

THE WAY GOD WALKS WITH US

GRAHAM COOKE & ALLISON BOWN

INTRODUCTION:

You're Accepted

Welcome to "The Way God Walks With Us!"

My creative partner, Allison Bown, and I have created an experience that will restore you to the joy of God's primary purpose of making you in His marvelous image.

In this series, you're going to:

- + Encounter and develop the same delight that God has in your growth and development.
- + Lose the heavy weights of performance and religious thinking and learn how God's process of development is different than the world's system.
- + Be empowered with teaching, tools and prophetic ministry to become who God has always seen you to be in Christ... and *love* that process of transformation.
- + Be restored to the JOY of your salvation and discover again how great it really is!

Every journey has a starting point, so let's consider yours before we begin:

As you listen to the introduction to this series:

- + What most filled your heart with anticipation and why?
- + What sounds the most challenging? Why do you think that is?
- + Write a short character description (2-3 sentences) of who you would like to become in your process of growing up into all things in Christ?

"I want to become someone who is....."

EPISODE 1:

You're Accepted

This prophetic word is the cornerstone of this series. It was created as a place of devotion for you to abide, rest and remain as you travel through each episode.

BEGINNING A NEW DAILY RHYTHM

Consider making the daily rhythm that I (*Graham*) described and make it your own. No longer carry the difficulties from one day into the next.

Before going to sleep:

1. Put off any negativity, stress or fear. Identify it and give it to the Lord.
2. Thank Jesus that He paid the price for it, so it belongs to Him.
3. Ask Him for good sleep and to wake up ready for a NEW day.

Every morning before getting out of bed:

1. Thank Him that His mercies are new every morning.
2. Rejoice in His great faithfulness.
3. Be expectant of His provision, mercy, compassion and empowering grace for today.
4. Receive it as a gift that He is delighted to give.

SCRIPTURE MEDITATION

In the Kingdom, "Meditation" simply means to ***think deeply***. As Christians, we are not emptying our minds, but filling UP on the Truth, until there is no room left for anything else.

The passage in this episode would be a beautiful one to read aloud to the Lord frequently and think about with Him deeply during this series:

“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 should be holy and without blame before Him in love, having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved.” **EPHESIANS 1:3-6***

INTERACTING WITH THE PROPHETIC WORD

We recommend that you ***listen to this episode before every new session.***

God is renewing your mind and recalibrating your heart to His in this word. After you’ve listened several times, use this transcript during your devotional time throughout this process.

- + Who is God declaring He will be for you, to you and in you in this word?

Write it down.

- + What is God promising you in this word? Make a list of those promises.
- + What words or phrases stood out and quickened your heart most? *These may change over time, but keep a running record. Choose one and begin to ask the Holy Spirit questions.*

With each new episode we release, listen for the wisdom and encouragement of the Lord found in this word as you absorb these new ways of seeing, thinking and feeling.

PROPHETIC WORD:

Beloved,

I welcome you, just as you are into My whole heart. There's no condemnation, no judgement. I have no suspicions about you.

Acceptance is not you making yourself acceptable to Me, it begins with ME making acceptance freely available because Christ is in you. No other reason.

You cannot earn Acceptance. You cannot acquire it by discipline. You cannot merit acceptance by your behavior. It is a relational gift from Me to you; earned by Jesus and acquired by His sacrifice.

His presence in you creates the virtue, the honor, the integrity and the value of being One with Me. You have a place of Acceptance and Affection in My heart just as Jesus does. In the same way!

I start by coming to you with all the promises of what I will never do to you:

I will never leave you nor forsake you.

I will never lie to you.

I will never forget about you.

I will never leave you comfortless.

I will never run out of mercy.

I will never grow weary.

I will never fail to keep My promises.

And I will never, ever change.

Those are absolutes for Me.

When you accept what Jesus has done to make you acceptable to Me... your trust will rise, in line with our Delight. When You agree that I have accepted you totally and completely in Jesus, peace will overtake you.

When the word is challenged by the enemy, by circumstances and by your own weakness, you can find the place of acceptance by your agreement with Me.

Beloved, you will only be able to learn in an environment where you feel safe, loved and accepted. When you open your heart to the Truth that acceptance began with Me, not you; you'll feel safe and confident in your development.

You know what I love about that for you? It means that you can relax. You can be at peace in your learning. You can live with Me in the same delight that I have in your process of maturity!

You are Accepted in the Beloved whilst walking through the process of learning to be Christ-like.

All your learning is covered in Me!

My Empowering Presence of Grace won't excuse you... but it also will never blame or shame you. The Holy Spirit will ask you instead: "What did you learn?" and "Who would you like to become because of that?"

That's what matters most to Me. I won't minimize your shortcomings but I will TOTALLY accept you in the midst of them!

Repentance is My gift that allows you to learn, turn and discover a better way of living with Me.

You're accepted in those times because the debt has been paid for where you're still being transformed into the image of Christ. You are debt free in Him!

I can't hold anything against you because I already held all those things against Jesus on the cross. I held HIM accountable for your deficits, and all the things you could ever be accused of have been nailed to His cross.

That's why We don't want you to judge yourself or others for what you've yet to learn. We're not judging you for it because the price for all your learning has been paid.

Beloved, your role is choosing your response to how We walk with you:

Old or New.

Flesh or Spirit.

Religion or Relationship.

Tradition or Newness of Life.

The way We walk with you can be the difference maker in all your life situations... so choose Us!

We know that you live in a world where Christian performance rules; where people wear masks to hide their perceived and real deficits. We watch people needlessly trying to be good enough for Us, fearing judgement and rejection. Self-righteousness, pride and fear of dependence imprisons our beloved ones.

When people feel insecure about their identity, they are subject to the fear that, "If you really knew me, you would reject me." To feel safe, they believe they need to be in control, never showing vulnerability or need.

Beloved, that is a prison and lifestyle that Jesus came to set you free from.

Our acceptance is the master key that sets you free from performance. It breaks your bondages and makes it safe to remove the mask. The reality of Our acceptance takes the risk away and gives you the courage to say "This is who I am and this is where I'm at right now."

It allows you to live every day in the humility and peace of transparency... to be free enough to laugh and humble enough to not hide from your God or acquiesce to the fear of man.

In humility, what other people think of you loses its power to rob you of your learning opportunities for fear of humiliation. That's the gift of walking with Us! We love mercy, so you can too!

You'll experience the delight of walking humbly with Us. You know who you are without Us... no need to hide it. But you also are confident in who you are WITH Us! The person who truly knows that they are Accepted in the Beloved lives in that freedom. That is YOU beloved!

You can live feeling the weight of mercy on your life. You can accept others right where they are because you have agreed with God and accept yourself where you are today.

Acceptance removes the need to prove yourself worthy and enables you to live in your true relationship with Me... not your performance and good works. Jesus was the Perfect One. His gift of righteousness covers you while you're growing up into all things in Christ.

You're saved once, but you're being redeemed every day.

Being Accepted in Jesus is a huge and powerful gift that is designed to overwhelm you with My love, kindness, mercy and goodness. Let that overwhelm you.

This is your Absolute Truth at this point, I already know everything about you — good, bad or otherwise. All of your low places are taken into account as part of your learning process in Christ.

I know what I am upgrading and transforming in you. There is nothing that upsets Me because Jesus has already done the heavy lifting. Now We are working on your process of sanctification into Our image and likeness.

Think of it this way: The One who knows you best, loves you the most.

Be vulnerable to our loving-kindness, grace and mercy. Acceptance builds a bridge of trust in our relationship. It confidently spans the gap between who you are now and who you are becoming in Me. Acceptance trusts that I began this good work in you and am fully able to complete it... and looks to partner with Me in that process.

Beloved, We are the safest, kindest, gentlest, most gracious place you could ever know. In the warmth of Our acceptance, you can relax.

Receive Our permission to be yourself; to come to Us without fear, without shame, without condemnation because the most vital part of this process is for you to be open, honest and truthful about where you are now and what you are learning.

I seek to replace shame with boldness, so that you can come to My throne of grace, to receive mercy and help at your point of need. My acceptance makes Me approachable! So, I want you to approach!

My loving-kindnesses indeed never cease, therefore, you will never be consumed because My compassions never fail! This creates the safety to be yourself and to experience your life in Christ; to live in awareness of Our presence in ways that will astonish you.

You'll hear the sounds of chains dropping all around your life. It's the sound of freedom from what other people think of you. The empowerment from knowing what I think of you; the way I always think of you as My beloved one.

THAT is the starting point for all process: to know that you are accepted in the Beloved. To be set free from striving and live in the same peace that We have about your life.

I know the plans I have for you. I know how to walk with you in them. You're just walking with Me, feeling My acceptance... My smile... My delight in being with you... watching how I do life... and then following Me.

With your hand in Mine, you will relax and My peace will rise in you. When you're in peace, you can hear. When you're at rest, your sensitivity to My Spirit increases.

Allow acceptance to become a consistent part of your process of growth, as you delight in our fellowship together. Remember, that one of My titles is I AM and I AM is always delighted to be in you and with you.

Amen.

We look forward to who you become in Jesus and all that you discover over the next weeks and months.



Create a notebook and add these activations and your responses. It will become a record of your journey that can serve as a map in the future and an encouragement for all you discover in Jesus.

One of our best provisions for tomorrow is the Truth we receive today. Be creative in how you record and treasure your discoveries, and don't forget to share your experiences with the Brilliant community!

With joy and expectation,

Graham Cooke

Allison Bown

P.S. Each episode will have Activations like these to help make "The Way God Walks With Us" your everyday experience. They are not assignments to be completed, but tools and ideas for you to consider in your relationship with the Lord.

We encourage you to engage with what quickens your heart and spirit and gather the rest as a resource for when you listen to these episodes again. There's no expectation for you to get or finish everything the first time through

Everything in the Kingdom is rooted in delight.

Let everything about this process remain living and light.