

Key passage: 1 John 3:1-10 NIV

Believers **are called and are** children of God.

As we mature our insight and ideas progress; God's magnificence is illimitable and we cannot hold to big a perception of God. The limitless God scaled Himself down to lift us up to a place of victory in Christ.
Philippians 2

Mixed emotions: we are humble and uplifted at same time: (Humble: at the most we play a tiny part; at best unprofitable aside from the spiritual work inside us: and uplifted in the sense of the incredible generosity of God who calls us to take part with Him: Synergy: working together with God on our side) The big scheme is reconciliation – we must be on board with who we are and our part in and of that plan.

God works in us to work His good pleasure, there is therefore no glory to us at all – it is the hand of God upon us as we are simply obedient.

The immensity of God: He spoke and the world came into being and the most astounding thing is God within (avoid reducing Christian living to performance (in the flesh)).

Lack of faith within is largely unconscious; (on man's part it limited the very power of Christ through belligerent unbelief they couldn't see). Lack of faith prevents our own development; we need quiet confidence that God operates in our personalities and God uses us – continually building without intermission. Colossians 1:26-27 – Christ in us, the hope of glory – this is a secret revealed and we must transform our thinking into line with the Word of God. Romans 12:2: as our thinking is transformed this inspires the heart and as our heart is inspired the more inspired we are to change. Think right? Live right (not conformed or influenced by the world; **must be in line with the Word not the World**).

Challenge: HAS THIS REVOLUTION IN THOUGHT TAKEN PLACE IN ME?

Startling results as we realise Christ is in us.

1 John 3:7-9 whoever is born of God does not sin... 'because' conjunction - means 'why' ? because God's seed remains in him... seed: Gk: 'sperma' – God's own permanent heredity: DNA: we are given the ability not to sin because this seed is incapable of sin. We have the capacity to say 'no'. The Holy Spirit is God's DNA; He has put His Spirit in us; not just adopted us – we are children of God by right of birth. We must stop taking a morbid diligence in sinfulness and apprehend **the truth of God in us**.

Illustration of the sunflower: God enables us to follow the Son.

Consider the seed in Mary: Jesus, born of God; when we are born again we are also born of incorruptible seed. We can walk clean and obediently before God as we are also being changed into His

glory. Galatians 5:22-23 (manifesting the character of the Holy Spirit – supernaturally producing not strenuous labouring or in stern denial).. fruit are signs of the indwelling reality of Jesus Christ; glorifying God and seeing souls saved. The early church flourished in a pagan context so we cannot blame the worsening world.. **we must rise to meet the truth of the Word of God: we are the children of God** (supernatural start and a supernatural process).