

# Child of God

4 June 2017, Siegfried Maré

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## *A suggestion how the content of this manual can be used:*

*The content of this manual are based on bible verses (obtained mainly from the New King James bible and using the Strong's concordance to obtain the full meaning of the words used in the verses) which are the basis for the points or views that are discussed. Use this manual as a guide for your own study of the WORD of GOD. Enjoy and let your mind be renewed by your Saviour. Love the Word of God. It is your source of life.*



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*Die AkkerChristelike Kerk is an Afrikaans Church in Johannesburg South Africa. This manual is written in English so that it can be used all over the world.*

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## Points that are discussed in this manual

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## Introduction

1 John 2:12 (NKJV Strong's Bible) <sup>12</sup> I write to you, little children,  
Because your sins are forgiven you for His name's sake. <sup>13</sup> **I write** to you, fathers,  
Because you have known Him who is from the beginning.  
I write to you, young men,  
Because you have overcome the wicked one.  
I write to you, little children,  
Because you have known the Father. <sup>14</sup> **I have written** to you, fathers,  
Because you have known Him who is from the beginning.  
I have written to you, young men,  
Because you are strong, and the word of God abides in you,  
And you have overcome the wicked one.

From the above we can notice the following:

i. **Little children are those that:**

- Know their sins are forgiven and those that
- Know the Father who IS from the beginning

ii. **Young men are those that:**

- Overcome the wicked one
- Are strong and
- In whom the Word of God abide

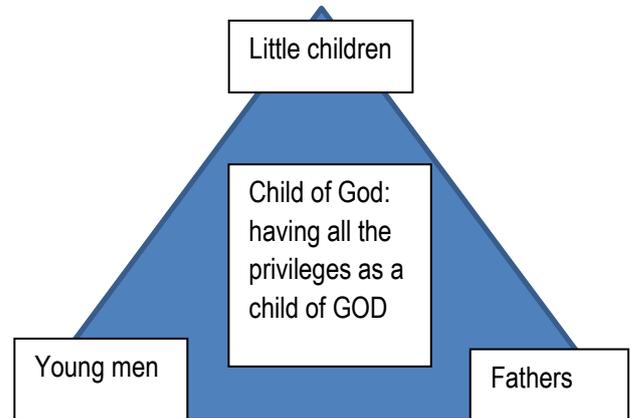
iii. **Fathers are those that:**

- Know God who IS from the beginning

and

iv. **God's kingdom is manifested as we grow in Him**

- Overcoming the wicked one



From the above we can clearly see there are progressive levels of maturity

In this manual we will look at how we can align ourselves with God's word so that we to can mature from being:

- ✓ Children; into being
- ✓ Young men; into being
- ✓ Fathers

and as fathers

- ✓ Manifesting God's Kingdom in the likeness of little children.

Let's see how we can mature to become like little children in God's kingdom☺(stick with me)

## 1. Child

We know we can call ourselves a child of God if we **receive** Him and **believe** in His name as is written in:

John 1:12-13 (NKJV Strong's Bible) <sup>12</sup> But as many as **received** Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who **believe** in His name: <sup>13</sup> who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the **will** of man, but **of God**.

Let us therefore not reject God's will for us by not receiving Him through unbelief as the Pharisees did in:

- Luke 7:30 (NKJV Strong's Bible) <sup>30</sup> But the Pharisees and lawyers rejected the will of God for themselves, not having been baptized by him.
  - a) Receive God
  - To receive Him is **to accept** him like a little child as is written in:

Mark 10:15 (NKJV Strong's Bible) <sup>15</sup> Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will by no means enter it."

- b) Believe in God
- To believe Him is **to entrust** and commit (especially one's spiritual well-being to Christ) to Him.

If our belief is defined by trusting Him, we must ask ourselves:

*Do we trust God? If we trust Him we will obey Him and not be lawless*

The level of trust (believe) or obedience can be measured how we conform to the following scriptures:

- 1 John 3:4-9 (NKJV Strong's Bible) 4 Whoever commits sin also commits lawlessness, and sin is lawlessness. 5 And **you know** that He was manifested to take away our sins, and in Him there is no sin. 6 Whoever abides in Him does not sin. Whoever sins has neither seen Him nor known Him. 7 Little children, let no one deceive you. He who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous. 8 He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was **manifested**, that He might destroy the works of the devil. 9 Whoever has been born of God does not sin, for His seed remains in him; and he cannot sin, because he has been born of God.

Trusting God will determine our growth as a child because abiding in Him we:

- Do not sin.

*But what if we do sin???*

Children know that their sins are forgiven as is written:

1 John 2:1-5 (NKJV Strong's Bible) <sup>1</sup> My little children, these things I write to you, so **that you may not sin**. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. <sup>2</sup> And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world. <sup>3</sup> Now by this we know that we know Him, if we **keep His commandments**. <sup>4</sup> He who says, "I know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. <sup>5</sup> But whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. **By this we know** that we are in Him.

Keeping God's commandments will lead us to know that we:

- Know our Father (through the TRUTH) who IS from the beginning.

Through our obedience to our Lord (taking up our cross) we can also be perfected (by knowing our Father more and more because He is perfect) like Jesus was perfected as is written in:

- ❖ Hebrews 5:8-9 (NKJV Strong's Bible) <sup>8</sup> though He was a Son, yet He learned obedience by the things which He suffered. <sup>9</sup> And having been perfected, He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him,...

Coming to know our Father in heaven we can manifest Jesus's purpose which is

- "to destroy the works of the devil"

and become:

## 2. Young men

Jesus is manifested through us as is written in:

- 2 Corinthians 4:8-11 (NKJV Strong's Bible) <sup>8</sup> We are hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; <sup>9</sup> persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed— <sup>10</sup> always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, **that the life of Jesus** also may be **manifested in our body**. <sup>11</sup> For we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus' sake, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh.

Being alive together with Jesus Christ our Lord we can MANIFEST God's purpose (to destroy the works of the devil) as young men (and women) through our bodies as is written in:

- Colossians 2:13-15 (NKJV Strong's Bible) <sup>13</sup> And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses, <sup>14</sup> having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross. <sup>15</sup> Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it.

Growing in obedience (our love for God) we will find that we also:

- Can overcome the wicked one; that we
- Are strong. Knowing that we have strength to overcome the wicked one BECAUSE we
- Have the word of God abide in us.

Having God's Word abiding in us we can become Fathers.

### 3. Fathers

Why Fathers?

- Fathers are those that know God who is from the beginning;
- Fathers are those that have children; and
- Godly fathers know they can only have Godly children through the gospel as is written:

1 Corinthians 4:15 (NKJV Strong's Bible) <sup>15</sup> For though you might have ten thousand instructors in Christ, yet you do not have many fathers; for in Christ Jesus I have **begotten you through the gospel**.

With the heart of our Father in heaven let us manifest Christ Jesus.

### 4. Manifesting God's Kingdom as little children

As children of God we manifest the Lordship of Jesus through our bodies as is written in:

- 2 Corinthians 4:8-11 (NKJV Strong's Bible) <sup>8</sup> We are hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; <sup>9</sup> persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed— <sup>10</sup> always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be **manifested in our body**. <sup>11</sup> For we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus' sake, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh.

Here follow a few examples how we manifest God's Kingdom as we grow in our relationship (*receiving and believing*) with our Lord:

- a) Hope manifested in our willingness to become pure

1 John 3:1-3 (NKJV Strong's Bible) <sup>1</sup> Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God! Therefore the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. <sup>2</sup> Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. <sup>3</sup> And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

- b) Our safety (in being) as we safely can trust in the Lord

Isaiah 54:17 (NKJV Strong's Bible) <sup>17</sup> No weapon formed against you shall prosper, And every tongue which rises against you in judgment . You shall condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, And their righteousness is from Me," Says the Lord.

- c) Honour because we have received honour from God

Psalms 149:5-9 (NKJV Strong's Bible) <sup>5</sup> Let the saints be joyful in glory; Let them sing aloud on their beds.

<sup>6</sup> Let the high praises of God be in their mouth,

And a two-edged sword in their hand,

<sup>7</sup> To execute vengeance on the nations,

And punishments on the peoples;

<sup>8</sup> To bind their kings with chains,

And their nobles with fetters of iron;

<sup>9</sup> To execute on them the written judgment—

This **honour** have all His saints.

Praise the Lord!

d) Willingness to change because God sanctify us

Malachi 3:3-5 (NKJV Strong's Bible) <sup>3</sup> He will sit as a refiner and a purifier of silver;

**He will purify** the sons of Levi (*Levi literally means: those that associate themselves with Him*),

And purge them as gold and silver,

That they may offer to the Lord

An offering in righteousness.

<sup>4</sup> “Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem

Will be pleasant to the Lord,

As in the days of old,

As in former years.

<sup>5</sup> And I will come near you for judgment;

I will be a swift witness

Against sorcerers,

Against adulterers,

Against perjurers,

Against those who exploit wage earners and widows and orphans,

And against those who turn away an alien—

Because they do not fear Me,”

Says the Lord of hosts.

e) Adoption because our Maker is our husband

Isaiah 54:5 (NKJV Strong's Bible) **your Maker is your husband,**

The Lord of hosts is His name;

And your Redeemer is the Holy One of Israel;

He is called the God of the whole earth.

f) Our fear through our obedience to God because His Word is our LIFE

Jeremiah 18:9-10 (NKJV Strong's Bible) <sup>9</sup> And the instant I speak concerning a nation and concerning a kingdom, to build and to plant it, <sup>10</sup> if it does evil in My sight so that it does not obey My voice, then I will relent concerning the good with which I said I would benefit it.

g) Our peace because we know the Prince of Peace

We can cast everything we do not have the strength to carry on Him as is written in:

Psalms 55:22 (NKJV Strong's Bible) <sup>22</sup> Cast your burden on the Lord,

And He shall sustain you;

He shall never permit the righteous to be moved.

## Summary

Growing up as a **child** of God (dying to self) I grow in the manifested presence of my Maker. By my growth,

- because I receive Him and believe in Him,

I can declare my love to my Maker as a **young man** (or women) embracing His purpose as is written in:

- 1 John 3:8 (NKJV Strong's Bible).....For this purpose the Son of God was **manifested**, that He might destroy the works of the devil.

Being set free from sin myself (knowing the effect of sin), I can also embrace the heart of **My Father** in heaven to help others not to sin

- 1 John 2:1-5 (NKJV Strong's Bible) <sup>1</sup> My little children, these things I write to you, so ***that you may not sin***. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. <sup>2</sup> And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world. <sup>3</sup> Now by this we know that we know Him, if we **keep His commandments**. <sup>4</sup> He who says, "I know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. <sup>5</sup> But whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. By this we know that we are in Him.

Love your Maker. He loves you!!

### Application questions:

1. How do I know I am a child of God?
2. Do I have a testimony in my life where I know I had the work of the devil destroyed in my life?
3. I want more people to except Jesus as Lord of their lives: How will I go about it?

