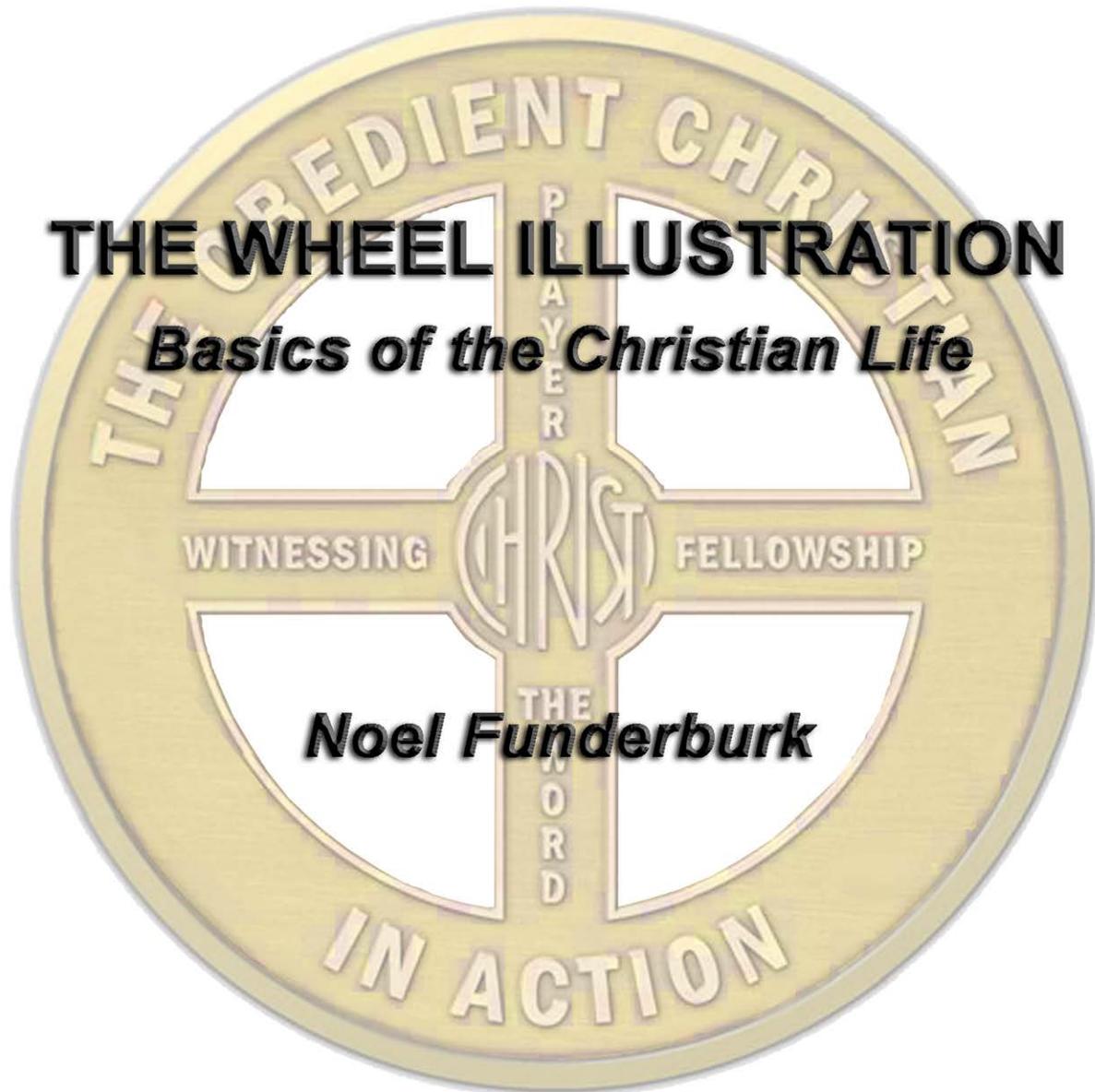
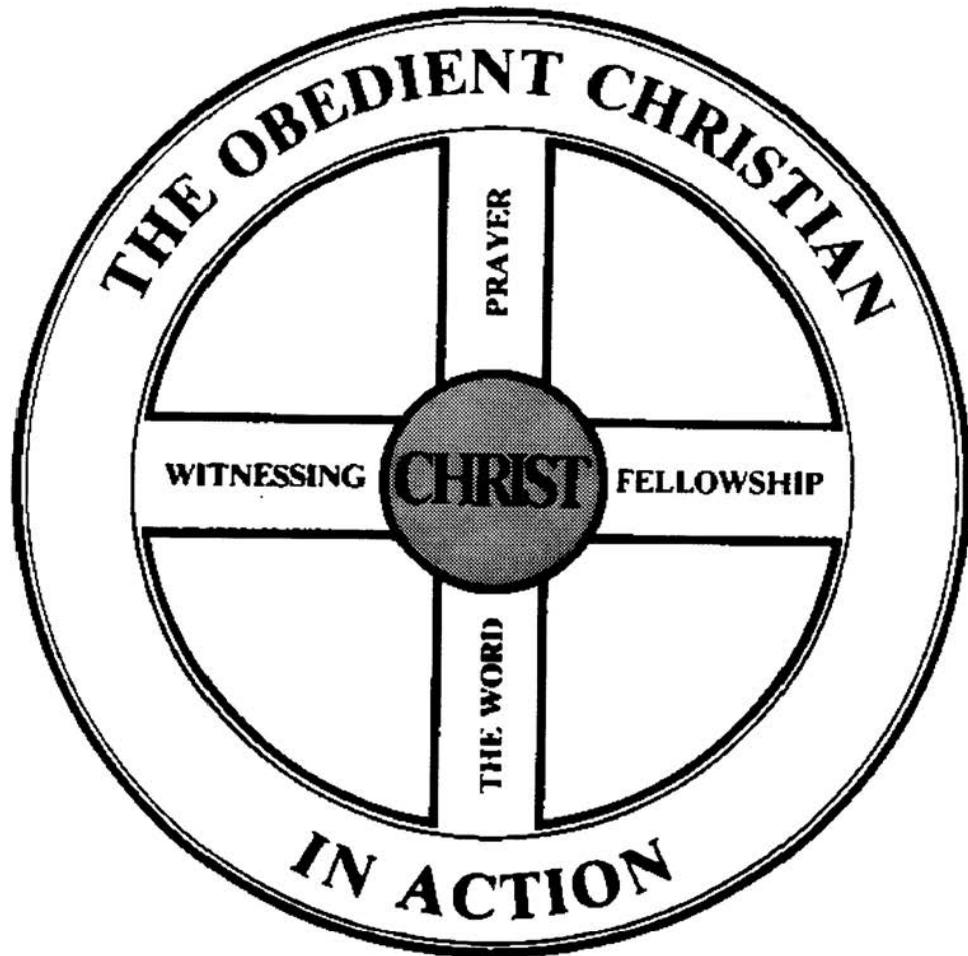


THE WHEEL ILLUSTRATION

Basics of the Christian Life



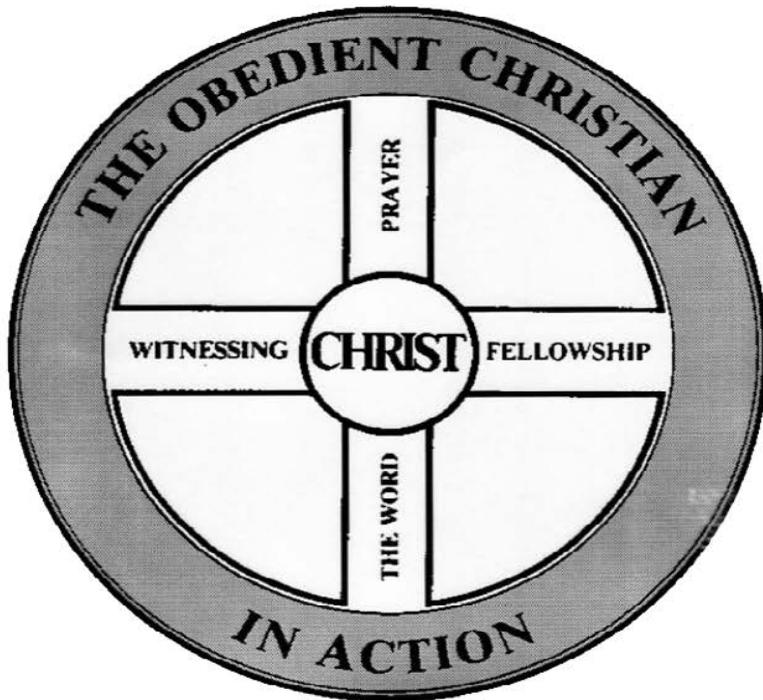
Noel Funderburk



THE HUB

I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me; and the life I now live in the flesh, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

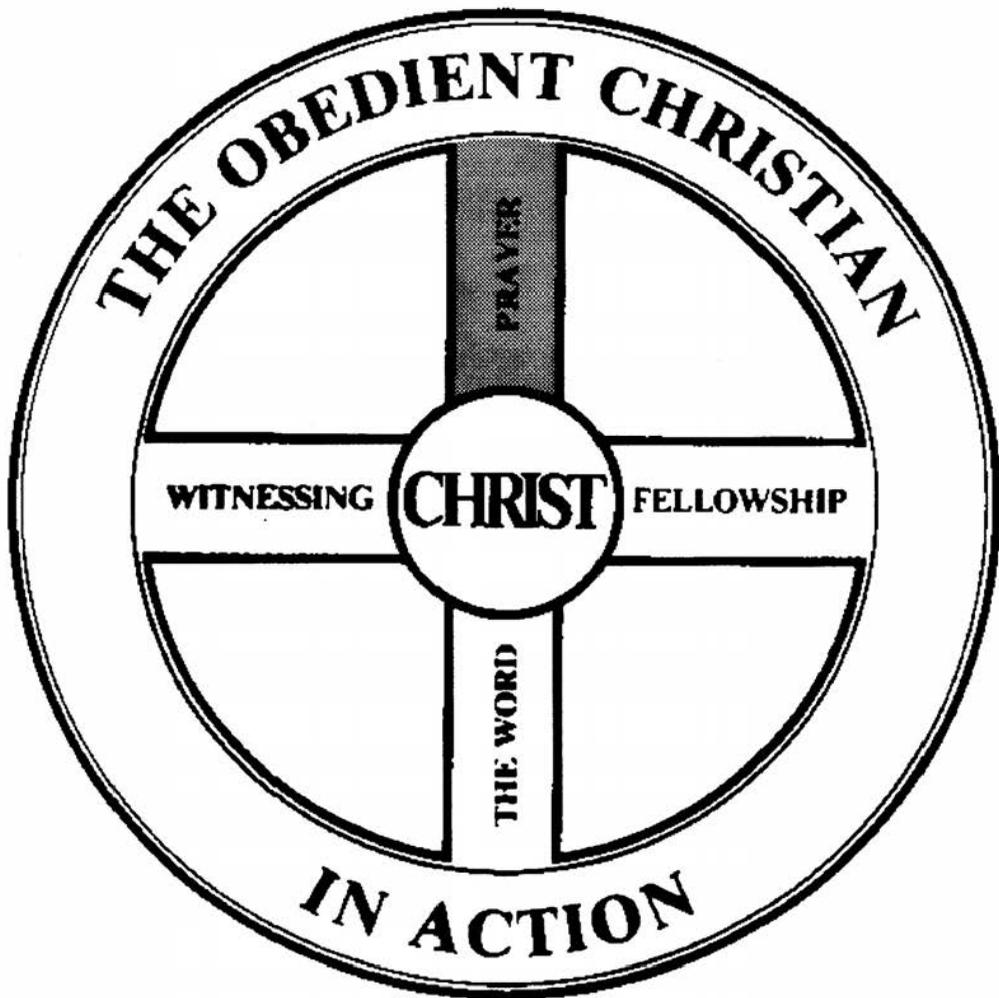
Galatians 2:20



OBEDIENCE

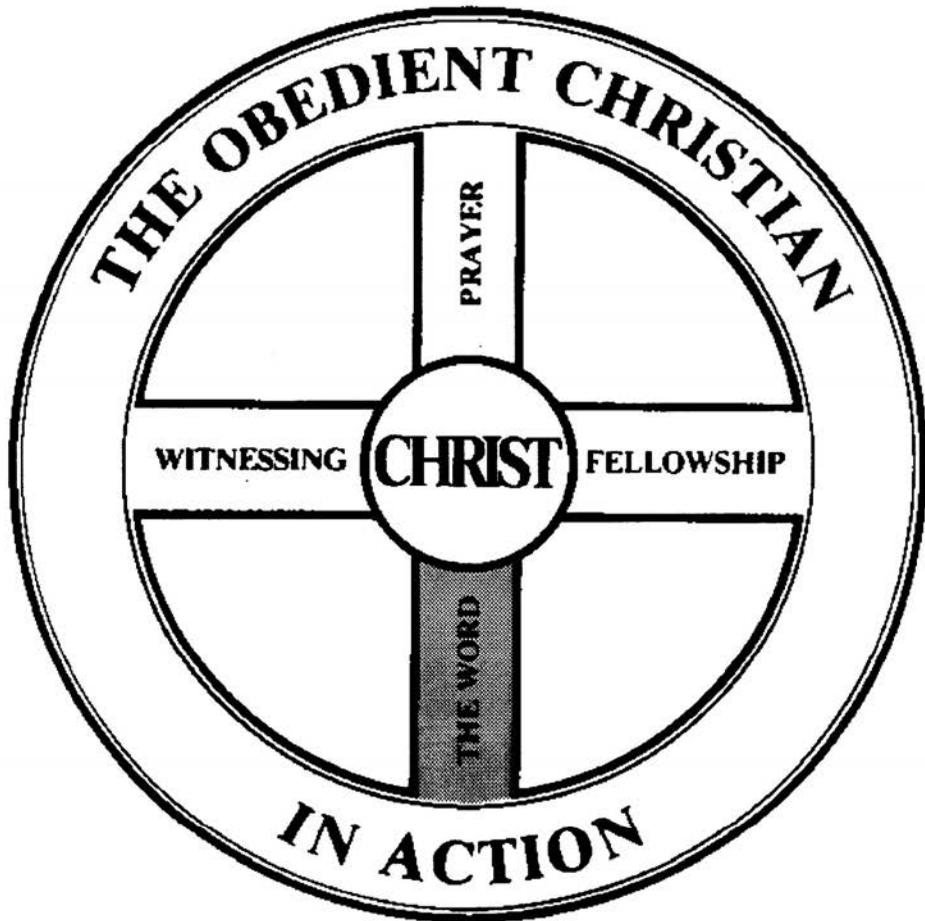
He who has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me; and he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him.

John 14:21



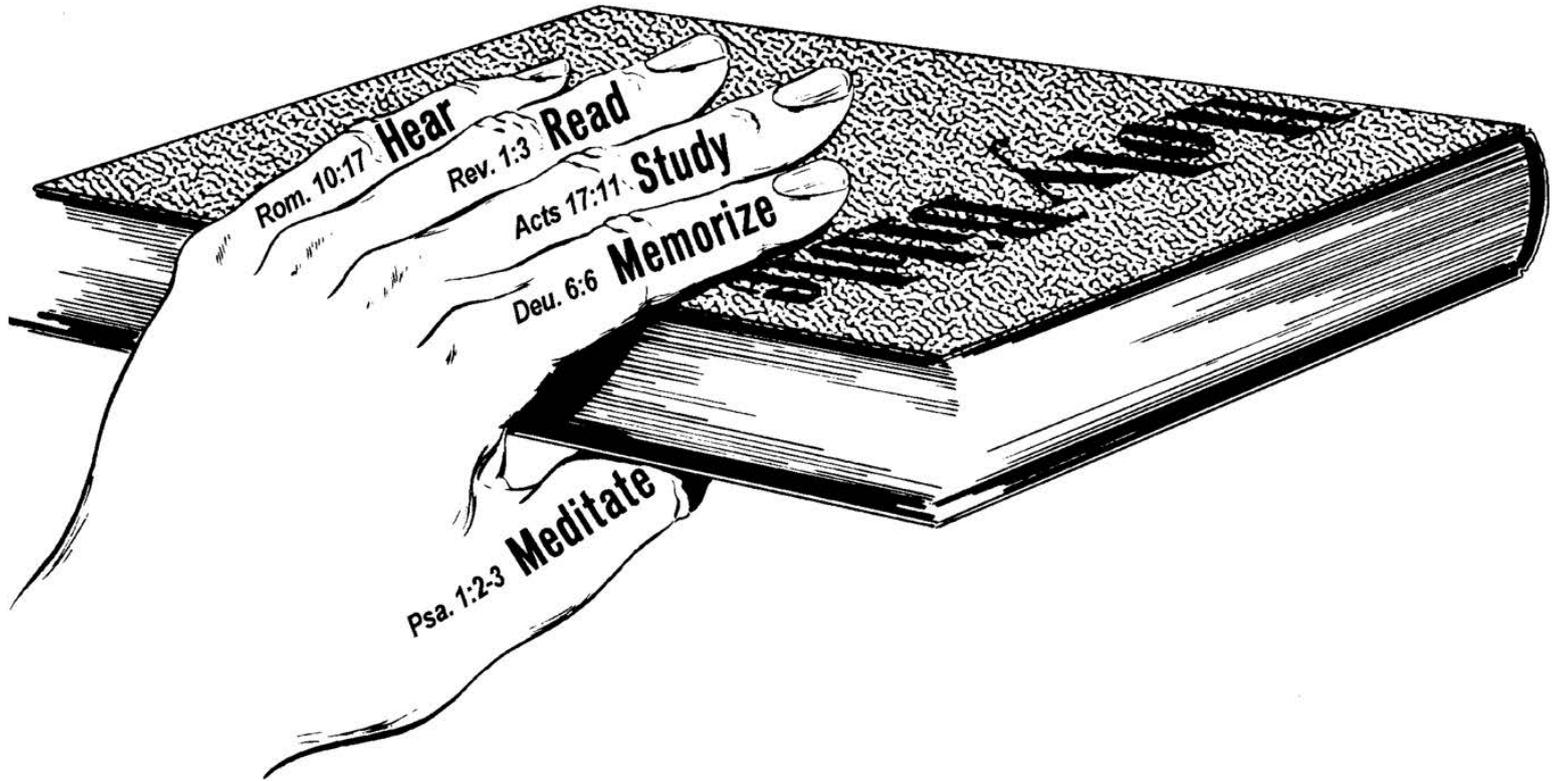
PRAYER

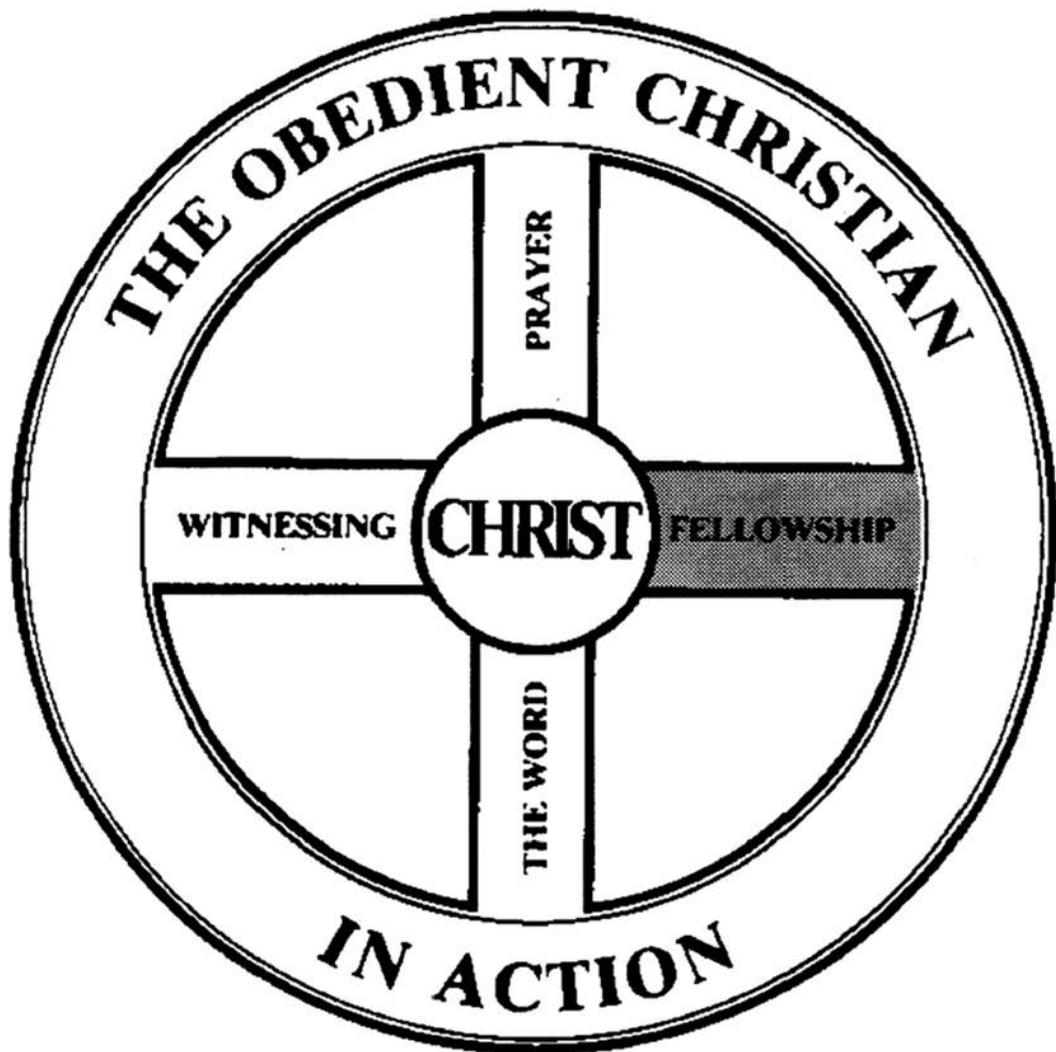
If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you will, and it shall be done for you.



THE WORD

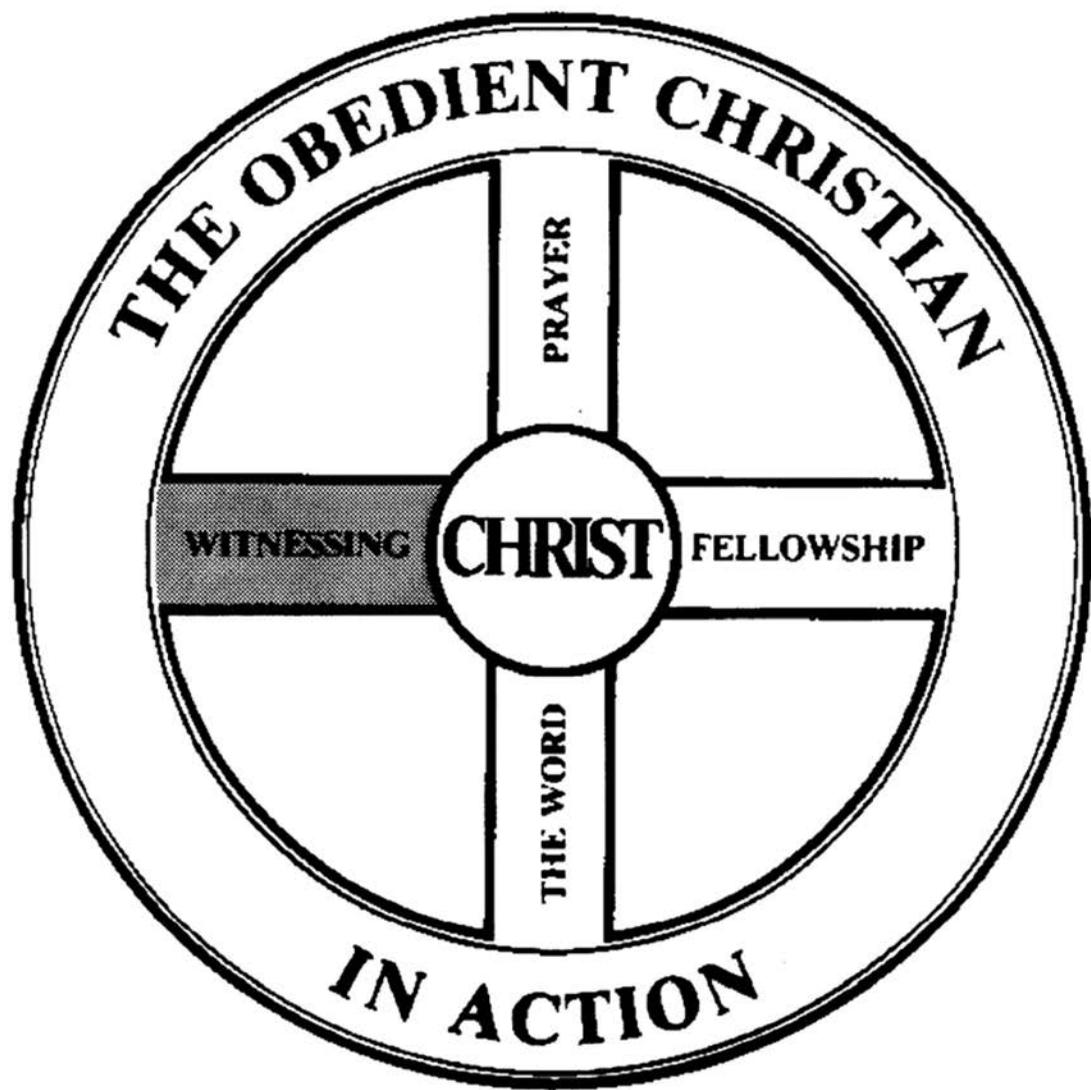
This book of the law shall not depart out of your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it; for then you shall make your way prosperous, and then you shall have good success.





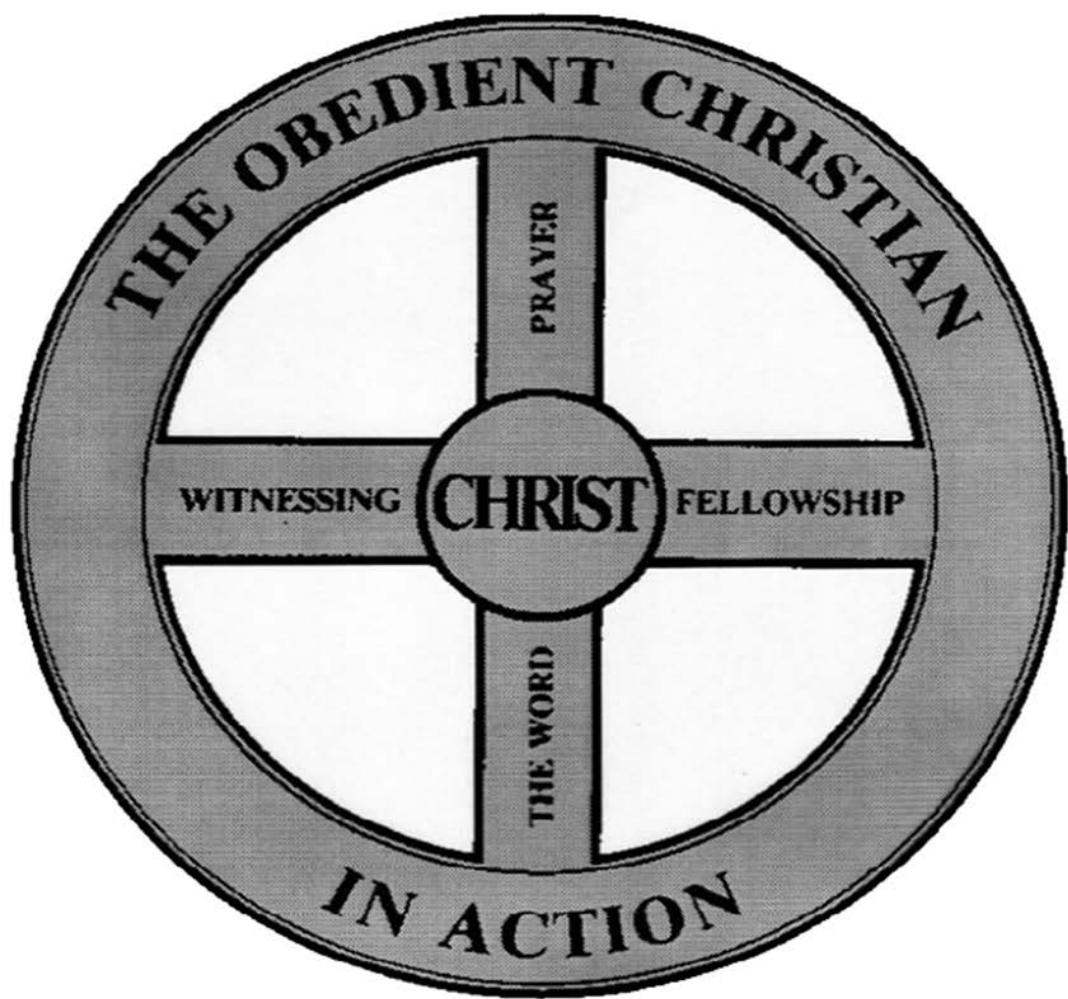
FELLOWSHIP

And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the day drawing near

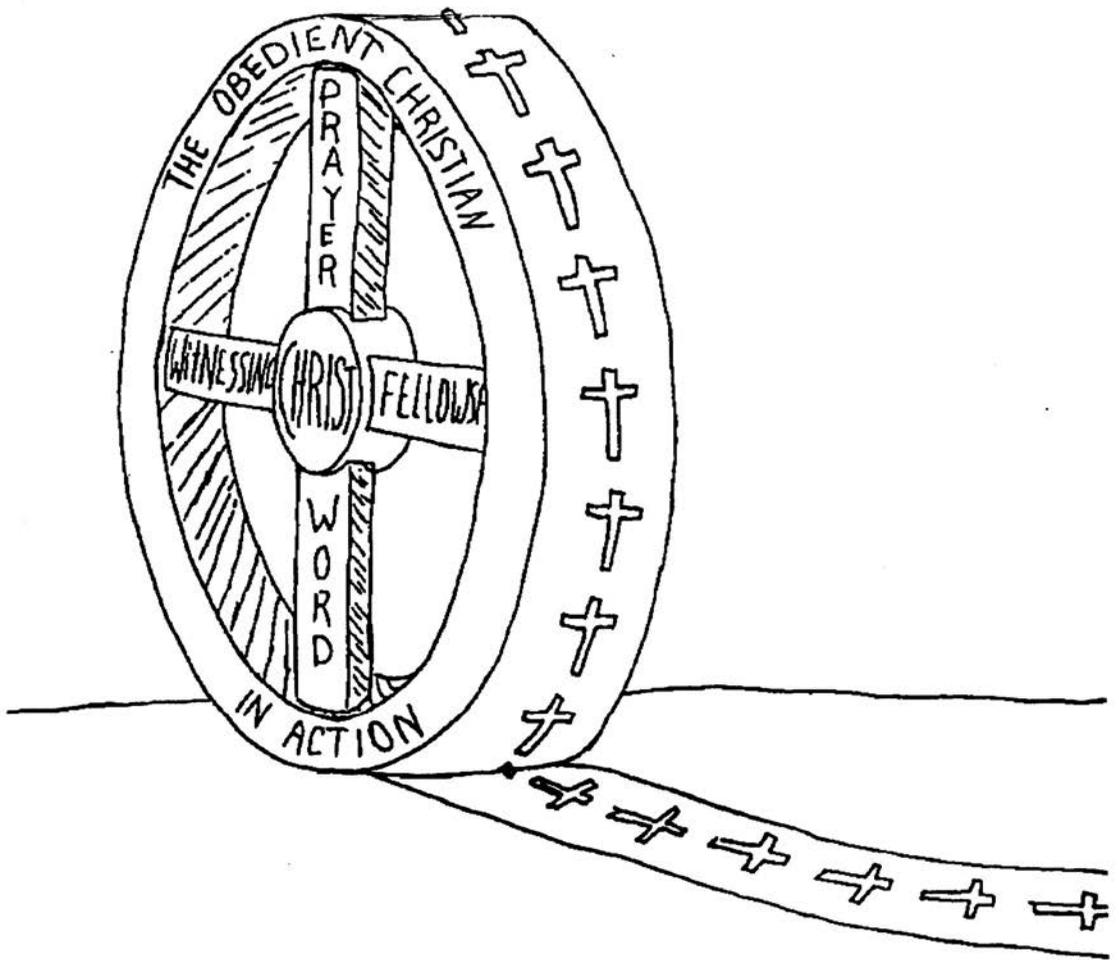


WITNESSING

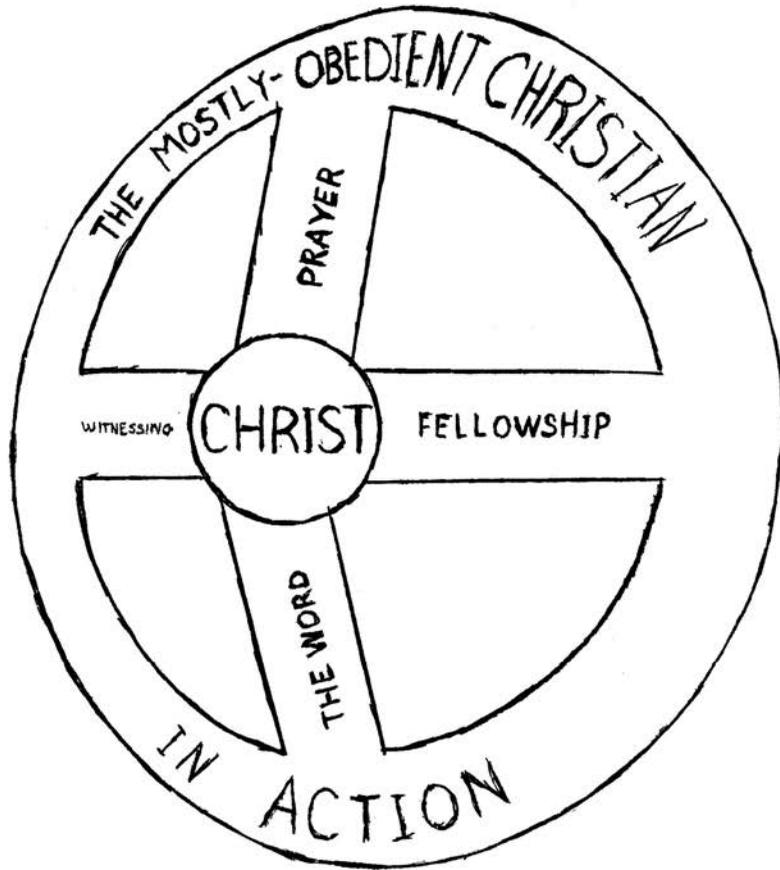
For I am not ashamed of the gospel; it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who has faith, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.



And they devoted themselves to the apostle's teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayers. And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they partook of food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.
Acts 2:43, 46, 47

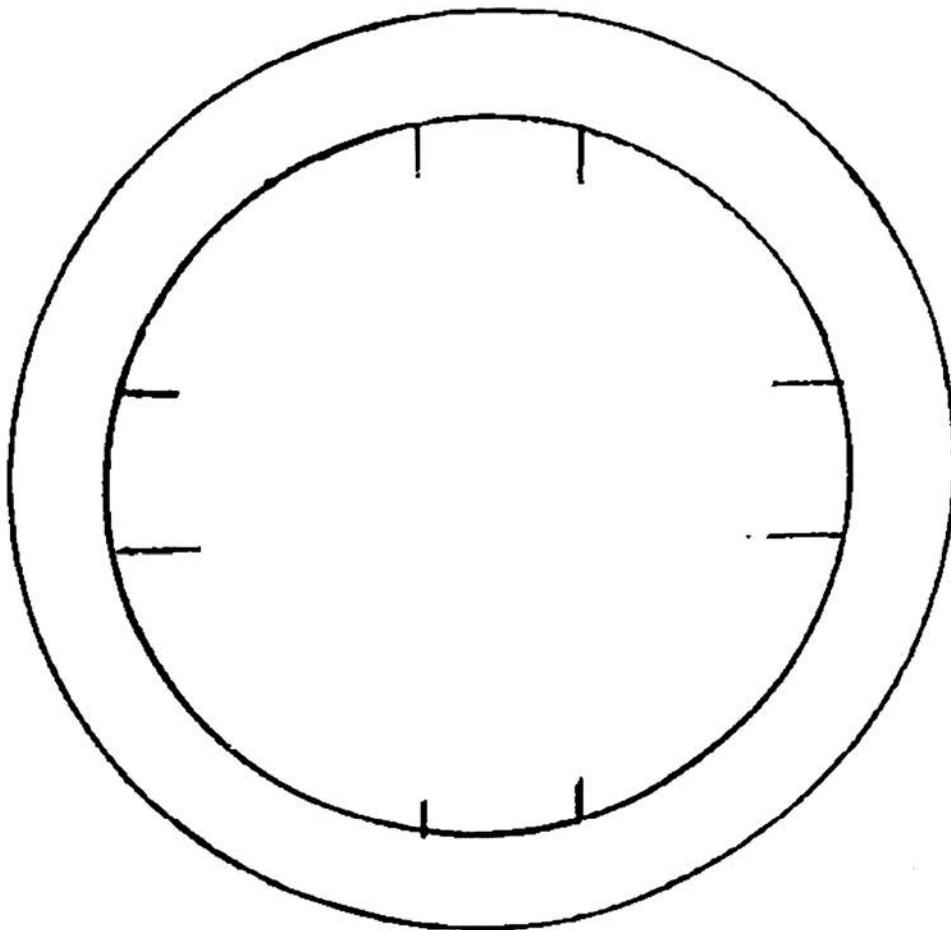


And you show that you are a letter from Christ delivered by us, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the Living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts.



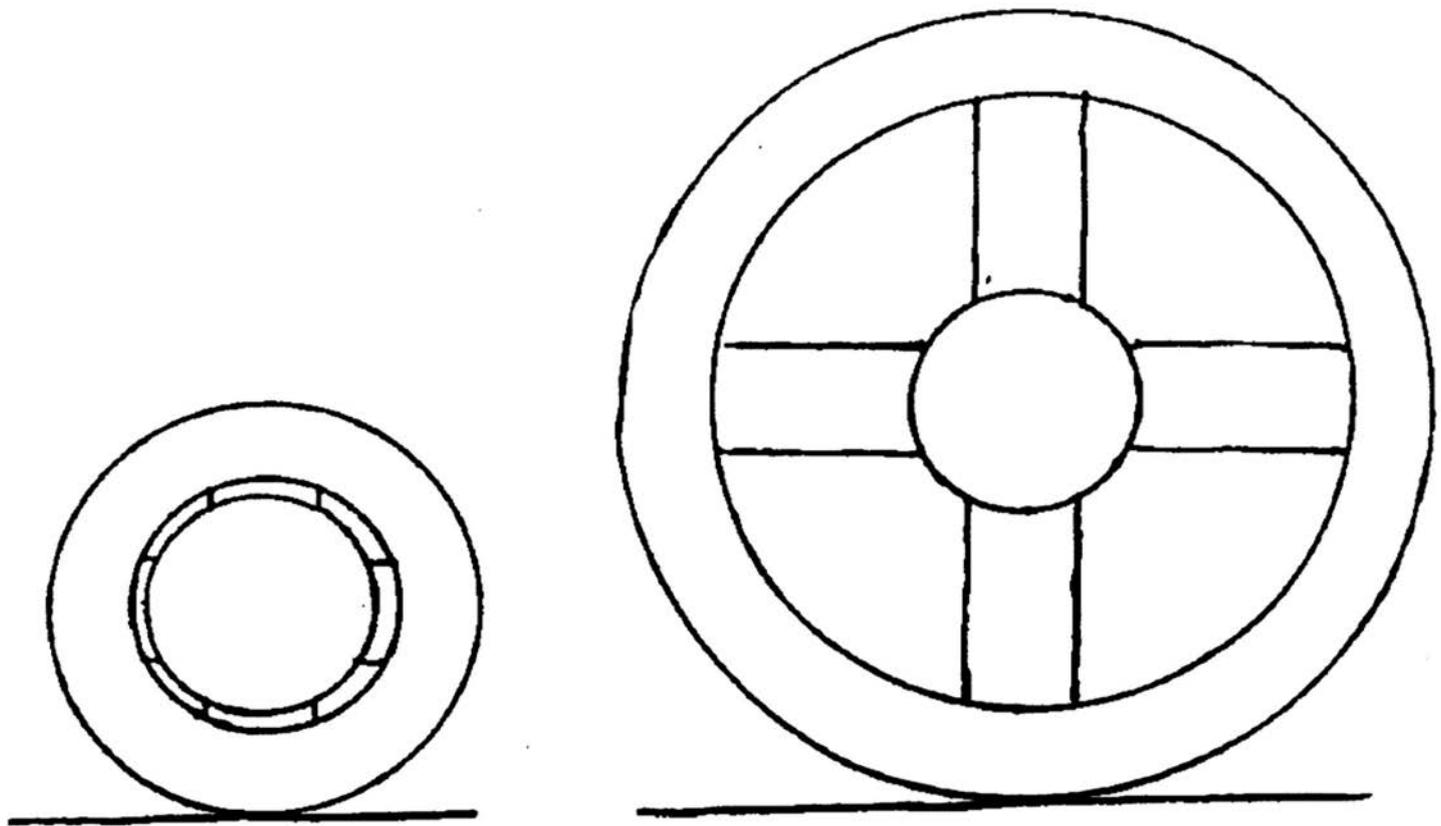
If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of him when he comes in his Father's glory with the holy angels.

Mark 8:38



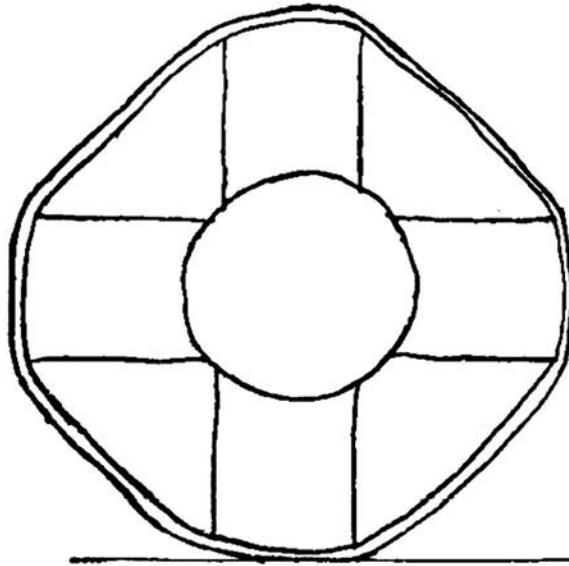
On that day many will say to me "Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?" And then I will declare to them, "I never knew you; depart from me, you evildoers."

Matthew 7:22. 23



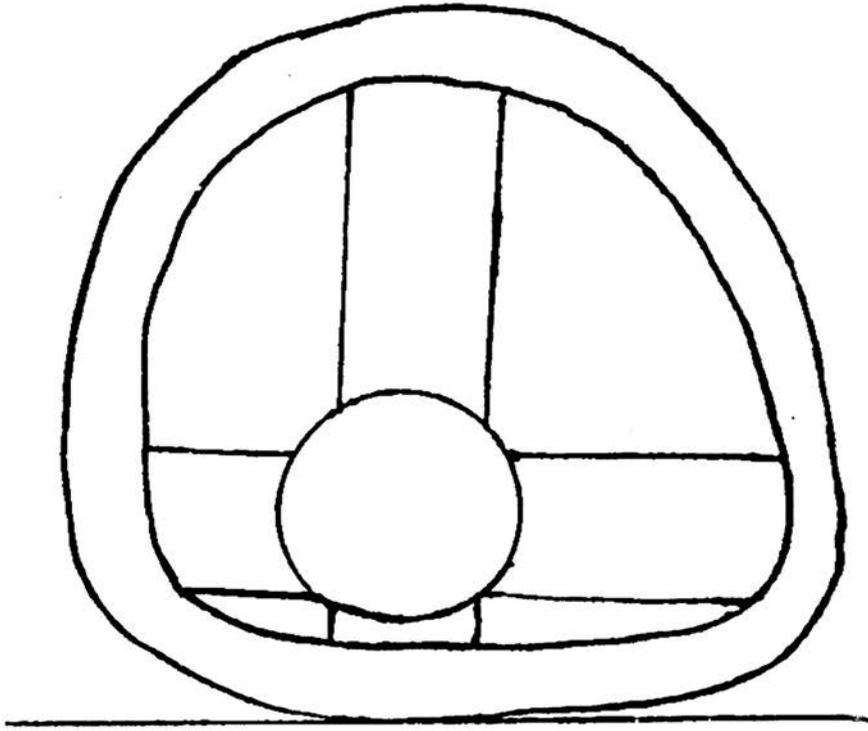
Like newborn babes, long for the spiritual milk,
that by it you may grow up to salvation, for you
have tasted the kindness of the Lord.

🕯 Peter 2:2 2

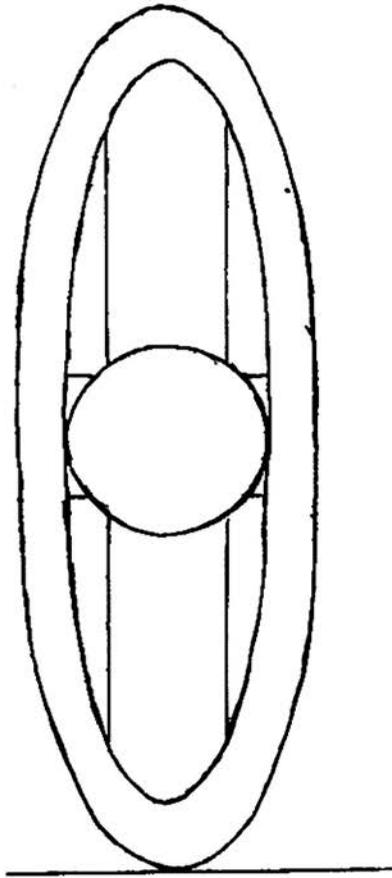


But be doers of the Word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the Word, and not a doer, he is like a man who observes his natural face in a mirror; for he observes himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer that forgets, but a doer that acts, he shall be blessed in his doing.

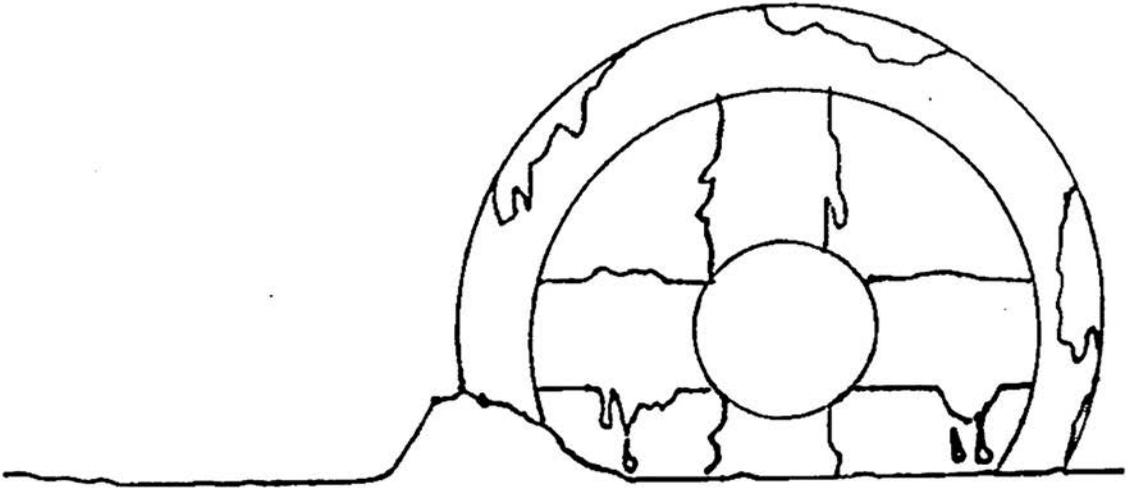
James 1:22-24



This book of the law shall not depart out of your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it; for then you shall make your way prosperous, and then you shall have good success.
Joshua 1:8

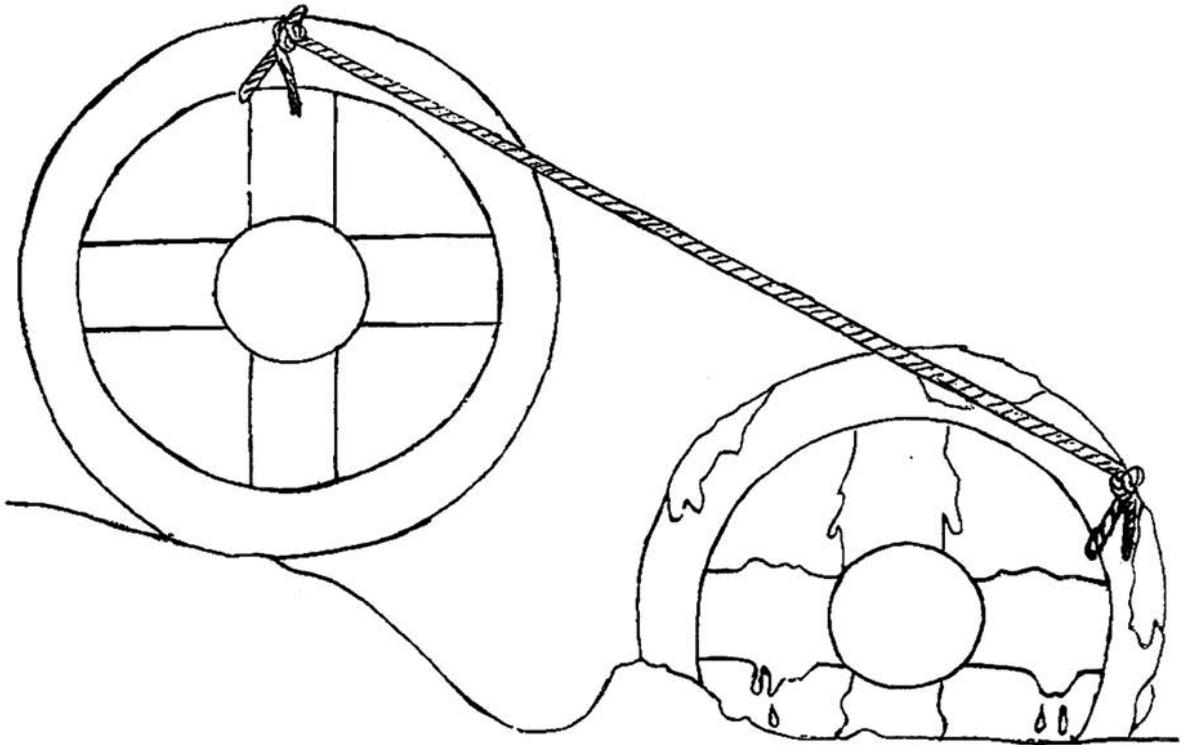


Him we proclaim, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom, that we may present every man mature in Christ.
Colossians 1:28



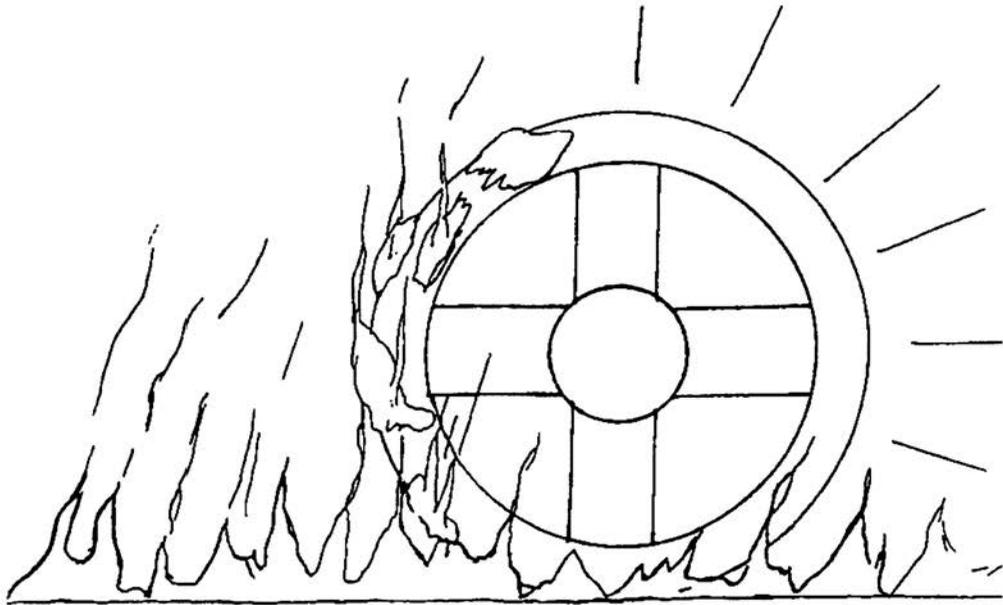
Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may prove what is the will of God, what is good, and acceptable and perfect.

Romans 12:2



Brothers, if someone is caught in a sin, you who are spiritual should restore him gently. But watch yourself, or you may also be tempted. Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.

Galatians 6:1-2

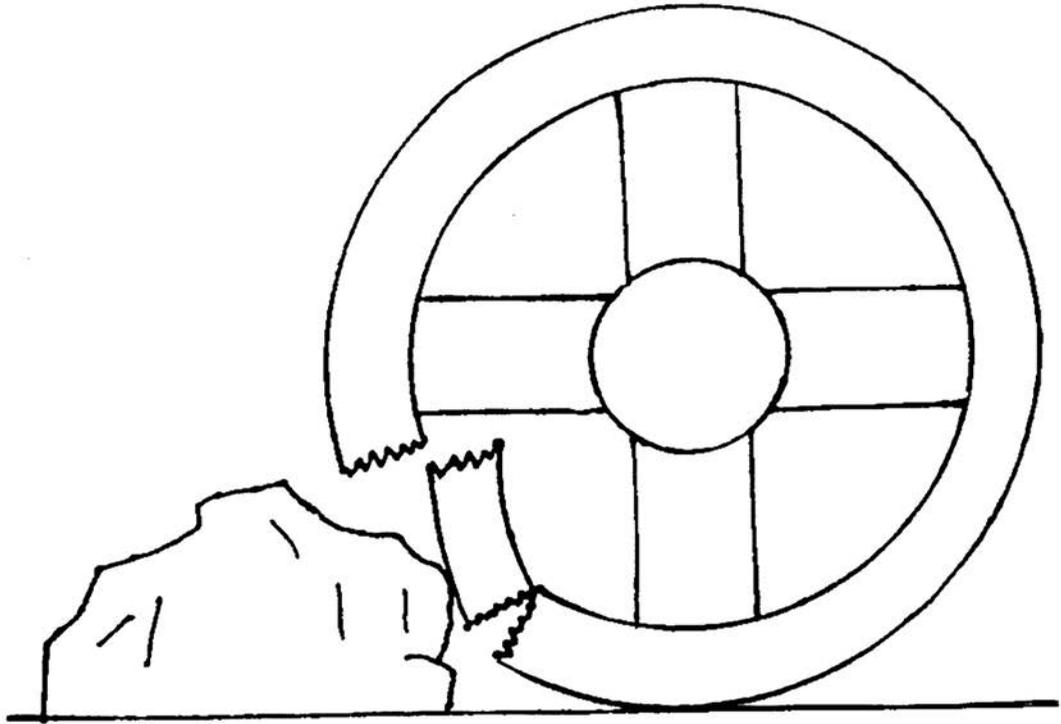


In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. These have come so that your faith -- of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire -- may be proved genuine and may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.

1 Peter 1:6, 7

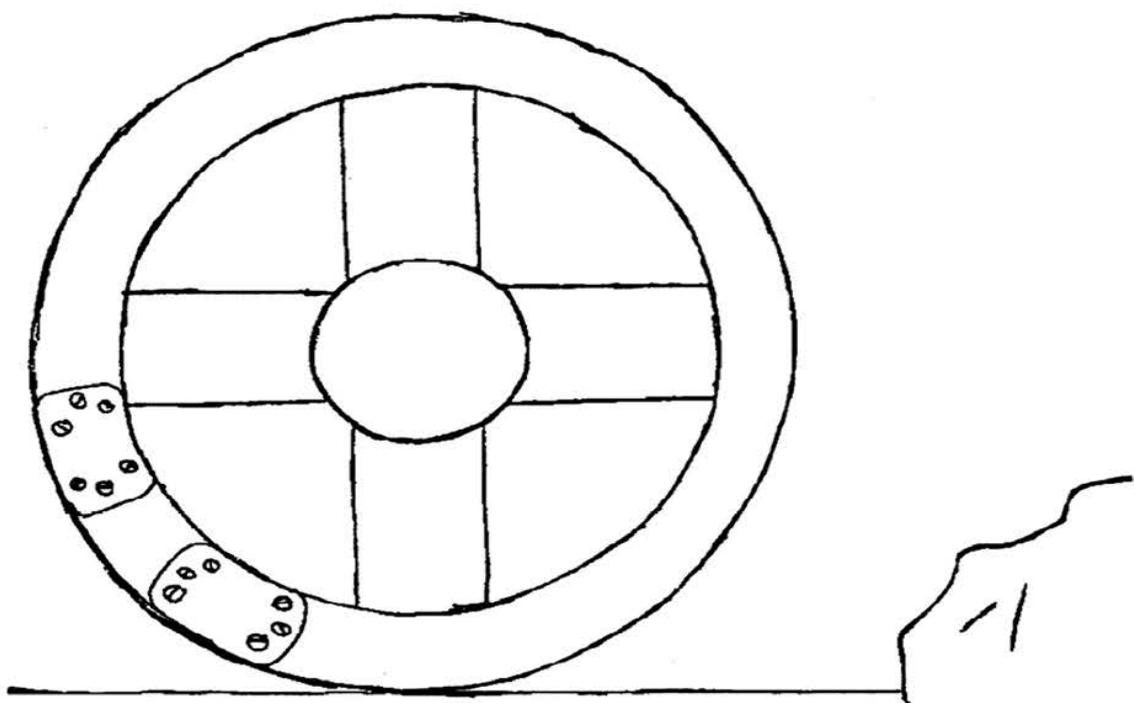
Blessed is the man who perseveres under trial, because when he has stood the test, he will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him.

James 1:12



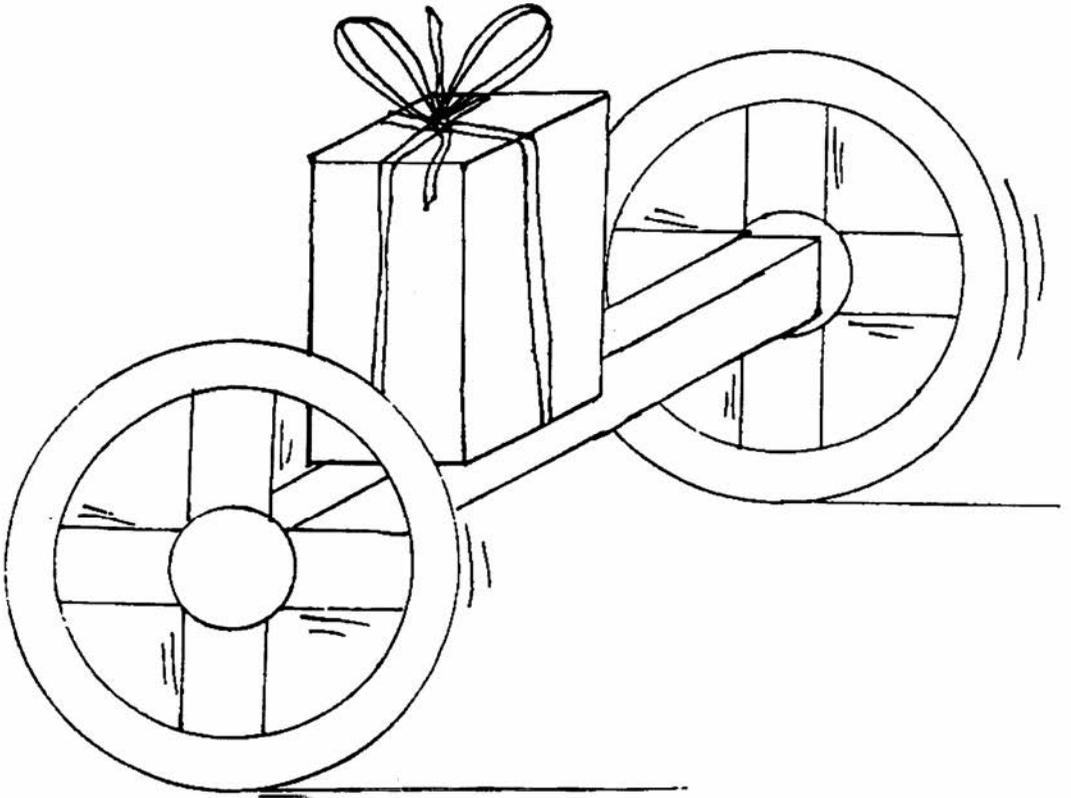
And lo, a woman meets him, dressed as a harlot,
wily of heart. She is loud and wayward, and her
feet do not stay at home. With much seductive
speech she persuades him; with her smooth talk she
compels him. All at once he follows her...

Proverbs 7:10 11 21 22



If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just, and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1 John 1:9

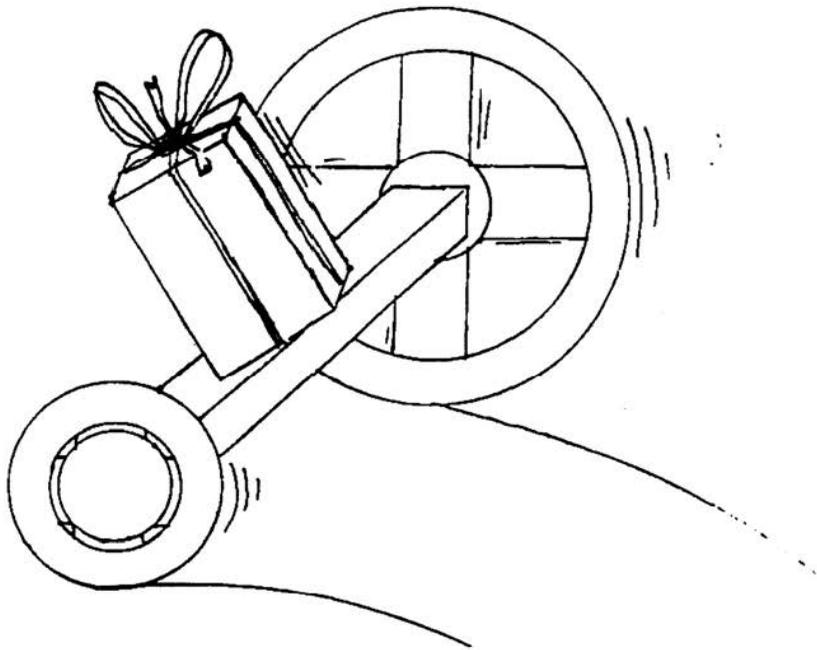


**For where two or three are gathered in My name,
there am I in the midst of them.**

Matthew 18:20

**For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of
God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

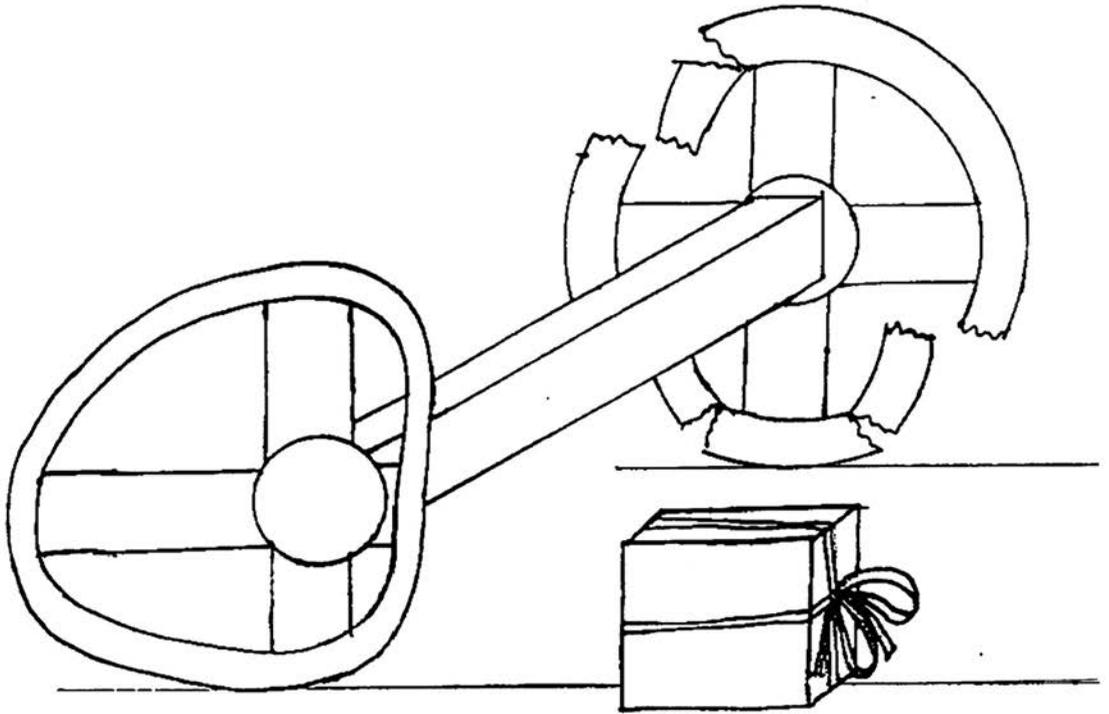
Romans 6:23



For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the first principles of **God's Word**. You need milk, **not solid food**; for everyone who lives on milk is **unskilled** in the Word of righteousness.

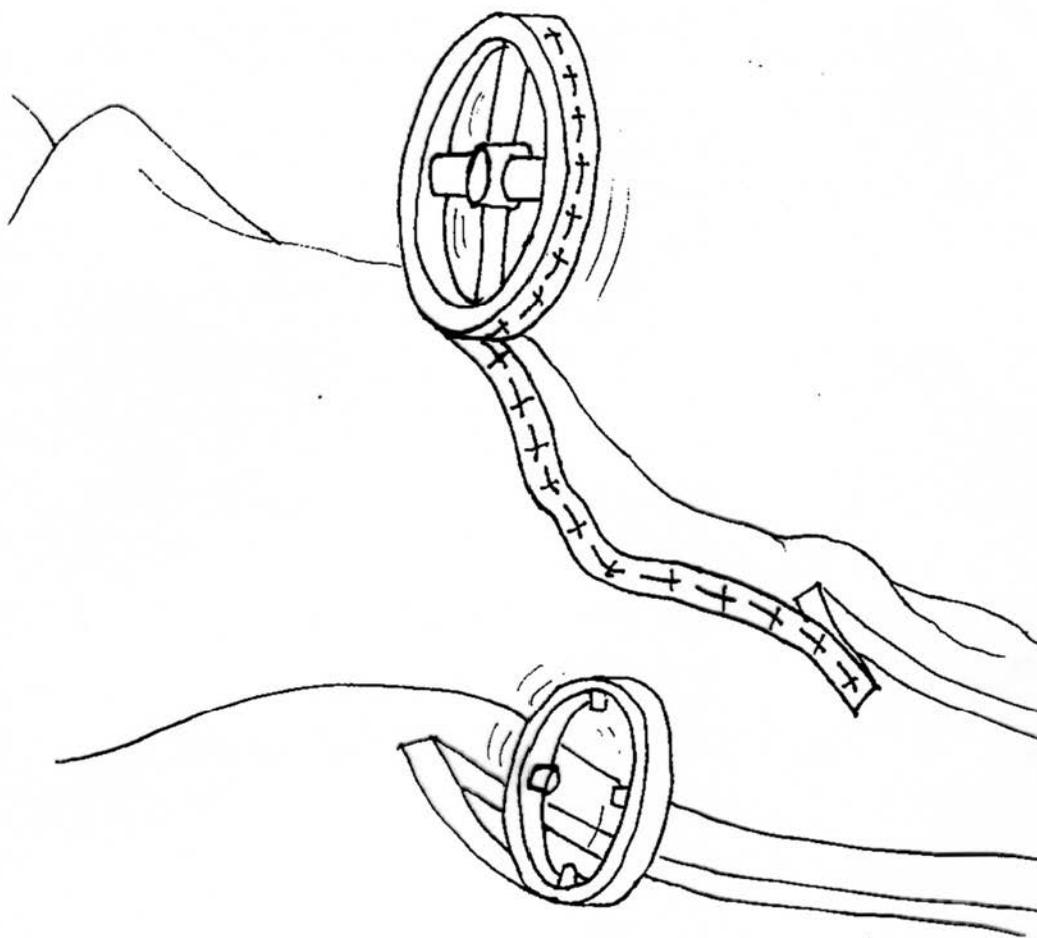
Hebrews 5:12, 13

And what you have heard from me before many faithful witnesses **entrust** to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.

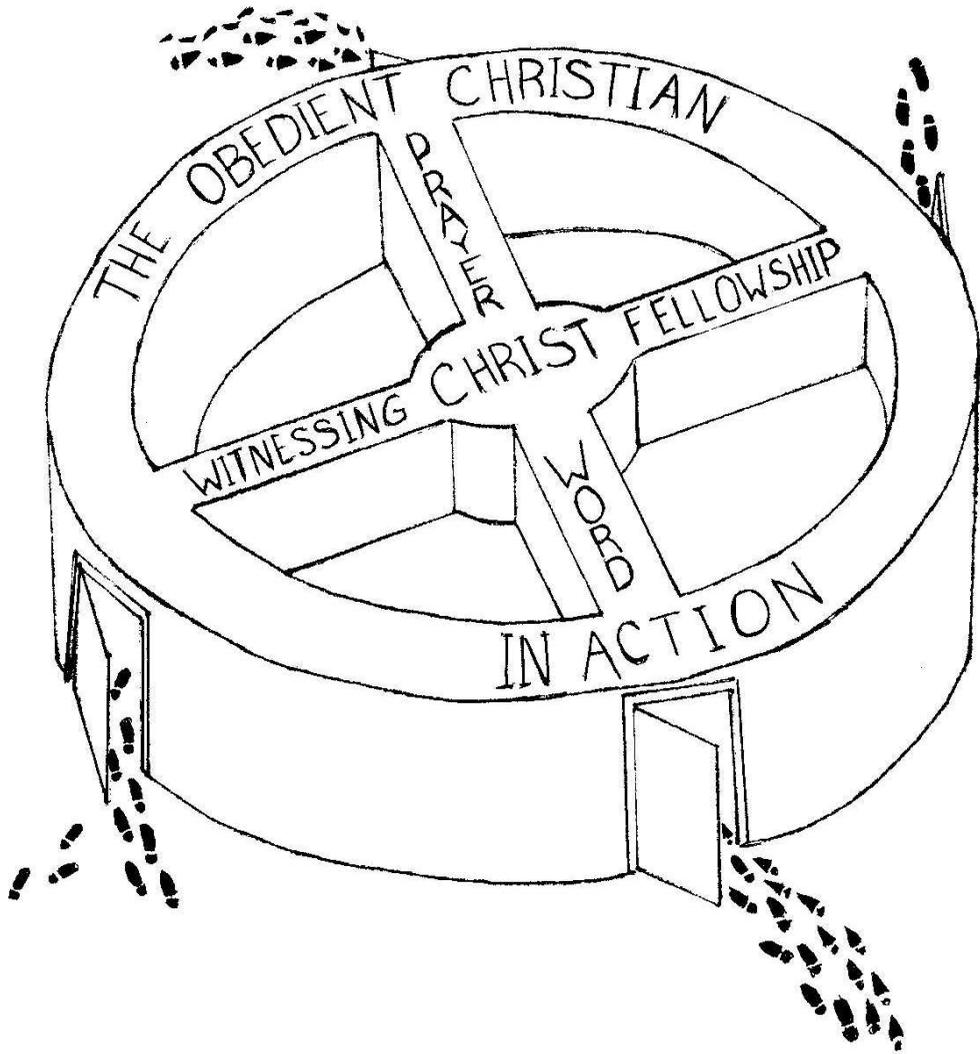


You who boast in the law, do you dishonor God by breaking the law? For, as it is written, "the name of God is blasphemed among the gentiles because of you."

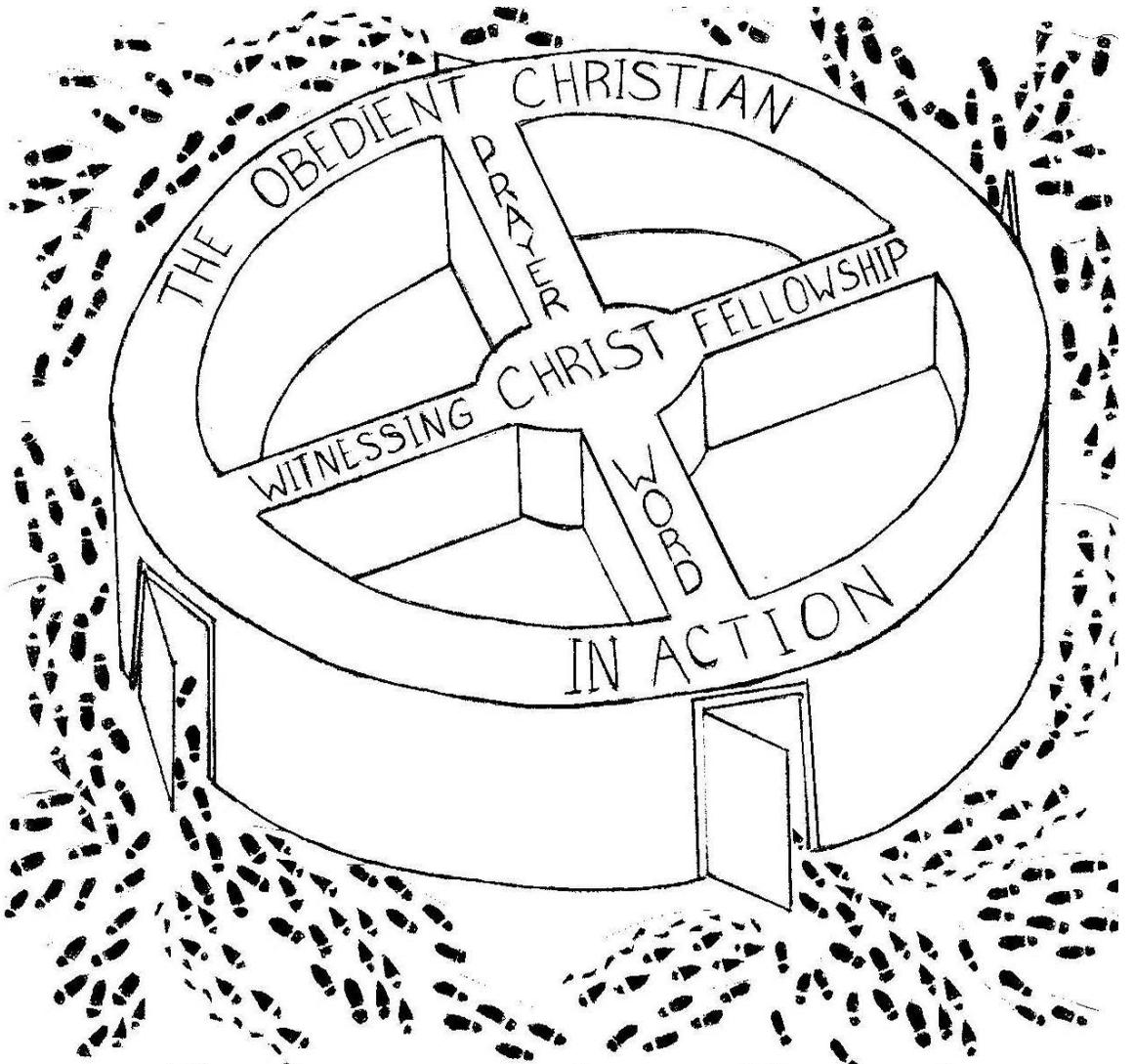
Romans 2:23, 24



My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of
Heaven and earth. He will not let your foot slip --
he who watches over you will not slumber.
Psalm 121:2, 3



**Don't you know that you yourselves
are God's temple and that God's
Spirit lives in you? 1 Corinthians 3:16 (NIV)**



**Since you are precious and honored
in my sight, and because I love you,
I will give men in exchange for you,
and people in exchange for your**

The Wheel: Observations & Lessons

1. Power comes from the hub—Jesus Christ.
2. The faster the wheel goes, the only thing visible in the hub—Jesus Christ.
3. Uneven spokes create an unbalanced wheel.
4. Uneven spokes will wear out the wheel; particularly the rim of obedience.
5. Uneven spokes often times are noisy and attract negative attention.
6. Uneven spokes are uncomfortable for the rider and the wheel typically doesn't last long.
7. Every wheel has the same size hub.
8. The manufacturer (God) supplies the hub and we're responsible for the upkeep and spoke development.
9. Well balanced wheels can cover more territory and are more useful.
10. Strength of the wheel on rough terrain is dependent upon strength of spokes and resilience of the tire.
11. Weak spokes break down on rough roads.
12. Out-of-balanced wheels are prone to go off in all directions and tangents.
13. Some wheels get so bogged down in world that they are useless and dependent upon another to pull them out.
14. Two wheels can carry more than one.
15. World is touched by the rim and not the spokes.
16. A missing or broken spoke will cause the other spokes to break under load.
17. One out of balance wheel can impact an entire group of other wheels.
18. Wheels occasionally go flat but they can be repaired and of use.
19. Wheels moving are not easily entangled or get stuck; it's when they slow down or stop that it's hard to get moving again.
20. Wheels immobile for long periods are apt to go flat.
21. Fast moving wheels can often skim over bumps and rough times without losing speed or direction.
22. There are different kinds of rim treads (ministries) for different terrains.
23. You cannot judge a wheel by its appearance; road testing is true test.
24. Display tires look good but don't do anything.
25. Some churches are tire stores with many tires on display that never go anywhere.
26. Without a rim, the tire goes flat.
27. Hub must be at the center if balance is to be achieved.
28. Some loads and tasks require more than one wheel.
29. Rough terrain requires strong spokes and resilient tires.
30. The smaller the spokes the harder the wheel has to work and the less territory is covered.
31. Heavy loads require 12-ply rated tires.
32. Carrying a load keeps the wheel in contact with the world.
33. Wheels come with a lifetime guarantee.
34. Everyone can see the wheel imprint everywhere the wheel goes; and will be attracted to in and follow it, or disregard it and be angry at the mess it's made.
35. Some cover-up the hub with hubcaps when they drive in the world.
36. Everywhere the rim goes, also goes the hub, regardless.
37. The wheel gets stronger with more use.
38. Out balance wheels make sloppy imprints in the world.