

# TAKE YOUR PLACE ■

BEGINNING A NEW WALK WITH CHRIST



DAN STALLBAUM

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BY DAN STALLBAUM

All Scripture is from the Authorized New King James  
Version of the Bible.

# INTRODUCTION

This book is intended for the benefit and blessing of the reader. It is not an end in itself; rather, it is a beginning. It is not intended to place rules or regulations on new believers or to establish formulas by which to live. The purpose is to promote liberty in Christ and give a foundation, or basis, on which to build.

God's kingdom is a kingdom of many different dimensions. A person should not enter into the Christian experience only looking at what they might receive. That's not God's way. The Bible says, "Give and it will be given unto you." This book looks at all sides – what you give and what you receive; what God expects from you; and what you can expect from God. Jesus gave His life for us and He requires our lives in return. When you think about it, trading our lives with all our problems for the life of the Son of God isn't a bad deal at all!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dan', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Pastor Dan Stallbaum

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PART ONE ■  
CHRISTIAN RESPONSIBILITY

# **PART ONE: CHRISTIAN RESPONSIBILITY**

Every Christian has certain responsibilities to God. He is King and Lord Eternal, our Father and Ruler, our Provider and Guide. To Him, every Christian is responsible. Micah 6:8 says, “...*what does the Lord require of you but to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God?*” God requires these things of believers, both for their benefit and the benefit of His kingdom. In this section, we will look at God's plan for the believer, what God requires and what He does not, and how the believer can be a blessing to God, His church, and to the world.

# CHAPTER ONE

## TAKE YOUR PLACE AS A CHRISTIAN

### IN RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

*Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.*

#### **2 Peter 1:2**

Your greatest privilege and responsibility as a Christian is your relationship to God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. The meaning of the word “knowledge,” in the above scripture means “to know fully, as in a relationship” or “to be acquainted with someone.” It doesn’t mean to only know about or have read about someone but, instead, to have a living relationship with them. It is one thing to read about someone in a book, but growing with them on a day-by-day basis is something entirely different. That’s what God desires for His relationship with you – a day-by-day relationship where you experience life together. The apostle Paul expressed this desire in Philippians 3:10 saying, “...that I may know Him, and the power of His resurrection...” When God created man, it was for fellowship and companionship. God came, walked, and talked with Adam in the garden, and God wants to do the same thing with you every day.

*For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in*

*the inner man, that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height - to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.*

**Ephesians 3:14-21**

*But, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things to Him who is the head – Christ.*

**Ephesians 4:15**

**IN GOD'S WORD**

*As newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby.*

**1 Peter 2:2**

Christians need to grow, and one of the major tools God has given for growth is His Word, the Bible. Just as babies need to feed regularly on milk, the Christian needs to feed regularly on God's Word. Jesus said in Matthew 4:4, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.'" God's Word is food that brings life. As you feed upon God's Word through reading, study, meditations, and teachings, you will grow spiritually and become a strong Christian. Just

as your body needs physical food multiple times each day, your spirit man also needs regular feedings; not just on Sunday mornings, but all throughout the week. God wants us to learn to feed ourselves and not be spoon-fed. Take your place in God's Word and begin a daily relationship with God through His Word.

As a suggestion, begin in Matthew and read through Revelation, just as a start, to get the whole picture.

*Be diligent to present yourself approved to God,  
a worker who does not need to be ashamed,  
rightly dividing the word of truth.*

**2 Timothy 2:15**

## **IN PRAYER**

*Therefore, I exhort first of all that supplications,  
prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks  
be made for all men.*

**1 Timothy 2:1**

Prayer is the way through which God has opened the door for us to communicate with Him. In other words, God wants us to sit down and talk with Him as well as listen. Our prayer life is to be precious to us. No matter what the situation is in our lives, God wants us to talk with Him about it. Whether in joy or sorrow, times of need or plenty, situations big or small, cast your cares on Him. What would you think of a man who woke up in the morning and went through the entire day and then to bed at night without ever speaking to his wife? You might think he was angry,

or did not care for her or, worse yet, didn't think she existed. That is why the apostle Paul says to Timothy to pray first and foremost. Not praying shows how unimportant God is to your daily life. So take your place in prayer and speak to God. He's just waiting to hear from you.

*Pray without ceasing.*

**1 Thessalonians 5:17**

*Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.*

**1 John 5:14-15**

*But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit.*

**Jude 1:20**

## **PRAISE THE LORD**

*Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.*

*Praise the Lord!*

**Psalms 150:6**

This verse is the conclusion to the book of Psalms, the end of the most praise-filled book in the Bible. Everything that breathes is commanded to praise the Lord. And who else is included in everything that breathes? You are. You, also, are commanded to praise the Lord.

Praise is what a believer gives to God. Praise is the expression of the loving, thankful heart of the believer. Nehemiah 8:10 says, “...for the joy of the LORD is your strength.” Praise is simply giving God your deepest love. Praise can be expressed through singing, lifting of your hands, prayer, silence, giving, or any other way that God might lead you. Every believer needs to praise their Creator. It is essential to have a daily, living relationship of praise with God.

*Speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

**Ephesians 5:19-20**

*Lift up your hands in the sanctuary,  
and bless the Lord.*

**Psalms 134:2**

*Praise the Lord!  
Praise the name of the Lord;  
Praise Him, O you servants of the Lord!  
You who stand in the house of the Lord,  
in the courts of the house of our God,  
Praise the Lord, for the Lord is good;  
Sing praises to His name, for it is pleasant.*

**Psalms 135:1-3**

**TELL OTHERS THE GOOD NEWS**

*And He said to them, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.*

**Mark 16:15**

As a new believer, you have recently experienced the joy of salvation. Matthew 9:37 says, "...the harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few." You know there are many more people in the world who need Jesus. Who is going to tell them? How are they going to know?

The verse from Mark 16 was written to new believers. In fact, the disciples, the ones who were given this message, were new believers. God wants all His children to tell others the good news of the gospel. Join with others who are experienced and go out and share the love of Christ. Watch and listen for opportunities to share Christ with people around you as you go throughout your day. God will help you; He will give you the words to say and guide you by His Spirit.

*For "whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved." How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, who bring glad tidings of good things!"*

**Romans 10:13-15**

*And they went out and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word through the accompanying signs. Amen.*

**Mark 16:20**

# CHAPTER TWO

## TAKE YOUR PLACE IN FELLOWSHIP

### A. Fellowship of Believers Ordained By God

God has ordained, or called, for believers to gather together for fellowship. The Bible says in Hebrews 10:25, *“Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some...”* After Christ ascended (went up to heaven), many people began to believe what the apostles were preaching. Peter, an apostle of Jesus, preached and 3,000 people were saved. Acts 2:42 says, *“And they continued steadfastly in the apostles’ doctrine and fellowship...”* The new believers began to gather together for fellowship right after they were saved.

Jesus not only calls for believers to gather together in His name but also promises to be in their very midst. Matthew 18:20 says, *“For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them.”* It is plain from the scriptures that Christ wants His people to gather together for fellowship. As a new believer, you need to join a fellowship of believers and take your place.

*Now when this epistle is read among you, see that it is read also in the church of the Laodiceans, and that you likewise read the epistle from Laodicea.*

**Colossians 4:16**

*To the church of God which is at Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, with all who in every place call on the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours.*

**1 Corinthians 1:2**

**B. Committed in Love**

*We are bound to thank God always for you, brethren, as it is fitting, because your faith grows exceedingly, and the love of every one of you all abounds toward each other.*

**2 Thessalonians 1:3**

In this scripture, we see Paul writing to the believers in Thessalonica. These believers were part of the local church, or fellowship, of the city of Thessalonica. A fellowship or church is like a family. As a family grows together and is committed to one another in love, they experience growth. The church is the same way. Members need to be committed to the church and to each other. Church members need to depend on each other, which is why every new believer needs to commit to a particular fellowship and become part of a church family.

*Finally, all of you be of one mind, having compassion for one another; love as brothers, be tenderhearted, be courteous.*

**1 Peter 3:8**

*For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named.*

**Ephesians 3:14-15**

**C. Take Your Place in Giving and Receiving**

*Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you.*

**Luke 6:38**

Within church fellowship, there is a two-sided coin called “giving and receiving.” Every new believer needs to receive teaching, exhortation (encouragement), edification (to be uplifted), and comfort (love). Each of these is important to a new believer’s growth. Receiving, however, is not the only reason for fellowship—there is giving, also. In the same way that a family survives by each member giving and receiving, a church can only survive if each member uses their gifts and talents to help the church in some way. In any given service, there are pastors, teachers, ushers, counselors, nursery workers, children’s church teachers, and many others who are giving toward the good of the church family. What talents do you have? Take your place in a local fellowship and find out where you can give and serve, as well as receive the Word of God.

*And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ.*

**Colossians 3:23-24**

*How is it then, brethren? Whenever you come together, each of you has a psalm, has a teaching, has a tongue, has a revelation, has an interpretation. Let all things be done for edification.*

**1 Corinthians 14:26**

*For you can all prophesy one by one, that all may learn and all may be encouraged.*

**1 Corinthians 14:31**

#### **D. Stay in Your Calling**

*For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function.*

**Romans 12:4**

In family life, things run smoothly when there is a proper order – when the man is father, husband, and head of the home; when the woman functions as his partner and mother to their children; and when the children are obedient to their parents.

In the church, God has given each person a different calling or office. Some are called to be pastors, others are administrators, nursery workers, or missionaries, to name a few. When each person is in the position to which God has called them, things run smoothly. As the new believer is finding their place in the church family, it is important that he or she finds their calling. You probably will not be called to be a missionary within the first few weeks, so pray and ask God where you are called and see if there is a need that you can fill within the church. God will place you as it pleases Him for the good of the church family.

*But now God has set the members, each one of them, in the body just as He pleased.*

**1 Corinthians 12:18**

*And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.*

**Ephesians 4:11-13**

*Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God.*

**Romans 13:1**



# PART TWO ■

## RECEIVING GOD'S BENEFITS

## **PART TWO: RECEIVING GOD'S BENEFITS**

*Bless the Lord, O my soul,  
and forget not all his benefits.*

**Psalm 103:2**

Jesus Christ gave His life for us. He opened the door to the blessing of God through His death, burial, and resurrection. He is alive right now to give blessings to His people.

*He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?*

**Romans 8:32**

God has given us exceedingly great and precious promises – promises of salvation, eternal life, the Holy Spirit, healing, and many more. In this section, we will look at a few benefits God has given us.

## CHAPTER THREE

### RECEIVE YOUR SALVATION

*For “whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”*

**Romans 10:13**

God revealed His love to us through His Son, Jesus. Even while we were in the midst of our sin, Jesus took our punishment upon Himself and died on the cross for us. Jesus said, “...*unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.*” When we come to God through the sacrifice of Jesus and call upon His name, we are born again—taken out of the kingdom of darkness and put into the kingdom of God’s Son, Jesus Christ. The way to receive Christ is to confess His Lordship over your life to others, believe that God has raised Jesus from the dead, and believe that Jesus is alive today. Let’s look at what all this means.

#### **A. You are Forgiven**

*“Come now, and let us reason together,” says the Lord, “Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall be as wool.”*

**Isaiah 1:18**

The apostle Paul speaks of Jesus in Ephesians 1:7, saying, “*In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace.*” One of the first things you, as a new believer, need to know is that you are forgiven. In Christ, all your sins have been washed away. Your past

is just that—past! God does not and never will hold it against you.

2 Corinthians 5:17 says, “*Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.*” God washes away the old sins and gives you a fresh, clean start. As a matter of fact, the Bible tells us that God forgets our sins. He doesn't even remember the wrongs. So you might as well forget them, too! Receive your forgiveness; God has given it to you.

*I, even I, am He who blots out your transgressions for My own sake; And I will not remember your sins.*

**Isaiah 43:25**

*As far as the east is from the west, So far has He removed our transgressions from us.*

**Psalms 103:12**

*In whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.*

**Colossians 1:14**

## **B. Jesus: Savior and Lord**

*...that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.*

**Romans 10:9**

You, as a new believer, have received Jesus to be your Savior and to save you from your sins. Praise God! But, do you know that He is also Lord of your life? What's the difference?

According to the Word, Jesus is Lord, King of Kings, God Eternal, and Ruler of all. It is one thing to accept Jesus as your Savior and then go out and do your own thing. This behavior reveals that He is not Lord of your life. God wants us to give Jesus lordship over every area of our lives—home, job, church, recreation, everything. Each of us needs to be in subjection to Christ and under His authority just like a servant is under the authority of a king. Give Jesus full control!

*For "whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."*

**Romans 10:13**

*Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, to God who alone is wise, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.*

**1 Timothy 1:17**

### **C. Walking Free from Sin**

*But now having been set free from sin, and having become slaves of God, you have your fruit to holiness, and the end, everlasting life.*

**Romans 6:22**

Jesus did not die to only forgive you of your sins. He died to set you free from sin. He gives every new believer a new heart, a new life, and a new ability to walk away from sin. God takes the new believer out of the kingdom of darkness and puts him into the kingdom of the Son of God. When we receive that new heart, it is easier to do right than wrong. Old habits are broken in Christ. Jesus even says in John 8:36, *"Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed."* Walk

free from sin; separate yourself from people and things that try to pull you down. Throw yourself headlong into a relationship with God through His Spirit, Word, prayer, praise, and fellowship, and you will walk free from sin.

*No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.*

**1 Corinthians 10:13**

*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.*

**1 John 3:9**

## **CHAPTER FOUR**

### **RECEIVE THE HOLY GHOST**

*For John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.*

**Acts 1:5**

In the book of Acts, Jesus tells His disciples (followers) to go to Jerusalem. There, Christ said that they would receive the baptism, or infilling, of the Holy Spirit. The disciples were not allowed to travel until they were baptized. I believe Jesus is stressing the importance of being “Spirit-filled” or baptized with the Holy Ghost. Before I go any further, I need to explain that the Holy Spirit and Holy Ghost are the same; they both refer to the Spirit of God. Likewise, being “filled with the Spirit,” “Spirit-filled,” and “baptized in the Holy Ghost” are all terms for the same thing. Being filled with the Spirit is one of the benefits which God offers to us.

*And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit.*

**Ephesians 5:18**

#### **A. Why You Should Be Baptized in the Holy Spirit**

*But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.*

**Acts 1:8**

The Holy Spirit is one of the three persons of God. He is given to us for many reasons:

*For power: to overcome, to control your flesh, to be a witness, and to tell others about Jesus (Acts 1:8).*

*For comfort: to help the believer (John 16:7).*

*For guidance and direction: to direct your life and to show you things to come (John 16:13).*

*For teaching and instruction: the Holy Spirit will teach you about Jesus and bring to you the words of Christ (John 14:26).*

*For spiritual gifts: faith, healing, tongues, etc. (1 Corinthians 12:7).*

## **B. What Happens When You are Baptized in The Holy Spirit**

*And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.*

### **Acts 2:4**

First of all, “they” in the above scripture is referring to Christians – those called of God. The Holy Spirit will not fill anything but a clean vessel, one that has been washed clean from sin by the blood of Jesus. Being Spirit-filled is for born-again Christians.

Look at the Scripture again. What happened when the believers were filled with the Holy Ghost? They began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit

gave them utterance. Other tongues are languages unknown to the natural mind. 1 Corinthians 14:2 says, *“For he who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God, for no one understands him; however, in the spirit he speaks mysteries.”* It is a God-given, miraculous sign that occurs when you are filled with the Spirit. It is a heavenly language which is for God alone.

“Baptized” is a word that means to totally saturate something inside and out, such as taking a sponge, dipping it into liquid, and taking it out again. Once you are baptized in the Holy Spirit, you are just like that water-filled sponge – immersed, inside and out, with the Spirit of God.

Two other things happened when the believers in Acts were filled with the Spirit:

1. The apostles went and preached (Acts 2:14-16);
2. Many believers prophesied or spoke of the great things of God (Acts 10:44-46).

The major thing that occurs when a person is filled with the Spirit is he or she is filled to overflowing with God.

*And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied.*

**Acts 19:6**

*And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

**Ephesians 5:18-20**

### **C. How to Receive The Spirit**

*If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!*

**Luke 11:13**

How do you receive the Holy Spirit? Just ask! Ask the Father, in the name of Jesus, to fill you with His Spirit and He will. You do not have anything to fear from God. He is the giver of good and perfect gifts. If you ask Him for the Spirit, that is what He will give you. Another way of receiving the Holy Spirit is to have someone who is anointed of God lay hands on you. One other way is for God to pour His Spirit out upon you as you believe His Word.

Have you received the Holy Spirit? If not, wait no longer. Ask God now, in the name of Jesus, to baptize you in the Holy Ghost. He will!

*Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.*

**Acts 8:17**

*And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied.*

**Acts 19:6**

*While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who heard the word. And those of the circumcision who believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles also. For they heard them speak with tongues and magnify God.*

**Acts 10:44-46**

## **CHAPTER FIVE**

### **RECEIVE YOUR HEALING**

*Bless the Lord, O my soul, And forget not all His benefits: Who forgives all your iniquities, Who heals all your diseases.*

**Psalm 103:2-3**

In this section, we will address the benefit of healing. The Bible says in 1 Peter 2:24, "...by whose stripes you were healed." Jesus, before going to the cross, was whipped by Roman soldiers. The whiplashes left gouges, or stripes, on His back. The scripture in 1 Peter explains why He was whipped. In taking our punishment upon Himself, Jesus made it possible for all of us to be healed because of His "stripes." Throughout the Old Testament, there are many examples of God healing His people. A few of them can be found in these Scriptures: Exodus 15:26, Job 42:10, Psalm 91:10-11, Psalm 103:2-3, and Psalm 107:20. God wants all of His children to be in good health.

Jesus showed the world the will of God the Father when He healed people on this earth. Jesus Christ is still the same today.

*Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.*

**Hebrews 13:8**

## A. Healed by Faith

*But Jesus turned around, and when He saw her He said, "Be of good cheer, daughter; your faith has made you well." And the woman was made well from that hour.*

**Matthew 9:22**

Faith is important to the new believer. Jesus said to two blind men in Matthew 9:29, "*According to your faith let it be to you.*" All things are possible to those who believe. Having faith that Jesus wants to, is willing to, and will heal you is important.

Romans 10:17 says, "*So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.*" As the new believer reads and studies the healing works of God, faith will come.

*Then He said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you. Go in peace."*

**Luke 7:50**

## B. Walk in Health

*Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers.*

**3 John 2**

God does not want to only heal your body; He wants to maintain your health, as well. The book of Third John tells us that as you grow in the Lord Jesus Christ, you will prosper and be in health. Moses was one hundred and twenty years old when he died

but the Bible tells us that his eyesight was still good and his strength had not left him. That means he was taken home to be with God a healthy old man. God wants us to be strong and healthy so we can use our strength to serve Him.

*Moses was one hundred and twenty years old when he died. His eyes were not dim nor his natural vigor diminished.*

**Deuteronomy 34:7**

*As yet I am as strong this day as on the day that Moses sent me; just as my strength was then, so now is my strength for war, both for going out and for coming in.*

**Joshua 14:11**

*Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.*

**1 Corinthians 6:19-20**

## CONCLUSION:

You must know that not all the requirements or blessings that God has for you are mentioned in this book. God is limitless. You will find more and more ways to glorify God in your service to Him.

You will also find that God has so many more ways of blessing you. Tithing and prosperity (Malachi 3:10-12), meeting all your needs (Philippians 4:19), and protection (Psalm 91:11) are just a few.

Let this book help you start your walk with God. If you would like to know more, or would like more copies of this book, call us at 321-452-1060 or email us at [getconnected@eccc.us](mailto:getconnected@eccc.us).





