

Lesson One

Who is the Holy Spirit?

We all live in this earthly temporal realm of time. But the Word of God tells us that believers should be living in another realm, that is the eternal realm, *in Christ*. There is true safety in Christ's eternal realm as one is within the will of God, under His protection, no matter what the earthly realm may inflict upon ones' body, soul or being. Your spark of life is precious, in God, and is protected beyond all the things of this life, if you position yourself only to live and move in Christ.

Ephesians 2:4,5,6 says,

'But God, who is rich in mercy, for His great love wherewith He loved us, even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) and hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus'.

Ecclesiastes 12:7 speaks of the body returning to the earth from whence it came from and your spirit to God who gave it.

If we know this; that we are sent by God to be born on earth to live here for a while, that we belong to God, just as Jesus was sent by God to live on earth for a while, to redeem mankind.

Because of the fall of man, we were born of the flesh only without God, but once we receive Jesus as Lord we become reborn into eternal life in Him. At this point we have changed realms from the temporal into the eternal. Yet we still live in the temporal realm because we still live in our physical bodies until death separates us to be released fully into the eternal realm, in Christ, but where we can no longer function from the physical temporal realm as we will now be completely with Christ in the eternal spiritual realm for all eternity.

When we come to this realization of who we really are, in Christ, sent by God in Heaven as His sons and daughters to live on earth for a while, there comes another question. Why are we born on earth?

Firstly, it is to make our choice of where we are to spend eternity. Either we choose life and the goodness of God, or we choose death, evil and eternity in hell.

Secondly, once we have made our choice; the right choice and that is Christ, then receive Him as our Lord and Saviour, we become born again, in Him, for this life and all eternity.

Thirdly, this changes our outlook on earth from living for ourselves and for what we can get out of life, but to rather discovering, in Christ, what we can give to the world, how we can affect the world to righteousness and how we ourselves can be used to save the lost and also bring them into the Kingdom of God. Our whole perspective changes and this is where we need the same Holy Spirit that Jesus had living within Him to live in our hearts, minds and bodies too. That we may live within the Holy Spirit as well and live our lives totally led by the power of the Holy Spirit, being comfortable to live within all of the supernatural gifts of the Holy Spirit naturally and effectively.

Any one of us can receive the Holy Spirit and the Holy Spirit only does the Fathers' will.

This revelation can mightily change your life and any one of us, no matter how simply we have lived, or even how uneducated we might be, can be powerfully used by the Lord to effect this world of ours.

My own testimony is that of a riding teacher for forty years, living in jodhpurs and boots, mucking out stables, grooming horses and teaching children to ride. I did not look the right candidate for mission work or as a speaker before man and was turned down for the job many times. But God had a different idea about me, He told me to simply spend time with Him in prayer and He Himself

would teach me, speak to me and show me how to serve Him effectively and this I did and I became an author of books.

Not only did the Lord show me how to train up rural evangelists, but to give them a bicycle and send them out to remote villages where there are no roads. As people are brought to Christ, more churches are planted.

In the space of only four years God has enabled more than 15,000 evangelists to be trained and sent out. Approximately 20,000 churches have been planted and almost a million people brought into the Kingdom of God. Only God has done this, as He led me, step by step, and is still leading me step by step.

We still earn a living through horses and if you come to our Standlake Equestrian Centre and Ranch you may still see me in jodhpurs and boots teaching children to ride and if you come into our home, you will see our big farm kitchen with a well worn large pine kitchen table, where we do most of our mail outs from. You will meet Wilfred, my husband, a down to earth smiling man full of jokes. Our daughter, a young adult now with her artistic qualities. Our staff, all friendly and down to earth, in work clothes either fixing horse fences, weeding, caring for the Ranch or having a quick coffee break. Normal, yes! Just like you, and you can ask God yourself and He will show you the treasure within your soul and as you unwrap it in prayer, God Himself will show you how to use your gift to the benefit of mankind. Then as you move out in your own unique gifting, you will find more fulfilment and joy than you can even imagine.

‘But where do I even start?’ is probably the next question. Prayer, but how?

Prayer is firstly an attitude of the heart, it’s not just saying prayers, it is more than that. It is an attitude of total love, surrender and hunger for God for who He is, your heavenly Father. It is a pressing through with your whole being right into His glorious presence from the physical realm right into the spiritual realm of His Holy presence, the Holy of Holies. Sometimes this will happen without one word, but a silent attitude of the giving of your love and yourself in adoration, to simply know Him more. You know it when this transition into His presence takes place, as His love will well up inside you and His peace will envelop your whole being. You will feel His love through your whole being and this is when worship really starts. You respond to His love in more and more glorious worship, communication and to the hearing of His voice as He teaches you, encourages you and simply gives of Himself to you His precious child. In this place prayer becomes your home as it is the nearest one can get to heaven while alive on this earth. And, yes, you are still aware of all that is happening around you on the physical realm earth. You can probably hear the different realms of life around you. The birds in their life span, maybe animals in their given world, cats, dogs, horses etc. Then the traffic of human beings rushing around in their cars in yet another realm of life, so much going on.

Music can help you come into Gods’ presence, as music too was given to us by God and is able to crescendo into the heights of worship with you. I believe heaven will be full of music. The Lord gave me a song thirty years ago on top of one of the mountains in the Sinai Desert. I heard it through the blowing sands and it has been our song ever since. Only last week my friend, Pauline, put it to music and played it on her piano and it sounded fantastic. All through these years I never forgot this tune, simply because God Himself gave it to me, I believe it will be our song forever. He can do that for you as well. It may be a song, a place, a flower, anything that is special to both of you... This is all part of your love relationship with God and in the appreciation of His creation.

This relationship you build with God through prayer then becomes your home as well as your spring board into serving Him. This is the most vital and important part of serving Him, for without this you will be so limited to the earthly realm of doing things, and whatever you do manage to do for God will be a small result in comparison.

It is in prayer alone that you come to know God, get equipped by Him, (you have to be equipped spiritually if you are to serve God in the spiritual realm, especially in the areas of healing and deliverance) and then empowered by the gifts of the Holy Spirit to do His work on earth. All nine gifts of the Holy Spirit are supernatural gifts, not one of them is a natural gift. Therefore the nine supernatural gifts are given to us to enable us to walk in the supernatural in every area of our lives, in worship, intellectually as well as physically.

WHO IS the Holy Spirit? God created the heavens and the earth but mankind fell into sin at the fall of man so God sent his only Son, Jesus, to die in our place on the cross so that our sins could be forgiven and we could come back to that place Adam and Eve lived in before they ate of the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. But we still live in an evil world, so God has not left His people who have received Him as Lord. He has sent His own Holy Spirit as our Comforter to dwell in our hearts. The Holy Spirit is just as it says, the Holy SPIRIT. The spiritual Person of the Godhead. He dwells in the hearts of all peoples who receive Christ, born again into eternal life, now become sons and daughters of our Father in Heaven and citizens of Heaven. The Person of the Holy Spirit is given to live in our hearts is almost as an engagement ring before marriage, a down payment of our inheritance of eternal life with the Lord.

Think:

- *Who is the Holy Spirit?
- *How can we come from the physical realm into the eternal realm?
- *What are the two choices we can make?
- *How can we respond to Christ?

Lesson 2

The Person of the Holy Spirit

We are made in the image of God, Genesis 1:27-28 says,

'God created man in His OWN image, in the image of God created He him, male and female created He them and God blessed them and God said unto them, be fruitful and multiply and replenish the earth, and subdue it and have dominion over all the fish of the sea, and over all the fowl of the air and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.'

Now if we are created in the image of God of Heaven and God sent His only son Jesus to be born as man in order to save us and give us eternal life, then the person of the Holy Spirit is also in the same image, yet invisible Spirit, able to dwell within us and reveal to us the things of God.

John 16: 13-15 says,

'How be it when He, the Spirit of truth is come, He will guide you into all truth, for He shall not speak of Himself, but whatsoever He shall hear, that shall He speak and He will shew you things to come. He shall glorify Me for He shall receive of Mine and shall show it unto you. All things that the Father hath are Mine therefore said I, that He shall take of mine and shall shew it unto you'.

This verse shows us that we can trust fully in the Holy Spirit, for the Holy Spirit, like Jesus, does nothing on His own authority, but only what the Father shows Him from Heaven. God the Father is the only source, Jesus, His Son, is the authority and the Holy Spirit is the power. The Holy Spirit, therefore, will only do what is given Him from the source, with the authority of Jesus and what He made possible on the cross. When we yield ourselves completely in full trust to the Holy Spirit, seeking full truth and righteousness continually then the Holy Spirit is able to reveal to us the things of God. As we obey and do only what the Father has revealed, then the Holy Spirit can move through us with power.

These three things make a miracle :-

The Word of God

The Authority of Jesus

The Presence of the Holy Spirit.

The closer we come to God in prayer and the more fully we yield to the Holy Spirit to do the work of Jesus, the more powerfully the Holy Spirit is able to move through our lives.

Ephesians 2: 19-22 says,

'Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of God and are built upon the foundations of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone. In whom all the building fully framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord, in whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Holy Spirit'.

Jesus sent His Holy Spirit to dwell within our hearts and as we receive Him we become fellow citizens with the saints of the household of God. This is something truly wonderful. We may be alive on planet earth in the flesh, but spiritually we're already part of the household of God in Heaven. By prayer we can enter in, Ephesians 3:12 says,

'In whom we have boldness and access with confidence by faith of Him'.

Ephesians 2.18 says,

'For through Him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father'.

Ephesians 2: 4-6 says,

'But God who is rich in mercy for His great love wherewith He loved us, even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together in Christ, (by grace ye are saved) And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus'.

Though we are in the flesh on earth, spiritually we have been raised up with Christ. The same Holy Spirit who raised Jesus from the dead, dwells in our hearts and we can know God through the Holy Spirit.

Ephesians 1.18. says,

'The eyes of your understanding being enlightened, that ye may know what is the hope of His calling and what the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints and what is the exceeding greatness of His power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of His mighty power'.

When God says exceeding greatness of His power He means it.

Ephesians 1.20 says,

'which He wrought in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead, and set Him at His own right hand in the Heavenly places, far above ALL principality and power and might, and dominion, and EVERY name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come, and hath put ALL things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over ALL things to the Church which is His body, the fullness of Him that filleth all in all'.

Through Christ's victory on the cross, where He rose on the third day from the dead, in total and complete victory over every sin, every sickness and every demonic thing. He then ascended to Heaven, where He sits on the right hand of God in ALL victory and head over the Church, which is us, and has raised us up Him into His heavenly places, above ALL principality and power with Him. The Holy Spirit within us raises us up and gives us this victory over every demonic power and sends us out into the world to extend His wonderful kingdom, to proclaim this glorious news of what Jesus has done for us on the cross.

Ephesians 1.13,14 says,

'In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the truth, the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, in whom also after that ye believed, ye were SEALED with the Holy Spirit of promise which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession unto the praise of His glory'.

The Word has said it all. We need only receive the person of the Holy Spirit and live in the power and authority that Jesus has made possible for us to live in.

When we realize where our true home is, in the household of God's kingdom of Heaven and not earth where we are simply 'in transit' at present, alive to serve the Lord, not to just live for ourselves. Then we start to see life from another perspective.

Colossians 3: 1-4 says,

'If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God, set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God. When Christ who is our life, shall appear then shall ye also appear with Him in glory'.

The verse then goes on to speak of the utmost importance to turn from every sin and to put on the new man which is in Him.

When we do these things then the Lord Himself raises us up with Him into the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, spiritually giving us His victory again and again and again for, in Him, doing the Father's will cannot fail.

We will also see life from a heavenly angle rather than an earthly one. We will understand why we are on earth and the role God wants us to move in. Our minds will be renewed to see in right perspective what is important and what is not important. Our lives will become more effective for God and we will be fulfilled with the peace and joy given to us through the Holy Spirit. This the Lord has done for my life and I am learning to see what the Lord is doing and obey and flow with Him into it, even if it has never been done a certain way before. I especially love flowing into something completely new like the telephone evangelism that the Lord is leading me to do at present.

It all started a few weeks ago in India. A pastor went into a Hindu village to give the gospel and the leaders of the village were not impressed. They then stabbed him in the head and back with broken glass and left him unconscious on the side of the road.

One of our evangelists happened to cycle by on his bicycle and seeing this man unconscious he quickly stopped and as the pastor came out of unconsciousness the evangelist helped him to a hospital for treatment.

The wounds healed up in three days and seeing that this was a miraculously fast healing that only God could do, the pastor and evangelist decided to go back immediately to the Hindu leaders who had stabbed him. They arrive and the pastor says "I have come to show you what my God has done for me." He turns around, lifts up his shirt and the leaders look in amazement at the healed wounds. The Hindu leaders then say "Let's see if your God can heal our deaf and dumb boy of 13 years old." The evangelist says "Yes, go and fetch him." A little while later they arrive with the boy and the evangelist lays hands over the boy's ears and the boy speaks for the first time in his life. As a result

the leaders plus all 2000 residents of the village receive Jesus as Lord and Saviour and sent me an invitation to come and speak to them all the same year, an invitation I accepted.

Two weeks later we get terrible news from Pakistan. The extremists had come in and attacked them burning down 150 homes in Kasur Village, killed 50 horses, burnt all the carts and destroyed their only well for water. Not only that all Christian children were expelled from all schools and shop owners were warned that if they sell any food or clothing to Christians that they would burn down their shops. Pastor Arif phones me devastated. Our evangelists have planted a church in Kasur Village. I send out some letters to churches to help, then I phoned David Hathaway and he suggests I phone 'Barnabas Trust.' Barnabas Trust takes over the feeding of these people and tents and foods and blankets are sent to Kasur Village immediately. What a relief! It is so good when different charities work together in the different areas the Lord has blessed us with.

A week later Pastor Arif phones again to ask me to give these refugees a word of encouragement over his mobile phone and I agree to do it. Pastor Arif then drives 100 kilometres to the village and phones me. I tell them about the Indian pastor and how he returned to his accusers with his miracle healing, when suddenly the Lord says to me "Pray for the sick people now." I said "Is anyone sick, stand up." Pastor Arif tells me over the phone that 30 people have stood up! "Put your own hand on your sickness or pain and receive your healing now in Jesus' name." Suddenly there is lots of noise coming over the phone as people run forward to testify of their healing. The first is one whose paralysed arm is healed. The second, a man with body pain all over his body for 8 years healed, then a paralysed lady gets up and walks causing much more excitement. Then Pastor Arif prays for a lady with cancerous lumps all over her body. ALL 30 PEOPLE ARE INSTANTLY HEALED and the praise to God is so ecstatic that I have to get off the phone!

A few days later Pastor Arif, phones me with the news that the healed man of 8 years of body pain went 100 kilometres to Lahore to testify of his healing in many churches there. The people of Kasur village are so excited with Jesus healing them that they want a Bible school of evangelism to open in Kasur village so that they too can go back to the extremists who burnt their village with the good news of Jesus.

Two weeks later the Bible School of Evangelism opened for the 23 new students and Pastor Arif asks me if I will preach to the other villages over the phone as the testimonies of healing are spread far and wide by the words that 'the Christian God heals by telephone.'

Some days later Pastor Arif phones with his first invitation to preach the good news in a new village. I give a short gospel message of five minutes over the telephone, which he interprets for the villagers in Urdu and then I ask those who wish to receive Jesus as Lord to stand up. I lead them through the sinner's prayer when suddenly six people rush forward shouting "I am healed, **I am healed!**" **The Lord has healed them as they receive Jesus as Lord and Saviour**, and I had not even prayed for the sick!

It is Jesus who is doing this. He leads us step by step, even into new works that have never been heard of happening before. Out of this - TELEPHONE EVANGELISM is now part of our ministry. Phone calls come from Pakistan, India and some of the deepest most remote villages of Africa and every week as I preach short gospel messages over the phone, people are saved and healed and delivered, right from the comfort of our prayer room in England. Why? The Lord is doing it and He is omnipresent, He is everywhere at once, yet He can use our small little voices to save heal and deliver His people. He has given us the authority and waits for our obedience to move in His power to heal and deliver.

Think:

- *Who is our source, authority and power?
- *How do we get raised up with Christ into the heavenly places?
- *How do we get the victory?
- *How does the gospel change our viewpoint of seeing life?

Lesson 3

Why the Holy Spirit is given to us.

Acts 1:8 says,

'And when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, you shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem and all Judea and Samaria and unto the ends of the earth'.

This is the prime reason the Holy Spirit is given to us to equip us to go out and be witnesses for Jesus both near and far. Read Acts 2. 14-41. This is a wonderful Gospel message that leads the people to cry out “What shall we do?” This is the most effective way of evangelism and the reason why the Holy Spirit is given to us.

The Holy Spirit will guide us to the needs or situation of the people. The Bible is written in a way that will reach every people group in this world. For instance, in the Old Testament we read of the importance of genealogies that brought a people group to Christ.

In the New Testament we read of Jesus in John 9. 6-7,
'When He had thus spoken He spat on the ground and made clay of the spittle and He anointed the eyes of the blind man with clay and said unto him, "Go wash in the pool of Siloam, (which is interpretation, sent,) he went his way therefore, and washed and came seeing'.

In another part of the world a people group would greet one another by spitting on their hand and touching the other person with the spit from their hand. When the missionaries who had come to witness of Jesus saw this, they preached this passage to them and they said to one another. *"This Jesus knows our culture for He also uses spit, and as a result the whole people group received Jesus as their Lord and Saviour.*

Acts 2. 38-39 says,
'Then Peter said unto them, "Repent and be baptised every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call."

The Holy Spirit is given to all men of every tribe and every nation, to all generations right to the second coming of Christ, to equip them to live a victorious Christian life, to make disciples and bring all peoples into the glorious Kingdom of God in Heaven.

To receive Jesus as Lord, or the Holy Spirit, or both, just say this prayer,

**"Lord Jesus, thank you for dying for me on the cross,
Please forgive me for every sin I have ever done.
I choose to follow you in truth and righteousness all the days of my life.
Please come into my life and heart as my Lord and Saviour and baptise me in your Holy Spirit.
Thank you Jesus,
Amen**

Think:

- *What shows us that the Holy Spirit is for all people?
- *What should we do before we get baptised in the Holy Spirit?
- *What does the Holy Spirit do for us?
- *Is the Holy Spirit for all generations?

Lesson 4

The Gifts of the Holy Spirit

In Acts 1:4,5 Jesus was with His disciples,
'and, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of Me. For John truly baptised with water; but ye shall be baptised with the Holy Ghost not many days hence'.

'Wait' in the dictionary says, "to stay in one place, remaining active in expectancy of something, be prepared for something". For a Christian to wait for the promise of the Father is to wait

in one place, inactive, but in prayer. To become in Christ, prepared for the promise of the Father - the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

The Lord showed me to build a prayer tabernacle after the pattern He gave to Moses. It shows us how to come into the presence of God in a thorough and beautiful way. The “outer court” deals with flesh and sin. The “inner court” deals with our soul. The “show bread” represents our will which must be submitted to the will of God. The “candlestick” represents our intellect and mind which must come under the authority of Christ, and the incense deals with our emotions.

We then enter the “holy of holies” that deals with our spirits in worship, fellowship and revelation. We come into the presence of God through our worship. We then meet God in fellowship and dialogue. From here, we come into revelation where God reveals to us what He desires to be revealed to us. This can be by direction, by building us up and encouraging us, or by baptising us in the Holy Spirit. All of this happens as we wait on God and becoming prepared in His presence to meet with Him, hear Him, and to receive from Him, whether it be direction, baptism in the Holy Spirit, healing or equipping us with gifts for service.

The promise of the Holy Spirit was met in Acts 2:1-4

'And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. ' And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance'.

If we read on we will see how the baptism of the Holy Spirit transformed their lives making them bold and effective, enabling them to move forward in Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit. To save the lost, heal the sick, and deliver the oppressed throughout the book of Acts. The Holy Spirit then moved through many men and women throughout history, and today through us who are baptised in the Holy Spirit. The book of Acts will only be completed with the second coming of Jesus because the promise of the Holy Spirit is not restricted to the disciples or to the early church, but is for every believer who will receive the Holy Spirit up to the time of the second coming of Christ.

The person of the Holy Spirit comes into one with nine gifts to enable us to preach the gospel in power. These are found in 1 Corinthians 12:4-11,

'Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all. But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal. For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; to another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; to another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues: but all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as He will.

This passage shows us over and over that all the gifts are from the same Holy Spirit, and is for all who receive the Holy Spirit. God divides severally as He wills; which means that we can receive more than one gift, sometimes several or even all.

To make it easier to remember all the gifts, we can separate them into 3 groups:-

3 vocal gifts

3 revelation or intellectual gifts.

3 power gifts.

We will start with the vocal gifts. As these were the first gifts the disciples moved in Acts 2:4, *'And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance'*.

The first vocal gift is the gift of tongues, which has several functions. The gift of tongues brings us quicker and deeper, into the presence of God.

Secondly, the gift of tongues enables us to pray the right prayer for others, and makes intercession for us with groanings that cannot be uttered when we pray for others. Romans 8:26,27,

'Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. 27 And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God'.

Thirdly, the gift of of tongues enables us to speak in a language we cannot speak. Acts 2:6, 11 says,

'Now when this was noised abroad, the multitude came together, and were confounded, because that every man heard them speak in his own language'.

'Cretes and Arabians, we do hear them speak in our tongues the wonderful works of God'.

I have only had this experience once. I was invited to speak to a youth group in Port Elizabeth, South Africa. The leader suddenly realised I could not Afrikaans and she was unable to translate and it was too late to replace me, so I had to go up to the lectern. *"Help me Lord"* I prayed and began to pray in tongues. I noticed the young ones were listening intently so I carried on in tongues. The then knelt on the ground and began to worship God. I stopped! The leader then rushed forward and exclaimed, "I thought you couldn't speak Afrikaans!" "I can't!", I replied. She said, "you have just given the best gospel message I have ever heard in perfect Afrikaans and all these young people have just received Jesus as Lord and Saviour!"

Fourthly, tongues helps us to take the sword of the Spirit (the Word of God) Ephesians 6:17,18,

'And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints'.

Fifthly, tongues gives us a Word from God in a tongue in a special language which can be used in a public place like a church as a message from God to the congregation to be followed with interpretation:- 1 Corinthians: 14,1,2. The church would be encouraged and edified by the message 1Corinthians14,3 which would also be a sign for unbelievers:- Acts 2:16-11, Mark 16:17-18, 1 Corinthians:14:22. 1 Corinthians 14:3.

The second vocal gift is “interpretation of tongues” where the tongue is interpreted by oneself or another person:- 1 Corinthians 14:13. As we step out in faith and begin to speak God will fill our mouth with the interpretation:- 1 Corinthians 14:27. There may be more than 1 interpreter but not more than 3 (1 Corinthians 14,29).

The 3rd vocal gift is the gift of prophecy. The Old Testament speaks about this in 1 Samuel 10:6 and Joel 2:28. A clear inspired word from the Lord in the known tongue of the people to encourage and strengthen their faith. This spontaneous word from God will edify one person or the whole group.

If the Lord wants to prophecy through you, He will quicken your spirit and speak through your own natural voice in your own language. 1 Corinthians 14:1 encourages us all to eagerly desire this gift. In order to move in the vocal gifts or any of the gifts, you must know God in prayer and be able to hear Him speak to you. If you cannot hear God, it is then impossible to move in these gifts.

The 3 Revelation (intellectual) gifts are “discernment”, “knowledge” and “wisdom”.

The gift of discernment helps us in the following ways:-

Firstly, the gift of discernment shows us what is from God, what is of the flesh, and what is of the devil. This gift works so well with the gift of interpretation and prophecy. Of course, one can check if the Word agrees with scripture, brings glory to God, leads us towards God and brings freedom which agrees with inner witness of Holy Spirit. The person’s life should also show the fruit of the Holy Spirit, and the prophecies will be fulfilled if that person has truly heard from God. Yet, there is still a great need for the gift of discernment, as some may say the right words, but may not have come from God.

The gift of discernment will guide the group as to what God is actually saying, by waiting on God longer to re-direct them to confirm that the Word was correct. We need to do this for there are some false prophets that will say nice words, but they are not from God, but from the flesh and we need to discern these people from the true prophets.

In my own practical walk with God in different countries of Africa and Asia, I have needed the gift of discernment almost daily as to whom to trust and who not to trust. Where to go, and where not to go etc. I have found that this gift has protected me and led me forward safely.

The gift of discernment of spirit the type of spirit behind a person or message, with also the source, nature and activity. If the word is not from God, you will sense the nature of a human spirit, the presence of an evil spirit or even the presence of Satan. If the word is from God, you will sense the presence of God and the presence of the Holy Spirit.

The purpose of the gift of discernment is, therefore, to detect false revelation or deception:- 1 Timothy 4:1,2 and 3:13. To discern the plans of Satan, to test the spirit of truth or error:- Acts 16:16-18, to deliver a person from evil spirits by casting them out:-Mark 16:17, Luke 10:19,20, and to keep sin away.

The “Word of Knowledge” is when you know that you know something, but do not know how you know it. This is a supernatural revelation of facts, past/present/future. About a person or situation not known to the natural mind.

Sometimes Holy Spirit will interrupt your thoughts with another thought, or word, or feeling, an impression or a vision, or simply an inner knowledge.

For instance, I often know if a certain person will be healed before they are healed. I will then say to them, the Lord will heal you. E.g. “you will be walking within a few minutes”. This increases their faith and sure enough they are walking within a few minutes.

Another time, Ernst Mesador, in Haiti, had a word of knowledge to get the orphans out of the orphanage as soon as possible. He obeyed this Word of Knowledge and got the children outside. A few seconds later an earthquake raised the orphanage to the ground and the children were saved! Other times, the gift or word of knowledge may only be part of the total situation. The Word of Knowledge builds faith and brings glory to God as He works in our midst by warning against danger, disclosing sin, or simply giving us encouragement.

“The Word of Wisdom”.

The Holy Spirit will give you God’s wisdom to move forward in a certain course of action. He may reveal God’s purpose and plans for your life and ministry. He may lead us how to lead a meeting in order to release the anointing.

This may come as a vision, or impression of how we should do things in a certain way before we actually do it. This happened to me in Ghana, when I was teaching on how to come into the presence of God in prayer. Suddenly I saw myself gathering the pastors into a circle. I called them forward and we formed a circle. In the increased intimacy of the circle, the Holy Spirit suddenly came down, and through a powerful tongue and interpretation gave us specific guidance on how to reach remote villages. We all responded to the Lord wholeheartedly.

Sometimes a word of knowledge and wisdom work together. In John 4:17,18, Jesus knew by the word of knowledge that the woman had had 5 husbands. He also received the Word of Wisdom that others would be saved by her, in her village. Other examples John 11:11, John 11:23. And to Peter Acts 10:19,20.

“The Revelation gifts”.

The Revelation gifts protect us and prepare us for effective ministry for things to come. In order to move in these gifts, you must be in contact with God in prayer, You must hear Him and obey Him. John 5:19 & Acts 14:9,10.

If you do what God has told you to do, He will confirm what He had told you to do with signs and wonders following. The 3 power gifts of healing, working miracles and great faith.

“The 3 Power Gifts”.

The “gift of faith” often works hand in hand with the other gifts, for a specific time or purpose, to accomplish a certain task. We may see it in advance and this gives us boldness to move, and step out in faith.

I was speaking in an Anglican church on the way to an airport in Kenya, when a man dying of HIV Aids was brought in on a stretcher and laid him down on the children's mat. I had no faith to pray for Him, but the Lord gave me a word of knowledge that He was going to heal him. The Lord then gave me a vision of His wisdom, of how He would do it with picture of myself pulling him to his feet. They called me forward, and as I stepped out faith rose within me, giving me the courage to take him by the hand and say – “In the name of Jesus rise up and walk!”. As I pulled him to his feet, he was healed and walked. Within a few weeks, this man had put on weight, got his HIV negative report and found himself a job. Through this miracle healing many became Christians in his village.

The “gift of faith” came once the “gift of wisdom” revealed the demonstration of God’s power that He was about to demonstrate. This enabled me to move out boldly in obedience, on the revelation I had received. (Other examples in the Bible, Matthew 2:19,20. Daniel 3:16-18. 1 Samuel 17,32,45,46. Acts 13:10,11, Acts 5:9-11).

The “gift of faith” may also be revealed for a more long-term task. For instance the Lord wanted us to build a 45 bed Christian holiday camp, but we only had £8.56 in the bank. Because we knew God wanted this, we went ahead, in faith, to build it. God gave us the determination and endurance to see this happen – and it did happen!

“The working of miracles”

The “working of miracles” is a supernatural demonstration that alters or controls the normal laws of nature. E.g. food being multiplied, rain suddenly coming to end drought. All of these I have seen God do. In Uganda in a severe war situation, a mango tree began to bear fruit continuously for 3 years to feed the refugees. These miracles are happening today.

In the Bible Jesus turned water into wine, calmed the storm, walked on water and fed 5,000 people with only 5 loaves and 2 fish.

Mostly the working of miracles require action. When we receive a word of wisdom and obey the supernatural knowledge of what is about to happen and do it – so the miracle happens. E.g. the miracle happened as the fish and bread was handed out, it miraculously was replaced.

In the Bible God said to Moses in Exodus 14:15,16,
'And the Lord said unto Moses, Wherefore criest thou unto me? speak unto the children of Israel, that they go forward: 16 but lift thou up thy rod, and stretch out thine hand over the sea, and divide it: and the children of Israel shall go on dry ground through the midst of the sea'.

Here, the Lord told Moses exactly what to do and what He was going to do. As Moses obeyed, so the miracle happened and the sea parted. We must first hear the Lord, then obey, in faith, what He has told us to do and the miracle will happen. Read Matthew 14:27-29, Luke 5:4-7 – for some more miracles Jesus did.

“The gifts of healing”

The “gifts of healing” is *to* the one who is sick. The Lord works in many different ways in healing the sick and can often use more than one gift to do so. Discernment in prayer, is so important to find out why the person is sick, or what is behind the cause. Is it the spirit of infirmity that can cause cancer or arthritis? If so, one will cast it out, in Jesus name, and the person will be healed. In deaf people, is it the deaf spirit or an injury or something else?. Once, when I prayed for deaf ears – the word blockage came into my mind – so I prayed for the blockage to be removed. Fluid came out of the ear and within a few minutes the man could hear perfectly. (study Matthew 9:4, Luke 13:11-16).

To receive the discernment needed, we must hear God clearly and obey Him exactly. Jesus always points to the Father, Jesus did nothing on His own strength or authority. He only did what He saw or heard the Father doing. He obeyed the Father on all occasions, and never guessed or took a chance. He only did as He heard from the Father. In the book of John, Jesus tells us 12 times about this. It is so important that I wrote a book “Dare to do only the Father’s will”. As I practised the different areas that Jesus speaks of in the book of John about obeying God, they transformed my whole life and ministry. Today, my main aim in life is to hear God and only to do what He tells me,

not more, no less, exactly that. In my enthusiasm, I was inclined to do more than He asked me, and this nearly resulted in burnout. I have learnt that lesson now, and relax into His will for me, the place of security and well being. In prayer you can come to know the Father as Jesus knew the Father. When you know the Father and the Father knows you, He will show you what He is doing. He will reveal to you the discernment you need and as you move forward in faith, you will know the Father will do it and the healing or miracle will be accomplished.

The “gifts of knowledge and wisdom”, will help you know whether the sickness came to the person naturally, supernaturally, or passed through the family through unforgiveness, trauma, guilt or weakness in the body. Again, before we speak, stop, pray and listen for the “gift of knowledge” or “wisdom” – as God shows you how to pray for that person through these gifts, this may come through an impression, or vision (as we see ourselves ministering to that person in a certain way). When we obey and do it as we saw ourselves do it in the vision, the healing will happen. Another time, we may be given the root problem and as we tell the person what we have heard, the person will be set free and healed at the same time.

In Latvia, I prayed for a girl who wanted to be set free from a serious stutter. I prayed and asked the Lord how to pray for her. I saw in the Spirit a tractor approaching a very young girl. I told her what I had seen and she burst into tears and told me that a tractor had run over her when she was 4 years old. Although, she was unhurt, as the wheels had gone either side of her. She had had such a fright that she has been stuttering ever since. I told her that Jesus knew about this and had been there all the time wanting to comfort her. She cried out to Jesus – the fear left, and she was completely healed from the stutter from that moment.

Sometimes, you receive the “gift of faith” for a specific time and purpose where you do not yet have faith for. In Latvia, I had to pray for an 18 year old girl born with a deformed jaw, that caused the point of her chin to come on the left side of her face, with result that she had crooked teeth. I did not have the faith to pray for her, but still saw myself praying for her, so I prayed for her. I saw nothing happen, but that night, she ran up to us shouting, Look at my jaw, look at my teeth! She was completely healed during the day. We all burst into tears, God’s miracle had taken place. She looked so beautiful with a normal jaw.

The “gift of faith” can also be given through a vision, which will give you the faith to know that the person will be healed regardless of how impossible it will look. I have had this happen to me several times. Once in South Africa, I saw a 17 year old girl who had been in a wheelchair from birth. She had been born with a twisted spine. My heart went out to her, such a pretty girl doomed to spend the rest of her life in this old age home. Suddenly I saw her walking in my spirit and could hardly wait to pray for her. My chance came! I prayed for her and asked her to stand up. She told me she had never stood on her legs before. So I got 2 nurses to take one arm, and lift her to her feet. She stood for the first time in her life. Within the next half hour, we taught her how to walk with nurses helping her on both sides. Then we showed her how to walk with the aid of a walker, with the nurse holding the walker to stop it slipping. After I left, the Lord continued to heal her and within 3 months she could walk even without a walking stick.

Think:

*What are the three vocal gifts?

*What are the three intellectual/revelation gifts?

*What are the three power gifts?

*Give an example of where more than one gift is used in one miracle?

Lesson 5

The Armour of God

The armour of God is our full protection in God's work, and therefore, it is fundamental that we all walk very carefully in every area of this protection as first priority. Let us therefore go to Ephesians 6:10-18, starting at verse 10,

'Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might'.

This is talking about prayer, always first with everything we do with God, and for God. The original Bible says,

'Finally, my brethren, be strong in unity in the Lord and in unity with the power of His might'.

The more we know God, the stronger we will be in the Lord and in the unity in the power of His might. Why is this so important? Ephesians 6:14,

'Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand'.

Prayer is what enables us to withstand against the wiles of the devil.

Verse 14, 'Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness';

Truth is our first piece of armour. To know the truth of who Jesus is and what He had done for us and to walk in the truth. It is foundational to life. The belt in Jesus' time kept the armour in

place. If the belt broke the whole armour fell off. It is the same in the spiritual realm. If your spiritual belt breaks, through a untruth or a lie your whole life falls to pieces, one lie leads to another lie, one untruth to another untruth and confusion breaks in or the truth comes out and is shouted from the rooftops, and all credibility is lost. So walk in truth, and only tell the truth and the truth will protect you and keep you free. Verse 14 goes on to say and *“having on the breastplate of righteousness!* The breastplate protects your heart. If an arrow penetrates your heart you are dead it is the same spiritually. Sin removes your breastplate of righteousness, and the wages of sin is death. James 5:16 is very interesting, saying,

'Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much'.

or another translation says, *'prayer that availeth much has great power in its effect'.* **How much?** Let's read on in verse 17, 18,

Elijah was a man subject to like passions as we are, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain: and it rained not on the earth by the space of three years and six months. And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth brought forth her fruit'.

His Prayer had that much effect! Yet he was a person like we are, yet because he walked in righteousness he had power even over nature, through prayer.

Jesus is the one who walked in perfect righteousness and He had power over nature. He could walk on water, calm the storm and turn water into wine. This tells me that, walking in righteousness, gives us power to do the same. It is righteousness that makes us strong in Christ. It is righteousness that gives us the victory, and it is righteousness that enables us to walk in true freedom in Christ. When the devil tried to tempt Jesus in the wilderness, Jesus answered with the word of God and it left. He knew that Jesus was too strong and too righteous for him. Yet in Acts 19:15, 16 we read, *'And the evil spirit answered and said, Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are ye'? And the man in whom the evil spirit was leaped on them, and overcame them, and prevailed against them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded'.*

If a person has sin in him/her, he/she had better not cast out evil spirits. Why? Because the devil has no regard for a sinner since he already has control over that sinner. The devil only remembers the names of those who walk in righteousness. These are the ones he fears and flees from.

How does a person become a sinner? A person becomes a sinner the moment the temptation to do the wrong thing appears stronger than his ability to say “no”. The moment he yields to do that wrong thing, he immediately becomes weaker than the devil. Now the devil can tempt him easier the next time and the next, and that person becomes weaker and weaker in sin. That is how a person who steals once, can become a regular thief or the drunkard, an alcoholic and so on. They don't want to be like that, but they have become too weak to say, no, and their wages for their sin is death.

But there is some good news! The moment that person truly repents, and repentance is more than saying sorry and then doing it again. To repent in the dictionary says, 'to wish they had not done something', 'to feel regret for'. Repentance, means to turn from – a radical turn round. Repentance is a radical turn round from that sin. To say “No” to that sin and “Yes” to God, “No” to the devil and “Yes” to God. To THIS PERSON God will give the gift of righteousness and the grace to achieve it. This is the moment when the gift of righteousness is activated. This person will become stronger and

stronger in righteousness until he is stronger than the sin, stronger than the demons and stronger than the devil. That is the person who can then rise up in Jesus so that the Holy Spirit can work through him powerfully as there is no sin to clog the channel. Someone like this can even have power over nature like Elijah did.

I truly believe we are about to enter a new season before the great return of Jesus, where true Christians are going to rise up to this new level of power and authority and lead many back to God.

Once one is wearing the armour of the belt of truth and the breastplate of righteousness, he can already witness for Jesus because the next verse in Ephesians 6:15 says, *'and your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace'*.

In order to witness for Jesus you need to be well prepared in the Word of God. Read your Bible daily, get to know the Scriptures that will lead a person to salvation – an atheist, a Buddhist or Hindu etc.

Ephesians 6:16,

'above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked'.

You can fight off all the fiery darts at arms length, but make sure your faith is in good repair with no holes in it, where the fiery darts of the devil can get through. To keep your faith in good order, means good time in prayer, for the stronger your prayer life is, the stronger your shield of faith will become. Ephesians 6:17,

'And take the helmet of salvation,

The helmet protects your head, your mind. The devil loves to attack through your mind with negative or bad thoughts. If any negative thought comes to your mind, then kick it out in Jesus name, just as you would kick a thief out of your home. Entertaining an evil thought by dwelling on that thought is like giving a thief a cup of tea, the thief will soon be in your other rooms. Likewise, dwelling on that negative thought gives it legal right to be there, and very soon it will travel out through your mouth, arms and legs (what you say, what you do, and where you go). The answer is to wear your helmet of salvation at all times and it will protect you and to dwell on the positive things of Jesus. Know who you are in Jesus and the power and authority He gives you to walk in. Know that you are a son/daughter of the living God know that you are wearing his helmet of protection.

Verse 17 goes on to say,

'and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God':

The sword of the Spirit, is the Word of God. We all need training in the word of God, in knowing which scriptures to use and when to bring a person to Christ. But it is also more than that. When you read the Bible, don't just read it and close the power back into the Bible and walk away empty handed! That is like going to a bank to draw money out for something, leaving it there at the till, and walking out again with empty pockets – who would do that? When you read the Bible, read it slowly and receive what you read for yourself, after all the Word of God is written FOR YOU and for each one of us. Once you have received the Word for yourself into your heart, you can close the Bible and take the Word that you have received with you and live it out in your life. Then, as you step out in faith on the Word you have received, the Word becomes activated (it becomes reality). Oh! how I love to see the love of God activated into reality in my life, you will love it too!

Verse 18 concludes this teaching with,

'praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints';

We start with prayer, we end with prayer, it is no use talking to man about God, until you talk to God about man. For He will prepare their hearts to receive you, He will bind down that which closes their ears through your prayer. He will give you the strategies to reach them, the words to say to them, the way to do it and through this will cause your prayer to avail much.

The Ten Commandments are also given to us for our protection against the consequences of sin. Breaking any of the Ten Commandments causes the negative consequence of that action. Yet if you love God, your neighbour or yourself, you will then be able to keep all Ten Commandments. Let us read Exodus 20:1-17.

Briefly the commandments are:

Thou shalt have no other gods before me. *(That means idols or anything else we put before God.)*

Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image. *(To bow down to or serve.)*

Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord in vain. *(Do not swear.)*

Remember the Sabbath day and keep it Holy.

Honour thy father and thy mother, that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord had given thee.

Thou shalt not kill. *(Or even think about it.)*

Thou shalt not commit adultery. *(In marriage or before it.)*

Thou shalt not steal. *(Not even the smallest item.)*

Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour. *(Only tell the truth.)*

Thou shalt not covet, *(Envy of what you do not have can harm you.)*

Let us take these Ten Commandments seriously and keep them.

Think:

*How does righteousness make us strong?

*How does the shield of faith protect us?

*How does the helmet of salvation protect our minds?

*How does reading the word become part of us

Lesson 6

The fruits of the Spirit

Jesus walked with all the fruits of the Spirit in his life. If we want to know Him, we will know Him by His fruits and this is far greater than a physical face, for this is the inner being behind the face. A person may look beautiful, but not necessarily be beautiful. To be beautiful is far better than looks. Every person has an inner being and this inner being radiates through the physical in a positive or negative way, depending on that person's life and how they live it.

To come into any persons presence, you will not only see them, but sense their presence. Some people will cause you to be a little afraid of them or in awe of them, whereas others will radiate warmth and love.

It is the same with Jesus, when you come into His presence, you will not see Him but you will certainly sense **His love, His joy, His peace**, which we receive when we wait on Him. And the Lord will deal with you with patience, kindness and goodness which also comes into us as we wait upon Him and He will then give us faithfulness, gentleness and self control for us to carry into this world. If you read Galatians 5:16-21 you will read of the fruit of evil and those of us who do such things will not inherit the Kingdom of God. Galatians 5:22, 23 says,

'But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.'

So how do we walk in the fruit of the Spirit? Firstly, we need to spend time with the Lord daily to be filled with His love, joy, peace. Ask the Holy Spirit to search your heart for any negative things in your life. Do you get angry? Have you hurt someone with negative words/ have you been selfish, been jealous, or thought the wrong things? Confess these things, turn from them. Receive the Lord's forgiveness and seek to become more filled with the Holy Spirit so that you may overcome every negative thing.

Wait in His presence, to receive His joy, His love, His peace. That changes us and enables to live and walk in the Spirit as we ought to.

The Holy Spirit will change us from the inside, so that we can love as we ought outwardly. If we spend time seeking the things of the flesh we will be full of the fruits of the flesh. If we spend time seeking the things of the Holy Spirit, we will become full of the fruits of the Holy Spirit.

We need to practise living and walking in the Holy Spirit 24 hours a day. You will be amazed how this will change your life. In 1 Thessalonians 5:23,24, we read, *'And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and your whole spirit and soul and body be [preserved unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Faithful is He that calleth you, who also will do it']*.

Jesus came to save man, not just souls. He came to save the spirit from death, the soul from sin and the body from sickness. He came to give your spirit eternal life, your soul peace and your body healing.

If we are filled with God's love, joy and peace on a daily basis, this will have a powerful effect on our lives. If we are filled with the peace of Christ, we will be calm, quiet in spirit, non pressured. This will enable us to be patient as there will no longer be stress within that causes us to be impatient. God's peace causes patience.

If we are filled with the love of Christ, we will begin to love others also. This will make us want to be kind to them and less selfish and hardened. We will begin to feel more for others and treat them as we, ourselves, would like to be treated.

If we are filled with the joy of Christ, this will free us and enable us to find joy in giving to others. Good deeds will then follow us and people will come to know us by our fruit. Philippians 4:8 says,

'Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things'.

Faithfulness, gentleness and self control will show in our fruit towards others. Our lifestyles will show who we really are in Christ.

As Matthew 7:16-20 says,

'Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them'.

Let us yield ourselves to the Holy Spirit, for He is, 'love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness and goodness. These first six gifts of the Spirit are revealed in our personal lives and in our attitudes towards others. Let us seek the Lord in prayer and allow him to change us inwardly, then the fruits of the Spirit will show in our lives outwardly and good works will become a natural result in :- faith, meekness and temperance.

Faithfulness will enable us to become faithful to God and to one another. Meekness, the gentleness of God, will cause us to be gentle with others. Temperance, if we turn our backs on sin and pursue righteousness, will make us become more and more self controlled for the Holy Spirit will be in more and more control of our life, as we yield to him.

In Colossians 1:10 we read,

'that ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God';

When we yield ourselves to the Holy Spirit to work in our lives something wonderful happens, 2 Corinthians 3:18,

'But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord'.

When this happens in our lives, we are inviting God's blessing on everything we do for Him. We shall succeed for, in God, is victory every time. We cannot fail God if we are living and walking in the Holy Spirit, submitting to His ways, walking in obedience and righteousness, bearing the fruit of the Spirit in all we do.

In 2 Peter 1:5-8 we read,

'And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; and to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; and to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity. For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ'.

The more we live and walk in the Holy spirit, the more the fruits of the Holy Spirit will show in our lives, the more the fruits of the Holy Spirit are cultivated in our lives, the greater the degree that the gifts of the Holy Spirit will be able to operate in our lives.

The devil knows who are God's people and who are not.

Acts 19:15,

'And the evil spirit answered and said, Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are ye?'

The devil may tempt men to sin and has no respect for them, but with true men and women of God, the devil does not only respect them, but will flee from them for they have the Holy Spirit of

God in their lives. When we seek to cultivate and grow in the fruit of the Holy Spirit in our lives, then Jesus himself gives us the authority of His name to drive out demons and heal the sick.

Luke 10:19 says,

'Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you.'

The closer we live to God and live out the fruits of the Holy Spirit the less we will limit God from working in our lives. The less we limit God from working in our lives, the more powerfully the gifts of the Holy Spirit are also able to operate in our lives, and Jesus was the most perfect example of this.

Let's draw closer and closer to Jesus, let us yield totally to his glorious Holy Spirit, let us walk in total and joyful obedience, let us allow every fruit of the Holy Spirit to show fully in our lives. Then we shall see bigger healing miracles, it is then that we shall see creative miracles such as arms growing out from a stump and the dead raised. Do you want to move in God in this dimension? I do! Let's follow Christ fully.

Hebrews 12:1-2 reads,

'Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God'.

Think:

- *Explain inward beauty compared to outward beauty?
- *When we wait on God which fruits do we receive?
- *When we ask the Holy Spirit to search us which fruits will He inspect?
- *What fruits will become ours due to our growth in Christ?

Lesson 7

How to grow and be led by the Holy Spirit for evangelism

The Holy Spirit in evangelism.

Ever since Adam and Eve ate from the fruit of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, there has been a battle between good and evil in claiming the hearts and souls of men. Satan, in absolute rebellion against God for throwing him out of heaven because of his evil, now wants to hurt God by taking as many human beings, whom he knows God loves, down to hell with him. There are two types of people on earth.

The first type: -

Those who know they need God and want to go God's way. People like Abraham, Noah and the apostles. Jesus was the most perfect example who kept God's commandments. In John 14:31 Jesus says,

'But that the world may know that I love the Father; and as the Father gave Me commandment, even so I do.'

The second type:-

The second group feel that they have no need of God. They set their own standards and laws. They are in rebellion against God because they believe they can make it on their own. People like Cain, Nimrod and Esau. The devil is the most perfect example of this. In Isaiah 4,14 he said,

'I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High.'

These two types of people have continued to this day.

World thought has, therefore, taken one of these two routes. Firstly the route of those who believe in the One True God, known as the Triune God (three Persons in One: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit).

Secondly those who exalt man and not God the Creator (humanism). This leads to three phases : – rationalism meaning that man is reasoning and not depending upon God. This leads to existentialism which, through philosophical thinking, assumes that one is in charge of one's own life and destiny, some philosophers even question the existence of God. This leads to searching spiritual phenomena and the occult, which can lead to Satan worship and ultimately lead to the spirit of anti-Christ.

Right now in the west, we are already into the phase of existentialism, and many are practising occultism. This is the same old humanism, and man's reasoning was the same before Jesus came to earth. Protagoras, a Greek philosopher (490BC-420BC) once said, “man is the measure of all things”. This is man trying to do the work of God. Protagoras influenced Plato and Aristotle in their thinking. Soon this “man is god” philosophy spread over this world, being well received by the rebellious proud hearts of sinful mankind. Do you see this happening again today?

What did God do about it? Something happened to give early humanism a powerful setback,

Galatians 4:4-7,

'But when the right time came, God sent his Son, born of a woman, subject to the law. God sent him to buy freedom for us who were slaves to the law, so that he could adopt us as his very own children. And

because we are his children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, prompting us to call out, "Abba, Father." Now you are no longer a slave but God's own child. And since you are his child, God has made you his heir'.

In the fullness of time, God sent forth His Son. JESUS, THE SON OF GOD APPEARED IN HUMAN FORM. His life here on earth, His death and resurrection shook the known world, and the course of history was greatly changed.

A "living" relationship with Christ changed thousands of lives as the early church spread the gospel of the Kingdom of God. Many discovered that the only meaning to life was found in Christ, and in Him alone was love and life everlasting. The saving power of Christ reached the masses, and with this experience, the awful darkness was lifted from man's mind.

As 2 Corinthians 4:4 explains,

'In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them'.

Unfortunately during the renaissance period humanism again appeared into human history where people saw God as an interfering God giving us commandments and laws to live by, while they wanted to make their own decisions instead. This mindset has continued to this day, Man has now turned his back on God and replaced the law of Moses with ungodly laws instead.

New Age movements include elements from Buddhism, philosophy, Hinduism, East Asian religions, spiritualism and freemasonry to name just a few.

What is God doing about it?

Jesus tells us in Matthew 24:14,

' And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come'.

Jesus tells us in Mark 16: 15-20,

'Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptised shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; they shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover'.

The Holy Spirit has promised to comfort us, promised to help us, and we will succeed for the Lord Himself will confirm our message of the gospel with signs and wonders following.

As we preach the gospel, Jesus is right there with us, confirming His Word to the lost with signs, wonders and healing miracles that follow each one of us. Over and over again the Lord does it. Every single time, Jesus is there to heal the sick and to confirm His message. Jesus is alive, He is moving, every single meeting, no matter how small or large it is. I have watched the Lord heal the sick, set people free and bring them to salvation. That is why, I can never stop preaching the Word of God whilst I am here on earth. When you step out in faith and do the same? You will not want to stop either.

I believe that the state the world today is the same as it was prior to the first coming of Christ. Could this sinful state usher in Christ's 2nd return? John the Baptist was the first forerunner of Christ

Matthew 3:1,2,

'In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judea, and saying, Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.'

I believe that, as we preach the gospel message, we will see the Holy Spirit move in a greater and greater measure. As the Holy Spirit moves more and more powerfully, in healing and miracles, in preparation of the greatest event in all history – the second coming of Jesus! We, you and I, are His fore runners let us run with this gospel.

In Ghana, Africa, at a pastor's conference, the Holy Spirit came down upon us in power and revealed to us His heart for the lost. He said through a prophecy,

'Who will stand before me, who will go. I have given you my prophets, I have given you My Son, I have given you the Holy Spirit, but you are sitting in your houses while millions are going to hell. Why are you still sitting in your houses when people are dying under the evil one . Go! Go! take up your cross and go out and share my message and you shall succeed for I am with you.'

These pastors received this *word* literally. They did not waste a day, it was 1st Dec. 2005 when they received this prophecy, by 22 Dec. 2005, these pastors had reached 200 villages for Jesus, many of them by bicycle. This is 10 villages reached per pastor in 20 days, let's follow their example. In John 14:12, Jesus tells His disciples,

'Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father'.

This verse is for us now in this age, because Jesus has gone to the Father.

Matthew 9:36-38, is for us now, because Jesus has compassion.

'But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd. Then saith He unto his disciples, The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest'.

The Lord has commissioned you and me to go out as His labourers into His harvest. He has given all we need through His Holy Spirit to accomplish His work. We shall succeed for Jesus shall go with us. We are on the winning side, it is impossible to loose, because a battle is already won. Jesus won the battle on the cross. Let us go forth and proclaim the victory we have in Jesus and Jesus will do the rest. People will be miraculously, saved, healed and delivered in front of our eyes as Jesus does it.

Think:

*There are two types of people, who is the best example of both types?

- *What did God do about it?
- *What is the New Age?
- *Why is evangelism so important?

Lesson 8

Bible verses

Bible verses and the power of God

The Bible has said it all, we need to measure all we do and come back to the Bible every time. These Scriptures will, therefore, encourage you greatly.

1 Chronicles 29:11, 12,

'Thine, O Lord, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: for all that is in the heaven and in the earth is thine; thine is the kingdom, O Lord, and thou art exalted as head above all. Both riches and honour come of thee, and thou reignest over all; and in thine hand is power and might; and in thine hand it is to make great, and to give strength unto all'.

Psalm 29:4,

'The voice of the Lord is powerful; the voice of the Lord is full of majesty'.

Psalm 62:11,

God hath spoken once; twice have I heard this; that power belongeth unto God'.

Psalm 66:7,

'He ruleth by His power for ever; His eyes behold the nations: let not the rebellious exalt themselves'.

Jeremiah 10:12,

'He hath made the earth by his power, He hath established the world by His wisdom, and hath stretched out the heavens by His discretion'.

Isaiah 40:26,

'Lift up your eyes on high, and behold who hath created these things, that bringeth out their host by number: He calleth them all by names by the greatness of His might, for that He is strong in power; not one faileth'.

Bible verses on how how Jesus moved in the power of the Holy Spirit

Matthew 9:6,

'But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins, (then saith he to the sick of the palsy,) Arise, take up thy bed, and go unto thine house'.

Acts 10:38,

'how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with Him'.

Luke 4:14,

'And Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit into Galilee: and there went out a fame of him through all the region round about'.

Luke 4:32,

'And they were astonished at His doctrine: for his Word was with power'.

Luke 4:36,

'And they were all amazed, and spake among themselves, saying, What a Word is this! for with authority and power He commandeth the unclean spirits, and they come out'.

Matthew 24:30,

'and then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory'.

Matthew 26:64,

'Jesus saith unto him, Thou hast said: nevertheless I say unto you, Hereafter shall ye see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven'.

Revelation 5:11,12,13,

'And I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne and the beasts and the elders: and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands; saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing.'

Bible verses on how Jesus sends us His Holy Spirit

Matthew 10:1

'And when he had called unto him his twelve disciples, he gave them power against unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease'.

2 Corinthians 13:4

'For though He was crucified through weakness, yet He liveth by the power of God. For we also are weak in Him, but we shall live with Him by the power of God toward you'.

2 Peter 1:3,4,

'according as His divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him that hath called us to glory and virtue: whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust'.

Acts 1:8,

'But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth'.

Acts 4:33,

'And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all'.

Bible verses on how the Holy Spirit moves with man.

Luke 24:49,

'And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high'.

John 1:12,

'But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name'.

Luke 10:19,

'Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you'.

Acts 1:8,

'But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth'.

Acts 6:8,

'And Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and miracles among the people'.

Romans 15:13,

'Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost'.

1 Corinthians 2:4,

'And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power'.

2 Corinthians 12:19,

Truly the signs of an apostle were wrought among you in all patience, in signs, and wonders, and mighty deeds.

Ephesians 1:19,

'and what is the exceeding greatness of His power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of His mighty power, which He wrought in Christ, when He raised him from the dead, and set Him at his own right hand in the heavenly places'.

Ephesians 3:7,

'whereof I was made a minister, according to the gift of the grace of God given unto me by the effectual working of his power'.

Ephesians 6:10,

'Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might'.

Colossians 2:10,

'And ye are complete in Him, which is the Head of all principality and power'.

2 Thessalonians 1:11,12,

'Wherefore also we pray always for you, that our God would count you worthy of this calling, and fulfil all the good pleasure of his goodness, and the work of faith with power: that the name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified in you, and ye in Him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ'.

1 Thessalonians 1:5

'For our gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Ghost, and in much assurance; as ye know what manner of men we were among you for your sake'.

Think:

*Bible verses and the power of God - discuss.

*Bible verses on how Jesus moved in the power of the Holy Spirit – discuss.

*Bible verses on how Jesus sends His Holy Spirit – discuss.

*Bible verses on how the Holy Spirit moves with man – discuss.

Lesson 9

How to lead a Holy Spirit church service and handle manifestation

Being an interdenominational speaker for many years in various different countries, I will share with you what I have learnt from my own experiences. You can also read other books for the theory.

Every denomination has its own routine and style, as a speaker, we need to submit to the pastor, priest or leader and follow their routine and style and yet give the Holy Spirit as much freedom as possible during your timespan as speaker to bring the congregation forward gently from where they are, closer to the Lord.

If you are handling your own church service you are much freer, and the first thing I always do is start with prayer and ask the Holy Spirit to take control of the whole meeting. You may have a structured, or loosely structured service, and the Holy Spirit is often able to move along and through it. But at other times, The Holy Spirit may want to do something else with the congregation, and you may have to change what you had planned to rather flow with what the Holy Spirit is doing.

I will never forget how our Anglican church in Port Elizabeth, South Africa, came into the charismatic revival. I was a very new Christian at the time, and joined St. Nicholas in Chalo. Brian was the vicar. One Sunday evening, right in the middle of the service, the Lord told Brian to leave the service and go out of the church. He obeyed, telling us what the Lord had told him to do and went outside.

We stared at each other – “*What now*”?

When the Holy Spirit prompted one of the congregation to go up to the lectern and she gave us a word from God and went to sit down. Then the Holy Spirit prompted another person to go up, and through several different people the Lord was speaking powerfully to us in preparation of something new. By this time, Brian had come back into the church and was watching all this from the back row. We carried on after the word from God in prayer and worship, when the Holy Spirit came down on each one of us and people began to burst out in tongues, others interpretation, yet others in prophecy. Then we just worshipped on our knees in glorious silence as no one wanted to go home.

From this time St. Nicholas was totally transformed. Every service was so exciting as the Holy Spirit took control with Brian totally yielded and obedient to the Holy Spirit. We saw healing miracles, many new people came in and received Christ and soon we had to have more services to accommodate everyone. Christmas came, and the midnight service brought so many people that we filled up the isles, behind the lectern, and another couple of hundred were left outside because they could not fit in. They congregated around the door and open windows.

Holy communion time came, “We have a problem”, said Brian.

“How are we to minister holy communion when there is no room to move?”

But the Holy Spirit had that sorted too. We all gave communion one to another so that even those outside were able to participate.

I never wanted to miss one service or I would miss out on something the Lord had done and very soon most of the churches were flowing in this wonderful revival. Port Elizabeth went from 15% church goers to 80% in two years.

This revival has never left me, I am still flowing in it. That first excitement and love for Jesus is still within me and I will never let go. I love to flow in the glorious move of the Holy Spirit. These first seven years at St Nicholas prepared me for my life and then I moved to St Saviour's Anglican church in Westerink under David Scott, assisted by Alan Stansbury. David trained me as a lay minister and youth leader and sent me to the townships once a week to feed the older people and to speak to them about Jesus. During this time the revival continued and from this time on I began to be invited to speak in many different churches.

During Holy Spirit led services, the Holy Spirit often comes down on the people causing them to kneel, weep, and repent. People can be healed whilst sitting in their seats, or people will just sit quietly and enjoy the glorious peaceful presence of the Lord. Sometimes people, who are healed, will testify of their healing and run around the church demonstrating what God has done for them which causes great excitement and praise to the Lord. The Holy Spirit always manifests in a way that is right and acceptable to the people, He always brings glory to God.

One thing that puts some churches off from flowing in the gifts of the Holy Spirit is when they have had a bad experience with the counterfeit spirit. This is the spirit that pretends to be the Holy Spirit but is not. This spirit is sent to divide, hurt and destroy the work of the Holy Spirit of God. Discernment is now very important, we must discern what spirit it is and how to deal with it. The counterfeit spirit will cause the people to move in the flesh rather than in the Holy Spirit and will

manifest accordingly. Any manifestations that are ungodly need to be rooted out immediately and stopped. Screaming continually, uncontrollable shaking, roaring etc. is not from the Holy Spirit. These people need to be taken to another room and counselled.

Speaking in tongues, interpretation and prophecy that is in line with Scripture is of the Holy Spirit. People being healed, set free or brought to repentance is of the Holy Spirit. People being filled with His love, joy and peace is of the Holy Spirit. People kneeling or lying on their faces in worship and adoration is of the Holy Spirit. These are the manifestations that are to be encouraged in the power of the Holy Spirit. The Lord wants all of us to walk in the power of the Holy Spirit in all these different ways.

Think:

- *Manifestations, the counterfeit spirit to be avoided – discuss.
- *Manifestations of the Holy Spirit should be encouraged – discuss.
- *How do you deal with the counterfeit spirit? Discuss.
- *How do you encourage the true manifestations of the Holy Spirit? Discuss.

Lesson 10

Jesus authority over nature and distance

Authority is a higher word than power. A soldier will fight the enemy with power but it takes a commander to take command in the authority that is given to him. He does not have to show power, he commands and expects his commands to be obeyed. This is what Jesus teaches us to do.

Jesus had authority over nature, over distance, over sickness, over demons, over death, over sin and over time. Jesus also has authority with us. If we learn from Jesus, how He had authority over these things, we will learn from Him and He can have authority over these things in our lives.

Mark 4:37-41, show us a wonderful account of Jesus authority over nature.

'And there arose a great storm of wind, and the waves beat into the ship, so that it was now full. And He was in the hinder part of the ship, asleep on a pillow: and they awake Him, and say unto Him, Master, carest thou not that we perish? And He arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm. And He said unto them, Why are ye so fearful? how is it that ye have no faith? And they feared exceedingly, and said one to another, What manner of man is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?'

This Scripture caused me to ask the Lord two questions:-

***How could He be asleep in such a terrible storm?
Why did He rebuke the disciples?***

The Lord answered both questions.

Jesus was asleep at the back of the boat, because He was not afraid of the storm. He was at peace because He lived above the storm. He had fellowship with the Father. He was full of the Holy Spirit, so much so, that He was able to stand up and take command over the storm. And the sea and the waves obeyed Him and there was a great calm.

Jesus rebuked the disciples for their lack of faith because they had been with Him for some time now. They had seen Him heal the sick and cast out demons, yet they remained in unbelief. Jesus would have hoped that they might rise up with him to calm the wind and the sea but instead they were afraid.

Just like some of us, how big the waves are. How strong the wind is blowing, how big our problems are and our sickness or difficulty. The Lord does not want us to stay in our problems because of lack of faith, but to rise up with Him, above our problems or sickness and take command with Him in the authority of the name of Jesus.

If Jesus teaches us a new thing, He will often test us in what He has taught us. I was on my way from Hyderabad to Bhimavaram in India about to get on the plane when up on the television screen came,

“Devastating cyclone Kwaimut is ravaging through Andhra Pradesh leaving devastating damage”.

I looked up at the map showing on the screen to see that the storm was heading straight for Bhimavaram. I got on the plane, landed, got picked up by the team and we drove straight to Bhimavaram, had supper and went to bed. At 1.30 am. I was awakened to the heaviest rain, thunder and lightning I had ever experienced and realised that the cyclone was upon us. I began to call out to God and say that it would ruin the whole crusade that I had come for, all that was to be held outside.

“Lord help! Lord it has cost so much money to hold this crusade, only you can stop the cyclone, please Lord stop the cyclone!”

Then I remembered that Jesus rebuked His disciples when He commanded the storm to cease and then He said to me, “***Take authority!***”

“But Lord, it’s a cyclone!”

“***Take authority!***” He repeated.

So I stood up and began to pray differently, I spoke to the cyclone and said, “Cyclone Kwaimut, I command you in the name of Jesus to turn round and go out to sea in Jesus name! I speak to you spirits behind the storm, stop in Jesus name! I bind you down in Jesus name”.

I carried on praying, by taking command in the authority of Jesus name, and after some time, the Lord spoke again and said,

“The cyclone will be gone by 6.00 am”.

“Thank you Lord!” And I fell asleep.

I overslept, it was 8.00 am. And it was a beautiful calm day. I rushed to put my clothes on, raced downstairs and asked them, “

When did the cyclone stop?”

“6.00 am”. they replied,

“I asked another, just to make sure. “6.00 am!”

God had answered our prayers, my prayers and the prayers of the pastors, and had made an 'L' shaped turn and had gone out to sea. Cyclones do not normally take 'L' shaped turns- they go straight! The result of this miracle, is that we had a wonderful three days of miracle crusades where over 100,000 people attended, the best of all of them so far!

Jesus authority over distance

In Luke 7:6-10 we read,

'Then Jesus went with them. And when He was now not far from the house, the centurion sent friends to Him, saying unto him, Lord, trouble not thyself: for I am not worthy that thou shouldst enter under my roof: wherefore neither thought I myself worthy to come unto thee: but say in a word, and my servant shall be healed. For I also am a man set under authority, having under me soldiers, and I say unto one, Go, and he goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth it'.

The Lord has the same authority over distance today, and I would like to share three examples from my own ministry because they happened in three stages of faith.

The first happened in Bala, Kenya on Wednesday 28 Nov. 2001. It was our very first crusade called, “The fire over Kenya conference.” The bishop had brought back an army General for supper. He had nothing to do with the conference, but after hearing us talk about Jesus, the General decided to receive Jesus for himself. So we prayed for him. He then told us about his sick wife dying of tuberculosis. She could not stand up or speak, or even sit up, but just slept all the time. I offered to go with him to pray for her but he said it was too dark, but could we pray for her by laying hands on him instead as proxy. We laid hands on him in prayer for her and he left for home.

On Saturday 1st December at the crusade, this army General arrived with a testimony, and we gave him the microphone. He told them how he had received Jesus as Lord at the bishop’s house, and how he had asked us to pray for his wife who had tuberculosis. Then he said as he was nearing his house, he thought he saw his wife coming towards him, but could not believe his eyes! Then coming closer to his amazement, he really saw her and heard her shout,

“I am healed a 100% healed, I am so happy!”

God had healed her over distance.

The second time was in India, at a crusade in November 2009, when the Lord told me to preach on the centurion servant, “Jesus authority over distance”. (You may order this DVD taken of this crusade if you would like one). While I preached the message; it came to the time when I pray for the sick. I saw that these Indian people had mobile phones and some of them began to ring up their sick relatives back home and some of them repeat,

“Jesus can heal over distance, so I am phoning you to lay hands on your sickness now, and the Christian God will heal you”. We said the prayer:- “Receive your healing in Jesus name”. Suddenly, people were running up waving their mobile phones in the air! So we let them up onto the platform. They testified of their relatives back home for they had received their healing by Jesus, over their mobile phones! All this was going out on national television. This resulted in twenty leaders and Hindu priests phoning in to receive Jesus as Lord.

They said, “Your Christian God is the real God because He can heal over distance!”

The third testimony, of Jesus healing over distance, is now almost a daily part of our ministry. With 261 Bible Schools spread over countries in Africa and Asia, it is totally impossible to visit them all, along with many crusades our leaders do. But God has shown me a better way than all the travel.

I now use telephone to teach our Bible schools in other countries. I do graduations over the phone, and speak to many crusades of up to 3,700 people at a time. All this is done by phone. The Lord does it every time. He waits for our little voice to say, “**Be healed in Jesus name,**” and within a minute or two many receive their healing, not sometimes, but every time. Not just headaches and sore tummies, but the crippled, the deaf, the blind, and even two disabled people have been healed by a phone call!

I was graduating our Bible schools in Uganda in September 2011 by telephone, when Edward told me we have to stop the graduation because of heavy rain as the graduation is being held outside in the rain. I told Edward, “well, let's take authority over the rain then, and pray that the rain stop, in Jesus name.” So we prayed that the rain would stop in Jesus name, and immediately, all the rain stopped and we were able to carry on with this graduation and crusade. As a result, 164 people in this graduation/crusade accepted Jesus as Lord, because they saw the Lord's authority over nature (the rain), as well as the Lord's authority over distance (prayer prayed from England to stop the rain.)

Jesus is the Authority over distance and His miracles extend into today's time, all we need to do is to take authority over distance, in Jesus name, and HE WILL DO IT. I get so excited, Jesus teaches us in steps, He takes us level by level to where He can use us most effectively. It does not matter, if he has not done it that in the same way as before. Let Him use you in something new and different like He had done with me.

Think:

- *Why was Jesus asleep at the back of the boat?
- *Why did Jesus rebuke His disciples?
- *Why does Jesus want us to rise up in Him to take authority?
- *What happens when we pray and speak with authority?

Lesson 11

Jesus authority over sickness and demons

Mark 3 1-5.....

' And he entered again into the synagogue; and there was a man there which had a withered hand. And they watched him, whether he would heal him on the Sabbath day; that they might accuse him. And He saith unto the man which had the withered hand, Stand forth. And He saith unto them, Is it lawful to do good on the Sabbath days, or to do evil? to save life, or to kill? But they held their peace. And when He had looked round about on them with anger, being grieved for the hardness of their hearts, He saith unto the man, Stretch forth thine hand. And he stretched it out: and his hand was restored whole as the other'.

I chose this healing for two reasons:- Firstly, I have seen a number of crippled hands healed. And, secondly, we often have to pray for someone in difficult surroundings, like Jesus did. Today, with whole countries turning their backs on Jesus, it has become difficult for Christians to pray for the sick in public. This is because, as in the times of Jesus, many hearts have become hardened against the Gospel of Jesus Christ, making it difficult for Christians to share their faith.

In Africa it is easy to pray for the sick, it's just getting them to believe. The first African with the crippled hand that I prayed for - did not believe.

He kept saying,

“I have not been able to move my hand for 20 years”.

So I told him to get his brain out of the way and stretch out his hand, in Jesus name. So he stretched out his hand, in Jesus name, and was instantly healed. In Asia it was easier, the sermon was enough, a crippled hand gets healed in a mass prayer, because the healing was received with such faith.

But in England or America it is much harder because faith and belief in God has been educated out of people. Worst still political correctness has made it hard for us to witness, or pray for people in public. Who do we obey, man or God? God of course! This means that we need to be even closer to Jesus to receive His discernment, His knowledge and His wisdom. Sometimes, the Lord may tell you to pray for a person in a difficult place. On the way back from India, we stopped at Dubai airport to change planes for England. As I was approaching our terminal, I passed a man in a wheelchair and the Lord told me to go back and pray for him. It was the week after television news reported that two people had been arrested for kissing each other in a public place. Now, in obedience to the Lord, I had to pray for a Moslem in that airport, furthermore, I was a woman having to approach a man.

The Lord said to me, a second time,

“Pray for the man in the wheelchair”.

I turned around to go back to him. How do I pray for him? How do I even approach him, and where do I start, is going through my head? I walked backwards and forwards a couple of times, I got nearer and then I sat down next to him with my luggage.

“Hello!” I said.

Then, he said,

“Hello” back!.

I try again,

“Are you in pain?”

“Yes”, he replied.

He continued to say that, following a car accident, he had damaged his legs and that he was travelling to America.

“Would you like me to pray for you? I almost blurted out!

“Oh, yes please!”, he replied.

So I prayed for him. Jesus healed him, and then he accepted Jesus as Lord of his life! No one noticed that I had prayed for him and I left for England in the joy of the Lord!

Jesus Authority over demons

Casting out demons is not something we would readily choose to do, but the Lord spent much of his ministry doing this. Let us look at the passage of Scripture in Luke 9:37-42, where Jesus corrects His disciples,

' And it came to pass, that on the next day, when they were come down from the hill, much people met him. And, behold, a man of the company cried out, saying, Master, I beseech thee, look upon my son: for he is mine only child. And, lo, a spirit taketh him, and he suddenly crieth out; and it teareth him that he foameth again, and bruising him hardly departeth from him. And I besought thy disciples to cast him out; and they could not. And Jesus answering said, O faithless and perverse generation, how long shall I be with you, and suffer you? Bring thy son hither. And as he was yet a coming, the devil threw him down, and tare him. And Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, and healed the child, and delivered him again to his father'.

And in Matthew 17:19-20 Jesus taught them,

'Then came the disciples to Jesus apart, and said, Why could not we cast him out? Afterward the disciples asked Jesus privately, “Why couldn't we cast out that demon?” And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you. “

The disciples were ordinary people, just like us, growing in Christ and having to learn how to take authority over demons, by taking command over them, in Jesus name.

There are different levels of demons. Some demons are easier to cast out than others, the more difficult ones will require prayer and fasting. You only have as much authority that you think you have expectations for. I teach horse riding, and horses will sometimes challenge you. One may refuse to move forward when you are trying to lead him.

It would be no use looking at the horse and saying,

“Please come and pull on the lead rope”.

Because a horse will see that you have little authority and, therefore, challenge you and refuse to move.

Do not give the horse a choice, take authority over him, turning him slightly looking ahead and say,

“We are going now!”

Amazingly the horse will give up and obey you and come. If you deal with demons in the same way, you will have the victory, you have to mean what you say, don't give in to them one inch, but take full

authority IN JESUS NAME. Expect them to come out NOW in Jesus name! You will be amazed at how they will obey the name of Jesus.

If you do come across a difficult demon that will not budge, be prepared to pray and fast for two to three days, or even seven days, before you try again, show it you mean what you say. Prayer will get you closer to God and fasting will help you come into the spiritual realm more easily. Here the Lord will build up your faith and give you specific instructions on how to deal with that particular demon and give you extra courage and power of the Holy Spirit together with the authority of the name of Jesus to cast it out. You may also need to confess any sin or difficulty in your own life first, because any sin, however small, can weaken you spiritually, whereas righteousness makes you strong.

It is also advisable not to cast out demons alone. Jesus always sent out His disciples two by two. So get someone who is also strong in faith to cast out the demon with you.

There are many different ways that demons come out. They may come out of the mouth in vomit or green slime, or they may be coughed out. Other times they may throw the person to the ground and then come out. Witch doctor spirits can put the person into a supernatural spin first then as the spinning slows down the evil spirit will come out. Snake demons can cause a person to fall, slither on the floor and then come out. Practising yoga can cause snake demons to come into a person, this person was set free when she came to an Anglican house group.

We struggled with one witch doctor for three days, eventually twenty two demons came out of her before she was set free. Do not be alarmed at the different manifestations of demons just take authority over them in the name of Jesus, and firmly take command in Jesus name and they will come out.

In Africa, once a pastor has cast out the demon, he gives it no more attention, but rather gets his congregation to praise God and, within five to ten minutes, the demon leaves the person and the person stands up totally set free and begins to praise God with the rest of the congregation.

In Ghana, people who need deliverance are sent to prayer camps. Here dangerously possessed people are chained to trees on a lawn. Sick people come for their healing and they are prayed for around this grassy area seven times twice a day. Sermons can be heard being preached close by to these chained people. The results are, that between three days and a month, all the demons have come out. The chains are cut, and the person is sent home totally delivered and accepted Christ who has set him free. Demons hate prayer, the Word of God being preached, and praise and worship.

Remember that in Christ, you are far stronger than the demons. That is why Jesus said, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed you will have victory.

Think:

*Healing happens when we get our reasoning out of the way and believe God? Why?

*Healing happens when we obey God? Why?

*How do we cast out a demon? Discuss.

*The Lord teaches us to trust Him level by level. Explain.

Lesson 12

Jesus authority over sin and death for today

Now, we come to the foundations of all sickness, troubles and problems of this earth. The fall of man that let sin and death into this world of ours. Sin is the downfall of man, and death is the wages of sin. Only through what Jesus did for us on the cross that we can be reborn into eternal life.

In Matthew 9. 2-8, we read about Jesus' authority to forgive sin.

'And, behold, they brought to him a man sick of the palsy, lying on a bed: and Jesus seeing their faith said unto the sick of the palsy; Son, be of good cheer; thy sins be forgiven thee. And, behold, certain of the scribes said within themselves, This man blasphemeth. And Jesus knowing their thoughts said, Wherefore think ye evil in your hearts? For whether is easier, to say, Thy sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Arise, and walk? But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins, (then saith he to the sick of the palsy,) Arise, take up thy bed, and go unto thine house. And he arose, and departed to his house. But when the multitude saw it, they marvelled, and glorified God, which had given such power unto men'.

Sin often causes sickness, and Jesus knew that sin was the cause of the palsy. Jesus went straight to the cause, *"Thy sins be forgiven thee"*. For Jesus had power to forgive sins. To Jesus, forgiving sin was as easy as saying, *"Take up thy bed and walk"*.

Today, people often have faith to be saved, yet do not have the faith to be healed. Jesus came to save us, heal us and deliver us. All three are part of salvation. It is as easy to get healed as it is to get saved. The third world peoples understand this, and they receive their healing along with being saved. Usually they receive their healing instantly. Yet the highly educated find it hard to believe and receive their healing I believe it is because it has been educated out of them.

Most of our British Universities started out as Christian ones and Christ was behind our education, but since Christ has been removed from our education system, what has replaced Christ? The opposite of course! An anti-Christ spirit is in control of our universities and colleges, that is why 75% of Christians entering college, lose their faith within the first year or two. They have lost faith, they no longer believe and are therefore, unable to receive their healing. We need to pray for our young people that the lie of the enemy is exposed to them, that their eyes be opened to the truth. Jesus alone has power to forgive their sin, Jesus alone can heal their bodies and Jesus alone can give them everlasting life, for Jesus alone has conquered sin and death.

In Luke 7:12-15 we read about Jesus' authority over death.

'Now when he came nigh to the gate of the city, behold, there was a dead man carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow: and much people of the city was with her. And when the Lord saw her, he had compassion on her, and said unto her, Weep not. And he came and touched the bier: and they that bare him stood still. And he said, Young man, I say unto thee, Arise. And he that was dead sat up, and began to speak. And he delivered him to his mother'.

Jesus first had compassion, and then He raised this young man from the dead. Jesus still raises the dead today, even through our own ministry. Following a Sunday service on 7th August 2005, one of our team in Blantyre, Malawi, visited the local hospital. On this particular Sunday, he was unable to get into the hospital from the main entrance as workmen were working there. He entered the back of the hospital, by going through the mortuary. He saw a dead man lying on a bed to his right. The Lord prompted him to go and pray for this man, so in obedience, he went over to this dead man and said,

“if the Lord wants you to live, then in the name of Jesus sit up”.

And the man sat up and Jesus raised him from the dead. The whole hospital praised God for this miracle, but insisted in keeping him in hospital for two days for observation before allowing him to go home! Not only was the man raised from the dead, but completely healed of the malaria that killed him. He was only 30 years old. It is important to never try to raise the dead unless you have specifically heard from God to do so and how to go about it as it may not be God's will to raise that particular person to life.

To move in the working miracles, we need to hear God and receive His word of knowledge and to ask Him for a word of wisdom on how to do it. We must then obey Him and step out in faith to do whatever He says. The miracle will then happen, because Jesus has gone to the father. *"Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father"* (John 14:12)

Think:

- *What is the main cause of all sicknesses in the world?
- *Does sin always cause sickness – always or just sometimes?
- *Do not try and raise the dead unless God specifically tells you to – why?
- *Jesus came to do three things in salvation, what are they? Discuss.

Lesson 13

Jesus authority over time and with us

Jesus is the beginning and the end. Revelation 22:13 says,

'I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last'.

This says it all, because Jesus lives with the Father outside the span of time. We live in the time span because we live on planet earth, the earth revolves causing day and night, around the sun causing years. We are on earth for a time span from the moment we are born to when we die. We then step out of the time span into the eternal. But Jesus *was, is* and *will be*.

'Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today and forever. (Hebrews 13:18)

This is how what Jesus did on the cross is able to span past/present and future. He died for all men past/present/future who will accept Him. This means that what Jesus did on the cross is as powerful today as it was then.

This also means that every miracle, every healing and every teaching that Jesus gave also spans time and, therefore, carries over into today's situations.

'Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father'.

(John 14:12)

The authority of Jesus is for all Christians, in all ages, to receive and walk in the power of the Holy Spirit. I have only taken one Scripture for each authority Jesus demonstrated, and shared with you how these miracles Jesus did has extended to our little ministry in some of the testimonies in this book.

The wonderful thing, I have also discovered, is when we give of ourselves to the Lord each day, He gives of Himself to be with us. God told me to preach the gospel and pray for the sick by telephone, and every time, the Lord waits for the words, "***be healed in Jesus name***", He actually heals the sick that moment. I marvel at this every time, yet, it is in Scripture.

Jesus works with us with what we have, just as we read in

Matthew 14:16-21,

"But Jesus said unto them, They need not depart; give ye them to eat. And they say unto Him, We have here but five loaves, and two fishes. He said, Bring them hither to me. And He commanded the multitude to sit down on the grass, and took the five loaves, and the two fishes, and looking up to heaven, He blessed, and brake, and gave the loaves to His disciples, and the disciples to the multitude. And they did all eat, and were filled: and they took up of the fragments that remained twelve baskets full. And they that had eaten were about five thousand men, beside women and children'.

Jesus used what the people had, to do the miracle. He took what little that was brought to Him, and multiplied it many times. When the disciples gave out the five loaves and two fishes, it was then that they were multiplied. Jesus did not just make a big heap, but gave the five loaves and two

fishes to the disciples to give out to the multitude and the bread multiplied in the disciples hands as they gave it out.

The Lord works with us in the same way today. He takes what we give Him in talent, or material possessions and multiplies it many times as we give out of ourselves to others. The miracles only happens as we move out in faith. If we stop, the miracle stops. I am sure even if there were twenty thousand people there there would have been enough food for them.

Yet, we still struggle to walk in this sort of faith. When there were only 300 orphans, I worried each month how we would feed so many. Today we have 995 that is nearly a thousand orphans and the same amount of money coming in as for 300, yet somehow every month these orphans are fed on time. Every month a financial miracle happens, even in this financial crisis. The Lord uses the little our partners are able to send or the extra £1,000 that one or two give and the amount to send is always the right amount, and on time.

Last month, I had to send £3,000 and I only had £1,200 in the bank. I did not know where the money would come from. I went to the bank and asked for a statement and found that there was £3,200 in the bank so I sent the full £3,000 leaving £200 balance in the bank, I then discovered that an elderly man called Clifford, one of our partners, had saved up £2,000 from his disability pension and had deposited it into our account. **Thank you partners for being obedient to Jesus and thank you Jesus!**

Think:

- *Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever. Explain this.
- *The power of the name of Jesus. Explain.
- *Jesus uses what we have to do a miracle. What can you give Jesus?
- *Think of a miracle that you have seen in our time.

Lesson 14

Jesus is all wisdom & knowledge

It is not how much you know but who you know. It is not the amount of study you do, but the quality of time you spend in prayer to access God's wisdom. A computer will give you all the knowledge of the world if you know how to access the internet. Jesus will give you all the wisdom of the universe if you know how to come to Jesus through prayer and wait on Him.

Luke 2:41-52,

'Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the feast of the passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up to Jerusalem after the custom of the feast. And when they had fulfilled the days, as they returned, the child Jesus tarried behind in Jerusalem; and Joseph and his mother knew not of it. But they, supposing him to have been in the company, went a day's journey; and they sought him among their kinsfolk and acquaintance. And when they found him not, they turned back again to

Jerusalem, seeking him. And it came to pass, that after three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the doctors, both hearing them, and asking them questions. And all that heard him were astonished at his understanding and answers. And when they saw him, they were amazed: and his mother said unto him, Son, why hast thou thus dealt with us? behold, thy father and I have sought thee sorrowing. And he said unto them, How is it that ye sought me? wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business? And they understood not the saying which he spake unto them. And he went down with them, and came to Nazareth, and was subject unto them: but his mother kept all these sayings in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man.'

Even as a child, Jesus showed such wisdom and when his parents questioned Him, worried that He had not come with them, He replied, *“how is it that ye sought me? Wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?”*

Even at an early age, Jesus was here to do His Father's business. Jesus had access to all wisdom and understanding from His father. Jesus knew the Father in prayer, and knew how to hear the Father on every occasion. Age did not matter, it was hearing His Father that mattered.

When we accept Jesus as Lord, God the Father also becomes our Father. This is absolutely wonderful because we then also have the same access to God the Father, that Jesus had. If only we could learn how to pray as we ought and come to know our heavenly Father as Jesus teaches us to. We will also have the same access to God's wisdom, knowledge and understanding. As we serve God on earth, He will give us everything we need to do His work effectively and well.

This is the only reason that God has given me such a successful ministry, because I have learnt to obey Him. It was God who told me to train local evangelists, and to send them out to plant churches in remote villages. As I obeyed this command, the ministry came into being.

It was God that told me to pray for the sick over the phone, since then every time I have prayed for the sick in Africa or Asia healing miracles have occurred. Last Saturday a 70 year old lady from Pakistan, who had been blind for six years, was instantly and wonderfully healed. Her excitement could be heard over the phone as she praised the Lord with ecstatic joy that He had restored her sight.

It was in prayer, only a week ago, that I asked the Lord how to get the Bible school out to more people at low cost. He told me to put the Bible school on radio and television at a certain time each week, so that many could learn that way.

He then showed me how to put all the multiple choice exam papers on our website, so they could be downloaded by the many students who wanted to graduate as evangelists. The students could then email or post to our office, their examination papers to be marked. We could then respond further and send certificates by post. The very next day, I was offered the chance to go on the “El Shaddai” television network. This gave me the opportunity to reach the whole of Africa with my own weekly television programme (between 7.30 am and 8.30 am depending on the country) every Friday for thirty minutes at an amazingly low cost.

Our programme will be called Step out in Faith correspondence school. This programme can also be accessed via the internet, www.elshaddaitv.org. Do watch!

Whilst I was at Bible College I studied a very interesting course called, “The history of world thought”. The course revealed to me how the opinions of one man have led and influenced millions of people to think in his way. Very often in a way that was far from Biblical truth, such as humanism, Marxism, atheism and others.

I also came to realise that often a word ending in “ism” means “man is God”. This alarmed me as I could see that many thousands accept just a trend of thought rather than thinking and researching it for themselves. We then went on to examine each 'world thought' with Biblical thought' and discovered that each way of thinking was very inferior compared to the Biblical way of thinking.

Basically, I saw that all other world thoughts were actually trying to replace God with man, and this is to deny the truth.

As Romans 1:25 confirms, *They traded the truth about God for a lie. So they worshipped and served the things God created instead of the Creator himself, who is worthy of eternal praise! Amen.'*

Romans 1:26-32,

'For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: and likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet. And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient; being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers, backbiters, haters of God, despiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, without understanding, covenant breakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful: who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them'.

We see this today, these heathen thinkers who have enticed millions away from God, I believe this is in preparation for the antichrist.

In John 14:6, Jesus told them,

'I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through Me'.

When we come away from Jesus and His truth, a lie results, and the foundations of truth for life are lost. When life has lost its foundations, life loses all meaning and the results of this is destruction, e.g. abortion is a result of this.

In all things, there is only one Truth, and that is Jesus Christ. These different world thoughts have influenced our world, politically, socially, morally and in every area of life.

It was the fall of Adam and Eve, who ate of the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. That act declared their independence from God and His life source., entering into a world of existence (to be born of the flesh only), now cut off spiritually from the true life source of God.

There are different dimensions of life:-

The highest is the life from God. “Hija” (Hebrew), “Zoe” (Greek), which means - “life in Christ”.

Human life without God means, we 'live' but are 'dead', because we are cut off from God. Only through accepting Jesus as Lord, can we be 'born again' for eternal life in Him, (“Hija”, “Zoe” life in Him).

We have animal life and,

Plant life. Both 3 and 4 “live”, but do not know life “in God”. Only Jesus **is** life.

Deuteronomy 8:3 explains life **in** Christ,

'And he humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that he might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the Lord doth man live.'

Deuteronomy 30:16 goes on to command,

'in that I command thee this day to love the Lord thy God, to walk in his ways, and to keep his commandments and his statutes and his judgments, that thou mayest live and multiply: and the Lord thy God shall bless thee in the land whither thou goest to possess it. '

God promises life to those who obey Him. John 10:10,

' The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.'

John 3:16,

'For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. '

The Bible also tells us to be **led by the Spirit of God** and not by the flesh.

Romans 8:12-16.

*' Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh. For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live. For as many as are **led by the Spirit of God**, they are the sons of God. For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: and if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.'*

The Bible also helps us to live by the Spirit by the **renewing of our minds**.

Ephesians 4:23,

'and be renewed in the spirit of your mind'.

Romans 12:2,

'And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind.'

Philippians 2:5,

'Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus.'

If we live in Christ, in His life, His truth, His light, His understanding, we shall truly live in truth and have life in abundance.

Hearing God in prayer is the most effective and practical way of receiving God's knowledge and instructions and as we obey and live out what we have heard from God, is guaranteed to be 100% successful.

No time will be lost or wasted and God's work will be accomplished thoroughly and well, especially in these last days when time is so short before the second coming of Christ. It is important to have good Bible teaching and to be properly prepared to do God's work, so that you learn how to hear God. Further education will then depend on the person's calling.

Think:

- *How do we receive knowledge and wisdom from Jesus?
- *What is a word ending in “ism” often mean?
- *How has world thought affected our world today? Discuss.
- *How can the renewing of our minds help us today?

Lesson 15

The authority of the name of Jesus is for us today

Jesus not only had authority, but was the Authority and IS the Authority.

' And they were all amazed, and spake among themselves, saying, What a word is this! for with authority and power He commandeth the unclean spirits, and they come out.' (Luke 4:36)

Here Jesus demonstrated His authority as the truth.

Philip further explains in Philippians 2:10,

' that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.'

That is how great His authority is, and it is in **the name of Jesus**. It is the name of Jesus that has authority, and every name, must bow to it. The demons know that, sicknesses know that. Every demon has a name and every sickness has a name, and at the name of Jesus they must obey because Jesus won this victory on the cross.

What is more, Jesus has given the authority of the name of Jesus to us in delivering the oppressed and casting out sicknesses and evil spirits. We cannot heal the sick, we cannot cast out demons, but the name of Jesus can, and He does it over and over again through simple human beings like you and me.

Jesus wants us all to rise up in righteousness and demonstrate the authority.

'When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice: but when the wicked beareth rule, the people mourn'. (Proverbs 29:2)

Jesus wants his people to use His authority and be in authority so that countries may be ruled in righteousness and justice. We need to see more Christians in politics.

In Takoradi, Ghana, the Queen organised that I speak on radio. I found myself on a programme entitled, "Christians and Politics". I had never had anything to do with politics. So when they asked me 'should Christians be involved in politics', I did not have any idea of the answer, so I asked the Lord.

The Lord told me to read Genesis 1:28,

' And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth'.

Then the Lord said, **“Who did I speak to? My people”**.

I then went on to say, on radio, that if God gave His people dominion, then, yes, His people should and must be involved in politics. Christians should be involved in politics to govern the land in righteousness, justice and truth. I did not know what my answer to this question did until later. As I walked back through the streets, people were talking excitedly about it. I discovered that an extreme religion from the north were trying to take control, they were telling the Christians they could not have their all night prayer meetings, and desired to replace Christian prayer by Muslim prayers over loud speaker five times a day. But now the Christians of Takoradi, stood up and began to take authority over the region themselves. It changed the whole direction of that area in Ghana.

Jesus said to His disciples in Luke 19:17,

' thou good servant: because thou hast been faithful in a very little, have thou authority over ten cities'.

Acts 3:6,

'Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk'.

Acts 4:30,

'by stretching forth thine hand to heal; and that signs and wonders may be done by the name of thy holy child Jesus'.

Titus 2:15,

'These things speak, and exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no man despise thee'.

Luke 10:19,

' Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you'.

John 14:12-14,

'Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father. And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it'.

This is the promise of Jesus to us, right from the time of His disciples, the seventy, the early church and the great men through history, to us today. In His name, the authority of the name of Jesus, we can do His work effectively because Jesus has gone to the Father. What else do we need?

Some will say, though, is this for me too?

' And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; they shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover'. (Mark 16:17-18)

This is speaking to you and me, but you may still be saying, 'but how'?

Mark 11:22-23,

'And Jesus answering saith unto them, Have faith in God. For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith.

Why?

Psalm 107:20,

'He sent His word, and healed them, and delivered them from their destructions'.

We need to know our victory through what Jesus done on the cross. We need to know who we are in Christ and the victory Jesus has over every rule, authority, power, dominion and every name.

Ephesians 1:18-22,

'The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints, and what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power, which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places. far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come: and hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church',

Philippians 2:8-11,

'and being found in fashion as a man, He humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. Wherefore God also hath highly exalted Him, and given Him a name which is above every name: that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father'.

We are His body, "the church". We are now His hands and feet on earth if we allow Him to be that. For He has given of Himself to reach the lost in the power and authority of His Majestic name.

Why?

Is answered in Ephesians 2:4-6,

' But God, who is rich in mercy, for His great love wherewith He loved us, even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) and hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus'.

and Colossians 3:1.

'If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God'.

In prayer, we can come to know this reality. In prayer we allow the Lord to raise us in heavenly places in Christ Jesus. It is there that the Lord equips us to move on in Him. In His power and authority to loose men from the bonds of wickedness, to bring men to salvation and to deliver the oppressed, and to heal the sick.

So what does the Lord do for us in the heavenly places? Read for yourselves Ephesians 1:1-18 and discover the points that are below:-

He blesses us in Christ with every spiritual blessing. Ephesians 1:3

2. He shows us who we are in Him. Ephesians 1: 4-6

3. He shows us what He did on cross. Ephesians 1:7-8

4. He makes the mystery of His will known to us. Ephesians 1: 8-10

5. **He** shows us His will for us, His destiny and purpose. Ephesians 1:10-12

6. **He** shows us what is our inheritance in Him. Ephesians 1: 12-14

7. **He** promises us wisdom and knowledge in Him. Ephesians 1: 17

8. **He** calls us to know our hope and inheritance. Ephesians 1:18

9. **He** shows us the greatness of His power to us who believe. Ephesians 1:19

10. **He** calls us up with Him, to live spiritually where He is, so that we can be equipped and sent out into the world to show men His immeasurable riches of His grace and kindness, His salvation, in healing and deliverance which God has prepared before hand, that we should walk in (Ephesians 2: 4-6).

These are Scriptures that we need to study and pray over, and live out in our lives. Coming up into the Lord's presence, into the heavenly places is what equips us to do God's work as John 3:27 says,

'John answered and said, A man can receive nothing, except it be given him from heaven'.

So let us come up to the heavenly places in Christ, in prayer and receive from Christ Himself. Then we will then be able to speak out in faith as we read in Psalm 107:20,
'He sent His word, and healed them, and delivered them from their destructions'.

How does God do it?

'And Jesus answering saith unto them, Have faith in God'. (Mark 11 22)

To rise up in Jesus in prayer, believe His Scriptures, get to know Him and go out in the name of Jesus and **do it**.

Firstly, we have the armour of God which is our protection. Secondly, we have the power of the Holy Spirit that gives us power over the enemy. Thirdly, we have the authority of the name of Jesus to do the job.

Authority is a higher level than power, because authority enables us to take command over the enemy, command over the demons, command over sickness. Through the authority of the name of Jesus, these spirits have to obey. Believe it, walk in it, take authority and show the enemy you mean it, and the victory will be yours in Jesus name.

There is one word that is even higher than authority that we will also need in serving the Lord and that is - **the love of God** which is discussed in the next chapter.

Think:

*Every sickness has a name, every demon has a name. They have to obey in Jesus name – explain this.

*Is the authority of the name of Jesus for us today?

*Who are we in Jesus?

*Ephesians give us eleven things Jesus has shown us – discuss them.

Lesson 16

Learning to walk in the love of God

Clayton Jacobs lives in Humansdorp, a small town near Port Elizabeth in South Africa. He had had water on his brain and went into a deep coma for two years. The doctors had given up hope for him to ever come out of it and if he did he would be paralysed for life. His parents, both Christians would not hear of it and brought Clayton home where they kept him alive by feeding him on a drip. They then heard that I had come to port Elizabeth to preach, so they asked Reverend Alan Stansbury to bring me over to their home to pray for him.

Alan took me to their home and I prayed for Clayton, but nothing happened. I could not imagine anything worse than to be in a position like Clayton. He could not move even one muscle in his body except his eyeballs, which followed you as you prayed him.

I literally cried all the way back to Port Elizabeth and cried out to God,

“Please Lord, let me never leave a child in that condition again, because of my lack of faith. Please Lord give me more faith”.

Returning to England, I still prayed for Clayton, while getting on with the rest of my life, whilst an email arrived from Reverend Alan Stansbury,

EMAIL

*DEAR SUZANNE, YOU WILL BE THRILLED TO HEAR THIS. DO YOU REMEMBER CLAYTON JACOBS AND HIS MOTHER WILMA AT HUMANSDORP, WHO YOU PRAYED OVER? CLAYTON WAS ALMOST LIKE A VEGETABLE, AND YOU WERE SO UPSET THAT THERE WAS NO RESPONSE TO THE PRAYER. THAT MAN IS PERFECTLY RESTORED, HE IS GOING TO A PRIMARY SCHOOL AND IS OBVIOUSLY A BIT BEHIND IN HIS YEARS. THE ONLY DEFICIENCY THAT CAN BE SEEN IS A PAIR OF SPECTACLES. HIS BRAIN AND HIS BODY THAT CAN BE SEEN IS JUST PERFECT. ISN'T THE LORD GOOD! SO SUZANNE, KEEP ON WITH THE LORD, THAT IS ALL I CAN SAY. YOU HAVE COME SUCH A LONG WAY WITH HIM. WHAT A JOY TO SEE HOW THE LORD CAN MINISTER IN WONDERFUL WAYS THROUGH YOU, EVER YOUR BROTHER IN CHRIST,
ALAN STANSBURY.*

I was then to find out that exactly seven days after I had prayed for Clayton, he suddenly sat up and talked - perfectly healed!

In April 2010, I had the privilege of going to meet Clayton whilst visiting my mother and ministering again in Port Elizabeth. Alan Stansbury took me out to see him and I filmed him (the DVD on Clayton is available if you order one). It was now two years after his miracle healing and Clayton gave us his testimony. He ran around the house for us, blew his trumpet and showed us that indeed he was 100% healed! He wants to become a pastor when he is older! It was meeting Clayton a second time, that made me ask the Lord about this miracle healing.

What did I do wrong, Or right?
Why was Clayton healed and others not healed?
Did anything make the difference?

The Lord showed me the shortest sentence in the Bible found in John 11:35,
'*Jesus wept*'.

That was just before Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead. And verse 36 says,

'then said the Jews, behold , how they loved him!'

Then the Lord said to me,

"it is love that makes things happen. Love that makes one go the extra mile, to never give up".
And the greatest love of all is John 3:16,17,

'For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through Him might be saved'.

This is the greatest love the world has ever known, but love for others is not always easy for us to comprehend or move into for it is different from how our world around us functions. Only spending time in the Lord's presence can give you the love and compassion needed to really do the Lord's work effectively.

While trying to evaluate my own ministry work, I came to realise that I certainly didn't have compassion or love for everyone I prayed for. In fact, it would be very difficult to have love or the compassion for the many people I do pray for. How can I solve that one? I then realised that this had nothing to do with me or how I prayed for them, but rather how yielded I was to God's love and God's miracle love to heal them, for it is God alone who does it.

God's love gives you the compassion for that certain person or people. His love causes you to leave the comfort of home to go to far off lands to preach the gospel. In John 21:15-18 three times Jesus asks Peter, '*Do you love me?*', and when Peter said, 'yes', the Lord said, '*Feed My sheep*'.

This was not just to put right the fact that Peter denied Jesus prior to Jesus' crucifixion, but also an indicator that the more we love Jesus, the more Jesus can pour out His love through us.

Think:

*What does God's love enable us to do?

*What does our love for God enable us to do?

*What can we do if we realise we lack compassion for someone?

*The more we love Jesus, the more Jesus can pour out His love through you – discuss this.

Lesson 17

Walking in God's grace and love

To comprehend the love of God, we need to go to the Scriptures. We will start with the word "grace", because this is God's favour towards man which involves forgiveness, salvation, re-generation, repentance, and love.

Grace has many different meanings :-

"cheched" (Hebrew) translated as mercy, kindness, loving kindness and good news.

"chen" (Hebrew) used as the action of a superior human or divine to an inferior.

It speaks of undeserved favour and is translated grace and favour. Grace is preferred to mercy as it includes that of a divine power that equips a man to live a moral life. Every step in the process of a Christian life is due to grace.

Galatians 1:15 is the core,

'But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb, and called me by his grace,'

2 Timothy 2:25, speaks of repentance,

'in meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth.'

Ephesians 2:8-9 speaks of faith,

'For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast.'

Romans 1:5 speaks of obedience,

'by whom we have received grace and apostleship, for obedience to the faith among all nations, for his name.'

Romans 8:28-30...speaks of future glory,

'And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose. For whom He did foreknow, He also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. Moreover whom He did predestinate, them He also called: and whom He called, them He also justified: and whom He justified, them He also glorified.'

Therefore, grace must also be related to that of eternal life. This is what God has given us through His grace. Grace is woven right through the Bible from Genesis to Revelation. And to study these passages, which are many, would certainly encourage every believer. This can be done through your own concordance.

George, my horse, was stolen from us by a very unreasonable person. I asked the Lord how to deal with this, He led me to the Scripture, if someone takes your cloak, give him your coat as well.

'And unto him that smiteth thee on the one cheek offer also the other; and him that taketh away thy cloak forbid not to take thy coat also.' (Luke 6:29)

“Lord how will this get George back? I asked.

“**Wait**”, came His answer.

I waited for three months. Then the Lord said, put £200 in £10 notes in an envelope, get in your horse box and she will release George today. I drove to the yard where I knew George was, put down the ramp of the horse box and went up to the lady and sat down beside her.

I said, “I know that really you are a good lady and will do the right thing in releasing George to me today, so I have brought you this gift”.

I handed her the money and she counted it slowly.

“Yes, you may take George now”. She called her daughter over, who was riding George. Her daughter dismounted and handed me the reigns and I took George home thanking the Lord all the way.

The next day, this lady phoned me, “I haven’t slept all night, I have to ask you this question. I stole George and for 3 months you did nothing and then you gave me a gift of money, why did you do that?”

“Because God loves you”, I replied.

“How can God love me? she blurted out, “ I have hurt so many people”.

“God loves you so much”, I replied. He took your hurt, your sin, your problems upon Himself and died on the cross for you”.

She burst into tears, “ I want to become a Christian right now, I will never hurt another person again”.

I led her through the sinners prayer and her life was totally transformed from that moment on.

Was this God’s grace, or was this God’s love, or both? God treats us differently to how man treats us. If that lady had gone to jail, she would probably come out of jail just as hard and unchanged. But God, through His grace and love, gave her a second chance, as He does for each one of us. His love breaks down the hardest heart and brings to us, instead, his salvation and eternal life. God’s love is the most precious and glorious treasure of the universe. Nothing can compare with it. Love is two way, the more we love God the more He loves us. You can never out give God. He gives back to us so much more than we are able to give Him. The first commandment found in Deuteronomy 6:5 says,

'and thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might'.

This is God's command, but not as just obedience to a law, but rather He is calling us to a relationship of personal devotion created and sustained by the work of God in the human heart. The response to this is found in Deuteronomy 7:9,

'Know therefore that the Lord thy God, He is God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love Him and keep His commandments to a thousand generations.'

Deuteronomy 7:14,

'and He will love thee, and bless thee, and multiply thee: He will also bless the fruit of thy womb, and the fruit of thy land, thy corn, and thy wine, and thine oil, the increase of thy kine, and the flocks of thy sheep, in the land which He swore unto thy fathers to give thee.'

Not only this, but God will defend those he loves. Psalm 5:11,

'But let all those that put their trust in thee rejoice: let them ever shout for joy, because thou defendest them: let them also that love thy name be joyful in thee.'

Psalm 145:20,

'The Lord preserveth all them that love Him: but all the wicked will He destroy.'

Proverbs 8:21,

'That I may cause those that love Me to inherit substance; and I will fill their treasures.'

The Lord blesses us materially, but also with His love. Jeremiah 31:3 speaks of this,

'The Lord hath appeared of old unto me, saying, Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with loving kindness have I drawn thee.'

Here God demonstrated His love in the greatest way as we read in Romans 5:8,
'But God commendeth His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.'

Then Jesus gives us a new commandment in John 13:34,
'A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another.'

Why?

John 13:35 gives the answer,

'By this shall all men know that ye are My disciples, if ye have love one to another.'

Love is ordained by God to be the normal ideal human relationship, it is love from God to man, man to God and man to his neighbour.

This results in something even more wonderful, as we read in John 14:21,
'He that hath My commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth Me: and he that loveth Me shall be loved of My Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him.'

John 14:23,

'Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love Me, he will keep My words: and My Father will love him, and We will come unto him, and make Our abode with Him.'

How?

Romans 5:5,

'and hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.'

How do these Scriptures prepare us to serve Him? It is to also know such protection as in Romans 8:28,

'And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose.'

and Romans 8:35-39,

'Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.'

Ephesians 3:17-19,

'that Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; and to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fullness of God.'

and 2 Timothy 1:7,

'For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.'

The eternal love of God found in :

1 Corinthians 2:9,

'But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him.'

2 Timothy 4:8,

'Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love His appearing.'

James 1:12,

'Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love Him.'

James 2:5,

'Hearken, my beloved brethren, hath not God chosen the poor of this world rich in faith, and heirs of the kingdom which he hath promised to them that love Him?'

1 John 3:14,

'We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death.'

1 John 4:17,

'Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgement: because as He is, so are we in this world.'

Jude 1:21..

'keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.'

How can anyone still live in any fear that God may not love Him? No one can.

1 John 4:18,

'There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.'

Jesus demonstrated His compassion and love on earth in His healing and deliverance ministry, and by His death for us on the cross. Christ's resurrection on the third day is the greatest demonstration of the love of God imparting the eternal reality of life to men; His divine love in action.

We can also show our love through the preaching of the Gospel.

'But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.'
(Acts 1:8)

and 2 Corinthians 5:17-19 ,

'Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation; to wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.'

Individuals are loved by God under a new covenant and Galatians 2:20 says,

'I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave Himself for me.'

To my understanding, if I love God and God loves me and through His Holy Spirit, Jesus lives in me, then it means that, as I preach the good news of the kingdom of God, that God through the Holy Spirit enables me to walk in any of the gifts of the Holy Spirit, because we walk in the new covenant.

These healing miracles are weekly and daily occurrence as I pray for so many individuals and groups of people over the phone (every time in Africa and Asia and sometimes in England) people are instantly healed. This is a demonstration of God's love for them. As it is He alone who can heal the sick and set the people free through our response to God's love, His love involves fellowship with the people of God. We reach out to them and God touches them, heals them, sets them free and brings them into His salvation and love.

Remember who you are in Christ as we read in 1 Peter 2:9-10,

' But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of Him who hath called you out of darkness into His marvellous light: which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy.'

In all humility, place your trust in God and your relationship with Him, love Him, receive His love, obey Him, and allow Him to show His practical love to others through you. Now read 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 and Ephesians 3:16-19.

Think:

- *In what ways has God given us His Grace? Discuss.
- *What does the word "grace" mean?
- *How does grace relate to eternal life?
- *Grace breaks the hardest heart, can you give an example?

Lesson 18

Taking your stand on earth

God calls us to stand in Him not to run away not to hide, not to fear man and political correctness but to stand strong in Him just like the Israelites did in Exodus: 14,13,14,

' And Moses said unto the people, Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord, which he will shew to you today: for the Egyptians whom ye have seen today, ye shall see them again no more for ever. The Lord shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace.

And what did the Lord do next? He parted the sea so the Israelites could pass through on dry ground. Today what are we preparing for? The second coming of Christ, just like the Israelites, we need to stand our ground, and take our authority because we know the end of the story, Jesus is coming again.

Psalm 4:4,

' Stand in awe, and sin not: commune with your own heart upon your bed, and be still'. Selah.

Stay away from sin and communicate with God in prayer.

Psalm 94:16-23,

'Who will rise up for me against the evildoers? or who will stand up for me against the workers of iniquity? Unless the Lord had been my help, my soul had almost dwelt in silence. When I said, My foot slippeth; thy mercy, O Lord, held me up. In the multitude of my thoughts within me thy comforts delight my soul. Shall the throne of iniquity have fellowship with thee, which frameth mischief by a law? They gather themselves together against the soul of the righteous, and condemn the innocent blood. But the Lord is my defence; and my God is the rock of my refuge. And he shall bring upon them their own iniquity, and shall cut them off in their own wickedness; yea, the Lord our God shall cut them off.'

God is calling us to rise up for Him and to stand up for Him against the workers of iniquity. How can we do this? Through prayer.

Isaiah 21:8-9

'And he cried, A lion: My lord, I stand continually upon the watchtower in the daytime, and I am set in my ward whole nights: And, behold, here cometh a chariot of men, with a couple of horsemen. And he answered and said, Babylon is fallen, is fallen; and all the graven images of her gods he hath broken unto the ground.'

In Myanmar, Burma, The Christians stood up against the Buddhists who were persecuting them day and night, but the Christians were in unity with one another, prayed and carried on witnessing for God. When they led new villagers to Christ they were not shy about it, they erected a cross on a hill by the village. The Buddhists came and tore down the cross and erected graven images in a circle in place of the cross. The Christians prayed all night about this. The next morning they woke to find that all the gods had fallen to the ground. Not giving up, the Buddhists put up these graven images again. The Christians prayed again! The next morning these idols had crumbled into dust. The Buddhists were embarrassed and said to the Christians, our gods do not like that place, so we will allow you to erect the cross of your God on the hill.

How should we stand?

Jeremiah 6:16 gives us the answer,

'Thus saith the Lord, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls.'

1) Stand in God's ways, in the old paths, the good way.

'he shall stand and feed in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God; and they shall abide: for now shall he be great unto the ends of the earth.' (Micah 5:4)

You cannot lose if you stand in God. If you stand up for God, pray, live in Him and feed on Him, He will do it.

When Jesus comes again will you be ready?

'But who may abide the day of His coming? and who shall stand when He appeareth? for He is like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' soap: and He shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver: and He shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the Lord an offering in righteousness.' (Malachi 3:2,3)

Verses in the New Testament tell us how to stand,

Romans 5:1,2,

'Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: by whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.'

2) We stand in His grace.

1 Corinthians 2:4-5

'And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power: that your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.'

3) We stand in the power of God.

1 Corinthians 16:13,

'Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong. Let all your things be done with charity.'

4) We stand in the faith.

Galatians 5:1,

'Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.'

5) We stand in the freedom Christ has given to us.

Ephesians 6:13,

'Therefore, take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.'

6) We stand in the protection of the armour of God.

Philippians 1:27

'Only let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ: that whether I come and see you, or else be absent, I may hear of your affairs, that ye stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel.'

7) We stand together with other Christians in one spirit.

Philippians 4:1,

'Therefore, my brethren, dearly beloved and longed for, my joy and crown, so stand fast in the Lord, my dearly beloved.'

1 Thessalonians 3:8,

'for now we live, if ye stand fast in the Lord.'

2 Timothy 2:19,

'Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are His. And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity.'

8) We stand fast in the Lord. We depart from iniquity.

How shall it all end?

Revelation 20:12,

'And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.'

The Bible tells us how to stand for God on earth. Are we doing it? Or, are we spectators watching ungodly men pass ungodly laws and we say nothing.

'But who am I?' you may think. Let's remind ourselves who we are,

1 Peter 2. 9-10 says,

'But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light: 10 which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy.'

Let's all take the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ seriously. We need to stand up and be counted. We need to pray. We need to let our voices be heard, in petitions, magazines, in books, on radio, on television, to our neighbours, to our friends, to our work colleagues and let our voices be heard. Let's stand up for truth, stand up for God's people (Israel).

Israel. Let's pray for Israel and support her for Israel is God's chosen people and we Gentiles are grafted in. If the Jews are persecuted then so are we, if the Jews go down, so do we, for our enemy is the same. God will stand with us and the victory will be ours, in Jesus name.

Stand up in boldness!

We often sing the song, "these are the days of Elijah". We need to stand up for God, just like Elijah did. When Elijah called down fire from heaven to take the sacrifice "*the fire of the Lord fell*", *'Hear me, O Lord, hear me, that this people may know that thou art the Lord God, and that thou hast turned their heart back again. Then the fire of the Lord fell, and consumed the burnt sacrifice, and the wood, and the stones, and the dust, and licked up the water that was in the trench. And when all the people saw it, they fell on their faces: and they said, The Lord, He is the God; the Lord, He is the God.'* (1 Kings 18:37-39)

This is the faith God is looking for! This is the stand God is looking for! He answers our prayers in the same way today, for He is the same God.

In our ministry, we are learning to walk this way. I was preaching over the phone to a Bible School, which turned out to be a crusade! I discovered that a whole mosque of Muslims and two witchdoctors had also come along. When they saw the healing miracles, that demonstrate the power of God, that all of them accepted Jesus as Lord. The next day the born again witchdoctors brought their witchdoctor bones for Edward (the pastor) to burn,. The newly converted witchdoctors and Muslims were baptised that same afternoon. They have all joined our Bible school to become evangelists.

We need to stand up for God, we need to demonstrate His power and His authority, then the people of the world will respond.

Think:

- *God says, "Who will stand for Me?" How can we stand for God? Discuss.
- *Our wisdom should not stand in the wisdom of man, but in the power of God. How?
- *Are we standing up to be counted? How can we do this?
- *We sing, "these are the days of Elijah", are we living it?

Lesson 19

The bride of Christ

We have covered our **protection** with the armour of God and the **power** of God, through the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Then we covered the **authority** of the name of Jesus, and how to walk in the **love** of God. There is one more thing that is of great importance and this is our personal relationship with God. We need to take this very seriously and guard it with our lives.

In today's society, our relationship with God comes under the greatest attack. We can take on too many things and become overly absorbed with things of little importance. We can struggle to find the time to pray, simply because we do not always see instant results or because we are overtired.

I would like to share some sobering teachings of Jesus about the wedding feast and the Kingdom of Heaven taken from the Gospel of Mathew

I would like to share three sobering teachings of Jesus about wedding feasts and the Kingdom of heaven taken from the Gospel of Matthew. There may be a few different outlooks on these passages.

Some will say Jesus is speaking to unbelievers or the apostate Church or the Jews. Others may say, 'Won't you end up in a salvation by works rather than living in the power of the Holy Spirit?'

My answer to all these remarks is, 'If we truly love God we will automatically fulfil all seven conditions for entering into the wedding feast.' These passages will show us how much we really love God and which part in our lives we should work on. Every marriage on earth will highlight parts of our lives that need working on and every person needs to work on their marriage in some way, so that our love and commitment for each other may grow and develop. It is the same with the Lord.

Matthew 7: 21-23,

'Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.'

We cannot enter the Kingdom of Heaven **unless the Lord knows you**. Yet how many of us Christians are doing great ministries and are so busy working for God, that there is no time to spend with Him. No time to hear Him. They are running at top speed doing God's work in their own strength. But the Lord says here in Matthew 7:21,

'I never knew you: depart from Me, ye that work iniquity.'
But *'he that doeth the the will of my Father which is in heaven.'*

You can only do the WILL OF GOD if you have a RELATIONSHIP with Him, and can hear Him and obey Him. This comes out of an intimate relationship and communication with Him. As with a bride and bridegroom, a husband and wife,

Matthew 22:1-14,

'And Jesus answered and spake unto them again by parables, and said, The kingdom of heaven is like unto a certain king, which made a marriage for his son, and sent forth his servants to call them that were bidden to the wedding: and they would not come. Again, he sent forth other servants, saying, Tell them which are bidden, Behold, I have prepared my dinner: my oxen and my fatlings are killed, and all things are ready: come unto the marriage. But they made light of it, and went their ways, one to his farm, another to his merchandise: and the remnant took his servants, and entreated them spitefully, and slew them. But when the king heard thereof, he was wroth: and he sent forth his armies, and destroyed those murderers, and burned up their city. Then saith he to his servants, The wedding is ready, but they which were bidden were not worthy. Go ye therefore into the highways, and as many as ye shall find, bid to the marriage. So those servants went out into the highways, and gathered together all as many as they found, both bad and good: and the wedding was furnished with guests. he saw there a man which had not on a wedding garment: and he saith unto him, Friend, how camest thou in hither not having a wedding garment? And he was speechless. Then said the king to the servants, Bind him hand and foot, and take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth. For many are called, but few are chosen.'

You cannot enter the wedding feast in heaven **without your wedding garment of righteousness**, you need to live out your faith in truth and righteousness. You need to walk in your faith seriously

every day of your life, and the Lord will grant you the robes of righteousness that will qualify you to enter into His wedding feast.

God is not concerned whether you are a leader or a servant, rich or poor, but rather are you walking in the Christian faith. I had a vision once where our evangelists were lowering their crowns to the feet of Jesus and some of the poorer evangelists had the bigger crowns. As they all lowered their crowns, I heard a voice say, **“these crowns represent their lives given for Me”**. **It is our lives given for Jesus is that counts**. What we do for Him and not for ourselves, let us live for Jesus.

Matthew 25: 1-12,

'And Jesus answered and spake unto them again by parables, and said, The kingdom of heaven is like unto a certain king, which made a marriage for his son, and sent forth his servants to call them that were bidden to the wedding: and they would not come. Again, he sent forth other servants, saying, Tell them which are bidden, Behold, I have prepared my dinner: my oxen and my fatlings are killed, and all things are ready: come unto the marriage. But they made light of it, and went their ways, one to his farm, another to his merchandise. and the remnant took his servants, and entreated them spitefully, and slew them. But when the king heard thereof, he was wroth: and he sent forth his armies, and destroyed those murderers, and burned up their city. Then saith he to his servants, The wedding is ready, but they which were bidden were not worthy. Go ye therefore into the highways, and as many as ye shall find, bid to the marriage. So those servants went out into the highways, and gathered together all as many as they found, both bad and good: and the wedding was furnished with guests. And when the king came in to see the guests, he saw there a man which had not on a wedding garment: and he saith unto him, Friend, how camest thou in hither not having a wedding garment? And he was speechless.'

You cannot come to the wedding feast unless you are filled up with **the Holy Spirit and ready**. We need to stay full of the Holy Spirit all the time. We need a refill daily in prayer or we will dry out. Jesus is talking about Christians you and I, not unbelievers.

We need to stay awake and not slumber. If we look at many churches today, they are not alert to our times. They are not ready for the coming of Jesus.

Jesus could come at any time and we need to be ready. This is walking as wise Christians who walk with their lamps full of the Holy Spirit.

Are you ready for Jesus, your bridegroom? What things would you do now to get your life right for the Lord? Shouldn't you get those things sorted out now? For none of us know the day or the hour.

The signs of the end are near, read Matthew 24:1-14.

We need to do what the Scriptures tell us to do, in obedience.

5. Matthew 24:13,

'But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.'

We must endure to the end.

Matthew 24:14 tells us that,

' this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.'

We need to preach the gospel to all nations.

Revelation 21:2-3,

' And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.'

Revelation 22:17,

'And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.'

Be prepared and ready to come to the wedding feast.

Whether we are stepping out from time into eternity, through death or meeting Jesus in the air, the results will be the same, we must KNOW Him in prayer and He must KNOW us.

Revelation 19: 7-9 explains how the bride must make herself ready:

'Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.'

Ester prepared herself for the King by rubbing in fine perfumes. How much more should we prepare ourselves for the KING OF KINGS and LORD OF LORDS.

The invitation is to all, but only those of us who live according to the word of God, believe His promises and pray, will be able to attend. There is a saying that “the only permanent place we can gain permanently is heaven”. Yet so many Christians do not pray sincerely or long enough and if they do not have patience, they cannot receive their blessing. Others are selfish and are living for the world, many do not pray as they ought, and many do not tithe as they ought. We can take nothing with us to heaven, but we can send things to heaven in advance. The things we can send to heaven in advance is everything that we do in caring and giving to others. We must put God first in all things, for heaven is a prepared place for a prepared people. Are you prepared? We all need to live in preparation for heaven now and every day of our lives.

Let us all endeavour to know our God in prayer, and spend time in His presence and He will prepare us for eternal life with Him. We, “the church”, are His beloved bride and He is our beloved bridegroom for ever and ever. **AMEN**

Think:

*There are seven things we need to prepare ourselves in order to enter the wedding feast – discuss them.

*Are we living the Word of God as we ought?

*Are we praying and tithing as we ought?

*What changes do you have to change in your life in order to enter the wedding feast?

Lesson 20

Epilogue

We have covered in this book the **foundations of serving the Lord effectively**. Firstly, the **protection of the armour of God**. Secondly, the **power of the Holy Spirit** where every Christian should be confident of walking in. All Christians need the gifts of the Holy Spirit just as **foot soldiers** need artillery against the enemy. The only difference is that, in Spiritual warfare, the artillery is replacing evil with good. For example “sickness” with “healing”, the “demonic” with “freedom” from it, “sin” with “forgiveness” and “death” with “eternal life”.

In the second part of the book, we then cover the **authority of the name of Jesus**, which is a higher word than power because it means taking **command** in the name of Jesus over sickness, demons and even over the force of nature. Every disciple should walk in the authority of Jesus as the Lord's **commanders**.

Then in the third part of the book we covered a higher word than authority which is the **love of God**. God's love makes things happen and gives us the endurance to never give up, but to go the extra mile. This should be the aim of every Christian and every evangelist, to grow in Jesus and become one of His **Generals**.

God has given us His salvation, His grace and His love. We should give back to God in return, our love, out of our relationship with Him. This is similar to when a bride prepares for her bridegroom or king. This will get us ready for the great marriage feast in heaven. Out of our relationship with God comes our service to Him. There is a devoted obedience that comes from relationship with God which results in a glorious working together in unity, through the power of the Holy Spirit. As you yield to God, even as a highly schooled dressage horse yields to the rider, there comes an unity of moving, as dancing in the spirit, in oneness with your Creator in beauty, holiness and love.

When we learn to move, with our Creator of the universe, in the joyful submitted obedience of love, the results of our work for Him becomes so beautiful that it actually draws the eyes of the world to see Christ in us, and in turn, they respond to Christ themselves.

This is what we are created for, to worship the Lord both in love, prayer and service (in our love for God and others). We can then become more and more filled up with the fullness of God. We become grounded in His love as it says in Ephesians 3:14-19

'For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, that he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man; that Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; and to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fullness of God.'

The Lord gave me a word in Bible college in 1982, in the form of a poem, which has now been fulfilled. The Lord has opened to me a ministry of training thousands of evangelists to plant churches in remote villages, as well as caring for 1,049 orphans in Uganda and Pakistan, if the Lord can use me, he can also use you.

My greatest moment

What would be the greatest moment,
I could ever know?
To wash the feet of Jesus,
with tears of joy of love.
But my child, He says,
you can do that now.
See the feet of my children,
feet that walk this earth.
Serve them with this joy,
give to them with this love.
Then as you do,
so shall My feet be washed.
By your tears, my child,
of your joy your love.