

# Taking It Home:

**Good**

*And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns.*

*Philippians 1:6 (NLT)*

**Bad**

**Big**

*This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!*

**Small**

**Mandatory**

*“God overlooked people’s ignorance about these things in earlier times, but now he commands everyone everywhere to repent of their sins and turn to him.<sup>31</sup> For he has set a day for judging the world with justice by the man he has appointed, and he proved to everyone who this is by raising him from the dead.”*

**Optional**

*Acts 17:30-31 (NLT)*

**Lasting**

*Those who say they live in God should live their lives as Jesus did.*

**Temporary**

*I John 2:6 (NLT)*

**One time**

*And now, just as you accepted Christ Jesus as your Lord, you must continue to follow him.<sup>7</sup> Let your roots grow down into him, and let your lives be built on him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and you will overflow with thankfulness.*

*Colossians 2:6-7 (NLT)*

**Easy**

*Then Jesus said, “Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.<sup>29</sup> Take my yoke upon you. Let me teach you, because I am humble and gentle at heart, and you will find rest for your souls.<sup>30</sup> For my yoke is easy to bear, and the burden I give you is light.”*

**Difficult**

*Matthew 11:28-30 (NLT)*

**Urgent**

*“Come now, let’s settle this,” says the LORD. “Though your sins are like scarlet, I will make them as white as snow. Though they are red like crimson, I will make them as white as wool.”*

*Isaiah 1:18 (NLT)*

**Someday**



**Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!  
I Corinthians 9:15 (NAS)**

*“BEHOLD, THE VIRGIN SHALL BE WITH CHILD AND SHALL BEAR A SON, AND THEY SHALL CALL HIS NAME IMMANUEL,” which translated means, “GOD WITH US.” Matthew 1:23 (NAS)*

**Key Thought:**

**God’s presence always brings change.**

*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.<sup>2</sup> He was with God in the beginning.<sup>3</sup> Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.<sup>4</sup> In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind.<sup>14</sup> The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. John 1:1-4, 14 (NIV)*

**Why is change resisted?**

**Unwilling to \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_**

**We feel \_\_\_\_\_**

**Lack of \_\_\_\_\_**

**We are \_\_\_\_\_**

**Past \_\_\_\_\_**

**Feel \_\_\_\_\_**

## **The presence of Jesus (God with us) brings a new \_\_\_\_\_ in life.**

*She will bear a Son; and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.” Matthew 1:21 (NAS)*

*“Now Lord, You are releasing Your bond-servant to depart in peace, According to Your word; <sup>30</sup>For my eyes have seen Your salvation,<sup>31</sup> Which You have prepared in the presence of all peoples, <sup>32</sup>A LIGHT OF REVELATION TO THE GENTILES, And the glory of Your people Israel.”*

*Luke 2:29-32 (NAS)*

*Because of the tender mercy of our God, With which the Sunrise from on high will visit us, <sup>79</sup>TO SHINE UPON THOSE WHO SIT IN DARKNESS AND THE SHADOW OF DEATH, To guide our feet into the way of peace.”*

*Luke 1:78-79 (NAS)*

## **The presence of Jesus (God with us) brings a new \_\_\_\_\_ to life.**

*And Joseph awoke from his sleep and did as the angel of the Lord commanded him, and took Mary as his wife, <sup>25</sup>but kept her a virgin until she gave birth to a Son; and he called His name Jesus. Matthew 1:24, 25 (NAS)*

*Now when they had gone, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Get up! Take the Child and His mother and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is going to search for the Child to destroy Him.” <sup>14</sup>So Joseph got up and took the Child and His mother while it was still night, and left for Egypt.<sup>15</sup> He remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: “OUT OF EGYPT I CALLED MY SON.” Matthew 2:13-15 (NAS)*

*But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, and said, <sup>20</sup>“Get up, take the Child and His mother, and go into the land of Israel; for those who sought the Child’s life are dead.” <sup>21</sup>So Joseph got up, took the Child and His mother, and came into the land of Israel. <sup>22</sup>But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. Then after being warned by God in a dream, he left for the regions of Galilee,<sup>23</sup> and came and lived in a city called Nazareth. This was to fulfill what was spoken through the prophets: “He shall be called a Nazarene.” Matthew 2:19-23 (NAS)*

## **The presence of Jesus (God with us) brings a new \_\_\_\_\_ in life.**

*“For nothing will be impossible with God.”<sup>38</sup>And Mary said, “Behold, the bondservant of the Lord; may it be done to me according to your word.” And the angel departed from her. Luke 1:37, 38 (NAS)*

*His mother \*said to the servants, “Whatever He says to you, do it.” John 2:5 (NAS)*

## **The presence of Jesus (God with us) brings a new \_\_\_\_\_ in life.**

*And Joseph ... called His name Jesus. Matthew 1:25a, c (NAS)*

*Love bears all things [regardless of what comes], believes all things [looking for the best in each one], hopes all things [remaining steadfast during difficult times], endures all things [without weakening]. I Corinthians 13:7 (AMP)*

And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him.<sup>2</sup> Don’t copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God’s will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect. Romans 12:1-2 (NLT)