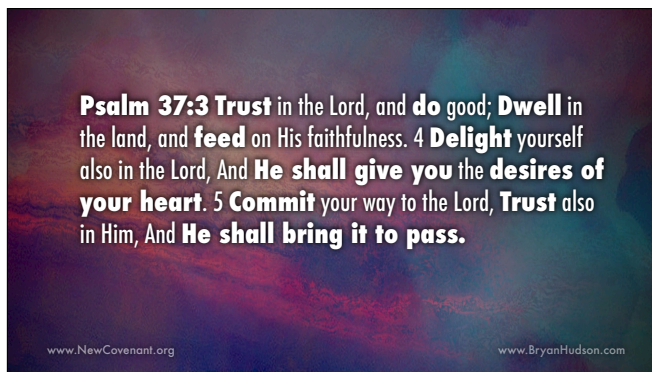


Psalm 37:3 Trust, Do, Dwell, Feed, Delight, Commit, Trust

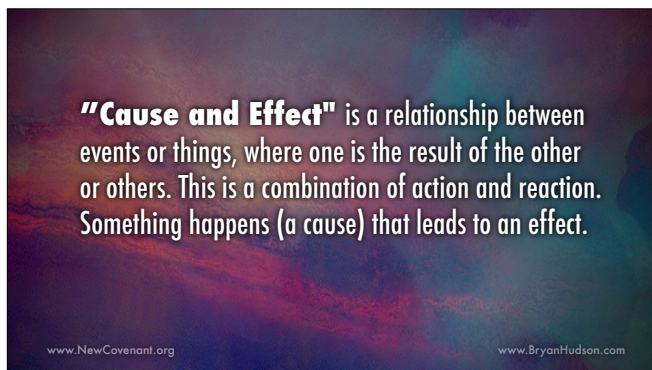


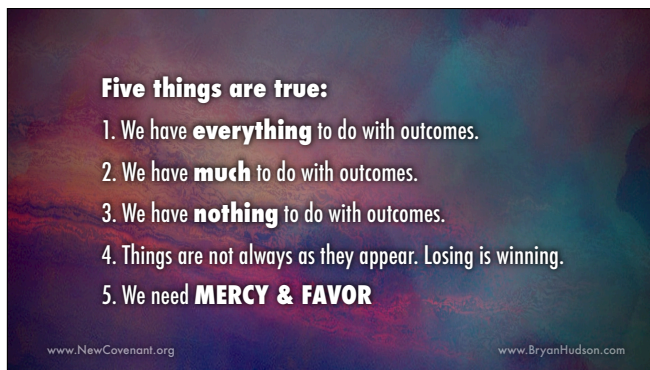
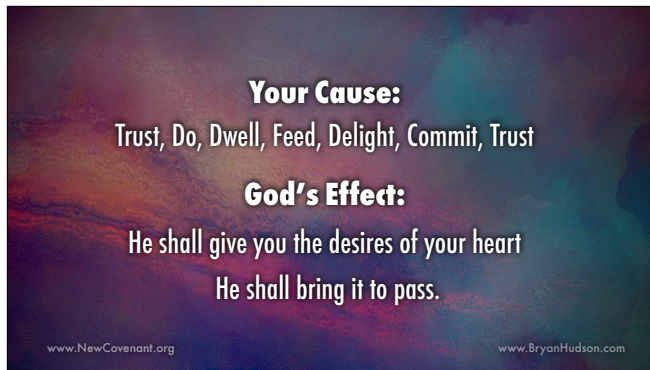
We understand the effects and impacts of the things that we do or fail to do. Progress for lack of progress, success or failure, sickness or health, abundance or lack, growth or atrophy, all these things are the result of calls and effect.

Cause: We received seven inches of rain in four hours. Effect: The underpass was flooded.

Cause: I never brush my teeth. Effect: I have 5 cavities.

Cause: I flipped the light switch. Effect: The light came on.

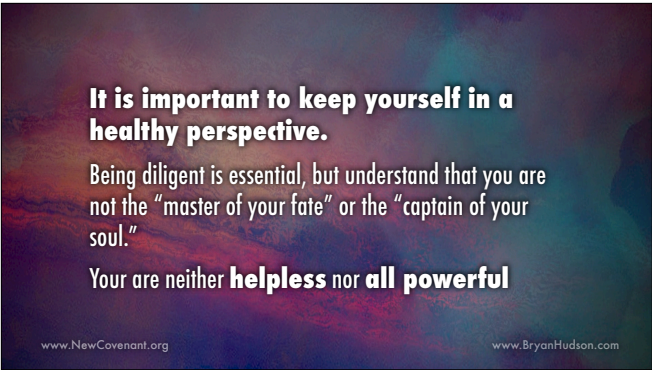




Control is the greatest illusion of life.

We understand the effects and impacts of the things that we do or fail to do. Progress for lack of progress, success or failure, sickness or health, abundance or lack, growth or atrophy, all these things are the result of calls and effect.

Sometimes people have suffered for nothing they did wrong. Not wrong actions deserve every bad outcome. There are people who still say that George Floyd deserved what happened to him. They say he should have complied with the police officer. That only justifies Derek Chauvin's unprofessional and necessary act of murder, for which he has faced justice.



It is important to keep yourself in a healthy perspective.

Being diligent is essential, but understand that you are not the "master of your fate" or the "captain of your soul."

Your are neither **helpless** nor **all powerful**

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Control is the greatest illusion of life
I wonder if so called "Christians" who owned slaves back in the 19th century considered themselves prosperous if they had plantations that made a lot of money. Could they testify of God's provision?

"Invictus" BY WILLIAM ERNEST HENLEY

Out of the night that covers me,
Black as the pit from pole to pole,
I thank whatever gods may be
For my unconquerable soul.

In the fell clutch of circumstance
I have not winced nor cried aloud.
Under the bludgeonings of chance
My head is bloody, but unbowed.

Beyond this place of wrath and tears
Looms but the Horror of the shade,
And yet the menace of the years
Finds and shall find me unafraid.

It matters not how strait the gate,
How charged with punishments the scroll,
I am the master of my fate,
I am the captain of my soul.



Foolish people factor into cause and effect. Sometimes people hinder you, either on purpose or in ignorance.

Never be this person who holding the sign. The fan, who appeared to be trying to get on TV, 'Allez Opi-Omi!' written on it in black marker, which is a hello message to their grandparents



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What makes this tragedy even worse is that happened in the United States, a nation where we have the “best” building codes and construction processes. We’ve heard about building collapses in other parts of the world and we attribute it to shoddy construction.

There was a news report: “Engineer Warned of ‘Major Structural Damage’ at Florida Condo Complex.”

A consultant in 2018 urged the managers to repair cracked columns and crumbling concrete. The work was finally about to get underway when the building collapsed.

M

Mercy is the gift before and after faith. We think we’re “working it,” but the mercy of God is helping us more than we realize!

Favor is a product of mercy

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Psalms 103:10

He has not dealt with us according to our sins, Nor punished us according to our iniquities.

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Favor is Natural and Supernatural

Esther 2:8-9, Esther also was taken to the king's palace, into the care of Hegai the custodian of the women.

9 Now the young woman pleased him, and **she obtained his favor**; so he readily gave beauty preparations to her, besides her allowance.

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Mercy is a mystery.

Psalm 5:12

For You, O Lord, will bless the righteous; with **favor** You will surround him as with a shield

1 John 3:22

And whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and **do those things** that are pleasing in His sight.

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Favor is a function of mercy

1 John 3:22 And whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do those things that are pleasing in His sight.

Esther 2:8–9 ...Esther also was taken to the king's palace, into the care of Hegai the custodian of the women. 9 Now the young woman pleased him, and she obtained his favor; so he readily gave beauty preparations to her, besides her allowance.

Romans 14:17, For the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. 18 For he who serves Christ in these things is acceptable to God and approved by men.

Joseph's story is a picture of **Cause & Effect, Mercy & Favor**, and the true nature of **Winning**.

Psalm 105:17, He sent a man before them—
Joseph—who was sold as a slave.

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Sold into Slavery by his brothers after he shared his dream, which they misinterpreted
He suffered, but God's mercy produced favor
Favor and good work carried him into Egypt

Genesis 39:20-22

Then Joseph's master took him and put him into the prison, a place where the king's prisoners were confined. And he was there in the prison. 21 But the Lord was with Joseph and **showed him mercy**, and He **gave him favor** in the sight of the keeper of the prison. 22 And the keeper of the prison **committed to Joseph's hand** all the prisoners who were in the prison; whatever they did there, it was his doing.

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Joseph's story proved Five things are true:

1. We have everything to do with outcomes.
2. We have much to do with outcomes.
3. We have nothing to do with outcomes.
4. Things are not always as they appear
5. We need MERCY & FAVOR

Hebrews 11:6

But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of **those who diligently seek Him**.

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This is in a different context, but diligence has rewards and is a cause that produces good effects.
The key to diligence is not to focus on things, but on God.
Wi

You Have a Relationship with Winning

2 Corinthians 2:14,

Now thanks be to God who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and through us diffuses the fragrance of His knowledge in every place.

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We have and perspective on winning and losing.

Revising your relationship with winning and losing.

Winners never quit, and quitters never win.

Winners strategically quit when something is not working

Some Keys:

- Have no fear, pray without ceasing
- Don't "Spiritualize" (COVID made that real)
- Mercy and favor surround you
- Pay attention to details
- Don't be a sign holder, be a doer of the Word
- Have or revise your relationship with winning
- What did you learn?

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