






One Word

How About **ENOUGH**

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- ▶ If you include scientific words, there are over 1,000,000 words in the English language. The average person knows about 20,000 words and uses 2,000 different words a week. Women and men both speak about 16,000 words a day on average.
 - ▶ Your words matter. **However, what matters most is not the number of words you speak but the kind of words you choose and the purpose for which you use them.** The apostle James tells us that although ‘the tongue is a small part of the body’ it is extremely powerful (James 3:5). **Each day we have great potential: either to destroy or to build.** BiOY Day 36



► Matthew 12:33-37 "A tree is identified by its fruit. If a tree is good, its fruit will be good. If a tree is bad, its fruit will be bad. 34 You brood of snakes! How could evil men like you speak what is good and right? **For whatever is in your heart determines what you say.** 35 A good person produces good things from the treasury of a good heart, and an evil person produces evil things from the treasury of an evil heart. 36 And I tell you this, you must give an account on judgment day for every idle word you speak. 37 **The words you say will either acquit you or condemn you.**" NLT



► We have all probably one time or another had moments, or witnessed others, when words or actions were less than Christlike, and there was the awkward embarrassment that came as a result.

► I can't believe I just said that.

► I can't believe I said that in front of

► I can't believe this is happening, it so embarrassing.

► I hope they don't know I am a Christian.

► **In these moments we come face to face with the true condition of our hearts.**

► **I got this. I can do this!**

► In the Beginning.... You will become like God. The Bible is full of people who thought, "I got this"

► Believing in God but living as if He Doesn't Exist, the Christian Atheist.
Craig Groeschel



► Self Help

- Help Yourself; Think and Grow Rich
- Create Your Own Destiny; I Believe in Me;
- Try Plato, Not Prozac.
- 7,000 Habits of Highly Compulsive People
- The Joy of Sects: Choosing the Right Religious Cult
- Stupidity for Dummies; I'm Okay; but You're in Big Trouble
- Teaching Yourself to Read
- How to Lose Five Pounds in Six Years
- How to Rip People off by Writing Self-help Books.

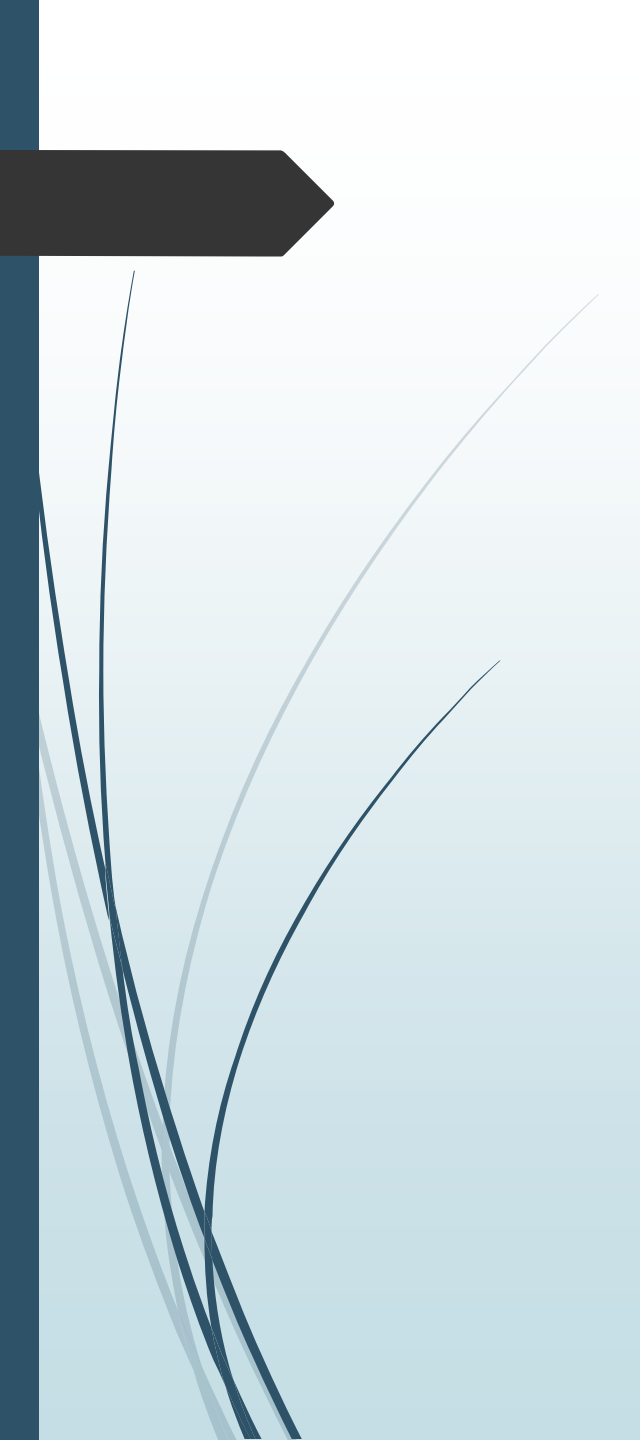
➡ Problem of Self-Help

- ➡ In the beginning – seeking knowledge that will empower us apart from God!
 - ➡ Do we relegate him to certain times or spaces in our lives – I've got this
 - ➡ The self-made descriptor is revered. Its impressive. (self made millionaire)
- ➡ Reality is we are made by God, for his purposes. How much potential can we truly have a part from him?
 - ➡ Acts 17:24-29 **"He is the God who made the world and everything in it.** Since he is Lord of heaven and earth, he doesn't live in man-made temples, 25 and human hands can't serve his needs—for he has no needs. **He himself gives life and breath to everything, and he satisfies every need.** 26 From one man he created all the nations throughout the whole earth. He decided beforehand when they should rise and fall, and he determined their boundaries.
 - ➡ 27 "His purpose was for the nations to seek after God and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him—though he is not far from any one of us. 28 **For in him we live and move and exist.** As some of your own poets have said, 'We are his offspring.' 29 And since this is true, we shouldn't think of God as an idol designed by craftsmen from gold or silver or stone. NLT



► Self-reliance makes us arrogant

- We all are born with a self-centered personality devoted to promote self and to protect self. We create our own little self-centered universe. You can see it in a three-year-old when you are trying to teach them to do something and they look at you and say, “I can do it myself!”
- **If you ask a successful person the key to his success he may answer that he worked harder and smarter than the others.**
 - Deuteronomy 8:6-18 "So obey the commands of the Lord your God by walking in his ways and fearing him. 7 For the Lord your God is bringing you into a good land of flowing streams and pools of water, with fountains and springs that gush out in the valleys and hills. 8 It is a land of wheat and barley; of grapevines, fig trees, and pomegranates; of olive oil and honey. 9 It is a land where food is plentiful and nothing is lacking. It is a land where iron is as common as stone, and copper is abundant in the hills. 10 **When you have eaten your fill, be sure to praise the Lord your God for the good land he has given you.**



► 11 **"But that is the time to be careful!** Beware that in your plenty you do not forget the Lord your God and disobey his commands, regulations, and decrees that I am giving you today. 12 For when you have become full and prosperous and have built fine homes to live in, 13 and when your flocks and herds have become very large and your silver and gold have multiplied along with everything else, be careful! 14 Do not become proud at that time and forget the Lord your God, who rescued you from slavery in the land of Egypt. 15 Do not forget that he led you through the great and terrifying wilderness with its poisonous snakes and scorpions, where it was so hot and dry. He gave you water from the rock! 16 He fed you with manna in the wilderness, a food unknown to your ancestors. He did this to humble you and test you for your own good. 17 **He did all this so you would never say to yourself, 'I have achieved this wealth with my own strength and energy.'** 18 **Remember the Lord your God. He is the one who gives you power to be successful,** in order to fulfill the covenant, he confirmed to your ancestors with an oath.NLT

► Plenty of us acknowledge this truth but still operate as a spiritual formation is something we managed to do for God - to show him our love and our commitment. And we believe that when we show Him our love and commitment, He lends us a helping hand. (My One Word)

► Who Does God Help?

- George Barna leads an organization that conducts research to determine the state of the American Church and culture. His surveys reveal some interesting beliefs:
- 65% believe the Bible “answers all or the most of the basic questions of life.” But 44% believe the Bible, the Koran, and the Book of Mormon teach the same truths. 60% of Americans can’t name half of the Ten Commandments; 63% can’t name the four gospels of the New Testament; 31% believe a good person can earn his/her way into heaven; **81% believe that “God helps those who help themselves” is a direct quote from the Bible.**
 - It sounds rational and seems like it belongs in there. If we demonstrate some effort to improve, **God will give us a little push in that direction.**
 - When we're feeling motivated to make something happening our willpower is high. We assume He will help us because we're putting the energy for us to make a change.



► We like Grace on our terms and **we like to earn our Grace**

► We value initiative and effort in others and assume that's what God values in us too. We qualify ourselves based on how hard we work. We evaluate our character based on how often we go to church, attend Bible studies, volunteer or check other items off on the standard religious resume. We carry the subtle belief that God helps those who help themselves.


► But when you do all these things and yet little transformation takes place, what then? Work harder? Do better? Promise to do this, swear not to do that?

► **What's the problem?**

► Dallas Willard calls spiritual transformation "**the inescapable human problem with no human solution.**" Think about that a second. He is saying you have a problem that you cannot solve. Not with more effort or education or practice or advice.


► Romans Road

- Romans 3:23 "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God." We have all sinned. We have all done things that are displeasing to God. There is no one who is innocent.
- Romans 6:23 "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." The punishment that we have earned for our sins is death. Not just physical death, but eternal death!
- Romans 5:8 "But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." Jesus Christ died for us! Jesus' death paid for the price of our sins. Jesus' resurrection proves that God accepted Jesus' death as the payment for our sins.
- Romans 10:9 "that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved." Because of Jesus' death on our behalf, all we have to do is believe in Him, trusting His death as the payment for our sins - and we will be saved! Romans 10:13 says it again, "for everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." Jesus died to pay the penalty for our sins and rescue us from eternal death. Salvation, the forgiveness of sins, is available to anyone who will trust in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior.



► Summing it all up - Romans 5:1 has this wonderful message, "Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ." **Through Jesus Christ we can have a relationship of peace with God.** Romans 8:1 teaches us, "Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus." **Because of Jesus' death on our behalf, we will never be condemned for our sins.** Finally, we have this precious promise of God from Romans 8:38-39, "**For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, 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.**"

► We realize in matters of salvation that it's totally God who makes that happen, and we bow and accept it in faith. **But in mat-ters of sanctification — in other words, in matters of becoming more like Christ or in matters of changing for the better — we tend to think it's all up to us.**



► Paul asked the Christ followers in the region of Galatia, Galatians 3:1-4
Oh, foolish Galatians! Who has cast an evil spell on you? For the meaning of Jesus Christ's death was made as clear to you as if you had seen a picture of his death on the cross. 2 Let me ask you this one question: Did you receive the Holy Spirit by obeying the law of Moses? Of course not! You received the Spirit because you believed the message you heard about Christ. 3 **How foolish can you be? After starting your Christian lives in the Spirit, why are you now trying to become perfect by your own human effort?** 4 **Have you experienced so much for nothing? Surely it was not in vain, was it?** NLT

► Are you trying to do something you can't do apart from God?

► How about taking sometime and writing out your honest ENOUGH assessment:

► Most days I go through life wondering **if I'm good enough?** I really **don't feel good enough!** **Did I do enough** for God today? Did I do it **well enough for Him today?** **Is it all really enough?** **Is it all enough for God to really love?** Am I really enough for God and is He really enough for me?

► **What is your enough assessment?**

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- ▶ Paul challenged the Galatians about their thinking and he challenges ours. He questions the usual mode of achieving spiritual growth, which is namely, **more effort. More willpower to make ourselves do more works and obey more rules more consistently.**
 - ▶ **God doesn't help those who help themselves.** God helps those who abide with him, those who walk with him in faith. Our efforts were never the impetus for God's transforming grace. They won't be the impetus for our changed hearts either.
 - ▶ We don't need willpower or self-effort as much as **we need faith that God will accomplish in us and for us what we can't do ourselves.** He is the source of what we long for and need.
 - ▶ Willpower and self-effort can only take us so far in our desire to change. Yes, people can make changes through sheer human will, but our efforts alone will not transform us into Christ's image. Our efforts are not the source of the change we are after; they can't be. Rather, they get us in a position for God to change us. (My One Word)



