

January 31, Psalms 13, ACTS acronym review

THE ACTS ACRONYM

The simplified answer lived out - is enacted in 4 steps - remembered by the ACTS acronym.

Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal unbelief while listening to the evening, morning and afternoon prayer prompts = 5 minute soundbites.

Unbelief focuses on what we see and experience in life, whereas faith focuses on Jesus, sitting enthroned on the right hand of God, having all authority over everything in heaven and earth.

“How long, O Lord? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me? How long shall I take counsel in my soul, having sorrow in my heart daily? How long will my enemy be exalted over me?”
Psalms 13:1-2

It is necessary to honestly express the way we feel about our relationship with God. This is necessary to switch our focus from our own experiences to Christ and His ruling over all things...including the restoration of our relationship with Him.

Cry out to the Lord to make the prayers and promises of Scripture your own by shifting your focus from what you see and experience to seeing Christ enthroned with authority over what you are seeing and experiencing.

“Consider, and hear me, O Lord, my God; enlighten my eyes, lest I sleep the sleep of death; lest my enemies say, “I have prevailed against him”; lest those who trouble me rejoice when I moved”. Psalms 13:3-5 demonstrate the cry of David’s heart as he doubles down to insist on the reason why God needs to answer his prayer. We need to get specific, and give God reasons why if he doesn’t answer the prayer of being near to us and restoring our relationship with Him we will be in trouble. Be specific about the type of trouble. David said “I’ll sleep the sleep of death”.

Trust God to restore your relationship with Him by the restoration of your faith, shifting your focus from you and your experience to Christ and His authority over everything in heaven and earth. Remember when you behold Christ through prayer and scripture you are being transformed from the inside out. Believe that Eternal life has intercepted your life experience. Memorizing 2 Corinthians 3:18 - so that it becomes a natural part of your five minute prayer time - will be a huge blessing.

Sing and make melody in your heart to the Lord, while speaking to one another in Psalms and hymns and spiritual songs (Ephesians 5:19-21)

“5 But I have trusted in your steadfast love;
my heart shall rejoice in your salvation.

6 I will sing to the LORD,
because he has dealt bountifully with me.”

Psalms 13:5,6 takes us into the Trust and Sing part of the acronym. Notice that David does not say that he was completely restored in his relationship

to God, but he chooses as a matter of will to Trust the God who's dealt bountifully with him in the past, and to Sing his praises in out loud As a demonstration of trust in him.

Also show your trusted him by speaking to somebody else - whether that is in person, over phone or by text message - to praise God out loud for what you've have believed (how your focus is on Christ authority overall things) is a key part to walking in the Spirit. Ask God to show you who your to share this treasure with. It could be your wife or children, a coworker, or random stranger. But imagine doing this three times a day... This will be life-changing for you and others. Feel free to pass the soundbite along.

The goal is to bring the exercise from the mind to the heart and from the heart into life and action. With God's help supporting each other we will be repeating it over and over again this year until it is done spontaneously throughout the day.