*Thursday, April 5, 2012*

**Slice of Life**

Romans 12:3 For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith. (KJV)

Jesus Christ died for the sins of the whole world so that God could pour out His Spirit upon all flesh and give us a measure of faith that would be more than enough to get us home. I think of a measure of faith as similar to a football, and we the Church being a running back. The Lord is handing off to us so that we will move forward in our walk and not quit until we make it over the goal line.

Romans 3:22-24 Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference: (23) For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; (24) Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: (KJV)

Many hall of fame running backs have been stopped or thrown for a loss many times in their career, however that wasn’t enough to make them quit. We sin and get thrown for a loss at times too because we didn’t take the time to hear the right play that was coming in from the Coach, or we thought we knew better and tried to run on our own. So it’s not a matter of staying on the ground, rather it’s getting back up and hearing the next play so that you can make some forward progress again in your walk.

Colossians 2:13-15 And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses; (14) Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross; (15) And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it. (KJV)

Have you ever seen these players that just seem to come out of nowhere, sometimes undrafted and not considered worthy of a uniform? Well, that was your life before you chose to follow our Lord who walked triumphantly over the enemy and crossed the goal line, having spoiled the enemy and his defense. The Lord is like a blocker who made a way of escape so that you could run this spiritual race and not be tackled short of your goal. You have been given access to the same playbook, the measure of faith, so that you can learn His system and put more trust and confidence in what He has done on our behalf and not try to do it on your own.

John 14:6-7 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me. (7) If ye had known me, ye should have known my Father also: and from henceforth ye know him, and have seen him. (KJV)

Trophies and awards are given out to the winners, not the whiners and losers. You have been drafted and are now a part of a winning team with a proven winning record that is undefeated. In fact, you inherited a measure of faith that is able to declare the end before the contest even begins. With a deal like that what could possibly go wrong?

Romans 8:29-31 For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren. (30) Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified. (31) What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us? (KJV)

Many times I have seen athletes talk about how when they were young they would picture running for the winning touchdown and what it would be like to receive the prize. The Lord has given us the measure of faith so that we could turn that dream into a reality, a prize that will last forever.