

**Man2Man-2**

Gatekeepers: The Giant Killer Edition

STUDY GUIDE

*Lessons 4 & 5: Free Upgrade & It's Not About the Giants!*

Welcome to the third installment of Gatekeepers: The Giant Killer Edition! Last time we dove deeper into the reality of worship. I discussed the fact that, while worship is indeed a Conversation with God, it is also an act of Conquest empowered by God. We found that as we conversed with God through worship and praise, we could also worship 'over' the valleys where the giants live, unleashing the spiritual realm in conquest. For us, worship is no longer merely 'religionized,' but it is as God intended it to be, 'weaponized.'

In this installment, we're going to cover two topics. First, we'll dive deeper into the "Free Upgrade" we have thanks to Jesus. And then we'll fine tune our focus. To date, we've spent a lot of time talking about the giants in our lives. While they exist, and this discussion is valuable, the danger is that if we focus on them too much, they can begin to define us. That isn't God's intent. He sees us as the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus. Is that how you see yourself, or are your giants – your challenges – defining you? Bottom line is, we're not about the giants. We're to be all about possessing the promises.

The Gatekeeper's motto: Believe God! Kill Giants! Possess the Promise! Let's dive deeper into that!

**Week One: (Attempt to) Comprehend Jesus...**

We underestimate Jesus. But to truly understand how God sees us, we must try to comprehend just who Jesus is. We'll start by reviewing "Pipes" to see get an idea of who we think he is. Then we'll dive deeper into the Word to see who he actually is. Hang on...this could get interesting!

**Unusual start:**

What we're going to do right now is a bit unusual for a typical Bible Study. But, try it. Below, without going to the Word, make a list that describes how you see Jesus. Anything goes. For the purposes of this exercise, there are no wrong answers. List characteristics, your impressions of him, things he did, describe who he is...and more. Spend some time on this. You might be surprised at how long the list gets...


(Feel free to use extra paper...)

**Back to normal:**

Now, review the following scriptures about Jesus, making your own notes along the way. The goal here is to get some insight into who he is.

Colossians 1:17:

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1 John 1:1-3

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John 1:1-5

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Hebrews 13:8

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Revelation 1:8

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**Thought Question #1:**

Review your first list. For the sake of argument, let's assume everything you put on that list is correct and answer this question: While Jesus was being all of that and doing all of that on this earth, based on the above scriptures, what else was he doing the whole time? (Hint: serious multi-tasking!)

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**Thought Question #3:**

The answer to the first question is off the charts awesome. "That" Jesus is off the charts awesome. Take some time to jot down any thoughts being loved by 'that' Jesus might inspire.

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**Thought Question #4:**

Review the following scriptures and try to summarize what 'that' Jesus did for you and how he and his Father sees you today as a result.

Ephesians 2:8

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Romans 8:15-17

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2 Corinthians 5:21

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**Thought Question #4:**

With all of this in mind, now summarize what God sees when he looks at you. This will tell you who you think you are in Christ.

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**Thought Question #5:**

What promise of God is Jesus NOT qualified to receive?

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**Thought Question #6:**

What promise of God are you NOT qualified to receive, thanks to Jesus?

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**If you believe** that Jesus is qualified to receive every promise of God. And if you believe that God is faithful to his word that when he considers you he sees His righteousness because of Jesus, then what is stopping you from freely upgrading your life? What are you making bigger than God?

Memorize this pledge. Make it a part of your every day DNA:

**These are the Promises of God.  
I am what they say I am.  
I have what they say I have.  
I can do what they say I can do.  
Today I will believe these Words of God.  
I stand in my gates  
I boldly confess.  
The mountains will move.  
The giants will fall.  
The world will never be the same.  
In Jesus' name. Amen!**

## **Week Two & Three: It's Not About the Giants!**

You are the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus, a direct heir and co-heir to God's promises just like Jesus. Nothing is bigger than that. God has a destiny designed for you and his power and promises can be counted on to convey us to that destiny. But there are giants in the way. In fact, the closer we get to our purpose for existing, the bigger the giants seem.

But, it is not about the giants! It is about God, how he sees us, his awesome plans for us and the power and promises he's made ours just so we can realize our destiny! This week we're going to start looking at the end game. Believe God? Yes! Kill Giants? With prejudice! But that's just the beginning. Why do we do this?

### To Possess the Promised Land!

Over the next two weeks we're going to look at just two stories, but from the perspective of Possessing the Promised Land. You'll do a lot of reading. Along the way make notes of at least the following:

1. What giant is in the way?
2. How did God use that giant for good when the enemy meant it for evil?
3. What destiny did the main character achieve?
4. And finally, for both stories, what would have happened if rather than take on the giants, either of these men had instead run away in fear?

**Week Two Story:** Joseph (Genesis 37, 39-41)

**Week Three Story:** David (1 Samuel 16 – 2 Samuel 2)

Yes, this is a lot of reading, but the exercise is worth it. Once finished, review the answers to the above questions and answer the following questions:

1. What giants are in your way?
2. How can God use them for good when the enemy means them for evil?
3. What might your destiny be? (Consider your dreams, talents, interests...dream big!)
4. Will you reach your destiny if you run from giants?
5. Are you acting as one who knows he's a child of the most high God, the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus with all of the power God's promised ready to wield against any giant – or are you acting like the giants are too big? (If yes to the latter, review week one's study to remind yourself just how big Jesus is...and how big God has made you in Jesus!)
6. If all of us took this seriously, what would be impossible for God's church to do today?