

## **REFUSE TO PLAY SPIRITUAL HOPSCOTCH**

**GREETING:** May the Lord wonderfully bless you today as you worship Him in this **MORNING MANNA** service. I very deeply appreciate your presence today. Please open your heart for what the Lord has for you to receive.

### **PRAYER**

#### **EVERY DAY WITH JESUS**

Every day with Jesus, Is sweeter than the day before  
Every day with Jesus, I love Him more and more  
Jesus saves and keeps me,  
And He's the one  
I'm waiting for

Every day with Jesus, Is sweeter than the day before

CCLI 1302275

#### **HAVE THINE OWN WAY LORD**

1. Have Thine own way Lord, Have Thine own way  
Thou art the potter I am the clay  
Mold me and make me after Thy will  
While I am waiting yielded and still

## REFUSE TO PLAY SPIRITUAL HOPSCOTCH

2. Have Thine own way Lord, Have Thine own way  
Search me and try me Master today  
Whiter than snow Lord wash me just now  
As in Thy presence humbly I bow

3. Have Thine own way Lord, Have Thine own way  
Hold o're my being absolute sway  
Fill with Thy Spirit till all may see  
Christ only always living in me

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## REFUSE TO PLAY SPIRITUAL HOPSCOTCH

### Definition of HOPSCOTCH:

#### NOUN

1.

a children's game in which a player tosses or kicks a small flat stone, beanbag, or other object into one of several numbered sections of a diagram marked on the pavement or ground and then hops on one foot over the lines from section to section and picks up the stone or object, usually while standing on one foot in an adjacent section

#### INTRANSITIVE VERB *informal*

2.

to jump or leap from one place to another

*Small birds hopscotched on the lawn*

3.

to journey quickly and directly from one usually far place to another

*ambassadors hopscotching from Moscow to Paris to London*

4.

to move or pass through something, as a geographical area or a field of endeavor, making many brief stops

*The candidate hopscotched through four states in two days*

5.

to shift from one thing to another quickly or abruptly


*The story hopscotches from the present to the past in a confusing way*

### **Introduction:**

Your Christian life is not a series of circles, blocks, or rectangles. You are not meant to jump from one circumstance or crisis to another. God has not designed you to jump through hoops, leap over tall buildings, run faster than a speeding bullet, catch the gold ring on

**your special merry-go-round ride, or run on some sort of a spiritual hamster wheel.**

**What He has designed you to do is walk in His favor, victorious over all situations.**


 **He fills your heart with His purpose - not some vague and cloudy uncertainty.**

 **He grants you His overcoming faith - not disabling doubt.**

 **He blesses you with His wisdom - not naivety.**

 **He anoints you with His Holy Spirit - not a sense of ambiguity and haziness.**

 **He fills you with His joy - not depressing fear.**

 **He enables you to love and not hate; to forgive and not retain; to embrace and not cast away; to be compassionate and not self-focused.**

God's plan is for you to walk straight, upright, moving forward, and conquering as you go. Remember, your battle is with your spiritual enemy not people.

✳️ I know - a person may be at the center of your trouble, but I can assure you that Satan is the source of it. Use the wisdom which God has given you to discern the difference.

### SCRIPTURES:

Paul reminded the Ephesian believers of this very fact in

**Ephesians 6:12 (NKJV)**

**<sup>12</sup> For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of [a]the darkness of this age, against spiritual *hosts* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*.**

The moment you understand and put into practice this knowledge is the moment your Christian life will take on a new perspective. The Bible has many verses that instruct us about our walk with the Lord. I want to read 5 of those verses.

### **Proverbs 3:5-6 ESV**

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

### **Proverbs 4:26-27**

26 Mark out a straight path for your feet; stay on the safe path.

27 Don't get sidetracked; keep your feet from following evil.

### **Isaiah 26:7**

The path of the righteous is level; you make level the way of the righteous.

### **2 Corinthians 5:7**

For we walk by faith, not by sight.

### **1 Peter 5:8 ESV**

Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.

Here is what you should do to avoid the peril of hopscotching in your Christian walk.

**A.** Make certain you are fully surrendered to the Lord.

1. You are the only person that **controls** your devotion to the Lord.

2. You are the only person **responsible** for your devotion to the Lord.

**B.** Don't let an hour go by in which you are unaware of, or disconnected from, your spiritual destiny.

1. Instantly analyze the source of your spiritual opposition and instantly activate God's Word - which is your spiritual sword/ your undefeatable weapon!

2. Resolve to refuse the game of spiritual hopscotch. You are destiny driven and not responsive to foolish spiritual games.

**C.** Be certain you are walking on the King's Highway. It is a straight way with no exit ramps.

1. You are **not** on a spiritual vacation. Avoid every tempting device of Satan - every flashing exit sign to fun and excitement - every sin that appeals to your flesh.

**2. Keep eternity in focus. Keep your eyes on the goal. Remember, you are a child of God and that exceeds everything the world or the devil can offer you.**

**I AM BLESSED**

**I AM BLESSED! I AM BLESSED!  
EVERY DAY THAT I LIVE, I AM BLESSED.  
WHEN I WAKE UP IN THE MORNING,  
OR LAY MY HEAD TO REST,  
I AM BLESSED! I AM BLESSED!**

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**CLOSING PRAYER**