

Published by Lightbearers Ministries, Inc.
PO Box 471
Lyons, OR 97358 USA
Phone 503-859-4558
Email: lightbearers@wvi.com

web: <http://www.lightbearers-ministries.com/>

Copyright © 2007, Lightbearers Ministries, Inc.
All rights reserved.

ISBN Number 978-1-60461-780-1

DEDICATION

To my dear wife and faithful companion,
Rosemarie

F O R W A R D

4 And my speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, 5 that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God. 1 Cor 2:4-5 NKJV

In all my dealings with the Holy Spirit, I've always sensed that He is waiting...waiting for someone, like you and me, to rise up and believe Him.

We are surrounded by currents and waves of unbelief, some of which are subtle, without and even within the Church. Culture is full of them. And yet, the One who overcame is working in us to overcome, and to rise above and believe Him. I believe that the Lord is using this book to help release faith in the power and working of the Holy Spirit. I believe it is no coincidence, dear reader, that this book is in your hands right now. Now is the time to dive into the river of living waters, and experience the fullness of all that He has for you. May you be blessed, and be a blessing!

Love to all,

Kevin Porter
Lightbearers Ministries, Inc.
October 2007

TABLE of CONTENTS

SECTION 1. Revelation Gifts	11
The Detective Anointing	
Practice Asking!	
The Secret of the Armor	
Listen!	
All I Know About: The Word of Knowledge	
All I Know About: The Word of Wisdom	
SECTION 2. Healing Anointing	29
The Healing Anointing - Part 1: Preparation	
The Healing Anointing - Part 2: Receiving the Anointing	
The Healing Anointing - Part 3: Preparing the People	
The Healing Anointing - Part 4: Imparting the Anointing	
SECTION 3. Speaking Gifts	45
Constant Confidence!	
PRAYparation	
Thirty-Four Years of Refreshing	
What Am I Praying For? Part 1: The Holy Spirit's Prayers	
What Am I Praying For? Part 2: The Highest of the High - The Prayers in Ephesians	
What Am I Praying For? Part 3: The Blessings	
What Am I Praying For? Part 4: Practical Considerations	
SECTION 4. The Holy Spirit	67
The Great Advantage	
The Problem-Solving Anointing	
Symphony of the Spirit	
Heart Preparations	
God On the Edges!	
Not Alone!	
Every Man A Missionary!	
Why We Don't Receive	

TABLE of CONTENTS

(Cont.)

SECTION 5. Power Gifts	91
How Jesus Ministered Healing	
All I Know About: Gifts of Healings and Working of Miracles	
All I Know About: Faith	
SECTION 6. Dominion	101
Peace Is A Weapon - Part 1	
Peace Is A Weapon - Part 2: Fountainhead of Courage	
Dominion - Part 1	
Dominion - Part 2: The Soul	
Dominion - Part 3: Decrees and Commands	
Dominion - Part 4: The Word of the Heart	
SECTION 7. Christian Character	119
Anointing and Character	
Your Personal Gospel!	
The End of Worry	
The Night Season	
Crushing The Spirit of Jealousy	
Imitators of God	
John's Challenge: The End of Spectator Christianity	
SECTION 8. The Love of God	139
The Father's Heart of Love	
Deny Yourself!	
Love Is a Verb	
Overcome Evil With Good!	
Love Without Hypocrisy	
Living Sacrifices, Living Worship	
Mercy Triumphs Over Judgment!	
Author's Addendum Intern Teacher Training Program	159

SECTION 1

REVELATION
GIFTS

The Detective Anointing

Jun 6 2007 12:00AM

25 Now he went in and stood before his master. Elisha said to him, "Where did you go, Gehazi?" And he said, "Your servant did not go anywhere." 26 Then he said to him, "Did not my heart go with you when the man turned back from his chariot to meet you? Is it time to receive money and to receive clothing, olive groves and vineyards, sheep and oxen, male and female servants? 27 Therefore the leprosy of Naaman shall cling to you and your descendants forever." 2 Kings 5:25-27 NKJV

Respect for men and women of God would grow one hundred fold if they would truly learn to walk in the gifts and the power of the Holy Spirit. One aspect of the gift of discerning of spirits is what I call a detective anointing. A detective is a policeman who investigates and solves crimes by piecing together the evidence into a clear picture of what happened. The detective searches for the clues until he has a full understanding and knows who committed the crime.

Some times, the Lord can open your full understanding instantly to a person or situation. Other times, perhaps because the situation is so complex, He must lay out piece after piece until we get the complete picture of what is going on in the spiritual realm, and why. As you apply your heart to know, the detective anointing comes from God to fill you with understanding and make you more than a conqueror.

One of my favorite stories of the detective anointing occurred on a trip to Rwanda in 1998. I was part of a team under Mutima Peter of CAV2000, that was ministering a reconciliation conference in Kigali between Hutu and Tutsi pastors.

Just four years before the great genocide had happened where many thousands of Tutsi people had been massacred by Hutu extremists. The pastors hated and feared each other.

On the plane into Kigali the Lord spoke to me. "There is a barrier between Me and My people in the Belgian Congo." Huh? What! This idea of a barrier between God and His people was a brand new concept to me. I had no theological basis to understand this one. But this was His first clue. The second clue was in the words "Belgian Congo". I knew that this area had not been the Belgian Congo since the late 1950's.

So, what ever the 'barrier' was, it had to have something to do with the area when it was under the control of the Belgians. The Lord spoke one more word before we landed. "Do nothing presumptuously!" What I did with what I learned, would have to be done in the Lord's timing. I had just been given a rather bulky used laptop computer which would turn out to be invaluable. With my Bible program, I found this section of verses in a rarely read part of my Bible.

42 We have transgressed and rebelled; You have not pardoned. 43 You have covered Yourself with anger And pursued us; You have slain and not pitied. 44 You have covered Yourself with a cloud, That prayer should not pass through.
Lam 3:42-44 NKJV

Wow! The thought that sin over the land could be like a cloud that kept prayers from being heard in Heaven was astonishing to me (remember, this was 1998...). Okay, I thought...now I must find out what the sin was, that was on the land, and how we could apply the blood of Jesus to remove it. With a heart flowing in the detective anointing, we set out to visit the massacre sites before the conference.

I said to myself, "Surely if the sin is unforgiveness, I will see evidence of that when we visit the massacre site." The site was an old church where thousands of people had been killed. The scene, even four years removed, was breathtaking and horrifying. A old woman, a Tutsi who had lost eighteen family members there, was the caretaker. I asked her, "Can you forgive the ones who did this to you and your family?" I was looking for evidence. "Of course I can," she replied, "Jesus commanded us to forgive each other!" The sin was not unforgiveness.

In the days leading up to the conference I continued to search for clues as to what the barrier was. I began to understand that the European governments in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century had first sponsored missionaries to go to these lands with the Gospel, but also to prepare the lands for conquest. The missionaries had gone in with mixed hearts and an impure message.

The missionaries had set these two groups of people against each other - divide and conquer - resulting in perhaps over a million deaths. I knew what the barrier was, and why we were there. The barrier was the sin of the white missionaries, and we were there to make it right. I told no one. The conference started, and so did the bickering. Sitting on either sides of the room, the atmosphere was tense for the two groups. For three days we met, and they argued and talked.

Provisionally, I was selected to be the last speaker on the last night. The Lord said, "Now tell them what I have showed you." I took them through all the details of what I had learned and seen in the Word. When I told them that the genocide was precipitated by the sin of the white missionaries, there was stunned silence. Then I took them to Daniel, and showed them the principle of 'identificational' repentance.

After that, I invited the whites who had come with me to Kigali to come forward. We knelt and asked them to forgive the sin of the white missionaries. I asked for a Tutsi pastor to come forward, and pray a prayer extending forgiveness to the white missionaries. You could hear a pin drop in there. As he prayed, the Spirit of God filled the place and people began to weep and cry out to God. Soon the weeping turned into rejoicing! The Hutu pastors wanted to repent to the Tutsis. Then the Tutsis to the Hutus. The glory of God fell in that place...the barrier was broken, and the Lord Jesus was magnified. What has the enemy done, and how is his power working in your situation or the lives of others?

With the detective anointing— the gift of discerning of spirits—the Lord can show you what happened, why it happened, and how to solve the problem and bring in the will of Heaven. Take the Master's hand and start looking for the clues, Mister (or Miss or Mrs.) Detective!

Remember, dear ones, we must be about our Father's business...

Practice Asking!

May 18 2007 05:24PM

24 But Jesus did not commit Himself to them, because He knew all men, 25 and had no need that anyone should testify of man, for He knew what was in man. John 2:24-25 NKJV

The soldier that waits until the day of battle to learn to use his weapons will be a casualty of war.

The whole armor of God consists of our rights as citizens of the Kingdom of God, the gifts of the Holy Spirit, and the fruit of the Spirit. Your rights are your defensive weapons that protect you from the enemy's onslaught. Your offensive weapons are the gifts of the Spirit, through which you take the victory of Christ to the enemy and enforce it over him. The fruit of the Spirit is your uniform, identifying you as a soldier of the King. Remember too, that your offensive weapons have a defensive character, and your defensive weapons are offensive as well.

You and I must train to use our weapons.

Take the word of knowledge, for instance. If you only wait until you absolutely have to hear from God, to receive a word of knowledge, you will probably fail. You must learn to practice receiving words of knowledge, so that when you have to receive, you will have the confidence to hear from God. Jesus knew what was in man. Do you know what is in man? You should! How can you effectively help anyone if you do not know how to direct words to their heart?

One time I was sharing the Word of God over lunch to a group of missionaries in Nairobi. One woman became in-

censed at the clear word of God's promises of protection because it did not fit with her experiences. I was shocked! When my experiences don't fit with God's promises, I usually repent. I don't deny God's Word and blame God. When I asked God about her, He said, "She is a servant of her own heart." Oh...I understood. I knew what was in her.

Ask God for the gifts of the Spirit to be manifested in your daily life.

You may say, "Kevin, you have taught us that the gifts only come as He wills!" This is true. But why not do this: get up in the morning, pray much in tongues, confess and worship God, then ask Him, "Lord, what gifts are You willing to release to me today?" Let's say He says, "A word of knowledge." "Bless God forever!" you think, "God is going to give me revelation!

Let's see what else He will give me!" You remember that you are visiting a friend in the hospital that afternoon. "Lord," you ask, "How about giving me a gift of healing for John today?" The Lord says, "Tell him I will give him a gift of healing next Wednesday at 2pm." You have your word of knowledge. You are ready for the day.

God works the same way in little things as well as in big things. Learn in the little things and you will be prepared in the big things. Don't be a casualty of war. Practice asking!

Remember, dear ones, we must be about our Father's business...

The Secret of the Armor

May 8 2007 12:00AM

11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. Eph. 6:11 NKJV

The great teaching of the armor of God has for the most part been trivialized into not much more than a children's church skit. We have not understood nor appreciated how to put on the armor of God. Our lack of understanding and appreciation of the armor, and how to put it on, has led to many avoidable tragedies.

The armor of God falls into three great categories: offensive (or attacking) weapons, defensive weapons and a uniform. Our offensive weapons are the gifts of the Spirit, marshaled together through the sword of the Spirit. RHEMA words, spoken by revelation, backed by the gift of faith, produce miracles and demonstrations of God's power. The sword flashes forth! Our defensive weapons are our perfect standing in Christ, the rights and privileges we have as citizens of the Kingdom of God, the walled city of God. The fruit of the Spirit is our uniform. The love of God identifies us as soldiers in the army of the Lord.

35 By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another. John 13:35 NKJV

The in-depth, practical secret to putting on the armor is in the warnings and instructions of the Lord. The old saying goes, to be forewarned is to be forearmed. If you know about something before it happens, you can prepare for it, and overcome it, or even stop it before it takes place.

11 Moreover by them Your servant is warned, And in keeping them there is great reward. Ps. 19:11

Joseph was warned in a dream about Herod's imminent attack on Jesus. The wise men were warned to avoid Herod. Noah was warned about the flood. The disciples were warned about the coming famine in Acts 11. Paul was warned about the trouble he would face in Jerusalem in Acts 21. Even the great heathen city of Nineveh was warned by Jonah that after forty days they would be overthrown. The Bible is full of detailed warnings and instructions to specific individuals. When they heeded them, they got blessed. The practical, specific warnings and instructions of the Lord enable you to prepare for, overcome and totally defeat anything the enemy has prepared against you. This is putting on the armor of God.

4 He awakens Me morning by morning, He awakens My ear To hear as the learned. Isa 50:4 NKJV

To prepare for the day, listen to God in the morning. Listen to Him speak to you about the days, weeks, months and years to come. He will prepare you so that you are armored for all that is out there. Don't run naked...put on the armor of God!

Remember, dear ones, we must be about our Father's business...

Listen!

Jan 13 2007 05:48PM

10 Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth! Ps 46:10 NKJV

The art of listening is the ability and the willingness to receive. Most people, when they appear to be listening, are either distracted, or thinking of what they will say next. God says to be still, quiet inside and outside, and yet actively seeking to receive and to be nourished by the words God speaks.

Do you have a listening time when you pray? A time, not to cry out in praise or passionate intercession, but to simply listen? For most people, for God to speak to them, He has to interrupt them. They are talking in prayer, or are thinking about something else, or have their senses distracted by some outside stimulation. For God to speak, He must interrupt them. But sons and daughters should wait and listen to their Father...

3 You will keep him in perfect peace, Whose mind is stayed on You, Because he trusts in You.
Isa 26:3 NKJV

Listening involves total concentration and focus of mind and spirit. Active listening involves a deep commitment and communion, with attention to details and memorization of what is said. A lazy man receives nothing from God. Even if God speaks to him, he fumbles the words and loses them in his memory. Learn to listen, and to hold fast what you have heard....

The Lord had to teach me to listen. One day, years ago, as I was rushing back to my truck after a time of prayer on a mountaintop, the Holy Spirit arrested me. He forcefully spoke in my spirit, Stop! You run up the hill, pray, pray, pray, and run down the hill! You never stop to listen to Me! You can imagine my response. Aah...sorry, Lord, forgive me!...I think I will just stop right here...and listen to whatever You have to say!

Do not make God have to interrupt you. Pray until you are peaceful, then listen. Pour out your heart to Him, then be still. In that holy silence, God will come and meet with you. My sheep hear My voice, Jesus said. Listen with a sharp and acute heart, for His words are precious and precise. Believe those words, for they are words of life!

Remember, dear ones, we must be about our Father's business...

All I Know About: the Word of Knowledge

Aug 3 2006 11:45PM

11 I want you to know, brothers, that the gospel I preached is not something that man made up. 12 I did not receive it from any man, nor was I taught it; rather, I received it by revelation from Jesus Christ. Gal 1:11-12 NIV

The Word of Knowledge is a gift of the Spirit that is available to every born again person. It is spiritual knowledge coming into or regarding the physical realm. The books of the Bible, the Scriptures are perhaps the greatest example of the Word of Knowledge, because every writer wrote as the Spirit revealed the words to him. The Spirit told them what to write, and how to write it. They faithfully wrote it down. The Bible had many writers, but only one Author - God.

You may not be called to write the Word of God, but you do need revelation. Perhaps the greatest problem I see with people getting revelation is that they only receive a partial word, not the full communication from God. This is due to the fact that we interrupt God as He is trying to communicate with us. Stay quiet and listen when He speaks, meditate on what He has said, until you get a full understanding. The second great problem is people that talk too much. Let me SEE that you are receiving revelation by the fruit in your life. And please, don't tell unsaved people that God talks to you. They will think you are crazy!

27 The spirit of a man is the lamp of the LORD, Searching all the inner depths of his heart. Prov 20:27 NKJV

The key to understanding revelation and how it comes is in understanding the spirit of man. The spirit of man is your in-

ner man that animates the human body. Man is a three part being: spirit, soul and body. The body is the outer fleshly man with all its members. The spirit of man is a whole inner man of spirit, with all of its members. The soul has aspects of both flesh and spirit.

Every human being has an inner man, a spirit man. In the born again ones, the inner man has been made a new creation with the righteousness of God in him. The Father and the Son through the Holy Spirit dwell in the inner man of the born again one. All spiritual connections, be they with the true God or our enemy, come through the spirit of man.

Now the inner man of spirit has spiritual senses. You have to learn to become aware of what is coming into your spirit. Why are you thinking about, what you are thinking about? What did you feel when you walked through the doorway of that house? Why does that one word, or a certain person, keep coming up into your mind? There has to be a reason...

I teach my students to look into their hearts for God's guidance, not their minds with its reasoning, emotions and memories. I point to my chest, and say, Heart! - not mind! as I point to my head.

Look in your heart, and see what He has put there...

Remember, dear ones, we must be about our Father's business...

All I Know About: the Word of Wisdom

Jul 27 2006 03:01PM

7 Wisdom is the principal thing; Therefore get wisdom. And in all your getting, get understanding. 8 Exalt her, and she will promote you;

She will bring you honor, when you embrace her. 9 She will place on your head an ornament of grace;

A crown of glory she will deliver to you. Prov 4:7-9 NKJV

The word of wisdom is a revelation gift of the Spirit that is available to every born again one. In the nine gifts of the Spirit in 1 Corinthians 12, the word of wisdom and faith are the 'Bridge Gifts' between revelation and demonstration. Faith is the ability to believe God perfectly to accomplish the will of God, as made known by revelation. The word of wisdom is the specifics of HOW to operate faith perfectly to bring about the demonstration of God, the working of a miracle or the impartation of a gift of healing. Do you understand? For more teaching on this specific aspect of the word of wisdom, please see the article THE PROBLEM SOLVING ANOINTING in Section 4, the second article.

13 However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. John 16:13 NKJV

As I was praying over the healing of a specific family member in early May, the Spirit, by a word of wisdom, said, The healing will come in June. I told no one about that revelation...but simply reminded God of what He said every time I prayed

about it. In June a crisis inspired me to ask several intercessors to pray into the situation. As they prayed, without any real senses knowledge of the situation, the Spirit of God came mightily upon them, and they ministered deeply into the dear family member, from a thousand miles away. The healing came, bless God forever. One aspect of the word of wisdom is to reveal things to come, for your edification, preparation and peace.

One time I was praying about a house that we wanted to build and a better job for RM, my wife. The Spirit said, I will give you the house and the job, but you must be patient. The brand new house that we built came eight months later...the perfect job for RM eighteen months later. We were patient. I reminded God continually that I believed what He said, and told no one of the revelation. It came to pass just as He said.

14 ...and you know in all your hearts and in all your souls that not one thing has failed of all the good things which the LORD your God spoke concerning you. All have come to pass for you; not one word of them has failed. Josh 23:14 NKJV

You have noted in these two examples that I mentioned the revelation to no one. When God speaks to you, seek wisdom to know whom to share the revelation with, and how much to share. Baby believers, carnal Christians will dilute your faith. Find some one with the faith of the Lion of Judah, and share with them if you must. Let the others see the fruit of your faith. Closet yourself in with the Lord, and stand firm until the revelation comes to pass.

You will note that the revelation came during times of prayer. I only fast if fasting will increase my faith. Some times fasting is required...some times not. Do not pursue a religious activity outside of faith. True fasting demonstrates your seriousness to God. As some one said, fasters get there faster!

Prayer and study of the Word brings in the quietness that allows you to hear the voice of God. The dear Spirit taught me that I must lay aside my aggressive, achievement oriented personality to listen to the moving of the river of God.

One day, as I was rushing down from my prayer spot on a mountainside, back to my truck, the Spirit arrested me in my tracks. He said, You rush up the hill, pray, pray, pray; plead, plead, plead; petition, petition, petition; praise, praise, praise; then you rush down the hill. You do not stop to listen to Me! Oooh...forgive me...I think I will just stop and listen to You for as long as You want to speak! Being on your face in the dust of a mountain road is a good place to hear from God.

The word of wisdom, as all the gifts of the Spirit, is given to glorify Jesus. You and I seek to be nameless, faceless servants of the living God. We boast of Him, not anything we have done, even through Him. It can honestly be said that to the degree you walk in the word of wisdom is to the degree to which you will accomplish the will of God.

You can do all things through Christ who strengthens you. Believe that word, and the limitless ability of God will flow through you to bless the people of God, and the whole creation, wherever you go.

Remember, dear ones, we must be about our Father's business...

SECTION 2

HEALING ANOINTING

THE HEALING ANOINTING: Preparation

Aug 30 2004 06:33PM

3 ...Who may ascend into the hill of the Lord? Or who may stand in His holy place? 4 He who has clean hands and a pure heart..." Psalms 24:3,4

It was about nightfall in the evening...the small, rural church was fast filling up with the dear saints. The Coleman lanterns were being lit as I noticed her. She was a small, young woman in a red blouse who was dragging her legs behind her on crutches, as she made her way to her seat. "You have an appointment with her tonight!" the Holy Spirit said, as I prepared to preach. With a heart full of anticipation of God's power, I preached on the authority of the believer for over two hours.

Suddenly the preaching was over, and it was time to pray. The dear saint in the red blouse came up first, her legs dragging behind her. I laid hands on her and instantly saw in the Spirit the bones of her spine. I commanded them to become normal and functional. I opened my eyes. Tears were streaming down her face. I said, "Are you ready to walk?" She nodded, yes. I took her two hands and stepped backward. She followed, then released my hands, and walked freely. She returned the next day, happy and whole, to get her crutches because they were borrowed. A pastor noted, "I've waited forty five years to see the power of God like that..."

It has been said that 'preparation is the key to success'. Every Christian can receive and walk in the healing anointing. We are all called to do the works that Jesus did (John 14:12). However, we do not find many Christians walking in that anointing. Why? Ignorance, lack of training and teaching, and lack of preparation.

Ignorance is destroyed by the knowledge of the Word of God. We know we can do all things through Christ Who strengthens us (Philippians 4:13). Lack of training in specific ministry techniques will be handled in future articles, Lord willing. But today we want to focus on preparation. The Christian needs to be prepared spirit, soul and body.

The human spirit can only be anointed by God's Spirit in the measure that it is strong enough to carry that anointing. Jesus received the Spirit without measure because of the absolute pureness of His spirit (John 3:34). The human spirit in the Christian is made alive in the new birth by the Spirit of God. Then it can be strengthened by the Spirit of God as the believer prays and speaks in the Spirit (1 Corinthians 14:4). This is crucial.

Most Spirit-filled Christians have never been challenged and trained to pray in tongues much in their private prayer lives. But we have consistently proven that if a believer will pray in tongues for an hour every day, they will begin to see miracles. Why? Because their spirits are being strengthened and God can put more of His anointing upon them.

The human spirit is much like an electrical battery. The larger the battery cell, the more voltage it can be charged with. The more you pray in tongues, the more your spirit is built up, so that it can be charged with more of God's power. The more of the power and love of God that flows through you, the greater the healing anointing.

14...Pursue peace with all men, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord... Hebrews 12:14

The soul of man is strengthened with the Word of God. It is prepared in peace and holiness. In the fear of the Lord is

strong confidence. Nothing disturbs the soul of man like personal sin. Sin shakes your confidence! If our hearts do not condemn us, then we have confidence towards God, and whatsoever we ask, we receive of Him.

I ministered to a whole group of pastors and bishops a while ago, and none of them could say they read the Word of God every day! It was no surprise to me that they were discouraged and had no power. They were not preparing their souls to walk in power. The carnal mind is death to the things of the Spirit. The carnal mind must be humbled and renewed by the Spirit of God. I commanded those men to read the Word of God every day, at least five chapters. Read the Word of God out loud everyday, so that your eyes see it, your ears hear it, and your mouth speaks it.

Finally, a healing anointing can be very draining on the physical body. You must rest eight hours every night, eat wholesome food, drink plenty of water, and exercise. Take a full and complete day off each week. You can do these things! You must, for the long-term blessing to you, your family and your ministry. You are not everyone's saviour! Jesus is to be Lord of your schedule, not people or circumstances. This is preparation for the healing anointing.

Remember, dear ones, we must be about our Father's business...

THE HEALING ANOINTING: Receiving the Anointing

Sep 8 2004 10:15AM

8 "Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons. Freely you have received, freely give." Matthew 10:8 NKJV

The church hall in the small Kenyan town, a suburb of Nairobi, was filled with pastors and their wives. Unbeknownst to me, and to almost every one else there, one pastor's wife was suffering from a dread disease that would be fatal if God did not intervene. As I was teaching on the gifts of the Spirit, I looked up at her and saw in the Spirit the sign that the Lord shows me when He wants me to deliver a gift of healing. I presently put my Bible down, walked around behind her, laid hands on her shoulders and commanded the power of God to come upon her. Then I went back up front and continued teaching.

The next day she came with a thrilling testimony. She told of how she had been afflicted with cancer. She had even been scheduled to be operated upon. But she felt she could not go through with the operation and expect to live. She came to the conference in great pain. She said, "When you prayed for me, the power of God went through me and the pain left! I am healed!" Today there is not even a scar where the cancer was, bless God forever.

The verbs in Matthew 10:8 are all in the imperative mood in the Greek text, which means they are commands. We are commanded to heal, cleanse, raise and cast out, all of which is giving freely. It is our responsibility to search out HOW to receive the ability to fulfill those commands.

We are to be zealous to receive the healing anointing. I Corinthians 12:31 tells us that we are to covet earnestly the 'best gifts'. What are the 'best gifts'? Could one gift of God be better than another? No. The best gift is the gift that is needed to do the will of God in that situation.

How do you receive the healing anointing? By waiting in the manifest presence of God until He gives you the gifts that you will need, one of which may be the healing anointing. 2 Timothy 3:17 says that we are to be fully equipped, having every anointing we need, to accomplish everything we are to accomplish. This truth is so simple, yet so profound, that we can miss it in a lifetime continually.

How do you enter into the manifest presence of God? First, you must understand that there is a difference between the promised presence and the manifest presence. God is everywhere present. But this does not mean that He is outwardly manifesting His presence every where. Someday the earth will be filled with the manifest presence of God (Numbers 14:21).

Jesus said that if we loved Him and kept His commandments, He would manifest Himself to us (John 14:21). The manifest presence is God 'showing up'. The gifts of the Spirit are called the manifestation gifts (1 Corinthians 12:7), because through them God 'shows up'.

To receive the healing anointing, or the other gifts, is not difficult because they are received 'freely'.

To receive these free gifts, you simply spend enough time praising, praying, asking and listening. Remember that sin will separate you from your God, so confess any that you may have on your plate. Seek His face early in the morning. Ask Him to equip you with the gifts that you will need that day

(week, month, year, season, trip, etc. - you can receive the anointing for as far into the future as your faith can reach out, as the Spirit leads. Just be honest with yourself...).

The Holy Spirit can show you the future (John 16:13), so that you can 'pray in' the gifts that you will need. If you know you will be publicly ministering, you better 'pray in' the anointing to prophesy, to have the ability to say the right word at the right time to bring faith. If God wants you to pray for the sick, you better 'pray in' the healing anointing. If you are counseling or planning, you better have the anointing of wisdom. The best gifts are determined by what the situation will require...and we are commanded to covet earnestly the best gifts (1 Cor 12:31).

The key to receiving is to wait on Him until He releases you. When it comes to prayer, most people 'leave in the middle of the service', so to speak. They end their prayer time before God releases them. This grieves the Holy Spirit, and causes them to miss the impartation of God. You will know in your spirit when He releases you. He may not release you for three hours, or three days. Time is not important...getting the power to effectively minister is important.

Remember, dear ones, we must be about our Father's business...

THE HEALING ANOINTING: Preparing the People

Sep 14 2004 06:01PM

17 ...faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. Romans 10:17 KJV

The dear sister had been in a wheelchair. As she came to church and heard about healing, she began to seek God for the answer. She was healed partially and was able to walk with the help of a walker. One day, while at the home of some friends, I was with her in the kitchen. Some unsaved people entered the home, and caused a disturbance. When I turned around, she was on the floor, in pain and unable to move.

The Holy Spirit said, "Pick her up and take her in the back bedroom!" So we did, laying her on the floor. I said in my spirit, "Lord, what can I say to her to release her faith for her healing?" One word came back, 'Condemnation!'. I knew immediately what to say and do...

I got down on my knees and looked her in the eye. "Dear one, there is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, and the Lord is going to raise you up today!" And, that is exactly what He did....from that day on she could run and dance and walk without pain, and without help, because the Lord healed her.

Jesus' manner of ministry was teaching, preaching and healing (Matthew 4:23 - 25). The healing would follow the spoken Word. Why? Because the Word, spoken by Jesus under the anointing of the Spirit, released faith in those who heard it. Without faith they would not have been able to receive the blessing.

In the incident that I described above, as God healed the dear sister's physical body, the last thing I was led to deal with was a demon spirit of condemnation. The spirit had been condemning her for not having enough faith to get healed. So when I quoted Romans 8:1, it was the perfect word at the perfect time to release faith, glory to God!

This is how people hear the Word to receive faith for healing. Either God has to speak to them directly, or someone has to speak by the Spirit of God, a direct word regarding what God is going to do about their situation, so as to release their faith. At times, the Lord can 'make alive' a written word that communicates His very specific will, as well. Regardless of the means, they must receive a specific Word from God to release their faith to receive. The Word does the work!

This is why it is so important that you, as God's minister, learn to speak by the Spirit of God.

This is key — the three great realities of healing are the specific Word, great love and great grace. Great love (or compassion) was the hallmark of Jesus' ministry to the lost and hurting. When Jesus embraced the leper in Matthew 8:3 (touched: HAPTOMAI - to embrace), the man had probably not been physically touched in years. (Again, the healings in Matthew 8 occurred AFTER the teaching of the sermon on the mount.). We know medically that people need to be touched. Babies will die in a crib for no other reason than that they haven't been touched.

It is interesting that perhaps the primary way healing is communicated is through the laying on of hands. What is in you comes out through touch. When we have great love in our hearts, then our touch becomes a healing balm of the communication of that love.

Great grace is manifested in seeing people the way God sees them. Men see others as inferior, as rivals, as competitors, as enemies. God sees them as the rebellious, the lost, the hurting, the dying, as those whom He seeks to heal, to help, to deliver, to save. As we see people the way God sees them, we will become precious vessels through whom the healing balm of God's anointing oil can be poured out to a sick and dying human race...

Remember, dear ones, we must be about our Father's business...

THE HEALING ANOINTING: Imparting the Anointing

Sep 23 2004 12:09PM

17 ...and the power of the Lord was present to heal them...
Luke 5:17 NKJV

We had just finished a long Sunday service in the Nairobi city church. Pastor Stanley had brought me back into his office, and given me a Coca Cola. Presently he left, and returned carrying a young boy. "This boy needs your prayers!" he said, as he lay the boy down on the chair. The boy's right leg was facing backward, the results of polio.

The Holy Spirit said, "Grab his knee and turn it around!" So I did. "Grab his foot and turn it around." So I did. "Grab his foot and reshape the bones properly!" So I did. Within minutes he was running home to his mother, glory to God!

I love formulas. I love to teach, "Just do THIS and THIS and THIS, and you will get THAT!" And much of the practice of the Word of God can be taught in just that way. But that is not the case with the impartation of the healing anointing. There are, however, four principles that need to be considered in light of the impartation: giving commands, timing, flexibility, and patience.

GIVING COMMANDS

I know of no record in the Gospels where Jesus ever asked God His Father to heal anyone. He commanded Lazarus to come out of the grave (John 11:43). He commanded the man with the withered hand to stretch it forth (Mark 3:5). He commanded the demons to leave (Luke 11:20). He com-

manded the leper to be cleansed (Matthew 8:3). I know of no record in the book of Acts where the disciples asked God to heal anyone. They commanded the healing to come (Acts 3:6, 9:34, 40, 14:10, 16:18).

So, why do we always pray to ask God to bring the healing? Because of one verse of Scripture - James 5:15 "...and the prayer of faith will save the sick..." How do you handle this, in light of the clear teaching of Scripture that healing is to be imparted by a command? First of all, you must understand that there is valid intercessory prayer on behalf of others. But that is not necessarily the impartation of healing. Also, I believe 'prayer' can be understood in a broader sense to include the command, as evidenced by Isaiah 45:11, and other Scriptures.

When God tells you impart healing, command it to come!

TIMING

Perhaps the second most violated principle, behind 'asking' for healing, is the principle of timing. There is a time for everything. Our souls become anxious for any number of reasons and we get out of God's time. Perhaps everyone is 'praying' for someone to get out of a wheelchair, so someone decides to pull the poor guy out of the chair, and failure and heartbreak ensue.

I went to a meeting where RW Schambach was ministering. Rev. Schambach had been an assistant to A.A. Allen, a famous healing evangelist, and had seen many healings in his own ministry, as well. That night there were present many in wheelchairs, but he never tried to pull them out. Why? Because he would have been out of God's timing.

Now, we can influence God's timing by our faith, but we must not get out of His timing. Sometimes I have ministered healing instantly, and effectively. In other cases I have waited weeks, months, even years before I knew I could effectively minister. I have prepared people for days, even months, to get healed. The wait never stopped me from loving the person, but I could not minister effectively until God said, "Its TIME!". Check the record in Acts 3...

Do you see the walk by the Spirit with regard to timing?

Now when it comes to someone dying, or any other emergency, you STILL must regard the principle of God's timing. Jesus knew Lazarus was sick, but He didn't rush over to minister to him because He would have been out of the Father's timing.

FLEXIBILITY

Jesus was utterly selfless. He did some of the most seemingly absurd things to get people healed. He embraced a leper. He spit on the ground, made clay and stuck it in a guy's eyes. He stopped funeral processions. He had Lazarus dug up. It wasn't a healing, but He made water into wine.

Jesus was never 'married' to a technique. He did whatever needed to be done, simply, majestically, lovingly.

They tell the story of Smith Wigglesworth, how he always wanted to minister to the sickest person present. One time, they dragged a sick woman up on stage. Smith said, "Let her go!" She fell on the floor. They picked her up. He said, "Let her go!" She fell again, and was picked up. He said again,

"Let her go!" She fell again. Now people were getting angry. But this time, when they picked her up, her tumor lay on the floor. Another time, he punched a guy in the stomach, sending him flying off the stage. Again, healed.

Kathryn Kuhlman would stand on stage until the Lord showed her what He was doing, and she would begin to call out the healings in different parts of the room. People would come forward healed, and testify. John G. Lake would drive through town, promising people that there would be demonstrations of the Spirit at his meetings. Then he would back up his promises. The power of the Lord was present to heal...

You and I must be willing, zealous, and confident to follow the Spirit's leading in crucial situations. We become this way by PRACTICING HIS PRESENCE every moment of every day.

PATIENCE

Many times healing does not fully come the first time you pray for someone.

One time I was called to the hospital to minister to a young woman whose body had been crushed in a car accident. Being a clergyman, I was admitted immediately to the woman's side in the ICU. Her body was in a coma, and she was trembling. The Holy Spirit said, "Her brain is swelling!" I spoke out loud, "Brain, I command you to quit swelling in Jesus' name." Immediately, her body quit trembling, and she shortly came out of the coma. I ministered to her four times over the course of a month. Each time the doctors said healing was impossible. She would be brain damaged, scarred, unable to walk, etc. But she walked out of that hospital totally whole, glory to God!

John G. Lake would have people return to his Healing Rooms until they got their full healing. I once saw a group of severely retarded and handicapped children walking in to a restaurant. I asked the Holy Spirit how He would heal them. He said, "One part at a time."

The key, when you go to minister, is to ask God what He wants to do at that moment. If He says, "I want to heal their back." You say, "Back, I command you to be healed in Jesus name!" If He says, "There is a demon of infirmity in the colon." You say, "Demon in the colon, I command you to come out!" And it happens. If He says nothing...you wait. The old saying goes, "It is better to be quiet, and be thought a fool, than to open your mouth, and remove all doubt!"

You are not going to heal everyone instantly. But if you are patient, loving, wise and bold, you will do the best that is possible under the circumstances. People will be blessed, and God will be glorified.

Now go and heal the sick!

Remember, dear ones, we must be about our Father's business...

SECTION 3

SPEAKING GIFTS

Constant Confidence!

May 24 2007 11:53AM

20...and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.
Amen. Matt 28:20 NKJV

Speaking in tongues is the principal, practical demonstration of the presence of God in a believer's life. This week, as we acknowledge the Hebrew feast of Shavuot (Pentecost), we can walk in constant confidence as we know, without a doubt, that the Lord is with us. It is God's will for every believer to speak in tongues, if for no other reason than to have the supernatural demonstration of God's presence and power.

Worry and fear are crushed under the weight of the glory of God. There is no doubt, no fear or discouragement that cannot be uprooted and displaced by an hour (or hours) in the presence of the Master through His Holy Spirit. As you pray in tongues, pushing through soul-ish resistance, you begin to feel the flow of the cool, refreshing waters of the river of God. Wherever the River goes, it brings life.

The secret to health and happiness is to know the will of God from His Word and to pray now ... BEFORE you HAVE TO pray later. Constant confidence!

For all of my students in the gifts of the Spirit, the one thing that I strive to build in them is confidence. God is faithful, unmovable, unshakable. We are the variables in the equation of God's power. God gives us the great gift of tongues, which we can operate at any time, to build our faith and strengthen our spirits. When you get a revelation of the value of speaking much in tongues, it will change your life forever...

I lead a prayer group of senior saints (I'm the youngest and I'm fifty one years young) on Wednesday nights when I am home. This week we read Acts one and two and recounted the stories of our 'personal pentecost' experiences. What was remarkable to me was the common traits in each of the stories. Each of us was hungry for God and had a miraculous encounter with God that changed our lives forever. Then miracles, gifts of healing, and people coming to salvation had resulted in each of our ministries. The power of God released a confidence in God that resulted in even more demonstrations of His power, bless God forever!

9 Now the Lord spoke to Paul in the night by a vision, "Do not be afraid, but speak, and do not keep silent; 10 for I am with you, and no one will attack you to hurt you; for I have many people in this city. "Acts 18:9-10 NKJV

Knowing the presence of God is with us gives us the confidence to do the works that Jesus did. Speaking in tongues and the gifts of the Spirit are the keys to constant confidence!

Remember, dear ones, we must be about our Father's business...

PRAYparation

Dec 28 2006 12:00AM

Are you a proactive or reactive prayer person?

Reactive prayer people react to the latest news or the latest attack of the enemy by praying into the circumstances. Proactive prayer people seek to know what God wants to do, then pray until Faith says, it is done.

...2 in the first year of his reign I, Daniel, understood by the books the number of the years specified by the word of the LORD through Jeremiah the prophet, that He would accomplish seventy years in the desolations of Jerusalem. 3 Then I set my face toward the Lord God to make request by prayer and supplications, with fasting, sackcloth, and ashes... Dan 9:2-3 NKJV

There is nothing wrong with being reactive in your prayer life. But if you are only reactive, and never proactive, you miss the great power of God to change and shape the world you live in. The Lord has a vision, a specific plan, a chosen destiny that He would like to work out in each of our lives, our families, our businesses or ministries, in each of our communities, even in our nations. But those plans must be prayed through to their fulfillment.

13 However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. John 16:13 NKJV

The immeasurable value of the Spirit of God is such that we will never fully appreciate Him in this life. The price that you

pay to learn to receive from Him, and you do pay a price, is nothing compared to the value that He brings.

We serve a God who is all love, all grace, all mercy; Who is all powerful and knows everything; and, Who is willing and able to reveal all things that pertain to life and godliness to us, even our futures and our divine destinies. He reveals His perfect plans and destinies, and even strategies to accomplish what He has for us and in us. You and I must learn to reach out and receive from Him. Trust Him and ask Him!

I am impressed in my heart that now is the time to pray into all that He wants to accomplish in us and through us, in 2007. Do not wait for the news headlines...shape the headlines! He has given you the power of proactive prayer!

Remember, dear ones, we must be about our Father's business...

Thirty-Four Years of Refreshing

Dec 6 2005 02:41PM

11 For with stammering lips and another tongue He will speak to this people, 12 To whom He said, "This is the rest with which You may cause the weary to rest," And, "This is the refreshing"; Yet they would not hear. Isa 28:11-12 NKJV

Thirty four years ago today I received the baptism of the Holy Spirit. I can truly say, it was a time of refreshing for me, and continues to be. Whenever I pray in the Spirit, I receive those cool, refreshing waters flowing from the throne of God that restore my soul, and make life tremendous!

That night in that small California town the Lord Jesus personally came and imparted to me the Holy Spirit in all of His fullness, just like He does for every believer anywhere that calls upon Him. John the Baptist said He would, and He does!

Speaking in tongues edifies your spirit and releases even into your physical body the life giving power of God. The edification process is one of cleansing and purifying, to the end of releasing the empowering presence of God. When you begin to speak much in tongues, the Holy Spirit will bring things up in your soul for forgiveness and removal. This is part of the promise of 'burning up the chaff' that John promised Jesus would do through the Spirit. This is part of the preparation for being a vessel that is ready for the Master's use. It's a necessary, healing reality that He will do to help you to be your best.

Why not take some time right now to pray in the Spirit, and be refreshed, edified and empowered? Remember, dear ones, we must be about our Father's business...

WHAT AM I PRAYING FOR? Part One: The Holy Spirit's Prayers

May 3 2005 10:09AM

4 All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them. Acts 2:4 NIV

A cursory survey of the New Testament paints in broad brush strokes the ideas and purposes of speaking in tongues. We know that praying in the Spirit is involved in praising and worshiping God (Acts 2:11, 10:46, 1 Corinthians 14: 16). The Spirit can lead us in to intercession (Romans 8:26, 27) for ourselves and others. Warfare tongues can come forth at times (Ephesians 6:18 - 20). Divine secrets will be spoken (1 Corinthians 14: 2) and, at times, we will be led to interpret what has been spoken in a tongue (1 Corinthians 14:13).

With these realities, plus the facts that our spirits are strengthened (1 Corinthians 14:4) and our faith is built (Jude 20), we should be inspired to pray much in tongues. But is this all the Word of God tells us? Or, is there more we can understand? What are we really praying for? Let me pose a question: do you think the Holy Spirit is enabling you to pray for a new car in the Spirit, if you genuinely need a new car? I don't think so, and I will tell you why.

Matthew 6:31 - 33 tells us that the Father already knows what we have need of, to the end that we do not even have to ask. Our focus is to seek the Kingdom and His righteousness, and all of these other things, like cars and clothes and food, will be supplied (remember the word of wisdom - the “problem-solving anointing” in Section 4, the second article).

So...how does speaking in tongues help me get a new car? It helps me by building my faith (Jude 20) so that I can receive what the Father already knows that I have need of. The same is true in healing, or in any other physical need that I have. Speaking in tongues will help mightily to build my faith to receive physical things, even though those things are not what I am praying for in the Spirit.

The question then remains, what am I praying for in the Spirit? To begin to answer this question, we must understand that there are certain inherent realities in the new birth. Eternal life is an inherent reality in the new birth (Romans 6:23), as is the forgiveness of sins (Ephesians 4:7). Adoption in to the family of God is an inherent reality (Ephesians 4:4 - 6). But the Word clearly indicates that there are other realities that must be prayed in.

Before we examine this further, we must understand some basic truths about the writings of Holy Scripture. In every book of the Bible, the writers were men, human beings, but the author was the Holy Spirit (2 Timothy 3:16). Paul wrote as God spoke. It is the same truth with Moses, David, Peter, Matthew, Mark and the others. It was Paul's vocabulary, but it was God's words.

Now, there are seven Epistles written by Paul to the churches, namely Romans through Thessalonians. These are addressed by the Holy Spirit to the born again ones, the Church of Jesus Christ. In them we find the inherent realities of the new birth set forth. But we also find certain realities that we are to receive that are set forth as prayers, the prayers of the Holy Spirit.

When you study these prayers in the Epistles, there is one great reality that jumps out at you: there is no mention of physical needs. Why?

Because it is already understood that you have a heavenly Father who knows and meets all of your physical needs. The Holy Spirit is moving us to reach for things that are far higher and greater than the mundane facts of the physical realm, for which He has made provision..

In the prayers in the Epistles, the Holy Spirit's prayers, we find the greatest potential for the Christian's life. This is what He is enabling us to pray for! Consider the prayer in Colossians chapter one:

9 For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; 10 that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; 11 strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, for all patience and longsuffering with joy; Col 1:9-11 NKJV

Verse nine says that these are things being asked for, that they are not inherent realities....they must be 'prayed in'. Remember, too, that Paul was the writer here, but the Holy Spirit was the Author.

Consider what it says! He desires that every Christian be filled with the knowledge of God (verse nine), but also increasing or growing in that knowledge (verse ten). To be continuously full and continuously growing in the knowledge of God and His will is His prayer, to the end that you walk worthy, fully pleasing the Lord (didn't Jesus say that the Holy Spirit would glorify Him? This is exactly what He is doing when He enables you to pray in tongues)! Hallelujah!

The same Holy Spirit who authored this prayer is the same Holy Spirit who is enabling you to pray right now in tongues. What do you think He is enabling you to pray for?

Look at what else it says...being fruitful in every good work (could we call this 'continual success' in the things of God?), being strengthened with all might. Not beaten down, not defeated, not discouraged is His prayer, but full of patience, longsuffering and joy! Bless God forever! Let me show you another one, in Philippians...

9 And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in knowledge and all discernment, 10 that you may approve the things that are excellent, that you may be sincere and without offense till the day of Christ, 11 being filled with the fruits of righteousness which are by Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God. Phil 1:9-11 NKJV

The Holy Spirit prays that our love may abound. Can you imagine with me for just one minute that when you pray in tongues, you are saying, "Oh Abba Father...make my love to abound in all knowledge and discernment!" That is exactly what the Holy Spirit is enabling you to pray for...to the glory and praise of God.

One quick note...that praying in tongues is not the only way to receive what is prayed for in the prayers in the Epistles. But doesn't it make perfect sense knowing that these prayers are what He is enabling us to pray for in tongues? The prayers in the Epistles are the great subject matter that the Holy Spirit is enabling you to pray out in your life, in tongues...so pray much in the Spirit!

Love to all! Remember, dear ones, we must be about our Father's business...

WHAT AM I PRAYING FOR? Part Two: The Highest of the High—The Prayers in Ephesians

May 9 2005 08:00PM

14 For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ...Eph 3:14 NKJV

When you are praying in tongues, you are not praying for material needs. The Father already knows what you have need of. Now, when you pray in tongues, it will build your faith to receive the material needs that your Father has promised to supply. But you are not praying for material things.

The Holy Spirit has something far greater, far grander in scope and impact for you to receive, than clothes or food or shelter, or the money to buy them. I am not saying those things are not important or necessary - they are! - but your Father supplies them as you seek Him, even before you ask (Matt 6:8).

When you read the prayers in the Church Epistles - Romans through Thessalonians - you see that there is no mention of material needs, because the Spirit would have us reach for something greater...

Let me say something else before we go on. I believe the New Testament was written from the presumption that every believer in Jesus Christ would speak in tongues (John 8:37 - 39). The fact that every believer does not is not God's fault, because Jesus' will is clearly stated (if you haven't spoken in tongues, write to me and request the tape RECEIVING THE FULLNESS OF THE BAPTISM. You can...and you will!)...

Perhaps the apex of revelation is the book of Ephesians, which is set forth - right in the center - of the Church Epistles.

Ephesians contains two great prayers that I believe are at the top of the subject matter the Holy Spirit enables us to pray for in tongues. Let's briefly examine both prayers...first, the prayer in chapter one (quoting Eph 1:15-23):

15 Therefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, 16 do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers:

- And here is the prayer:

17 that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, 18 the eyes of your understanding (Greek: KARDIA: heart, which is your spirit) being enlightened;

- A prayer for revelation, revelation regarding three great subjects:

that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, 19 and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe,

- we are to know, not just in our minds, but in our hearts: the hope of His calling, the riches of the glory of His inheritance in us, and the awesome reality of the believers power and authority.

according to the working of His mighty power 20 which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, 21 far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come. 22 And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church,

23...which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.
Eph 1:15-23 NKJV

“According to” sets a standard by which the power in the believer is to be measured. The power and authority in us is the same as what raised Jesus from the dead and put all things under His feet!

Paul was perhaps the greatest Bible teacher the Church ever produced, but you can't teach these truths to people (to their minds, yes! to their hearts, no!). People have to get a revelation of them. It has to be 'prayed in!' "Abba Father, open my heart that I may see..." That is what the Spirit is enabling you to pray, in tongues!

Historically, the Church never regained the ministry of healing and miracles until after the outpouring of the Spirit under Charles Parham's ministry in 1900. Miracles and healing are basically 'authority' issues, which can only be understood by revelation, which must be prayed in by the Spirit.

Don't you just want to speak in tongues!

THE GREAT PRAYER IN EPHESIANS THREE

Today, in the Church, many are beginning to grasp the realities of the prayer in Ephesians One. People are beginning to understand salvation and His inheritance. Miracles and healings are happening because we are getting a revelation of the authority and power God has given us. We are 'praying in' the revelation of Ephesians One.

But it seems very few if any of us have prayed in the realities of the prayer in Ephesians Three...perhaps in the Spirit's agenda there is a progression - that we have to get to Ephe-

sians One revelation before we can get to Ephesians Three. But regardless of that, I tell you, after Ephesians Three, there is no higher place to go, but Heaven itself.

Now let your heart soak in the beauty of these eternal truths (quoting Eph 3:14-19):

14 For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, 15 from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named,

-Notice that four (4) things are prayed for, all set off by the purpose word 'that'. Remember, you can't teach these things to people...they can only be 'prayed in'. What do you think the Holy Spirit is enabling you to pray for?

(1st) 16 that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be **strengthened** with might through His Spirit in the inner man,

(2nd) 17 that Christ may **dwell** in your hearts through faith;

(3rd) that you, being rooted and **grounded in love**, 18 may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height - 19 to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge;

(4th) that you may be filled with all **the fullness of God**.
Eph 3:14-19 NKJV

Filled with all the fullness of God! Bless God forever! This is what the Spirit is seeking...this is what He is enabling us to pray for! This is the vision He has for every single believer's life, not just in Eternity but right here and now!

This is what He is enabling you to pray for in tongues...now, dear ones, let's do it!

Below is a partial list of the prayers in the Epistles. Quick note: Remember, we are not looking for a grammatically-structured prayer, such as 'The Lord's Prayer', but for prayer content or subject matter. You can also personalize these prayers to pray them out in your mother tongue.

Romans 1:9 - 12

Romans 10:1

2 Corinthians 13:7, 9

Ephesians 1:15 - 19

Ephesians 3:14 - 19

Philippians 1:3 - 6, 9 - 11

Colossians 1:9 - 12, 4:12

1 Thessalonians 3:11 - 13

2 Thessalonians 1:11 - 12, 2:16 - 17, 3:1 - 2, 5

Remember, dear ones, we must be about our Father's business...

**WHAT AM I PRAYING FOR? Part Three:
The Blessings!**

May 17 2005 12:00AM

44 But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; 45 That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven; Matt 5:44-45 KJV

The idea that the Holy Spirit would have us pray out in tongues over our lives the great truths that He inspired Paul to pray over in the Epistles, should come as a delight and an inspiration to our hearts. It's only logical and consistent that the Author of the prayers in the Church epistles would also enable us (Acts 2:4 NIV) to pray out in tongues the same realities in our lives, bless God forever!

But is there more to learn? Is there more that we do in the Spirit as we are enabled to pray in tongues? I think so...

Many times in the Epistles, there will be a 'blessing,' or perhaps a better theological term - 'benediction', that is closely associated with a prayer. Following the great prayer in Ephesians chapter three is the following 'blessing' or benediction:

20 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, 21 to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen. Eph 3:20-21 NKJV

Now this blessing is directed to God. But there are other blessings that are directed to men. For instance, in Ephesians 6...

23 **Peace** to the brethren, and **love** with faith, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

24 **Grace** be with all those who love our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity. Amen. Eph 6:23-24 NKJV

I believe we are led at times to proclaim these blessings—of peace, love, grace—in tongues when we pray!

A key to understanding this truth is found in 1 Corinthians 14:16 - "Otherwise, if you bless with the spirit...". To bless with the spirit is to pray and proclaim blessings in tongues. To 'bless' is the same word in Greek EULOGEO that is used in Matthew 5:44. So what does it mean to bless those who curse you? It means to proclaim over them in tongues or in your mother tongue words from God, that release blessing.

What blessings are you proclaiming? The same ones that are written in the Word.

What is the significance of these proclamations of blessings?

Simply this: death and life are in the power of the tongue. A man with his words can destroy his neighbor (Proverbs 11:9). But a man can also love his neighbor. Spirit-empowered words are the sword of the Spirit that is spoken of in Ephesians 6:17. Angels respond to the proclamation of the voice of His Word.

Consider what the Lord said to Jeremiah...

9 Then the LORD put forth His hand and touched my mouth, and the LORD said to me:

"Behold, I have put My words in your mouth. 10 See, I have this day set you over the nations and over the kingdoms, to root out and to pull down, to destroy and to throw down, to build and to plant." Jer 1:9-10 NKJV

The Lord put Jeremiah in authority over nations and kingdoms. What is your sphere of authority? Within that sphere of authority you have power to root out, pull down, destroy and throw down, but also to build and plant. How do you do this? With your words...but not just in your mother tongue!

Notice what else the Lord said.: "I have put My words in your mouth!" Who puts the words in your mouth when you pray in tongues? The Holy Spirit - the Lord (2 Corinthians 3:17).

I know incidents of people who have ministered healing just by speaking in 'forceful tongues', as the Spirit came upon them.

Certainly there is much to consider with the realities of what we pray for in tongues. But the bottom line is that we simply...do it!

In the next article we will consider practical realities of how to speak in tongues much more in our daily lives. The transforming power of God is available to you right now, at this very moment. Why not let the rivers flow?

Remember, dear ones, we must be about our Father's business...

WHAT AM I PRAYING FOR? Part Four: Practical Considerations

May 24 2005 12:00AM

All the knowledge in the Word will not help you unless you put it into practice, as...

18...show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith by my works. James 2:18

Here are four practical considerations in speaking with God:

1). Get comfortable with God. "People need to get comfortable with God!" the wise old pastor exclaimed by the Spirit of God. My spirit leaped when I first heard these words...God was speaking, and I was going to learn something. Indeed, the familiarity of the Father - son relationship is at the heart of walking with Him. But what does 'comfortable with God' look like?

Adam and Eve had the most perfect relationship with God that it was possible to have. They were both naked, with nothing to hide, and unashamed, without the slightest hint of scandal or disgrace. This perception of themselves made their walk with God unhindered.

Are you naked and unashamed before Him? From His perspective, you are, if you are in Christ! At the time of the new birth, we are changed in our spirits from being dead in trespasses and sins, to new life in Christ. We are new creations! Old things are passed away. All things are made new in Him. We are dead to sin, but we must reckon it so! He has made us worthy to walk with Him. Now, you and I must become com-

fortable in that reality. Then our works will not be out of a desire to make ourselves right before God (the definition of 'religion' by the way), but because we already are right before God because of Jesus!

Let your heart express itself to God without shame or fear. Let your tongues flow with joy! If any mistake occurs to mar your relationship with Him, confess it immediately. And get comfortable with God!

2). Have a place to meet with God. When I first discovered this principle, I found a place to pray that was on a hillside outside of our town, about a twelve-minute drive away from my home. I was so excited to go there everyday, because I knew He would meet me. Sometimes when I felt His Spirit drawing me, I would get anxious, thinking He might leave if I didn't hurry! Those were the sweetest days...

Jesus spoke of a 'prayer closet'. Prayer Spots, as I like to call them, should be away from the spouse, the kids, the dog, the television, the office desk and computer, and your hobbies. It should be a place that is just special for you and Him. Where do you meet God at? Wherever you can get quiet enough to talk to Him and hear His voice. Have a place to meet with God!

3). Commit yourself to daily prayer in the morning. The morning is the one time of day that you control the most. Isaiah 50:4 says that He wakes us up every morning. Get up so that you have time to give your first hour to uninterrupted prayer in tongues. Get up, go to your prayer spot, and meet with Him (over coffee if you need to!). He will tell you what is going to happen that day (John 16:13), and how to handle it. Your faith will be built up, and you will be expecting miracles (Romans 10:17).

4). Prayer is a discipline. Do not be controlled by your emotions, your circumstances, or how well you feel. Prayer is a discipline, which means you practice it no matter what you feel like, or how things appear. Sometimes we are tempted to slack off on prayer when we are doing well. Did you only talk to your earthly father when you were in trouble? Prayer is a loving communion time with the Lord, not just an 'emergency 911 call' or a fire escape from the frying pan of life.

One more thing...there are 'high times' and 'low times' in the things of the Spirit. The low times are necessary to balance the high times. You need a little peace and quiet once in a while, to help you recover from the crisis prayer times and the 'all-nighters'. 'Prayer is a sacrifice, and you are getting burned up on the altar during those hard, high times.

Don't think that God has forsaken you just because He isn't burning up your spirit with His fire. Be thankful for the low times...so He can prepare you for the next high time.

Remember, dear ones, we must be about our Father's business...

SECTION 4

THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Great Advantage

May 1 2007 12:00AM

One of the most extraordinary statements in all of the New Testament is recorded in the sixteenth chapter of John's Gospel.

7 Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you. John 16:7 NKJV

Imagine if Jesus was personally, visibly present to sit with you in the morning, to go to work with you, and be on the job with you. Suppose that He rode in your vehicle, walked with you down every path, sat at your table and was constantly available for discussion, teaching, training and miraculous power. You would never be afraid of anything! If you got sick, Dr. Jesus would be there. If you needed food to eat or money to pay your taxes, the Miracle Worker would be there. Having Jesus to be personally, visibly present with you would give you an awesome advantage in the world.

And yet, HE SAID, that the Holy Spirit, the Helper (and by implication, the gifts of the Spirit) would be a greater advantage to you than His personal presence. Think about it! How great can the Holy Spirit be in our lives? Scientists tell us that we utilize less than 10% of the potential power of our brains. How much of the potential power of the gifts of the Holy Spirit in our spirits are we utilizing?

20 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... Eph 3:20 NKJV

How much of the potential power of God are you utilizing in your life?

We need to map a personal plan to enter into the fullness of the potential of God in our lives. First of all, any plan must be set on the foundation of humility and the fear of the Lord. But then, you have twenty four hours in your day. How much of that time are you willing to devote to your plan? We have one hundred sixty eight hours in our week. We devote forty hours or more to working a secular or ministry job. We devote perhaps sixty hours to sleep, twenty hours to eating, etc. Are you willing to devote two hours a day, or fourteen hours a week, to develop your relationship with the Holy Spirit? Without a plan, and without the daily discipline to the plan, years will be lost in wasted potential.

Some people say, "Well, even if I don't plan, God is still working in me." True, but you need to be working in God. Dear one, you are burning daylight. Set your plan and get to work. Know Him who gives you the great advantage!

Remember, dear ones, we must be about our Father's business...

The Problem-Solving Anointing

Nov 2 2004 12:00AM

13 ...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 Cor. 10:13 NKJV

It was two weeks before I was to leave, and I didn't have the money. I sat down to pray, saying, "Lord, am I supposed to go to Kenya and, where is the money for the trip?" After about three hours of prayer, the Lord spoke very clearly. "You will go to Kenya, and you will have the money tomorrow morning." The next morning, I was given all the money that I needed. On the trip, a dear young woman received her healing from a dreaded disease that surely would have taken her life, except for the Lord's intervention. It was a problem solved for me, but it was a life restored for that dear one.

There is an answer in the heart of God for every problem that you are facing right now. He desires to release it to you in a problem solving anointing!

JESUS HAD A PROBLEM

2 ...Now early in the morning He came again into the temple, and all the people came to Him; and He sat down and taught them. 3 Then the scribes and Pharisees brought to Him a woman caught in adultery. And when they had set her in the midst, 4 they said to Him, "Teacher, this woman was caught in adultery, in the very act. 5 Now Moses, in the law, commanded us that such should be stoned. But what do You say?" John 8:2-5 NKJV

What they said was accurate to the Law. If Jesus denied what they said, and denied the Law, His whole ministry would crumble, because He did not come to destroy the law, but to fulfill it. If He consented to what they said, the woman would be stoned immediately and would die, and how would that stand up to Jesus' teachings of love, mercy and compassion?

The devil loves to create a problem, and then give you solutions where he controls all of the outcomes. He says, "These are your ONLY options!" Wait a minute...God promised 'a way to escape' so that we need not sin, but see the will of God perfectly manifested.

Paul and Silas were thrown into the death cell for healing the slave girl. The devil presented his options: sit there, be miserable, and die...these are your only options! This could have been the end of the life and career of the great apostle. But there was a different option. Paul and Silas chose to praise God loudly...and the rest is history! Now look what Jesus did...

6 ...This they said, testing Him, that they might have something of which to accuse Him. But Jesus stooped down and wrote on the ground with His finger, as though He did not hear. John 8:6 NKJV

What was Jesus doing? He was using an ancient technique of getting quiet so that He could hear the voice of His Father. He was writing the sacred name of God in the dust - YHWH - over and over again, staying His mind upon Him, and waiting for the perfect answer...

3 ...You will keep him in perfect peace, Whose mind is stayed on You, Because he trusts in You. 4 Trust in the LORD forever, For in YAH, the LORD, is everlasting strength. Isa 26:3-4 NKJV

Your life is not to be directed by the foolish emotions of the soul, but by the quiet leading of the Holy Spirit in your spirit. Our souls get stirred...emotional...anxious. Slowing down, concentrating on the presence of God in your spirit, as a Christian, quiets the soul, and allows you to hear the voice of God.

You discipline yourself to wait on Him. When the answer comes, it is the perfect answer...

7 ...So when they continued asking Him, He raised Himself up and said to them, "He who is without sin among you, let him throw a stone at her first." 8 And again He stooped down and wrote on the ground. 9 Then those who heard it, being convicted by their conscience, went out one by one, beginning with the oldest even to the last. John 8:7-9 NKJV

The devil's plan was crushed by the RHEMA word of God. Glory! The woman's life was spared, and Jesus' ministry was saved.

Now look at something else. When you stay your mind, you literally shut out all distraction. Jesus so stayed His mind, that He did not realize where anyone went. Then he gives the woman the perfect answer, not excusing her sin, but freeing her completely.

9 ...And Jesus was left alone, and the woman standing in the midst. 10 When Jesus had raised Himself up and saw no one but the woman, He said to her, "Woman, where are those accusers of yours? Has no one condemned you?" 11 She said, "No one, Lord." And Jesus said to her, "Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more." John 8:9-11 NKJV

Sweet...the perfect answer!

What problems are you facing – financial, health, marriage, ministry? Seek Him, wait upon Him, until the perfect answer comes. I love to speak in tongues out loud during these times, because tongues does many things, including quieting the soul.

The Lord loves you, dear one. There is a problem-solving anointing that He wishes to release to you right now if you will stop, seek and listen. I'm reminded of an old hymn:

"I come to the Garden alone, while the dew is still on the roses, And the Voice I hear, falling on my ear, The Son of God discloses... And He walks with me and He talks with me, and He tells me I am His own, and the joy we are share, as we tarry there, none other has ever known...."

Isn't it time to go to the Garden?

Remember, dear ones, we must be about our Father's business...

The Symphony of the Spirit

Jun 27 2007 05:54PM

19 Again I say to you that if two of you agree on earth concerning anything that they ask, it will be done for them by My Father in heaven. Matt 18:19 NKJV

Have you ever prayed 'in agreement' with some one for something that did not come to pass? Why is that, given the clear teaching of Scripture? Inquiring minds want to know!

God is not responsible for our misunderstandings.

The problem is in our understanding of the Greek word that is translated 'agree', which is the word *SUMPHONEO*. This is the word that became the word 'symphony' in our English language. In music, a symphony is an extended composition for a full orchestra, usually having several movements, which is commonly called a score. A symphony orchestra must have three elements: a conductor, a score, and the various musicians to play the stringed instruments, the wind instruments, and the percussion instruments. Are you with me?

In the symphony of the Spirit, the Holy Spirit is the Conductor, the score is the will of God, and we are the musicians, playing our various parts.

Each musician takes his cue from the conductor. Have you ever heard a symphony orchestra warming up? It is total discord and confusion, as each musician plays his own notes to satisfy himself. But when the conductor taps his baton, and raises his arms, each instrument becomes quiet, waiting with eager anticipation for the cue from the conductor. The conductor moves, and the orchestra responds as one, with each musician playing the role assigned to his instrument.

Our job as musicians in the symphony of the Spirit is three-fold: to know the Conductor, to know the score, and to know how to play our instruments with all of our hearts in the love of God. Watch the Holy Spirit. Watch what He is doing in any given situation. Ask Him to show you what the will of God is (the score) in that situation. Then play your part, whatever it may be, with all of your heart in the love of God. Do not play your own notes. Play the score. And, do not move until the Conductor moves. He is the Master Conductor, and we, by the grace of God, are His musicians.

So, get warmed up, dear one...the Master Conductor is walking to the front of the orchestra. Do you see Him? Are you ready to play?

Remember, dear ones, we must be about our Father's business...

Heart Preparations

Nov 15 2006 12:57PM

31 What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? 32 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?

38 For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, 39 nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. Rom 8:31, 32, 38, 39 NKJV

The great redemption argument set forth in the first eight chapters of Romans is concluded in Romans 8:31 - 39. The astonishing conclusion is that there is NOTHING that can separate us from the love of God, that was so perfectly and completely manifested on our behalf through Jesus Christ! From God's perspective there is NOTHING that keeps Him from blessing us with His perfect will in our lives. Jesus was the total, complete, ultimate, first, last and only answer to all that separated man from God. Redemptions perfect price had been paid and accounted for on God's eternal ledger. From God's side, nothing separates the redeemed ones from all the fruits of redemption.

However, there is another side of the equation, which is the you and me side, the human side. This is the side that may keep us from receiving the fullness of the benefits of redemption, which include healing, prosperity, safety, love, joy, peace, and much more. What we need is to prepare our hearts to open up to God.

John G. Lake said that the secret of a religious meeting is that it assists men to open their hearts to God.

When we prepare our hearts, there are a number of basic areas that we can address by faith in the blood of the Lamb, so that our hearts may be open to receive all that God has for us. These include current sin, unforgiveness and fear or unbelief. When we address these properly, our hearts can open to receive all that is in His heart for us.

CURRENT SIN - We all sin, whether we care to admit it or not - the unkind word, the selfish act, the ridiculous daydream you allowed yourself to have. The blessed reality is that Jesus is there to forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness, the moment we confess them.

UNFORGIVENESS - Bitterness in the soul towards others is a strong barrier against the blessings of God. It must come down! When we forgive, we are truly imitating our heavenly Father, who forgives us continually. Forgiveness is restoring your love to the person who did wrong to you. Love energizes faith. Bitterness poisons faith. Do you see why you must prepare your heart with forgiveness before you open your heart in faith to God?

FEAR OR UNBELIEF - Unbelief is so subtle. It can come in religious garb. It can come out of the mouth of your best, most sincere friend. Be careful what you fill your mind with! Fill your heart with the Word of faith that you might receive all the promises of God. Be kind and merciful to those without faith, but do not receive their unbelief. Face fear head on. Attack it with the authority you have in Christ. God will be with you! Guard your heart with all diligence, for out of it are the issues of life.

Take time every day to prepare your heart before God. Take time before you work, play, or even go to church, to prepare your heart before Him. Take time even throughout your day, to prepare your heart to be open to Him. When we prepare our hearts to be open to God, then we can receive all that He has for us!

Remember, dear ones, we must be about our Father's business...

God on the Edges!

Oct 17 2006 12:00AM

20 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... Eph 3:20 NKJV

I have rarely seen God work in the safe places of my experiences. It is only when I have gone beyond the borders of what I consider safe and secure that I have seen His hand, because God is out on the edges...

In the back of our property in Lyons stands a great maple tree, with five trunks and many limbs. I can sit in our living room and watch the squirrels run up the tree and jump from branch to branch. Their acrobatic ability is amazing to observe! They are able to cover great distances relative to their size because they are not afraid to go far out on the limbs, and then jump to the next limb! The Lord created them with these wonderful abilities ...and they use them for His glory!

You and I were created to walk by the Spirit. The human body was made a house for the spirit of man. Our human spirits were made to be tabernacles of God. His indwelling presence within us, Christ in us, is the great, living diamond on the setting of gold in our hearts, our inner man, our spirits. We are both stewards and caretakers of the great living presence of God upon the earth.

To have the joy of skydiving, the joy of flying like a bird, you are required to move to the edge of the open door of a perfectly sound airplane, and then jump! To have the joy of seeing miracles and doing the works of Jesus, you have to get out of your comfortable seat, and become a risk taker with God.

In skydiving you initially jump with a partner, a tandem jump with an experienced instructor. In walking by the Spirit, you are required to take a leap of faith in tandem with your Instructor, the Holy Spirit. In skydiving, you are connected to your instructor by a very strong harness. In walking by the Spirit, you are connected to your Instructor by the seamless, unbreakable covenant of the blood of the Lamb. The great element in both activities is trust.

Trust comes out of right preparation and established integrity. If I ever saw anything that made me doubt the honesty or ability of my instructor, I would not jump with him. The same is true with my great Instructor! He prepares my heart with loving teaching, reproof and correction so that I am ready to do my part in walking with Him. He will not put me in a circumstance I am not prepared for...if I have faithfully learned my lessons.

The joy is in the jump, beloved one, because God is out there on the edges of life!

Remember, dear ones, we must be about our Father's business...

Not Alone!

Oct 12 2006 01:07PM

4 Do not fear, for you will not be ashamed; Neither be disgraced, for you will not be put to shame; For you will forget the shame of your youth, And will not remember the reproach of your widowhood anymore. Isa 54:4 NKJV

The greatest love letter ever penned by the most ardent suitor to his prospective bride has to be the one written in blood from the Cross.

5 For your Maker is your husband, The LORD of hosts is His name; And your Redeemer is the Holy One of Israel; He is called the God of the whole earth. Isa 54:5 NKJV

At the root of fear, the fear that keeps us from walking in grace, love and power, is the sense of being alone, of having to stand on our own. It is the fear of having to achieve or accomplish great responsibilities in our own ability, knowing our inherent weakness in ourselves. So in fear we do not reach out, but rather draw in and shelter ourselves. But our God in His love has brought us to Himself in a marriage covenant, sealed with the blood of the Cross. We can become bold risk takers because we are not alone anymore!

The shame and disgrace of our sins have been washed away forever by His blood. He has given Himself to us in an unbreakable covenant. The ground beneath us will not wash away, for we stand on the Rock, Christ Jesus! He has cast our sins from us, as far as the east is from the west, and He does not remember them anymore. Bless God forever, we can become bold risk takers for we are not alone anymore...

9 "...For this is like the waters of Noah to Me; For as I have sworn That the waters of Noah would no longer cover the earth, So have I sworn That I would not be angry with you, nor rebuke you. 10 For the mountains shall depart And the hills be removed, But My kindness shall not depart from you, Nor shall My covenant of peace be removed," says the LORD, who has mercy on you. Isa 54:9-10 NKJV

Imagine a husband that never gets angry with his wife! Yet, the Lord has said that He will not be angry with us, nor rebuke us to the end of leaving us alone. He will not walk away or leave us alone, ever.

Men and women may leave you, but the Lord is faithful and steadfast. He has given us His covenant of peace. We can become bold risk takers because we are not alone anymore...

Remember the next time you are challenged to walk boldly in your faith, that you are not alone. His hand is on your hand when you go to pray for the sick. His words are in your mouth when you stand to speak in His name. His feet walk with your feet wherever you step out in faith. You are not alone!

Remember, dear ones, we must be about our Father's business...

Every Man A Missionary!

Sep 21 2006 12:00AM

19 But at night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out, and said, 20 Go, stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this life." Acts 5:19-20 NKJV

The greatest adventure of each of our lives is about to unfold. The Lord almighty is raising up His army to fulfill the Great Commission in our generation - every man, every woman, every child, every elderly saint, a missionary. The words that the angel commanded ring in our hearts today - Go, stand and speak to the people all the words of this life. Other priorities are falling to the wayside, the battle lines are being formed, the command of our General in every soldier's heart... Go...Stand...Speak... All The Words Of Life.

10...that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by Him this man stands here before you whole. 11 This is the stone which was rejected by you builders, which has become the chief cornerstone. 12 Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved." Acts 4:10-12 NKJV

No other Name but Jesus! He is the Light of the world, the Redeemer of fallen sinners, the Savior of the universe, the first, the last, the best, the only Hope of mankind! Jesus - the Solution to every mans problems, to the worlds problems, to all of life. Even the secular journalists are beginning to say that the only hope for western civilization against Islam, is for the secular West to turn wholeheartedly back to Christ. When will the Church believe and rise up? Every man a missionary!

8 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 NKJV

The gifts of the Spirit are given to make you and I effective witnesses of Jesus Christ. Rise up and operate the gifts! Do not wait for the other pastor to rise up...you rise up! Do not wait for the other believers...you be the leader! People say, I do not know enough...when was the power of God limited by your knowledge? I do not really understand how I am able to speak in tongues. But I pray in tongues for hours a day any ways! Its not what you know...its what you believe that makes the difference.

4 You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. 1 John 4:4 NKJV

Do you believe that verse? Your faith will rock the world. Let me show you another one...

13 I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. Phil 4:13 NKJV

I can do...you can do... ALL the things that God says we can do - heal the sick, raise the dead, reconcile men to God, bring peace where there is war, bring light to the darkness, food to the hungry, clothing to the naked, a home to the fatherless, eternal life to the walking dead - through Christ who strengthens us. You can do it, dear one.

You say, I am not worthy. Truth says, I have made you worthy! You say, I am afraid. Love says, I will make you fearless! You say, I cannot pray for the sick. Compassion says, I will

empower your hands! You say, I lack this and that. Provision says, I will supply your every need!

Go, stand and speak, dear one...all the words of this life. For loves sake, do it now!

Remember, dear ones, we must be about our Father's business...

Why We Don't Receive

Aug 25 2006 10:00PM

11 For the Scripture says, "Whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame." Rom 10:11 NKJV

For those who know what God has made available, in healing, deliverance and blessing, but fail to receive God's best, there is always a reason or reasons. Some of the major reasons include shame, inferiority and unworthiness.

SHAME

6 I gave My back to those who struck Me, And My cheeks to those who plucked out the beard; I did not hide My face from shame and spitting. Isa 50:6

Derek Prince talks about the divine exchange that happened at the Cross. Jesus took all of our sin and shame and gave us His righteousness. He took all that was against us and gave us His perfect justification. He became sin for us, that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him.

If God has forgiven you of a certain sin, yet the shame of that sin still haunts you, the shame can keep you from receiving from God the fullness of the gifts of the Spirit. Shame makes you want to hide. Shame thrives in the darkness. The antidote to shame is to pull that shameful thing into the light, and expose it to be seen.

16 Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. James 5:16 NKJV

Confessing your sin to another man does not get you forgiveness from God, nor is it necessary in receiving forgiveness from God. Your sins are between you and God. But what confessing does is expose the shame of the sin, so that grace can be ministered to crush it, and heal you. Shame cannot stand the light of the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Most of us, the author included, have been guilty of heinous crimes against God and humanity. The Lord can forgive the sin and cleanse away the shame if we just cooperate with Him.

If shame is hiding in your closet, find some one who is strong in the grace of God, and let them minister the grace of the One who took our shame upon Himself, to you. Fully drag that shame into the open, and let the grace of God crush it.

INFERIORITY

10 and you are complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power. Col 2:10 NKJV

You must learn to recognize the difference between WHO YOU WERE and WHO YOU ARE. A change of inconceivable magnitude happened in your life when you accepted Jesus as your Lord. You moved from death to life, darkness to light, condemnation to righteousness, sinner to saint. We may not always act like saints, but that does not change the reality of who we are, of who He has made us to be.

Inferiority is the sense of always being lacking, of always coming up short of what you need. In Christ, we lack nothing. The Greek word translated complete in verse ten, means literally that we are completely complete, lacking no measure of righteousness in our perfect standing before Him. We WERE inferior. But now we ARE complete in Him. Now you must train yourself to realize that you are complete in Him.

27 which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. Col 1:27 NKJV

John G. Lake liked to wear fine suits of clothes. He'd stand in front of a mirror each day and proclaim, God dwells in that suit of clothes...and wherever that suit of clothes goes, God goes with him! Proclaim the truth about WHO YOU ARE every day until it sinks into your heart and you believe it.

UNWORTHINESS

1 You therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. 2 Tim 2:1 NKJV

I knew a man who could minister healing in phenomenal signs and wonders to others, yet he himself could not get healed. As I ministered to him, I saw that it was because he saw others through the eyes of grace, but he saw himself through the eyes of judgment. Dear ones, get a revelation of the grace and mercy of God, and quit being so harsh to yourself. We constantly measure ourselves by what we have not done, rather than by who He has made us to be. There are not two standards! There is only one divine standard for His born again ones - the grace of the accomplished work of our Lord whom we have accepted and received. No other standard for righteousness, truth or freedom!

14 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth. John 1:14 NKJV

He has made you worthy...accept it, believe it, and receive all the fullness of God that He wants to pour out to you!

Remember, dear ones, we must be about our Father's business...

SECTION 5

POWER GIFTS

How Jesus Ministered Healing

Apr 17 2007 05:52PM

17 So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word (RHEMA) of God. Rom 10:17 NKJV

Jesus ministered healing by command or decree, with simple inspired actions. Never once did He ask His Father to heal anyone. The disciples in the book of Acts ministered healing by command or decree, and by simple inspired actions. To find any healing method that implies asking God for healing, you have to go to James 5:15.

15 And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up. James 5:15 NKJV

Prayer can be understood in light of a command as well. You can address God in a command.

11 Thus says the LORD, The Holy One of Israel, and his Maker:"Ask Me of things to come concerning My sons; And concerning the work of My hands, you command Me. Isa 45:11 NKJV

You say to me, "Kevin, Jesus is the Lord God Almighty. I am neither lord, nor god, and certainly not almighty. How can I command Him?" First of all, on the authority of Scripture, you can command Him to work. But let me explain to you how this works. In any situation, you ask God what He wants to do. Then, when He replies, you command that thing to happen. The result is that God works and that thing comes to pass. The key is to hear in your spirit what God wants to do, then command or decree it boldly by faith.

One time, I was helping my friend Dale Sides teach a class on the gifts of the Spirit in Ranni, India. As he was teaching the first session, he asked me and another brother to minister healing to someone in the class. I was totally exhausted from the trip from the USA. I had no revelation. I had nothing in my spirit. I was in front of 150 students. "Lord, help me NOW...what do You want to do?" The other brother brought someone up and prayed for him, while I said nothing. The man went and sat down. Finally, God spoke in my spirit. I said to Dale, "Tell him to come back up!"

The man came up. I laid my hand on his stomach and said, "Ulcer in the stomach, I command you..." As I said those words, the room exploded with excitement. Everyone, except us, knew that this man had been to the hospital five times for bleeding ulcers. Faith was released when the RHEMA word came forth, and the man was healed.

You can do the same thing. Learn to be still and quiet in your spirit. Have your spirit built up by much praying in tongues. I challenge my students to pray in tongues at least an hour a day. Ask God what He wants to do in any given situation. Look in your spirit, not your mind, for His reply. Then boldly command or decree that thing to come to pass. God will work, people will be blessed, and He will be glorified. Practice this daily!

Remember, dear ones, we must be about our Father's business...

All I Know About - Gifts of Healing and Working of Miracles

Aug 17 2006 01:04PM

20 And they went out and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word through the accompanying signs. Amen. Mark 16:20 NKJV

Our God is a miracle working God. There is a difference between the miracles that God does sovereignly and the gift of the working of miracles. God works miracles in response to prayer and in the divine unfolding of His prophetic timetable. The birth of His Son was a miracle according to His prophetic timetable. Note the phrase: when the fullness of time...

4 But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law...Gal 4:4 NKJV

The gift of the working of miracles is something you do, that you perform and impart.

6 And the multitudes with one accord heeded the things spoken by Philip, hearing and seeing the miracles **which he did**. Acts 8:6-7 NKJV

12 And **through the hands of the apostles** many signs and wonders were done among the people. Acts 5:12 NKJV

3 Therefore they stayed there a long time, speaking boldly in the Lord, who was bearing witness to the word of His grace, granting signs and wonders **to be done by their hands**. Acts 14:3 NKJV

The greatest key in being able to perform the gift of working of miracles is in believing that you can do it. The working of miracles is the fifth gift listed in 1 Corinthians 12. Five is the number for grace in the Bible. It is by grace that you can perform miracles. All of our excuses for not doing miracles come to nothing when we understand it is by God's undeserved divine favor, by grace, that we can perform miracles.

33 And with **great power** the apostles gave witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And **great grace** was upon them all. Acts 4:33 NKJV

Grace and love are closely aligned in the word of God. Grace has been defined as Love's gift. When grace, love, forgiveness, peace and understanding flow through you, miracles happen.

24 Grace be with all those who love our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity. Eph 6:24 NKJV

You need to understand how the gift of working of miracles is integrated into the other gifts. The Lord reveals truths by a word of knowledge or the discerning of spirits. Then He releases a word of wisdom to show you what to do with what has been revealed. He also releases the gift of faith to accomplish what He wants done. The result is the working of a miracle or a gift of healing, or both.

As an illustration, let's say you are praying for the purposes of God to be fulfilled for your church. The Lord tells you by a word of knowledge that to fulfill the purpose of God for your church, you need a new church building. Then you say, Lord, how am I to build this building? He tells you by a word of wisdom. (The greatest problem people have in receiving revelation is that they get an incomplete revelation - they get a word of knowledge or discerning of spirits, but they do not

wait for the word of wisdom. They proceed in their own wisdom, and they fail.).

With the word of wisdom comes the gift or anointing of faith that says, You will be successful. With the anointing of faith comes the authority to speak for and to God and command the fulfillment of the word. Many times in ministering healing, I have the revelation, the wisdom and the faith before I ever lay hands on the person. By God's grace, I lay on hands, command it to be done, and it is done.

11 Thus says the LORD, The Holy One of Israel, and his Maker: "Ask Me of things to come concerning My sons; And concerning the work of My hands, **you command Me.** Isa 45:11 NKJV

In our illustration, the manifestation of the fully built and paid for church building is the demonstration of the working of a miracle.

You can do all things through Christ who strengthens you. Do you believe that? Your answer is the crux of the equation in seeing miracles happen. Believe the Word of God! Ask Him regarding His purposes and promises, and go and do miracles in His Name.

Remember, dear ones, we must be about our Father's business...

All I Know About - Faith

Aug 11 2006 12:37PM

THE NECESSITY OF FAITH
TWO KINDS OF FAITH
THE ACTIVATION OF FAITH
THE SUPER AND THE NATURAL

THE NECESSITY OF FAITH

23 Jesus said to him, "If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes." Mark 9:23

Sit back for a minute and think about the possibilities, if we believe that Jesus literally meant what He said. Most people seem to read the Bible through the prism of their own religious prejudices. But if you take the spectacles off, and truly begin to believe what Jesus said, the impact of these words is immense.

Jesus continually taught that we receive according to the measure of our faith. A just and righteous God could do nothing more, or less. The lesson of the confrontation with two blind men gives clear instruction regarding the necessity of faith.

27 When Jesus departed from there, two blind men followed Him, crying out and saying, "Son of David, have mercy on us!" 28 And when He had come into the house, the blind men came to Him. And Jesus said to them, "**Do you believe** that I am able to do this?" They said to Him, "Yes, Lord." 29 Then He touched their eyes, saying, "**According to your faith** let it

be to you." 30 And their eyes were opened. Matt 9:27-30
NKJV

Now, the wonderful reality is that if our faith is not strong enough today to receive all that the Father has for us, then it can grow. If it grows, then we can receive more, because you receive according to your faith. Tomorrow can be better than today. Today can be better than yesterday, if our faith is growing.

TWO KINDS OF FAITH

In Bible college I took a class called bible kinds of faith, that confused me immensely. There are literally six or seven, perhaps more, different kinds of faith in the Bible. But my dear friend Dale Sides did a wonderful service to me years ago when he broken it down into two basic kinds of faith: your faith and spiritual faith.

22 But Jesus turned around, and when He saw her He said, "Be of good cheer, daughter; **your faith** has made you well." Matt 9:22 NKJV

Your faith is the basic faith by which you live daily. It can be strong in certain areas and weak in others because of your disposition, training, experience and prejudices. A good team builder analyzes the qualities needed in his team, and goes and finds people whose faith is strong in one or more of those areas, and recruits them for his team.

Every one of us has areas in our lives where faith is relatively strong, and others where it is weak. The encouraging thing is to note that our strong areas can become stronger and our weak areas can be strengthened, bless God forever!

Spiritual faith is that gift of faith, also called the faith of Jesus Christ, or God's faith. Spiritual faith comes by revelation. The difference in practice between your faith and spiritual faith is that while your faith may at times be sufficient to receive the promise of God, spiritual faith is always sufficient to receive the promise of God. Your faith is operated by a request. Spiritual faith is operated by a command. Your faith is measured in your soul.

Spiritual faith is measured in Jesus' soul. Spiritual faith is the key to doing the works of the Lord Jesus.

THE ACTIVATION OF FAITH

6 For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but faith working through love. Gal 5:6
NKJV

Love energizes your faith. This is why your prejudices (what you like and dislike) are so important to be recognized, understood, humbled and brought to the Cross. You will not have great faith for things (or people or situations) that you dislike.

You will not have great faith for yourself if you dislike yourself. Bring your prejudices to the Cross. Pour love into everything - and I mean every thing, every body, every where, all the time - and watch it be blessed.

THE SUPER AND THE NATURAL

Shallow Christianity assigns responsibility for everything to God. Deep Christianity realizes that man has a place of re-

sponsibility that he must accept before God. Become responsible for your faith!

Study the Bible and pray much in tongues to build your faith. Energetically address the areas in your life where you are unloving and bring them to the Cross. Plan your work in love and work your plan. The Lord will be there to direct you, guide you, enable you and see you through to victory. When the Super (God) and the natural (you) come together, something supernatural happens!

Remember, dear ones, we must be about our Father's business...

SECTION 6
DOMINION

Peace Is A Weapon—Part One

May 23 2006 12:00AM

20 And the God of peace will crush Satan under your feet shortly. Rom 16:20 NKJV

Everything God gives to us, and expects of us, is for our benefit. Love, joy, peace. Love energizes faith to receive the promises of God. Love tells the world that we are His disciples. Love has great benefit. The joy of the Lord is our strength. Joy invigorates, energizes and drives away weariness. Joy is beneficial. Peace may be the most powerful reality of the three. Peace enables us to register the moment by moment witnessing of the Spirit of God within us, the witness that affirms, corrects, refines or rejects the thoughts and intents of the heart.

Love, joy, and peace are weapons of spiritual warfare. Love disarms those who would be our physical enemies. Love enables us to see them as God sees them, helpless, hopeless, on slippery slopes, a breath away from hell; cruel sinners, yet the objects of His mercy. Joy announces the victory before it is seen. Joy in praise and worship releases the angels to ambush the enemy. Peace is the consummation of victory even before it is manifested. Peace may very well be the highest level of faith, bringing the greatest possible results.

The children of God must gain and maintain peace.

Natural medicine maintains that healing comes when the individual quits warring against his own body with poor diet and improper or insufficient exercise, because the body was made to heal itself. Healing of the heart and mind comes when we quit warring against the Word of God with sinful thoughts and

habits. Healing comes because God's words heal. Peace is the result of a healed heart. When peace prevails, Satan is crushed.

For most people it seems that peace is that numb period in between conflicts. For the child of God, peace is the manifested reality of the finished work of Christ. Peace is the out-working of His righteousness in us.

17 The work of righteousness will be peace, And the effect of righteousness, quietness and assurance forever. Isa 32:17
NKJV

Sin is always related to fear. Sin is unsettling. Sin strips our confidence and exposes the frailty of the flesh. Righteousness undergirds our confidence and makes us strong with peace. Righteousness is not only the right thing to do...it is the smart thing to do.

I teach my students that, in receiving the gifts of the Spirit, they must have peace.

The old pentecostals used to talk about 'praying through.' By this they meant that they would stay in prayer until the peace came, until the glory of God broke through like the sun on a rainy afternoon. Some situations seem to require a 'quantity' of prayer, for lack of a better term, before the glory of God can break through.

Daniel had to fast and pray for three weeks before the angel got to him. Moses went up on the mount for forty days, came down, then went right back up again. Paul literally and figuratively prayed through the hurricane, and everyone's lives were spared because of it. Jesus spent forty days in the wilderness. But when He came back, He was ablaze with the Spirit of

God. In spiritual warfare, you have to pray through until the answer of peace comes...

God will crush Satan under your feet as He releases peace and answers into your heart. Expect the answers to come when you pray. Expect and pray until the peace comes. You will never know how close you were to victory if you quit. Pray through to peace, and watch Satan get crushed!

Remember, dear ones, we must be about our Father's business...

Peace Is A Weapon– Part Two: The Fountainhead of Courage

May 30 2006 12:00AM

1 The wicked flee when no one pursues, But the righteous are bold as a lion. Prov 28:1 NKJV

The epidemic of anxiety in modern Christian culture mirrors the epidemic of inferiority. These two are closely aligned with the epidemic of cowardice. The believer won't speak to his fellow worker about Christ. The pastor hesitates to give a firm word of reproof, or to boldly declare the word of God, for fear of offending the faithful. Christians retreat, citing 'turn the other cheek' as a rationalization for cowardice. The sons and daughters of God, who should be masters of life, surrender their dominion, and responsibility, almost thankfully to the world and its powers.

9 The men of Ephraim, though armed with bows, turned back on the day of battle...Ps 78:9 NIV

For the fulfillment of the Great Commission, and the extension of the Kingdom of God, its time to return to the fountainhead of courage, the righteousness of God.

21 Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence toward God. 22 And whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do those things that are pleasing in His sight. 1 John 3:21-22 NKJV

Righteousness is God's rightness. Jesus became sin for us that we could be made the rightness of God in Him. We are the righteousness of God! Peace is the manifest demonstration of the righteousness of God. Now, this righteousness has to be-

gin to pervade all of our thoughts, our attitudes, our decisions, our very being, bringing peace wherever it is allowed to settle.

6 And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus. Eph 2:6 NIV

Rightness has to be meditated upon and thought through from a perspective of being seated in the heavenlies. Things look different from up there! Ask God to teach you to see things, and people, and issues, and circumstances the way He sees them. Learn to think like a king. To understand rightness, you must balance the realities of justice, mercy, truth, love and judgment. Rightness must be considered in the light of the fear of God.

3 The God of Israel said, The Rock of Israel spoke to me: 'He who rules over men must be just, Ruling in the fear of God. 4 And he shall be like the light of the morning when the sun rises, A morning without clouds, Like the tender grass springing out of the earth, By clear shining after rain.' 2 Sam 23:3-4 NKJV

You are seated in the heavenlies. Think like a king! Within your sphere of authority, rule in righteousness, and you won't act like a 'cowardly' lion, but like the Lion of Judah!

Remember, dear ones, we must be about our Father's business...

Dominion—Part One

Apr 28 2006 06:00PM

26 Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."
Gen 1:26 NKJV

The will of God for His men and women is dominion. Dominion is rulership, ownership, the ability to project your will upon that which you have dominion over. When a policeman wrestles a criminal to the ground and places shackles upon him, he has taken dominion over him. The shackled man must now do the will of the policeman.

Dominion is the ability to govern. In our case it is the ability to project and enforce the laws of the kingdom of God in our sphere of influence. Our sphere of influence is our God given territory. Our sphere of influence would first include our physical selves. We are to have rulership over our bodies and souls, even as our spirits are indwelt and dominated by the presence of God. Then it would include our families, communities, churches and nations. We are to govern our world. We have an enemy who actively seeks to wrest authority from us. He seeks to enslave us.

36 Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed. John 8:36 NKJV

All of us know what it means to be enslaved, whether it is physically, politically, socially or financially. We are bound.

We are not free to exercise our will. So we pray, Father, give us a breakthrough! Deliver us from this evil!

And God begins to answer that prayer. Deliverance begins to come. We begin to breakthrough from our enslavement. At this point, the trick of the devil is to get us to relax, to enjoy the breakthrough. We have been pushing so hard for a breakthrough...when it comes, we want to celebrate! But that is not the time to celebrate. It is the time to push through to dominion.

The will of God is not breakthrough, but dominion - to achieve the place where you rule over what used to rule over you.

The great reality is that if you do not push through to dominion after you have achieved a breakthrough, you will slide back into enslavement. Life is not static. Life is dynamic, ever moving, ever changing. If you are not progressing, you are regressing. Once the Lord gives you THE PROBLEM SOLVING ANOINTING (read this article in Section 4), then you must pursue breakthrough to the point of dominion. Then you will have the will of God manifested.

Remember, dear ones, we must be about our Father's business...

Dominion–Part Two: The Soul

May 4 2006 06:00PM

10 Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Matt 6:10 NKJV

Success is dominion in manifestation, in part or in whole. God intended His people to be successful. He equipped each one of us to do His primary will, to establish His Kingdoms authority over all within our sphere of influence. He gave us His Word, and sent the Helper, the Holy Spirit, to enable us to see His kingdom come.

All men have a desire to be successful, to wield dominion. The enemy of our souls even designed his religions to this end. I am told the word ISLAM means subjugation, to the will of the moon god allah. People who follow that belief seek to see his kingdom come. Those who follow the hindu religion, as well as the buddhist people, all seek the dominion of the world through their religion. In the business or political world, all who seek to succeed seek dominion in their sphere of influence. The desire to be successful, to wield dominion, is innate in every man.

Christians have a super powerful competitive edge over all others to bring Gods Kingdom to pass within their sphere of influence. Whether in business or the church or their personal lives, they have access to the One who has ALL of the answers. He is the Holy Spirit.

Most Christians approach their problems with prayer, seemingly hoping that God will deal with the situation. He will...but most times He requires your involvement as well. Moses said, Stand still, and see the deliverance of the Lord.

But the Lord said, Why are you standing still? Move forward...

We have never understood the relationship of soul and spirit. We have magnified the spirit, which is right, but we have denigrated the work of the soul. The soul is in subjection to the spirit, truly. But that does not mean the soul is useless, foolish or evil. Common sense, reasonable planning, imaginative goal setting, and memorable learning are functions of the soul. The soul is to be a hard working servant of the spirit. The more we sweat in peace, the less we bleed in war...

You need to extend your Kingdom authority in a certain area of your life, or your business, or your community, or your nation. In other words, you have a problem. Put your soul to work! Think through your problem, its breadth and limitations. Then consider your options to solving the problem. Use your imagination! Learn from your memories...but don't limit yourself to them. Use your soul to remember the promises of God. Then present the whole package, problem, options and promises, to the Holy Spirit for His affirmation, refinement or rejection of your plan.

He is your partner. But He expects you to be His partner. Do your job!

Remember, dear ones, we must be about our Father's business...

Dominion–Part Three: Decrees and Commands

May 11 2006 09:00PM

6 And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, Eph 2:6 NIV

The authority to decree and command is the practical reality of our being seated in the heavenlies in Christ. A monarch has the legal authority to rule in his realm. The followers of Jesus have been seated to be rulers and monarchs under the overall authority of the Kingdom of our Father God. We are to wisely rule and reign to bring glory to our Father God and to advance the manifested authority of His Kingdom. Within our assigned sphere of influence, we have delegated authority to represent and manifest the full power of the Kingdom of God. Glory!

The Holy Spirit witnesses with our spirit that we are crown princes and princesses in the royal family of God. Speaking in tongues is the simple, manifest expression of that witness.

The devil hates speaking in tongues because it is the irrefutable witness that you are born again, that you are an heir of God, a joint-heir with Christ, a prince, a ruler, a king under the King of kings. The devil seeks to silence you so that you will not decree the victory of Calvary and the ruin of his kingdom. We need to open our mouths and speak!

28 Thou shalt also decree a thing, and it shall be established unto thee: and the light shall shine upon thy ways. Job 22:28

A decree is an official order, edict or decision, made within a sphere of influence by one who has authority within that sphere.

The primary sphere of influence of every man is themselves. What you agree to, and what you deny, defines who you are. As a man thinks in his heart, so is he. A wise man decrees things about himself that agree with the word of God. By His stripes I was healed, the wise man says. I am more than a conqueror through Him who loves me, he declares. My God supplies all of my needs, he decrees. And it is so...

A husband's sphere of influence extends to his family. What he decrees about them is crucial. He has authority even to overrule the declarations of the wife and children (see Numbers 30:1-16).

A ministry assignment from the Lord, as opposed to the religious assignments of men, carries with it the authority to reign within that assigned sphere. What you decree, whether good or evil, right or wrong, will carry weight within that sphere. This is the reality of responsibility. The power of our words carries the weight of authority that will be judged (Matthew 12:34 – 37).

We must learn to rule and decree rightly. I have, as a man of God, decreed that Africa will be filled with the power of the Holy Spirit. From Cairo to Capetown, from Dakar to Dar Es Salaam, Africa will be filled, bless His name! It will be so. This is the power of the decree.

34 And Peter said to him, "Aeneas, Jesus the Christ heals you. Arise and make your bed." Then he arose immediately. Acts 9:34 NKJV

Most people seemingly do not know how to give a command. This particular command from Acts I have practiced on my children from time to time. Every command has at least three elements: the authority to give the command, the person or

thing to whom the command is directed, and the expected result.

Authority comes from God, either through the declared, written Word or direct revelation. You must know that you have the authority to give a command. Matthew 10:1 says that the disciples of the Lord have authority over demons and over sicknesses. Direct revelation can give us authority over any situation on earth at any time. Whether by the written Word, or direct revelation, we must learn the length and limitations of our authority to decree and command.

The second element is, address the person or thing to be commanded.

14 Then he said TO THE TREE, "May no one ever eat fruit from you again." And his disciples heard him say it. Mark 11:14 NIV

Speak to it. When I teach people to cast out demons, I compare it throwing a dog out of the house. Both the dog and I know that I am its superior. Generally, a clap of the hands or a shout of go! is sufficient to send the canine out. He knows I am directing my command to him. The truth is the same in giving any type of command. Speak directly to the one being commanded.

Finally, give a clear declaration of the expected result.

3 And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. Gen 1:3 NIV

When I learned to give decrees and commands, my life began to change radically. Faith came so much simpler, because I understood my position and authority in Christ. Miracles, especially in healing, began to flow abundantly. But most im-

portantly, the Kingdom of God began to be manifested and glorified within my sphere of influence, bless God forever! Isn't that why we are here?

Remember, dear ones, we must be about our Father's business...

Dominion–Part Four: The Word of the Heart

May 16 2006 09:00PM

26 Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground." Gen 1:26 NIV

There is a difference between knowing and believing the Word of God. What a man knows, he thinks about, what he believes, he breathes. It becomes part of his life force. In that sense, it is humanly impossible to believe the whole Word of God (I am not talking about the level of faith that says, I accept the Word as being true, but rather the level of faith that causes one to live out that particular truth with passion and manifested results). That is why the Lord assigns us truths or realities in the Word and in the Body of Christ, that He burns in to us, to the end they become our breath and life force.

For instance, one may breathe evangelism, even though we are all called to witness. One may breathe healing, or intercession, or worship, or compassion, even though we are all supposed to heal, intercede, worship, etc. What one believes, he breathes.

This is also why authority over the whole world is a corporate calling of the whole Body (see THEM Genesis 1:26), and not an individual calling to one man. You are to rule within your sphere. Together, we are to rule the earth.

How do I begin to believe in dominion? How do I do my part (knowing the Holy Spirit will do His part) to get this truth in to my heart?

8 This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.
Josh 1:8 NKJV

Success for Joshua meant DOMINION over the Land. How was he to achieve dominion? By getting that truth into his heart, by meditating upon and observing to do what the Word of God said. As he did his part, the Spirit would burn that truth in to him (...his word is in my heart like a fire, a fire shut up in my bones. Jer 20:9 NIV). The Spirit will do the same for us, if we do our part (to do your part, is to be a PARTner with the Holy Spirit, bless your heart!).

The word meditate in verse eight is the Hebrew word HA-GAH. It is used twenty five times in the Old Testament. HA-GAH has been translated to meditate (6x times), to mutter, utter or speak (9x), to imagine (2x), to study (2x), to roar or growl (1x), and to mourn (5x).

To meditate is to ponder deeply. If you are meditating on a truth like dominion, you will speak about it constantly, all the day long (Psalm 35:28). You will imagine what it would be like to have dominion in your sphere of influence, to rule over that which has ruled over you. You will study it in the Word of God. You will also study the lives of men and women of God who have achieved dominion in their areas of success, their spheres of influence. You will begin to develop passionate, deep feelings about achieving dominion in your sphere, your life. You will roar or growl in triumph the Word of God regarding dominion to the world and to the enemy of your soul!

Dear one, the Lord gives God sized visions to you, not so that you can accomplish them, but that He can accomplish them

through you. Dominion in the practical realm is to rule over that which used to rule over you. Breakthrough is just the beginning. Push through to dominion! Use your soul in hard work to plan and prepare, and meditate upon dominion until it is a breathing reality in your heart. Then you will begin to rule...

Remember, dear ones, we must be about our Father's business...

For your edification, the twenty five usages of HAGAH in the OT are:

Josh 1:8, Job 27:4, Ps 1:2, Ps 2:1, Ps 35:28, Ps 37:30, Ps 38:12, Ps 63:6, Ps 71:24,
Ps 77:12, Ps 115:7, Ps 143:5, Prov 8:7, Prov 15:28, Prov 24:2, Isa 8:19, Isa 16:7,
Isa 31:4, Isa 33:18, Isa 38:14, Isa 59:3, Isa 59:11 (2x), Isa 59:13, Jer 48:31.

SECTION 7

**CHRISTIAN
CHARACTER**

Anointing and Character

Jul 27 2004 04:55PM

17 "What is man, that You should exalt him, that You should set your heart on him, 18 that You should visit him every morning, and test him every moment?" Job 7:17-18

Anointing is the moving of the Spirit of God upon a man. Character is the true inner quality of an individual. One must not be mistaken for the other. A man with a strong anointing but a weak or impure character will always lead people astray. Your anointing is what God does through you, your character is who you are.

It has been said that if you cannot trust a man to be 'on time', you cannot trust him with anything. If a man will steal your time, which is so valuable it can never be replaced, he will steal anything.

The anointing upon the man is not the real man. Many times God's people love spiritual leaders, but what they really love is not the man, but his anointing. You don't know the man until you have seen him unanointed and exposed. This is the time that a man's character, pure or sullied, shines forth. What is he like in the early morning, when he thinks no one is watching? What does he do in the night seasons? How does he treat those who cannot benefit him in any way?

Another way to judge character is by evaluating the people who have been most effected by the man's character, his wife and children. Has she found rest in the house of her husband, or is she drained and resentful, vengeful and vicious? Are his children quiet and at rest because they are secure in their boundaries, knowing the goodness of their earthly father? Or

are they wild and rebellious, always seeking to take care of themselves, because no one ever took care of them?

Many times God's dear people take their opinion of their earthly father and transfer it to their heavenly Father. If you find it easy to believe that God will supply your need, perhaps it is because you grew up with an earthly father who supplied your needs. Conversely, if your earthly father was not worth anything, it becomes harder to see how your heavenly Father can be worth anything. Even an absent but benevolent earthly father teaches of an absent but benevolent God. It is very hard to teach people about a God of love if they have never known people of love. And the people they know most intimately are their parents...

Character must be built, promise by promise, moment by moment. The Lord visits us every morning and tests us every moment. No amount of success in ministry is worth the failure of a compromised character. Just as we need the anointing of the Spirit of God to be fruitful in the public ministry, we need the godly character gained from the written Word of God to shine for Him in our unanointed moments. As we demonstrate Who He is in our public ministry, we demonstrate who we are in our private times.

Remember, dear ones, we must be about our Father's business...

Your Personal Gospel!

Dec 12 2006 07:09PM

20 I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me. Gal 2:20 NKJV

Capitalism is the system of economics that has produced the most wealth the world has ever known. The genius and simplicity of capitalism can be described in one word - ownership. When you own something, it is yours. It brings wealth to you. If you take care of it properly, generally speaking it will increase in wealth and value to you, because you own it. When you own something, you can pour your love and faith into it to bring it to its fullest potential.

The Lord is inviting you to take ownership of the Gospel!

Paul took ownership of the gospel. Look at the seven personal pronouns in verse twenty! Paul said, I, Paul, have been crucified with Christ. It was personal to Paul. He owned it. It was his! It is no longer I, Paul, who live, but Christ who lives...in me! Does that mean that Paul walked perfectly? No! But it does mean that he took the gospel very personally. He owned it.

16 The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, 17 and if children, then heirs--heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together. Rom 8:16-17 NKJV

The concept of ownership of the gospel is a spiritual reality, because we are joint heirs with Christ. We have an ownership stake in the Kingdom of God! We can invest our lives in the Kingdom of God, knowing we will get a fair and full return on our investment, because God recognizes the legal and rightful realities of heir-ship and ownership.

When the believers in a church take ownership of the ministry of that church, that church thrives. Why? Because when you own something, you pour your love and faith in to it. They say, this is OUR church...this is OUR family of believers...this is OUR time to be the Church of God!

For you and me, the gospel has to become personal. The rights, privileges and commands of the gospel have to become personal. He says, Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature! I say, Yes, Sir! Where is my ticket? When it becomes personal...when it becomes real...it becomes intimate. You will never know the intimacy until you take on the ownership. He is my Lord. He is my God. The gospel is my gospel. I take it personally.

Remember, dear ones, we must be about our Father's business...

The End of Worry

Apr 11 2006 12:00AM

- I. The cause of worry.
- II. The strategy for overcoming problems.

18 No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him. John 1:18 NKJV

The bosom of the Father is the natural place of rest for every believer. Jesus abode there. The quietness, peace and assurance of resting in the Father's arms is the antithesis of worry.

- I. The cause of worry.

A human child in its parents arms has no anticipation of evil. Unless it is hungry or needs changing, it quickly falls asleep, secure in the presence of the parent. Indeed, a child, growing up in a good home where father and mother provide for their every need, enjoys a care free existence. That child learns, grows, carries their household responsibilities, and develops their relationships within the family in an environment that is free from worry, if the parents are doing their job.

But when a child has no father, or has an unfaithful father, then that child takes on responsibilities that are outside of their scope to perform. They must provide for themselves! Being immature in body and mind, they do not have the ability to provide for themselves. So, they learn to manipulate others...or die.

18 I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you. John
14:18 NKJV

The KJV translates this word ‘orphans’ as ‘comfortless,’ the best possible description of an orphan, a comfortless one. The orphans who live become cunning survivors, ones who learn to manipulate the system to get them what they need. They live by their wits. But with all of their cunning ability, they know deep inside that they are unable to supply their every need, so they begin to worry.

The cunning survivor uses ‘love’ as a means of getting what he needs. He does not give, in the true biblical sense. He trades or barter. He may become wealthy and influential. But inside, he is still an orphan, a cunning manipulator who lives, very insecurely, by his own talents and ability. His inability to cover everything causes him to worry.

The source of all worry is **fatherlessness**. Jesus commanded us not to worry.

25 "Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? 26 Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? 27 Which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature?

28 "So why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; 29 and yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. 30 Now if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?

31 "Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' 32 For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. 33 But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you. 34 Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble. Matt 6:25-34 NKJV

The Christian who worries does not know God as his Father. He may know about the Father's love conceptually, but not experientially. He thinks like an orphan...even though he is a child of the living God. The believer may have had a bad earthly father, which taints his perception of fathers in general. This spiritual blockage can be broken by two means: forgiveness and revelation.

The earthly father must be forgiven for being a poor role model. Then Jesus must reveal the heavenly Father and His love.

27 All things have been delivered to Me by My Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father. Nor does anyone know the Father except the Son, and the one to whom the Son wills to reveal Him. Matt 11:27 NKJV

Knowing the Father's love will bring the quietness, peace and assurance that Jesus enjoyed, because then you are in the bosom of the Father.

II. The strategy for overcoming problems.

No life is lived without problems coming up, not even Jesus'. But we need not fear or worry. The Father lays out a plan, a strategy for overcoming, that is both practical and simple to

follow. The easiness of the plan is determined only by our level of resistance.

6 Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; 7 and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Phil 4:6-7 NKJV

Do you realize that there is something missing here? You know there is...because you have many times practiced verse six without receiving verse seven. What I am about to show you will change your life. This truth will make you extremely dangerous to mediocrity, to defeat, to worry and to the devil. No longer will you be bound by fear, by the darkness and despair of not knowing how to receive the promises of God.

There is a promise, made by a man of God to an unsaved, pagan king, that is just as real to you and I as sons of the living God today.

16 So Joseph answered Pharaoh, saying, "It is not in me; God will give Pharaoh an answer of peace." Gen 41:16 NKJV

The answer of peace is what gets you from verse six of Philipians Four, to verse seven. When you pray, listen for God's answer. Listen, and get the full answer. He is your Father. Your needs are His responsibility. His burden, not yours. God can and does speak in very simple and practical terms in answer to your specific requests. His answers are thorough, practical and complete the job.

Consider Samuel's problem. Now the LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you mourn for Saul, seeing I have rejected him from reigning over Israel? Fill your horn with oil, and go;

I am sending you to Jesse the Bethlehemite. For I have provided Myself a king among his sons."

2 And Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears it, he will kill me." 1 Sam 16:2 NKJV

Imagine that...the Lord sends you on a mission, and you know the government will kill you! That's a problem, especially if Mrs. Samuel and the kids are still at home. Samuel had an honest problem. He complained to the Lord about it!

But the LORD said, 2 "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.' 3 Then invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; you shall anoint for Me the one I name to you." 1 Sam 16:2-3 NKJV

The Lord gives Samuel a sneaky plan. He makes it look like he is about to do some thing quite religious, a sacrifice, that the government will appreciate! But his real purpose is to dump the anointing oil, the anointing of a king, on the head of one of Jesse's sons...a little fellow named David.

Notice also that the Lord does not lay out the full plan to Samuel, only what he needs to know to keep from getting killed. Samuel was wise in complaining to the Lord about his problem. Most obedient Christians would have acted on the first revelation, full of worry and without the answer of peace, and would have gotten themselves killed (in the Lord's service, of course! This is one reason I do not think too highly of most 'Christian' martyrdom...).

God has real, practical, workable answers to every problem that you face. To crush worry, you must first become secure in your relationship with Him. Do whatever it takes to bring the walls down between you and Him. Get secure in His arms! Then, when you have a specific request, listen to His

response. I think about Peter, who asked the guy who was in Jesus' bosom to ask Him about the betrayer. Peter didn't ask Jesus directly. He asked the guy IN JESUS' BOSOM to ask Him. Those in the Father's bosom, have the secure connection to God.

Remember, dear ones, we must be about our Father's business...

The Night Season

Mar 21 2007 10:01AM

12 The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Rom 13:12
NKJV

Young believers can become discouraged when they don't understand the night season. When you were born again, it was a new day in your life. What has confused us is that God's understanding of a new day is different than our understanding. The biblical day begins at sundown.

5 So the evening and the morning were the first day. Gen 1:5
NKJV

We thought that when we were saved it would be a bright and glorious new day in our lives. It was for a while...there is light at sundown. At first we were special, the focus of everyone's attention. We were new believers! The Bible was fun to read...praying in tongues was fun...church was fun!

Then something happened...the sun went down. We entered the night season. All the joy seemed to drain away. We weren't special any more. Reading the same old chapters did not bring you to tears anymore. Speaking in tongues for ten seconds did not thrill you anymore. Some how that worship service that had blessed your soul kind of became dull. You do not see color at night. You are in the night season.

6 Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, 7 casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you. 1 Peter 5:6-7 NKJV

There has to be a death before there can be a resurrection. There can be no newness of life without the death of the old life. Jesus leads us into death, the night season, so that He can lead us into the dawn of our new life. Death and burial before resurrection life – the night season. Every believer must go through it.

The lessons you learn in the night season will sustain you and train you for your life in the new day. A butterfly develops the strength to use its huge, beautiful wings by struggling to break out of its cocoon. The discipline and faithfulness you learn when you are no longer running on emotion will sustain you as God begins to exalt you in His due season.

Hear this word...embrace the night! Embrace the humbling of God, because it is the only way He can bring you to exaltation. The night season lasts as long as it takes for the old you to die and be buried. The Lord wants to exalt you, but He will not compromise, because He loves you. He will not exalt the sin filled, self centered old you. Embrace the death and burial of the old you. Do not rail against the night. Embrace the night!

Remember, dear ones, we must be about our Father's business...

Crushing the Spirit of Jealousy

Jun 22 2007 03:27PM

15 Rejoice with those who rejoice...Rom 12:15 NKJV

All of the commands of God are for our benefit. When we align our hearts with the patterns of Scripture, regardless of what we feel in the natural, the fruit that God promises abounds in our lives. Such is the case with the command to rejoice in the success and blessing of others!

When I rejoice in the blessing of others, I am crushing the spirit of jealousy and positioning myself to receive a blessing. What I sow, I reap! If I sow praise, thanks and rejoicing, I will have so much to rejoice about, so much to be thankful for, and so much reason to praise Him.

8 Let my mouth be filled with Your praise and with Your glory all the day. Ps 71:8 NKJV

The spirit of jealous competition in the body of Christ strangles the advance of the Kingdom of God. The way to go up is to go down. When we humbly and enthusiastically praise God for what He is doing in the lives of others, we permit Him to prepare us for advancement. The Lord wants to promote you! He wants to lift you up and exalt you in blessing and honor.

When we lift up others with our love, approval and support for them, we lift Him up. "What you have done unto the least of these My brethren, you have done unto Me." Thank You, Lord Jesus, for what You are doing in the lives of my brothers and sisters, bless God forever!

Face what you fear. Ask that thing that you fear if it is bigger than the Lord Jesus Christ. The spirit of jealousy works on the fear that you will not succeed if you cannot overcome others. Jealousy and fear go hand in hand. Curse that fear with the authority of Heaven and command it to leave your life. Jealousy and fear are miserable, cowardly things that the Lord wants us to overcome.

We overcome jealousy in an opposite spirit - the spirit of rejoicing over the blessing of others. Hallelujah! I love what the Lord is doing in your life! Praise Him for the success, blessing and honor He has bestowed upon you...it is fun to be a Christian!

15 All the days of the afflicted are evil, But he who is of a merry heart has a continual feast. Proverbs 15:15 NKJV

Remember, dear ones, we must be about our Father's business...

Imitators Of God

Mar 9 2007 04:42PM

1 Therefore be imitators of God as dear children. Eph 5:1
NKJV

How do you imitate God? This is a God who is magnificent in all that He does. He does everything with beauty, with grandeur, with magnificence, in the genius of simplicity. Consider the heavens. There are about thirty five hundred visible stars and planets. Simply to set the stars for signs and seasons, He easily could have gotten by with five thousand. But not our God! We know now that there are literally thousands of galaxies, massive gatherings of stars and other matter, that comprise a universe almost huge beyond belief. The heavens declare the glory of God!

How do we imitate a God like the Lord? The Lord makes things big, and shapes them in simplicity. My natural tendency is to think small, only large enough to barely accomplish the purpose, and then to make that thing, that goal or objective, as difficult as possible to accomplish, by dwelling on my own abilities.

Consider our redemption. The God who does big things in a simple way, rescued billions of people, literally all who have believed on Him throughout all time, through the simple act of one death on a cross. How do you imitate a God like this Lord?

Consider the grandeur and the simplicity of the following statement:

13 I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. Phil 4:13 NKJV

I refers to you and I, believers in Jesus. CAN indicates permission from the Lord. DO means to act or to do - see the simplicity? ALL THINGS shows the grandeur of Christ being in you. What are your dreams? What grand purposes have been sown in your spirit by the grace of God? What godly desires have been birthed in your heart by the Holy Spirit? ALL THINGS means all those things in you that have been planted by the hand of the Sower, watered by the rain of the Spirit, and germinated by the light and heat of the Son.

THROUGH CHRIST indicates both the simplicity of relationship and the grandeur of the power of the Creator. WHO STRENGTHENS ME indicates again both the simplicity of permission plus the anointing to do.

Before eternity, God had a dream of a family that would know and love Him. He made that dream a reality in us (Eph. 2:10). What dreams has He put in you? Be an imitator of God...and accomplish those dreams to His glory!

Remember, dear ones, we must be about our Father's business...

John's Challenge: The End of Spectator Christianity

Mar 17 2007 04:04PM

12 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right (EXOUSIA: authority) to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: John 1:12 NKJV

The verb 'to believe,' or its accompanying noun 'faith,' in one form or other is used over one hundred times in the gospel of John. The verb is used in its active voice, indicating a fresh, moment by moment walk with the Master, in the fullness of the authority and power of a son or daughter of God. This is John's challenge.

John's challenge calls for the end of powerless, do-nothing spectator Christianity. Every believer in Jesus is to walk in the miracle working authority of a son of God, making Jesus a living reality, not merely an historical figure. Spectator Christianity has denied the Son of God, denied the Holy Spirit, and made a laughingstock of the promises of God. John's challenge throws it on the ash heap of religious history.

38 He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water." John 7:38 NKJV

To accept John's challenge, and rise up and believe God, every believer needs to be equipped to flow in the fullness of the Holy Spirit's baptism. Those who have received need to open up and let the rivers of God flow...not mere trickles, but rivers! The more you speak in tongues, in your day by day living, the more faith filled and powerful your days will become. The more the rivers flow, the more miracles, signs and wonders will flow with them, making that believer a true witness of the Son of God.

12 "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also.." John 14:12 NKJV

The world deserves an honest testimony as to why the Christian religion is superior to all others. They need to see the living Christ, in us. They don't need powerless spectators. They need real help from those who love and serve the living God. I, for one, intend to give them that testimony. How about you? Don't sit on the sidelines, get in the game! Grab your armor and weapons, and run to the battle! Will you rise up to John's challenge?

Remember, dear ones, we must be about our Father's business...

SECTION 8

THE LOVE OF GOD

The Father's Heart of Love

Mar 29 2005 12:20PM

31 Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' 32 For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. Matt 6:31-32 NKJV

God delights in revealing Himself to His children.

When He reveals Himself as the Son of God we see Him as Redeemer, Savior, Teacher and Lord. We see Him as the spotless Lamb and the perfect High Priest, as the One who conquered death, and gave life to all who would receive. We see him as the focus of Scripture...the One who fulfilled all the promises of God. Our Lord, our Savior, our Beloved, our Shepherd - King.

The beloved Holy Spirit is revealed through His actions of glorifying the Father and the Son. He reveals the Son, as the Son reveals the Father. He is revealed as the Spirit of the Lord.

2 The Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon Him, The Spirit of wisdom and understanding, The Spirit of counsel and might, The Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD. Isa 11:2 NKJV

The Son reveals the Father to whom He wills. It is time for the Church to get a revelation of the Father, because He is the One who so loved us that He gave His Son for us (John 3:16). If He gave us His Son, would He withhold any good thing from us?

The Father is the One who meets our every need. The reason God's people consistently do not have their needs met is because they do not know God as their Father.

I had a great example in my earthly father. He always loved me, always believed in me, and throughout my childhood, always provided for my needs. It was very easy for me to believe that my heavenly Father would supply all of my needs, because I had the example of my Dad. My Dad was always there, always faithful to me. So it was a simple conclusion of logic that my heavenly Father, who is infinitely greater than my earthly father, would always be there.

And He has been! In all my years, God my Father has always been faithful to me and to His promises. To my shame, I have not been always faithful to Him. But He has never left me.

KNOWING GOD AS YOUR FATHER

God's purpose in creating you and me was that He might have children into whom He could pour out all of His love. They would be the great depositories of the love of God. Understand...for love 'to be' love, it must be given away. No love can be kept...it must be poured out. If love is not poured out, it turns inward and becomes narcissism, or self love. This is the perversion of love. That is why love must have an object, a beloved one. You and I were made to be the objects of God 's love.

10 For we are His workmanship (POEMA: His masterpiece: the ultimate expression of His creative genius), created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them. Eph 2:10 NKJV

I have discovered over the years that very few Christians seem to know God as their Father. Those who do not know

Him as Father wander about as comfortless orphans who have no abiding inner peace and contentment. Since they do not know the Father, they do not know the comforts of being 'Home.' They do not know the comfort of having their needs met. Inside, they seem to have an ache, a longing for something that they have never known. Even though He is closer than their very breath...to them He seems a million miles away. They try to walk by the Spirit. But almost inevitably they fail, and turn to the flesh, because they have become cunning survivors.

THE FATHER WHO WATCHES AND WAITS

The parable of the prodigal son is more appropriately understood in light of the forgiving Father, the Father who watches and waits.

11 Then He said: "A certain man had two sons. 12 And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the portion of goods that falls to me.' So he divided to them his livelihood. 13 And not many days after, the younger son gathered all together, journeyed to a far country, and there wasted his possessions with prodigal living. 14 But when he had spent all, there arose a severe famine in that land, and he began to be in want. 15 Then he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country, and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. 16 And he would gladly have filled his stomach with the pods that the swine ate, and no one gave him anything.

17 "But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! 18 I will arise and go to my father, and will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you, 19 and I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired servants."'"

20 "And he arose and came to his father. But when he was still a great way off, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him. Luke 15:11-20 NKJV

See the love of the father! He had to be watching and waiting, for he saw his son afar off.

22 "But the father said to his servants, 'Bring out the best robe and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet. 23 And bring the fatted calf here and kill it, and let us eat and be merry; 24 for this my son was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' Luke 15:22-24 NKJV

He did not wait for the son to finish the repentance speech that he had practiced. His heart of love was expressed in that he would completely restore his son, with all authority and every need met.

But what about the other son? He had remained with the father, but he still did not know the heart of his father, because he resented and hated his brother. Many in the Church are like the second son, faithful to the Father outwardly, but not knowing His heart of love inwardly.

Both the prodigal son and his brother were like orphans. One did not know the provision of the father. The other did not know the love of the father. The father wanted to restore them both.

31 And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that I have is yours. 32 It was right that we should make merry and be glad, for your brother was dead and is alive again, and was lost and is found.'" Luke 15:31-32 NKJV

When I first wrote about THE ORPHAN CURSE (check the article in the "inJesus" archives), there was such response that I knew I must try to write some more. My prayer for you, even right now as I write, is that if you ache to know God as your true Father...I pray that the Lord Jesus reveals Him to you. The bosom of the Father is the natural place of rest for every child of God. There is a rest for the people of God.

Will you pray with me that prayer that I wrote in the last issue? Perhaps in another article I could show you all the Scripture behind this prayer, but that is not necessary for the immediate need. Just believe, and receive His love.

"Heavenly Father, turn me back to You! Lord, forgive me, and let every sin in my life that keeps me from You be washed away in Your blood right now! Father, I forgive all who have hurt me in any way. Lord, release me from any offense in my heart toward anyone. Right now, with the sword of the spirit, the Word of God, I rebuke the orphan curse.

I declare, "NOTHING shall separate me from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus my Lord! I am more than a conqueror over the orphan curse through Him who loves me!" In Jesus name, I am victorious, BLESS GOD FOREVER! Amen."

Father, I ask You to take your child in Your arms...draw them close, and meet their every need!

Remember, dear ones, we must be about our Father's business...

Deny Yourself!

Jan 3 2007 12:00AM

24 Then Jesus said to His disciples, If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. Matt 16:24 NKJV

The ethics of service state this truth emphatically - that no great good can be accomplished for which some one is not willing to pay a price. To reap, you must sow. To be given to, you must give. Jesus said, to whom much is given, much is required. A great preacher once said, self sacrifice is the passion of great men. Self sacrifice is the offering of oneself to be consumed for the good of others. Paul said, I die daily.

At every level of Christian growth, there is a test that releases you to go further. Failing the test disqualifies one from promotion. Mercy allows us to retake the test, as we seek to grow. But mercy has an end. Paul said he disciplined his body, and brought it into subjection, lest he should be disqualified from the race.

As I was praying about two dear believers recently, the Lord showed me that they had passed the test regarding choosing between the spirit of the world and the Spirit of God. He said He was pleased with them! He said their next test would be regarding choosing between their self and the Spirit of God. As they choose the Lord over themselves, they will become free of themselves, and rise up in God. Hallelujah!

The power of words is so great. What you say YES to, and what you say NO to, defines who you are. We can declare, like Paul, that we were crucified with Christ; nevertheless, we live. Yet it is not the old me, the old self, who lives, but Christ

who lives in me, in us. We can declare that the life we now live, we live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved us, and gave Himself for us, for me. We die to self by the declaration of the newness of life that we walk in, in Christ. The power of our words is so great because we are choosing life over death, God over ourselves.

Denying ones self, dying to it, frees the spirit to grow up in God. Peace reigns where carnal ambitions once festered. Joy triumphs over the dreary depression of the world. Love prevails over worry, fear and selfish concern. When we finally figure out that life is all about Him, not us...then He imparts to us that more abundant life that comes from following Him.

Remember, dear ones, we must be about our Father's business...

Love Is A Verb

Feb 6 2007 09:27PM

35 By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another." John 13:35 NKJV

God had to make man, or something like us, because Love had to have a way to express itself. For love to be love, it has to have a beloved, because love is a verb. A love that is not expressed is no love at all. When the Father conceived and created the body of Christ, the Church, this was the grandest expression of His love.

10 For we are His workmanship (POIEMA: His masterpiece), created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them. Eph 2:10 NKJV

The born again ones, the members of the body of Christ, are the expressions of the love of God. We are His beloved, His AGAPETOS, literally, little chunks of God's love. The Father's love for you is so great, that He planned from before the foundation of the world for your life. He planned that you would live, and move, and have your being in Him, that He would be your all in all, and that you would be the fullest expression of His love.

Loving human parents understand this concept in a small way.

Our children become the fullest expression of our love. We work and plan and sacrifice freely and easily for them to grow and mature and prosper. I never began to understand the Father's heart of love until I held my own son in my arms. I would do anything for him! I began to understand how the

Father conceived the rescue plan of redemption for mankind who had been ruined by sin. My wife and I had dreamed and planned for the day when each of our children had been born. We prepared according to our means for each of the little ones to come. God prepared according to His means for your life to be full and to be blessed, indeed an abundant life.

Love is a verb in your life...in my life...as well. We, who have been so loved, must be the ones to pour out our love on each other, and the world. All the lost ones of the world can come to know the Father's love through us!

To DC Talk, the Christian pop group whose lyrics helped inspire this message, I say...Gentlemen, may your lives reflect the words of your lyrics to the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ!

Remember, dear ones, we must be about our Father's business...

Overcome Evil With Good!

Dec 5 2006 02:09PM

17 Repay no one evil for evil. Have regard for good things in the sight of all men. 18 If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men. 19 Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay," says the Lord.

20 Therefore "If your enemy is hungry, feed him; If he is thirsty, give him a drink; For in so doing you will heap coals of fire on his head."

21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.
Rom 12:17-21 NKJV

Mercy is given from a position of strength. Mercy is the refraining from harming or punishing offenders, enemies, etc. Mercy implies the ability to punish. But the one showing mercy decides not to punish his enemy, but to bless him. Mercy is a quality of true kings. One who reigns must be just, ruling in the fear of God, and willing to minister mercy. Jesus said to love your enemies.

Another important truth here is a strategic tactic in spiritual warfare. The tactic is to come against your enemy in an opposite spirit. You do not fight fire with fire. You fight fire with water. Perfect love casts out fear. A soft answer turns away wrath. God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble.

The spiritual tactic works in the physical realm as well. Long before George Foreman was a household name in American

culture for his barbecue grills, he was a monster of a professional boxer. George could hit so hard that he knocked many men out. In one of the most famous fights in boxing history, George Foreman fought Muhammad Ali in Kinshasa, Zaire. For seven rounds Ali absorbed the punches from the younger, stronger man. He lay on the ropes, challenging Foreman to hit him harder. He went soft as Foreman came hard. Finally, in the eighth round, as Foreman had worn himself out, Ali counterattacked and finished the fight swiftly. He overcame his opponent in an opposite spirit.

What kind of spiritual oppression are you facing? Come against it in an opposite spirit. Stand against hatred and selfishness with love and charity. Stand against poverty by giving with a joyful heart. When you are tempted to isolate yourself in fear and despair, reach out and bless someone else. When the pressure comes down, give thanks, give love, and give grace...give, and you will be positioned to receive the breakthrough blessing!

Remember, dear ones, we must be about our Father's business...

Love Without Hypocrisy

Nov 29 2006 01:26PM

9 Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good. Rom 12:9 NKJV

Sin always makes one want to hide from God.

8 ...and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. Gen 3:8 NKJV

A mask is a clever hiding place. In the old Greek theaters, the actors did not have huge stages with elaborate scenery and costumes. They simply had masks to represent different characters in their plays. The masks would be scattered across the stage, with the actors moving from one mask to another to say the lines for the different characters. One actor may have several masks, as he portrayed several characters in the productions. We get our English word hypocrite from the Greek word for an actor. A hypocrite is an actor, one who hides behind a mask.

Even if it was not sinful, I could still never be a gambler. A gambler has to have what we call in American culture a poker face, a face that hides what is truly inside. You can read me like a book. When I am happy, you know it. When I am upset, you know that too. I heard a preacher say one time, that when you come to church, you should put on your happy face. I resist that teaching! I come to church to be honest and open before God. Sometimes the greatest attacks of the enemy come right before I arrive at church. Then, I stumble into church, wondering when Armageddon is going to start...

Recently, I asked a church in Cameroon what God wanted from them. When no one replied, I gave them the answer: honesty. Simple, humble, thankful honesty - no masks!

19 My little children, for whom I labor in birth again until Christ is formed in you...Gal 4:19 NKJV

The great reality is that the real man inside you is Christ. You are a Christ-man or a Christ-woman, a Christian. The great hindrance to Christ being manifested in our lives is our flesh. The flesh must be dealt with honestly. It can be overcome! In fact, usually the hardest part of dealing with the flesh is just getting honest about it, just realizing that God does not expect you to be perfect, Jesus is still your Savior, and that He loves you very...very much.

When the masks come off, hearts become knit together in love. Love without hypocrisy. Is it not time to quit being an actor? Keep your day job - let Christ shine in you!

Remember, dear ones, we must be about our Father's business...

Living Sacrifices, Living Worship

Nov 22 2006 12:48PM

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. Rom 12:1 NKJV

Devotion to God gives purpose to every aspect of our lives. Living sacrifices, living worship. When the heart is set right, decisions become easy and the gifts of the Spirit flow in abundance. Worship becomes who you are, rather than something you do. Under the Old Covenant, the priests would perform the daily animal sacrifices as a substitute and a type of the true Lamb of God, who would take away the sins of the world. Today we, as priests to God, offer ourselves daily in devotion to Him to carry out His will in all that we do. Our lives become acts of worship in response to His love and faithfulness.

14 The LORD confides in those who fear him; he makes his covenant known to them. Ps 25:14 NIV

When the Lord confides, He reveals the secret plans of His heart to bring forth the destiny of His man or woman. The man who fears God is a blessed man. The fear of God is manifested in living devotion to Him. Living sacrifices, living worship. Revelation to succeed in every aspect of life that is devoted to Him flows from the throne of God. It is God's will to reveal and bless you with His best in all that you do. When we devote ourselves to Him on a daily basis, we declare that He is Lord of our lives, and that we are surrendered to Him.

The world is lost, hurt, helpless and alone. But we are not alone! We are partnered with the Master by our devotion to Him. And, He is devoted to us! "Lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Why not stop at this moment, and devote the rest of your day to Him? Why not stop and cast all of your cares on Him right now? Let the peace of God flow like a river into your dry and dusty soul immediately...is it not sweet to drink from the waters of life?

Remember, dear ones, we must be about our Father's business...

Mercy Triumphs Over Judgment!

Oct 25 2006 10:58PM

1 There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus... Romans 8:1 NKJV

The glorious gospel of Jesus Christ is the most attractive thing in the world. The beauty of the love that prompted the Father to send the Son, to make the perfect and complete sacrifice for the sins of mankind, is breathtaking to behold. The perfect work of redemption shines most brightly in the great book of Romans.

In Romans three Paul finishes his argument, begun in chapter one, that mankind is toast, as the kids like to say. Utterly ruined in sin, without God and without hope, defenseless, without excuse, utterly wretched, lost and alone is mankind. There is none righteous...no, not one. But Love has a Plan. His name is Jesus...

Beginning in verse twenty one of chapter three, Paul begins to lay out the great argument of redemption, finally culminating in chapter five with the comparison of the work of the two Adams - Adam, the first human and the second Adam, Jesus.

18 Therefore, as through one man's offense judgment came to all men, resulting in condemnation, even so through one Man's righteous act the free gift came to all men, resulting in justification of life. 19 For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so also by one Man's obedience many will be made righteous. Romans 5:18-19 NKJV

Listen with your heart to these beautiful words...someone loved you enough to plan perfectly for your life, knowing you would fall short in righteous standing before God. Corinthians

says that He became sin for us, that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him. This is what He did for those who would accept Him, and believe Him. Let your heart soak in these words of love to you...

20 Moreover the law entered that the offense might abound. But where sin abounded, grace abounded much more, 21 so that as sin reigned in death, even so grace might reign through righteousness to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. Romans 5:20-21 NKJV

Eternal life? How can I stand before a righteous God? He bore my guilt, my sin and my shame. He clothed me in His own righteousness, so I can stand before God with my head up, because He has made me righteous. Now listen, there is a conclusion coming here...

Verse twenty one of chapter five ends the great redemption argument. Then chapters six and seven are a parenthetical insertion in the context, answering four great questions. The argument comes to its glorious conclusion in chapter eight, verse one.

1 Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, Romans 8:1 NIV

Who are those who are in Christ Jesus? 1 Corinthians chapter one, verse two says it is the church of God, those who call upon the name of the Lord Jesus.

Look at what the Word of God says! There is no condemnation - condemnation is a verdict of guilt - to the born again ones, the simple believers in Jesus. Our guilt was taken away by Him, the Lover of our souls. This the great conclusion to the redemption argument! We stand before God the Father with NO GUILT, no shame, no unworthiness!

But you say to me, Kevin, I feel so guilty, so ashamed! This is because the enemy of our souls has planted guilt upon you. The Holy Spirit does not make you feel guilty. He convicts. He does not condemn. Let me explain the difference. Conviction attacks what you did, the thought or action. Conviction says, what you did was wrong. Condemnation attacks who you are. Condemnation says, you are a dirty, rotten sinner.

Sorry, Mister Condemnation, I am not a dirty, rotten sinner! I am a child of God, an heir of God and a joint heir with Christ (Romans 8:16, 17). I may act foolishly and sin at times, but that does not change what Jesus did for me, and in me, at the time of my salvation. It is a concluded, settled argument - there is therefore now no condemnation to the church of God, the born again ones!

Conviction is a work of the loving Holy Spirit. Condemnation is from the devil. I want the work of the Holy Spirit in my life, not the work of the enemy of my soul.

Listen, dear one...if you love Jesus, and you are still burdened with guilt and unworthiness, do this - prepare your heart by confessing any active sin in your life, and by forgiving anyone with whom you disagree. Then say these words out loud, like you were commanding a dog to leave the house: Guilt, leave me...go in Jesus name!

The lightness you will feel is the weight of the world being lifted off of your shoulders. Mercy triumphs over judgment! Glory be to the Lamb of God!

Remember, dear ones, we must be about our Father's business...

* * *

AUTHOR'S ADDENDUM -

Our Intern Teacher Training Program

The great adventure of walking by the Spirit is available to every believer. If you have a desire to teach others, we can help you learn to walk in the miracle working power of God!

July 1, 2007 we launched our fourth group in our Intern Teacher Training Program in the gifts of the Spirit. This program is designed to train men and women with teaching ministries to teach and impart to others the gifts of the Holy Spirit. The program involves one year of learning to flow in the gifts of the Spirit, followed by three months of developing the art of teaching and training others. Finally the interns will be released to use Lightbearers materials in teaching the gifts of the Spirit.

Students in over a dozen different countries are learning and growing in the walk in the Spirit, while helping literally thousands of others to receive from God. Do you have a teaching ministry? Interns must be willing to give several hours a day for one year in prayer and study under the authority of Lightbearers Ministries. The Holy Spirit is the Master of the program. I am His assistant, and Mrs. Patty Hansen is the dean of the program. Are you willing to be submitted? There is no cost to the training. Interns in North America and Europe will be required to purchase their own materials. Interns in Africa will receive the materials free from Lightbearers. Interns must be fluent in reading and writing in English. Interns must have a secure post office box to receive their materials, and their own email address. Our responsibility is to send the materials. Your responsibility is to believe to receive them. If you would like to participate, please email Patty at:

hansen@prayersmatter.org

