

STEP OUT IN FAITH

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CHAPTER 1: DO NOT LIMIT GOD

Limiting God is failure to understand Him as a supreme being in whom nothing is impossible.

WHAT LIMITS GOD

- Our unbelief
- Lack of prayer
- Putting other things before Him(Matt 26:15)
- Unfaithfulness
- Failure to stand in faith (Is 7:9)
- Failure to know God by character and name
- Our disobedience
- Not seeing things in God's perspective

PRECONDITIONS ONE HAS TO CONSIDER TO BECOME GOD'S VESSEL

- Coming out of the world and not to touch the unclean (2 Cor 6:17-18)
- Total commitment reliance and dependence on God alone.
- Listening to his voice
- Yielding to the Holy Spirit (Eph 5:18)
- Keeping in God's presence through prayer
- Love for one another
- Integrity
- Having a right attitude towards wealth and possessions
- Humility

WHAT WE NEED TO KNOW

- It is no use to just read the bible without action
- Believe the plain words of the bible as they say. Let it be part of you walk in it then Gods power will be activated in you.
- It is no use praying without believing God will answer.
- Pray knowing that God is alive and hears you ie. Pray with expectancy

Note:

When we step out in faith, prepared not to limit God and letting Him be God, He then moves in power and answers our prayers.

CHAPTER 2: RISING UP TO YOUR POTENTIAL AND CALLING

Many believers stay at the beginning stage of their Christianity ie. Believing Jesus as their lord and savior, getting baptized in the Holy Spirit but they fail to grow into Christ as their head.

TWO DIFFERENT REALMS

We need to get to the knowledge of these realms if we are to grow into Christ as our head.

1. The earthly realm
2. The heavenly realm

THE EARTHLY REALM

It is a limited realm of time where the flesh dwells.

Note:

- We are born in the flesh
- The flesh was meant to die due to Adams disobedience.
- Death keeps man in a helpless and hopeless condition for eternal life.

It is in the earthly realm where;

- Sin is a struggle
- Sickness is stronger than us
- Curses are rampant
- Evil spirits and all demonic things are stronger than us

THE HEAVENLY REALM

It is a limitless timeless realm above all rule and authority where Jesus is seated at the right hand of the father.

WHAT GETS US TO THE HEAVENLY REALM

- We must be born again of the water and the Holy Spirit (Jn 3:5)
- We are to put away sin
- It is through prayer that we rise to this realm
- By being filled on a daily basis
- By dying to self
- Renewing our mind (Rom 12:1-2)
- Hearing the voice of Christ (Jam 4:7)
- Abiding in the faith (Jn 8:32)
- Knowing God by name and character
- We are to be baptized in the Holy Spirit

Note:

When all this is done, we stop living in the earthly realm and begin living in the heavenly realm together with Christ though still in our mortal bodies.

WHY LIVE IN THE HEAVENLY REALM

- a) It is above sin sickness and demonic powers
- b) The authority of Jesus' name gives us power to;
 - Cast out demons and pain
 - Heal any kind of sickness
- c) The moment Jesus secured victory for us on the cross;
 - Every knee bows
 - We command sickness and it obeys
 - Evil spirits and pains obey

Note:

To this life we are called

For this life God has prepared us before the foundation of the world to walk in them (Eph 2:10)

THE GOOD NEWS OF OUR SALVATION

- When we receive Jesus as our savior we are baptized into one body with him by the Holy Spirit (1Cor 2:13)
- Through Jesus' death on the cross our sins are forgiven
- We call God "our father" not just Lord and God (Jn 1:12)

- Jesus came to save men not just souls(Lk 19:10)
- He came to save;
 - human spirit and grant it eternal life
 - human soul and give it peace
 - human body from sickness to give it health (1Jn 2)

Let us look to Jesus, allow Him to rise us to a full potential and calling that He has called each of us to live.

CHAPTER 3: POWER OF THE CROSS

Power of the cross was God's means to bring back what man had lost to satan the devil God's arch enemy and His people.

WHY GOD MADE MAN (Eph 8:4-8)

- To rule over the works of His hands
- To be subject to Him
- To be subject to His love

Note:

Before Adam and eve sinned, the earth was;

- Perfect
- There was no sickness and death
- There were no weeds
- There were no diseases in crops and animals
- All that grew from the ground was perfect.

HOW SIN ENTERED THE WORLD

- Through Adams disobedience sin entered the world (Rom 5:12)
- The perfect world which God had created was exchanged for the knowledge of good and evil

THE DEVILS REVENGE AGAINST GOD

- Tempting people to sin hence leading them to hell along with him
- By inflicting with sicknesses and curses
- Attacking human mind with doubt and fear
- Deception through worldly ways, thoughts, false religions, etc
- Leading people away from the bible to complacency (2Cor 4:4, Eph 2:1-2)

THE IMPACT OF THE CROSS

- Forgiveness of sins (Col 2:13)
- The record of rules that stood against humanity was cancelled (Col 2:14)
- Satan was given an irreversible defeat (Col 2:15)
- Through Jesus' death on the cross, satan who had the power of death was destroyed (Heb 2:14)
- At the cross, Jesus reversed everything man had lost to the devil in the Garden of Eden

THE RESULTS OF JESUS' DEATH ON THE CROSS FOR US

- It enables us to break the power of sin and death

- We are able to live Christ's victory while we are alive (Jn 14:12-13)
- Authority and power over the enemy (Lk 10:19)
- We are more than conquerors (Rom 8:37)
- All things are possible (Phil 4:13)

HOW TO ENFORCE JESUS' VICTORY

- To enforce full victory of Jesus over the devil, the following must be done;
- Taking up the full armour of God (Eph 6:13-17)
- We must have self control (1Pet 5:8)
- We must be alert (2Cor 2:11, 1Cor 16:13)
- Resisting the devil (Jam 4:7)
- By having a discerning spirit (2Cor 11:14)

HOW VICTORIOUS CHRISTIANS SHOULD LIVE

- Living as salt and light to the world (Matt 5:13-14)
- Uniting ourselves with Christ in prayer (Jn 14:20)
- By presenting the word of God to all men (Matt 28:19)
- Using the name of Jesus to heal the sick, cast out demons, etc
- Keeping in God's presence all the time ie. Through prayer and meditation (Josh 1:8)

CHAPTER 4: THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS AT HAND

The kingdom of God is His supreme power to reign and rule.
It came through the person and ministry of Jesus Christ (Matt 4:23-24)

HOW TO RECEIVE THE KINGDOM OF GOD

- Believing Jesus as Lord and savior
- By repentance i.e. Radical change in one's life
- Being born of water and the Holy Spirit (Jn 3:5)
- Allowing God to have complete reign over us (Rom 6:13)
- Spending time in God's presence through prayer and meditation upon the word
- Yielding ourselves completely to the Holy Spirit (Eph 5:18)

THE PURPOSE OF GOD'S KINGDOM

- It empowers believers to witness to the power of the cross to all men
- Through it souls are saved
- It brings repentance
- It brings down the kingdom of satan (Matt 12:28)
- It avails us with spiritual blessings eg. Love, peace and joy
- It rises us above all authorities and rulers of this earthly realm

Note:

God's kingdom is a present reality and a future hope, for Jesus is the Kingdom of God.

CHAPTER 5: THE GIFT OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

Righteousness is a right standing before the presence of God without a guilt of condemnation.

ATTRIBUTES OF A RIGHTEOUS PERSON

- Wisdom
- Integrity
- Humility
- Justice
- Goodness
- Trustworthiness
- Genuineness

A wise person will want to be righteous. Righteousness produces authority, authority produces power and power effects great change – James 5:16-18.

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN GOD’S WAYS OF DOING THINGS AND THAT OF THE WORLD

GOD’S WAY	WORLDLY WAY
Love convicts sin	Rules condemn sin
Love encourages righteousness	Sin entices the flesh
The spirit of man looks to God	The fleshly man glorifies the flesh
The cross gives freedom from sin	The world uses human authority to control man
God’s love searches out the lost and hurt	Sin binds in every way and entices in every form
God forgives those who repent	Man puts sinners into prison
God gives the bible to correct sin	A prison sentence hopefully corrects man
A man accepts Christ, learns righteousness because his heart is changed	A man put in jail may or may not learn righteousness because of unchanged heart
God deals with man through grace	The world deals with man through the law

HOW TO BECOME THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD

- Accepting the free gift of salvation (2Cor 5:21, Rom 5:18-19)
- Talking on the nature of Christ (2Cor 3:18, 1Cor 1:30)
- Fearing the Lord and shunning all evil (Prov 10:2, Prov 11:19, Prov 12:28)
- Yielding to God’s instructions (2Tim 3:16)
- Dying to self

HOW TO LIVE IN RIGHTEOUSNESS

- Yielding ourselves to God’s holiness
- Keeping ourselves in the Word of God
- Yielding to the Holy Spirit
- Spending time in God’s presence through prayer
- By living a life of forgiveness

THE RESULT OF LIVING IN RIGHTEOUSNESS

- It changes the way of our lives
- It brings us closer to God

- It makes us think the way God thinks
- It enables us to love others
- It changes our priorities
- We see other people before ourselves
- It enables us to go out in the name of Jesus to preach the gospel

REMINDERS TO BELIEVERS

- The gift of righteousness and salvation are the two greatest gifts in the universe that gives us true freedom in Christ.
- Salvation is the act of saving us from sin and its consequences and preserves us for eternal life
- Redemption is salvation from sin, release by purchase by the blood of Jesus.
- Jesus is our freedom from all that we would not have been freed by the law of Moses
- Righteousness is a gift that is more precious than diamond, spotless, transparent, reflecting light to every direction, shining forth its beauty to call.

CHAPTER 6: THE POWER OF PRAYER

Prayer is communication with God

Prayer can be classified into four(4) categories;

- a) Prayers that bounce off the ceiling
- b) Prayers that penetrate the heart of God
- c) Prayers that accomplish little
- d) Prayers that effect great change (Jam 5:16-17)

NECESSITIES TO ANSWERED PRAYERS

Living a righteous life

Standing in the gap of other people, nations, etc (Ezek 22:37, Ex 31:32-34)

Taking the responsibility to make it happen no matter the risks involved (1Kgs 18:36-39)

Praying with faith

Praying specifically with urgency and meaning (1Kgs 8:28-30)

Praying in spirit and in truth

Waiting upon the Lord (Is 40:31)

Not regarding sin (Ps 66:18)

Praying with compassion i.e. what you are praying for must be part of you

We should do our part and let God take His part.

Praying according to God's will (Jn 5:14-15)

TYPES OF PRAYERS

1. Fellowship prayers (Heb 10:25)
2. Intercessory Prayers (Ex 31:32-34)
3. Prayers of agreement (Matt 18:19)
4. Prayer of petition (Is 41:21)
5. Prophetic prayer (Jonah 2:4)

Let us rise in prayer for it is;

- Not just bowing down our head, it is more than that.
- It is submission to God's will
- It is sacrificing our own desires to do His will on earth

CHAPTER 7: THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Lord's Prayer is the greatest of all prayers Jesus taught His disciples. (Matt 6:9-13, Lk 11:2-4)

THE MEANING AND DEPTH OF THE WORDS IN THE LORD'S PRAYER

A) OUR FATHER

- God is not just Lord and God but 'OUR FATHER'
- Unbelievers cannot call God "our Father"
- God becomes our father when we accept Jesus to be our Lord and personal savior (Jn 1:12)

B) WHO ART IN HEAVEN

- God is in heaven (Is 66:1)
- It is possible to come into the heavenly realm in prayer while still alive on this earth.
- We access heaven and come up above the limitations of our lives into the unlimited supernatural presence of the Almighty God in prayer

C) HALLOWED BE YOUR NAME

God's name is HOLY, sacred, sanctified, consecrated and blessed. It must be acknowledged in heaven and on earth

How?

- By receiving Him in our lives
- By worshipping Him
- By praising Him
- By telling and showing Him how much we love Him
- By thanking Him for what He has done
- By praising Him for who He is

D) THY KINGDOM COME

We can ask God's reign and rule to come on earth through our lives then to the lives of others.

HOW THE KINGDOM OF GOD COMES ON EARTH

- By receiving Jesus in our lives
- By opening ourselves more and more to His glorious presence to fill us
- By allowing Him to change our minds so that we can begin to feel and see life as Jesus sees it
- Have love and compassion for others
- Asking Him to use our bodies so that we can begin to;
 - Walk in life as Jesus did
 - Going where he wants us to go
 - Serving others for Him with our hands
 - Speaking His word through our mouth
 - Living for Him in every way

E) THY WILL BE DONE

God's will is His own set standard on how man should live.

HOW GOD'S WILL CAN BE DONE IN OUR LIVES?

By allowing God into our past to;

- Heal all the hurt, traumas and disappointments, etc
- Heal us emotionally, physically, spiritually and mentally in every way

- Allow him in our weak areas so that he can make us strong.

F) ON EARTH AS IT IS IN HEAVEN

Through our healed lives, prepared and equipped by the Lord himself, the kingdom comes.

Note:

Only believers can go into the heavenly realm through prayers backed by faith to bring;

- The love of heaven
- The joy of heaven
- The peace of heaven
- The healing of heaven
- The miracles of heaven down to earth

G) GIVE US THIS DAY OUR DAILY BREAD

- When we live for God the heavenly blessings flow into our daily lives and businesses (3 John 2)
- The daily bread is not only physical but also spiritual (Jn 4:34-35)
- Doing the father's will brings a sense of fulfillment that no other work on earth can give us.

H) FORGIVE US OUR TRESPASSES AS WE FORGIVE THOSE WHO TRESPASS AGAINST US

- God can only forgive us if we forgive others.
- We need to forgive others totally
- Forgiveness keeps us free
- Any unforgiveness hinders us from receiving healing from God.
- It is also essential to forgive ourselves

I) LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION BUT DELIVER US FROM EVIL

- Righteousness in Jesus is victory over all evil (Is 54:14)
- Making a choice to stand firm in Jesus and never yielding to sin weakens temptation giving place for victory.

J) FOR THINE IS THE KINGDOM THE POWER AND THE GLORY FOREVER AND EVER AMEN

(Rev. 11:15)

We finish as we began, praising our father in heaven for;

- Who He is
- The kingdom is His alone
- All power belongs to Him
- All glory belongs to Him

Forever and ever Amen

It is not enough to just say the prayer, we need to live it

THE PURPOSE OF LIVING A PRAYER

- i) It brings glorious intimacy with our God
- ii) It brings protection on everything that God has given to us
- iii) It gives us victory every single day (2 Cor 2:14)
- iv) Prayer releases blessings in our lives.

We should live in the glorious life that Jesus has called us to live in His presence in the heavenly realm while on earth.

CHAPTER 8: EQUIPPED TO SERVE

We are all called by God to serve Him but a few are chosen (Matt 22:14). It is one thing to be called and another to be chosen.

We are called to be set apart for God's glorious gospel (Rom 1:1-6)

In order to be chosen we need do the following;

- Dying to the worldly desires, thoughts and ways
- Live in full righteousness and holiness
- Living in obedience to God for the sake of the name of Jesus Christ among many nations, tribes and tongues
- Spending time daily in God's presence to hear His voice, His call on our lives and His direction for us to walk in

WHAT WE NEED TO KNOW IN ORDER TO SERVE GOD EFFECTIVELY

1. GOD IS THE SOURCE OF EVERYTHING

- Jesus always points to the source (Jn 5:19, Jn 5:30, Jn 12:49) and so should we
- Coming into His presence in obedience is the only way we can see what the father is doing
- Doing things in our own authority ends up in mistakes
- Hearing God's voice and act in obedience always works

Note:

If Jesus the very son of God had to go to the father to receive every teaching, how much more should we?

2. JESUS THE AUTHORITY

- Jesus has given us the authority of His name
- Sickesses, demons and spirits have names but the name of Jesus is above every other name
- At the mention of the name of Jesus, every sickness, evil spirit, every curse has to bow down in obedience. (Lk 10:19, Phil 2:9-11)

3. THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

- The Holy Spirit gives us the power to witness for Christ (Acts 1:8)
- He enables us to abound in God's power (Rom 15:13)
- He fills us with God's love, joy, peace and righteousness.
- He does not speak of His own authority but whatever he hears from the father. (Rom 15:19, Jn 16:13)

CHAPTER 9: THE SPIRITUAL REALM AND THE HOLY SPIRIT

- The spiritual realm is a large slow moving wheel outside the realm of time (earth)
- Unlike the spiritual realm everything in the material earthly realm has a life span which is controlled by time thus it is temporary
- Prayer reaches man to the supernatural realm of God's Holy and eternal presence
- A man without Christ seeks pleasure in the earthly realm.
- In the spiritual realm we are set free from the laws of nature i.e. death, sin, etc
- We have a free choice to choose how we should live our lives. The fruits of our decisions will show in our lives.

THE FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT VS THE FRUITS OF EVIL

Fruits of the Spirit	Fruits of evil
Love	Hate
Joy	Anger
Peace	Unrest
Patience	Impatience
Kindness	Cruelty
Goodness	Evil
Faithfulness	Unfaithfulness
Gentleness	Roughness
Self control	Uncontrollable

The fruits of the spirit lead to health and freedom while the fruits of evil lead to sickness, bondage and death

CHAPTER 10: BLESSINGS OF OBEDIENCE

Obedience is taking up a command and acting on it without question or hesitation.

Disobedience on the other hand is going against the will of God to your own way (Rebellion)

To obey God, we need to love Him fully (1 Jn 5:2-4, 2 Cor 2:8-9)

RESULTS OF OBEDIENCE

- His light will penetrate our innermost being
- His truth will enlighten our mind
- His supernatural strength comes into our very body
- God's word will spread
- Followers of Christ will multiply
- Even those tied in religion will be obedient to the faith (Acts 6:7)
- Life and salvation (Heb 5:8-9)
- It's better than sacrifice (1 Sam 15:22)
- Absolute victory through Jesus (1 Jn 5:2-4)
- Forgiveness of sins
- It resists disobedience (2 Cor 2:9)
- We develop a pure heart in us (1 Pet 1:22)
- It guarantees our walk in God's way (Rom 1:5-6)
- God's authority and power starts to work in us
- Positions us on a platform of hearing God's voice

RESULTS OF DISOBEDIENCE

- Sin
- Distress
- Difficulties
- Judgement
- Death (both physical and spiritual)

CHAPTER 11: HOW TO RECEIVE AND FLOW IN THE ANOINTING

Anointing is the ability to fulfill the purpose of God created us for through using the talent/skill/gift that has already been provided by the common grace of God.

WHAT INCREASES THE ANOINTING?

- Dying to Sin, the old man, desires of the flesh, the world
- Taking up your cross and then following Jesus (Matt 10:38)
- Walking in the footsteps of Jesus (1 Pet 2:21)
- Spending more time in the presence of God through prayer and meditation (Josh 1:8)
- Walking in God in obedience and faith
- By being filled by the Holy Spirit (Eph 5:18)

THE RESULT OF THE ANOINTING

- We become instruments of God to all nations (Is 45:1-2)
- We will see success
- We receive teaching from the Lord (1 Jn 2:27)
- We receive understanding (1 Jn 2:20)
- The Lord protects us from the enemy (Ps 105:15)
- It enables us to trust fully in Jesus and then step out in faith. (2 Cor 2:21-22)
- The task becomes easy (Matt 11:30)

Note

The level of the anointing is determined by the degree at which we seek for it, keep it and how we use it.

CHAPTER 12: STEPPING OUT IN FAITH

Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. (Heb 11:1-3)

TYPES OF FAITH

1. FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST

It involves;

- Confessing our sins,
- Receiving Jesus as Lord and personal savior
- Living our lives in Him

2. FAITH IN ACTION (STEPPING OUT IN FAITH)

This is trusting God to do things he has promised us as we;

- Preach the Gospel
- Heal the sick
- Cast out devils
- Deliver the oppressed

3. THE GIFT OF FAITH

This is one of the gifts of the Holy Spirit given for a specific time to accomplish a specific task among God's people on earth.

It comes through the Rhema word (specific instruction to do something for God)

Note:

To move in the gift of faith, one has to first hear, believe and obey God.

HOW TO GET AND INCREASE YOUR FAITH

- Accepting God's grace to operate in our hearts (Eph 2:8)
- Allowing the Holy Spirit to dwell in our hearts (Eph 3:16-19)
- By living the life of Christ (Gal 2:20)
- Through hearing the word of God (Rom 10:17)
- Being rooted and established in Jesus Christ (Col 2:6-7)
- Put your faith in practice. (Jn 2:14-17)
- Through trials (Jam 1:2-4)
- Asking the Lord to increase our faith (Lk 17:5-6)

To have faith in God; believe you have received it, and it will be yours. Mark 11:v22-24.