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Important notice

- If you intend downloading any of these testimonies for distribution, and you would like to receive them in their original form, try using Microsoft Word and Windows.
- For the sake of conformity, all quotations of the Scriptures are taken from the New King James Version of the Bible.
- Please remember to use other Scripture versions for cross-checking only.

Module 1

Stage 1 - Distributing the children's bread of the Kingdom

Preamble

These studies are presented in a progressive study order and are suitable for bible study in the church, bible school, believing group and home-centred outreach. The modules may also be grouped and used for topical studies and seminars. We are trusting God to inspire His people everywhere to use these modular studies for themselves and to help others to use them in seeking and finding Jesus Christ as Lord of their own lives.

The Holy Spirit Helper

Stage 1 - Distributing the children's bread of the Kingdom

1. Prophetical visitation John 3:28-36

I wish to tell you something about Jesus, as an introduction to this programme. I speak out for Jesus and also speak from the heart.

True! I was a believer for many years, working for the Lord, serving Him with great zeal, but somehow lacked a serious inward commitment. My commitment was outward, towards my family, people, others, even towards believers. It was not that I was not committed to serving Jesus, but somehow, I seemed to be in a kind of inner daze.

I believed and did not believe at the same time if you know what I mean. When things were going well, I was partially indifferent to the Lord. When things were not going too well, I became more serious. This troubled me immensely. I became interested to find out and know what God wanted for me and my family. So in between being lukewarm and the fiery trials that came over me, I had a very great struggle to try and survive as a believer in Jesus. The semi half-heartedness only gave me more problems than it was worth. I had much suffering and was always in some sort of trouble, spiritually, with the Lord and with my own finely tuned conscience. Most times, that is, except when I became angry. This was much too often for my liking. I always seemed to be simmering between anger and hurt. I just could not understand this. When you are in a battle you do not feel the wounds, but just let the battle subside, then you feel every ache and pain. This troubled me and I am sure also troubled my family.

I was in the meantime a part-time spiritual teacher and counsellor, as I worked full time in the jewellery industry and was always helping people who came to me with their spiritual and marital problems. I never fully realised that as the Lord was busy training me to help others that I had to come into a more perfect inner rest. True, I had spiritual gifts and they were working all the time, but not for me, only for others. This was a complete riddle to me and I always had to rely on others to come to my spiritual rescue when I felt I was drowning. I just did not know what it was that was troubling me, but I often felt uneasy when counselling

others. The preaching to others and feeling myself to be a castaway was complex. Strange, but true.

The Lord used me in healing the sick, teaching in Sunday school and in testifying others. As a counsellor, I seemed to have a fair measure of success and despite the continual problems, rather enjoyed it all.

The gnawing realisation that all was not well with my soul, stayed with me continually. I knew that something had to be changed, but what? Then it happened!

I was overcome by the deepest depression imaginable. So deep in fact that I began despairing of my life as a believer and as a man. So, it was at this time, I decided to have the matter out with the Lord, even if it cost me my life. I went to a pastor late one evening and tried to tell him, at the entrance to his house, that I needed urgent help. It seemed to me that, being used to my problems, he was not very enthusiastic to invite me in. He told me to take the matter out with Jesus face-to-face, said good night and went inside. I stood for a while flummoxed, in front of a closed door.

To tell the truth, I was so disgusted with this advice, because of all my continuous praying and pleading with God, that I went home angry. At home, however, I suddenly realised what the pastor had said – face-to-face. This was new to me. I had always prayed, before the Lord, looking down, simply because I was ashamed of my sin, weakness, shortcomings and above all my failures; never face-to-face.

I then made an important decision to look up and face Jesus with everything, even if it cost me my life. This was the moment when I realised that it is now or never. From that very moment, because all else seemed to have failed me, even, as I thought, family, friends, pastors and believers, I started to seek Jesus face-to-face. This was the turning point of my life. I have never regretted it since. Thank God for that advice of old Pastor van Vuuren, the full-time worker in Klerksdorp. He is now home with Jesus, but I am eternally indebted to this one man, perhaps more than any others, even though everyone had helped me previously. The day that Jesus walked into my whole existence, is to be one of the most unforgettable and wonderful days of my life. I have longed to tell others, so they too can experience this inner peace that floods the soul, the inner strength that pervades my being, the light switched on and the life turned around with Jesus, in Jesus and therefore, for Jesus.

My wife, Mary, who stood beside me through thick and thin, is to be thanked and honoured for her contribution to our marriage. She is a pillar of strength to me and is with me in our full-time ministry.

It may seem personal, but sharing these things and those to follow, will, I believe, help many a soul drowning in very dark seas. May the Lord use this for His glory, without whom we could have no saltiness within.

The experiences that we have received since then are uncountable and the many, many moments with Him, sheer joy. His name is truly called Wonderful, Counsellor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, Prince of peace, God with us.

He is the greater Prophet amongst us and His visitation is truly prophetic.

Sydney Weber assisted by Lynette van Rooyen and Mary Weber

4/12/1999

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2. Working for God with whatever you have 1 Corinthians 2:12-13

One of the great Bible truths is that we are to be dependent upon God in all our needs. The universal theme that we are sufficient in ourselves to do whatever we need or desire to do, apart from some powerful outside force, is foreign to the spirit of the Scriptures. God is shown to be at the centre of all creation, the universal Creator and the source of all life, both natural and spiritual. This being the case it follows that we need Him above all other things. Consider this though, 'If God is for us, then who can be against us?' Who? Our lack is the opportunity for God to supply, and our inadequacy is His opportunity to provide the help we need.

Working for or against

We all need to work with God and not against Him. This stands to reason. There are those, however, that are called to work for God. These people need something extra than the normal believer needs. Their work, ministry or service needs extra abilities to touch the lives of not only themselves but the lives of others whom they are serving. We all need this ability because whether or not we are working for ourselves or God, we have an inter-relationship with one another. What is this that we need? For each person, it can be one thing or another. Yet, having God for us, we will have more than enough to meet every contingency, whether it is smaller or greater. We can have whatever we need.

Your needs are being met

Daily, whether we can receive it or not, believe it or not, all of our daily needs are being met. Those that are not being met today will be met tomorrow, the next day and so on. This is a basic fact of life. We need to look back reflectively to see this. There is such a thing as being foolish and this foolishness, whether ours or some other person(s), gets us into all sorts of unnecessary difficulties. These carry-over difficulties will sometimes in the future, be solved for us. More so if we believe, trust and pray.

You can have enough of what is needed in every situation

The believer can have enough power, strength and ability to help overcome every situation that presents itself. Sometimes we already can overcome and at other times we need to pray for it. Whatever you need will be met out of God's great abundance and His rich storehouse.

Open up for more

Asking for enlargement of heart and life is something that God is ready to give us at every stage of our lives. Just because we do not have whatever it takes to continue working for God or our own families and circumstances, does not mean that we have not been given enough strength to cope. Sometimes the block in our understanding and our limitations hinder us from grasping that we have enough and can ask for more. Help will always be given to us. However, help can only be given if our capacity to receive help is enlarged. A small heart can only receive small things, but an enlarged heart has more room and can receive greater things. God is the Giver who gives generously and He is not miserly in His giving. We have to be sure that we are meeting His conditions for receiving. By opening up our lives first, we then make way for our hearts to be opened and it equally applies that when we have opened up our hearts our lives will also be opened up. Whichever way it is, we must be willing for this enlargement to take place.

Let God add

Abilities are part of every person on earth. The total of our abilities is, however, linked up to two important realities:

- Do we need more than we already have?
- Do we have a way of getting whatever we are lacking?

In the case of a believer in God, there is an eternal source that is unstoppable, inexhaustible and above all wonderfully generous. God can take away our ability or He can add to it. It makes perfect sense to receive more and lose less.

Gifts are for using

When anyone receives a gift, that gift becomes the property of the recipient. The gift and responsibility belong to the giver until it is handed over to and received by the receiver. Then responsibility shifts from one to the other and the receiver takes over the responsibility. Each gift has some useful purpose and if it is not used for that particular purpose, whatever the person understands that to be, it is a useless gift. Gifts are to be used for the gift and the intention of the giver. Many times, a gift is given without any requirements attached. This is called a gift. It can be used in any beneficial way. The gift that is given with 'strings attached' has to be used for a specific purpose, seeking a result for its usage. The Bible talks about both types of gifts that God gives us. Some gifts are for our use and others are given for the benefit of others. Whichever way, they need to be used.

Willingness versus ability

Some do not have any specific gifts that they would like to have but have a desire and some have gifts that they do not desire and therefore do not use them. Happy is the person who has gifts and uses them correctly for God, themselves and others. The secret of using a gift is willingness, and often enough, because those who can are not willing, God has to use those who are not capable, but rather have the necessary willingness. Happy are those who have the willingness and ability. Whatever is lacking whether willingness or ability can also be obtained from God who gives to all, liberally and generously, to all who ask of Him.

Open up to a new vision of working

We all have to work for our living. Some have to work harder than others. Some have to spend long hours at it. Some earn less than others and others sacrifice much more time, effort and labour to earn substantially more. It is exactly so in the spiritual life. The more you put in the more you can expect to get out. What we all need is a new vision of working that will accomplish more, in less time, with minimum effort. God has designed a perfect way for us to achieve just this. However, it has to be learned and put into practice so that it will become more effective as we continue in what we are learning. Every endeavour that is successful needs a vision and a plan. God has provided a plan for our lives, but we need to get a new vision of that which He requires.

Let solutions come to you and work for you

The vision that God has for your life is summed up in the command to first of all learn of the great commission and then to go out and tell others. The whole object of learning of the Gospel and its outreach is to learn of the invitation of Jesus to you and then to help others to receive it. God is in the beginning, the middle and the end of the full working, i.e., between the acceptance of the Gospel and the extending of it to others.

God has a perfect way and by letting go of your way and letting God have His way in the solutions, you will obtain perfect results every time. Let God's solution come to you and work for you.

Your prospects and waiting times

God does not need time to answer any of your prayers. He can instantly answer them in

miraculous ways, passed finding out. The reasons for delayed answers are usually directly and indirectly linked to the distance between oneself and God in the first instance, and, in the second instance, the distance between oneself and others.

This distance should be closed first of all. If, in your experience, there is a time problem, ask God to reveal to you what that problem is. Faith has a 'now situation' attached to it. Sometimes there may be a delay and waiting process for a situation to develop, but the answer will always be, either on its way or will take place now.

Hardened hearts?

Hardened hearts come about through knowing what to do and refusing and/or delaying to do it. The reason for this hardening is simply that human nature, being what it is, is always looking for alternative solutions.

Looking at the alternative solutions can often be exhausting and appears to remove the action of faith rather than encourage it. Sometimes solutions need a certain course of action that requires sacrifice, hardship and change, which can be extremely difficult for us - going against the grain. If this is how things are, somewhere along the line, matters will have to be remedied, sooner rather than later. Each solution that needs remedial action should be taken timeously to strengthen the resolve of faith.

Ready minds and willing hearts

The gifts that you have and can receive will help you to get the necessary going. The far better and superior way, for the one who is willing to become exercised in this way, is to let God help you do whatever you need to do. Ask for inspiration rather than revelation. Inspiration is the inner ability that God supplies from within, to accomplish any given task, through the God-given ability that is already within. Revelation is being shown what to do. It is easier to do it - inspiration than to be shown - revelation. Inspiration is the short cut and revelation is a long way. Having a ready mind and willing heart is half the battle, the other half is the ability to do it with the help that God has supplied and will supply in each task. Develop the daily habit of praying, believing and trusting God to carry you over each difficulty and every hurdle. It becomes easier as you continue in this type of relationship, developing an experience of His wonderful help.

Sydney Weber assisted by Lynette van Rooyen and Mary Weber

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3. Our prayer Romans 8:24-28

“Dear Lord Jesus, we ask you to bless this programme, as it concerns Yourself. It comes from Your heart into our hearts. It is of Yourself and it is Yourself. Use it to extend Yourself to those who need you. It will be glorious if You will be that glory. It will help many if You be that help to many. It will be a blessing to your children if You be that blessing to your children. In Your name, we ask for this blessing and Your glory’s sake and to our Father be all the glory, through You, our Lord Jesus Christ, by the Holy Spirit. Amen”

Sydney and Mary Weber

4 December 1999

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4. What the study of these staged modules can accomplish 1 Timothy 2:15-16

How to obtain a pure heart and avoid a mirror image of unreality within eternal salvation. The unfolding Bible story presents the new covenant hope of living eternally through its glad news of liberty life. Christ's growing world outreach is an open vision of God's forgiveness through unveiled truth during these end times - fully opening up the everlasting Gospel and its glorious revival news.

Many modules open up Jesus Christ and His invitation to us of having His eternal life in ourselves, as our Lord. Other modules open up the working of the Holy Spirit within, as one allows Jesus, God's Son, to penetrate the inner life and heart, through the entering in of the Living Word of God.

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5. Prayer method Philippians 4:4-7

There are three ways in which to approach God in prayer:

- By assumption
 - This means that we assume that we are entitled to pray to Him, at His invitation, without any obligation from our side.
 - Do not assume, but ask, 'Lord, what do You want me to do?'
- By presumption
 - This means that we presume that we are entitled to pray to Him apart from His invitation to us to come closer in prayer.
 - Do not presume to ask for your things, but ask, 'Lord, what do You want me to ask for?'
- By unction
 - This means that we are prepared to meet the required conditions that He lays down for approach in prayer, by receiving His open invitation to pray and then continue to keep on believing that which is necessary for that prayer to be completely answered.
 - Ask for those things that are to bless yourself, your family and others.
 - Use this unction that Jesus gives and ask:
 - 'Lord, do it for me as you have said!' or
 - 'Lord, do it for me as you have shown me!' or
 - 'Lord, do it for me even as I understand you to have shown me what your meaning is!'

This is the true secret of the answer to prayers; Jesus will help those who approach Him correctly in this way.

Mark 11:22-26 "So Jesus answered and said to them, Have faith in God. For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, Be removed and be cast into the sea, and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says. Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them. And whenever you stand praying, if you have anything against anyone, forgive him, that your Father in heaven may also forgive you your trespasses. But if you do not forgive, neither will your Father in heaven forgive your trespasses"

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6. By giving Jesus - all receive 1 Peter 3:15-16

The way forward for any believer is to give Jesus to those who need it, those who are in trouble and those who are seeking it. Not every believer can be a preacher, a teacher or a prophet in the current sense of the word, but each believer can testify of the hope that is in their own heart.

Giving sight to the blind

The people of the world are spiritually blind people to the truths that Jesus presents to them by way of the Gospel, and can only get their spiritual sight when their eyes are opened up to the truth of these things. Part of the miraculous work that comes out of preaching is to help the spiritually blind to see. Of course, those that are naturally blind can also be healed and made to see, but Jesus must do it, either personally or through one of His anointed believers.

Your testimony

What Jesus has done for you is your testimony, which you alone have experienced. You know the working of the Lord in your life in the particular way He has chosen to reveal Himself to you. Your testimony is a remembrance of what Jesus has proved Himself to be to you in the particular way you alone have experienced it. The Lord, through the Holy Spirit, will help you to remember the particular one you need to share at a particular time as you are being prompted to reach out to others who may need comfort.

Encouragement to believe for help

Remembering your past blessings when you had a particular prayer answered, need to be met, problem solved, provision granted etc. will encourage others through such testimony, to take heart and similarly trust Jesus.

The working of the Holy Spirit through your testimony

True testimony given to you will encourage you to believe for a similar matter to be resolved. Every person needs encouragement to believe and your testimony, in the same way, will help someone, somewhere, sometime, to take heart and trust God for their own particular need to be met in some similar or unusual way. If you are true in your presentation and you recount the facts that led to the solution of your problem, you will open up the way, through your testimony, for the Holy Spirit to illuminate the way of increasing faith in the heart of another.

You can encourage yourself to believe through your own given testimony

When you testify to someone, your faith will be strengthened to receive other things that are needful from God. Try renewing your faith by helping another on the way to believe.

No one can deny your testimony - it stands firm in your own experience

Sometimes your testimony may seem to have the opposite effect that you had foreseen and you may be tempted to become discouraged. Do not let this happen. I have seen many times that a testimony given does not always bring results straight away, but may need time to germinate in the receptive heart. Sad to say, if we have had a seeming reverse in the response to our testimony, we may be tempted to give up this type of witness. A seeming rejection of the help offered in this way does not always mean that it is lost. It is not your work to enforce results, but rather to leave it to the Lord and the Holy Spirit to work it out. Many times, a person who hears a testimony, maybe inclined at first to dismiss such a witness, simply because it's unusual and different from the normal run of advice people tend to give each

other. The brooding period, which follows a strong witness, is often longer than we anticipate, but it is nevertheless a seed that is sown that needs to germinate and take root.

Sowing seeds

Testimonies are like seeds planted in the ground of the heart and at the right time may bring forth the growing plant. Not every seed will take root, of course, and we have no way of knowing what will take root or which seed will be effective. The work of the Holy Spirit is to continue the necessary, after the testimony seed has been dropped into the heart, and it is God who decides the resultant yield. God can be trusted to work with the seed that has been sown, prompted by the working of His grace in your heart, and you can perfectly trust Him to continue using the seed that was sown. We do not normally plant a seed in the ground and then every day pull it up again to see if there is growth. Rather we wait patiently for the first signs of growth to appear above ground. This applies to the spiritual realm as well.

The power of a growing seed

Never underestimate the power of the planted seed to spring up and grow even under the most adverse of circumstances. Witness the seeds that grow in the cracks of rocks. After a time of growth, it is possible for the growing seed to crack rocks and the force of the growing plant can widen the crack. Grass can push up between the tarred stones of a road, the cemented joins of concrete and cracks of a tree trunk. The spiritual realm has a similar potential for growth in the human heart. Even the hardest heart can succumb to the growing seed of a true testimony given in the love of God.

The love of God

Criminals in jail can be touched by your testimony of how God delivered you from being a jailbird. People with an alcohol problem can be touched by your own deliverance story. There is nothing more convincing than a testimony of deliverance given by someone that has been dramatically delivered, even after many years of trying to get free of heavy alcohol abuse. You were most probably touched by someone who testified to you about having a meeting with Jesus?

When the light of the love of God breaks through the darkness of despair and loneliness of someone that is struggling to find a release from an all-consuming problem, it truly becomes a marvel to see.

Needing Jesus

No one knows that they need Jesus to save them unless they have either heard or read about it first. When you take the trouble to tell someone about your own experience about their particular problem, they cannot believe it at first, but your sincerity will soon have them eager to hear more. The lost need that they do not know of until they have been made aware of it. Often hatred, bitterness, despair, remorse, sadness, loneliness etc., has a person so deeply in its grip that it is impossible to help people. They, certainly, are unable to help themselves, otherwise, they would. It needs someone else, with a word of hope, that will often bring the change. Even if the time is not ripe for them to receive it, it is often like a flicker of light in a dark place, giving rise to hope amid despair. The need to believe in Jesus should be presented so that His love can bring forth the required response. What better way to do so than to offer the hope of life through your testimony of deliverance?

The power of prayer that changes matters

Testimony that is driven by prayer has a deep working in the human heart that is hard to be understood, apart from the working of a God that cares and gives help. The more

impossible the matter seems to be towards obtaining a solution, the more one has to pray and believe. This type of prayer and belief does not mean that we have to agonise, though this sometimes can be the case. It rather means that we are to be more intense and earnest in our prayer petitions. Prevailing prayer has a way of obtaining results. It has been said and is very true, that more things in heaven and earth have been accomplished by prayer than can be dreamed of.

Prayer and trusting faith through the Holy Spirit

Prayer is an intense cry of the heart, backed by trusting faith, towards God who hears, cares and helps. The knowledge that God exists, cares and rewards the prayer of true faith, are the three stepping-stones to obtain answers to prayer. Asking, believing, receiving and giving thanks are the four recommendations of Jesus in the matter of obtaining answers to your prayers. There is the help given, through the Holy Spirit, which assists us in the matter of praying. Sighing done in the Spirit of trusting God can often bring startling results. Praying can be done in silence, aloud, in secret and in the open, but will still bring results when attended by the real believing trust.

Present Jesus in your testimony

The emphasis should be on the helping power of Jesus Christ as Lord. The link-up of prayer to this truth is the perfect way to get results. It is not that the value of prayer is undermined, but rather that the ever-present help of Jesus should be emphasised. Some people may feel that it is the effectiveness of their prayer that brings about the desired results, but this is not so. Rather it is the prayer that is heard by Jesus and fulfilled by Him that are the true realities. We pray to be heard, Jesus answers to bless us.

The finished work of Calvary

The work of Jesus, before, during and after the crucifixion, which includes His resurrection and ascension into Heaven, is the basis for our faith, the conviction of our hearts and the response of our trust. He is the very same and has never changed. You can rely on Him to help you in your deepest and greatest needs. Only believe, pray and trust Him for the solution. It will surely come.

Practise prayer to receive results

After many prayers and many apparent failures, I finally discovered the secret of answered prayer. There are three things necessary:

- Ask for it, no matter how impossible it may be, believing in the miraculous to happen.
- Believe that it is possible and that God can grant it to you.
- Hope and wait for the answer or the solution and do not give up believing.

Release it (what you have prayed for) to God in hope of an answer and do not let your expectation subside until you receive it. It will then be yours. Remember to always thank God for expected answers and actual answers to prayers.

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7. Giving back to God opens up your promised blessings Ephesians 1:3-6

Husband and wife relationship

The way of marriage is still the most important relationship that we can engage in. Where two people, male and female, decide to join together in a loving relationship, intimacies and material benefits, in making a home and in uniting two separate families in law. The alternatives, which today abound, contradict this type of lifestyle, are not for the true believer. Marriage is spoken of as being the correct, usual and normal way of living, providing a home for the children that come out of such a marriage. The work times and relaxation times are for the benefit of the married partners and the children, enjoying precious moments together as one family. The pattern that is set in such a stable marriage becomes the pattern for the children to follow when they grow up. The continual caring, sharing and beneficial love flowing out of such a union have lasting consequences.

Parents and children relationship

The mother and father should build up a relationship with their children that helps the children to become stable citizens within their own family, social, work and church circles. The children learn discipline from their parents and the parents are there to guide them when it comes to making important decisions. It is such a pity that the governments do not include a syllabus for marriage, running the home, financial planning, and work structuring choices, as part of the schooling process, which we are all subjected to. These are left to the parents, but, more often than not, are neglected, to the detriment of the future of their children. We are exhorted to bring our children up in the fear and nurture of God.

Children and father

Usually, the father is the main breadwinner, but need not be. Where the father is away from the home earning a living, the mother usually has the task of helping the children at home, after school, and takes on the teaching role. This may, however, not be the case, as sometimes the children have to stay in a boarding school, due to circumstances, or are left to fend for themselves after school hours until the evenings. Where the father is the head of the house, he usually takes the main role in disciplining the children and making important decisions for them. Building up a father and child relationship is one of the most important duties of the father. He has to also make sure that the husband-and-wife relationship is flourishing. His role cannot be underestimated.

Children and mother

The mother has the most important role of teaching the children, as she more often than not spends more time with them. The relationship between the mother and children is very special as the mother usually supplies the emotional side within the children's lives. She is also the one that cooks and keeps the house in shipshape order, taking care of the laundry and many other demanding tasks. Happy is the home that has a father-mother relationship that is flourishing and is thereby providing the balance to the children for their upbringing and advancement. Supervising the children's homework, more often than not, falls upon the shoulders of the mother with the father helping out in the difficult subjects, wherever possible. The children should be taught such things as discipline, rewards, punishment, tidiness, helping with home chores, obedience to both parents, etc. These are values that will stand them in good stead throughout their whole life. Friendships should be cultivated rather than being disciplinarians. Fostering a loving, caring and sharing relationship between parents and children is the best way to go, but can also be the hardest to implement. It takes wisdom, understanding, compassion, patience and forgiveness, which will then forge strong

family ties, linking both sides of the in-law families together as one. This is not impossible if you allow God to do it.

Grandparents

No child should be disallowed the benefit of having access to their grandparents, wherever this is possible. Children love to have the wisdom of age to help them in their own decisions and often approach the grandparents for advice. Those who do not have this privilege, either by way of death or divorce, are missing a wonderful portion of their lives, which will possibly have to be made up by friends. Having God in the relationship will make up for the loss where this ideal is not possible, but can never replace the wonderful times that children can have to visit granny and grandpa.

Grandparents and children

Grandparents should work at developing the respect, love and trust of their grandchildren. The relationship should always be supportive of the parents on all sides, and should never undermine the authority of the parents. There is a wonderful way of standing in the middle, even as Jesus stands in the middle, and with His help to judge matters impartially and to give that compassionate touch that only true loving grandparents can give. Happy is the home and happy the children and grandchildren, with such a wonderful relationship working within the family circles.

Spoiling children

Parents need to bring their children up so that they are capable of handling necessary responsibilities. If this is not done, their parents and grandparents can spoil children. The bigger culprits, however, can often be the grandparents, who take sides against daughter and son-in-law or vice versa. This is counter-productive and should be avoided at all costs. Love is never one-sided and as it enlarges to touch each member of the family, it will grow and grow and grow; bearing the most wonderful fruit of that loving relationship, which can be the envy of the neighbours who do not have it. We all know of families that have nurtured this type of natural family love and we then realise that they have put all else into a second-place - which is the price of having such a loving family. God can bring this about for all of us who do not have it yet, but we need to start praying now, get our act together and encourage all to work towards it. Keeping forgiveness alive and killing hatred are two of the great secrets in promoting this. Happy is the family that can do this. God will help us as we turn to Him for this type of help.

Spoiling grandparents

The grandparents can be spoiled, provided it is done in the right way. They deserve it from all concerned. They have been the forerunners of the family, helping them to get where they are now. They are the progenitors of the family and as such, need special help in their old age, which the children and grandchildren need to provide, wherever possible.

Sometimes, it happens that children and grandchildren are selfish and take advantage of the grandparents, to their detriment. This is sad and is to be avoided. Lending money can have just such an effect. The grandparents need to walk circumspectly in such matters as relationships can be distorted beyond repair through careless handling.

Spoiling parents

Children can spoil their parents by being obedient to a fault. Parents can become demanding parents when this happens. The children are not always in a position to stop this and other types of abuse, because of fear and threat of punishment. It is a sad thing when this

happens, for the children grow up listless, lifeless and do not have a will of their own, and of course, the parents have a will of their own. Sad and sorry is such a type of parent/child relationship. The balance between tyranny and love must always become a reality in the lives of both children and parents. Sometimes parents make a mistake in the decisions for their children with dire results, and sometimes the children make decisions with dire results for the parents. These should be handled with understanding on all sides, and forgiveness and restoration of relationships should be encouraged.

Spoiling families

Jealousy is a fire that rages, sometimes eternally. Families that remove jealousy by fair and righteous dealings with each other are happy. Spoiling relationships between family members can affect the whole family in their dealings with each other. Gossip and slandering take a deadly toll and families that tolerate this are doomed to break up. Love, tolerance, caring and above all, family understanding will promote fair and righteous dealings amongst each family member. The apples we feed each other can be ripe, tasty and enjoyable. They can also have worms and be rotten, which will only be fit for throwing away.

Family relationships

The family relationship can promote a spiritual revival or it can break the revival down, depending on what we are prepared to do with each other, how we pray and forgive one another, endeavouring to promote family unity. Some families stand together in the church and some can divide a church. Which one are you working towards? God can start with you first, and then He can use you to get others going in the same direction. Faith, prayer and willing obedience will make the difference to the future of your own family's spiritual values. So, work at it consistently. God Himself, who will promote the circumstances for its fulfilment, bringing the natural and spiritual family revival that you are seeking for, will reward it in full.

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8. In Him holiness can become ours 2 Corinthians 7:1

Holiness is a concept that is associated with God. It is often spoken of in the Scriptures and is ascribed to God Himself, who alone is holy. The word holy means 'perfect in a moral sense, pure in heart' and holiness means 'religious goodness, sanctity'. The essence of its meaning in the biblical context is 'separate from sinners'. It conveys the meaning of purity; which sinners do not have. God is spoken of as the Holy One.

It is His Holiness

We are always given to understand that holiness belongs to God and is His alone. We are always exhorted, by the intimate followers of Jesus to become holy, as He is holy.

Be Holy for I AM Holy

The Scripture talks of the holiness of God and we are invited to become holy as we associate with Him.

Without holiness, we will never see Jesus.

Holiness is one of the prerequisites for seeing Jesus.

Holiness is being like Jesus

God, being so holy, is unable to be seen, and mankind cannot approach Him directly without a Mediator. Jesus is the Mediator whom God has chosen and set apart for Himself. When we see Jesus and observe His ways at the time of His visitation to Jerusalem 2000 years ago, we get a glimpse of what holiness is all about. He represents a holy God and as His representative, He had to do whatever God told Him to do. He also had to be what God wanted Him to be. By comparing the life of Jesus, His ministry and His loving ways towards those He came to minister to, we get a clearer picture of what holiness is and what it means to identify God with holiness and ourselves with the Holy God.

Holiness has a beginning

Holiness is not something that comes from nothing, out of nothing. Holiness comes from God who is described as the everlasting God. God is part of the three-fold eternal Godhead. He had no beginning and will also have no end. Holiness, coming from God, has one source - God Himself. He did not need to learn holiness, for He was always holy, unlike Jesus who learned holiness by the things that He suffered. Jesus was announced to be holy before His birth and from His birth, needing to be perfected by learning the obedience of holiness.

Working is not holiness

Many people seem to think that working for God makes a person holy. This is not true. Holiness comes from God and is awakened within those who work for God before they go out to work for Him. Their very reason for going out to work for God is their attraction to God's holiness from day one of their conversion to Jesus through their new-birth of the Spirit.

Giving is not holiness

Those who give time, labour and effort in the work of the Lord are usually counted by man as being holy, but this is not necessarily so. Many a charlatan has preached the gospel, being later exposed as such due to the progression of his so-called ministry or service. Holiness is a state of being and involves a deepening change in the inner character of the person. Holiness is having a pure heart. All believers are exhorted to have such a changed heart, a heart like God's own heart. The act of God, as a holy Father, giving His Son to die for the sins of the world, as presented in the New Testament, is an unusual viewpoint. The

viewpoint is God's however, and no excuses are given. We are told all this as a matter of fact, and we are required to believe it. This sacrificial giving endorses and emphasises God's holiness, but in no way, replaces holiness.

Holiness is a pure state of being, rather than working and/or giving

True holiness is a state of being and does not involve either working or giving, to prove holiness. Holiness is proved by the very nature and being of the one that is ascribed as Holy. God's holiness is emphasised as integral to, inseparable from, His being and is always spoken of as belonging alone to Him, the first source, and passed onwards to those He makes holy.

Neither working nor giving can save you

It follows that, in association with this wonderful, awesome and great God, we need to understand His methods for obtaining holiness. Part of His salvation is to rescue mankind from a fallen and depraved state of being. The new birth is the only method that has any power, bringing forth a new creation, which is pleasing to God, as Father.

Holiness has a giving and a working

Conversion to true holiness brings with it the responsibility to remain holy. A holy person, who is continuing in holiness, should continue in a life of holiness. It follows that a holy person, or one that is continuing in holiness, will only be able to do holy works and his giving will always be in a holy cause.

Holiness within - blessings follow you

We are exhorted to be holy. This is possible otherwise the exhortation becomes spurious, having no meaning. The holiness we are all seeking comes to us from Jesus, but we need to take time to become holy. We are told to lift holy hands, without wrath and doubting, in prayer to God. This simply means that our hands should be innocent, with our prayers coming out of a pure heart. It would be ridiculous to reason that a heart can be impure, but that hands can be holy. The holiness that God is seeking is in relationship with Himself, His Son and His Holy Spirit. The way to true holiness is through the Holy Spirit, who will help us all to become holy as we continue with Jesus, the Son and God, the Father.

We need to pray for this holiness, as God alone, through Jesus Christ as Lord, using His Holy Spirit, can help us to become holy.

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9. Godliness exalts a nation 2 Peter 1:2-4

The Lord Jesus has asked believers to pray the model prayer that He gave to them. The Lord's Prayer has only a few lines but they effectively sum up the whole purpose of God towards mankind. As each person learns to submit to God, given over to His guidance and rule in their lives, the Holy Spirit begins to make this prayer an effective happening in the life of each believer. God would like things to happen on earth as it is happening in heaven. Godliness, as opposed to ungodliness, exalts a nation and licentiousness debases a nation. Happy is the nation that has God as its leader, submitting to His decrees and obeying His rules.

He is called God of the nations, and at the end, when Jesus comes back again, there will be people out of every nation, tribe, tongue and kindred who will make up His Kingdom on earth. The nation that rejects godliness has no true morality to live by, and despotism and anarchy reigns. The rulers have a self-centred interest rather than a God-centred interest, and the people thereby become enslaved to tyrants.

Opening a God account

The nation that is God-fearing, opening their hearts and government to righteous rule and godly conduct, will experience peace for all their people. Peace will be the order of the day within the nation and the wicked will not be allowed to function under their own selfish, self-centred rule of wickedness. It is time for the nations to recognise God as their God. There are those nations that have opened up to the preaching of the gospel, but others refuse to countenance believers. In the latter case, the believers are either given little support, no support or are actively persecuted. It is time for the nations to open up an account with God and take Him into their reckoning. A God account is simply to give God credit for His part in exalting the nation and bringing peace to all, even the poor and needy. If we as believers start believing and praying for this to come about, it will come about. A recent incident that we know about is Russian communism, which did not countenance God at all. The nation started praying and the fall of communism there has astounded the world. Each nation needs to start believing and praying for groups that will stand in for their nation. The prayers of the righteous can have great effective power in this direction.

Resting in the God of Heaven

It starts with the people of God, who rest in their God. Having found the rest that is necessary for oneself, the believer can then start seeking the rest that comes to others. We are exhorted to call on the name of the Lord. God lives as Sovereign over us all. As we begin to realise and accept God's true sovereignty over ourselves, others will begin to learn acceptance for themselves. The revival of a nation begins or ends with oneself. The nations have a lethargy concerning God, simply because none seek after God'. God has a plan for the nations. Jesus would never have endorsed His prayer and asked us to pray, 'Your will be done on earth as it is done in heaven' if we are not supposed to do it.

Have a heart for God - His Godliness follows

Godliness comes towards you when you accept God into your life. He is full of His own life, emanating godliness. Godliness means to become like God; God-likeness. The heart that is seeking after godliness will set aside ungodliness. As we lift our hearts to God, seeking those things that are above, our hearts will begin to change in that very direction. Keeping on in this way will eventually begin to bear the fruits of godliness within oneself. Our usually self-centred heart, inclined towards our selfishness, will begin to change and become God-centred and God-inclined. It is impossible to truly associate with God and His ways and not

be touched in matters of godliness or of being godly.

Everything is changing but God cannot change

Everything changes. The changes may be slow, but we are all subject to change. In contrast, God is called the unchangeable God. He cannot and will not change, simply because the Scriptures declare Him to be perfect in understanding, as well as perfect in all His ways. If God is perfect, He alone claims for Himself, why should He change? What would He change to? Imperfection? Impossible. That which is perfect is known as the ultimate. Are improvements necessary? Only if the ultimate of perfection has not been attained. God is, and besides Him, there is no other God.

Kingdoms crumble, nations fall, but God remains

History tells us of wonderful nations that have prospered, continuing to enlarge, reaching near perfection. Their laws and government were fabulously instituted. Then suddenly war came to the land and everything changed. Some powerful nations fell, either becoming extinct or being absorbed into other nations. God has remained unchanged in all this and has continued to endure despite the greatest of upheavals. Even the upheavals in heaven could never dethrone God, for He would destroy or banish such rebels from His domain. God is, has been and will continue to remain throughout eternity. This is the wonder of having God presiding over a nation.

Believing and trusting through His commandments

The God-fearing nation that obeys God's commandments will be blessed. Individuals that obey God and seek to have God's will established in the earth, are blessed. The very proof of their blessing is the reason for the nation being called to godliness. We only have to look around to see what debauchery, fraud, crookedness and immorality are doing to people. Many people do not live to old age due to poverty, sickness, accidents, murder and wars. These would cease if mankind turns to God. Jesus had the faith to expect us to pray for change and we need to stand with Jesus expecting that change. Often, the believers say there is nothing they can do about matters. Prayers, faith and will become paralysed. It is time for believers to believe and obey the commandments of Jesus. This is the turning point in the life of each believer, the believer's families, friends and fellow workers.

Cleanliness is next to Godliness

The New Testament believers were exhorted to cleanliness which is next to godliness. The way we live and the matters we count important to lay the basis for all that follows in our lives. If we allow ourselves to become slothful, lazy and indifferent, then we cannot expect any other outcome than that which these negative behaviours bring. On the other hand, diligence, industry and positive contributions will bring the fruitfulness of its productivity. The nation that allows its country to become dirty, ungodly, with loafers lounging in the streets, is a disgrace to us all. However, it all starts with personal habits and is directly linked to godliness. Riding through a prosperous nation, that has clean neighbourhoods is a joy to see. The nation that tolerates dirty, soiled and littered streets invite distasteful derogatory remarks from foreign visitors and is extremely uninviting to them. This applies to personal hygiene, homes, streets, suburbs, environments, villages, towns and cities.

Calling forth a righteous government

The nation that has God at its centre will produce industrious people with municipalities having enough money to employ the necessary staff to keep the country clean. Littering will disappear from the countryside. God can do this for a nation, but the nation must ask God for His help in getting this done. The distribution of wealth goes hand in hand with poverty and

the government that has a just and equitable system for its people will become a prosperous and strong nation. We, as a nation, need to pray for and call forth our governments, regional governments and municipalities, asking God's guidance and blessing. The true believer can become a force in the nation, starting at local levels, proceeding to regional levels and then for the nation itself.

Running around in circles

Many of the nations of the earth run around in circles, looking for solutions, but somehow, always seem to come back to where they have started, despite progress in many areas. Each successive generation adds or detracts from the total solution. The nations that are at enmity with each other end up fighting with each other and war ensues. This is usually counter-productive and is to be avoided. Building up and not breaking down brings lasting prosperity to a nation. This God can do for our nation, but we need to believe and pray.

Call forth a blessed nation

The nation that goes forward prosperously, taking care of its people, is indeed blessed. There is no great abundance of such nations on the earth, at present, but a start has been made in many places. Nevertheless, it can become so with our nation. Let us start believing and praying for just that. Calling forth a righteous, godly people that can look up to a Holy God, seeking His Holiness.

Believers - do not give up but give over

Those nations that have discovered the ideal way to prosper their people are an example of what can be achieved. The will to stand together and fall together will decide the outcome of either continuing as a clean and godly nation or going down the road to their demise. The demise may take hundreds of years, but without true changes toward the ideal, it will surely come. Bloodshed, strife, unemployment, hatreds, seditions, insurrections and wars will ensue. The nation has to decide to stand together towards the ideal and there are no better people to make that start than the believers themselves. We need to give up our indifferent ways and give over to God to establish His ways in our lives.

Going all the way with God

If you are a believer and this presentation is speaking to your heart, then make the decision now to start praying for the change to come about. We are not all in a position, due to our circumstances, to do much about matters. There are, however, many people that could do something about it. These are people in a position of authority. They can help to effect the necessary changes. We need to pray that these be converted to God and God's way of godliness for the nation, by becoming an effective instrument in His hand. The people have a choice to either continue as they have been doing or to start the change that will bring the changes. Faithful, believing prayer makes all the difference.

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10. Our nation exalted in revival Revelation 14:6-7

No nation but under God

The time is coming when God will send Jesus Christ back to take over the nations of the world to rule them in peace and bring them under the subjection of His Father's required obedience. Whilst this is the believer's hope for the future, we as believers collectively, have the great commission to go into the entire world and preach the gospel to every creature under heaven. We have the assurance that out of every nation on earth there will be people who are called to serve God and to become one with His ideal of bringing all people back to God now through the preaching of the gospel and then at the return of Jesus Christ.

Working with the nations

Each believing nation has a responsibility towards other nations when it comes to the spreading of the gospel of Jesus Christ. The believers of each nation on earth have a responsibility to the other nations for reaching out the arm of assistance in providing spiritual bits of help and caring for the believers. The nation that takes this responsibility to heart, and the believers that do the same, are in the perfect will of God. Not only should a nation, through its believers, be reaching out towards others in the gospel, but it should be the top priority for believers to work together in the thrust of preaching the gospel. As the message of Jesus Christ goes out to the people of the earth, more and more people are available for the work of reaching others. God is the One who is doing this, using the extension of His workers to reach all parts of the globe.

Going out for God - ministries

The work of preaching the gospel is done through believers, those who are called to take the message out, but also through individuals that witness for Jesus, whether by speaking out or by just living life. Each of these extends the gospel in their way. However, despite this, the Lord has raised ministries to reach out, extending through pastors, workers and missionaries. These ministries are doing wonderful work in a multiplicity of ministries and using varying methods within those ministries to reach the lost and unsaved. Therefore, we are exhorted by Jesus to pray for labourers.

No one can do it alone

The words of Paul have a special significance when he states that we do not live alone, neither do we die alone, but we live to God and one another. God knows this better than we and has provided for believers to move in groups that have been formed to keep them within the boundaries of their fellowships, but allows some of these to go out beyond those borders, into areas that need revival and change. No single person has all the answers and no single minister of the gospel can claim to have it all or know it all. The Scriptures are so enormous and extensive in their scope that, at best, we as individuals can only get to know and understand a small part of the whole.

Common faith or scattered believers?

Groups, fellowships and churches may like to believe that they are contained and sufficient for the task within their faith and fellowship, and in some small sense, as branches of the trees; this is true, but certainly not in the universal sense trees amongst the forest. So how does each group cope with this problem and deal with this truth? They, one and all, follow principles, doctrinal teachings and practices that apply within the parameters of their collective faith and practise. People tend to be more comfortable with those who are of like precious faith and prefer to move amongst their believing circles. This is a fact of life and causes much stress amongst various believing groups, in our own country and the world as

well. It takes a special type of revival to unite believers across the borders of their particular faith and practise. This is what the world needs and only God could do this.

Give God a chance in your life

If we are already believers or are still seeking to understand what the gospel is all about, we nevertheless need to give God a chance to open our hearts in a special way to receive others who do not precisely, or even nearly, believe as we do. Without giving God the chance to open up our hearts we will never be able to extend a helping hand to any others except our group and our circle of ministering or witnessing.

God will do it as we ask in prayer:

“Dear God, our Heavenly Father, please wonderfully open up our hearts to other believers everywhere through your Holy Spirit and send out labourers by your Holy Spirit into Your vineyard, even as Jesus has asked us to do. If I need to go, reveal and inspire me/us. Amen.”

Revival is easy when God is doing it

We do not realise how important the spirit of revival is in the whole scheme of things. Revival is also the outreach of the gospel but is more specifically God touching the human heart in a specific way towards dramatic repentance and startling change. The power of the gospel which is being transmitted through preaching has the same end effect, but revival is far more sweeping and far more outreaching than preaching by itself can accomplish. The main difference between revival outreaching and pastoral outreaching is that the moving of the Holy Spirit, through revival waves, breaks through to people who are not always in the meeting and not specifically workers, but through anyone who has been personally revived himself/herself. This latter group can include housewives, businessmen, family members, children, young people, believers and outsiders, even newly repentant sinners who do not normally attend any particular place of worship. When a man tries to do it, it is hard work all the way, but when God breaks through it is miraculously easy. We need to pray this prayer:

“Lord Jesus Christ, please ask the Heavenly Father, Your Father and our Father, to bring down His revival so that we can be revived. Amen.”

Pre-revival first

Before the revival, there is usually a stirring of hearts amongst a few believers. This is called pre-revival and has to precede revival because it lays the groundwork for the revival that follows. Many churches have touches of revival, but only for short periods, simply because they did not allow enough time and the working of pre-revival towards revival. Premature revival can break out through preaching and teaching yes, and even though prophesying, but this in itself is not enough to allow pre-working to take its course towards an expanding and lasting revival. Turning people to Christ through evangelistic efforts will no doubt bear its fruitfulness towards expanding the gospel, but it is the revival in its true sense that does the work employing the impartation and spreading of inner conviction of sin and sinfulness. We need to pray this prayer:

“Lord Jesus, open up the pre-revival that precedes revival, save me/us from my/our sin and sinfulness and help me/us to be aware of what I am/we are required to do towards Your plan and purpose for us all. Amen.”

The refreshing must first come

The refreshing that has been promised came to the first-century believers and thus brought

a wind of change that opened up the way for a lasting revival spread that even lasts till this day, although somewhat cooled and less powerful in its continuing outreaching effects. The amazing increase of scriptural knowledge that came about through the reformation period brought a revival of its own that continues to this day, in various forms and denominational outreaches. What we need is a new refreshing wind that comes from God to open up the believers' hearts and minds towards true revival for the end times. This Holy Spirit wind move enters the heart and invigorates the soul of the believer first, then brings a desire for a revival next. I have it, why not others? We need to pray this prayer:

“Lord Jesus, please bring Your refreshing over me/us, within me/us and allow it to work through me/us towards others around me/us. Amen.”

The awakening

The person who has been touched by revival has been in contact with either preaching, teaching, exhortation, prophecies and/or impartation, even perhaps, may have had a revelation from heaven. It comes about supernaturally and the spirit of the person is awakened deep within, turning that person towards God. This turning is an unexpected dramatic change of heart that leads to a drastic change of faith and lifestyle, centred on Jesus and the Holy Spirit. The awakening takes place towards God with a new and vital interest around God, His word and His work, being accomplished through Jesus by the Holy Spirit. We need to pray and expect God to awaken us first and then to awaken others that we meet with every day. We need to pray this prayer:

“Lord Jesus, please let Your Spirit come and awaken me/us from the sleep that the world has towards Your godly and holy things, Your nature and character, yes, even to get to know You, as my/our own personal Saviour, Friend and Counsellor, through the Holy Spirit of God. Amen.”

The quickening

The quickening experience has a deep-seated effect on the heart and life of a person. Having been touched by God you cannot remain the same. The quickening effect of a meeting with God is revolutionary and a person is so profoundly touched that God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit become real; an experience within of a new life, zeal, power, strength and certainly a new awareness. We need to pray for this quickening:

“Lord Jesus, please touch me/us and quicken my/our heart deep within through Your Holy Spirit and let Your life-giving touch become my/our own living experience now. Amen.”

Revival moving

God has promised to pour out His Spirit upon all flesh and this He did when He poured out His Spirit at Pentecost. We need to become partakers of this outpouring and ask for a new outpouring in these end times that precedes the return of Jesus to the earth. Are you part of it, now and into the future?

“Help us O God, and we shall be helped. Amen.”

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11.The twelve-point revival of Jesus Christ as risen Lord Matthew 28:18-20

Jesus Christ, as risen Lord, instituted a twelve-point revival:

John 21:15-16

- Feed my lambs. Tend my sheep. Feed my sheep.

Luke 24:47-48

- Repentance and remission of sins should be preached in My name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.
- You are witnesses to these things.
- I send the promise of My Father upon you, tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high.

Mark 16:15-18

- Go into all the world.
- Preach the gospel to every creature.
- Those that believe the gospel and are baptized will be saved.
- These signs will follow those who believe:
 - they will cast out demons;
 - they will speak in new tongues (the Holy Spirit baptism);
 - they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.

Matthew 28:18-20

- Make disciples of all the nations.
- Baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and the Holy Spirit.
- Teach them to observe all things that I have commanded you.

“Lo. I am with you to the end of the world.”

His truth of the Way

Every truth has an outcome for us, and so has a lie. Whether the outcome will be good or bad for us will depend on how we see it. Everyone sees things differently as we usually have a different viewpoint from which we are judging truth or lies. Although this is true in our own experience it nevertheless does not banish truth into some obscure realm that only God can know. Truth has to have a standard by which all truth is measured, otherwise, the above-mentioned supposition will not be the only truth that there is.

The way of His truth

The standard or measure of truth is to be judged by the standard or measure that has been set by an authority. The law of a land, for instance, as those who write the law (either lawyers or politicians) those who dictate the penalties of the law (the judges or legal committees) and those who establish law and order (the police and the judiciary). Each section that establishes and upholds the law has a part to play, but the standard set makes them servants to that standard. The law opens up the way of truth, and the truth of the way is established through law and order. These two interrelated workings, however, both serve one common purpose - to back up the law and see that it is upheld. God has a way and we need to walk in His way.

Held in His hand

God's truth comes from His standards and working. He therefore does not need any private interpretation. His interpretation is part of His truth. How He sees things is exactly

how they are to be upheld. God is the one who decides if we are keeping His truth and His way. His truth is held in His hand, extended towards us and we can either accept that truth or reject it, with two possible consequences and outcomes for our actions. Acceptance or rejection, rewards or punishments, favour or disfavour. These are God's prerogatives. Now not only is His truth extended to us but also, we are held in His hand, kept there by His Almighty power. The same hand that helps us, by giving us God's truth, is the same hand that can guide us into that truth. His watchfulness over us will help and guide us to keep His truth, and His powerful hand will support us all the way.

The arm of His strength

The hand of God is extended through the arm of His strength. He has the power to bind us and the power to release us. Scripture speaks of this hand and arm being extended to help us in all the circumstances of our lives, with power enough to help us in all difficult situations arising in our lives.

The life of His resurrection is the birthing of His resurrection life in the saints

Jesus came to do His Father's will and His Father always helped Him in one way or another. His miracles are from the Father, His obedience is from the Father, His life is from the Father, etc. God helped Jesus and Jesus is therefore willing and able to help us. We are told that because He lives, we shall also live. We stand up in Christ Jesus who has risen if we believe it to be true for us. The truth of the truth opens up a way for us to believe and our believing then helps us to trust God, who helps us by the works of His hand and the strength of His power. The believers are known as His saints. He is known as the King of saints.

The Life of His Spirit

The saints are people who stand for the truth of Jesus and are being sanctified by that truth. The word 'saint', actually means 'the sanctified or called-out ones', or 'those that are set apart.' The life of His Spirit is different from our natural lives. His Spirit has Godliness as the very core and essence of its centre in God and also in Christ Jesus as our risen Lord. They, together, can help us with any problem that is too difficult for us to handle ourselves. The Holy Spirit will always assist in matters that are governed and controlled by both the Father and His Son. Learn to trust them, pray to them, believe and obey them, as you learn of these things. You will be surprised at the wonderful insight you will obtain from understanding their willingness to rise for us and, in the true believers, even in us.

The Prayer of His Power

Often, we say we do not know how to pray prayers of power. He can even help you with this. The Holy Spirit is given to us to help us in this very matter. Pray in the Holy Spirit. This means to let go and open up your heart and spirit within God's love towards you, through Jesus Christ, praying earnestly. The Holy Spirit will help you, even though He may not be in you yet. He is there to help us in our approach to God, through Jesus Christ. Open up a prayer talk with Jesus and ask, by trusting Him, to draw near to you and believe me, He will. I have found this to be wonderfully true in my own believing experience. After all, if He is the one that sends His people out to convert the world, why should He not help us in that very task? Let Him start with us first. I have given Him the chance to change me. Why not let Him also change you?

The power of His prayer

Every professing believer should study *John 17*, in which Jesus prays a wonderful prayer to His Father. If we can grasp what Jesus is saying and ask Him to do it for us, He surely will.

These are dealt with in this web-site

- HEALING
- CLEANING
- BLESSING
- POWER
- RIGHTEOUSNESS
- HOLINESS
- GLORY
- SALVATION
- RESTITUTION
- STRENGTH
- PURIFICATION
- DELIVERANCE
- LIBERTY

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12.Friends - Yourself - Enemies Matthew 5:44

- If you could pay the price to let your enemies go, would you do it?
- If your friends loved you enough, how much would you appreciate it if they loved you enough, even to die for you if the need arose?
- Can you say you love your friends enough to die for them?
- Are you prepared to live for your wife/husband or are you prepared to die for her/him? Jesus was prepared to live for us and die for us, both at the same time.
- Who do you love more - yourself, your friends or your enemies?
- Who is your greatest enemy? Another person, satan, or yourself?
- You love your friends, but do you love your enemies?
- What would you do if your friends all left you to die and watched without doing anything to save you?
- Who is your greatest friend? Surely it will be the one who loves you so much that he is prepared to share everything he has with you?
- Sinners killed Jesus and yet He loved them so much. He even died for them, although they were his enemies.
- This is even more remarkable since He was without sin.
- He had God as His Father and always did those things that pleased the Father. Why should we live for His friends and die for His enemies?

These are some of the numerous questions that have plagued great thinkers over the years and have made them doubt the story of Jesus as told in the New Testament.

The thinkers doubt it because it does not seem to make any sense but as the whole story unfolds to sinners, they can accept it. This, place the two groups apart from each other. The thinkers need to obtain faith to believe the story and then they will discover the reality of their believing as they benefit from the blessings that God opens up to them.

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13. Hearing the voice of God John 5:25

Some people belong to a word-based church. This means that they hear, read and try to obey the words and commandments in following Jesus.

Other people belong to a prophetic church, where prophets are allowed to speak and give guidance through prophetic utterances.

Some churches encourage the pastoral couple to peak into their lives and leave it to the pastoral couple to guide them. Teachings from the platform and counselling play a great part in this type of ministry.

There is another method that God provides that is extremely effective and countless believers experience them at times. There are those believers who receive dreams and visions from God. These may have to be interpreted as they contain God's mysteries. They are in a form of a parable, portraying the meaning of using pictures, scenes, or illustrations. Open vision is also part of this type of gifting, where real scenes are enacted beforehand, and the recipient is taken into a spiritual experience. The normal body senses are stilled and spiritual viewing and hearing take place. The last one is where a person goes into a trance and loses all contact with the normal world but sees and hears a spiritual happening. These people are gifted to experience these various ministrations of the Holy Spirit. They may need to pray for interpretations in some instances or seek an interpretation from another believer.

The time for the world to do its own thing is fast approaching a climax of the ages. The wicked have controlled the world by attacking the righteous over the centuries, but now the clamour of common people, due to the internet exposures of what is happening, is rising with a shout of vengeance. This is apparent throughout the earth and the wars will be ongoing to escalate between religious factions, all striving for their world dominance.

The Scriptures were given by God to open His will and purpose in the world, especially so that sinners can repent and be saved and that the true believers will not be left in the dark without knowledge and instructions.

It is possible to wait on God for Him to reveal whatever you wish to know, using Scriptures to compare with Scriptures.

Whatever method is being used, for there are other methods as well, it is only right that we hear directly from God Himself, as He speaks to us through Jesus Christ, Himself.

Whether we receive the voice of God through the Scriptures or hear the voice of Jesus directly, as Paul did on the way to Damascus, it is God opening His perfect will to the human race.

Now, satan has interfered once more, by introducing new Bible translations into the English-speaking nations of the world, with deletions and additions being the new order of the day.

God says that He has allowed people to be ignorant in the past, but no longer.

Acts 17:30 "Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent."

Repentance is the theme of Jesus message, through His disciples who take it into the world.

Has the true gospel reached you yet? More importantly, have you repented?

The Good Shepherd speaks

This method is a very sound method for it is the voice of Jesus that is speaking directly to the spirit of those who trust Him and believe in His Good Shepherd ministrations.

All these will be opened in one way or another during the progressions of these modules and their stages. Be patient to wait for this as it unfolds in these lessons.

Your progression of knowledge and practice will open to you the mysteries and make them plain. As you apply yourself in faith, you will come to know what you need to be doing, and what you need to believe and put into practice through prayer and seeking God.

Do not get discouraged and give up seeking. This is exactly what the devil wants and Jesus said, *“Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.”*

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Stage 2 - Seeking God's People for His Heavenly Kingdom

Preamble

These studies are presented in a progressive study order and are suitable for bible study in the church, bible school, believing group and home-centred outreach. The modules may also be grouped and used for topical studies and seminars. We are trusting God to inspire His people everywhere to use these modular studies for themselves and to help others to use them in seeking and finding Jesus Christ as Lord of their own lives.

Revival in the heart

Stage 2 - Seeking God's People for His Heavenly Kingdom

1. Objectives Romans 6:11-18

The following objectives are envisaged, with the help of the Lord Jesus Christ through the Holy Spirit to the Glory of God, our Heavenly Father:

- Presenting an invitation for people to come to repentance under these inspirational messages.
- Allowing the Spirit of Christ to change people who hear these messages.
- Presenting to each person who is interested a chance to read these testimonies as revelational interpretations of the Holy Spirit.
- Allowing for a literal and/or spiritual interpretation, where applicable, to be presented to open up revelation.
- Calling forth a people for His name, under the banner and spiritual clothing of His love.
- Preparing for each one a chance to discover what is their potential in the gospel, to personally understand it and to embrace it for themselves.
- Developing working relationships towards other believers, fostered through teaching the truth in usual and unusual settings that fully endorse the Holy Scriptures.
- Bringing closure to the enemy and his works, removing him from the victory of each believer, by presenting Christ as the true Conqueror.
- Allowing the spirit of revival to flourish under the Lord's faithful banner.
- Presenting the Spirit of our Heavenly Father to enfold us in His love that is offered through Calvary.
- Getting to the root cause of sin, allowing Jesus to remove its stain and opening up true righteousness as purposed in the plan of God.
- Opening up of the Word to give God's true light to all who are seeking.

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2. Ask for your coal, receive God's diamond Galatians 6:2-9

The diamond is originally, whilst still in a very deep part of the earth in its initial stages, coal carbon and graphite. As the coal gets heated under pressure it starts to change to graphite. A further stage of the progress of this graphite, together with other changing elements in the melted rock, through which this graphite passes, causes the graphite to become transformed into diamond crystals that build up to form a typical diamond shape. All the time the diamond is being made the fire and molten rock pushes it up higher and higher towards the surface. As it gets nearer the surface it becomes cool. A diamond miner then finds this formed diamond when he digs down at it. The resultant pressure, on the other hand, may have pushed it up from underneath to become exposed above the surface of the ground, where a diamond prospector can find it. Coal to diamond - this aptly describes our progress in the believer's experience. We are being changed from the darkest coal into the brightest diamond as we ask God to change us. Often, we expect things to become better coals, but God's purpose is to change, not so much the things that surround us, but us into being the best of His diamonds.

The secret of receiving from God

When we ask God to do something for us or to change a particular circumstance, we have a similar process taking place. We ask for and expect coal, but God only wants the best for us, so He always does it His way to bring this about. If we start to see God's working towards us in this type of blessing, we will be patient in waiting for the answers to our prayers. Recognising this type of blessing brings wonderful growth to the believer's heart and life. Every answered prayer brings a new set of circumstances into being. Learn to be satisfied with your changed circumstances and you will be able to receive God's answers to your prayers.

The rewards are great and lasting through your obedience

Prayer needs time to become real in the form of received answers. The answer is a way for God to express His greater love to us than we can usually appreciate. This appreciation has to develop and once developed it will help you to receive numerous answers to your prayers. Answered prayer opens up a better understanding of God's ways, which are higher and greater than ours. His thinking is not our thinking and our thinking is not His thinking. Each prayer needs to be accompanied by our assurance of obedience, asking for God's help to walk in that obedience, whilst the prayer is being said, to the fulfilment of the prayer and even after receiving the answer. Making promises to God to nudge God to answer your prayer is a dangerous practice. Rather ask for the assurance to obey God in whatever He may require.

The thanksgiving that follows

Thanksgiving whilst praying is a way of honouring the anticipated answer. Whilst the prayer is being accomplished, should you remember your request, it is to be accompanied by thanksgiving. After the answer to your prayer has been received, further thankfulness is necessary. Thanksgiving is a way of life in itself. It is truly wonderful to have a thankful heart and God not only appreciates this but will answer your prayers much sooner, according to His will.

The working of redemption, salvation and deliverance

Redemption is the act of God in bringing about a buying back of the lost to Himself. The price that was paid for our redemption is the blood of Jesus.

Salvation is the act of God in bringing us to Himself by rescuing us from the consequences of eternal penalties.

Deliverance is the act of God in bringing us to become like Him and not like our old unredeemed, unsaved and lost selves.

The coal of His fire

Each request takes time to be answered, but there is such a thing as miraculous answers to prayer, where the answer comes immediately and usually with startling results, so to speak, coal passing through the fire to become a diamond. This is usually startling to those who witness it. It is truly miraculous and often our breath is taken away momentarily in the process, for its awesomeness. Each answer to prayer that is fulfilled helps us in God workings of redemption, salvation and deliverance.

More than you ask for

Each prayer gives us more than we ask for, simply because our expectation often falls far short of God's generosity. Sometimes we ask for something thinking that the answer will come about in a particular way, which does not materialise. Nevertheless, the prayer gets answered from a different source or in a different way, with additional surprises.

The working relationship between our Lord and us

A habit of believing prayer brings about a continuous flow of answers and abundant surprises. A working relationship develops between you and your Lord. Many times, we need only desire something and before we know it, it comes to pass, without having expressed any formal prayer. It is as if Jesus knows your thoughts and though unexpressed, He goes right away to work at it and provides an answer that often takes us by complete surprise. Develop this type of relationship and your life will be full of God's abundance, overflowing abundance that Jesus called 'life in greater abundance'. Of course, the relationship is mutual and you need to do whatever Jesus desires from you. The mutual relationship grows as love and trust grow. Love and trust grow as prayers are answered and as you obey your Lord in His intents and requirements for your life.

The unreasonableness of our request

Many times, as we pray, we feel that our prayer is unreasonable. Not that it is so, but rather, we are unable to realise the full reason for our prayers being answered. We are, so to speak, slow of heart to believe. This slowness of heart gets healed as we continue in our daily prayer life, receiving many daily answers. Prayer does not have to always be done on one's knees. Prayer requests can be done whilst we are busy with our daily tasks, like the housewife who is baking bread or washing the dishes, etc. Jesus did not count any prayer unreasonable, as long as we added faith to the request and believed that it would come to pass.

The reasonableness of the fulfilment of our request

If we can fully grasp that God answers our prayers out of His love and not out of our need, then it becomes easier to find the required answers to your prayers, even miraculous answers that astound. Every answer to prayer is God's habit of answering prayers. Can you imagine a God who is so stingy to answer prayers that you have to do almost impossible things to get His answers? This is not the case. God gave us His Son, Jesus Christ to be our Lord, when we did not even know Him, were not yet born, knowing full well that we would be unbelievers until belief is born in our hearts. How much more now that we believe?

The fire of His coal

There are fire and pressure necessary for coal to be transformed into a diamond. This is true of our own believing life in all its aspects, from prayer to living. The fire will always be there, but God, who is in charge of your life and circumstances, wants you and your prayers

to go through the transforming fire and pressure, to bring about a diamond result. In some wonderful way, the fire and the coal are inseparably linked in our lives, and this relationship produces the diamond, at the right time, that is God's timing for us all. Take away the fire and the pressure and there will be no diamonds. Patience is needed to get that diamond result. Ask for patience when you pray and you will be rewarded with a diamond result.

The working value of waiting

Waiting is never pleasant. It usually opens up an inevitable irritation because of pressing circumstances. Imagine a person dying and needs an answer to prayer. He wants to be healed. Irritation upon irritation. Patience is therefore needed to replace this terrible irritation.

The trusting values of faith

There are wonderful values in faith as we learn to trust God through every circumstance of our lives. Here are eight of them:

- Faith increases as it is exercised daily.
- Trust grows as the results of faith are realised.
- Hoping expectantly for answers increases trust.
- Doubting cancels out faith and faith cancels out doubting.
- Waiting for answers to faithful prayers keep hope alive.
- Hope realised becomes a stepping-stone to greater faith.
- The results of faith increase trust and hope for future faithful purposes.
- Let patience abound and faith have her perfect work.

The urgency of believing first and then doing

When life presents you with a major setback or an impending disaster, the very first thing we all tend to do is think of a solution. We think this way and that way, trying to seek the best solution. Often the very last resort is prayer unless the crisis is urgent and desperate enough to focus our attention on a needed miracle. We should stop worrying and start believing. We need to pray the prayer of faith. We need to thank God for the fire on the coal. We will get better results and quicker. Doing has to be combined with our faith and prayers, but sometimes we are in such a crisis that it does not allow much doing, and then the fire is on for the coal to become a diamond. Realise this and you will be surprised how your prayer and faith life will grow. Believe what God presents to you in His Scriptures and begin doing them, even in your weakness. Ask for His daily strength to do them, as He would have you do them. This is pleasing to God. He will help you. He has promised and will not fail.

The opening prayer and it's meaning - motivational asking

Every prayer has a motivation and every prayer has an inner meaning. Prayers that are prayed without true motivation are seldom answered. The meaning of our prayer should be understood to get a quick answer or a truer result. The motivation for prayer should always be to please God first, then ourselves next. The meaning of our prayer should be according to what God requires for us and not only what we require for ourselves. Your initial prayer paves the way for God to answer you. The second thoughts we all get before answered prayer is usually surrounded by our doubts. Deal with doubt first and then deal with motivation and meaning. The prayer of faith brings results when our motives and meanings are in line with what we need and not what we only desire. We are reminded that our needs will be met according to what God desires for us. The way forward then is to pray correctly to get results.

Less than you bargained for, but more than you expected

We all tend to ask for the minimum. We do not bargain for more. After all, is said and

done, why should God take the trouble to give us more than we ask for or even more than we can expect? This is not the way of Jesus. He gave reasons for believing in the best that God can give you in any given circumstance. This is His principle of abundant life. However, this does not mean that you must be unhappy with the answers that God gives you, which may sometimes be, 'no', 'wait', 'keep on asking', 'keep on trying', 'keep on believing', 'do what I require', etc.

Remember - the pressure and fire must do their work first for the coal to be transformed.

The coal has become a diamond, but you must be able to recognise your diamond when you receive it

I have seen someone pray for a baby girl to be born and instead God gives them a boy. Great dissatisfaction by the parent was the result. However, as the boy started growing and presented a wonderful nature of the character to the parent, and the father could see the progress the child was making, the diamond was discovered. Answered prayers can have an anomaly to it that astounds and shatters our expectations. This is a part of praying and believing. God holds absolute sway and can do it His way, whether we like it or not, accept it or not, desire it or not. Look for the diamond and do not be disgusted at the seeming coal that is still untransformed. Your prayer life will grow. Your faith in life will abound. Your love life towards God and people will enlarge. Look for the valuable diamond and not for the cheaper coal. Your faith and God's answer make all the difference.

Opening up a fountain of prayer

There is a way of prayer that is wonderful. It is a fountain of prayer that keeps on flowing all the time that brings about everything necessary and lasting. As circumstances and changes take place that calls for additional prayer, prayers should be forthcoming from your prayer fountain.

A fountain that keeps flowing and never dries up is a source of water that brings wonderful results to the fore, i.e., green vegetation, fruitful trees, flowers, etc. Even so in the spiritual life. A fountain that is flowing with prayer and thanksgiving becomes a continual blessing to the one that allows it to happen. The Holy Spirit is willing to help you to attain this, but in a restful way and not in an anxious, driven way. Allow Him to work it out for you, using His guidance when you pray. He knows what you need and what you should ask for, even how to ask, correcting your motivations and meanings.

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3. The suffering of Jesus Christ Hebrews 10:4-10

Jesus tortured and crucified, kindling a fire with His mouth.

This was seen as a pictorial portrayal in front of me, manifested against a portion of the rock face on Devil's Peak Mountain, Cape Town, South Africa.

Kindling a fire

I was walking down a road leading towards Cape Town. I felt a strong urge to look up at the mountainside. As I looked at the mountain, trying to see what was being shown to me, I saw the face of Jesus, with a crown of thorns on His head, with His eyes shut, His head facing downwards as if He had been suffering deep agony and pain. He seemed to be dead. I looked at it for some time and felt deep-seated compassion for Him, also realising at the same time that it was not only for me but even for us all, that He suffered so and eventually died.

Suddenly my attention was riveted to His mouth. I noticed a long thin taper clenched between His compressed lips and coming out from His mouth, pointing in front of and to the left of His face. The tip of the taper furthest from His mouth was lit up and it seemed to me as if a small flame was burning there. It seemed to be a very clear indication of something that could be of great significance to me. I walked on further down the road towards Cape Town pondering over what I had seen and wondering what its relevant significance could be.

Having discovered, over many years that these types of manifestations have a definite meaning. I asked the Lord for the interpretation. A verse of scripture came into mind:

Luke 12:49 "I came to send fire on the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled!"

This pictorial presentation of the suffering servant of God is given to provide insight into the working of God. The significance of the taper and the fire is directly linked to His purpose for coming to the earth as the true Son of God, but also as a human being, undergoing such deep suffering, shame and death.

The following points are pertinent to the abovementioned Scripture and the portrayal that I saw:

- The face of Jesus presented with such deep expression of suffering, is concerning His torture and subsequent death that was so cruelly brought upon Him by His enemies.
- His stated reason for coming at that time was to send fire on the earth.
- He had a specific work to do on the earth and He said that He was in expectant anticipation of it taking place.
- Judging from the above Scripture this apparently could only be fulfilled at a later stage.
- The taper, therefore, stands as a symbol of His effective words that will bring everything about.
- The fire is lit. The fire is shown here as linked to His suffering and death.

Observations towards interpretation

The revelation has a working that has to be clearly understood.

The fire is directly brought about through the use of a taper. The words that He spoke then are a prophecy and the taper is a symbol drawing attention to that prophecy. It is something that He alone is going to bring about.

Fire is a burning force that can either bring great blessing or great destruction. The work to be done and the fire that was to come to have reference to the whole earth, not only the

Jewish nation or the people of those times, for He came to save the whole earth and every nation.

Interpretation

Jesus, as an innocent and just person, had to suffer condemnation, torture and death for the sins of men and women everywhere. He had a specific work to do, to kindle and rekindle the fire of God on the earth, which was extinguished by the devil and his forces in the very beginning. This kindled fire would come about through the prophetic working that His words would engender in the hearts of people everywhere. This fire would come about through a kindling flame and would enlarge itself upon the earth as God allows it to burn. The fire that is kindled can be received as a blessing or curse, depending on the way we receive it. By receiving the words of Jesus, we also receive His blessings.

Two thoughts present themselves here - does the taper light many fires in various places, or does one taper start a fire that by itself spreads to many places? Either one could be true, or even both. The taper seemed to be about 24 cm long. This seems to suggest therefore that it could be used many times and, possibly, as when one lights a series of candles, keep burning for a certain length of time.

Could it be that Jesus was, in the past and present, called by God, His Father, to kindle both of these controversies, blessings and curses, and thereby spread revival fires on the earth? This seems to be the truth for the following reasons:

- The name of Jesus, ever since His miraculous ministry to the Jewish and Roman world of His time, has caused a raging controversy that has never ceased between two main opponents; on the one side are those who believe Him to be the Saviour of the world and on the other side those who doubt it or perhaps even object to it being so.

Luke 2:32 "A light to bring revelation to the Gentiles, And the glory of Your people Israel."

Mark 16:15-16 "... Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. He who believes and is baptised will be saved, but he who does not believe will be condemned."

Psalms 2:1-3 "Why do the nations rage, And the people plot a vain thing? The kings of the earth set themselves, And the rulers take counsel together, Against the Lord and His anointed, saying, 'Let us break Their bonds in pieces and cast away their cords from us'".

- The claims of Jesus and His apostles to Jesus being Lord of all, as well as the promised Jewish Messiah, has raised deep concern to many people of the earth.

Acts 2:36 "Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ."

John 4:25-26 "The woman said to Him, 'I know that the Messiah is coming' (who is called Christ). 'When He comes, He will tell us all things.' Jesus said to her, 'I who speak to you am He'".

- His claim to be the Son of God in truth, because of a virgin birth, stating emphatically that God was His Father, has brought about tremendous continuous ridicule and controversy through countless people, but wonder and reverent worship through his followers.

John 5:22-23 “For the Father judges no one, but has committed all judgment to the Son, that all should honour the Son just as they honour the Father. He who does not honour the Son does not honour the Father who sent him.”

John 8:54-55 “Jesus answered, ‘If I honour Myself, My honour is nothing. It is My Father who honours Me, of whom you say that He is your God. Yet you have not known Him, but I know Him. And if I say, ‘I do not know Him,’ I shall be a liar like you; but I do know Him and keep His word.”

- The facts of His death, resurrection, ascension into heaven and sympathetic mediation with God the Father, His promised return prophetically foretold in the Old Testament and historically in the New Testament, are all dismissed by many as sheer fabrication, whilst believers uphold these recorded happenings as a basis for believing, deeply affecting their daily lives and way of living.

1 Corinthians 15:20-23 “But now Christ is risen from the dead, and has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since by man came death, by Man also comes the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive. But each in his order: Christ the firstfruits, afterwards those who are Christ’s at His coming.”

Acts 1:11 “... This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven.”

Acts 2:32-33 “This Jesus God has raised, of which we are all witnesses. Therefore being exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He poured out this which you now see and hear.”

Acts 1:8 “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.”

- The promise that we will receive the Holy Spirit to give us the power to be witnesses and to take the glad message into all the world is the faith, hope and love of all those who believe in Jesus.

The picture I saw, together with the interpretation, shows a fire that is being kindled; to those who doubt, controversy; to those who believe, a basis for faith? The separation judgment of those who stand with Jesus and those who do not, is not in our hands, for Jesus Himself claims that it is in His hands, given to Him by His Father.

John 5:24 “Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life.”

Does the fire signify Holy Spirit revival or Holy Spirit judgment or both? We believe it signifies both. We must all decide this for ourselves.

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4. Opening up the Jesus revelation Ephesians 1:15-23

There is a revelation of Jesus

Jesus has the perfect revelation of the Father in Heaven, His very own Father. He knows what the Father's heart is concerning all things. He, therefore, has the perfect revelation of His will and plan for the whole earth and the worldlings upon it. This revelation is from the Father's throne and has been committed to the Son of His love - Jesus. Many people want to understand this revelation, but it is hidden from them because revelation brings responsibility, responsibility brings judgment, and mercy only comes after judgment has been accomplished. If each person would be willing to not only hear the gospel but to do it as well, it would be easy for him or her to understand the revelation. Refusing to understand the revelation brings forth a type of rejection from that person, and of course, rejection has a future punishment attached to it, according to Jesus; whether or not, we will have it so.

Suffering can bring revelation

God does not want us to suffer any more than we are suffering at present, due to the punishment He inflicted upon us as descendants of Adam and Eve, who fell into sin, passing on both sin and punishment to us all. He, therefore, judges us according to responsibility, which comes about through the hearing of the gospel. Should we prefer not to do what He requires of us, we receive punishment, and on the other hand, if we prefer to do what is required of us, we receive a reward. Receiving either reward or punishment depends upon our choice of accepting or rejecting the gospel and enlightening revelation comes only after the choice has been made, whether right or wrong.

It comes from the Father in Heaven

The revelation comes from the Father in heaven, but He has chosen to pass it on to us, through prophets, teachers, apostles, evangelists and preachers. These all have a turn in the Scriptures to convey to us revelational truth. This truth is conveyed to them by the Spirit of God, who in turn passes it on to posterity through the recorded word of the Scriptures. The greatest revelation is reported as having been given by none other than the Lord, Jesus Christ himself. His revelation brings the Father before us in a wonderfully real and perceivable way.

It opens up the mysteries of God to those who trustfully

Revelation reveals mysteries to us. The mysteries of God, which would otherwise not be known, would not be able to be understood and be received and enjoyed towards living a life of regular obedience.

God himself reveals what may be known about God in the Scriptures. He has chosen to reveal many things to us about His character, personality and attributes, which would otherwise not be known or understood with such clarity.

It is for all the world to hear, to receive or reject

Each revelation that God gives to mankind is addressed to the whole world. Great parts of the people of the world, however, do not know of it and are ignorant of it, simply because they have never been told of it. The commandment given to go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature is the method God has for revealing Himself to the world. His children have the responsibility to take the gospel out and present it to each family of the nations of the earth. Whether they receive it or not.

It touches God's children

God's children everywhere respond to the message of the gospel and the children of the

devil resist, refusing to respond. There is also a middle class of people that say there is neither God nor the devil and we will therefore do our own thing as we see fit to do. The children of God are unhappy about this, but can only pray for these two other classes of people.

It concerns the righteous and the sinner

God's revelational message is presented to both the righteous and sinner alike. Each has the right to decide for themselves whether they will or will not accept and obey it. The freedom of choice is ours, but the prerogative lies with God to either accept or reject that person based on that choice. Our wrong choices do not set us free from God's final judgment when He is going to mete out punishment and rewards for either disobedience or obedience. God is the Lawgiver and therefore is also the Judge.

The value of one soul

If we consider how many people are on the earth at this moment and how many have been on the earth since its beginning, one seems to get the impression that one living soul i.e., one living person, is very insignificant.

However, each person is an individual and has accountability to God. Therefore, each person is important to himself and herself. What is a soul worth? Jesus had something to say about all this.

The exchange

What can we give in exchange? Life is so precious and we have only one chance at it. If we lose that chance, we do not get a second chance in this life, as we only live once. Considering the cost is the personal prerogative of each person that cannot be delegated to another person.

It is everlasting life to those who obey

The choice that lies before each person is to choose life or death, eternal life or eternal death, the second death. The difference between these two outcomes to our choice is extremely vast. Obedience brings reward and disobedience brings punishment. The reward of the believer is opposite to the punishment of the unbeliever.

It opens up a fountain of life to the believer

The believer receives wonderful blessings from God, which will help them on to their eternally blessed destiny. With the unbeliever, a completely different destiny may result in this life, depending on their morals, ethics and behaviour. The believer can receive a fountain of blessing that leads to everlasting life. The unbeliever, being unjust, usually receives a mixed blessing that eventually leads to everlasting death and separation from the blessings reserved only for the just. The Examiner of the thoughts and intents of the heart will do the marking of the test of the correctness of all things. We will all have to give an account of ourselves to Him, the Lord Jesus Christ.

It is an everlasting sorrow to those who disobey

Sorrow and gladness are two fountains that come forth in every life and none on this planet are exempt from these two fountains. We are all subjected to the vicissitudes of this life, and they can be either good or bad, sometimes even being both good and bad at the same time. We call these the trials of life. The believer as well as the unbeliever has to go through them. However, there is a time of suffering for the believer here on earth, as the unbelievers take it upon themselves to persecute the believers, who try to stay true to the truth that they

have received, endeavouring to walk in that truth at all times. It is a fact of life that very often the believer has to make way for the unbeliever when it comes to promotion in their work situation, simply because business ethics are not always righteous. People survive, sometimes through dishonesty, and the honest often lose out because of their honesty towards others in selling their services and products.

Criss-crossing paths of the believer with the unbeliever

The paths of the believer and unbeliever are always crisscrossing this way and due to the difference of opinion, manner of living, moral and ethical standards that differ, there is always a clash of some sort or other. Usually, it is the believers who lose because they resort to honesty and unbelievers win because dishonesty is often the order of the day. There are, however, very honest people who have a live-and-let-live approach, who can tolerate both believers and unbelievers, but this is not always the case. Some of those who stand as agnostic quite often are more against the believers' way of life and point of view than that of the unbeliever; the reason being that it is easier to live life as an unbeliever than a believer. The result of our choice, obedience or disobedience, will give us eternal bliss or eternal sorrow.

Obedience helps to overcome the cares of this life

Many ills in this life are avoided if we choose to obey, simply because we have a God and Father who cares for His obedient children in a very special and real way. He helps them, by giving them help at the time of trouble, or even tells them beforehand to avoid a certain course of action that will lead to trouble. The unbeliever has to use his sense or find some source of help other than God. This is a wonderful advantage to believers in overcoming the cares of this life. Take a day at a time and let God carry you through.

It is the seed of the Kingdom

The Word of God is the seed of the Kingdom. Its instructions open up a way of life that is far superior to the non-believer's lifestyle. Many of the ills of life that people have to endure come about through their ill-advised way of living. The believer has a chart to go by, a rule of conduct and a moral standard that is wonderfully effective in sparing the believer from numerous ills and pitfalls that befall unbelievers, atheists and agnostics. These pitfalls are either voided by God or avoided by the believer with the help of God. The Word of God, as the seed of the Kingdom, opens up a marvellous relationship with the God of Heaven, that has not only benefitted in this life but everlasting benefits in the next.

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5. Love 1 John 4:7-24

The love theme is found in this portion of New Testament Scripture.

- Let us love one another. (*verse 7*)
- Love is of God.
- Those who love are born of God and know God.
- Those who do not love do not know God (*verse 8*)
- God is love.
- In this, the love of God was manifested towards us in that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world so that we might live through Him. (*verse 9*)
- In this act is love. (*verse 10*)
- We did not love God.
- God loved us and sent His Son to be a propitiation for our sins.
- Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought to love one another. (*verse 11*)
- No one has seen God at any time. If we love one another, God abides in us. (*verse 12*)
- His love has been perfected in us.
- By this, we know that we abide in Him and He in us. (*verse 13*)
- Because He has given us His Spirit.
- We have seen and testify that the Father has sent the Son as Saviour of the world. (*verse 14*)
- Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him and he in God. (*verse 15*)
- We have known and believed the love that God has for us. (*verse 16*)
- He who abides in love abides in God and God in him.
- Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness in the day of judgment, because as He is, so are we in this world. (*verse 17*)
- There is no fear in love. (*verse 18*)
- Perfect love casts out fear.
- He who fears has not been made perfect in love.
- We love Him because He first loved us. (*verse 19*)
- If someone says he loves God and hates his brother, he is a liar. (*verse 20*)
- He who does not love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen?
- This commandment we have from Him: that he who loves God must love his brother also. (*verse 21*)

1 John 5:1-3

- Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ, is born of God and everyone who loves Him who begot also loves him who is begotten of Him. (*verse 1*)
- By this, we know that we love the children of God when we love God and keep His commandments. (*verse 2*)
- For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome. (*verse 3*)

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6. What is righteousness? Romans 5:17-19

Isaiah 48:17-18 "... I am the Lord your God, who teaches you to profit, Who leads you by the way you should go. Oh, that you had heeded my commandments! Then your peace would have been like a river, and your righteousness like the waves of the sea."

What is the eternal Way?

Leviticus 18:2 "... I am the Lord your God."

1 John 5:3 "For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome."

What is eternal life?

Obedience is the keyword to receive all that God has prepared for us as believers.

A personal God

The thought that strikes us here is that God is personal to us, for He clearly states, 'your God'. If He were only someone else's God that would be unbearable. Do we appreciate the fact that He identifies Himself with us in this personal way? This is the most wonderful news for us as people, who have personal troubles in their lives. God is personal and He belongs to you, me and everyone, for He is our Lord.

Opened lives before Him

In this passage from Isaiah, a picture is being presented by God concerning the blessing of one who takes the Lord's commandments to heart. There are eight thoughts presented here which need to be clearly understood:

- Heeding His commandments
- Teaching us
- Profiting us
- Leading us
- In the way
- We should go
- Our peace will be like a river
- Our righteousness will be like the waves of the sea.

Is there a way that will solve our dilemma?

We need to open up our lives to His wonderful righteousness. The way to get this result is to learn from His teaching every day, allowing His leading to draw us on towards His perfect way for us all.

Leading us by the way we should go

This is a wonderful thought. Leading us every day, through every circumstance and at every possible turn or fork in the way that our lives could take. There are many ways of living norms and many different lifestyles, many and varied interesting things that can fill our lives, but there is also the way we should go. Many possibilities open up to us as we go forward each day, but only one way, according to this teaching from God, leads us in the way we should go - the way that the Lord leads us. We all had a time in our lives, at one time or another, when we called the shots, instead of God. We had the say over our lives, perhaps still have, and did, and still do, what we want to, giving account to no one. This way can lead

us in a way that can be very dangerous to ourselves and very difficult for others; unreliable and out of control at times. Possibly, if we had only listened to the correct advice, we would have had less suffering and more blessings.

Teaching for profit

He then goes on to state that He teaches us to profit. Profit means to get more than just enough after having put everything into it. Can we imagine a business or venture that only gets enough to meet expenses with no extras to cover the needs of life? Who would prefer to work for little money? There are some businesses, however, which are conveniently run at a loss so that the Receiver of Revenue will not be able to claim profits. Running a business at a minimum turnover and hardly making any profit only leads to stagnation and loss. The businessman who continues to run this way is heading for a difficult time when the crunch comes, as it usually comes to each business, some time or other. Yet we as Christians are running our lives this way, and only come to God in times of crisis. Rather, by daily receiving His teaching, we receive love, wisdom, and help to get us comfortably through.

Will it be worth it all?

Some people do not learn properly and carry on the same erroneous way, making the same mistakes again and again, getting into trouble time and time again. There can be no profit growth in this type of Christian experience. The true obedient believer, having put the words of God to the test, will find the worth of it all.

The rewards are great for obedience

1 John 3:10 "In this the children ... of the devil are manifest: whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is he who does not love his brother. For this is the message that you heard from the beginning, that we should love one another."

This is the righteousness that God talks about and practised by God's loving children.

What is the eternal truth?

For myself, it was a great blessing to learn that God was my God and that He would lead me continually, not in the way I had gone, but by the way, I should go. I believed I was walking in the right way and only found out, after numerous troubles and problems that I was, in fact, in the wrong way. God came and took me out of the way I was in and led me by a new and living way, through Jesus, in Jesus and by Jesus. I realised that there was a way through Jesus that put me in Jesus and that the one to do it was Jesus Himself. I realised that I had to give over and walk each day following Him, trusting His guidance.

Can we attain this righteousness?

I have learned to love His presence around me and feel His anointing in my life. I used to experience His anointing around my ear, opening my ear to hear Him, or if I felt the anointing in my eyes, I began to realise that He is anointing my eyes to see better spiritually. I often felt his anointing in different parts of my body. Then one day I felt nothing, and for a long time, I felt nothing. No anointing at all. I was very concerned about it and realised that I could no longer feel any anointing at all. I became concerned and eventually decided to ask God about it. "Where are you, Lord? Why don't I feel You around me anymore?" After a time, I heard a voice say softly, "You cannot feel me around you anymore because I am inside your heart". Suddenly I felt an anointing within my heart area and realised that I had always been walking with Jesus, but had never fully experienced Him inside me. From that moment on I could always feel Him inside as well as on the outside.

The inner and outer anointing

There is an inner anointing and there is an outer anointing. The outer anointing is like the rain that falls and the inner anointing is like a well that overflows. The well gets its water from the rain source and after it has not rained for a very long time a well can dry up.

1 John 2:27 “But the anointing which you have received from Him abides in you, and you do not need that anyone should teach you; but as the same anointing teaches you concerning all things, and is true, and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, you will abide in Him.”

If you only have the outward anointing, you can go for long spells experiencing nothing, when it is not raining (spiritually speaking). This is the reason why people, who know God for only a short time, gets easily discouraged. However, if the rain, the spiritual rain, falls and the well gets filled, the water keeps on running well after the rain has stopped. What a wonderful discovery for me. No longer any drought and lack of water in the well. Only let the well fill up when it is raining.

Peace like a river

The good flows and out goes a river. What a wonderful thought! A river has a source in the higher parts of the land and as the water flows out it always seeks a lower portion of land to either make a dam or pools. A river usually moves along a particular route, unless it overflows its banks.

The well of living water is always flowing and feeds all that come into contact with it. How many times in my life did I not find that my peace disappeared as soon as the water stopped flowing? I then had to look for someone else who had water enough to give me, and I was always asking that someone if they had a word for me? As soon as I understood what was required, I found that I had enough water for myself, to give away to the thirsty and to refresh the weary. My peace became like a river that always has water and always has peace. There is enough for all.

Salvation, deliverance and liberty

Let God teach you how to profit and let the Word of God open up for you. If you do not understand the Scriptures, the New Testament or the Word of God, just ask in faith and God will open it up for you, miraculously. He will be your Teacher and will help you. He never turned anyone away empty. If you need His help, come forward in prayer, faith and trust and make your need known to Him now.

How to become partakers of these blessings?

1 John 2:7-10 “... The old commandment is the word which you heard from the beginning. Again, a new commandment I write to you, which thing is true in Him and you, because the darkness is passing away, and the true light is already shining. He who says he is in the light and hates his brother is in darkness until now. He who loves his brother abides in the light, and there is no cause for stumbling in him.”

Righteousness like the waves of the sea

Have you noticed the main difference between a calm and a rough sea? A calm sea has very few waves or hardly any. There seems to be a lack of power in such a sea. A rough sea has surges of power in it. There are always waves that push each other back and forth in a

seat of power. Your righteousness will be like the waves of the sea. What does this mean? Why sea?

A sea goes back and forth, with power enough and is never emptied, always full, always capable, always strong and always moving. A sea without continual waves is just like a Christian believer without continual righteousness. The sea cannot cast out its flotsam without the movement of the waves. It cannot quicken life; it cannot revive itself and it cannot serve its purpose. Just imagine a believer without movement in the Christian life, collecting all sorts of flotsam, never being renewed and unable to revive himself for his existence. Imagine a sea that can never sustain fish life. The Dead Sea is a good enough example of such a place. No renewal, no revival, no myriad swarming varieties of fish in its waters.

Obedience to God's commands

Now it is important to notice that God requires our obedience, obedience to His commandments. When does a believer have to stop obeying the commandments? Before conversion, during conversion or after conversion? If after conversion, for how long and how soon can he give them up? Yet many believers, who call themselves believers, have given up obeying the commandments, stopped reading the Scriptures and generally just follow the course of this world.

Righteousness required

It was Jesus who said:

Revelation 22:12-15 "And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to give to every one according to his work. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the End, the First and the Last. Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city. But outside are dogs and sorcerers and sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and whoever loves and practices a lie."

1 John 3:4-7 "Whoever sins also commits lawlessness, and sin is lawlessness. And you know that he was manifested to take away our sins, and in Him, there is no sin. Whoever abides in Him does not sin. Whoever sins has neither seen Him nor known Him. Little children, let no one deceive you. He who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous."

This is the righteousness that is spoken of in Isaiah when God talks about our righteousness.

God is there to help you

He will help us in all this if only we are willing to obey His commandments. I cannot stand in for you neither can you stand in for me. By coming to Jesus, we can get help in time of need. Having a need, you can come forward and ask Jesus to stand with you, helping you to have faith. The need of the inner man is faith, loving obedience to God and His commandments. If we lack this we can come to Jesus and ask His help, through the Holy Spirit.

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7. The working of God's Spirit versus the spirit of man Galatians 5:13-18

The spirit of man and the Spirit of God are opposed to each other. There is a constant war going on for us all to do the right thing, whatever it is that is needed. In like manner, there is also a constant war against us to do the wrong thing. This war never stops, but as soon as you surrender your will to the will of God, through Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit starts to lead you in another way that pleases God. God will help you and stand by you as you stand by Him and help Him. He is to you all things and yet you are not to Him all things. He is your God remember? If, however, you do not work with Him in His plan then you are busy working at your plan. This is not the way that this works. God is not to be regarded as our slave, for that we can be to Him. God is not to be regarded as our friend only, but our Father and, together with Christ, we can become sons.

Helping the hardcore believer to conversion

The Holy Spirit knows the heart of each person, whether we are a believer or not. He knows what to do to get each person to believe and cause even the most hardened sinner to repent.

He does not need to be told how to do this, but we all have to become familiar with His working. This comes from experience and in getting to know the Word of God for ourselves. If we do not repent, read the Word of God, pray and believe ourselves, we surely cannot expect God to use us to get this result in others, can we? The sinner needs Jesus Christ as Lord, but so do we all, even those who are believers. Bringing the soul to Jesus for His salvation is one of the main reasons for needing the daily help of the Holy Spirit, but He is also needed to keep you, yourself, on the pathway of believing.

The ordering of the miraculous by the believer

If the believer can believe, and all can believe for all have a measure of faith, then the way is opened up for the miraculous to take place. The person who prays a believing prayer does not walk by circumstances but walks beyond circumstances. If one has not seen a person for a long time, for instance, and you have a desire to see that person again, prayer will make it happen. Sometimes, of course, these things happen without prayer, but in such a case it is a God circumstance, arranged by God. The one who prays the prayer of faith and believes fully that God is listening and will answer has a decided advantage over the one who just hopes it may or may not happen. Each prayer answered gives the assurance of further prayers being answered, and each prayer that is not being answered straight away must still be believed in until it happens. You can order the miraculous this way, but you must hold fast firmly to your prayer until you receive it.

The value of trusting the Holy Spirit's guidance

There are unexplained instances where, no matter how hard we believe, the answer seems to be a resounding 'no'. The reason for this is not always immediately apparent, but will sooner or later become clear to you. The 'no' answer is just as positive as the 'yes' answer but does not always suit us, who are praying. The will of the Lord has, sometimes, a way of going contrary to our earnest prayer and desires. Everyone has, at one time or other experienced the death of a love one, a missed opportunity, an undesired change in our circumstances, etc. This is the way our circumstances may occur, but we must not be discouraged to continue asking in other matters. Our will is sometimes hidden within ourselves and only by putting matters to the test do we uncover the difference between our will and God's will. Needless to say, this is similar to a growing process, even as a baby learns to sit, before standing up and standing up before walking. The spiritual has a parallel

and is discovered as we grow, crawl, sit, stand, walk and eventually run in the life of our faith. Living faith needs circumstances in which its presence or absence, can be proved. Life has enough of these, but as we practise our faith in the Lord and His abundant miracles, we will experience more and more of them around us each day. As the anointing grows or expands through daily living examples, so faith develops and grows by using the anointing help day by day.

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8. The way to love - Jesus revealed in us 1 John 2:3-12

It is His mystery

There is one sure thing that Jesus is a mystery that has to be unfolded to our spirit within us. He often made claims that seem to be so far-fetched, until you experience the reality of some of those claims for yourself, by taking Him at His word. It is His mystery that has to be unfolded to you and me, as we have nothing to add to it, except perhaps to become partakers of it with Him.

It is His understanding

As one reads the words of Jesus in the New Testament it becomes hurtfully apparent that we can do nothing to this mystery, except become part of it through surrender. He knows where it is all leading to and He knows what He intends to do with our lives. He also knows what awaits us as we follow Him. He has a clear understanding of all things and can help us to receive a step-by-step revelation, an unfolding of His plan for our lives, as we continue daily with Him and His leadership.

It is His plan

No matter how hard we try to understand everything, it becomes painfully apparent to the believer that following Jesus is the only way of getting to know the ins and outs of His guidance for our lives and circumstances surrounding our lives. By surrendering to His plan, we can find the perfect rest He assures us of.

It is His anointing

The anointing opens up for us the realities of His working. He leads, we follow. He guides, we obey. He shows us the way to go and we walk with Him in that way. As we continue in the anointing that He gives to us, we uncover the mystery of walking in faith with Him. He is our Helper, our Friend and our Lord, giving us all the support that we need. His anointing comes from the Father and is passed onto us as we follow Jesus.

It brings suffering but also a relief

Jesus is a heavenly Being, equal to the Father. It follows that we can never be like Him. It also follows that we can never do what He did. He is the supreme Lord of Lord and coming King of Kings, reigning over all the earth. To follow Him as He leads us, we have to take the pathway of suffering that is attendant upon following Jesus. Let us consider what happens if He leads us a certain way and then when things get difficult, we decide to stop following Him because we start to see the pathway of suffering that He seems to be leading us into. What then? I have discovered that suffering cannot be measured up with the glory that comes. His promise to be with us is sure and brings relief.

It is His Spirit

His guidance is always brought to us through His Spirit. The leading of the Spirit will take you the way that He wishes you to go. He will neither deviate from the left hand or the right hand but will go straight forward if we will only let Him do so.

It is His purpose

There is a time for every purpose under the heaven. The Lord Himself is in charge of these purposes. He knows what is ahead for each of us, even though we do not know for ourselves. Yes, we may have some inkling of what could come our way, because we can read what came the way of the believers mentioned in the Old and New Testaments, having to go

through tremendous hardships. Their experience speaks to our hearts and we realise that the faith life brings with it a real responsibility to continue with Jesus as He is directing our paths, wherever this may be leading.

It is His love

His love is the most wonderful thing that can be shown to us. Once we have grasped the measure of this love, we will be prepared for anything that our believing life has to offer, especially knowing that He is in charge and helping us all the way. Amongst many other things that we have already mentioned, He provides strength, power, new life, refreshing, abundant life and increasing faith. His love will conquer where all else fails.

It is His faith

The one who leads inspires those that are being led by an example. The example of Jesus, both in the New Testament and in history, leaves a heritage of wonderful examples to help us in our daily lives as we continue with Him. His faith is the inspiration for our faith. The faith of His followers in the Word of God inspires us to have a similar faith as we continually trust Him and lean upon Him.

It is His Word

No one can read the words of Jesus seriously, but without a critical and rejecting spirit, without being wonderfully touched within. The warmth of His forgiveness, openness with critics, help towards sinners, love towards His followers, to mention a few, come through and touches our hearts overpoweringly. His love for God, His will submitted to His Father's will, speaks to us of our disobedience to our parents at one time or another. He leaves us breathless in forgivingly dealing with bad people. His Word opens up to our hearing, heart and spirit a wealth of richness towards God and His ways.

It is His life

Jesus always points to three wonderful truths in His teachings. He brings God, His heavenly Father forward every time. He focuses attention on Himself as having a special relationship with His Father as His Son. He continually endorses the working of the Spirit and the Holy Spirit. He claimed that new life emanates from Himself, because of the gifting of God within Himself.

It is His joy

Jesus declared to His followers, His joy will become part of their own lives. It is not their joy but His joy that will make them glad. His joy is supernatural and cannot be taken away from the true believer.

Claim this joy for yourself now

“Dear Lord Jesus, give me this joy, but not only to me but to my family, friends and acquaintances. You said you would give it to us. I receive it now, therefore, and as you begin with me, give it to me and help me, let it pass through me to others. Let me (let us) keep it, forever. Amen.”

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9. God, through the Spirit, says, ‘Come’ Romans 9:14-17

Salvation is the first step towards being purified of our unrighteousness and to begin doing what is right in the eyes of God.

There are many ways in which we can first get to know the Lord as our Saviour, but in every one of them, we nevertheless have to come to Jesus to be saved.

Turning towards Jesus will change us to become more and more like Him each day.

- The invitation is to all who will. The way opens up for us to go towards Jesus and is extended through His invitation to come to Him as we are.
- The invitation is eternal, but we can cut it short. He can change us.
- The invitation is extended to you by Jesus Christ at the command of God. He paid the price for our being changed into new creatures.
- The invitation will change your life drastically if you seriously come to Jesus. The way home to God always goes through Jesus Christ.

The resultant working of the invitation will bring you to the Throne of God by His grace. He will never turn anyone away.

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10. The work of love opens the labour of love James 2:12-16

- The work of love.

The fact that God has given Jesus for us, to take away our sins and save us, is the real truth of God's love towards us in this unsaved and lost world.

- The labour of love.

If I am prepared to tell others about that love for me and anyone else, it has been opened up by the Father Himself and is the labour of love.

- Are you saved?

- The most important question we can ask anyone is if they are saved. If they cannot answer it positively, then they are either in doubt or are certain that they have never been saved.
- A person that has been saved knows the answer and it will always be yes.

- Where have you been saved?

- If the answer is that they do not know or asks what does being saved mean, then we need to ask if we can help them to understand.
- We are saved at the foot of the cross of Calvary.

- When are you saved?

If the answer is that they do not know or ask you to tell them, then we need to tell them that one is saved when you admit that you are a sinner in need of salvation from all your sin.

- Who has saved you?

- If they say they do not understand or do not know, then we need to ask if we can tell them about Jesus.
- Jesus saves you when you accept Him as your Saviour to save you from all your sin.

The labour of love opens the works of love

- The labour of love.

A soul gets saved when we labour on them with love.

- The work of love.

When you tell others to become saved you are doing the work of love.

- What does Jesus save us from?

- If the answer is that they do not know or that you should tell them, then ask them to listen as you tell them.
- The devil's use of the selfishness of self, the sins of the self and the lust that is in the world.

- How are you saved?

- If the answer is that they do not know or that you should tell them, then ask them to listen carefully as you tell them.
- Jesus comes fully into your heart through God's Holy Spirit as you accept Him now.

- Why have you been saved?
 - If the answer is that they do not know or that you should tell them, then tell them.
 - So that they can go and tell others how to be saved.
- Can you now answer these questions?

Yes, because JESUS has saved me now! Amen.

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11.Revival's own heart Isaiah 57:14-15

Revival's own heart

- There is no revival where there is no revival.
- There is a revival where there is a revivalist.
- There is no revivalist like Jesus Himself.
- Follow Jesus in revival and you will have revival.
- He takes only the willing.
- He walks with each revivalist.
- He is their revival.

Letting God take you there

- None of us knows the way.
- Jesus knows the way.
- Jesus is The Way.
- Follow Him all the way.
- Let Him take care of you all of your remaining life.

Know where you are going

- Go straight forward and avoid side issues.
- Are we heading in the right direction?
- Do you know your chosen destination?
- Why so long, Lord?
- What are you doing for revival?
- Believing, watching, praying, waiting, and labouring in constant priorities.

Holy and true is He

- Great is He that is then he that is in the world.
- 'It is', what God gives you
- Jesus is for revival - He set the example.
- Jesus said, that if we can believe, all things are possible.
- Jesus gave us the recipe for success.
- Jesus opens up a revival file in heaven for you.
- Jesus will do it for us.

"Yourself", as His son or daughter

- The Holy Spirit is willing to help us now.
- The Holy Spirit is helping us now.
- The Holy Spirit can help us now.
- The Holy Spirit has everything under His control.
- The Holy Spirit turns impossible situations around - now.

Recognise God as your heavenly Father

- Will it be now or later?
- It is now or never.
- Going on with God as He pleases.
- This is the acceptable time.
- Let it be so now for He is helping us.

- Steep gradients are for obtaining victory.
- Never before seen? A new thing?

Letting the work be a rest and letting the rest be a work

- God wants you to rest while He is working.
- When we pray, He works.
- Wrestling is working against sin.
- While He works, we offer thanksgiving.
- Resting is forsaking all your sin.
- Giving over to His rest.
- Entering His rest.

His share is always the greater part

- We can never out-give God.
- Suffer it to be so now.
- According to your faith.
- Waiting for the answer to come.
- You will never stand ashamed.

Waiting for revival

- The fruit of patience.
- The working of revival through yourself.
- The loving of love.
- The right of righteousness.

No wonder revival delays its manifestation.

- Am I right with God?
- Am I right with my nearest?
- Am I right with myself?
- Am I right with my brethren?
- Am I right with my enemies?

No nonsense believing

- We are what we believe.
- Let Jesus come in forever. Now!
- We do not change by ourselves - it comes from outside.
- We are nothing if we are not ourselves.
- We change when God's working comes into us.
- Giving to Jesus adds a new dimension to our spirits.
- We need to change first before others change.
- Only you can ignite your fire with the Holy Spirit's help.
- Give over, give up and give in.
- Work it out with your God. Now!
- Open up for revival. Now!
- Let God do it.

Doing your share

- Giving God your best is the way of receiving His best.
- Letting the family in on the secret.

- The best is still to come.
- The worst can be avoided.
- Taking away the worst from your family.
- Opening up your revival.
- Letting God do it for you now.
- Revealing the truth.
- Opening up the lies of satan.

Ask God for revival if you do not have it

- Revive me first.
- Revive my family.
- Revive my church.
- Revive others.

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12.The revelation of truth and the glory following John 17:18-26

There is the truth of a matter and there is the lie of a matter. Truth has a way of opening up reconciliation, whereas a lie shuts the way for reconciliation. Every time we are confronted with the option of telling the whole truth or hiding the whole lie and we make the wrong decision, there will be consequences that follow us all of our days. The two ways open before we are, to tell the truth, and shame the devil or tell the lie and shame God. The people often feel it is better to hide the truth in case it causes present trouble for them, but they do not realise that they are causing eternal trouble for themselves. God wishes us to be children of the truth and not children of the lie. Take your pick now and make your choice now for your eternal happiness or eternal misery. Once you see the real truth you can begin to also see the real glory that follows.

Three things hinder spiritual growth:

- To hide behind sin and thereby enlarging it.
- To try and avoid the day of reckoning for your sin.
- To work at it yourself apart from God's solution.

The choice that makes all the difference

The right choice puts us on the way to our final acceptance, whereas the wrong choice puts us on the way of our final condemnation. What does this mean? Well, if you are going to London by plane and take the plane to Sydney you will never arrive in London. All the rest that would follow in London is now lost to you in Sydney. In the same way, if we make a righteous choice we will arrive at a righteous result and conversely if we make an unrighteous choice we will arrive at an unrighteous result. Some believe that you can do wrong for the right to prevail and some believe that you can do right for wrong to prevail. This may be so, but the only true test of it is how the result turns out. God, however, says, "How shall I reward unrighteousness with My righteousness." He will always insist on a fixing up process taking place first and then will reward our righteousness with His righteousness. The real type of thinking brings the real result.

Working with choices

It is not always easy to choose the right pathway when confronted with the dire consequences of our wrongdoing. Often, we say to ourselves, that we deserve this, so stop complaining. This need not be the case. God has provided the method for our release, but this method is incumbent upon us revealing the truth and not hiding it.

Why we hide our sin and ourselves

Each time we sin, which is to do what God tells us not to do, we create our circumstances in which we have to continue living. Now no one would like their circumstances to deteriorate, so we take a lot of trouble to hide from anyone anything that will bring deterioration to our circumstances and us. There is therefore a rearranging of the lie to suit the circumstances of truth and the truth then becomes distorted and engenders a lie. To keep the lie hidden we tell other lies to remove suspicion from ourselves. The truth becomes distorted and causes the wrong type of belief and behaviour towards other people. The deception grows as this happens.

Facing up to the consequences deals with sin

The one simple sin that we hide becomes a multitude of hidden sins that make us a liar, deceiver and a fraud. In the meantime, the consequences that we tried to avoid, have taken a new route and we are still not happy. Truth on the other hand creates more truth and that

which is in the open brings about the circumstances that affect healing. Why choose the wrong way and delay the evil day when you can choose the right way and begin a new day. Each time we face up to the consequences of our sin we are opening up the judgment, which takes away sin and changes the consequences of our sin into glorious release.

The opened way through the opened truth

Let us take an example to see what this means. A child steals an apple from the teacher's desk. No one sees him do it. The teacher comes in and suspects one of the other children who have been found out to steal things before. She accuses or asks, "have you taken my apple"? Three things take place here. The child, who stole, knows he is guilty. He also knows that the other person is innocent. He knows that the teacher is on the wrong track, but is glad because the spotlight is off of him. Then the teacher decides to ask the person who usually tells the truth, but in this case, is the thief, did you see anything? Yes or no? Must I own up or create a blind? Outcomes the answer, "I did not see anything, but I did see him near your desk" (this was yesterday, but so what?) The lie grows and deceit enlarges. On the other hand, I can own up, seeing someone innocent has been blamed. We can carry this example on and on to show the many extremes that open up as the lie and deceit grows, but the point is proved.

The fateful decision to own up

Which is the correct way? Come out into the area of truth and own up? But truth stops us dead in our tracks. We then have to confront the thief with another truth, forgiveness or punishment? The thief has to realise that forgiveness or punishment is dependent on the person who has been wronged. If punishment is the route taken, this is what the thief deserves, but if forgiveness is exercised then let the thief realise that this is not what he deserves, but what he has been given in exchange, not for his wrongdoing, but for his doing right in owning up. The theft deserves punishment but admitting deserves a reward, only through forgiveness. Forgiveness allows the repentant thief to walk in an opened way again.

The truth

Different people with different upbringings and backgrounds can see the truth in various ways, but the real truth can only be understood as real truth. Half the truth is not the real truth and the missing part is always an uncertainty. If all the relevant facts are brought into the light then that is the truth. The truth has a restoring effect on the balance between the lie and the truth, error and truth, righteousness and truth. When all the truth is known a correct judgment can be made and a course of action can be started towards correctional help. When some truth is known and the other is hidden, it becomes very difficult to reach a correct decision, as any such decision will only take into account what is known. Half-truth makes the difference between righteous and true judgment and unrighteous and biased judgment.

The truth of the truth

Half the truth, either known or told, leads to impaired responsibility and acceptance of the changes that bring restoration and, in some cases, restitution. Restoration means that we are restored to fellowship with confident assurance that we are believed and trusted again. Restitution, on the other hand, means, what we have taken must be returned to the person from whom it was taken. It does not belong to us and therefore we have to give it back. If we tell the truth about our wrongdoing, but do not declare what mischief we have brought about, or what we have done with the things we have stolen, then this is not true restitution. Restoration and restitution go hand in hand with the truth.

- Forgiveness is necessary.
- Going forward is necessary.
- Following Christ all the way.

The heart of the truth and its borderline

Two things need to be faced up to to get matters right. What is the heart of the truth? Where have you placed the borderline? Have you extended your borderline beyond your domain into someone else's life, causing untold harm? What do you expect others to do for you if they were in your position? Do you expect the best, but give others the worst?

Working towards the release of our sin and its dire troubles

Sin has its dire consequences and they have to be borne all of our days and the days of sinners even if they have repented. The despising of God's commands opens up the door for the devil to come in and wreak havoc in any way he desires. The door that opens to the devil has to be closed for the devil to be kicked out and kept out. The people often shut the devil in and do not let him be discovered or even uncovered and that is why there is no real true happiness afterwards.

- Remove the devil first by calling upon Jesus to do the work.
- Let him stay out and never come back by shutting him out. Forever.
- Let God give the guarantee of final and complete deliverance by allowing Jesus to shut the glory in through the Holy Spirit.

Repenting for allowing satan in

The working of satan has a devious effect and this has to be repented of because he is a liar from the beginning and he perpetrates the lie and keeps it alive through division, separation and isolation, differences that make the difference between real life with Jesus and the life that only seems so. There are various ways of dealing with this:

- Fight it by yourself.
- Get assistance from another.
- Go to God direct and receive full and final deliverance.

The average person, who realises what is happening and how satan destroys their lives, will try to block out satan's influence. This is reasonable and natural, but unfortunately, often people do not know how to do it and therefore seek a spiritual person or prophet. This, however, only helps up to a point. The best way is to go direct to God and ask for deliverance from sin, selfishness and satan.

What about sin?

- The consequence of sin has a three-fold effect:
 - It colours our relationship with others.
 - It hinders us from progressing spiritually.

- It breaks down our ability to love, care and show tenderness.
- Also, it has a further three-fold effect, which is even more serious:
 - It separates us from God's true blessings.
 - It separates us from God.
 - It hinders and blocks out our spiritual progress towards what God would like to give us and what we could otherwise be enjoying in the future.
- The effects of these things, when taken together, are three-fold:
 - We feel short-changed and there always seems to be something missing.
 - The working of God seems to be so inconsistent with what we would like it to be towards ourselves.
 - The people around us are not changed and continue unchanged no matter how hard we try to change them.

Revival is blocked through lies

Revival is hindered and the working of God through our lives is vague and insufficient to reach others. The wonderful plan of God has been thwarted by no one other than ourselves. Revival comes about when sin has effectively been dealt with in our own life first. As soon as God has dealt with this then the revival spirit starts flowing and nothing is there to hinder or stand between it and rapid growth.

Victory and overcoming

How can this disastrous result be negated and overcome, and how do we go about dealing with it to bring this negation to an end with overcoming victory?

What is needed to gain the victory?

Restore your borderlines with God's help, even though it is the second time around.

- The desire to regain what has been lost.
- Desiring the true relationship that has been broken to be restored and healed.
- The conviction that it can be gained back again, all that has been lost, despite the effects of the sin that has been left behind.
- Missing the sweet fellowship with men and women and the real inner communion with God.
- The realisation that something very precious has been lost forever.
- The longing to receive back blessings again.
- Needing the peace of mind and heart that realises and understands that all is now well with my soul and the souls of those whom I have sinned against.

What has God provided for us to become restored?

We as human beings are usually fatalists. When we have fallen into sin or are in sin, we say to ourselves, tough luck, this is how it is and I can do nothing about it now. This is not the truth. Something can be done about it, but it takes a responsible person to face up to what has to be done to remove irresponsible behaviour or dealings with others and us. God helps us in this process of coming back to the place of fixing up through the truth.

His provision in it all

- The healing of all broken hearts.
- The change of heart that accompanies true repentance.
- The new birth.

- The full repentance of our failure.
- The patience to wait for God to restore the relationships, the trust with the love and companionship, fellowship and communion of loving again.
- The open confession of our sin, confusion and shame.
- All things have become new.
- The new creature has the power to overcome.
- The working together again of yourself and God so that all things can work together for good to those who love God and who are called according to His purpose.

The truth of Jesus, the Son of the Father

Jesus came to the world to show the way out of sin. He is the Leader who takes us out of our sin. He is the One who provides the way for forgiveness. He is the One that cares enough to help us in our sin, past our sin and into that sinless state called “the deliverance of salvation”.

Salvation simply means to be saved out of the seven things that sin has brought into our lives.

- Saved from sin.
- Saved from sin’s grip.
- Saved from satan’s rule.
- Saved from eternal death, hell and destruction.
- Saved from the selfishness of the old self.
- Saved from a life of sinfulness, sickness and sorrow.
- Saved from the suffering brought about through sin.

No one knows another’s burdened heart or sufferings

Sin has a way of bringing with it its share of suffering, sickness and sorrow and each person that is bowed under the guilt of their sin needs help from God and another that God chooses to use, to get free from that bondage. Each heart has its share of these things and each person has to find the answers for themselves. God has, however, made the preaching of the gospel, the teaching of the kingdom of God and the exhortation to enter into God’s rest, the means of obtaining that needed help.

The truth of the Holy Spirit

God’s values are so much more superior to our values that we need an interpreter of God’s values and ways at times. God, through the Holy Spirit, which Jesus asked the Father to send to us to comfort us when He went away, is providing this for us continually. The truth of God, through the Holy Spirit, is so wonderful and there is a means for that truth to be unfolded to us who believe. The Holy Spirit presents the Father’s side and the Spirit of God in us presents our side. Together, Jesus and the Holy Spirit compare God’s eternal values with our spiritual values. His future values and our present values are compared with what is in the mind and heart of God, and then we are in turn presented with the inspiration to understand, believe and obey.

The truth of God, the Father

The greatest truth, amongst so many other truths, including the truth of God’s judgment against sin and sinners, is that Jesus Christ came to seek and save that which is lost. The sinner with his sin is lost and needs to be found by the Shepherd of our souls. Both men and women are bound eternally in a death grip struggle with satan, sin and self, with the self-winning for a time, but with satan gaining the upper hand eventually. The truth that we can be

saved from all this is indeed glad news to fallen mankind. God can and will restore us when we come to Him based on the finished work of Calvary.

The way of truth

Truth is not just knowledge but has a way called the way of the truth. Jesus spoke of this way when He said, ***“I am the way, the truth and the life. No man cometh to the Father except by Me.”*** The greatest understanding that we can get is to begin to understand that there is a way for us to come to the truth, by the truth of Jesus Christ, who is, in fact, Himself the way.

- God and Jesus help us in The Life we live.
- Jesus Christ freedom - Jesus helps us in The Way we go.
- The Holy Spirit and Jesus help us in The Truth we believe.

The truth can either enter in, go out, or stay out

The truth can both come into us and set us free, or we can set the truth free and continue in bondage. The choice is ours. We are invited to come and receive the truth by Jesus Christ Himself. Who is going to stop you if you do not want to receive it? Jesus will, however, help you if you take it as He extends it to you, even now.

The illumination - truth understood

The greatest illumination that anyone can receive is to become acquainted with the truth as it is in Jesus. All other types of truth can never save you eternally. Jesus Himself gives the guarantee if any man comes to Him, He will in no wise cast him out. His disciples testified that He sent no one away empty. God testifies of Jesus, this is My beloved Son, hear Him. Paul the apostle says, there is no other name given under heaven whereby we can be saved. Then again Jesus testifies of Himself, that no man can come to the Father except by Me.

The introduction of truth

The reason for the gospel is to let all men know of this saving grace - God's plan that is centred on the person of His Son, Jesus Christ. He is the Beginning and the End, the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last. This being true, tells us that His importance in the whole scheme of things is paramount and we need to draw close to Jesus and ask of Him.

“If any man thirst let Him come and drink of the water of life freely.” “If you can believe all things are possible to him who believes.” “With joy, draw waters from the wells of Salvation.” “If anyone believes in Me, as the Scriptures say, living waters shall flow out of His heart.”

Let Jesus introduce His truth by introducing Himself to you.

The result of telling the truth - life, peace and joy

Jesus Himself gives the most remarkable illustration of telling the truth as He stood before the authority of Rome. “Who do you say, you are? Are you the Son of God?” he asked of Jesus. Did Jesus lie, seeing that His life was in great danger? No, He spoke the truth. He said ... “we are commanded, to speak the truth, each one to his neighbour.”

The truth hurts but also heals

The truth has a way of hurting and healing, both at the same time. It may, however, take some longer to be healed after being hurt than others. Nevertheless, without truth, there can be no real healing. It can be likened to an infected wound that is not healing well. Once the wound has been healed and the pus was taken away, the new flesh cells can begin to take

over and do their work. Sin, sorrow, suffering, sickness, selfishness, shame and satan are like the pus oozing from the wound. The truth is the healing balm. Telling the truth is the doctoring method. Jesus is the Doctor. Put these all together and you have one cleansed wound and healthy scar tissues that form, which also will fall away as the wound closes up and the new flesh cells take over. There may be a scar, which can be likened to the effects of sin, but there is no way that the wound will open up again if the whole truth and its method have been applied properly.

Experiencing the glory that is of God - who is the Truth

Now let us talk about two important things:

- The marks of sin are seen all over, like the scabs of sores on the body.
- But Jesus has come to heal that which is sick and will take the sore, the scab and the scars away if we ask Him to.

The glory of God is revealed through suffering. The power of God is revealed to the sufferer. The life of Jesus is given to those who are sick and dying. The help given to those who turn from their sin, to their Saviour will be shown up as the wonderful work of God.

God would like us to share His glory, even as His Son shared it. Jesus tells us that He has given His glory to his disciples, who believe. Are we His disciples? Do we believe it? Are we willing to ask Him for His glory? Are we willing to take His glory? That is then the answer of truth to the question of truth, and we who are in the truth can answer through the truth “yes we are”.

“Lord, please come and help us to receive it, walk in it, and trust you in it, forever”.

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13.Holding fast 1 Thessalonians 5:21

The average believer starts well in the Christian walk but due to many things that come across their path, they tend to give up and become negative, just going on, hoping that matters will be righted somehow - either by teachers or by Jesus Himself.

They are doing the right thing to hold fast and not let go of what they have been taught and should seek help from their spiritual guide, mentor or pastor. To carry on by themselves is like a baby looking after itself in trying to provide for its own needs.

The thing to understand is that Jesus will never leave or forsake you, but expects you, as a spiritual baby to go to church, read your Bible and pray.

This is something that will continue all our lives and we need to develop good habits in these areas.

A very great problem in a new spiritual baby's life is the family at home and the children at school. Since they may be unconverted themselves, they have no idea what you as a new-born is experiencing. They will cajole you and taunt you and play pranks on you to try and get you back to what they consider as your normal self. Your natural inclination in the spiritual realm is to try and keep to yourself, thinking things out for yourself and trying to slot in with them.

The most wonderful thing about true repentant faith is the process of the Holy Spirit turning you away from sinful things and sinful people. Nevertheless, you need to listen to what is being presented to you in this special way and learn to follow the promptings, where a 'yes' is 'yes' and a 'no' is 'no.' Your new-found conscience will turn you away from any type of danger whether it be natural or spiritual, but a new believer can start to have doubts. I suggest to these, that they practice pleading the blood of Jesus over the situation. This is very helpful, by reminding yourself and God that you are no longer the person you were before. Practice doing this silently or under your breath. It helps either way.

As your faith grows more robust and your heart becomes used to the new way of living, you will receive more power to overcome. The Scripture puts it this way, growing in the grace of God and the knowledge of Jesus Christ.

Sydney Weber assisted by Lynette van Rooyen and Mary Weber

4 December 1999

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Stage 3 - Birthing New Souls into His Heavenly Kingdom

Preamble

These studies are presented in a progressive study order and are suitable for bible study in the church, bible school, believing group and home-centred outreach. The modules may also be grouped and used for topical studies and seminars. We are trusting God to inspire His people everywhere to use these modular studies for themselves and to help others to use them in seeking and finding Jesus Christ as Lord of their own lives.

Bringing in the new-borns

Stage 3 - Birthing New Souls into His Heavenly Kingdom

1. There is an everlasting guarantee 1 Corinthians 3:21-23

We are called

Romans 8:30 “Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.”

Listening

Hebrews 12:25 “See that you do not refuse Him who speaks. ...”

Obedient

Hebrews 5:9 “... He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him.”

Reborn

1 Peter 2:2 “As newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby.”

Delivered

Colossians 1:13 “He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love.”

We are chosen

1 Peter 2:9-10 “But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvellous light; who once were not a people but are now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy.”

Just

Acts 24:15 “I have hope in God, ... that there will be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and the unjust.”

Galatians 3:11 “... the just shall live by faith.”

Eternal life

1 John 5:11-12 “And this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life.”

Saved

James 1:21 “Therefore, lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which can save your souls.”

Unction

1 John 2:20 “But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and you know all things.”

Servant

Acts 20:19 “Serving the Lord with all humility, ...”

Revelation 2:19 “I know your works, love, service, faith, and your patience; ...”

We are being found faithful

Revelation 17:14 “... and those who are with Him are called, chosen, and faithful.”

Cleansed

1 John 1:7 “But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.”

Holy

Ephesians 1:4-5 “just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will.”

Risen

Colossians 2:11-12 “In Him, you were also ... buried with Him in baptism, in which you also were raised with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead.”

Inspired

Job 32:8 “But there is a spirit in man, and the breath of the Almighty gives him understanding.”

2 Timothy 3:16-17 “All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.”

Sealed

2 Corinthians 1:21-22 “Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and has anointed us is God, who also has sealed us and given us the Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee.”

Triumphant

2 Corinthians 2:14 “Now thanks be to God who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and through us diffuses the fragrance of His knowledge in every place.”

Linking up with the right believing group, churches, ministries and missions

Believers have a personal responsibility to find a place of rest for themselves. By this we mean, a place where you can worship, grow and be helped to become a mature believer in Christ. This growing process takes a lifetime, but with God's help, it can be a much shorter route than what we usually expect. The children of Israel wandered through the wilderness for forty years, but geography tells us that it could have been accomplished in ten days or so. Why the long delay? They chose to go the way of selfish rebellion against authority and God's appointed subjection to His ways. The way to maturity is shorter than we think, but the only way to get there in the shortest possible time is to submit to God and take His correction as He gives it. This applies to everything around the circumstances in our lives. Complete surrender brings complete guidance. Complete guidance brings complete linking up. Linking up brings the assurance, rest and completeness that you are longing for.

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2. The purpose of these testimonies and teachings John 3:10-11

A sound testimony has to promote an idea, a life-teaching experience, something or someone. Therefore, you may rightfully ask, “Why, what or who am I promoting?” This programme is promoting Jesus Christ, as Lord and Saviour, the Son of the Living God.

The reason for this programme is therefore to present Jesus as alive, through testimony and Scriptures.

What God has done, is doing, or even promised to do, will be presented to promote and increase the basis for belief, encouraging the increase of personal faith. The benefits received from these happenings in my life are innumerable. They can also do the same for you. It is therefore our privilege to pass them on and they may equally benefit you if you are prepared to use them for yourself and your family.

The value of personal testimony

There are many ways of extending the gospel of God’s Kingdom and glory utilizing telling forth the glad news. One of them is through our testimony.

Personal testimony is centred around one or more true events which are now happening or may have taken place in a person’s own life. A beneficial personal experience may be recounted to others as a type of revelational parable or teaching. A true testimony passed on in the form of a roundtable story that makes for good listening, in which a person has been personally involved, can teach deep truths to others. Many a person has obtained personal salvation through the testimony of another, especially if the person who testifies has undergone a startling life-changing experience. The vast difference in such a person’s life, the power that emanates from such a changed life and the influence that is extended towards others is a wonderful example of one’s testimony.

Increasing gladness

Seeing Jesus as He is, the Author and Finisher of our faith. This was stated by Jesus before the crucifixion.

John 16:16 “A little while, and you will not see Me, and again a little while, and you will see Me because I go to the Father.” This was stated by Jesus before the crucifixion.

John 20:20 “... He showed them His hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord.” This was stated after His resurrection.

These passages show the relationship between a promise of Jesus and its unexpected fulfilment at a later stage.

Hebrews 11:27 “By faith, he (Moses) forsook Egypt ... for he endured as seeing Him who is invisible.”

2 Corinthians 12:1 “It is doubtless not profitable for me to boast. I will come to visions and revelations of the Lord.”

These passages show that God and Jesus are invisible and that visions and revelations of the Lord are possible in a progressive believing relationship.

Removing hindrances

Hindrances to the abovementioned purpose. There are only three things that hinder us from seeing the invisible Lord either through faith or by spiritual revelational visions:

- No realistic intense desire to see Jesus.
- Holding onto unbelief, disbelief, doubts or sinfulness.
- Unwillingness to experience a closer relationship with Jesus.

Hebrews 12:1-2

*“Therefore, we also,
since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses,
let us lay aside every weight,
and the sin which so easily ensnares us,
and let us run with endurance,
the race that is set before us,
looking unto Jesus,
the Author and the Finisher,
of our faith,
Who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and
has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God?”*

Occasional glimpses

I have seen Jesus on several occasions, presenting Himself to me in various revelational ways. There are wonderful workings present within these testimonies and I will endeavour from time to time, as God allows, to open up to you what I have personally experienced. This is therefore both my testimony and my witness. If there is any encouragement in these things for you, just thank Jesus for His wonderful way in your life. These are given to encourage you and they will be released onto this website as I can do so. He desires to meet with you and therefore He will open up the longings and stirrings of your heart through God’s Holy Spirit within you.

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3. Important recommendations Ephesians 1:9-14

These are useful for both individual and group bible studies. To receive the most benefit from these testimonies and their interpretations, keep an open mind and reserve your contrary judgment until you have personally been through the Scriptures that are quoted.

- Read through carefully and pay attention to the portions of Scripture that are quoted that are relevant to the subject on hand.
- Avoid side-tracking onto other issues that lead off from the current topic.
- Pray for the Holy Spirit's guidance which will help you to receive a blessing from Jesus.
- All these experiences had a personal implication for me and my family and have been instrumental in promoting personal communion and fellowship in Jesus. Teachings and applications that have emerged from my consideration of spiritual interpretations, appear to be of universal importance and are therefore being shared for teaching, edification and comfort, to all who desire Jesus Christ to be their own personal Lord, Saviour, Healer and Deliverer through the Holy Spirit of God.
- You will also see how these revelations have been interpreted to bring them forward as illumination, first of all to me and secondly to you. Remember, the Holy Spirit is doing the interpreting through His gracious gifts and this is paramount in the correct understanding of the interpretation that can lead to His inspiration within personal motivations, according to God's own will for your life. You should try to put all these things to the test yourself, to get them personally into your own heart.

Some important things that are accomplished through revelation:

- brings forth illumination,
- through a correct interpretation,
- translated employing Holy Spirit inspiration,
- into essential motivation,
- being experienced daily,
- combining your faith,
- with your personal prayer life,
- opening up closer communion with God,
- in true fellowship with believers.

Enjoy IT as you experience for yourself the Godliness, goodness and glory at work in IT all.

Remember. It is Jesus.

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4. The new birth experience John 3:3-7

No one can either see heaven or enter heaven without undergoing the new birth experience that Jesus talks about. It is a real experience that countless people have discovered for themselves. It can also be your experience if you allow the teachings of Jesus to penetrate your mind and heart. It is not an experience that you have to learn, but rather an experience to be received by a personal partaking. The experience is like no other, and leaves an indelible impression in the inner being, or spirit, of a person. You will know it when you have it, for everything will have become new to you. It is something like an inner awareness that is profoundly moving. It opens up a brand-new way of living for you. It changes everything, even the way you think and believe.

What you ask for is what you can expect to receive

If you ask for salvation that is what you will receive. If you ask for healing that is what you will receive. If you ask for forgiveness that is what you will receive. Ask for the seven things which are mentioned and that is what you can expect to receive:

- Repentance from your sins.
- The salvation of Jesus.
- The transforming new birth experience.
- Inspiration to obey God.
- Deliverance from worldly evil.
- Healing for body, soul and spirit.
- God's richest blessings.

The ground of our confidence and the guarantee of our faith

There are four grounds for our confidence in being saved, delivered and set free from our sins, our old selves and our past:

- The Word of God entering into the heart through faith.
- The Spirit of the Lord Jesus Christ is given to us in truth.
- The hope of our salvation fully centred in Christ Jesus as Lord of our lives.
- The work of the Holy Spirit in affecting all that we require from God to keep us until the end of our lives on earth and beyond into eternity.

Our faith is a gift that God gives to us. This gift stays with us all our lives unless we let it go or give it up. The truth of these things combines in our hearts through faith, hope and love to work effectively within us, the full work of being saved from the current corruption that is in the world through lust.

Opening up the heart to receive it

The person who opens up the heart to receive this experience will be able to receive it. It comes through earnest prayer, requesting God's help. Believing God to help you pray and accept Jesus Christ as Lord of your life. You need His forgiveness, upon conviction of being a sinner who needs to be rescued from personal sinfulness and sins. Request Jesus to save you eternally by inviting Him to enter into your heart through His Spirit and to take you forward into a new life of doing right.

The sinner's prayer

This prayer is called the sinner's prayer. The sinner's prayer is a prayer that will always be answered if you ask sincerely and earnestly, with believing trust. Here are the steps:

- Ask for God's help.

(Dear God,)

- To believe through repentant prayer.
(help me to believe and repent now.)
- For Jesus Christ as Lord to come into your life.
(Please let Jesus Christ, as my Lord, come into my life)
- To grant you forgiveness.
(and grant me Your full forgiveness)
- Of your sinfulness and all your sins that you have committed.
(of all my sinfulness as a sinner and forgive me of all my sins.)
- To come and save you.
(Please save me now.)
- Inviting Jesus Christ to enter into your heart through His Holy Spirit forever, thus granting to you His Eternal Life.
(I invite you, Jesus, to enter into my heart now through your Holy Spirit. Come and stay with me forever and grant your eternal life to me from this day forward.)
- Ask for Him to completely heal you at the same time.
(Please heal me from sickness, illness and disease and keep me in health.)
- Receive it and thank Him for doing it for you, in Jesus name and for His sake.
(I thank you for doing it now, in Jesus name and for His sake. Amen.)

The backslider's prayer

When a person has received the Lord Jesus Christ and does not continue faithfully in obedience but starts to backslide away from Jesus and His truth, upon a new conviction he can return to Jesus and receive His forgiveness and restoration again. This should not be construed to say that we can come to Jesus and then backslide as we wish, but rather if it should happen, then we ought to return for our sakes. If this applies to you, you can come back now by saying the backslider's prayer. Here are the steps:

- Ask for God's help once more.
(Dear God,)
- To believe through repentant prayer.
(Help me to believe again and repent now.)
- For Jesus Christ as Lord to come and return into your life.
(Please let Jesus Christ as my Lord return into my life)
- To grant you forgiveness anew.
(And grant me your full forgiveness anew).
- Of your wilfulness and disobedience of all your sins that you have again committed.
(I am sorry for all my wilfulness and disobedience as your child and forgive me, once again, of all my sins.)
- To come and rescue you from being a backslider.
(Please rescue me now)
- Inviting Jesus to repossess your heart through His Spirit forever through your rededication, granting to you His eternal life again.
(And I invite you, Jesus, to repossess my heart now through your Holy Spirit, as I rededicate myself to you. Come and stay with me forever and grant your eternal life to me from this day forward.)
- Ask for Him to completely heal you at the same time.

(Please heal me from sickness, illness and disease and keep me in health.)

- Receive it and thank Him for doing it for you, in Jesus' name and for His sake.
(I thank you for doing it now, in Jesus name and for His sake. Amen.)

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5. Introducing Jesus - Himself 1 John 1:3-4

It is Jesus**

*** (This incident took place in Klerksdorp, South Africa, during the early part of 1973.)*

Visitation

At this particular time, I had been through a very trying time and was wondering if I would ever get out of the situation in which I had suddenly found myself, with mood swings, negative thoughts, doubtful hopes and above all very deep inner despair. These had been raging in me for some time and I could not understand why this was taking place. It seemed to me that the long periods of depression I was going through would just go on and on and never stop.

Each morning I would awake and wonder to myself, when will this day end? My daily work, which I normally enjoyed, had become a big problem for me. Each day seemed to me to be unbearably long. I would arrive home in the evening, having only just managed to get through the day and would try to go to sleep out of sheer and utter weariness. I found that I could only sleep for a while each night and then I would wake up with a start, lying on the bed pondering within myself. This went on regularly, deep into the early hours of the morning. While everyone was sleeping, I lay thinking to myself, this cannot go on like this. I had begun to realise that I could not go on in this way and decided to try and find some help. This help did not materialise because I could not put into words what I was experiencing. I could not find help from anyone. When I tried to explain my dilemma to my wife, or anyone else that had an ear to hear, I could not get this across to anyone, simply because I could not explain what was going on inside me or even what was wrong with me.

It was a deeply confusing time and I had very great feelings of guilty loneliness, which added to my despair. It seemed to me that colour had gone out of my life and I was seeing everything, the world at large and the people themselves, in a type of grey existence. It was very unpleasant and troubled me very much. I was extremely restless and even began to think that God had forsaken me and that I was a man doomed forever. I also avoided the prophets, being convinced that they would judge me severely because of my sad, sorry and sinful state.

Only when you have been in this type of state will you know what I am talking about. It was like waking up each day and being in a type of hell, desperately wanting to go back to sleep, but unable to because of the daily grind. My wife had all her time cut out to convince me that I needed to go to work each day to bring in an income for our little family. I was not very convinced of this and felt that all I wanted to do was rest, rest, and have more rest.

One Saturday morning whilst at work, I suddenly realised that instead of running away from the prophets and avoiding them (for our church has many prophets), I should rather trust them and seek help from one of them. I then decided to go to a meeting about 170 kilometres away, with a two-sided fight going on inside myself, go, don't go, that was driving me mad. I phoned my wife and told her to get things ready as we would be going through as soon as the shop in which I worked, closed for the weekend. We then drove to the church in Pretoria, which was the main church amongst our group of churches in that area. As a member of one of the regional churches in this group, I was familiar with the people of this church. We arrived at the youth service, shortly after the meeting had started.

During the meeting that evening whilst kneeling and, in fact, trying to hide away from the young prophet who was prophesying because I felt so ashamed of my condition, he suddenly came up to me and spoke a prophetic message from God to me. It was, amongst other things, that God would meet with me in my room and would give me something very precious. This

word of prophecy that was spoken to me on that Saturday evening brought a new fire of hope to my heart.

That evening, before going to sleep, I saw what seemed to be an invisible Presence, a very large invisible Person (I say invisible, but I could discern His outline) enter the room and stood before me. I realised that this person was very strong and I instinctively trusted Him. I knew that this is what I needed. It was the Holy Spirit, who had come to help me. I went to sleep that night, still troubled, but with new hope in my heart. Sunday evening, we went to further service at Rustenburg, where, for the first time in a long while, I was able to stand up and testify to the brethren and sisters. I could experience the anointing touching me gently as I began to realise that God had not left me. This personal experience gave me greater hope, adding to the hope that had sprung up in my heart through prophecy.

After the service, we drove home, and I had a fierce determination in my heart to go aside and wait on God, just as the young prophet had prophesied.

When I arrived home my wife and children went to bed, but I stayed in the lounge to be alone, kneeling on the wooden carpeted floor in the dark. I did not know what to do and pondered over this for some time. After a while, I decided to pray and simply said,

“Lord Jesus, You are Lord and You said through the prophet that I must be alone and that You would meet with me. Well, here I am, as You asked of me, alone with You. Please come and meet with me. Amen”

I earnestly prayed this prayer in the dark. Suddenly I started to receive visions.

Amongst other things I saw my sins in picture form, flashing before my eyes very rapidly, and as each one flashed by, I simply said, I am guilty. They were then removed from me with great force and the pictures fled away from me, each in turn. Each time the next one came up I declared my guilt and they were powerfully removed from before me by the Holy Spirit.

When this finally stopped, there was a deep silence about me for some time.

I decided to switch on the light and open up the Bible, being very perplexed as to what was taking place. This is what I read - *Psalms 32:1-7*. Read it for yourself before you go on. It is a very important message for this generation. I then switched off the light and prayed in the darkness.

“Lord grant me a New Testament experience of Jesus.”

Suddenly I heard footsteps walking towards me. I was terrified. I looked towards the footsteps but could see no one there. The footsteps just continued to come towards me and suddenly I realised that it is the Lord. Do not ask me how I knew, but I just knew. I fell onto the carpeted wooden floor and started to tremble violently. I was afraid and I thought to myself, you are now going to die.

The footsteps came to rest before my head while I was lying on the floor with my eyes shut tightly in fear. Everything became silent, except for the knocking of my knees on the wooden floor. I was terrified and shaking from head to foot. After a while, my knees stopped shaking and so the noise stopped too, and I realised that I was still alive. I thought to myself, if I was going to die, surely, I would have died already? I just lay there wondering what to do. After a while, I opened my eyes, lifted myself from the floor slowly coming to kneel on my knees. I asked softly and anxiously, “Lord, are you still here?”

Suddenly a tremendous rushing and whirling wind started blowing in the room, moving towards the closed side window. The wind blew open the windows, flapping the curtains

around violently. The mighty swirling wind left the room through the window and a brilliant whitish-blue light went out of the room with the wind. All was darkness and I was still on my knees, astonished at all this that I was experiencing. After a while, I regained my composure, stood up, switched on the light and went to examine the window and curtains and found, much to my surprise, that the window was closed and the curtains were still in place. This was even more surprising to me and I could hardly believe it.

I decided to ask for a Scripture and said, Lord, speak to me. This is what opened up to me,
Job 5:12-21.

It is The Lord

The Lord has been with me ever since. If you read the rest of *Psalms 32* you will see that God will counsel you with His eye. He will surround you with songs of His deliverance. He will instruct you. You need not fear if your fear is in God. He will not fail you. This happened in 1973 and I am still going on with the Lord now, as strong as ever. Praise His name.

Many things started to happen in my life ever since that time which was and still is precious to me. The prophet had said to me, “it will be precious”, and it is. I know deep down within myself that it was the Lord who spoke to me through that prophet, by His Holy Spirit, that day in my deepest discouragement.

The vision showed me and taught me three lights.

- The light of day - sunlight.
- The artificial light of night - electric light.
- The Holy Spirit light - the true Light of the world, which is Jesus Christ Himself, spiritually lighting up every man, woman and child who will trust Him to personally do this.

It is still just as true today.

How can this help you?

- Ask Jesus for a meeting and He will meet with you. Possibly not in this same way but, it could well be, in a different way. He will surely come and meet with you.
- Believe in Jesus Christ as your Lord and your only true solution.
- Do not look for an experience, but look for your Lord.
- Wait expectantly and patiently for Him to come and visit you.
- Persevere in these matters even though your faith seems to be failing and ask for greater faith to believe.
- Trust God’s true prophets that speak God’s word to you, as backed up by their Godly lives and the Holy Scriptures.
- Ask for a New Testament experience with Jesus, based on what He has done for you historically, currently, spiritually and personally.
- We have prayed that Jesus will come into your life as he did into mine, but with your meeting experience.

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6. They need to know Jesus personally John 3:16-18

Some people seem to have a special gift for actually seeing Jesus for themselves, but others, who have not seen Jesus, definitely do have faith as their basis for a believing life. This programme comes out of a person working with the revelational input that Jesus has dramatically given into my own life, through the Holy Spirit.

It is not for me to say that you can or you cannot begin to see Jesus for yourself

It all depends on your deeper longing, understanding and personal prayer life. Jesus will come to visit you if you will have Him, but without a deep personal longing and continuing intimacy through prayer, it becomes less likely, unless Jesus chooses to reveal Himself to you by His decree.

My Testimony

For many years I wanted to see Jesus and many a time asked Him to show Himself to me.

It all started spontaneously and suddenly, mostly when I was in deep inner conflict and personal problems. This shows me that He cares for me and did not want me to give up, fall away or go away, always coming forward when I needed Him most. Jesus has to be introduced to a person who is seeking, and what more wonderful way to introduce Jesus by letting Him reveal to you not only of Himself but also Himself. I fully believe that this is possible otherwise I would not take the trouble to present this programme. It was Jesus Himself who said:

John 16:24 "Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full."

Joyfulness

My joy is continually full because He has done just this for me, many, many times. He desires that we be filled with the fullness of joy. If He could do this for me, why not for you? Am I any different to you? Are we not all just needy people that need the Lord and His personal touch - His working? Jesus said in

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

By enlarging your heart to believe, or if you cannot do this just ask Jesus to enlarge it for you, you will be enabled to reach out through your faith to this wonderful experience.

Remember, faith increases with use and decreases through neglect.

Develop your faith

My faith is being developed by a continual conversation with Jesus, and I, therefore, ask you, why not develop your faith? Allow me to introduce to you the Jesus I know.

John 12:21 "Sir, we wish to see Jesus"

Then you can get acquainted with Him for yourself in the way He desires to show Himself to you or even to deal with you, on the personal basis of His friendship towards you and with you.

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7. The anointing lays bare the heart of the Father 1 John 2:27

There is an anointing that is given to those who believe. It may be a word anointing, a spirit anointing, a Holy Spirit anointing, but they all come from the Father, through Jesus Christ and are imparted through the Holy Spirit. The anointing is given to lay the heart of the Father before us in such a way that we can begin to understand it, allow it to develop inside us, and finally growing up into maturity of understanding.

The comfort of the Holy Spirit as He guides us

The Scriptures, but especially the New Testament, have been given to help us understand the Father heart more clearly. Reading the Scriptures should become a daily habit. However, reading the Word without earnest prayer will yield inferior results. The quickening power of believing prayer is one of the keys to receive comfort and consolation from the Scriptures. Our hope enlarges as we get to know more and more of God's love, plan and purpose for our lives.

The Son of God opens up the true anointing of His Father

Jesus had an anointing that He received from His Father. This anointing was the very thing that opened up God to us, through His teachings. The healings that took place, the suffering that He overcame, the victories that He experienced daily, all came about through the anointing. If one had to analyse the teachings of Jesus carefully, it would not be difficult to discover the main themes:

- God cares.
- God requires our obedience.
- God is a loving Father.
- God blesses us daily.
- He is willing to bless us spiritually.
- He is our Provider.
- He is interested in all our sufferings, in providing healings, in deliverance and liberty for us.
- He wants to bless us with His abundant life, etc.

The heart of the Father is constantly being exposed to us in the teaching of the parables of Jesus. There is a constant reminder that we have to understand what it is that God is saying to us. The shining theme, however, is that His glory will carry us through and will always be at our disposal when we need it.

None but Him alone

He presents God as the only true God, who is a Father to His children everywhere. He even goes so far as to say that there is none good, only God. Jesus opens up God's eternal plan to us, presenting life, the life, the new life, abundant life, resurrected life, eternal life, everlasting life, either here now on earth, in paradise if we should die, and in His Kingdom on earth when Jesus comes back again. At the very centre of this, all is the grand theme of God's love through redemption, salvation, new birth and eternal victory.

The working of the Spirit has a twelve-fold purpose

- The life of the Spirit is centred in believing in Jesus Christ as Lord of your life.
- The anointing makes Jesus, God and the Holy Spirit real to the believer.
- The working of God is presented in a believable and real way to increase your faith.

- The faith increase comes through God personally working through His Spirit within you.
- The Spirit opens up salvation to each seeking person.
- The Spirit helps us to intercede and pray for our daily needs, daily helps and brings victory to us.
- The working of God is brought about through His Spirit in all people everywhere.
- His Spirit gives life to all and moves among us, showing us our wrongs, using our conscience and the witness of our spirit.
- He is present everywhere and therefore is available to help anyone who needs His help.
- He separates the vile from the pure, always presenting the holiness and separateness of God from sinners, who continue to reject God and His commandments.
- He is continually drawing us closer to Himself - in the persons of the Holy Spirit as Comforter, Jesus as the Son of God and God as the Father.
- No one knows or understands the things that the Spirit of God knows and understands, except the Spirit of God. Therefore He, the Spirit, is continually revealing to us all the things of God, but especially, and more so, to those who wish to know them intimately.

These twelve things are all around us, empirically, and can be observed by all, if only we will take notice of them and see them for ourselves. This working of God can become apparent to all.

God is on the move; Christ is the life-giving vessel of His salvation and the miraculous

Many miraculous things are happening to people everywhere every day. Sometimes they recognise them straightaway, perhaps later on, and sometimes others have to point out the miraculous to them before they can see it. Despite this, miracles abound around us. A miracle of salvation is wonderful and takes place frequently. Miracles of healing also occur. Strange happenings, benefitting us as human beings, sometimes occur unexpectedly. Many of these things come about through our prayers and the prayers of others. Sometimes, however, these things seem to occur spontaneously, for no apparent reason. This seems to be the realm in which God works mysteriously. The outcome of a miracle is surprising. It seems to be against natural reasoning and usually cannot be explained. The outcome of a miracle usually brings joy. No wonder it is evidence of God at work for us. When we walk under the anointing of His Spirit, we realise His moving in the Spirit that brings about miraculous changes in circumstances, people and events. When we ask anything through Christ, we can expect a greater occurrence of miracles than otherwise. He is the channel of blessing that God uses to open up the wonderful world of miracles. He is spoken of as our Ark of Salvation.

The working of the Spirit of Christ

The Spirit of Christ is the Spirit He has towards His Father. He is obedient in all things. He loves His Father and is always standing in for Him. He is subservient and obedient to His Father. We are exhorted to have the very same Spirit that He has. In the same way, we are to appreciate God and love Him as our Father. The mind and heart of Jesus towards His Father on earth opened up the way for His eternal relationship in heaven now. Our final destination is also the Kingdom of Heaven. We need the same attitude of heart and mind towards God and the things of God. The Spirit of God leads us to know Christ Jesus and the Spirit of Christ leads us to know the Father. The working is interrelated, but many people only know God and have not yet learned to know Jesus and His Spirit.

The working of the Spirit of the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is directed specifically towards getting people saved, freed, being

delivered, and implementing the work of God in our lives.

The working of the Spirit of God

In general, not to simplify matters too much, the Spirit of God operates through His Word, and the Holy Spirit operates through His children. This does not limit the working of the Holy Spirit in any other way outside of His children. The God Spirit opens up the way to salvation and the Holy Spirit affects it. The Spirit of God and the Holy Spirit awakens in us the desire to get to know God better and to draw closer to Him.

Learning to trust and obey

The teaching process brings the learning process to us. This teaching process is in turn brought to us through the Holy Spirit. In general, five workings are linked very closely together in the Scriptures. These workings:

- help us to know God,
- open up His word for us,
- introduce His Holy Spirit to us,
- introduce Christ Jesus to us and
- show us the way to go, leading us ever onwards in the Godly life.

The Spirit of God therefore reveals the Spirit of Christ to us through the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit creates a desire within us to obtain eternal life.

This eternal life within us opens up the whole world of the Spirit to us. Whichever Spirit is at work, as long as it is God's Spirit having God as the same source, they perform the same will of God within their working. The Spirit of God will always endorse the Spirit of Christ and the Holy Spirit will always endorse a holy result.

Learning to lean

The process of learning is to bring us to a place of full leaning on God. We are told not to lean towards our understanding but towards God's. This means simply to learn of Him and seek to follow His ways that will be for our full and ultimate benefit.

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8. Greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world 1 John 4:4

Part one

Many wonderful things can be received from believing this statement, but the subject of money, income and finances are certainly amongst the most important. Can we cope without finances? Can we cope indefinitely without an income? Can we do without money?

The devil opposes your finances when working for God and you need God to help you past this opposition.

Five ideas are declared in the title of this study. Taking the five ideas that are presented, from the last to the first, we find them to be:

- “in the world”

We belong to a world that demands many, many things from us to live and foremost, amongst these things, is the need for money. We need money daily for almost everything for us to continue living. Without money, we will find it very difficult to cope with the constant needs that are a common lot of all mankind.

- “he who is”

The devil is in this world. He first appeared in the Garden of Eden and he is still around today. He insists that he is the boss of the world. He is all around us and his evil works are manifest. If it were not for him it would be easy to serve God. He hinders everyone who would come to God and those who stay with God he continually tries to tempt away, back into the world’s way of doing things. He is called the god of this world. Satan tries to make us understand that he is, himself, our god. True believers know this to be false.

- “in you”

Sometimes we receive things we do not want. People are always giving us presents, some to our liking and others to our disliking. The devil likes to give us presents too. He is continually offering us demons, sins and illicit pleasures. We can take them or we can refuse them. Like all gifts we take from the giver, the choice is ours to take it or leave it. Satan, however, presents his gifts in such a wonderful way, for he is very cunning and his gifts can become extremely attractive to us. If we receive his gifts, we soon discover for ourselves that they all come with a deadly price and that his gifts lead us into evil. His gifts fill us with bitterness, hatred and deep sorrow. We always lose something precious when we take any of his gifts. If it is not our freedom that goes, then it is our health or our life changes for the worst or our honesty goes, or our marriage breaks up. On the other hand, the gifts we receive from God fill us with goodness, love and life.

- “He who is”

This refers to the Holy Spirit, the Lord Jesus Christ, God. We may not know all of these three heavenly powers or we may know all three - the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit are manifestations of the one true God. We can have them living in us. We do not need the devil at all. He is continually roaming the world, trying to be in us. We do, however, need the Godhead inside us, the real *“He who is”*. The one true God, not satan who poses himself as God.

- “Greater is He”

- If no one but the greatest is in you, then you will discover the truth of these things for yourself. The devil, because he is a fallen angel, has great power, yes, he is powerful, but his power can never be as great as the power of God for God is all-powerful.
- Make sure that He that is Greater is in you and the lesser that is in the world will not trouble you. The Greater will always help you to prevail against the lesser.
- In many matters, we will find this all to be true if we bring God to the test. He will always allow His powerful sovereignty to surface in every sort of dealing we have with Him.

Do we know our enemy?

- Satan is resisting you in your asking.
 - If we go to war in the natural world, we need to know who we are fighting. We need to know what type of strategies they are capable of using. We need to know their strengths and if possible, their numbers and deployment. We need to engage them in battle and overcome them on every front. This takes time and is an ongoing war that cannot be stopped until victory comes. The war in the spiritual world is the same. The enemy has all sorts of strategies. He has numerous strongmen and countless demons to wage his war. He is unseen and has limitless energy. How do we, as humans, counter these onslaughts of such a formidable enemy? We need to realise that there are two invisible armies, one that is good and one that is bad, each constantly opposing each other between heaven and earth. We know of this because we are told in the Scriptures that this is how things are. We have a wonderful, invincible Captain, Jesus. He is always ready to send His angels to help us and to overcome the enemies sent to attack us.
 - There are numerous spiritual pitfalls, snares and traps. There are dangerous mines and all sorts of booby traps, but we have an intelligent Scout that is always watchful and can go anywhere. He is all-powerful over any of the opponents. He has unlimited power and resources at His disposal. He has day and night access to God the Father. He understands the perfect will of God and also understands every strategy that the enemy may choose to use and can therefore thwart every attack. His name is the Holy Spirit. We may receive Him into our hearts and He will dwell there forever, continually helping us in every situation.

We have friends in the world, but do we know the greatest friend, Jesus?

- Who is going to help you - your friends or Jesus?

When we are in dire need, this is a question that can haunt us. When trouble comes your way, it is wonderful to have a good friend to turn to for help. It is such a comfort to know that there is such a friend that will help us in times of deep trouble. However, in this faith battle and type of spiritual warfare, our friends may not always be equal to give the necessary help. We can use their help when they are around, but what if a crisis develops suddenly and there is no one around to help you? Jesus is such a friend and will always be watchful over you ready to help you, as you trust in Him to help. So, what we need is Jesus also to be in the heart. The Holy Spirit lives in our hearts, but Jesus actually, personally, lives in heaven and sits next to the Father on His throne. However, this same Jesus can also come down and through the Spirit of God live within your heart. We have two friends, therefore, Jesus and the Holy Spirit, who together will help you with everything that you may need.

Your friend is waiting for you

- God knows who He will use to help you.

God has a way of supplying our needs. They are so numerous as to be uncountable. He also has servants that listen to His voice. He can use others in such wonderful ways that are past finding out. The outcome in any given situation is usually a surprise, for the deliverance of God always comes from an unexpected source. Before you start to pray, God has already set in motion the solution towards your deliverance. Answer to prayers can be so wonderfully startling that, always impossibly so, they seem to be one step away, ready to come forward at the right time.

Lifting your heart - with humility instead of pride

- Which way is your heart lifted?
 - There is one real obstacle to the answer to your prayers that always seems to crop up uninvited. The difference between the heart that receives and the heart that grieves seems to be, in addition to faith, humility. It takes a humble person to pray, a person who needs God and His help. A proud person is self-sufficient and will always try to find his solution. The humble person knows how to ask God and how to receive from God. The proud person may blame God for the circumstances in which they find themselves through non-submission. The humble are dependent upon God and can take the good with the bad.
 - When God gives us the answers to our prayers, we are often greatly humbled because God uses sources that touch our hearts in such strange ways. If we need curtains, for instance, and through prayer receive curtains that are in good condition, but are used, how do we react? These are not new. This is not good enough for me. God can supply better, can't He? Sometimes God sends people to help us, after prayer, that we do not even like. What then? Do we reject their help or are we humbled to receive it?

Part two

- Money matters

One of the most difficult matters to understand is why we do not always have enough funds to do this or what we need or desire. The worst scenario that can happen is to find that there is no more money and we have to either sell some of our possessions, arrange to get more money by working for it, or find a source of relief. It is most frustrating to realise that our funds are drying up, that the bottom of the proverbial barrel of provision has been reached, or the promise of a person proves to be as a waterless cloud. This prompts the question, what can I do about this and/or how can I make sure that there is a continual supply that takes care of my needs? Either I work for it until I cannot work anymore, or is there perhaps a method of supply that I do not know of or understand?

- Open a money supply account by changing your bank

The Scriptures talk about the supply that comes from God. This is a mystery in some respects, even though we understand that all we have has come from God, whether directly or indirectly.

- Is our bank in heaven as important as our bank on earth?

In this matter of money, we all need a bank to handle it for us. Without a bank, we struggle to cash cheques and they offer us safe protection for large amounts until we need to put the money to use. We all need a money supply, a source of money such as

a pension, a good job, a rich relative, a sponsor, benefactor, etc. Working for money is the most common way that we can receive a monthly income. We may also have lots of money and by putting the money in the bank at a fixed or fluctuating interest rate; we can live on the proceeds. We can also invest money into all types of business ventures and by trading receive increases. This needs constant application and we earn by putting in our time, labour and efforts an exchange for money. There is another side to the earning of money. As fast as we earn so do the expenses multiply. The expenses can outstrip the income and any business that has the opposite result is counted as being successful. Here are some formulae that you can ponder over:

- Labour + Time = Money (Working for it)
- Money + Time + Interest = Money (*Saving it*)
- Time + Funds + Interest + Profit = Money (*Insurance, pension and profits*)
- Buying Expenses + Selling Income for Goods/Services + Time + Labour for Manufacturing, Marketing and Services = Money

In the true believer's life, there is another formula at work:

God's Blessing + Faith + Labouring+ Time = Money

Use your faith in labouring for God, even if it takes your time and then God will bring the monetary solution to pass.

Jesus stated it this way:

“Seek first The Kingdom of God and His righteousness and all things will be added to you.”

Having faith in God and working for His Kingdom in His righteousness, brings results.

Are you willing to ask our great God for His help?

There may be many you can go to for help but have you asked God yet?

Make sure that He is in you, and then you can ask Him for His help. He will do it for you.

It is all a matter of trust. Can you accept that God can give you money, and income, finances, a source of income, while you work for Him? You have to settle any doubts in your own heart with God. This type of trust will never be broken.

Open up the heart of supply

If you cannot receive you cannot supply others. In real life, there is a giving and a taking, a coming in and a going out, a time to receive and a time to give.

By learning the lessons of receiving and giving graciously, we soon become humble enough for God to do wonderful things in answer to our prayers. For instance, we ask for a car. We get a fairly dilapidated car from someone obedient enough to answer God's request to give. We take the car and use it gratefully. Then as our humility grows and is settled, we ask again. Because we learnt our lesson in the first car, the second car will be much better. God is working all these things out. On the other hand, at our first request, we may receive a rather posh car, but with the disadvantage of using a lot of petrol. We are not too happy, but it will do. Then we begin to grumble and God gives us a second car at our prayer request. We then exchange it for a better car that uses less petrol, but the car is not so handsome and not so posh. Are we still unhappy, dissatisfied? The humble will be glad and will rejoice for whatever car is given to them. We may even receive a car that is beginning to rust. So what? It is God's answer to our prayer and it is God's servant who has heard from God to become obedient to give the car. This is the lesson that we all have to learn first if we are going to

receive continually from God through faith.

Let go of poverty and become rich

Poverty is not one of money, but of richness towards God.

Now the thought of poverty does not appeal to us. We would rather have enough money to be able to go through life easily, with as little struggling as possible. Yet in the beginning, when we are trying to learn the lesson of believing God and learn to live in trusting faith, we have little. As we grow in asking faith and in receiving faith, we start to get better results and God's living standard for us begins to climb with practice. The question to be answered is simply, can God give us a new article that we need or must He give us a second hand one? The answer lies in this simple truth - just leave it to God.

The receivers and the givers

The ridiculous thing about this all is that when God gives us money. He can give us new notes or he can give us used notes. Do we complain about this? Money is money and so are articles. If we need a desk and God gives us one that is chipped, just repair the chip. It is not the quality of what we have that makes us rich, but rather our attitude towards God. The truly rich are those with the right attitude and the truly poor are those with the wrong attitude towards God. Learn to become rich towards God and God will become rich towards you. Even the beggars in the street can be fussy. They do not want yesterday's bread, but they want fresh bread - today's bread. The people who give them the bread notice this reluctant attitude to receive, even if the beggar says nothing. We, like them who stand in faith, have to be careful that we show gratitude and say thank you to whoever supplies our need, whether it be a few or thousands of Rands. This is the true richness that brings marvellous answers to prayer from God.

Do what you think best

If you have the secret you can put your faith into practice and if you do not have the answer to your need, learn to wait on God for God's supply.

When we are learning about faith life, we often have to go through very hard trials to strengthen our faith. These are not very welcome and usually cause us a lot of unhappiness. We need to get past the unhappy stage and begin to be joyously expectant about how God is going to supply our constant need. Sometimes when we panic, then the matter becomes a heavy burden, too heavy to carry. Get rid of the panic and substitute that empty place with faith and you will be delighted at the wonderful results.

All godly needs have solutions

God answers prayers by providing solutions.

There is a time for all godly needs to be met with godly solutions. We have to learn the patience of waiting for the answers to our prayers to come about. While we wait, we continually believe.

We are not spending our time looking where the answer will come from. We keep busy doing what we have to do, fully trusting God to supply that which we need and ask Him for. This is what is called expectant faith. We continue expectantly, not hinting, not begging, not soliciting, but waiting for the right person, the right moment, the right solution to come forth out of obscurity into the light of day. Even if an angel comes to provide us with what we need, it will not surprise us. We leave it to God. God then supplies it His way in any of the million ways that He can choose from.

The solution becomes our testimony of God's gracious supply

Part of the plan in this type of receiving faith is to tell others about your victories of answered prayers, but nothing about your needs

Every time God gives you a solution to your need, His answer is directly related either to your prayer request or to your belief that He will meet your dire need. If something comes to you unexpectedly, then God could be using another that you do not know about who has prayed for you.

Let go of troubles and get solutions

If you are looking for God's solutions expect to have trouble. If there were no trouble there would be no need to pray. God allows troubles to come your way to move you to pray to Him for the solution. Many times, in the past you may have found that when you start to pray everything seems to get worse. Why is this? There are two reasons:

- The devil starts to hinder and block your way to pray with faith. Trust God to take you through this stage to the victory of trusting faith.
- God is drawing your attention to the need for His help through prayer. Tell God your needs and ask for His relief through your trusting faith.

He will not fail you in your decision

We, as human beings, usually look for every other solution to our problems, except prayer. The route of prayer is difficult. It needs concentration and usually, when there is some dire need, we find it more difficult to concentrate on our prayer. There is also a time factor involved that causes us to panic. We have run out of time, as all other solutions have dried up and there seems to be no other way now.

If you decide to ask, He will give the solution. If you decide not to ask, He will also give the solution, but you will have to look for it, not miraculously, but naturally. The decision is yours. This is God's prerogative and the outcome of this prerogative depends on our asking Him to help. We can use our prerogative or we can trust in God's prerogative. There are times when we have prayed and prayed and prayed and yet nothing has turned out the way we wanted it. Could it be that God has another way for us to go and we are blindly insisting to go our way rather than His? You need to change your prayer if it is not receiving the results that you are expecting and sometimes, we even have to change our expectation. Nevertheless, if we persist, we will come through and God will fill the gap, provide the solution and solve the difficulty. His greatness, especially in you, is your guarantee over the seeming greatness of satan and his works.

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9. Labouring through the Holy Spirit anointing 1 John 2:19-20

The Holy Spirit is given to us for labouring to the Father through Jesus. This means that as we go forward in the working of our ministry or outreaching, whether through witnessing, teaching, exhorting, prophesying or preaching, we need the anointing of the Holy Spirit in everything spiritual. The daily tasks allotted to us also need the anointing, whether they are done in the natural order, such as our work, or the spiritual order, such as our ministering. The only way for our full success in all these daily tasks is to ensure that the Holy Spirit is helping us. This we accomplish by asking for His help daily. The prayer to pray is simply:

“Lord Jesus, you promised that the Holy Spirit would help us, guide us and comfort us. Please let Him do so this day, keeping me from wrong and helping me with the right that is pleasing to the Father. Amen.”

The working of His Spirit in the miraculous order

Now as you ask you must receive His help by opening up your heart to it through faith. Let faith rise by releasing it and you will be surprised at the results. The Holy Spirit works in the miraculous order. He is not bound by human reason, human doubts and human fears that assail us all through inherent weakness. He has the full power of God at His command and delights to do the will of the Father, even as the Lord Jesus Christ Himself always did whilst on earth. Faith releases His working. By believing and not doubting you learn to trust him fully and He cannot fail you if He is doing it Himself. Half trust is not full trust and full trust is needed. Practice makes perfect in this regard. The more you trust him, the greater He will help you in that miraculous realm.

The will of the Father through His Son

The working of the Holy Spirit is linked to the will of the Father through Jesus, the Son of the Father. It is like a light bulb in some respects:

- the casing of the globe (the miracle)
- that encloses the filament (the witness)
- there is the plug-in fitting (grounded in truth)
- that connects the light bulb (the working of God)
- to the system of power transmitted (God, the Father)
- through the negative wire (your part that is needed in the matter)
- and the positive wire (faithful obedience)
- towards the switch (positive reaction)
- that can either go on (turned on)
- or be in the off position (turned off.)
- Someone (You? Me? Us?)
- has to switch the switch on (become active for Jesus)
- to allow the power to flow through the wires (the Holy Spirit through faithful obedience and your positive reaction)
- to the globe (the result of all the workings)
- which then becomes excited by the power (the miraculous power displayed)
- starting to glow (Jesus Christ as the light.)

The filament gets excited and the globe lights up. The light then comes out of the globe, which only a moment ago, before the switch was thrown to ‘on’, was not working, but now is (the miraculous working).

The way forward is not the way back

As you learn to trust God in this way, the results will always be there, unless the switch is either not used, or the switch fails. The current or power must surge backwards and forwards for the light to glow. Once the current is switched off, the power is still always there but is not in use. The switch decides the forward surge of power or the stopping of the surge. Learn to open the switch for results and use the switch only when it is necessary to turn off the light. Human beings get tired. They need to rest. They have a lot of things to do that make up the daily grind. It is not always possible to leave the switch on for several of these reasons. However, the true believer has the miraculous working night and day, an eternal light, simply because they have learned the secret of eternal trusting which means always going forwards and not going backwards.

The expectation of hope

Many believers have not continued in their hope of the miraculous simply because it takes faith to be in tune. They do not keep the faith and then lose hope. Hope is like the continual light that comes out of the light bulb, which is always on. This type of hope helps us to not be ashamed, as we trust God, through Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit. Eternal hope will always bring eternal results. Diminishing hope will bring diminishing results. Keep hope alive and keep that power flowing through and you will see wonderful miracles happening around you wherever you go.

The working of faith

Faith can never be too little but needs to be used constantly. The more you use it the more it multiplies. Growing faith is the way we all need to go. It is like a little mustard seed planted in the ground, which grows and grows and grows until the tree gets very large, bearing its mustard seeds. Plant a tree of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ through the Holy Spirit and you can expect faith seeds to grow eventually on your faith tree.

The life of love

The life of faith depends very much on the life of loving. Caring about people will help one to use the faith that you have to help others. This is the best way for faith to develop and grow into strong and vigorous faith. The more you love, the more you use your faith to help others, the stronger will be your hope for your prayers to be fulfilled. As you love, by letting God's love flow through you, you will become more and more useful to others. The main purpose of faith is to keep you close to God. God loves faith and expects us to use faith, even as He has granted faith to each one who believes. His love is a life of love, and the life of faith is a living faith of love.

The opening of your spiritual walk through the anointing

As you continue in your spiritual walk with Jesus, through the Holy Spirit, you will begin to grow up in your spiritual walk, getting stronger and stronger as you go forwards each day. Jesus walking with you will always help you forwards and will only take you back when you have either failed to do something important to Him, or you have made a mistake of some kind that needs to be sorted out with Him. No one can do all things right all the time, but as you go on in this spiritual walk the anointing will teach you countless things, and as He teaches you so you will walk in the anointing, growing in grace each day. His grace will be sufficient for you and is equal to all things that will come your way.

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10.Necessary things Ephesians 2:13-22

The gospel introduces to the believers and through the believers to sinners, many wonderful principles and concepts. The grouping that follows presents essential truths that have to be realised if any believer would like to work for the kingdom in its extending mission to those who have not heard and do not know.

Three necessary things to give a *spiritual family*, being

The heavenly family is an entity that is part of the worldly families of nations. Just as there is a natural family around which helps the children grow and learn, just so is there a spiritual family that helps to teach and help spiritual children to flourish and thrive. The family needs a father, one that is in charge, so to speak. They need the words of authority from that parent. They also need a teacher. Here are keywords or key thoughts that link up with the various themes that are being presented to emphasise each sub-heading. Meditate on them to unravel their potency:

- The Father - Authority
Learn, Listen, Willing, Trust, Ask, Receive, Faith, Heart, Take, Give, Worship, Praise
- The Word - Instruction
Hear, Believe, Yield, See, Come, Live, Love, Abide, Occupy, Work, Wait, Go
- The Holy Spirit - Teacher
New creature, Understand, Pray, Know, Watch, Stand, Keep, Walk, Persevere, Hold, Run, Glorify

Three necessary things to help us *keep our faith* until Jesus returns

- The Wisdom of God - all-knowing.
God will carry you through always and all ways until the end.
- The fear of God - all-embracing.
There is nothing that will come the way that makes God unable to handle you and your difficulties.
- The Love of God - all-encompassing.
The work in you and the work of God for you will come shining through as you hold fast to God and His working.

Three necessary things to give *the believer* love

- The Covenants of God - the power.
God has made a covenant with mankind through Jesus which is the guarantee that His power will come through for you, as you believe, trust and obey.
- The promises of the Holy Spirit - the keep.
God's promises help you to hold fast when all else seems to be failing. He is faithful who has promised. He will do it for you. Only believe.
- The commandments of the Lord Jesus Christ - the hope.

The world has its values and everyone has some of them. God's commandments are the standard that is above worldly values because it includes eternity. Learn to obey these commandments.

Three necessary things to give *the church* life

- The purifying fire of The Holy Spirit - the trial of faith.

God's Spirit will teach us and take us through God's way that He expects us to live. The Holy Spirit will help us through every trial of our faith.

- The Holy Spirit Baptism - the essence of new life.

God gives us His heavenly essence of life when He gives us His Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit represents God, not only around us but also inside of us, as soon as we have received Him into our hearts and lives. New life, a Godly life, will be the result of this.

- The winnowing of Jesus Christ as Lord - the sifting.

The wheat is ready to be put in the barns, but the chaff has to be separated from the wheat first. We are as the wheat that God uses to feed the world and to reproduce more wheat by planting and the chaff, which grows with the wheat grains, have to be taken away.

Three necessary things to give the *body of believers*, spirit

- The Spirit - birthing a new life.

Repentance has been commanded by God to change the lives of sinners and turns them into saints.

- The Water - sustaining life.

Water baptism has been commanded by Jesus to the believers.

- The Blood - regenerating life.

The Covenant of blood has been commanded by the Holy Spirit to give new, regenerating life to the doers of the Word.

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11. Opening up revival teachings Joel 2:28-29

Every revival begins with the correct teachings. Revival is preceded by the correct teachings that come through the Holy Spirit. He has a plan and purpose to fulfil and before He can even begin to fulfil it, He has to lay the groundwork for the revival that He is bringing to any place, wherever it is going to begin, as the eye of the fountain. These Holy Spirit teachings are not from man, but find their source in God Himself, through the opening up of the Scriptures.

The source of revival

No one can say that a revival begins from man or through a man, when in fact its very beginning is the life-source of God. Despite this truth, some believers are appointed by God to stand for revival. The preacher and/or teacher who is revival-orientated have a visionary appeal to people. Some people would say, however, that there can never be a revival in the current trend of what is going on in the world, that we are in for dark times without any relief whatsoever and that things will get worse. This need not be so, for even during wartime there have been revivals. Some are hidden and others have been manifested in the trenches and battle lines. God cannot be contained when He has decided to open up a revival stream.

There is no replacement for revival

Revival has a source that is often not apparent, even though it is seen from which group or church it begins. The source is God. Revival is an astounding touch of the Spirit that comes down from heaven and opens up revival streams. At such times people in the surrounding area are startled into the realisation that if they do not receive the living streams they will miss 'it'. There are also many, who during the revival, whilst seeing the stream moving this way or that, even around them and sometimes in their very midst, still choose to miss it and say that this is not the moving that was spoken about, having eyes rather on some distant outpouring. They are unpleasantly surprised because what they thought would happen seems to be happening in a different form of opening up, far removed from themselves and their ideals. Those who expect a revival, strangely enough, are often not those who are in the church, but those who are around the church or churches, who long for some true manifestation of what the church is always speaking of - revival fire.

Revival fire and/or flowing streams

No one can predict exactly how a revival will come, for it is like a well of strong water that suddenly breaks out from the ground and gushes out in an ever-powerful stream. It can be like a sudden downpour of rain. It can also be like a brush fire, which, upon catching alight, runs and spreads in an alarmingly rapid manner. Revival is the only revival to those who are waiting for it, expecting it, praying for it, continually seeking it, calling it forth and believing that it will come, whilst eagerly waiting for its manifestation in their midst.

The heart of revival is in your own heart first

For a person to enjoy the refreshing springs of living waters in a revival, they have to be thirsty, even desiring to experience the deep soul-quenching of a new visitation from God. Their hearts are crying out for a change in what is not, whilst they are enjoying what presently is. They have a thirst that is ever-present for a greater manifestation of and a fuller meeting with God in all its expressions. Your heart is the very first portion that needs to be quenched. If you are completely satisfied with what you are getting from your fellowship then there can be no overwhelming desire to have revival. The more you are being filled the less you need revival. The more your thirst is being withheld from quenching, the more your heart will cry out for it and seek it until it comes. Are you so filled that you need no more

living water? Not so thirsty that you cannot receive more of this living water? Revival will come to those who are thirsty and not to those whose thirst is already being quenched. Therefore, let your heart become a thirsty heart.

Never say no to a revival

Each time a revival has broken out, however small or however large, the people were startled that it did not quite come as they imagined it to happen. Remember, just as there can be sudden small rains and then a big rain; even so, it can be in revival outpourings.

Suddenly, is the keyword.

- Suddenly - Jesus appeared amid the temple.
- Suddenly - God delivered His people from Pharaoh.
- Suddenly - there was a sound as of a mighty rushing wind. When Peter stood up and preached to the very large crowd, suddenly - five thousand people repented, and so on.
- Suddenly - God appears on the scene and
- suddenly - everything is different.

Believe it to be so, for that is how it works.

The children of Israel in the desert were all hungry and needed food and water.

- Suddenly - they were provided for; the water came out of the rock.
- In another instance, suddenly - the dew of the night brought forth the unusual bread-like substance that was to become known as “manna”.

Just imagine if these people who experienced this form of revival had decided to say, no, they do not want this, but rather, they want that! What would have happened? Therefore say, ‘Yes’ to all revivals.

Know what you are talking about

Revival has a way of tarrying. There is what is called the brooding period. The Holy Spirit is moving around a place and He is brooding over that place, waiting just for the right moment to break forth, in response to the right words spoken from God, through any particular instrument, whether that person who has been chosen by either small or great.

The prophet Jonah was asked to go to Nineveh and proclaim its overthrow. He chose to run away, rather than to go. God had to deal rather harshly with him and send him back to deliver that very same message. Jonah gave the message day by day and after preaching it for a certain time, went to sit where he could find some shade, waiting to see what would happen. Suddenly, God used the King of Nineveh to proclaim a fast for the whole populace, which brought about a great change to Nineveh. The people turned to God with all their hearts and even brought their cattle into their change of heart. God brought revival to Nineveh by turning away His anger and decided to extend His mercy over them. Jonah never expected this great king to repent and heed God’s message of impending God destruction, even though he was a prophet of God.

The unexpected revival detonation that causes the explosion

Let us not look past each other for we never know who God is going to anoint to open up the detonating impetus that will explode your whole immediate church, town, region or country, God alone knows how much further, into one mighty revival. God, suddenly - breaking forth as in the days of old!

We have to busy ourselves with revival, even if we do not see it, but we need to be realistic. If there is no revival, then there is no revival. However, it does not have to stay that

way. God can change it and turn it around in a moment. Suddenly...

Revival comes amid turmoil

People are always expecting revival when everything seems to be going on as usual, but this is seldom so. It suddenly appears in a period of deep troubling. The troubling is the very impetus needed for the revival to break forth. The more difficult the trouble, the greater is the consensus towards a needed revival. Just because things do not seem to change when we expect them to get better, does not mean that a revival cannot come now. The example of Nineveh's revival came about at the very height of the horrendous crime rate in the city and homes. Their extreme wickedness even came up for notice before God. We cannot say that it was going well with Nineveh, can we? No, there were murder, rape, pillage, plundering, extortion, theft, gambling, drinking, sexual perversion, carousing, licentiousness and who knows what else? Yet, who can deny it, they received revival. Within just 40 days of God's message of destruction through Jonah, revival came about. Thank God for His message. Thank God for His prophet. Thank God for that wicked king that became scared enough to repent. Thank God for the king's subjects, wicked as they were, who listened to their king. Revival for the city was the result of God's wonderful mercy. No one knows when God will turn from anger and change His wrath into merciful forgiveness. The prerogative is in God's hands.

Stay with it and it will stay with you

We need to stay with it, no matter how adverse things seem to be. It is not stubbornness that we are talking about, but rather the faith that holds fast to what God requires, greater than what we are currently experiencing or even expecting. As we stay with it, the fire of revival is burning, however, small the flame, however weak the fire. All it needs is the right sort of wind to come up at the right time, as God determines. Revival stays with those who stay with revival. Your expectation will be fulfilled at the right time. We all need to rest in a peaceful, prayerful expectation of it suddenly happening so that stress does not overtake us and we falter or fail in our expectation along the way.

Never think that revival is only for the revivalists

The thought that only revivalists bring revival is not the way that God sees it. He looks on the heart of everyone and sees the simple trusting contrite heart that stands before Him, expectantly waiting for that special touch, the touch above all others that opens up the eye of the future river to break forth - suddenly. The greatest revivalists have sometimes died without having seen the revival that they speak about. Jacob prophesied that God would take the whole nation of Israel out of Egypt and foresaw that it would take a long time. It happened only after his death. He gave instructions to Joseph before he died that his bones were to be taken out of Egypt after his death, at the time when God would come to visit the people of Israel. He commanded that his bones were to be buried in the land of God's promise, Israel. When the sudden revival came, with God bringing deliverance from the slavery of Egypt, the bones of Jacob went with.

God uses whom He chooses

Revival is wonderful and it comes at a time when no one is expecting it, through someone who is not recognised and whom God touches in that peculiar way of the revival. The Holy Spirit can either bring revival through Himself or He can switch someone on to become a revivalist. Either way, we need to keep our expectation alive, doing what we can for revival to break forth. Your part is necessary to pave the way for revival to come.

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12. Give yourself to Jesus - Jesus receives you Acts 2:38-40

Many people seem to think that by giving themselves to Jesus they will lose many things that they are enjoying at present. They also seem to realise that certain things have to be given up and it becomes a type of sacrifice that will cause them much suffering all their lives. They so enjoy their work and many may feel that Jesus will ask them to go and work for Him and that they may have to leave their work in the process. These ideas are presented to them because they look at other people's lives and compare their circumstances with those of others, coming to very disturbing conclusions. They would therefore rather not give themselves to Jesus. There is one thing that is certain if you give yourself to Jesus as a gift, He will never turn you away or throw you away. He fully appreciates this type of gift - the gift of yourself.

Can we compare the natural with the spiritual?

You can compare apples with oranges, but to compare the natural with the spiritual you need to have been in both positions. The natural person sees things this way and the spiritual person sees things that way, simply because it is two different worlds and these worlds are very far apart. What we do not realise when are still on the hesitant side is that we are looking at these things with the eyes of the world. We can only see what is happening to people on the spiritual side, but we do not have the experience of it. Some people say I will give it a try, but because they have not been transformed to be in the other order, they remain natural and cannot appreciate the spiritual order.

There is no comparison

On the other hand, Jesus does say if anyone loves the world, they will hate God. One must hate the world to love God. The world and its things are the natural order and those who do not understand the spiritual order are trying to compare spiritual things with natural things. This is impossible. You will never understand what the spiritual order is all about until you give yourself to Jesus. Once you do this, He comes to you and changes your understanding radically. The old values of life seem to pale into insignificance when you have taken the step of coming to Jesus. His order is completely different from the order that you are used to. By surrendering yourself to Jesus, with your life and the circumstances of your life, His power comes to your aid. Without this power from Him, you will never know the difference. It is His power that makes all the difference.

Is it the mirror that makes you different?

In a very small way, it is something like looking in a mirror. You see yourself in an everyday dress and you realise that this is you. You realise that there is nothing there except reflective glass and that you are seeing yourself in it as you are. However, when you see yourself in the very same mirror with a beautiful evening dress or a brand-new expensive evening suit, you seem to realise something else. You are no longer ordinary. You look lovely/handsome. You look special. You feel special. You are special. Strangely, you look so much younger. This is simply the amazing effect that the dress or suit has on you. You have been clothed differently and you begin to see yourself in this new dress/suit with new admiration. Your mental image changes with your change of clothes. Just imagine how you would look if your outfit also had diamonds glittering on it and you had a tiara on your head shimmering with diamonds. Your mental image would reflect your joy and your joy would reflect your youthfulness and beauty. On the other hand, if it is only an illusion and the magnificent dress is taken off and you put on the ordinary dress again, everything will be back to normal. This is what is happening when you try to compare the spiritual with the natural. It is only an illusion.

Are you different?

Jesus tells us to look into His mirror and we will see this wonderful picture of ourselves, re-clothed in spiritual garments, beautiful to look at, eternally youthful and glowingly radiant. Once you have made the change it is like having that special dress on forever and with it all the joys that go with it.

The only offering

Two aspects stand out in this matter of reality and unreality. The spiritual person was in the natural state at one stage and being spiritual, can now compare the spiritual with the natural and make a true assessment. This assessment is not a reality. The one who was never spiritual cannot make this assessment properly and spirituality is therefore unreality. The real difference comes about through Jesus who changes the unreality into true reality. We could never do this for ourselves otherwise it would be like a change of garments without being changed - illusory. He is the only person who can bring this about because He was appointed by God to offer up Himself on our behalf as well as instead of ourselves. If He had not done this, we would have to do it and if we had to do it, our sins would keep us in the grave forever. If you would like to offer something in exchange for your life the only offering that is acceptable to God is the offering up of His Son on the cross of Calvary. He died so we can live and now that we live, we ought to come to Jesus to whom we now belong. His life was exchanged for our life and his death was in exchange for our death so that whether we live or die, we do belong to Him.

The offering-up of ourselves

If Jesus offered Himself up for us, why then do we have to give ourselves back to Him? Well, the fact of the matter is simply that if you do not, you identify yourself with those who reject the judgment of God over their life of sin. On the other hand, you come to Jesus and say "I belong to You because you have died to take my sins upon Yourself. My curses, part of my sin, and the curses that I deserve, part of my wrongdoing which is also sin, has been laid upon Yourself."

The perfected offering

What makes Jesus so special? First of all, the circumstances of His birth have a wonderful mystery to it. "A virgin shall conceive". She who didn't know any man sexually will bear a child, "whose name will be called Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins." The power of God would overshadow this virgin, who would become His mother, and He her child. God miraculously arranged the conception, without human agency, through His holy spirit. Which other man in the history of the world could claim such an honour? With an earthly mother and a heavenly Father? Without any human seed passing between them! A miraculous conception! Then on top of this, He learned obedience towards God, through the things that He had to endure and his holiness was perfected by the things that He suffered. When the time came for Him to be crucified, He wrestled with the decision to live or die and chose death instead, which was His Father's decision. Jesus said, "not Mine but You will be done." His perfection in all things set Him apart to become not only the perfect offering but the perfected offering as well. For you and I and the whole world, even those who did not know Him at the time of His death.

The glorious choice

Why choose Jesus? Why make any decision at all about this? Remember God gave His Son for us, it was not our choice. We had no say in the matter. God did not ask us if we would like His son to die for us. No, He just did it. Now, what does He expect from us

because of this? He gives us a personal choice. We can accept it or we can reject it. This choice of our own free will is illustrated using the choice of the two murderers and thieves who were crucified with Jesus, one on the left hand and one on the right hand of Jesus, with Jesus in the middle. The one chose Jesus, even though he was as guilty as the other man. The other man rejected Jesus. He died in His guilt and the other was set free. The one on the right hand was given the promise of being that very day with Jesus in paradise. Paradise and the Kingdom of God is the reward of accepting Jesus. Hell, and the kingdom of Satan is the punishment for rejecting Jesus. It is not the fault of Jesus that we choose the other way. It is our fault. The one way is the way of sin the other way is the way of righteousness. What will you choose?

The workings of the perfect offering

God has accepted Jesus as the only one that has the power to save us and the only name that has been ordained to save us is the name of Jesus. Once we have made the decision and Jesus comes through His Spirit to take over our lives, we become different people. Nothing is ever the same for us again. This comes about through the perfect, no, the perfected offering that God has provided in the person of Jesus, who lived and died for us and who rose again for us.

The giving of oneself

The greatest gift that you could ever give God is yourself. Nothing else will satisfy Him more than this gift. Everything else we can think to give Him will not satisfy Him because it comes from His hand in the first place. If we give Him our lives, however, we are saying in effect, "God, you have given me so much, even your Son, Jesus and through Him You have taken away my sins, removed my guilt, removed my shame. You have given me eternal life. You have even made a place for me in paradise if I should die before Jesus comes, where I will be with Him always. Here am I, come and live in me, use me and bless me, with all your blessings that you still have for me." Does this make sense to you? Then you are very near the Kingdom of God.

The willingness to be led

People do not like to be led on the one hand, but also like to be led on the other hand. It depends on who does the leading and what we get out of that leading. God wants to lead us all our lives. He is omniscient, all-seeing. He is omnipresent, everywhere at the same time. He is also omnipotent, having all power. Can such a God as this not lead and guide us all our days? Can He not order our lives in such a way that we could never do by ourselves? Can He not bless us in such measure that we will willingly follow wherever He leads, simply because it is the way of His fullest blessing? Can you use this continual, life long, leading or are you all-sufficient? Jesus came to introduce us to His Father that He loves so much and asks us to also love His Father as our own Heavenly Father. He invites us to become one of God's children. What a tremendous offer!

The leading of the Spirit in it all

The natural and the spiritual cannot walk together. The reason being that the natural does not understand, or is not inclined to receive the spiritual because of the disagreement between these two different outlooks. There is something needed to interpret the way of the Spirit. This is the Holy Spirit of God, who perfectly understands all that the Father is busy with, in heaven and on earth. He is the perfect interpreter. The life, suffering, death, resurrection, the ascension of Jesus paved the way for His Father in heaven to pour out the Holy Spirit, who, coming down, will fill us to overflowing. Imagine this, if you can forever be filled with the Holy Spirit, even overflowing to touch those around you? If God could give His son for us

when we were sinners, how shall He then now withhold any good thing from us, for we have come to Jesus, who takes away our sin, and we are becoming righteous, no, we are righteous, for our sins are removed?

The onward journey to your God-given destiny

Every person has a destiny. The difference between one and the other is that our destiny can either be leading us towards heaven or towards hell.

The wonderful thing about all this is that the choice is in our own hands. The way has been perfected for us, before He died, for He said, “I have finished the work that My Father gave me to do”, and as Jesus was dying, He exclaimed, *“It is finished.”*

Why should we delay any further? Let us come now, if we have not done so, and with deep surrender out of our hearts let us say:

“Jesus, I will. Take me now as I am. Come and live inside me now with your Spirit and fill me with God’s Holy Spirit forever. In Your name, I ask this and accept that you have done it for me. Take away my sins. Take away all my guilt. Take away all my shame. Take away God’s judgment over me. Take away the devil and demonic forces and powers and deliver me from his earthly henchmen. Fill me now to overflowing with that living, heavenly water that I need never to seek again. Let it continually flow and fill me to overflowing for it will always be in me and with me. Thank you, Father, for doing this for me because of Jesus Christ, your Son. I believe it. I accept it. Jesus is now the Lord of my life forever. Amen.”

Acceptance or rejection

We all like to be accepted. How much more when we come to the Father? If He accepts us, it is glorious. If He rejects us, we are forever sad. Thank God, Jesus will turn no one away. If we reject Jesus, we will also continue to feel rejected, but when we accept Him there is a Holy Spirit witness inside us that keeps on reminding us that we belong to Jesus.

The shallow consecration

Your consecration can feel unreal to you as you continue your walk with Jesus. This has to be overcome through prayer and faith. As you obey Jesus, He will lead you through His Spirit, you will see yourself changing in a way that you never thought was possible. Look for the full consecration and you will never feel this void or feeling of emptiness. Why look for an empty cup of blessing when you can have a full cup of the same blessing?

The full consecration

Once you have surrendered to the enemy in any war it makes you their prisoner because they are the victors. They also have the power to set you free even though you were once the enemy, when you have made the surrender. It is in their hands. They can also put you in prison, for that is what you deserve, so they think. In the case of giving over to Jesus, the matter is solved wonderfully. You were a slave to sin, but now you are a slave to righteousness. You were sold into bondage to Satan, now you have been bought back by the precious blood of Christ. You were bound by your sin, now you are free from your sin. You were bound by the devil; you are now freed by the Lord. You were dead in your sins and trespasses, but now you are alive in your righteousness and obedience.

Walking with your Lord

Your Lord has taken you out of the bondage and burden of your sin. Why not follow Him

all the way and see what else He has in store for you? When you were a sinner doing what you felt was convenient, you were walking with the devil, even though you did not fully realise it. Now that you are walking with your Lord, and you know it, let Him show you and deal with you in His way all that He wants to. The earthly things were exciting, but just wait until you begin to walk with Jesus and He shows you His heavenly things.

The air of life, the bread of life and the water of life

The word of God is the bread of life to your soul. You need to read it daily and seek help from above in prayer, which is like breathing the breath of life. Drinking of the spirit is like having the water of life.

- Breathe - Pray
- Eat - The Word of God
- Drink - The Water of Life

This is not all, however. There is more.

The oil of the anointing and the wine of the Spirit

Oil, if taken into the body, helps us to put on weight. If it is put on our heads, we get shiny hair or a shiny face. This means that God will make our face shine and we will also grow. Wine makes us merry. The wine of the Spirit is the Holy Spirit that makes us happy to be serving Jesus. We need these as well. The anointing oil needs to be poured over us from time to time, to heal us, to bless us and to release us. These are all practices of believers who know and understand their Lord.

The water in the well and the rain of heaven

Water comes down from the skies and waters the earth. In like manner, God pours out His anointing and we are blessed with His spiritual showers; the rains of His Heavenly Spirit. These fill up the wells to overflowing.

No matter how full the wells are from previous rains, rainfall is necessary from time to time. The rainwater reaches places where the waters from the wells can never reach. The rainwater runs into our wells that regularly need to be topped up so that we are always overflowing.

Sydney Weber assisted by Lynette van Rooyen and Mary Weber

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13.Obedience is pleasure 1 John 5:3

Many believers find obedience to be an onerous duty, while others count it all pleasure. Those who are bored or cold towards the new life will need to start praying and doing the basic things like reading the word of God and continue to go to church, mixing with others of like precious faith. Those who have the joy of the Lord will be happy in everyday living.

King David said, “I delight to do thy will, O God.”

Psalm 34 says, “Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good; ...”

How can we taste to see that the Lord is good? By digesting the Scriptural promise and applying our faith to them, they become a reality, as they are being fulfilled. The more this happens the more you want to taste further.

The new love of a fresh believer

The young believer is full of faith, love and hope and nothing deters them in applying their faith to the promises of God. Older persons in the faith often marvel at the new-found faith of the newly converted. Look after this for the devil will try to deter you. Those who are jealous around you will try to quench your fire. Prayer, with short periods of fasting, will keep the fires burning.

Your testimony

This keeps you alive, but you must know who to testify to, for it may be “casting your pearls before the swine, for they will turn and rend you.” If your motive is love, you will creep into many a heart and they too will repent because of your testimony. Your testimony goes around what Jesus has done for you. It is different from witnessing.

Witnessing to people

When you pray earnestly for others, your prayers will direct God towards helping them. You are to be that helper. Telling them about your repentance and salvation experience can save their souls too.

The power of an exemplary life

Many people merely talk about Jesus, but the truly born-again soul lives the life of a new-born soul, saved by Jesus. It attracts some people and pushes others away. It all depends on their wanting to get rid of their sin and guilt, shame and disgrace of what they are busy with. Only those willing to let go will be given the power to follow Jesus. Later on, you will see how this works out as you expose yourself to the ridicule of the scoffers. But God will keep you by His power. The devil will have to give way when the power of God comes down on you to give you strength.

Your testimony, witness an exemplary life will help you in your walk in the Kingdom of God on earth, in Jesus Christ as your Lord.

You will not understand these things fully but will experience more and more the keeping and staying power that God has imparted to you as His child, with Him being your heavenly Father and Jesus being your elder Brother, the Son of the Father.

As you grow in grace you may begin to experience wisdom, knowledge, discernment and revelation. In the meantime, you will be inspired by His word and by that still small inner voice, behind your ear, saying, “This is the way, walk in it.”

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