

Heartland Christian Center
www.heartlandchristiancenter.com
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Principles for Spiritual Life (Part Two)

I. General observation

- A. These PRINCIPLES begin and end with **God**.
- A. He's **God** and we're **not**.

II. PRINCIPLE 2: God Doesn't **Need** Us But We Desperately **Need** Him

- A. Only one person in the universe has free will: **God**.

- 1. ONLY He can do **whatever** he wants to do **whenever** he wants to do it.

“There is no one righteous, not even one; there is no one who understands, no one who seeks God. All have turned away, they have together become worthless; there is no one who does good, not even one.” Romans 3:10-12

“I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.” (John 15:5)

“What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death?” (Romans 7:24)

“The man who thinks he knows something does not yet know as he ought to know.” (I Cor. 8:2)

“Such confidence as this is ours through Christ before God. Not that we are competent in ourselves to claim anything for ourselves, but our competence comes from God.” (II Cor. 3:4-5)

III. Summarize the Second PRINCIPLE in brief statements:

- 1. God is free to do **whatever** he wants to do **whenever** he wants to do it.
- 2. Everything God does for us is an act of sheer, sovereign, amazing **grace**.
- 3. Therefore, We are continually in his **debt** at all times.
- 4. These thoughts should lead me to praise and worship as a **way** of life.

- A. He is **God** (*Psalm 100, verses 1-3*), and He is **good** (*verses 4-5*)
 - 1. We **shout** for joy. (*verse 1*)
 - 2. We **serve** the Lord with gladness. (*verse 2a*)
 - 3. We **sing** with joy. (*verse 2b*)

B. A statement of **ownership** and **assurance**:

“It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture” (verse 3b).

C. NOW this leads us on to visible, **public** thanksgiving and praise:

“Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name.” (Psalm 100:4)

D. God’s **mercy** endures forever.

“For the LORD is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.” (Psalm 100:5)

*“God shows his love to ‘a thousand generations’ of those who love him.” Psalm 100
“makes a strong case for gladness as the sure sign that we are living by grace and not our efforts (Lloyd Ogilvie)*

“Yours is the kingdom, yours is the power, yours is the glory, forever. Amen.” (Matthew 6:13)

IV. Three Simple Statements

A. God owns **everything**; we own **nothing**.

1. Our lives are **broken** because of sin, Satan, self.
2. If God doesn’t **help** us, we’re sunk.

*“This poor man called, and the LORD heard him; he saved him out of all his troubles.”
Psalm 34:6*

If the first PRINCIPLE drives us to our knees, the second PRINCIPLE keeps us there until we cry out for mercy.