

## **STARTING WELL (Heb 11:5-13, Prov 22:29)**

Throughout the bible, relationship with God is variously described;

- Adam knew God
- Abel was in right with God
- Noah heard God
- Abraham believed God
- Jacob worshiped God
- Moses relied on God
- The priest served God
- Prophets spoke from God

The steps which were taken by these servants are commonly approved your acceptance to serve God.

### **Assignment:**

Search for the scripture and book in the bible that talks about description.

## **FOCUS ON DISCIPLESHIP**

**A disciple means** a learner (student) or follower. One converted is not a disciple but a child of God. (John 1:12)

### **TYPES OF DISCIPLES**

1. VOLUNTEERS – Luke 9:57
2. CALLED – MARK 1:17
3. EXCUSING DISCIPLES – LUKE 9:59

4. UNDECIDED DISCIPLES – LUKE 9:62
5. SECRET DISCIPLES – JOHN 19:38

**NOTE:**

- 1) Jesus is only interested in the first 2. (Volunteers and called one) to serve him.
- 2) Prov 12:1 “Anyone who loves learning accepts being corrected. But a person who hates being corrected is stupid”

**HEBREW 2:13**

“I will put my trust in Him”

God wants to trust you with;

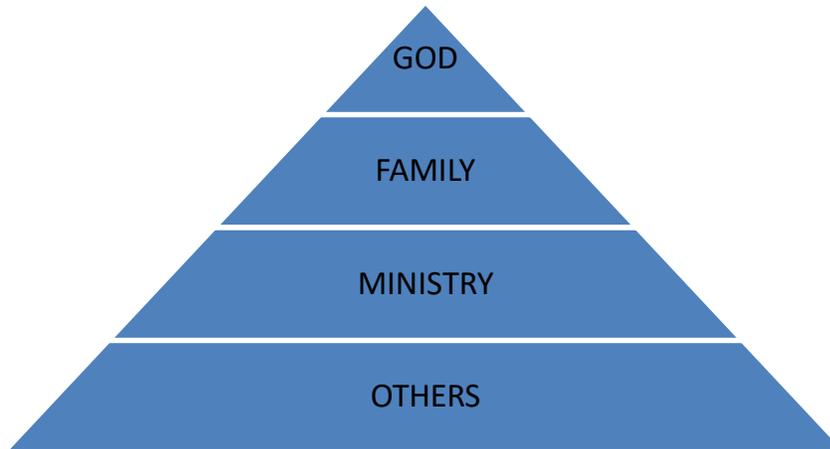
- His people
- His finances and wealth
- His vision given to you
- His gifting and abilities

**BENEFIT OF SERVICE WITH GOD**

- LONG LIFE (Psalm 91:15-16) Both spiritual and physical
- TO BE REMEMBERED (Rev 3:7-10) / (Leviticus 26:9-12)
- BEING ESTABLISHED (Numbers 14:24)

**NOTE:** Prov 11:3 “Good people will be guided by honesty. But dishonesty will destroy those who are not trusts worthy.”

## LIFE TRIANGLE



For one to qualify to attain the calling to serve, he/she must flow with the protocol of life triangle.

- 1) God must be the head of your entire life.
  - You must know Him by His character and names.
  - You must understand His like and desire to be washed.
  - Remember the TRUE worshipers shall worship the Lord in TRUST and SPIRIT. He has to see TRUST in you and spirit which controls you.
  - You must demonstrate true love, fear of Him and willingness to walk in His way.
- 2) Family comes second in our agenda.
  - Remember God created family before creating the church and gave commission in (Deuteronomy 6:6-7) (prov 22:6)

- Family consists of Father (Husband), Mother (wife), children (blessings or fruits).
- If it's a man to serve God, God will be monitoring first how he manages his family (wife and children). It's the same if the woman was to serve God.
- The foundation of the family is positioned upon Love.

## **SOME OF THE WAYS OF SHOWING LOVE**

### 1. WORDS.

Words can express love powerfully through:

- a) Praise. "WELL DONE", "Am so proud of you"
- b) Compliments: "You look gorgeous", "that's really thoughtful darling."
- c) Affection: "I have loved you every single day of your life".
- d) Encouragement: "I know you can do it."

### 2. TIME.

When we set aside some of our precious time to be with another, it shows them they matter.

### 3. TOUCH:

Physical affection demonstrates that we enjoy being close to one- another.

**NOTE:** Touch can communicate welcome, support, care, consolation and security all at once with a single gesture.

### 4. ACTIONS.

When we do something for another, when we show kindness to them, we demonstrate our love in practice e.g. Buying presents for them.

### **THREE PRINCIPLES THAT EVERY MARRIAGE NEEDS. (GEN 2:18, 3:13)**

#### 1. EVERY MARRIAGE NEEDS TO LIVE ITS PURPOSE (GEN 2:18 – 25)

##### a) Family:

- Marriage is at the center of family relationships.
- Healthy relationship of man and women
- Children remain a blessing from God.

##### b) Fellowship:

- God gave the blessing of physical intimacy to a husband and a wife.
- Talk daily, keep connected through regular conversation
- Date weekly (not weakly). Go out together and have fun.
- Depart Annually. Get out from all the distraction and pressure and re-connect with each other.

#### 2. EVERY MARRIAGE NEEDS TO KNOW ITS DANGERS.

- Temptations – Not to live in marriage purpose.
- Disobedience – Not obey instruction each given
- Hiding – Keep deep secret of sins from your loved one.

#### 3. EVERY MARRIAGE NEEDS TO OWN ITS RESPONSIBILITIES. (GEN 3:9-13)

- Never blame the choice you made
- You can make your spouse do right by praying, encourage, support and love.

- Every marriage brings baggage into their marriage. Past hurt and our own sinful tendencies, in that manner, we need genuine repentance that involves being honest with God and with ourselves.
- You don't need to hold on your past sin and failure, your marriage can have the benefit of God's forgiveness and His mercy and grace.

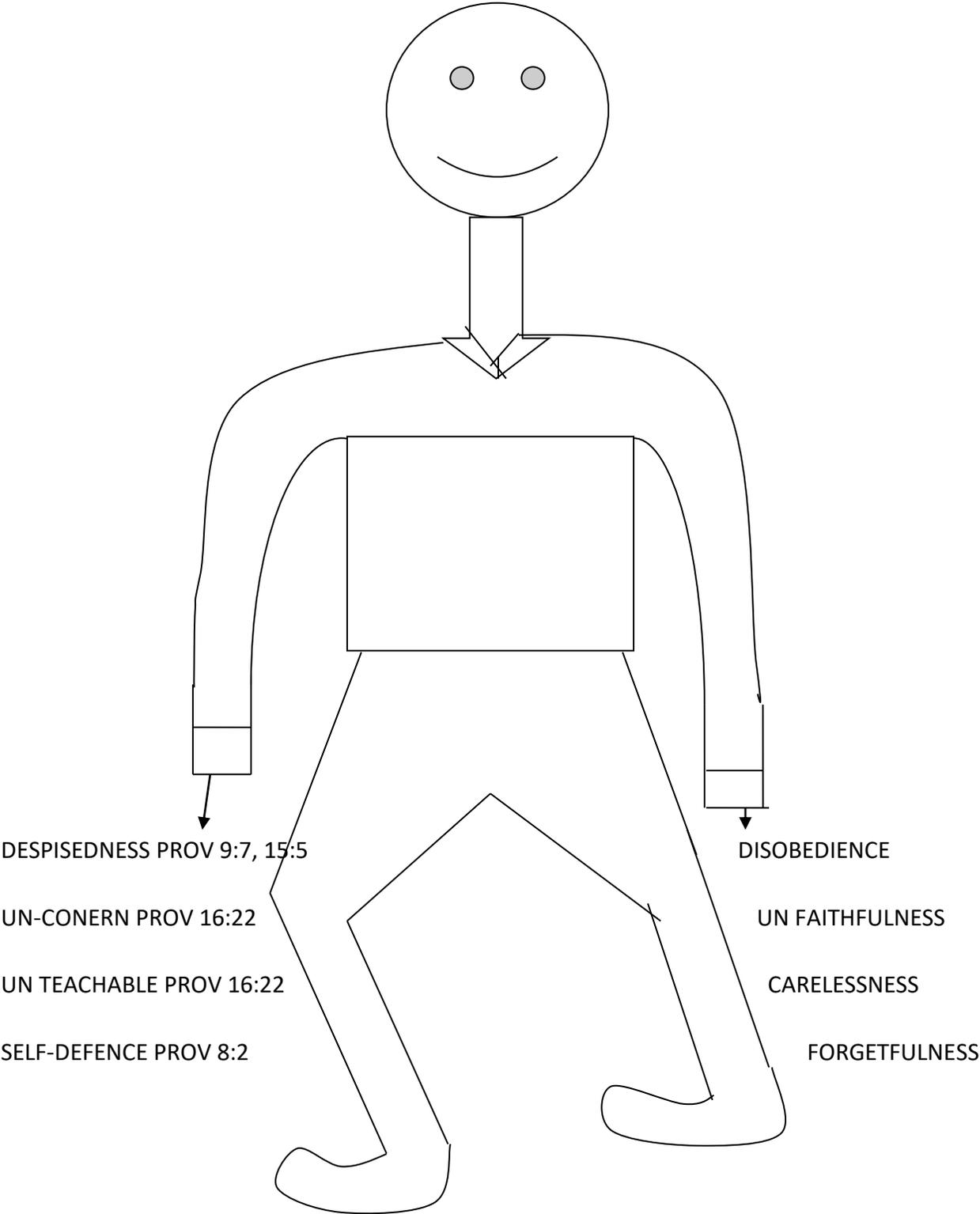
**NOTE:**

- i. Sometime sexual problem in marriage happens as a result of sexual experiences before marriage. Pray to be free and healed of those memories.
  - ii. Prov 12:4 "A good wife is like a crown for her husband but a disgraceful wife is like a disease in his bone."
- 3) Ministry comes the THIRD AGENDA. Ministry belongs to God, for He is the one who gives the call and the vision. He determines who gives the call and the vision. He determines who to give the HIGH CALLING OF SERVING Him. If you miss a point on His flow of system, then you cannot serve Him.
  - 4) Relationship is like a current, it can either lead you to your blessings or destruction. They may contribute to build you or make you fail. People generally are not reliable. Few can turn to be productive. The bible says, "Cursed is the man who seeks cancelling on man".

**In conclusion**, many people have failed in their lives or ministries when they tend to serve God, but in other hand, they have neglected their families.

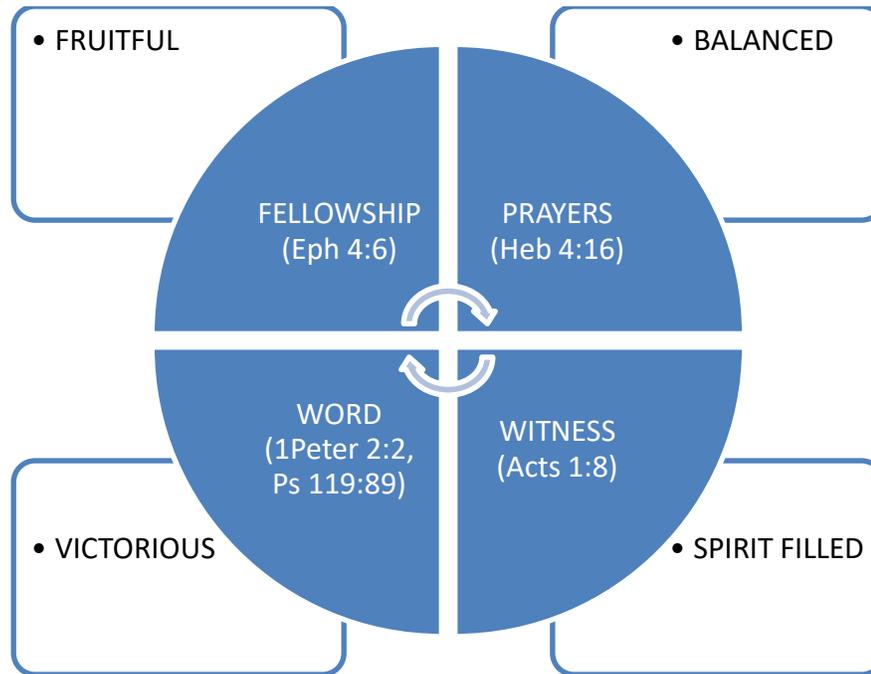
Others concentrate on the favor from others and they forget to seek the kingdom of God first. In return, they end up being rejected by God

**A FOOLISH MAN CANNOT SERVE (EZEKIEL 2:1)**



**Note:** Failing in having personal stability causes spirit of foolishness.

## **BASIC LIFE PRINCIPLES**

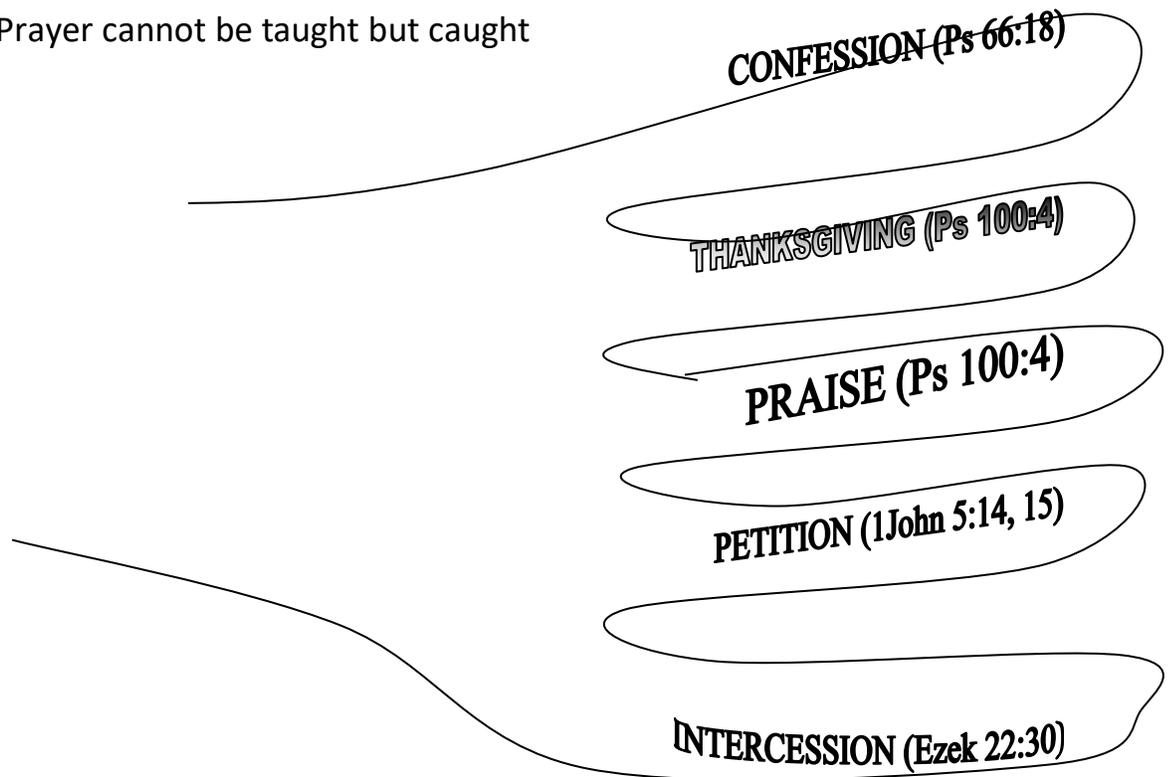


- Jesus Christ must be the center of your life. And you must make Him active by involving Him in many activities in your life.
- For Him to function well, He would like to use 4 important channels.
  - PRAYER
  - WORD
  - FELLOWSHIP
  - WITNESSING
- After that He will make your way
  - Balanced
  - Fruitful

- Spirit – filled
- Victorious

## PRAYER HAND

Prayer cannot be taught but caught



1. **CONFESSION AND REPENTANCE**
  - Opens door for mercy. (Prov 28:13)
  - You must name the Act of sin specifically (1John 1:9)
2. **THANKS GIVING**
  - We thank God for what He has done. (HIS ACTION)
  - Un thankfulness is a sin (2Tim 3:2)
3. **PRAISE**
  - We praise Him for who He is (HIS PERSON)

- PRAISE is the sacrifice: most accepted by God. (Heb 13:15)
  - Praise should not be done secretly but among the multitude. (psalms 109:30)
4. PETITION / SUPPLICATION
- This is praying for our personal needs.
  - Must be alone according to the will of God (1John 5:14-15)
  - One must pray in the spirit (Eph 6:18)
5. INTERCESSION
- This is entering directly into work with God.
  - One stands at the GAP between MAN or situation and God

## **EFFECTIVE PRAYER**

### **What are some of the things that hinders prayer?**

1. NOT KNOWING THE CHARACTER OF GOD (Luke 18:1-8)
2. NOT LOOKING FOR THE ANSWER (Heb 11:6)
3. NOT PRAYING IN THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST (John 16:23-26)
4. NOT PRAYING IN THE SPIRIT (1Cor 14:14)
5. NOT PRAYING IN FAITH (James 1:6-8)
6. NOT PRAYING ACCORDING TO HIS WILL (1John 5:14-15)
7. NOT PRAYING IN ONE ACCORD (1Peter 3:7-8)
8. NOT KEEPING HIS COMMANDMENTS AND DOING THE THINGS THAT ARE PLEASING IN HIS SIGHT (1John 3:21-23)
9. NOT DEALING WITH SIN IN OUR LIVES (Psalms 66:18)

## 10. NOT PRAYING CONTINUOUSLY (1Thess 5:17)

### **PRAYER AND FASTING (ISAIAH 58:1-11)**

#### DEFINITION OF FASTING.

Fasting means going / doing without food for a period of time and must be done for the glory of God.

#### **TYPES OF FASTING**

1. Full fasting – This is fasting for twenty four hours.
2. Half fasting – This is fasting for twelve hours.
3. Quarter fasting – This is fasting for six hours
4. Circumstantial fasting – Doing without certain legitimate pleasures e.g. sleep, watching or listening to your favorite programs etc.

#### **KINDS OF FASTING**

- DRY FASTING – Going without solid or liquid food
- NET FASTING – Going without solid but you can take liquid

#### **WHY SHOULD WE FAST**

- ✓ It provides great spiritual breakthroughs (Dan 10:13)
- ✓ It brings us to experience intimacy with God. E.g to know his mind and experience His power.
- ✓ It boosts the morals of a Christian who has been experiencing dullness in his Christianity
- ✓ It tackles life problems before they appear

- ✓ It's a key for survival
- ✓ To get God's attention
- ✓ To show God that we mean business in what we want
- ✓ To show God that we are really sorry
- ✓ To plead with God to change His mind (2kings 20:1-6)
- ✓ For clarification of God's will (Eph 5:17)
- ✓ For God's continued blessings (Acts 13:2)
- ✓ For power (Mark 9:29)
- ✓ Because of un answered prayers (psalms 35:13-14)

### **CAUTION:**

- It's not advisable to fast long without taking water.
- Do not fast when there are health problems e.g breast feeding, pregnancy.
- Remember you are available to the devil when you are fasting (2cor 2:11)
- Do not expect a lot to happen during the actual time of fasting.
- You may feel God near or not
- The result of fasting are often more long term than immediately.
- Be aware of temptations to self- righteousness (Luke 18:11-12)

### **EXAMPLES OF BIBLICAL PERSONALITIES WHO EXCERCISED FASTING**

1. MOSES (EX 34:28) (INTERCEDING FOR GOD'S PEOPLE)
2. JESUS (MATH 4:1-2) (BEGINNING OF HIS PUBLIC MINISTRY)
3. DAVID (2 SAM 12:16) (INTERCEDING FOR HEALING OF HIS CHILD)
4. ELIJAH (1KING 19:1-8) (FEAR FOR HIS LIFE)
5. DANIEL (DAN 9:3) (LACK OF UNDERSTANDING)
6. PAUL (2COR 11:27) (FOR THE SAINTS)

7. JEHOSHAPHAT (2CHRO 20:2-17) (DIVINE INTERVENTION)
8. ESTHER (ESTH 4:15-16) (DIVINE FAVOUR)

## **SALVATION**

Def: Salvation is to be released from calamities or coming calamities or punishment.

It is done from the inner being not only from the lips. (Rom 10:10)

It comes by grace alone and not works (Rom 10:4)

It must affect our thinking and motives (Rom 12:2)

### **Importance of salvation**

- It connects you to a divine family of God
- It positions you to a better chance of kingdom inheritance
- It guarantees you divine exchange (Heb: 10:14, Philip 4:19) – needs covered (matt 11:28)– given rest.

**NOTE:** How to now that you are truly saved, its by the FRUITS YOU BEAR. Which are;

- By Action
- By speaking
- By portraying

Remember TRUE salvation reflects (math 5:14)

### **ATTRIBUTES OF GOD**

1. God is spirit (number 23:19) (1Tim 1:17) (John 4:24)
2. God is omnipresent. (psalm 139:7-10) He is everywhere.
3. God is omniscient. (psalm 139:2-4) He knows and sees everything.
4. God is omnipotent (Ex 6:3) all powerful
5. God is love. (1John 4:8 & 3:16-18)
6. God is Eternal (Rev 1:8 & 17)
7. God is perfect (psalm 50:2 & 119:96)
8. God is holy (Rev 15:4)
9. God is infinite (Dan 5:27, psalm 14:2-3) cannot measure God
10. God is just. (psalm 89:14)
11. God is gracious. (Ex 34:5-7)
12. God is merciful. (Titus 3:5, James 5:11)
13. God is generous. (1cor 2:12, Rev 21:6, James 1:16)
14. God is our creator. (John 1:3, Col: 1:16, 17)

### **SEVEN REDEPTIVE NAMES OF GOD**

1. JEHOVAH – SHAMMAH – The Lord who is present (Ez: 48:35)
2. JEHOVAH – SHALOM- The Lord is peace(Judges 6:24)
3. JEHOVAH – ROH- The Lord my shepherd (psalm 23:1)
4. JEHOVAH – FIRE - The Lord will provide (Gen 22:14)
5. JEHOVAH – NISSI - The Lord my banner (victory) (Ex 17:8-15)
6. JEHOVAH – TSIDKENU - The Lord our righteousness (Jer 33:16)
7. JEHOVAH – RAPHA - The Lord who heals (Ex 15:26)
  - a) EL – ELYON - The most high God (Gen 14:18-20)
  - b) EL – OLAM - The everlasting God (Gen 21:33)

c) ABBA – Father (Rom 8:15)

### **THE DESCRIPTION OF JESUS CHRIST**

1. OUR SAVIOUR – John 3:16
2. THE WAY, THE TRUTH AND THE LIGHT – John 14:6
3. TREE OF LIFE – Rev 22:1-2
4. BREAD OF LIFE – John 6:48-51
5. FOUNTAIN OF LIVING WATER – Rev 22:17
6. ROCK OF AGES – Gen 49:24
7. ANCIENT OF DAYS – Dan 7:9, 13,22
8. SON OF GOD – Luke 1:35-36
9. LION OF JUDAH – Rev 5:5
10. WONDERFUL COUNCELLOR – Isaiah 9:6
11. PRINCE OF PEACE – Isaiah 9:6
12. DOCTOR OF ALL INFIRMITIES – Isaiah 53:5
13. ETERNAL WORD OF GOD – John 1:1, Rev 19:13
14. LAMB OF GOD – John 1:29, Rev 5:6-13, 17:14
15. FAITHFUL AND TRUE – Rev 19:11, 1:5
16. ROOT AND OFF SPRING OF DAVID – Rev 5:5, Isaiah 11:1, Rev 22:16

### **THE FACTS OF HIS GREAT SUCCESS**

(John 13:15-17, 2cor 3:18, 1peter 2:21)

1. HE WAS A MAN OF BOOKS – (Luke 4:1-13)
2. WAS NOT CONFORMED TO THE WORLD – John 17:16
3. HE SUFFERED LONG – 2Peter 3:9

4. DID NOT FIGHT WITH CARNAL WEAPON – John 18:36
5. GENTLE – (let the children come to me) Math 19:14
6. FULL OF COMPASSION – (all miracles he did was due to compassion) Math 9:35
7. MEEKNESS – (broken) Math 5:5
8. SERVANT – (washed the feet of the disciples) John 13)
9. FORGIVING – (he prayed for forgiveness of those who murdered Him)
10. SELFLESSNESS – (he placed the interest of others first)
11. COURAGEOUS – (he was courageous to a point of death)

### **SPECIAL FACTS ABOUT JESUS**

#### **1. He is unique**

Others are born to live, but he was born to die.

News of a baby to live: (News of His birth troubled the Rulers)

#### **2. He is a sinless man**

He was a man who was utterly free from the stain of sin

No evil thought, abase motive of a sinful act came over him

#### **3. He is a TRUE MAN**

He grew hungry, thirsty and weary. In physical appearance, he was one of us. In his twenties, he was a carpenter in Nazareth. At thirty, he began a public ministry of preaching and teaching.

#### 4. He is God

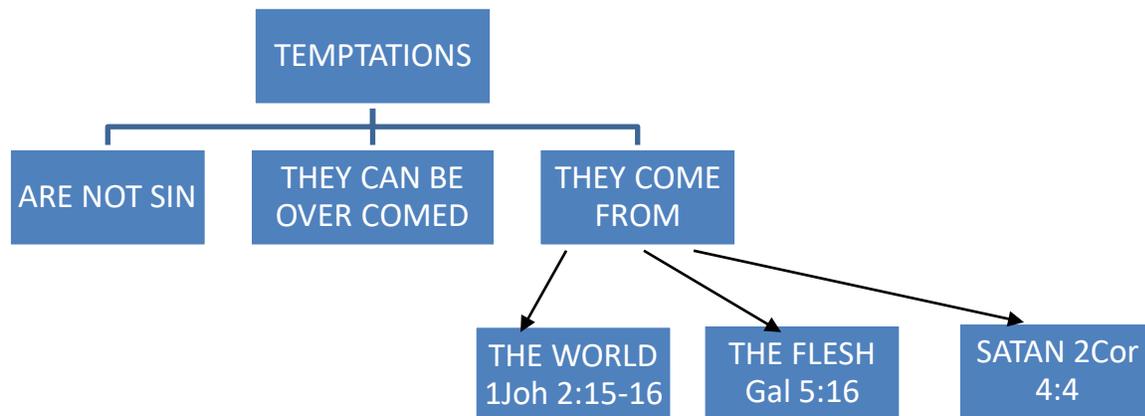
Isaiah identified Him as a mighty God (Isaiah 9:6)

God the father addresses him as God. (Heb 1:8)

John said (John 1:1) and in Vs 13 , “and the word became flesh”.

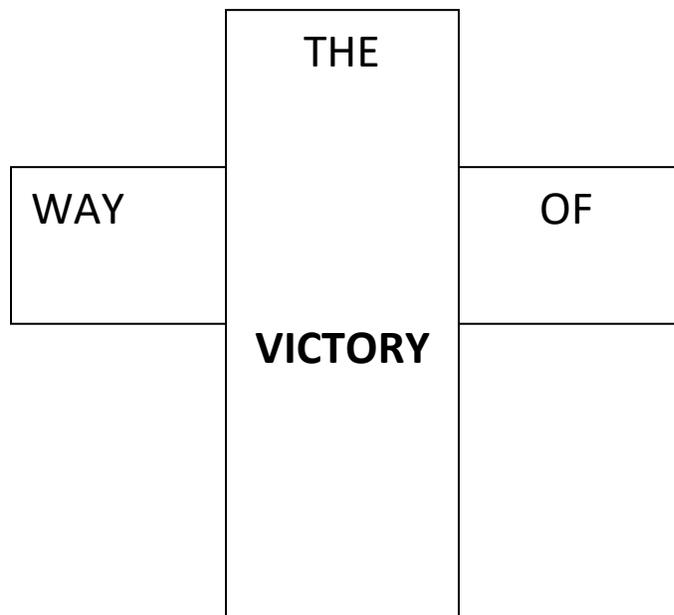
**TEMPTATION:** Is a Satan weapon he uses to pull us down.

**TEST:** Is the method God uses to uplift us. (James 1:13) God cannot tempt us.





# WHY THE CROSS?



- It's the command of the Lord. (matt 16:24-25)
- It is the power of God. (1cor 1:17,18)
- Its is for the joy that is set before us. (Heb 12:2)
- It's the condition for discipleship. (Luke 14:27)

- Through it, that we might be saved by His life. (2cor 4:10-11)



NOTE: (Obedience is taking up a command and act upon it without question or hesitation)

### **WHY OBEDIENCE?**

That we might be saved from wrath of God (2Thess 1:7-9)

That you and others may be made righteous (Rom 5:19, 6:16-17)

In order to receive the Holy Ghost (Acts 5:32, John 14:23)

It is better than sacrifice (1sam 15:22)

It is the only way to show that you love God. (John 14:15)

### **STEPS TO LEARNING OBEDIENCE**

- By revenging all disobedience (2cor 10:6, Heb 1:9)
- By controlling your thoughts (2cor 10:5, Prov 16:3)
- By suffering (1Peter 4:1-13, Heb 5:8)
- By love (Rom 6:17)
- By the spirit of God (1Peter 1:22)
- By heeding His voice (Deut 27:9-10)
- By knowing what the Lord commands (mark 7:7-9)

NOTE: (Humility is doing the will of God willingly without push or force)

**REWARD OF HUMILITY (2CHRO 7:14)**

God has promised answered prayers and healing of the land (marriage, relationships, diseases etc)

**Examples**

<p>1. NOAH – Gen 6:9-22</p> <p><u>REWARD:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ He was allowed to enter the ARK</li> </ul>	<p>ACT OF HUMILITY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Righteousness</li> <li>➤ Blameless</li> <li>➤ Walked with God</li> <li>➤ Did everything that God commanded</li> </ul>
<p>2. JOSHUA – Josh 1:3-5</p> <p><u>REWARD:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Security</li> <li>➤ Extension of his territory</li> </ul>	<p>ACT OF HUMILITY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Humbled himself under Moses' authority the anointed servant of God</li> </ul>
<p>3. ESTHER – Esth 2:15-18</p>	<p>ACT OF HUMILITY</p>

<p><u>REWARD:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ God gave her favor before Eunuch- in – charge of the king Herein, and king Himself</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Humbled herself under her uncle Mordecai by listening and obeying his advice.</li> </ul>
<p>4. JOB – Job 1:1, 42:12-16)</p> <p><u>REWARD:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Everything he lost was returned to him seven fold</li> </ul>	<p>ACT OF HUMILITY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Blameless</li> <li>➤ Upright</li> <li>➤ Feared God</li> </ul>
<p>5. CALEB – Number 14:24</p> <p><u>REWARD</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ He was given the land he went to survey as inheritance</li> </ul>	<p>ACT OF HUMILITY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ God gives testimony to show that Caleb followed him whole heartedly and that’s a picture of humility</li> </ul>
<p>6. MARY – Luke 1:28</p> <p><u>REWARD:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ She was blessed to give birth to our savior JESUS CHRIST</li> </ul>	<p>ACT OF HUMILITY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Mary was a virgin and virginity is a symbol of humility</li> </ul>
<p>7. JESUS CHRIST – (Phil 2:8-9, Act 2:32-33)</p> <p><u>REWARD:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ He is sitting at the right hand side of God</li> <li>➤ His name became the symbol of authority and approval against every negative situation</li> </ul>	<p>ACT OF HUMILITY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Humbled Himself up to a point of death</li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ His blood became the seal of the covenant between men and God concerning salvation</li> </ul>	
<p>8. MOSES – Ex 3:9-10</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Given the opportunity of leading the Israelites from Egypt to Canaan</li> </ul>	<p>ACT OF HUMILITY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ He showed humility by the call of God to Egypt to redeem the children of Israel</li> </ul>
<p>9. JOSEPH – Gen 39:2-4, 41:44</p> <p><u>REWARD:</u></p> <p>He became a prime minister in a foreign land</p>	<p>ACT OF HUMILITY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ He was a humble servant in the house of Pontiff Pilate</li> </ul>
<p>10.SAMUEL – 1Sam 3:1, 11-14, 1sam 3:19-20</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Chosen as prophet of Israel</li> </ul>	<p>ACT OF HUMILITY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ He humbled and served ELI the priest faithfully</li> </ul>

Conclusion:- “But the meek will INHERIT THE LAND and enjoy Great peace” (Ps 37:11)

**CAST AWAY (1cor 9:19-27)**

Sin will destroy a powerful preacher as well as a weak man. E.g.

1. DAVID

- The man after God’s own heart
- Anointed by God
- Marvelous Psalmist

But murdered Uriah and fell in adultery

I.e. Uriah was a well established soldier in the military of Israel. Uriah of today is anybody in the body of Christ who is able to raise the victory hand of God high.

Fighting for the winning of the army of God

## 2. MOSES

- The most impressive figure in the old Testament
- He was anointed and touched by God

But he lost his ticket to the Promised Land due to temper. He disobeyed the instructions of God and did things in opposite direction. He was to talk to the rock instead of hitting the rock.

## 3. SOLOMON

- The wisest man ever lived. But lost his way due to sin. (1kings 10:10-12, 11:7-11)

## 4. SAMSON

- Lost his way due to compromise. (Judges 13:1-5, 16:17)

## **PATH OF RUIN**

### 1. LOVE OF MONEY

- Christians are pre-occupied until they do not have time for; bible reading, meditation upon the word of God, effective prayer.

### 2. LAZINESS

- Measure you do not lazy around with the responsibility given to you. You may find that you are slowing down the prayers of building the body of Christ.

- One must be productive and must bear much fruits.

### 3. COMPROMISE

- Never compromise because it will lead you to be CAST-AWAY.
- Handle people equally without regarding their status.
- If you have to discipline, then do it equally

### 4. FAMILIARITY WITH THE OPPOSITE SEX

- Preacher works in the area of the heart and the heart is the area of emotions.
- Women / men come more closer and start offering gifts.
- Ministers are more glorious than other people in the church, and that open silent admirer.
- Learn to set up your Godly principles. Let your NO be NO and YES be YES.

## **WHAT HAPPENS WHEN WE REFUSE TO CONFESS**

1. Fellowship with God is broken
2. Fellowship with fellow – believer is broken
3. One loses the joy of salvation
4. One loses effective testimony
5. One loses the power of God given to him
6. Bring shame into the name of God
7. Living lie (under general grace)
8. One loses access to God in prayer
9. Our work will be forgotten (“I don’t know you”)
10. Danger of making shipwreck of our life
11. We may lose our physical life

12. We may lose our rewards

13. We will live under terrible sense of guilt

## **CURSES OF LIFE**

### **Types of curses**

1. The curse of God

a) Willing or willful disobedience (1sam 15:22-23)

- If you know to do good and do it not, then you are a sinner. (James 4:17)  
for you grieve the spirit of God.
- If you love God, you will keep His commandments
- No one ever contends (compete) with God and prosper
- Never strive with your maker (Isaiah 45:9)
- When you don't embrace the word of holiness you can't escape the curse of God (1John 3:7)

b) Trusting upon man (Jeremiah 17:5-6)

- If God is no longer your sufficiency, you come under the curse of God.
- Get to know that God is able to make all grace abound towards you. (2cor 9:8)
- The human connection are the reasons behind your destructions

c) Destroy your alternatives (Jer 17:7-8)

- Your pay slip can be alternative that can make you not to trust God 100%
- Bank account, project etc do not stop having them, but let them not stop you from trusting in God in high level of provision.

d) Robbing God (Zechariah 5:2-4)

- The curse shall enter into the house of the thief. Who is the thief? (Malachi 3:8-9) has an answer
  - No one escapes the payment of tithe, you either give it willingly or devourers takes it from you
  - Dedicate to God what belongs to him, and your financial rainfall will never cease
  - If you do not pay your tithes, things will never stop being tight for you, and because it is a curse of the Lord no prophet can break it.
  - Every curse of God, demands absolute obedience or the curse remains
- e) Watch your tongue (Prov 18:21)
- You either blessed or cursed by your tongue (math 12:36-37)
  - The tongue is fire (James 3:5-6)
  - It can either take you into your destiny or take you into hell
2. The curse of man (Gen 9:24-25)

God gave liberty to a tongue, when it speaks curse so it shall be.

- a) Curse of parents (Eph 6:1-3)
- God demonstrates His support for the curse of parents
  - Our natural (biological) parents occupy a very sensitive place in our destiny
  - Many are being tormented and tortured because they have despised and neglected their parents.
  - Work hard so that you may get the word “I bless you” from your parents.
  - God will put your lamp out if you do not honor your parents (Prov 20:20, math 15:4)
- b) Spiritual father / mother (2kings 2:11-12)

- One needs to have a father among many instructors. (1cor 4:15-16)
- Those who have been placed shepherds over us are our spiritual parents

### 3. Curses of Satan

**Note:** Satan mostly does not curse but he causes us to enter in curses of God and man

This is done by falling in the following activities;

- i. False gods (Ex 20:1-5, Rom 1:20-23, Isaiah 45:21)
- ii. Moral and ethical sins (Deut 27) e.g.
  - Disrespect of parents
  - All forms of oppression and injustice especially when directed against the weak and the helpless.
  - All forms of illicit or un natural sex e.g. homosexual, lesbianism, bestiality, doing sex with wrong positions like mouth sex, ears, etc (Lev 18:25)
  - Abortion
  - Father to child sex, sister to brother
- iii. Anti – Semitism: speaking ill of those set apart from God. (Gen 12:2-3, Gen 27:29, Num 24:9)
- iv. Carnality : flesh

Trusting man

- Trusting in personal effort (Jer 17:5)
- Legalism: Doing things according to the set law and order.
- Attempting to put extra condition to attain righteousness beyond what God himself has laid down (Rom 4:24-25)

## **HOW TO ACHIEVE KINGDOM PROSPERITY**

1. Give willingly, cheerfully and tirelessly (2cor 8:12, 9:7 Ex 35:5 Isaiah 1:19 Deut 28:47-48)
2. Water your seed (Prov 12:14, 13:2, 18:20-21, Job 22:21-28)
3. Service (Job 36:11 Ex 23:25-26 Mal 3:17-18)
4. Integrity (2 Tim 2:19, Job 1:1, Psalms 112:1-3 Luke 16:10-12)
5. Avoid waste (Prov 18:9, Math 25:23)

## **LOVE**

- 1) Love suffers long or is patient. Patience is love at work (math 18:21-22, Rom 5:3, Jam 1:2-4, Heb 10:36, 12:1)
- 2) Love is kind (Ps 36:7, 63:3)
- 3) Love is generous and does not envy. Envy thinks of its self, it is a fruit of the flesh. (Gal 5:21, Prov 14:30, Ecc 4:4, Prov 27:4)
- 4) Love is humble, it does not revenge. Love is best displayed in humility. At Calvary love was revealed in perfection through humility. Because you love God, you will abase yourself as you exalt Him.
- 5) Love is not rude.
- 6) Love does not seek of its own. It is not selfish. We cannot serve self and God. Eve was deceived when she started thinking of herself (math 6:24, 16:24-25, 2Tim 3:1-3)
- 7) Love is of good temper. It is not easily provoked (math 27:14, Luke 23:18, Prov 16:32)
- 8) Love thinks no evil (Prov 23:7, James 3:1-12, Luke 6:45, Prov 4:23, Phil 4:8-9)

9) Love does not rejoice in sin but rejoices in truth. Truth is the way to love.

(Ps 27:5, 9:8-9, John 14:6, John 8:31-32, 16:13, 17:17, Ex 4:15)

10) Love bears all things. Love

is tough. (Isaiah 53:4, 2cor 5:21, Psalms 55:12-22, Heb 12:7, Phil 3:10)

### **BREAKING THE CHAINS (PRT 1) LUKE 4:18**

Chain is a picture of imprisonment.

And a prisoner is guarded by a warden.

A warden is commissioned not to release a prisoner.

A warden is armed with deadly weapons e.g guns, clubs, etc to fight against an escaping prisoner.

#### **Redemption and deliverance**

There is no big difference between redemption and deliverance.

**Redemption:** is to salvage a victim who had (or was just about) just entered a situation or circumstance but had not gone deep in it.

**Deliverance:** is a process of revealing, unearthing, accepting and confessing.

The walk to deliverance has to be participated by 3 being: - **God** (oversees and approves), **servant** (reveals and unearths), **victim** (accepting and confessing)

a) Revealing: opening unknown things to the victim e.g. God revealing to Hezekiah the time of his death. (Isaiah 38:1-6)

b) Un-earthing: exposing the hidden thing and power behind it that is ruining the victim.

- Exposing the root cause: This is driving the victim to understand himself.
  - Administering the solution to that particular problem. (**Naaman and the house girl 2kings 5:3-6**)
- c) Accepting; The victim has to come to himself/ her, accept the guilt and taking the step of denouncing the satanic characters. (the woman of samaria had to accept the bitter truth and complied with it)
- d) Confessing; After acknowledgement, one needs to take positive confession upon his/ her own life.
- Deliverance is a process of dying and resurrection. Die to our old self and resurrect into a new image. (new man)
  - Jesus did not come to force salvation to mankind; he came to those who will receive Him. (Rev 3:20)
  - Deliverance is an oath taken between victim, servant and God. By the time you are denouncing your sin, the servant starts on mediating between you and God.

## **WHO IS A DISCIPLE?**

### **Five basic principles.**

1. A disciple is a person who lives continually by the word of Jesus. They are not only people who follow occasional words of the master, but rather people who commit themselves to follow through the teaching of the master in a discipline and committed way.

2. A disciple is a person who commits his life completely to the master. (math 6:24)
3. A disciple is one who lives in a fruit-bearing relationship with Jesus. (John 15:4-5)
4. A disciple is one who is committed to unconditional sacrificial love for others. (John 13:34-35)
5. A disciple is one who is dedicated to the fulfillment of Christ's commission. (math 28:18-20)

### **A disciple is a very privileged person.**

- He is called and chosen by God. (Eph 1:4-5)
- Jesus is his savior he died on the cross for him so that his sins could be forgiven, making him kingdom. (Gal 4:6-7)
- He has been given eternal life. (John 3:16)
- The holy spirit lives in him, giving him power to witness to his new life in Christ. (Acts 1:8)
- He has peace with God. (Rom 5:1)
- Nothing can separate him from the love of God. (Rom 8:38-39)

### **SEVEN SIGNS OF SPIRITUAL MATURITY**

1. Fruitfulness in our service for God (math 25:14-30)
2. A humble attitude and a willingness to serve others (John 13:12-17)
3. A standard of excellence in our lives in general (2cor 13:11)
4. A close relationship with Jesus (Gal 2:20)
5. The fruits of the spirit manifest in our lives (Gal 5:22-23)
6. A stable consistent and holy walk before God and man (Eph 4:11-16)

7. A solid knowledge of God's word and discernment as a result (Heb 5:13, 6:2)

### **THE NEED FOR SPIRITUAL MATURITY**

- i. Growth into maturity in Christ is what the bible suggests is expected for all Christians (Eph 4:11-16)
- ii. Without maturity there can be no leadership and leaders are necessary.
- iii. Only mature Christians will be able to effectively stand against the devil and his powers of darkness and this is what God wants us to do (math 12:29)
- iv. Only mature Christians have a lasting impact for God in our world today
- v. Its only the mature disciple, who through his loving example, is able to convey the character of Jesus to the world.

### **FIVE BASIC PRE-CONDITIONS FOR BIBLICAL DISCIPLESHIP**

1. Faithfulness; only faithful or reliable people fully qualify for discipleship training
2. Loving Jesus and putting him first. This means living according to his will.
3. A willingness to give off our selves sacrificially; Sacrifice of time, strength even some time relationship.
4. Spiritual hunger; the desire to grow spiritually and to be used by God
5. A teachable attitude; submissive to the authority of God's word and to the spiritual leaders who have been placed over us by him

### **SIN (Rom 3:23, 6:23, Isaiah 59:2)**

- Sin is to do something that displeases God.
- Sin separated people from glory he created him for.

- Sin separates people from their God.

### **Some consequences of sin**

- i. It grieves God (Gen 6:5-7)
- ii. It brings guilt (Psalms 51:3-4)
- iii. It brings judgment and everlasting punishment (math 25:46)
- iv. It enslaves (Rom 6:17)
- v. It causes spiritual blindness (2cor 4:4)
- vi. It causes spiritual death (Eph 2:1)
- vii. It brings lack of hope (Eph 2:12)
- viii. It corrupts (Titus 1:15)
- ix. It condemns (James 5:12)

### **REPENTANCE (Acts 2:38-39, Luke 15:7-10, Ezek 18:30-32)**

To repent simply means to have another mind or simply to change course after further insight (math 4:17, mark 1:15)

Note: Repentance is not just feeling sorry for what we have done.

True repentance is an act of changing our thinking and actions.

### **Three important elements in repentance**

#### **1. Repentance is cognitive.**

Repentance involves recognition of our sin and its awfulness in the eyes of our Holy God.

#### **2. Repentance is emotional**

Repentance involves a deep sense of offence and regret (Psalms 51:9)

### **3. Repentance is volitional**

Repentance is a will to change mind, heart and purpose.

## **THE BLOOD OF JESUS (John 6:53-57, 1John 1:7, Heb 9:11-28, Lev 17:11, 1Peter 1:8-20)**

### **What does the blood of Jesus do for us?**

- i. Through the blood of Jesus we have redemption. We are redeemed out of the hand and power of the devil. (Eph 1:7, Heb 9:12)
- ii. Through the blood of Jesus all our sins are forgiven. As we walk in the light with Jesus, his blood continues cleansing us from all sins. (1John 1:7-9)
- iii. Through the blood of Jesus we are justified, made righteous just as if we had never sinned. (Rom 5:9)
- iv. Through the blood of Jesus we have access into the presence of God at any time to obtain mercy and help especially at the time of need. (Heb 10:19-20)
- v. Through the blood of Jesus we are sanctified – made holy and set apart for God. (Heb 13:12)
- vi. Through the blood of Jesus our conscience is cleansed from all guilt and we are free in body, mind, soul and spirit to serve the Lord Jesus Christ. (Heb 9:14, 2Tim 1:7)
- vii. Through the blood of Jesus we have victory through the testimony of overcoming the devil by the blood of Jesus and His resurrection. (Rev 12:11)

## **FAITH FOR SALVATION**

This is faith that leads to your salvation. It comes by;

1. Committing your life to God (Psalms 37:5)
2. Believing in Jesus Christ (John 3:15)
3. Becoming obedient from your heart (Rom 6:17)
4. Believing with the heart (Rom 10:9-10)
5. Believing the bible to be the word of God (2Tim 3:16-17)
6. Putting your trust in God (Heb 2:13)
7. Inviting Jesus into your life (Rev 3:20)

## **WHO WE ARE IN CHRIST?**

### **1. Holders of new life.**

How:-

- We have eternal life (John 3:16)
- God has poured His love into our hearts by the Holy spirit (Rom 5:5)
- We have received the testimony of the spirit (Rom 8:16)
- We have been given the mind of Christ (1cor 2:16)
- Our bodies have become temples of the Holy spirit (1cor 6:19)
- We have available to us the gifts of the Holy spirit (1cor 12:27)
- We have the Holy spirit as the seal of the ownership in our hearts (2cor 1:22)
- We have been redeemed from the curse of the law (Gal 3:13)
- We have been sealed by the spirit (Titus 3:5)

- We have been made alive with Christ (Col 2:13)
- We have been renewed by the Holy spirit (Titus 3:5)
- We have been born again of the word of God (1Peter 1:23)
- We have been forgiven and washed clean in the blood of Jesus (1John 1:7-9)
- We have been born of God (1John 2:29)

## **2. Part of new relationship with God**

How;

- We have become children of God (John 1:12, Rom 8:16)
- We know the only true God (1John 17:3)
- We have peace with God (Rom 5:1)
- We are reconciled to God (Rom 5:10)
- We are not only children but sons of God (Rom 8:15)
- We have become co-heirs with Christ (Rom 8:17)
- We are Christ's possession (1cor 3:23)
- We have been transformed into His likeness with ever increasing glory which comes from the Lord. (2cor 3:18)
- We are crucified with Christ (Gal 2:20)
- We are alive with Christ (Eph 2:5)
- We are members of God's house hold (Eph 2:19)
- We can approach God with freedom and confidence (Eph 3:12)
- We can be confident that he who began a good work in us will carry it on to completion. (Phil 1:6)
- We can do all things in Christ Jesus (Phil 4:13)

- We participate in the divine nature. (2Peter 1:4)

### **3. Free from sin**

How;

- Free from bondage (John 8:31-36)
- Free from sin (Rom 6:18)
- Free from condemnation (Rom 8:1)
- Saved from consequences of sin (Rom 10:13)
- Free from unrighteous (1cor 1:30)
- Free from object of wrath (Eph 2:8)
- Free from infirmities (1Peter 2:24)

### **4. Set apart for service**

How;

- We are ambassadors of Christ (2cor 5:20)
- Through the gifts of the spirit and in the five- fold ministries.

## **HOLY SPIRIT**

The bible describes the Holy Spirit in two major different ways;

### **i. Through different names.**

- The good spirit (Nehemiah 9:20)
- The spirit of God (math 3:16)
- The councilor (John 14:16, 26)
- The spirit of truth (John 16:13)
- The spirit of Christ (Rom 8:9)

- The spirit of son ship (Rom 8:15)
- The spirit of grace (Heb 10:29)

ii. **Through symbols**

- Dove (math 3:16)
- Voice (1kings 19:21)
- Seal (Eph 1:13)
- Water and living water (Isaiah 44:3, John 7:37-39)
- Wind (Acts 2:2)
- Oil (1sam 16:13)
- Fire (Acts 2:3)

**THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN US**

- He enables us to drive out demons (math 12:28)
- He enables us to speak as God would have us speak (math 13:11)
- He enables us to be born again (John 3:5-8)
- He will be our councilor for ever (John 14:16)
- He lives in us (John 14:17)
- He teaches us (John 14:26, John 16:13-14)
- He convicts (John 16:8-11)
- He gives us power to be God's witnesses (Acts 1: 8)
- He enables God's love to be poured into our hearts (Rom 5:5)
- He testifies with our spirit that we are God's children (Rom 8:16)
- He helps us in our weakness (Rom 8:26)
- He enables righteousness and peace in us (Rom 14:17)
- He enables us to overflow with hope (Rom 15:13)

- He sanctifies us (Rom 15:16)
- He gives various gifts as he determines (1cor 12:4-11)
- He enables the fruit of the spirit in us (Gal 5:22-23)
- He enables joy in us (1Thess 1:6)

### **THREE IMPORTANT REASONS WHY WE NEED THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN US.**

#### i. POWER TO BECOME

Holy Spirit working in us to become God's sons and act and live as members of his family (John 1:12-13)

#### ii. POWER TO BE

God wants us to now His power so that we can live the new life in Jesus day by day. (Eph 3:16-17)

#### iii. POWER TO SHARE

God wants us to be filled with the power of the Holy Spirit that we may be able to share out witness to the life of Jesus. (John 14:12, Act 1:8)

### **Some of the effects of being filled with the holy spirit**

1. You will know as never before that Jesus is alive as Lord with power and authority today. (Acts 2:32-36)
2. You will experience the depth of God's love for you. (Rom 5:5). And will into a new assurance of His fatherhood. (Rom 8:15, Gal 4:6)
3. You will gain new appetite for the bible and greater ability to use it and to hear God speak to you through it. (John 16:13-15, Eph 6:17)

4. You will become very sensitive to His presence and guidance. (Eph 4:30)
5. You will become more open to other people, more loving towards them, and more eager to be an active member of the church. (1cor 12:12-13)
6. You will grow bolder in witnessing for Jesus. (Acts 4:31)
7. You will become more aware of your authority in Christ. (Eph 6:10, 1:17-23)

### **SYMBOLIC OF NAME AND NAMING**

1. ABI (ABIJAH) – The will of God
2. HEZEKIAH (son of ABI & AHAZ) – strong in the Lord
3. SARAH (Abraham's wife) – princess or queen
4. SUSANNA – Lily
5. HANNAH – Grace
6. MIRIAM – Bitterness or sorrow
7. ESTHER – Star
8. HAGAR – Flight
9. ABIA (ABIAH) – God is fatter
10. ABIGAIL – Cause of joy
11. NABAL (husband to ABIGAIL) – Foolishness
12. CHILEAB – God is my judge.