying, “I guess that works”, well, I’m not sure how long I’ll keep at it. 如果我只希望在神賜的且行在堅固信心每一天中我腦海浮現神聳聳肩膀說, “我覺得可以接受。”, 那麼, 我不肯定我能堅持多久。
- The SECOND reasons I don’t like this word is that it can ALSO allude to being either rejected OR accepted. 我不喜歡這個詞的第二個原因是, 它也暗示了不是被拒絕就是被接受。
 - So then it might read like, “Well, if you do this, you serve Christ and THEN...and ONLY THEN, is God going to accept you.” 所以它可以讀成, “如果你這樣做, 你服事基督之後, 只有這樣之後, 神會接納你。”
 - And THAT would actually be COMPLETELY the antithesis of Christianity. 那樣就與基督教義完全相反了。
 - You’re ALREADY accepted. 你已經被接受了。
- When you were young...and maybe you still are...or you keep telling yourself that...ok, when you were a CHILD...did you ever join someone older, a mother a father, a grandmother, a grandfather, an aunt or an uncle, in something they were working on? 當你年輕時...可能你還是年輕的...你或許一直告誡自己...好了, 當你是孩子時...你曾經和年長的人, 如你的父母, 你的爺爺奶奶, 叔叔阿姨, 一起做他們在做的事情嗎?
 - Like in the kitchen? 比如在廚房裡?
 - Or Maybe out in a field? 或許在田地裡?
 - Or under a hood? 或許在遮棚底下?
 - In the yard? 在院子裡?
 - Did you ever do that? 你這樣做過嗎?
 - Or maybe, YOU’RE the parent or grandparent or whoever, and the kid joined you. 或許, 你是家長, 或爺爺奶奶, 或長輩, 孩子參與進來。
 - You know that moment when there’s this pride, or, joy, or connection that rises up? 你知道那個時刻會有一種驕傲, 或者喜樂, 或者一種連結產生?

- That's ACTUALLY what Paul is getting at. 這才是保羅真正要說的。
- When you do this...when you walk this out...it brings that kind of pleasure to God. 當你這樣做...當你把它行出來...就會帶給神歡喜。
- You've joined in him in his field...in his work. 你已經在加入神一起在祂的田地裡...在祂的工作中。
 - And there's a smile on this face. 你的臉上會有笑容。
- And then, Ironically, it has this practical outcome with those around us. 而諷刺的是, 它帶給我們周邊實際的結果。
- This idea of being "Approved by men" is simply another way of saying that you'll be recognized as, seen as a person with integrity. 這“被人肯定”的想法只是另一種方式說你被大家認定為, 被看作為一個正直的人。
- I mean, isn't that interesting? 我是說, 這是不是很有趣?
 - Something as simple as putting other first, isn't just strong, it's smart. 簡單的以他人先的想法, 不僅是堅定的信心, 還是聰明的。
- (The conclusion is work in progress...but nothing major...) (結束語還在構思...不是主要的)
- 也是耶穌為我們做的。是基督教的真義 - 當我們看到耶穌我們做的, 我們從內心深處感到了他的恩典, 這恩典感染我們, 讓我們也願意做他做的事。成為信心的強者, 意味著我們首先彎下腰, 去扶持那身旁信心軟弱的人, 即使事情不是我們首選的事情, 但你心願意把恩典帶出去。阿門? 感謝主。

Benediction 祝禱