



School of Transforming Community

Volume 1 – UPDATED 2023

www.HeartTransformation.org

The Adventure of a Lifetime

In Christ – The School of Transforming Community (SOTC)
“Living the Kingdom Life”

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*But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.
2 Corinthians 3:18 (NKJV)*

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IMPORTANT: LEARNING & COMMUNITY PRINCIPLES FOR GROWTH

REFLECTIONS:

1. These REFLECTIONS are at the end of every Study/Message. They are a transformation opportunity for you, a group or a church.
2. Too seldom do we STOP to hear and receive what the Lord has for us. We must stop and allow Him to transform our heart.
3. REFLECTIONS is to be done with other people so that God can use others to bless you and use you to bless others; that all might experience the fullness of God and transformation.
4. We recommend that this whole process is done in a SMALL GROUP, where each of member works at home on a common preassigned lesson and then shares what God is saying to them with the other members of the group.

PART 1

TRANSFORMED INTO HIS IMAGE

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1. **Welcome to Heart Transformation**

The Lord is welcoming us into an intimate life with Him. He is offering us all the Fruit of the Spirit - all the time, and His power, that we might live victorious lives. Our hope is set on having a victorious life and **walking in the Holy Spirit**. When we are fully in the Spirit, we are awesome in power, awesome in all ways. It means we are dwelling with/in the Kingdom of God. We are being protected as we sleep and being prepared to conquer tomorrow. 2 Cor. 3:18 speaks of being Transformed into the image of Jesus Himself, and as we are transformed, we go from glory to glory, with ever increasing glory. This glory accumulates in us, and we become more godly people; people that can be used by Him. This is all done by the Spirit of the Lord. This is what God is calling us to – not a difficult journey. We each can get there from where we are right now. He has made us to be **more than conquerors, victors!** All we must do is **follow His plan** and this will take place.

The unfortunate news is that man is too caught up with himself, tries to do it his way. We can have all the above if we choose to follow Him; be a follower of His. We can have a great **marriage that lasts a whole lifetime**. We can have a history of our children, generation upon generation, doing the same. God can make us great in whatever we do if we are willing. We will receive wisdom beyond what any person can see. We can become great in the marketplace because of His favor opening doors, giving ideas that will out-compete that which is there. God desires that we be great at everything we do, **full of His righteousness**.

Righteousness is spoken of over 900 times in scripture. He is calling us to be a part of this: **Living, Dwelling & Walking in Him every day!** We can be the most **prosperous people** in the land if we walk with Him daily and that is God's will for us in our life – the result will be a **prospering heart, first**. We could become the most **prosperous people** in the land, as we dwell and live in the Kingdom of God. Real unending joy, which comes from the Lord, will become a characteristic of who we are, so it is with each of the Fruit of the Spirit. (Doubt, discouragement, & dismay are not of God). We will trample the bad and live the good. This is the life of someone who **loves the Lord with ALL their heart**.

Do not get distracted with what's on the left or right. If we choose this journey, each day becomes better and better and better, until best! Therefore, prosper by **loving God fully, without distraction!**

TRANSFORMED INTO HIS IMAGE

2. Christian Distinctness - EVIDENCES

It has become clear: if we are disciples of Jesus, we will be distinctive to the world. We will be doing things they are unable to do; we will be exhibiting things they are unable to exhibit. We will have a capacity for love, joy & peace that the world can't have. God will heal, bless, and encourage others through us! Because we are becoming like Jesus; we are being transformed into His likeness. We become the shining star upon a hill, as a result of His light in/through us. It is our testimony & our witness of what He has done that makes the difference.

Look at the following verses & make note of the **distinctness** that lies there; that we are to be exhibiting.

NOTES:

Matt 22:37-39 Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind."^b ³⁸This is the first and greatest commandment. ³

Luke 10:18-20 ⁸And He said to them, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. ¹⁹Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you. ²⁰Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rather^[a] rejoice because your names are written in heaven."

John 15:8 ⁸By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.

Acts 1:8 ⁸But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me^[a] in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

Acts 19:11-12 ¹¹Now God worked unusual miracles by the hands of Paul, ¹²so that even handkerchiefs or aprons were brought from his body to the sick, and the diseases left them and the evil spirits went out of them.

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

1 Cor 4:20 ²⁰For the kingdom of God is not in word but in power.

2 Peter 1:3-4 ³as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, ⁴by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

Acts 6:5,8 ⁵And the saying pleased the whole multitude. And they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit, and Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas, a proselyte from Antioch,... ⁸And Stephen, full of faith^[a] and power, did great wonders and signs among the people.

Eph 3:19 ¹⁹to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

Eph 5:18 ¹⁸And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit,

Rom 7:20 ²⁰Now if I do what I will not to do, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells in me.

Rom 8:5-7 ⁵For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. ⁶For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. ⁷Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be.

Gal 5:16 ¹⁶I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.

Gal 5:22-23 ²²But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.

James 5:16 ¹⁶Confess your trespasses^[a] to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.

Eph 6:18 ¹⁸praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints—

John 14:13-14 ¹³And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If you ask^[a] anything in My name, I will do it.

Mark 11:17 ¹⁷Then He taught, saying to them, "Is it not written, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations'?^[a] But you have made it a 'den of thieves.'" "

John 13:34,35 ³⁴A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. ³⁵By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

1 Cor. 12:4-7 ⁴There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. ⁵There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord. ⁶And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all. ⁷But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all:

2 Cor 3:18 ¹⁸But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.

EVIDENCES WE ARE NOT DISTINCTIVE TO THE WORLD

- Without Distinctive Joy, Peace, Love
- Without Distinctive Power from Heaven seen by the world
- Condoning abortion, same sex marriage, sexual promiscuity, rise of satan worship

- Desiring the world as much/more than the Kingdom life: a Divided Heart
- Little Praying...Few Answers
- Measure Spiritual Health by Spiritual Activity rather than by being Spirit led
- Blindness & Numbed Down...I think I am spiritually healthier than I really am in God's eyes- I am not exhibiting God's power in & through my life
- Compartmentalizing Spirituality – outside my spiritual life, I don't demonstrate a Kingdom Purposed Life
- Mind & experience oriented rather than heart/Spirit oriented
- Divorce Rate, children not staying with the faith, magnificence of God not displayed to the world by His people

EVIDENCES WE ARE DISTINCTIVE TO THE WORLD

As a result of being Saturated with the Presence of God, the evidences of our lives are to be distinct:

- **We are to be a fountain overflowing with joy, peace & love and all the other Fruit of the Spirit**
- **We are to be distinctive like Stephen in Acts 6, where he was full of faith & the Holy Spirit...full of God's grace and power...doing great wonders & miraculous signs among the people. We are to have a wisdom that surpasses the knowledge and wisdom of man.**
- **We no longer condone abortion, same sex marriage, sexual promiscuity, divorce & co-habitation**
- **We now pray much in the Spirit, with greater faith & receive many answers**
- **We measure our spiritual health by the effectiveness of our ministry & the overflow of the Fruit of the Spirit**
- **We are receiving much knowledge & wisdom from God everyday & it is growing in us; we make godly, wise decisions.**
- **We now have given the Lord ownership of our life; every aspect, so that distinctness shines and the glory of God grows within me**
- **Our spirituality is now mind & heart saturated, causing us to take actions as the Holy Spirit leads us. We go and do the things God wants us to do without hesitation. We are being transformed.**

- **Our reputations as it relates to our faith, is talked about and shines: in our marriage, family, neighborhood, church**

For this to be true about us, we must live by the Spirit and we must give effectual testimony of transformation that has taken place in us. This is more than a statement that I have been transformed, it requires that I am able to honor God, specifically with what wound He has healed in my heart or what patterned sin of which I have been set free or what wrong belief has been transformed into a new belief. We must be specific for the world to understand and so the world knows they can be transformed and free, for example: from anger... If we do not give effective testimonies, we run the risk of diluting what God wants to do in us and through us. We dilute the evidence the world needs to see: how great He is. A shallow testimony may give evidence that the person truly isn't free and full of joy.

This message of Heart Transformation and being Saturated with the Presence of God is depending on authenticity in/from you. God wants to be rejoiced over, to the full, as a result of transforming your life. As your life is transformed, full of the Holy Spirit and His power, you will be called upon to do mighty miracles with His power. As a result of your testimony: what He does in and through you; you will change the world around you. The divorce rate & co-habitation has no chance of survival as we live our lives like Jesus & as Stephen did.

Praise God, Hallelujah!!

REFLECTIONS:

What **evidences** would you like to have transformed in your life?

Are you ready to receive by asking God to heal you? _____

If you are ready, then ask someone to participate with you in your confession. Pray together asking God to move you to exhibit His Spirit in you, transforming **you**. _____

Commented [KP1]:

3. BE TRANSFORMED INTO HIS LIKENESS

Ever Increasing Glory is one of God's most exciting concepts and with it there is much vision.

2 Corinthians 3:18 (NKJV)

¹⁸ But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.

This verse is thrilling because it is telling us that we can be transformed into His likeness: Jesus Himself, becoming just like Him. All we have to do is make ourselves available to Him. This means that we will hold nothing back. As a result, He will transform us by the power of the Holy Spirit, to be just like Himself. In John 14:12, Jesus tells us:

"He who believes in me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these will he do, because I go to My Father."

To imagine that we could be like Him, do the things He did, prosper in all the things He did, is one of the greatest blessings you could receive from God Himself. Can you picture yourself going throughout your community healing the sick, blessing the humble, performing miracles of all sorts, and creating a community of those that love Jesus? A community full of joy, love, peace, patience, hope and His power.

Secondly, this verse tells us that we will not only be transformed but will receive ever increasing glory. God's glory is full of light and purity, full of praise, honor, magnificent, and not only do we get to receive it ever-increasingly as we continue to be transformed, but perhaps as we are transformed – it accumulates within us. Our Lord desires that we be mighty men and women of God: serving, blessing and transforming a community now, into the image of Jesus. If we live this, our communities will not look like other communities because His glory will defeat divorce, co-habitation, abandonment, and unemployment! It will emanate God's character. This is what God wants to do in us and through us; He wants to transform us into Jesus' likeness through the power of the Holy Spirit. When we are living out this scripture, it will be like bursts of God that will come out of us, because He dwells within us. When we are being fully transformed, then our heart is available to be filled to the full with the Holy Spirit and all the fullness of God. We know scripture tells us: we are to be *more than conquerors, going from victory to victory*. (Ps. 84:7; Rom. 8:37) This doesn't mean that we won't have testing and suffering, but we will be so *full of the fruit of the Spirit*, (Gal. 5:22) that our circumstances don't matter. Because we are full of Him, we will prosper much more than our present condition, because He causes us to think & expect differently; He opens doors for us. But we must become this transformed person in the likeness of Jesus.

As we are being fully transformed, we are becoming Saturated with the Presence of God. His Holy Spirit is fully dwelling in us, because we have allowed Him to completely transform us. As a result of *not holding sin within us* (Rom. 7:20) the Presence of God fills our heart. We have a new potential in relationships, to be without sin, to be freed of wounds or issues of belief. You

are a mighty person of God and God can fully use you now in the building of His Kingdom here on earth.

In the following pages, you will see a process, images of God bursting out of you as you are being filled with Him. Spend some time dwelling on these images, because the principle is that if it is truly God in you then He will overflow through you. You will not be able to hold it back. It is overflowing with joy, a fruit of the Spirit. You can't hide that joy. It will be revealed in your body, your words, the way you think and how you feel. Also consider: Revival really is being **Saturated with the Presence of God**. The following scriptures will reveal Revivals that took place in Biblical times. Enjoy them. (NKJV)

2 Chronicles 17:3-14 ³ Now the LORD was with Jehoshaphat, because he walked in the former ways of his father David; he did not seek the Baals, ⁴ but sought the God^[a] of his father, and walked in His commandments and not according to the acts of Israel. ⁵ Therefore the LORD established the kingdom in his hand; and all Judah gave presents to Jehoshaphat, and he had riches and honor in abundance. ⁶ And his heart took delight in the ways of the LORD; moreover he removed the high places and wooden images from Judah. ⁷ Also in the third year of his reign he sent his leaders, Ben-Hail, Obadiah, Zechariah, Nethanel, and Michaiah, to teach in the cities of Judah. ⁸ And with them he sent Levites: Shemaiah, Nethaniah, Zebadiah, Asahel, Shemiramoth, Jehonathan, Adonijah, Tobijah, and Tobadonijah—the Levites; and with them Elishama and Jehoram, the priests. ⁹ So they taught in Judah, and had the Book of the Law of the LORD with them; they went throughout all the cities of Judah and taught the people. ¹⁰ And the fear of the LORD fell on all the kingdoms of the lands that were around Judah, so that they did not make war against Jehoshaphat. ¹¹ Also some of the Philistines brought Jehoshaphat presents and silver as tribute; and the Arabians brought him flocks, seven thousand seven hundred rams and seven thousand seven hundred male goats. ¹² So Jehoshaphat became increasingly powerful, and he built fortresses and storage cities in Judah. ¹³ He had much property in the cities of Judah; and the men of war, mighty men of valor, were in Jerusalem. ¹⁴ These are their numbers, according to their fathers' houses. Of Judah, the captains of thousands: Adnah the captain, and with him three hundred thousand mighty men of valor;

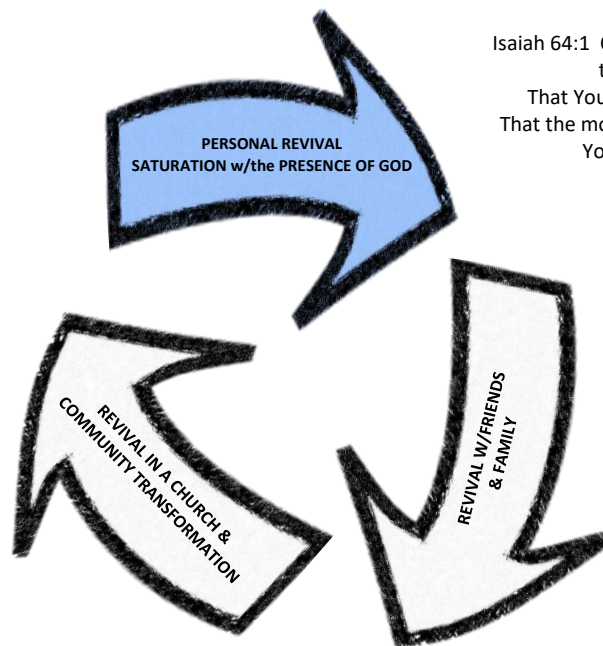
Isaiah 64:1-4 Oh, that You would rend the heavens! That You would come down! That the mountains might shake at Your presence—² As fire burns brushwood, As fire causes water to boil—To make Your name known to Your adversaries, That the nations may tremble at Your presence! ³ When You did awesome things for which we did not look, You came down, The mountains shook at Your presence. ⁴ For since the beginning of the world Men have not heard nor perceived by the ear, Nor has the eye seen any God besides You, Who acts for the one who waits for Him.

Acts 2:1-4 When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord^[a] in one place. ² And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. ³ Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. ⁴ And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

These are things should be taking place within us and overflowing to our communities!

COMMUNITY TRANSFORMATION PROCESS - AWAKENING...REVIVAL...IGNITING

This model is about Personal Revival. In order for God to use you to transform a community, you must be in Personal Revival; becoming/being Saturated with the Presence of God. Everyone in your direct community will see change in you. This change ignites others to desire the same thing. When others move into Personal Revival, they ignite others around them and eventually a whole church & community can be spiritually set on fire.



Isaiah 64:1 Oh, that You would rend
the heavens!
That You would come down!
That the mountains might shake at
Your presence—

NECESSARY ELEMENTS for PERSONAL SATURATION/REVIVAL AWAKENING...REVIVAL...IGNITING - A Long Term Strategy

Transformation through these principles:

Love the Lord with all your heart, soul, and mind *Matt. 22:37*

³⁷ Jesus said to him, "You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind."^[a]

You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you *Acts 1:8*

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

Be filled with all the fullness of God *Ephesians 3:18-19*

... and to know this love that surpasses knowledge...that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

NOTES:

Be filled with the Spirit and fire of God *Luke 3:16*

John answered them all, "I baptize you with water. But one more powerful than I will come, the thongs of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.

Be "full" of the Holy Spirit *Eph. 5:18*

And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit,

Pray in the Spirit on all occasions *Ephesians 6:18*

And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints.

Know Jesus *Philippians 3:10*

I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death...

Be "in Him" & Remain in Him *1 John 3:24*

Now he who keeps His commandments abides in Him, and He in him. And by this we know that He abides in us, by the Spirit whom He has given us.

Be mature not lacking in anything *Hebrews 6:1*

Therefore let us leave the elementary teachings about Christ and go on to maturity, not laying again the foundation of repentance from acts that lead to death, and of faith in God

Luke 8:13-14 The seed that fell among thorns stands for those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by life's worries, riches and pleasures, and they do not mature.

Reflect and receive the glory of God *2 Corinthians 3:18*

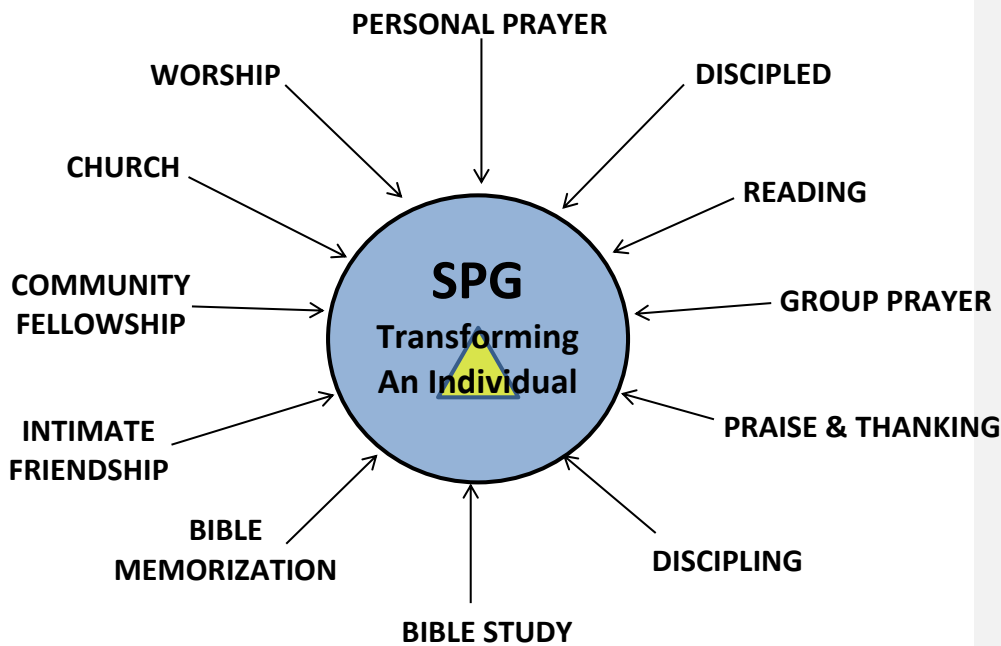
And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

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PERSONAL PREPARATION for SATURATION

AWAKENING...REVIVAL...IGNITING

Saturation of the Presence of God in an Individual (SPG)



The soul of the individual is being saturated by the Presence of God, because they are **seeking Him** with all their heart. (Jer. 29:13) An open heart is rewarded by the filling of the Lord. This transforms the individual in every role they have in life. This means that you are releasing to the Lord: all your sin patterns, temptations, harbored sins, wounds & wrong beliefs to Him that you would be transformed. **Deep, intimate relationship with the Lord is discovered!**

*Ephesians 3:19...*¹⁹ to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

*John 14:10-13*¹⁰ Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father in Me? The words that I speak to you I do not speak on My own *authority*; but the **Father** Who **dwells** in Me does the works.¹¹ Believe Me that I *am* in the Father and the Father in Me, or else believe Me for the sake of the works themselves.¹² "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father.¹³ And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.

Saturation of the Presence of God in an Individual
Fullness of the Holy Spirit on Display in Me



The fruit of receiving His Presence & becoming Saturated in one's surrendered life;
the Holy Spirit's blessing & supernatural work bursts out of them to others.

Galatians 5:22-23 ²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,
²³ gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.

**PERSONAL OVERFLOWING from SATURATION
AWAKENING...REVIVAL...IGNITING**

**Saturation of the Presence of God in an Individual (SPG)
Fullness of the Holy Spirit on Display**



As a result of Revival in me, it goes through me to others. I begin touching people with the glory of God. I desire to bless others and announce His greatness to everyone with whom I am in relationship. I begin being compelled by the Holy Spirit to proclaim His life & goodness. God uses me to share the gospel and many come.

John 13:4,35 ... Jesus...rose from supper and laid aside His garments, took a towel and girded Himself. ...35 By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

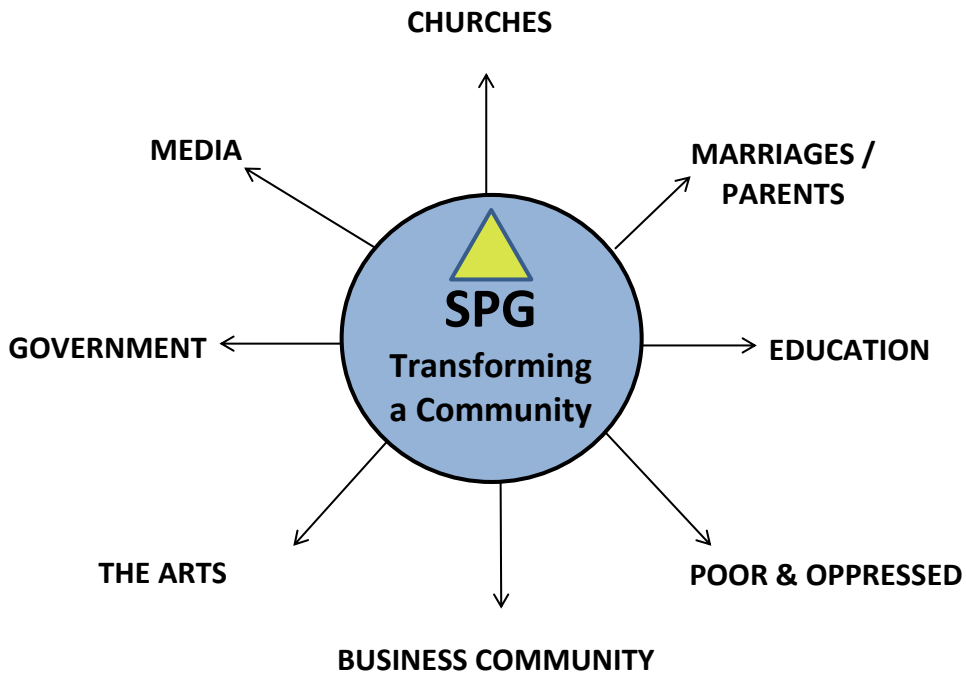
John 15:4,5 Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. 5 "I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.

Matt. 17:20 So Jesus said to them, "Because of your unbelief;^[a] for assuredly, I say to you, if you have faith as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you.

AWAKENING...REVIVAL...IGNITING

Vision: 85% of your Community Become Followers of Jesus
Saturation of the Presence of God in a Community
A Long-Term Strategy

For a community to become Saturated, it requires that all areas of the community are touched with the Glory of God by His people with the gospel, that all might become saved. Churches could plan to integrate themselves as leaders in each area within a community. Community Transformation can take place as a result of its people being Saturated with the Presence of God. (See below.)



Matthew 28:19 ¹⁹ Go therefore^[a] and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit...

**Saturation Fruit in a Community
AWAKENING...REVIVAL...IGNITING**

85% Become Followers of Jesus
Saturated with the Presence of God (SPG) in a Community
Vision: Fruitfulness of a Long-Term Strategy



Godly fruit is born in many shapes & forms as a Community becomes transformed into the image of Jesus. In the Church, especially, there should be an end to divorce & co-habitation. The people within the Church should be at full employment. The structure within the family should be reestablished...**the glory of God is on display.**

Saturation Effect on Community: FRUIT
AWAKENING...REVIVAL...IGNITING

85% Become Followers of Jesus
Saturated with the Presence of God in a Community
A Long-Term Strategy



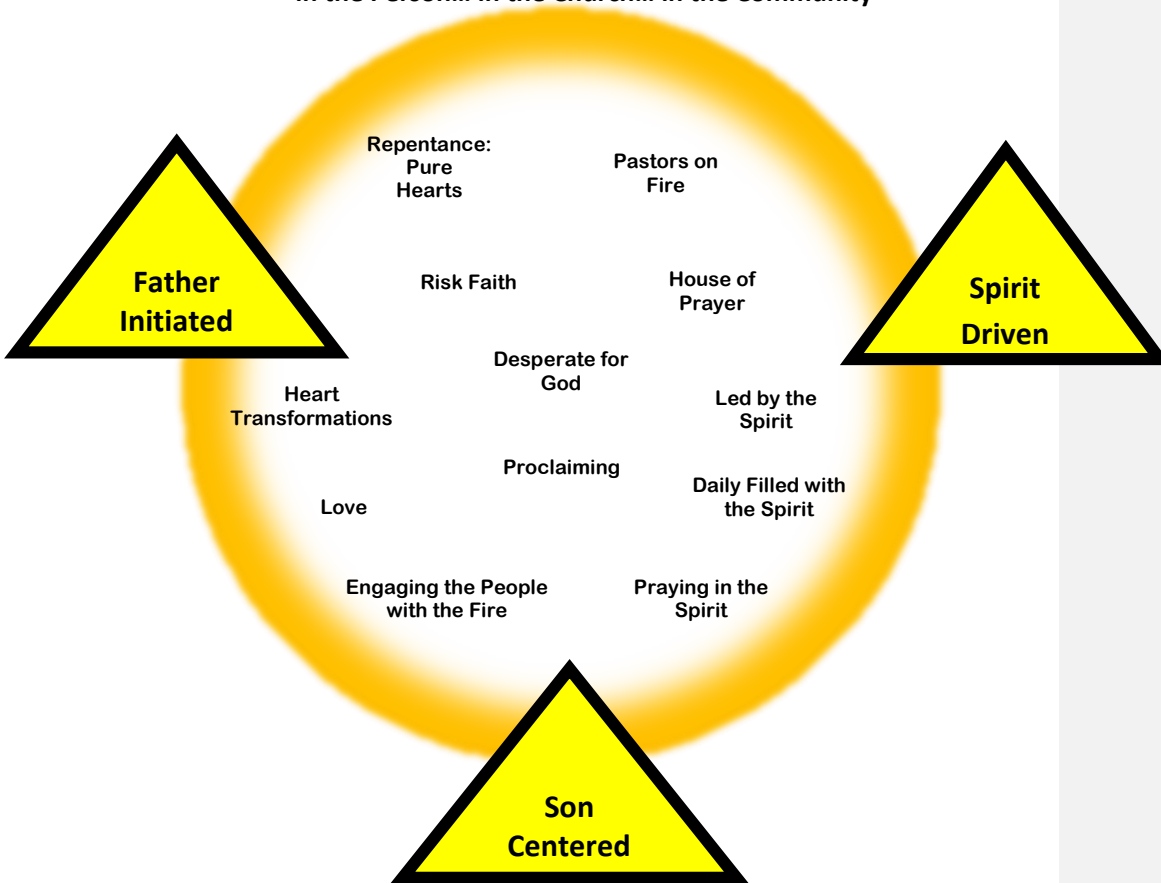
A TRANSFORMING COMMUNITY

The Church has become the center of the community.

Col 1:28 Him we preach, warning every man and teaching every man in all wisdom, that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus.

**A PERVASIVE REVIVAL CULTURE
AWAKENING...REVIVAL...IGNITING
A Long-Term Strategy**

**A CHURCH SATURATED WITH THE PRESENCE OF GOD (SPG)
Creating a Culture of Revival:
in the Person... in the Church... in the Community**



Phil. 2:1,2 Therefore, if there is any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and mercy, ² fulfill my joy by being like-minded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind.

REFLECTIONS: Transformation should be taking place in you as you are seeking. You must engage in order to be cleansed & filled.

- Have you experienced some level of Revival (Saturation of the Presence of God), evidenced by personal and/or organizational transformation? If not, what is holding you back?

- What is your testimony as to how God has transformed you?

- With whom have you shared this testimony and vision?

- In your own spiritual awakening, what have you found most helpful to advance God's work within you?

- Have you/are you experiencing the fire of God within yourself?

- How do you see taking this Saturation/Transformation Message to your Church?

- How can your Community become 85% followers of Jesus?

- What blessings from God are you receiving now?

4. SATURATION OF THE PRESENCE OF GOD BRINGS BLESSING

Saturation of the Presence of God (SPG) - Revival

"Revival can be described as a saturation with divine presence, God as sovereign, laying hold of people, and sweeping through a community. It is God intervening in a life, church and/or community. A Saturation of the Presence of God: a manifestation of the Holy Spirit that transforms you and the community. Eph. 3:19; 5:18

Saturated by the Presence of God – What would it look like if I were saturated or full of the Spirit (Eph. 5:18) and loved the Lord with all my heart?

It would be the most exciting, peaceful, joyful life possible on earth. Imagine being joyful & peaceful no matter the circumstance: no longer striving for success to please the world, no longer seeking acceptance of many (just my God), no longer being characterized by worry, anxiety and stress, no longer managed by busyness and the activities of the world.

Solomon taught us in Ecclesiastes that pursuing power, influence, wealth, entertainment to give satisfaction was chasing after the wind and who has ever caught that? He learned this by pursuing human wisdom to its fullest. He had every resource available to test and he tried them to the full, without lasting satisfaction in life.

We have such a tendency to try to prove Solomon wrong. We say, "I'll be happy when I make more money, when I get married or have children, when I'm in the lead, when I have a vacation home, when I retire and have time, etc. We try to answer our need for satisfaction through worldly fulfillment. There is no lasting satisfaction outside the love of God being full and complete in us. This is how God made us, with hearts that are constantly seeking satisfaction. This satisfaction can be sought from the world as Solomon did or through our relationship with God, which is a gift from Him. (Prov. 3:13; 5:19) **God's power, the fruit of the Spirit, being unshackled from sin, and bearing much fruit come from His power in us, for us and through us.**

Too often joy is defined as happiness/blessing that is sought by earthly attainment or success. This is not joy! Joy is cheerfulness that comes from God and available every day. Wouldn't it be great if that is how I lived and what others saw? This is determined by the Saturation of the Presence of God! Being Saturated with the Presence of God: dripping, overflowing, no room for anything else in my heart. This causes me to think, feel, act, have power, and be at peace like Jesus. This is God's intent for me! I make choices, fulfill desires that exhilarate my heart, living life like no other way possible, because I am living for/in His presence!

We frustrate ourselves when we call out to God to fix our lives without our hearts being transformed. (Like providing us with things we want, satisfying our definition of success: spiritually, physically, professionally, emotionally and psychologically.) Living in the Presence of God, we desire Him, His purposes, and His ways. Our God desires fellowship with us and will not give us gifts that distract us from being intimate with Him. He desires to give us everything, the very best, blessing our lives for now and all eternity! He wants to bless our lives so it will keep us with Him. Our identity won't be caught up in where we live, what we drive or how we look, who our friends are, or what entertainment we last experienced, the vacations we've had but rather whether I am experiencing the fullness of God and overflowing with the Spirit.

The enemy is fooling us that our ways (worldly ways) will find satisfaction and peace. Our plan takes in a little bit of God, including Him in areas of my life. God's plan is inexplicably far superior to that: He is the center of it all, partnering us with His power, bringing wisdom, fruitfulness and joy to His glory, having eternal impact! God's plan is that we love Him the way He loved us, with all affection for Him, yearning for His Presence daily. The result is that we will see what He sees. We will live our lives in strategic, valuable, imperishable, fruitfulness.

Unfortunately, we make our spiritual life a duty, determined to fulfill that duty and disciplined to that end. It is without adventure and the power of God. Duty, discipline and determination are not bad things in themselves and need to be in our lives as God meant them: as part of a passionate journey of thirsting and hungering for Him, coming out of the desert experience into the lush adventure He has chosen. As long as the enemy can keep us distracted from trusting Jesus in everything and with everything; he will keep us from having complete intimacy in a victorious Kingdom life. (1 John 5:4) We will miss the abundant life that He desires us to have. The enemy keeps us hamstrung with a divided heart, one foot in the world and the other with Christ. The Lord explained that this doesn't work and that we sacrifice God's abundant life in us and through us.

The **choice is ours** as to the degree we exhibit the fullness of Christ and His Holy Spirit, experiencing some of what He intended or all of it:

- * being somewhat loving **or** characterized by love
- * having some joy **or** joy overflowing
- * some peace **or** peace no matter my circumstance
- * somewhat happy marriage **or** oneness in marriage
- * some fun times as a family **or** purposeful, committed family times continually
- * professional success **or** professionally excellent and powerful for His Kingdom
- * scattered, miraculous experiences **or** daily seeing His power active in my life and those He desires to touch through me
- * times of prayer **or** continual fruitful prayer life
- * some patience **or** consistent patience because I live His purposes and loving others
- * some goodness when needed **or** continual goodness that seeps out of my life daily
- * occasional, imperishable fruit **or** imperishable fruit constantly produced
- * thankfulness when blessed **or** overflowing thankfulness
- * some hope **or** overflowing hope because I know He is at work in, for, and through me
- * some faith **or** a faith that moves mountains
- * some trust in God **or** trusting everything God said and intends for my life

Without being transformed into His likeness as a result of yearning for SPG, then what? What is God's intent for me? (Eph. 3:14-20) If I am saturated, then I will believe what Jesus said in John 14:12: that I can be like Him and do what He did, even more! How exciting and exhilarating is that? There is nothing to fear here! It is just embracing an adventurous, fully satisfying life that

the Lord is offering. Will you **thirst and yearn to be Saturated with the Presence of God**, not allowing anything to get in the way of this taking place in your life?

Is there a need for SPG?

The need can be observed in irreverence for God and His house, the disregard for the Sabbath, the breakdown of the family and marriages, rampant self-love, greed, entitlement thinking, addictions of all kinds, the tyranny of time, preoccupation with success in every way, the lack of compassion for people, and evil closing in ever increasingly on the Body of Christ.

Consider what our Lord did in the book of Acts through the power of the Holy Spirit. God so empowered Peter, Paul & others, that even their cloaks and shadows would bring healing. People came long distances to hear them, and God granted healing to their hearts and bodies! They were anticipating God's presence. They had faith that great and mighty things would be done. A similar thing took place in America in the 1700-1800's. God showed up in the revivals of Finney, Moody, Wesley, Whitefield and others. Millions were impacted and came to the Lord. This was predicated by some **faithful people believing and praying for revival with all their hearts!**

SPG (the Saturation of the Presence of God – Revival) is taking place now in China, India, Africa, the Muslim world, & Latin America. In Nagaland, (a known head-hunting people group, a state in NE India), there has been an amazing spiritual awakening. Today, 95% of the people have become followers of Jesus. Dare we hope for SPG in our world today? Will you put your faith into action crying out to God for a spiritual awakening in your nation?

It begins with you, daily reaching out to touch your Lord. You must engage with Him in a different way. It's not about fulfilling your old routine. No, it begins with a new expectation that you yearn to touch the Lord each and every day and stay in touch throughout it. You expect to be in His presence and power every day. You are anticipating Him touching your life every day. Every day is an adventure with the Spirit of God moving in you and through you.

To be in His presence and stay in His presence, it requires not only your passion of being in Him, but also a passion to have and keep a pure heart – a heart that has no affection for the world, freed from:

- living to my will and focus **vs.** in God's will
- releasing success on earth as being central in my life
- choosing to rid my life of "time activities" that are not vital to what God wants
- living to the audience of one **vs.** many
- choosing to listen and hear God alone
- choosing to do what He says and wants
- choosing to hate my wrong loves and sin patterns
- choosing to root out any and all woundedness within me
- choosing to turn away from the enemy
- choosing to dwell in His Kingdom now and daily
- choosing to touch the presence of God and asking to be transformed to loving Him with all my heart

You can choose this life right now; your life can be an adventure of living & walking in the Spirit with His power. Don't pass this moment up, you can choose right now that this is how you will live the rest of your life – being continually saturated by the presence of God and having no tolerance of sin in your life. If you choose & do these things, your life can be characterized by:

5. THE BLESSINGS OF THE SATURATION OF THE PRESENCE OF GOD

SPG

What does SPG look like in a person's life?

Consider the following promises of God. Are you experiencing these blessings each day? Mark each one with a plus (+) or minus (-) as to how you are experiencing them:

FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT:

- having a joy & peace that passes all understanding, no matter my circumstance
- having a love for God that is full of affection & passion for His presence
- having a faith that moves mountains & heals my broken heart as well as others
- having a patience that is long suffering & steadfast without selfish agenda
- having a meekness/humility and mildness that cares for God's people naturally
- having a goodness that comes from an upright heart to share with others
- having a gentleness from moral goodness and integrity
- having self-control [being without excessiveness in thought, action or feeling]

FREEDOM FROM SIN:

- without responding to sinful cravings within me
- without dissensions from me that could cause divisions/factions
- without jealousy
- without coveting
- without sinful ambition
- without hate
- without deceit
- without participating in factions
- without malice and gossip
- without hypocrisy
- without boasting
- without lusting
- without false witness and slander
- without haughty eyes
- without manipulation and scheming
- without discord from me
- without anxiousness
- without worry and stress
- without lying
- without pride

HAVING HIS PASSION FOR PEOPLE:

- having a burning compassion for the lost
- being one in my marriage and family
- loving my enemies
- full of generosity
- giving grace to others
- compassionate at just the right times
- my righteous God bubbling over from within me to others
- exhibiting Holy Spirit justice at the right moments
- loving others actively and deeply

PERSONAL VITALITY:

- being in the presence of God continually
- no longer drawn to wrong desires
- in the middle of the will of God continually
- being “in Him” and not sinning
- confessing and repenting immediately upon recognition of sin - remaining in His presence
- experiencing freedom from sin, without restraint and obligation but because of my love for Him
- looking for the return of Jesus
- experiencing holiness often
- being one with the Father and the Son
- overflowing in thankfulness
- always in joyful obedience
- finding satisfaction in life, which is a gift from God

BLESSINGS FROM THE PROMISES OF GOD:

- He desires to give me every spiritual blessing in Christ
- He is my shield, help & guidance
- He offers me intimacy with Him personally
- He rescues & delivers me
- He listens to me & answers
- He sustains me
- He causes me to be more productive
- He is merciful
- He gives me wisdom & understanding
- He leads me
- He comforts me
- He wants me to be one with Him & others
- He multiplies my fruit: 30,60, 100 times
- He gives me His power
- He gives me His favor
- He protects me
- He strengthens me
- He revives my soul
- He trains my hands for battle
- He stoops down to make me great
- He ends my striving

- He frees me of anxiousness, worry & stress
- He works all things for good in my life
- He never forsakes me
- He directs my paths & makes them straight
- His love never fails me
- In Him, I lack no good thing
- He stirs my heart to a noble theme
- He creates a pure heart & a steadfast spirit within me

All of this is possible in us only by being full of the Spirit of God; **it is a gift from God**. These are the things that characterize us when we love the Lord with all our hearts (with all affection). We will be overflowing with the Spirit. We will have unquenchable passion for our Lord and be like Jesus in every way. We will attract many to the heart of Jesus.

REFLECTIONS: Transformation should be taking place in you as you are seeking. You must engage in order to be cleansed & filled.

Is this your greatest hope in life?

Is this your greatest hope for your church?

*Eph 3:18,19 And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, 18 may have power, together with all the saints, to **grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ**, 19 and to know this love that surpasses knowledge — that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. (NIV)*

Eph 5:18 Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit. (NIV)

John 14:12 I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. (NIV)

2 Cor. 3:18 And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit. (NIV)

Matt 22:37 Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." (NIV)

Rom 8:5 Those who live according to the sinful nature have their minds set on what that nature desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. (NIV)

1 John 1:3 We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ. (NIV)

1 Peter 1:15 But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; 16 for it is written: "Be holy, because I am holy."

Why not make a commitment today that you are going to live like this daily? You will not allow life on earth to get in the way of being in His presence. Go ahead, make a covenant with God that His plan will bring you joy and hope.

Perhaps your covenant might read like this:

I, _____, **desire to experience Your abundant life and I know the only way is to seek Your presence with all my heart. I surrender everything to You and am devoted to the journey of living and arriving at Your heart throughout my life.**

_____ (Date)

6. Six Problem Areas That Keep Us from Loving God with ALL OUR HEART

What an exciting thing to be Saturated by God Himself. The key to being Saturated is loving the Lord with all your heart. **There is a war for your heart.** To whom you will give your heart? As a result of Jesus' resurrection, the war is already won, unless we choose to live according to the world. Often these 6 Problem Areas get in the way of loving Him continuously, living the Kingdom Life continuously. Let's look at these 6 areas:

NOTES

1. Duty, Discipline and Determination vs. a Life of Love

Some may approach their spirituality through duty, discipline, and determination (DDD). Living the three D's means trying to fix things through regulating behaviors versus discovering the heart motivations. This is very close to living a spiritual life out of religiosity. Being religious is good but not when we begin doing religious activity for the sake of religious activity. DDD causes one to be man-centered and not God-centered. We go through the motions of religiosity and complete the rules, but it doesn't bring us any closer in relationship with our Lord. This **relationship with Him** is the real goal.

2. Our Lukewarm Hearts

Jesus says, "I am about to spit you out of my mouth (Rev. 3:15,16) When people are lukewarm, they have divided hearts. Part of their heart wants to fulfill the things of the world that have no spiritual value and part of the heart wants to honor & love God. We seem to get much more attention when we love the world, it's much easier to do, because that is how most of the world lives. Our Lord has made it very clear what He thinks about lukewarm hearts. Our Lord wants us to love Him with all our heart and not some of it. A divided heart puts a person's life in two boats: one foot in each boat (the world is one boat;

relationship with our God is the other boat). Having a foot in each boat, neither boat can perform very well. In fact, they perform pitifully. So, it is in our lives, in God's eyes: He would rather spit us out when we are living with a **divided heart**.

3. **Numbed Down Hearts**

What if in God's eyes, we consider ourselves more spiritual or holy than **what we really are**? What if we considered ourselves a 7-8 on God's Holiness Scale but the reality is: the fruit born from your life, the degree of power displayed in you and through you, the amount of answered prayer, the number of people you have led to the Lord...is feeble. We probably are a 2-3 in God's eyes on His Holiness Scale. Our spiritual life won't be measured on the number of times we have attended church, or doing religious things. Jesus told us, upon returning after His time of testing in the desert, (Matt. 4:10), "...you shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only shall you serve." The enemy has tricked us to think we are far healthier spiritually than what we really are. Therefore, we love Him very little because we have very little power and aren't experiencing the many more blessings the Lord has for us.

4. **Our Assaulted Hearts**

The fourth problem our hearts face is that our hearts are assaulted by **satan and his schemes**. Paul states this spiritual warfare fact in Eph. 6:12 "For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms." Let's not forget the role other people have played in our lives: sometimes we become bitter as a result of relationships; sometimes wounded from the people we love most; sometimes authorities have wounded my life. Out of these **wounds/attacks** of the enemy through other people; it can **hold back our trust in the Lord**. It can **hold back our daily walk with our Lord**. Prov. 3:5 "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding..." Often, when we have been assaulted and it is allowed to take root in my life, one sometimes blames the Lord. Satan and the rulers are **liars**; they help you blame God and it minimizes your trust, your faith, your life. These things that have assaulted your heart, need to be dealt with so God can heal them. If you do not deal with them, you will not be able to be free to be what God made you to be and do.

5. **Not Being in Him**

When we are not *in* Him (John 17:21), we are limited in our ability to fully experience God's love and power. When **not in Him**, that means we are **outside of Him**, yet connected to Him. This limits your relationship with God and all that He wants to do in you and through

you. **To be in Him** means that you are stripping off everything of the world, all that is of the world because when you move into His Presence, to be really there, you must be without sin. We understand that God is always with us but how far away am I as a result of the wounds or sin carried in my life. God is calling each of us to be **pure in heart**, without sins & wounds. (Ps. 24:3,4)

6. Accepting Sin Patterns in My Life

A. Acknowledge that we are set free from slavery of sin

At the cross, victory was accomplished through Jesus' resurrection. Have you received this resurrection, this victory? Are you free? If you are free, you will be **exhibiting the Fruit of the Spirit, most of the time**. We must believe this victory and act on this victory of the resurrection. Therefore, God is telling us, if we choose not to live holy lives; we will have lukewarm lives & have sin as part of what our lives are all about. In Rom. 6:18 Paul says, "You have been set free from sin and have become slaves to righteousness."

B. To what we offer ourselves makes all the difference in what indwells us. Rom. 7:20 "Now if I do what I do not want to do, it is no longer I who do it, but it is **sin living in me** that does it." Paul wants to make it very clear: it is the sin in me that causes me not to follow our Lord the way He desires. If I have received this resurrection freedom from the Lord, this victory in living, then I and the Holy Spirit will kick out whatever sin I continue to hang on to and do. By not dealing with sin, I then am **accepting sin patterns in my life**, which quenches the works of the Holy Spirit in my life, and continue to stay a lukewarm Christian.

C. Live according to the Spirit Rom. 8:5,6 makes it clear, "Those who live in accordance with the flesh set their minds on things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace." Paul spoke of the dilemma of Rom. 7:20...doing what he did not want to do. He answers it in Rom. 8:5 **if you live by the Spirit, you will think about the things of the Spirit**. Every sin, wound, addiction can be rooted out by the Holy Spirit. You then can truly be free!

All 6 problem areas are **used by satan to take you out, to distract you, to keep you from the power of the Holy Spirit** being alive in you and through you. But, our God has given us divine weapons (2 Cor. 10:4) to defeat each of these 6 problems. When we allow these problems in our life, & haven't called on the Holy Spirit to heal us & give us a transformed lifestyle; we are playing into the enemy's hands. Jesus has given us the victory; we are to be more than conquerors. (Rom. 8:37) **Engage with**

the Holy Spirit and allow Him to help you destroy anything that isn't holy in your life! Live "in Him"! (Col. 2:6)

YOU CAN BE FREE BECAUSE YOU HAVE BEEN SET FREE!

REFLECTIONS: Transformation should be taking place in you as you are seeking. You must engage in order to be cleansed & filled.

Which of these problem areas do you most identify in your life? _____

What sin/wound most often defeats you or takes you out? _____

Open your heart to the Lord and ask Him, by the power of the Holy Spirit, to root out this barrier to freedom. _____

7. Cultural Christianity

Story: Keith's Checklist

It's amazing how we are blind to our heart. I have loved Karen for 44 years. What a marvelous thing God is doing in us and through us, to have oneness. A few years ago, Karen was suggesting that we weren't having the quality and tender time together that she knew we could have. I asked her what it was that needed to be different, that would foster increased closeness. Using my consulting skills, of course, we put a list together and from that I made a checklist. I was dutiful to that checklist. It did improve our relationship. Then...a disaster...I lost my checklist. Soon my behaviors fell behind, without my checklist, I was less disciplined. Days later, Karen asked me "What's going on?" I told her I had lost the checklist! Sudden revelation hit us both: "Oh, is that what drives our relationship? A checklist?" "Is that what I am to you, duties to be fulfilled?" Alright, yes, I had to admit that none of us wants to be **loved as a list of duties**, we want it to be a natural result of our desire for one another. **Is it possible, God feels the same way?**

My story illustrates a condition that both our social culture and Christian culture have bred. Cultural Christianity is created as a result of a divided heart. How often do we meet another person that seems full of the Spirit of God? This would be exhibited by their joy, their peace no matter their circumstances, their hope in the things of God alone, and powerful lives from the Spirit of God being active within them. Unfortunately, it is far too seldom! Why do we not see more of these lives, as we might picture Jesus himself or the Apostle Paul powerfully doing God's work? ("God did extraordinary miracles through Paul," Acts 19:11.) The answer is that we have chosen a *life purpose other than bringing glory to God*. It is a disease in the body of Christ today called "Cultural Christianity" and it is contrary to Christ's plan for His body. What does **cultural Christianity** look like? **It is a deadened and dull condition of faith, one that lacks**

passion for Him. It is a shallow level of intimacy with Christ, failing to be filled by the Spirit with God's joy, peace, love, thanksgiving, power, goodness, and kindness. This is caused by failing to truly seek Him. We do not long to be with Jesus. Our lives are full of rote spirituality, filled with activities that are **meaningless to relationship** and without God's power. We are often trained to be "Christian" in our beliefs and church activity: to do good and to be good. This can result in a shallow level of intimacy with God. We are trained in the **right behaviors** but possess little passion for Christ and His Spirit. We do not see the things that Jesus said we would in our lives. Paul succeeded in experiencing God's power. Why don't we? Because we go through life with our hearts set on things of the earth, dragging along a faith that is cerebral and characterized by a **lack of spiritual passion, compromised by other desires.** Our walk with God is lifeless, purposeless, and without power. We live dutifully, engaging in spiritual activities but missing time margins in our lives that would allow the Lord to speak and guide us daily. We are just too busy and too scheduled. Some of us want it this way, so that we can engage in the passions of this world; others desire more but cannot break out of the **nominal relationship with the Holy Spirit.** We do not want our earthly desires to be completely removed, because we get a fleeting and limited sense of satisfaction from them. So, we go on with this shallow Christianity and think it is the real thing, that these activities are what the spiritual life is all about. We wind up having a false view of spiritual health because we are doing what we perceive as right activities rather than living worshipfully in His presence. In contrast, breaking out is not a matter of trying that much harder, nor is it about right behavior or being more self-disciplined. It is about being filled with the power of God, surrendering in our hearts earthly things, and wholeheartedly seeking to please God. This pleasing God is not about "doing", it's about "desiring" Him and loving Him—seeing each day as an opportunity to be intimate with Him and glorify Him. Cultural Christianity is marked by dullness because it is all about learned behaviors meant to fulfill the letter of the law, rather than an **exciting faith walk with the purposes of God in mind, moment by moment.** His Holy Spirit causes an overflowing joy and peace that we can barely contain, a joy that transcends our circumstances. We are **led by His Spirit;** the reality of His Presence is evident to those around us. As a result, we see God's hand working in and through us, just as we saw in Jesus and in Paul's life.

What is the focus of a Cultural Christian? It may include:

- Safety and security: life must be without risk and strife.
- Success: achieving it, looking like it, speaking of it, viewed as possessing it.
- The perfect family: must be viewed as a great parent by friends, family, and neighbors.
- Physical beauty or fitness: must be seen as the "attractive person" with whom people will want to associate.
- Comfort and entertainment: believing life isn't fair if we don't get to have our share.
- Being well respected and most popular: because of knowledge and appearance.
- Quality food and drink: these are basic elements of God's blessing and are our right because of hard work.

These objectives are not necessarily wrong in themselves, but we must consider our motives and **what our hearts are truly seeking.** (1 John 2:15 Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. NIV)

Cultural Christians believe they need to be *doing right things*: weekly church attendance,

tithing, Bible reading, regular prayer, involved in church programs and activities, Bible studies, and other good things which are all very healthy activities that God expects and requires. The problem arises when we engage in all these things and have **no passion for the Lord, a deep yearning to be with Him**. We forget to invite Him in, due to the busyness of the activity, and miss out on the intimacy of inviting Him into our everyday activities and producing imperishable fruit through them. When our life is judged by God, He is not going to ask: “Were you in the right activities?” rather He will say, “Tell me about our partnership and the fruit that it bore while you lived.” Jesus gave an example of this when He condemned those whose life was all about activity and not about **relationship**. “Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of my Father Who is in heaven. Many will say to me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and in your name drive out demons and perform many miracles?’ Then I will tell them plainly, ‘I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!’” (Matthew 7:21-23).

Cultural Christians struggle with wanting to be free, but will not release their earthly passions to God. Their hearts are set on white-washed earthly desires, objects, or activities. They try to arrive at God’s destination for them weighed down by baggage they bring into the relationship. They are encumbered and entangled. God says “I’ve got it all figured out for you, just trust Me.” They are saying, “I like your plan, but I want to add to it.” So, they stay mired in this compromised state. They say, “I’ll just keep a few more rules; I’ll do a few more right activities,” to try to balance things out. The reality is that they remove themselves from God’s plan and make it their own plan—which they think includes God. But they cannot get to God’s will for them this way, layering compromise upon compromise, because they will not let go of what they love here on earth.

Cultural Christians seek to have their lives “fixed” by God, not to grow in God. They are stressed, worried, and anxious about the things of this world and the present challenges. They are planning their next vacation or next purchase. They are busy fitting their “spiritual” activities into an already crowded calendar. They are weeping over their financial losses or not being treated with what they view as respect or fairness. They are preoccupied with getting the “list” accomplished that day. These are the things that characterize the life of a Cultural Christian. They believe they will become contented when they reach their next goals. Why do we believe that we can find lasting satisfaction in the world when we can only get the peace of God as a gift from Him alone?

The Cultural Christian does not take God literally when He says that we will perform even greater things than Jesus did (John 14:12), move mountains (Matthew 17:20), and truly love one another sacrificially. We have underestimated the blessings He has for us, underestimated what it is like to be in His perfect peace. We therefore under-invest and do not seek with all our hearts. Somehow, we believe that we have a better plan and can live our lives more successfully and satisfyingly than what He can do in us, through us, and with us when we obey Him. We continue to hear that it is not “about me,”

and yet we continue to live like it is. Why will we **not release our earthly passions** (Cultural Christianity) and **embrace an intimate relationship with Him**; a continual walk with the Holy Spirit?

1. We choose it to be that way.
2. Our role models do not love, seek, and trust God with all their hearts. We are not seeing it lived out by others.
3. We do not believe God’s promises that He will do a better job with our lives than we will.
4. Satan is working to destroy our spiritual lives through deception and we cooperate.
5. We do not desire all of God and His plan and, thus, give Him our hearts.

Cultural Christianity – Activity Focused

Matt. 4:10...worship the Lord your God and serve Him only.

Cultural Christianity is a strategic blind spot that can hold us back from loving God with all our hearts. Surrender to God those areas that keep you from being spiritually healthy. Being in love with the world does not allow us to be fully in love with God. We must recognize that we have “many” loves, not one love! Let us continue in our journey to God’s heart – the fullness of God.

CULTURAL CHRISTIANITY TRAPS PERSONAL THOUGHTS
Identify which are a problem for you?

To what degree do I have:

Shallow intimacy with God.....	_____	_____
Limited spiritual passion.....	_____	_____
Rote obedience to spiritual activities.....	_____	_____
Learned Christian behaviors.....	_____	_____
Doing right things because that is what I was told....	_____	_____
Busyness in spiritual activities.....	_____	_____
Will not release earthly passions.....	_____	_____
Dragging past sins/wounds into the present	_____	_____
Wrong life fixes vs. maturity.....	_____	_____
Stressed, worried, anxious.....	_____	_____
Rule dominated life.....	_____	_____
Full of self—me first.....	_____	_____

- Working by my own effort..... _____
- Moral striving..... _____
- Moral programs (do not)..... _____
- Do what I feel like doing..... _____
- Safety and security without risk _____
- Success is a requirement of life..... _____
- Being viewed as a great parent by others..... _____
- Being physically attractive _____
- Comfort & entertainment is a requirement & right _____
- Most popular, acceptance at all cost..... _____
- Low faith and expectations..... _____
- Will not accept God's plan..... _____
- Layers of compromise..... _____
- Does not take God literally..... _____
- God is redefined by my needs & expectations..... _____
- Excuses—blame others..... _____
- God's power experienced limitedly..... _____
- Limited overflowing of the fruit of the Spirit..... _____

Cultural Christianity is a **strategic blind spot** that can hold us back from loving God with all our hearts. Surrender to God those areas that keep you from being spiritually healthy. Being in love with the world does not allow us to be fully in love with God. We must recognize that we have “many” loves, not one love! Let us continue in our journey to God’s heart. As wrong activities and attitudes are revealed, remember that **healing, forgiveness, and freedom are the pathway of the pilgrim to having true heart change**. Note what God has revealed about Cultural Christianity in your own life. Take the time needed to confess, invite Jesus’ love and forgiveness in, and covenant to follow His direction for your life.

The Solution to Cultural Christianity

Do I really love God? Do I really desire Him more than anything? Do I really believe that He has everything for my life? Then I must break free!! I need to allow the Lord to teach me to think and act differently and be passionate about it. It will require uncommon commitment and revelation by the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit will lead you out of your bondage, if you desire it.

As wrong activities and attitudes are revealed, remember that healing, forgiveness, and freedom is the pathway to having true heart change.

REFLECTIONS: Transformation should be taking place in you as you are seeking. You must engage in order to be cleansed & filled.

What has God revealed about Cultural Christianity in your own life?

What is God calling you to release and be healed of in your Cultural Christianity?

Ask someone to pray with you and ask God that you would be released and healed, freed!

What changes do you need to make in your life patterns?

Take the time needed to confess, invite Jesus' love and forgiveness in, and covenant to follow His direction for the rest of your life.

8. Why Love The Lord With All

The secrets of the Kingdom of God are all available to us, if we can get through the door of loving Him with all my heart, soul, strength and mind. (Matt. 22:37) Do you love Him with all your heart; how would you know? Wouldn't there be **evidence** of what you love with all your heart? If you loved Him with all your heart, doesn't God the Father want to lavish on you all His blessings & gifts? I am afraid we take this verse too lightly. It isn't lived out just because we say "yes" in our mind. It is only lived out when we say "yes" in heart. When we love Him with all our heart, there will not be any room for love of sin patterns, or love of wounds, or materialism. There will not be any fooling God as to what you love most; He knows. The reality is: most people know as well! To think that this is the key that opens the door – these few words: "love the Lord with all your heart! How much time have you spent thinking about this? Unfortunately, too little. We do know this: when we love something, truly love something, our love is **not complacent**. It is something more than the logical thought of unconditional service & care. When we love something, we have a passion for it. When we greatly love something, we are willing to lay down our life for it (1 John 3:16); sacrifice everything for it. This is the kind of love that God is speaking of here. Unfortunately, we have many loves: whether football, enjoying my friends, seeking a precious diamond that would change my life, being comfortable, being accepted/respected by others, having authority over others, influence...there are many, many things. Think of the heart being a fixed container that you can only fit so many things within. This means we can have many loves. The problem created is that we are to love "Him" with all our heart. This is not easily done because we are filled with many loves already. Jesus was tempted for 40 days without food and water. (Matt. 4:10) Our Lord gives us the answer that we are to "*worship the Lord your God and serve Him only*". We have collected many, many loves/treasures that we are willing to sacrifice for and they compete with loving the Lord with all your heart. If you will love Him with ALL, YOU WILL PROSPER in the greatest ways that you would ever be able to in your whole lifetime. You will have more WISDOM that comes from God, making life peaceful and hopeful; opening doors to the future for you. You will have a capacity to LOVE LIKE JESUS LOVED. You will have a JOY & PEACE that would be beyond human ability to experience. You will have PLENTY & be able to share it. You will be able to HEAR MESSAGES FROM GOD. You will, with HIS STRENGTH & POWER, conquer many things. Doubt & discouragement will have no home within you, because you will be full of joy. You will live to a HOPE that will be fulfilled. You will IMPACT THOUSANDS in your lifetime with the great things God has to offer. In all this, He promises, joy & peace no matter your circumstance. It comes from Him, you can't get it any other way. He will pour joy & peace on you so you don't run out. Loving Him with all your heart opens the door to all things of God. He will make you a righteous and good person. He will accomplish the great things He dreamed about when you were created.

Love of God comes hard when we choose not to eliminate the things we have in our heart. Love of God is simple and easy to gain when we push out all the wrong loves and love Him only. Jesus proved that when coming out of the desert, after His being tested with power, wealth, food...but He responded: "*worship the Lord your God and serve Him only*". When you love other things and love God, you have a **divided heart**. Sometimes, it gets confusing as to which one you are serving. When you are serving one of the other loves in your heart, you are not

worshipping and serving God; not loving Him with ALL at that time; focused on earthly things. But the person who worships and serves Him only, is seeing His favor brought into his life by God; seeing his Father in heaven treat him as one of His children, giving him all the gifts that He has for him. This is a serious thing. As scripture states, you can't have a foot in each boat. God is asking you to trust Him totally and climb into His boat. He will have gifts, appointments...far beyond what you can imagine. You will establish a legacy that will have no end.

How does one cultivate this love? It is making ourselves available to Him, every waking moment. He helps guide our lives and teaches us to ask the question: "**does this bring You glory, what I am doing right now?**" And He will answer. When we choose to have a foot in each boat (the world and loving God); we are telling God we only want part of Him. This quenches the work of the Spirit in your life. (1 Thess. 5:9) God, most likely, won't respond until asked. You are telling Him you don't want all His protection/shielding, or a place of relief, or for Him to deliver you from a difficult circumstance. You have told Him that this isn't important. God will honor what you believe and what you do/don't ask for.

To **love Him with all your heart opens the doors of heaven**. To love Him with all your heart, means you **seek Him at every avenue**; that you exhaustively **study the Word of God**; that you **pray continuously**; that you get in **discipleship groups**; that you **fully participate in church**; that you make yourself **available to God for anything**: figuratively, smell it, taste it, eat it, chew it, write it on your heart, receive blessing from it, worship, praise Him at the top of the mountain...and you will become **Saturated with Him**. You will discover other wrong things treasured in your heart; you and the Holy Spirit will kick them out. As some have said: there are miles and miles of distance between the mind and the heart. It is in the heart where the treasures are kept and those treasures rule a person's life.

REFLECTIONS: Transformation should be taking place in you as you are seeking. You must engage in order to be cleansed & filled.

1. What are the loves in your heart? _____

2. How is your heart divided? _____

3. Are you ready to repent of any wrong loves, sins, wounds, wrong goals? What are they?

4. Go to someone now and make confession; praying that you would be healed & freed.

9. The Strategic Nature of the Heart

The heart is the center of the spiritual life. In the original Greek language, the heart (kardia) denotes the center of the physical and spiritual life. It is the laboratory and origin of all that is good and evil. It is the dwelling place of Christ and the receptacle of the love of God. Christ has made it very clear that our spiritual life should be to: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind" (Luke 10:27). The **spiritual life of man cannot and will not change unless his heart is changed!** Let us look at some examples that reveal the strategic nature of our hearts.

NOTES

1. There are over 750 "heart" occurrences in Scripture.
2. "All your heart" is mentioned 50 times (love with all, serve with all, obey/follow/keep with all, seek with all, turn back/return/turn with all, extol/rejoice/praise and be glad with all).
3. Love the Lord with "all" (Luke 10:27).
4. Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also (Matthew 6:21).
5. If you seek the Lord with all your heart, you'll find him (Deuteronomy 4:29).
6. God must circumcise the heart so you may love (Deuteronomy 30:6).
7. God looks at the heart of man (1 Samuel 16:7).
8. Keep commands and follow God with all your heart (1 Kings 11:4).
9. The Lord strengthens those whose hearts are fully committed (2 Chronicles 16:9).
10. You are blessed if your heart is set on pilgrimage (Psalms 84:5)
11. An undivided heart is given by God (Psalms 86:11).
12. Guard your heart...it is the wellspring of life (Proverbs 4:23).
13. A perverse heart does not prosper (Proverbs 17:20).
14. Hearts are devoted to vile images and detestable idols (Ezekiel 11:21).
15. Blessed are the pure in heart (Matthew 5:8).
16. They honor me with their lips but their hearts are far from me (Matthew 15:8)
17. Forgive your brother from the heart (Matthew 18:35).
18. Good and evil can be stored in the heart (Luke 6:45).
19. An unrepentant heart stores up wrath (Romans 2:5).
20. Circumcision of the heart is by the Spirit (Romans 2:29).
21. Believe with your heart (Romans 10:10).
22. Do the will of God from your heart (Ephesians 6:6).
23. Set your heart on things above (Colossians 3:1).
24. Work at it with all your heart (Colossians 3:23).
25. The goal of the command is love, which comes from a pure heart (1 Timothy 1:5).

In summary, this list helps us see that it is the heart that stores all things and determines the decisions in our lives. The mind feeds the heart as they work in unison with one another. **We need to understand the heart in order to direct it and grow spiritually.**

BIG IDEAS of the HEART

NOTES:

Big Idea #1 – The heart is the center and driving force for all of life. (A “ship” illustrates the key parts of the heart.)

C – The heart is the **compass** that sets the direction

P – The heart is the **passion** that powers the vessel

R – The heart is the **rudder** that steers the course

Conclusion: **CPR** – in America: Cardo Pulmonary Resuscitation of the heart

Psalm 10:3 For the wicked boasts of his heart's desire; He boasts of the cravings of his heart; he blesses the greedy and reviles the Lord.

Prov. 21:4 Haughty eyes and a proud heart, the lamp of the wicked, are sin!

Rom. 10:9-10 That if you confess with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.

Eph. 1:18 I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints...

Big Idea #2 – There is a war for your heart. Your heart yearns and cries out each day for satisfaction. Which will you choose?

Psalm 14:1 The fool says in his heart, “There is no God.” They are corrupt, their deeds are vile; there is no one who does good.

Psalm 41:6 Whenever one comes to see me, he speaks falsely, while his heart gathers slander; then he goes out and spreads it abroad.

Psalm 141:4 Let not my heart be drawn to what is evil, to take part in wicked deeds with men who are evildoers; let me not eat of their delicacies.

Jer. 16:12 But you have behaved more wickedly than your fathers. See how each of you is following the stubbornness of his evil heart instead of obeying me.

Jer. 17:9 The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure. Who can understand it?

Jer. 18:12 But they will reply, “It’s no use. We will continue with our own plans; each of us will follow the stubbornness of his evil heart.”

Daniel 5:20 But when his heart became arrogant and hardened with pride, he was deposed from his royal throne and stripped of his glory.

2 Kings 22:19 Because your heart was responsive...

Psalm 45:1 My heart is stirred by a noble theme as I recite my verses for the king; my tongue is the pen of a skillful writer.

Luke 6:45 The good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and the evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For out of the overflow of his heart his mouth speaks.

Big Idea #3 – One must know their heart as God knows the heart, thus warmly embracing the testing.

1 Samuel 16:7 But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The Lord does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.

Psalm 139:23 Search me O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts.

Acts 1:24 Then they prayed, "Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which of these two you have chosen."

Acts 15:8 God, who knows the heart, showed that he accepted them by giving the Holy Spirit to them, just as he did to us.

Big Idea #4 – God is wholehearted toward you and you are called to be wholehearted toward Him.

Eph. 6:6 Obey them not only to win their favor when their eye is on you, but like slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from your heart.

Col 3:23 Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men.

Matt. 6:19-21 Do not store up for yourselves treasures here on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Luke 10:27 He answered: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind; and, Love your neighbor as yourself.

John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

Rom. 1:9 God, whom I serve with my whole heart in preaching the gospel of his Son, is my witness how constantly I remember you.

1 Timothy 1:5 The goal of this command is love, which comes from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith.

2 Timothy 2:22 ...flee the evil desires of youth, and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, along with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

Big Idea #5 – In order to have a pure heart, one must discover it through God’s revelation and be desperate for forgiveness and healing.

Psalm 24:4 He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to an idol or swear by what is false.

Prov. 22:11 He who loves a pure heart and whose speech is gracious will have the king for his friend.

Matt. 5:8 Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

Big Idea #6 – The Heart Descriptions helped us see the multiple ways the heart is strategic to all of life—the center of everything good and evil. Nothing truly changes in our lives without the heart changing.

Please go through the following worksheet: Living All for Him. Read it from right to left and mark which box most identifies you.

LIVING ALL FOR HIM

**** Put an X over the answer in each ROW that most fits how you feel most of the time:**

Prayer	Constantly connected in prayer	Sometimes connected in prayer	So much to do that I forget except in morning & night
Power	I operate in His power	I operated in His & my own power	I have much to do with my own strength and it makes me very tired
Circumstances	Circumstances don't rock me	I am sometimes very concerned about circumstances	I am always concerned about the circumstances in my life
How I Look at Things	I see things from God's eyes	I see things from God's eyes sometimes and sometimes my way	What I think is most important
Seeing Life	I see the power of the Holy Spirit working most of the time	I ask God to join me	I live my life the way I want
Praise	All praise is given to Him	I receive much praise because I work hard; I give praise to others	I look to be recognized and praise for all the work I do well
Thanks	All thanksgiving is given to Him all of the time, no matter the circumstance	I am thankful to God some of the time	Honestly, I am angry with God
Purpose	Hypocrisy & wrongs/evil grieve me	I am saved I am comfortable	I look only to provide for my family, no one else
Worship	I worship the Lord throughout my day in all circumstances	I worship the Lord when I am not busy & on Sundays	I have too much to do, just Sundays for worship
His Word/His Presence	I hunger & thirst for His Word & His Presence all the time	I read His Word but because of all I need to do, His Presence is sometimes forgotten	I know scriptures and speak it often
Obedience	I desire to be righteous and please Him	I am obedient	I want to fulfill my duties well

Forgiveness	I forgive because God helps me	I carry bitterness but no one knows because I act nice	Forgiving is weak
Repentance	I repent by recognizing the rocks in my heart as God shows me	I regret my rocks and say "I'm sorry God"	I'll try harder
Kingdom Focus	All my hopes are for His Kingdom	I have many hopes and dreams for comforts & success; I ask God to help me	My dreams and hopes keep me very busy
Giving	I risk all my resources for His Kingdom	I give what is required = 10%	Please excuse that I need all that I have
Love	I love people secretly throughout the day	I want to be loved & served (especially in my marriage)	Love is a 50/50 deal If I serve you, you should serve me
Joy	People recognize my joy and know that it overflows from God	I know about many spiritual facts like joy and I can quote many scriptures on this	Joy should come in the morning...I am waiting for you God!
TOTALS:			



This is how I love Him, most of the time: **LOVE HIM WITH ALL**

FOR HIM & FOR ME

I DO MY BEST

Lord, reveal the rocks in my heart...I repent and give them to You. I want more of YOU!!!

What 1 rock stands out to you that God wants to have transformed? _____

Stop now and ask the Lord to heal you of this sinful rock.

HEART TRANSFORMATION - Questionnaire

The heart/soul is the most important part of the human body. The heart controls the person's life, it can be given to holiness or to evil. Most allow both in their lives, which is lukewarm spirituality. (Rev. 3:16) This is an ineffective, unsatisfying and a powerless spiritual life.

- We are called and must choose to love our Lord passionately, with all our heart. No other loves/treasures in our heart but Him.
- Therefore, we must choose to know Him, not just know about Him, but to know Him intimately and treasure Him only.

What does it mean to know Him more intimately and how would you like to begin?

We must choose to live with a pure heart, a holy life...by the power of the Holy Spirit.
Have you chosen to live a holy life by the power of the Holy Spirit? _____

What must you do differently to move forward in this area? _____

We must choose to honestly admit what is in our heart in every way.

What observations have you made that you need transformed in your heart? _____

We must choose to ask God to invade our heart, our being and allow the Holy Spirit to help us kick out all that is not of Him, all that is treasured in the heart; then we must welcome the Holy Spirit to fill those spaces in the heart.

What 3 things are you asking God to transform in you? _____

We must choose to invite the Holy Spirit to circumcise our heart and fill our heart with His Presence.

Are you doing this daily? _____

We must choose to resist the enemy in every way so he can't influence or change our heart.

What things in your life, whether it's being in the wrong places or doing the wrong things, gives the enemy access in your life? _____

Are you willing to stop these activities and deny the enemy access? _____

Expect transformation and give testimony!

10. THE BLESSINGS & THE NEED OF THE EMPOWERED LIFE

Can you imagine living the Christian life without the power of God? This isn't just any kind of power, this is God Himself in the Holy Spirit, for this time-period in history. We know this, but let's honor the Lord by understanding that He is all powerful. God is all-present, all-knowing; through Him all things are possible. What the Lord reveals in scripture is "**dunamis**" power, absolute authority. If we are Christians, then we have this power within us. Just because we have the power within us doesn't mean that we are operating at its fully capacity.

1 Cor. 4:20

"For the Kingdom of God is not in word but in power."

It is clear that those that have the Kingdom of God within them, supernatural power should be taking place in their lives. Scripture also tells us:

Acts 1:8

"But you shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you."

This is talking about how we receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon us. The power is there, but if we aren't seeing enough of it in and through our life, then we aren't capitalizing on God's plan. This power has been designed for you to prosper as you trust completely in Him with every area of your life. His Presence within you is greater than what you are. **God wants His complete power to be full within you and wants it on display for the world to see: that your God is a powerful God.** In America during the 1850's, one of the great Revivalist's in history: Charles Finney, said: "where has the power in the Church gone?" Therefore, where is the power in my life?

What God desires for you is incredible, but we can't get there through our plan, we must follow His plan, His wisdom, knowledge, insight, discernment...

- He wants us to have undivided hearts for Him (Psalm 86:11)
- He wants hearts that are purposed only for the Kingdom of God
 - Matt. 4:10, when Jesus was tempted by satan, Jesus said: "*you shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only you shall serve*"
 - The word "only" makes it clear: we are not to worship/serve anything else
 - Other loves shouldn't take up the space that God deserves in your heart
- He wants us to walk in/live by the Spirit, all day, every day.
 - Gal. 5:16 "*walk/live by the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh*"
- He wants us to have pure hearts so that He can fill every aspect and transform your life to be like Jesus, excelling at whatever you do. Matt. 5:8; Eph 5:18
- He wants you to have a life earmarked by a daily overflow of joy, peace, love, gentleness...Gal. 5:22
- God wants us transformed into the image of Jesus by the power of the Spirit to impact our marriage, families, neighbors, work associates...everyone we meet each day.

This is just some of what God wants to do! He wants to do many, many more things in you and many things that He will give you the strength and power to do through you. If we attempt to succeed in our Christian life without the power of the Holy Spirit, then we are doomed with a

spiritual life of duty, discipline & determination. It will be a man-centered, man-accomplished Christian life that counts for nothing. (John 15:5)

The challenges are many in living this grand Kingdom life & Kingdom building. Let's look at 2 of them:

1. The flesh being tempted, leading to sin. (Rom. 6:11,12) *"Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Therefore, do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts"*
 - a. Rom. 6:18 *"and having been set free from sin, you became slaves to righteousness"*
 - b. Rom. 6:22 *"but now having been set free from sin, and having become slaves of God, you have your fruit to holiness, and the end, everlasting life."*

Temptation and sin can rule one's life, but if you have received Jesus as your personal Savior, temptation and sin are defeated. They couldn't be defeated before because you didn't have Jesus and the resurrection, defeating & putting sin to death. Sin can only be resurrected by you choosing to dwell on the things of the world. If you choose to be **Saturated with Him, this defeats the flesh**; giving you the privilege of operating in the power of God in the Kingdom life in this world. **When we continue to play with sin and our temptations, we give access to the principalities**, powers & satan into our lives. When we choose to love the world & love Jesus, this makes the Christian life very difficult and life has very little joy.

2. When we choose to let sin live in us (Rom. 7:20), we give access in our life to the principalities & powers. The principalities & powers will tempt, distract, encouraging sin to bubble up in you. The enemy wants to captivate you. If you choose to live a life Saturated with the Presence of God, pushing out all sin & loves you have collected, you then become "more than a conqueror" because you have the Spirit of Jesus walking right with you and you are in complete unity with Him. You will put on the armor of God & use His divine weapons to have daily victory in the work of the Kingdom. The armor of God (Eph. 6:11) must be put on and kept on every day, the whole day, because the enemy is prowling around seeking whom he may devour. (1 Peter 5:8) The enemy desires to steal, kill and destroy you. (John 10:10) There is nothing to fear here as long as you are following God's plan. You will have spiritual battles with the enemy but victory will be yours.

Luke 4:14, "Then Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit to Galilee and the news of Him went out through all the surrounding region".

Why did scripture make it a point that Jesus was "in the power of the Spirit"? Previously, in Luke 4:1 it speaks of Jesus being "full of the Holy Spirit". Jesus' life was demonstrating to us how to have victory in this life; it was being "full of the Spirit" and "in the power of the Spirit". Having this is not some simple statement. It means that the heart is bursting with love for God; a passionate love that causes you to be drawn to everything He is, did, & taught.

You are going on a journey for your heart to be transformed.

2 Cor. 3:18 "but we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord."

We are being transformed into the image of Jesus which includes being full of the Spirit and in the power of the Spirit.

REFLECTIONS: Transformation should be taking place in you as you are seeking. You must engage in order to be cleansed & filled.

1. To what degree do you believe that if you live this empowered life, that you will prosper in every area of your life?

2. Please remember that if you continue to sin, it means I am rejecting God and quenching the work of the Holy Spirit. What sin do you have in your life with which you need to deal?

3. Please confess and repent, having this area of your life transformed by the Holy Spirit; asking Him to replace that sin with the Spirit of God.

11. FILLED with the SPIRIT

We are at a peak point in our study: being full of all the fullness of God, being filled with the Holy Spirit. That is what this study is about. We have discussed much in preparation for being filled. Let's continue to walk forward, as we each look to experience His fullness. People experience this fullness in various ways. Please remember: anyone who is going through this book needs to stop & confess, repent, and ask God to take that space. Please consider: without the work of the Holy Spirit, nothing will change in your life.

KEITH'S STORY:

In 2002, I had recently returned from a trip to the Underground Church in China. I saw Christians who were willing to sacrifice their livelihood in order to gain Jesus. Most of the individuals I met gave their testimonies about how God had performed a miracle in their lives; that was part of their salvation experience. People were being healed, miracles were the norm in their lives. That is no different than what we should experience here. What stood out about them was their faith; they believed in the Lord and put themselves & family at risk – but they trusted. What a lovely picture: to see these people freed from hopelessness and now filled with joy, no matter their circumstances. A few months after the trip, I spent a couple weeks immersed in scripture and worship of the Lord. Suddenly, the Spirit came upon me with such joy that for 72 hours, I thought my body would burst because the joy was so intense. Such

FILLED with the SPIRIT

overwhelming joy, I barely slept. It got stronger as time went on, to the point I had to say to the Lord, "I can't take anymore"! The glory of the Lord was so great within me, so memorable. I thank the Lord for allowing me to experience this joy in the Holy Spirit.

In Keith's story, what stirs you? _____

I have had other special encounters, but never like that one. I now walk daily in the hope of being full most of the time. It takes intentionality, once there in the Presence of God...we walk through hours together. I have had the opportunity of ministering to people: in 2014, I was on a Crusade in Uganda, where more than 2,000 were saved and hundreds healed. We did a Crusade in downtown Denver last summer: 200 were directly blessed by the Lord; some saved, some healed, some healed and saved. I remember one couple who were homeless: they came to be saved. The woman came in her walker and she left the walker on the stage; she was healed. Crutches were left. God is moving.

The Lord yearns to have an intimate relationship with us. When my whole heart is yearning for the Lord, I have the greatest encounters with God. There are special encounters and then the daily ones when He and I walk through life together in building His Kingdom: He is leading and talking with me. His miraculous hand is recognized, sometimes in the moment and sometimes in looking back as the day is reviewed.

KAREN'S STORY:

In 2009, we were in a motorcycle accident. Having been riding behind Keith, I had nothing to hang on to when the motorcycle had to be "put down". Sustaining a brain injury, 2 weeks were required in the hospital where I had little reality of where I was or who I was. Toward the end of that stay, I felt myself "come into my brain". Much had to be mended and relearned, but God's Presence was with me. One day, He made the reality of His Presence very real. I was looking at the door to my bathroom in the hospital and suddenly it was filled with light; it wasn't a door anymore, it was brilliant light. That light reached out to me and poured love over me. I basked in it to the point that I had to tell God to stop because I felt my human body couldn't take that much love pouring into me. I felt such peace, such joy, such contentment. Keith told me that after that experience with my loving God, nothing material in this world mattered. The kids came in to discuss 15 years of collecting things for my "someday cabin", that needed to go. My reply: "sell it"! Keith couldn't believe it. If a nurse came in and I sensed heartache in her; I would pray for her—right then. The effects of this encounter with my loving Father stunningly stayed with me for three weeks. The love of God, His pouring Himself over me, forever transformed my heart and values; I can be joyful when someone else gets something -I don't want/need it for myself. All I really need is His love pouring over me.

These stories don't mean that we don't fall out of the fullness of the Spirit at times. Our hope is to remain in them more of the time than less of the time. When you are filled and walking in the Spirit, life is simple, full of joy, hope and power.

Do you have a similar story? What do you desire your story to look like?

Being filled with the Holy Spirit is far beyond your natural state. Encounters like this don't take place every day. They come when we are yearning for the complete Presence of God. We believe everyone can have encounters like these. These encounters give us a taste of heaven on earth. **We feel and see His Kingdom within the temple of our hearts**, when we are yearning for Him and immersed in worship, prayer and the word.

Let's look at the scriptures on the subjects of "full/filled". Here the fullness of the Spirit is present, ushering in the birth of Jesus.

Luke 1:13-16 But the angel said to him: "Do not be afraid, Zechariah; your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you are to give him the name John. 14 He will be a joy and delight to you, and many will rejoice because of his birth, 15 for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He is never to take wine or other fermented drink, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit even from birth.

Luke 1:35 The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God.

Luke 1:41 When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit.

Luke 1:67 His father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied

Luke 3:21-22 When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was baptized too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened 22 and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."

Luke 4:1 Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the desert
Here we have the story of Jesus being baptized with water and with the Holy Spirit. He was made full. He began his ministry by being led by the Spirit into the desert.

Acts 2:2-4 Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. 3 They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. 4 All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

This is Pentecost. When the Holy Spirit came and descended upon earth in His people. We see how the Holy Spirit began His work.

Acts 4:8 Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them: "Rulers and elders of the people!

Acts 4:31 After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.

The filling of the Spirit is so great, their meeting place was physically shaken.

Acts 5:1-4 Now a man named Ananias, together with his wife Sapphira, also sold a piece of property. 2 With his wife's full knowledge he kept back part of the money for himself, but brought the rest and put it at the apostles' feet. 3 Then Peter said, "Ananias, how is it that Satan has so filled your heart that you have lied to the Holy Spirit and have kept for yourself some of the money you received for the land? 4 Didn't it belong to you before it was sold? And after it was sold, wasn't the money at your disposal? What made you think of doing such a thing? You have not lied to men but to God."

Ananias and Sapphira (his wife) lied to the Holy Spirit about what they would do with the money they gained from the property sale. If we are not filled and walking in the Spirit, we are vulnerable to the enemy.

Stephen's story:

Acts 6:3-5 Brothers, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word." This proposal pleased the whole group. They chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit; also Philip, Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas from Antioch, a convert to Judaism.

Acts 6:8 Now Stephen, a man full of God's grace and power, did great wonders and miraculous signs among the people.

Acts 7:55 But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God.

Here we have Stephen's story of being full of the Spirit, full of faith, grace, wisdom and power. Perhaps this illustrates that to be full of faith & power, you must be full of the Holy Spirit first and thus capable of being like Jesus.

What do you think? _____

Acts 9:17 Then Ananias (This is a different Ananias than Acts 5.) went to the house and entered it. Placing his hands on Saul, he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord-Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you were coming here — has sent me so that you may see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit."

Acts 11:24 He was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and faith, and a great number of people were brought to the Lord.

Barnabas was full of the Holy Spirit. Once again, strong in faith accompanies! Because of this, many people were brought to the Lord. (Vs. 23) "He was filled with joy."

When full of the Spirit; we radiate joy, love and peace. (Fruit from the Spirit)

Acts 13:52 And the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.

Ephesians 5:18 Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit.

Here Paul is calling us to a priority of completion: being filled with the Holy Spirit. This isn't something just to be read, this is something to evaluate whether we are filled. We cannot be passive about this; we must be active. This will lead us to ponder: How do you know you are filled?

Galatians 5:22-24 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.

Here is part of the answer to "how do you know you are filled with the Spirit". You will uncommonly have characteristics exhibited in and through your life. You won't be able to exhibit them in any other way, because they come from the Spirit. You can't set a goal to be more disciplined or establish earthly behaviors that will even come close to the Fruit of the Spirit; it is a result of the Holy Spirit's work in you. When one becomes full of the Spirit, we believe the first signs will be the Fruit of the Spirit; **there will be evidence in your life.**

Matthew 10:1 He called his twelve disciples to him and gave them authority to drive out evil spirits and to heal every disease and sickness.

Matthew 10:6-9 Go rather to the lost sheep of Israel. 7 As you go, preach this message: 'The kingdom of heaven is near.' 8 Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy, drive out demons. Freely you have received, freely give.

Jesus is giving authority to the 12 disciples and 60 additional disciples to preach, heal, and cleanse. He gave the power to bless in order to gather up lost people for His Kingdom.

REFLECTIONS: Transformation should be taking place in you as you are seeking. You must engage in order to be cleansed & filled.

Don't you think this is God's intent for us to be full of the Holy Spirit, to lead people to Himself?

As a result of these verses (in this study or previous studies, or others you know of) describe the characteristics that identify being full of the Spirit.

Highlights:

We hope you have come to the conclusion that being full of the Holy Spirit is the most lovely state we can be in, here on earth. Heaven will be that way all the time. While here on earth, God desires that we hunger and thirst for the Holy Spirit to be full within us; a state of yearning and longing where we can't stop thinking about the Presence of God in me. This is the most transformed state one can be in. When we are full, we have the capacity to be like Jesus, to love as He did, having the peace that passes all understanding. In scripture we see visions, dreams, prophecies; God is making all these things available to us. Please don't push this message away because of old teachings. Most of the early church individuals were saved because of what they saw, not because logic was perfect. It is the combination of two things: faith & seeing the power of God in their personal lives, then seeing change in the lives of others. God is our heavenly Father, our Daddy. He wants to give the Spirit of God to us without limit.

REFLECTIONS: Transformation should be taking place in you as you are seeking. You must engage to be cleansed & filled.

What is the Lord saying to you? _____

Eph. 5:18 Be filled with the Holy Spirit

12. THE NAMES OF THE HOLY SPIRIT AND WHAT HE DOES

Why should we examine the names of the Holy Spirit? In many cultures, people were given descriptive names. For instance, Isaac means "he laughs", Abraham means "father of a multitude". Thus, by examining the names of the Holy Spirit we learn about the characteristics and traits of the Holy Spirit and about the relationship between the Spirit and others.

The Holy Spirit is called "The Spirit." The word means "breath," or "wind." Both thoughts are in the word as applied to the Holy Spirit. In the following passages we have the idea of the Spirit as the breath of Christ and of God. The **Spirit is the out-breathing of God**, His life going forth to bring things to life. Possibly we should notice the fact that the breath is itself the vital principle, and some have thought that the Spirit is therefore the inmost life of God.

The Holy Spirit is called "The Spirit of God" and "God's Spirit." This is the same essential thought as the term "the Spirit" but His Divine origin, character and power are emphasized.

The Holy Spirit is called :	The Spirit of the Lord.;	The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord;
	The Spirit of the living God;	The Spirit of Christ;
	The Spirit of His Son;	The Spirit of Jesus Christ;
	The Spirit of Jesus.	

The third person of the Trinity is called "The Holy Spirit." The name emphasizes the **essential moral character of the Spirit**. He is Holy in Himself. He imparts holiness to others.

The Holy Spirit is called "a Spirit of Fire." This emphasizes His searching, refining, dross-consuming, illuminating, energizing work. (Note: Metal is often refined by melting. Impurities rise to the top and are scooped off, leaving refined metal. The layer of impurities is called "dross.") The Spirit of Fire is also used as the "pillar of fire", the protection & power when moving forward.

The Holy Spirit is called a Spirit of Judgment;	The Spirit of Holiness;
The promised Holy Spirit;	The Spirit of Truth;
The Spirit of Life;	The Spirit of Wisdom;
The Spirit of Understanding;	The Spirit of Counsel;
The Spirit of Power;	The Spirit of Knowledge;
The Spirit of the Fear of the Lord.	

The Holy Spirit is called "The Oil of Joy." It is important to understand the significance of oil when this was written. "Oil" does not refer to petroleum, but rather olive oil, a major crop at the time. It served as food, was burned in lamps for light, and was traded for other goods and currency. This is also a most beautiful and suggestive name of Him whose fruit is first "love," then "joy."

The Holy Spirit is called "The Spirit of Grace." This name brings out the fact that it is the Holy Spirit's work to administer and to apply the grace of God. Not only is He gracious, but He is making ours, experimentally, the multifold grace of God. Thus, we see that the Father is the one who **dispenses** grace, but the Holy Spirit is the one who **delivers** it to the recipient.

The Holy Spirit is called "The Spirit of Glory." This name is intended to teach not only that He is glorious Himself, but that He imparts the glory of God to us. The Holy Spirit is the *administrator of glory* as well as grace, or rather of a grace that culminates in glory.

The Holy Spirit is called "The Eternal Spirit."

The Holy Spirit is called "the Counselor." Three excerpts read "the Comforter," not "the Counselor," because they were from a different translation. Other translations use the word "Advocate." The sense is that the Spirit is an advisor. Torrey states: "Counselor" literally means "one called to another's side," the idea being one at hand to take another's part. It is the same word translated "one who speaks in our defense" (advocate). www.GodOnThe.Net/HolySpirit

What does the Holy Spirit do?

Just look at what the Holy Spirit does: fills, stirs, instructs/teaches, admonishes, renews the earth, leads, speaks, Counselor, gives strength, gives prophecy, gives rest, guides, physically moves people, sends, made us, puts plans in our mind, helps, comes upon you, pours upon us, in us, hovers, conceives, baptizes, drives out demons, gives life, testifies about you, makes things known, gives power, gives gifts, physically doesn't allow, compels, warns, makes overseers, urges, circumcises hearts, controls the mind, lives in you, gives life, puts to death misdeeds, testifies with our spirit, helps us pray, intercedes, confirms in us, gives an overflow, sanctifies, signs and miracles, reveals, searches all things, makes clear, helps us accept, gives gifts, makes us competent, transforms us, fellowship, fruit of Spirit given, vindicates, testifies to truth. We do not need to be some intellectually profound person to have the power of God upon us. It is simply being like the disciples. They were not from the University of Jerusalem; they were simple men **hungering and thirsting for the purposes of God**. That is what they **treasured**. What it comes down to is very simple: what is it we treasure? These are all things the Spirit of God does. Are we seeing and recognizing them in our lives? If we choose to believe literally that God does these things, then we must choose to be full of the Spirit. How can we have these answers to life and not respond? This is what we are going to discover in this study. We struggle because we are insensitive, dull and blind to God's greatest blessing: His Holy Spirit.

REFLECTIONS: Transformation should be taking place in you as you are seeking. You must engage to be cleansed & filled.

Acts 1:8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto Me...

We are to have the Holy Spirit, Who has come upon us and dwells in us. If one looks at the totality of what scripture says about the Holy Spirit, a key observation is: when the Holy Spirit is present, there is **supernatural evidence of His work in and through us**.

Reflect on the life of Jesus: He was full of the Holy Spirit and He performed the mighty works of God daily. We are to **be like Jesus and doing His mighty works on a daily basis**. (John 14:12)

What things of the Spirit do you recognize in your life, when looking at what the Holy Spirit does? _____

How often do you see the supernatural work of the Holy Spirit in your life? _____

In the past 2 days, list the supernatural things the Holy Spirit did in and through you:

How can you, or what can you do, that will increase the supernatural work of the Holy Spirit's work in and through your life?

Our Lord wants to do great and mighty things in and through your life! Ask for more.

13. Relationship/Intimacy with God Is Required

Is relationship/intimacy with God important? Is this walk with God to be one of mental ascent or ethereal only? Do you think God/Holy Spirit wants us to know Him, not by just what we learn about Him but how He feels, what He sees, what He thinks, how He responds, how He directs, and what He wants?

Relationship is knowing, trusting, and enjoying someone! In everyday life we have all experienced "the higher the quality of relationship, the more we desire to be with someone and to do and accomplish things together". That is why it is so important in our spiritual life. In Isaiah 43:7, God tells us that we were created for His glory. He not only desires relationship but in that relationship, we will **become more like Him**. When we become more like Him, the world can see how magnificent the Christian life is. How does one have a great marriage without intimacy with one another? How do you have a loving relationship with your children

and lead, teach & guide them if it's not from relationship? How do you have an enjoyable work environment or get things done in that environment if you don't have others you can trust or those that can trust you? How do you have a great spiritual life if you can't trust Him in everything? Can I fully experience His love and character if I don't know Him? What He does? How He does it?

John 17:20-23

I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me.

God desires that we be one with the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, in relationship. He desires that for His Body as well—so that we can have complete unity. God desires that we go past the academic of learning the ideas & applying them and move into investing real time with one another in the power of the Holy Spirit.

The secret to relationship is walking with God, or more specifically to live and walk in the Holy Spirit! Knowledge is good, a first step. Relationship finishes the whole idea of intimacy with God.

Why is there so little power demonstrated in the Western Church—because there is too little relationship with God! Knowledge doesn't require that a heart be transformed to loving Him completely. To love our Lord with all our heart requires/includes desperation for Him and our complete attention to Him and His Kingdom. **Without relationship His power can't be fully exhibited in us**—there is very little power displayed because our faith in God is more academic than wanting all of His will in my life and in the world. The Western world always wants to go to the academic side and the enemy loves it.

John 14:12

"Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father.

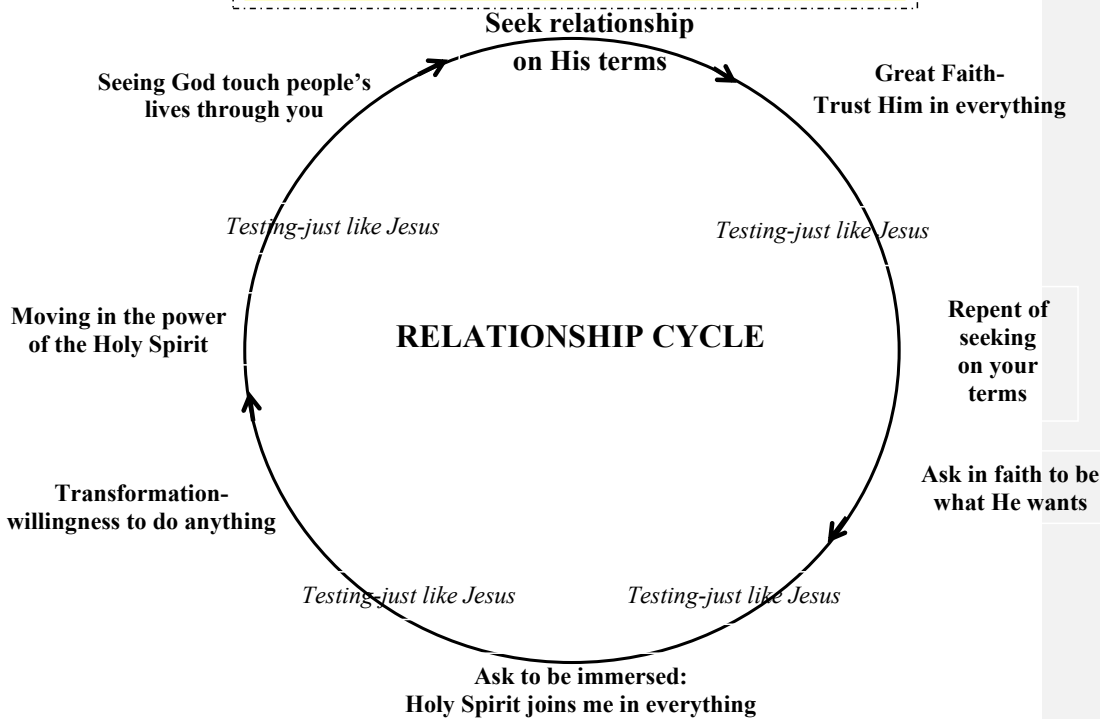
Great faith will result and be the fruit of relationship! You cannot produce great faith out of an academic relationship only. This process will help you understand how this relationship with God is developed. It will lead you to be able to live by the Spirit because we can't do it on our own, with our own human wisdom/strength. Because of this relationship, we will actually come to yearn for the very Presence of God in all that we do. We won't have to consciously think about it; because the Spirit will bring it to mind.

If you want to be full of the Holy Spirit, as expressed more than 50 times in the Book of Acts, the key is in "**complete relationship**" with the **Triune God**". When you are in complete relationship, the evidence of what Jesus talked about in John 14:12, you will experience radical transformation in your heart; your desire for the world will be diminished, you will long for the Presence of God and His will. You will experience personal miracles within you – regarding your heart and your body. You will gain a faith similar to Peter's: willing to get out of the boat and walk on the water. You will be able to bless others in understanding, in your love, serving them and praying for them...many miracles taking place whether in their hearts or bodies. Success in

life will be measured by your being full of the fruit of the Spirit, most of the time. Earthly things become much less important. You will be enabled to have a **peace** that passes all understanding; a **joy** that is expressed no matter your circumstance; a new **capacity for love** that is without judgement.

Relationship is not “adding something of God to your life”, it is **immersing your life in Him and thus transformation takes place**, filling of the Spirit happens in you. Let’s take a look at this relationship process in order to understand how it can work for you: (see following illustration)

CONTINUE THE PROCESS to deepen your walk with Him:



REFLECTIONS: Transformation should be taking place in you as you are seeking. You must engage in order to be cleansed & filled.

Do you know, trust & enjoy the Holy Spirit? What does God want you to trust Him more in?

In what ways do you walk with God? In what ways don't you?

Do you believe in Jesus fully, so that you would be able to do what He has done and more?

Do you believe every word Jesus said to the point of taking action according to His expectation?

In looking at the diagram, are you living life on your terms or His terms?

Are you asking Him in faith to be what He wants you to be?

Are you willing to be transformed in all things? Is there anything you are not willing to be transformed in?

Conclusion: When you are in complete relationship with the Lord and are living by the Spirit, you can do all things through Him Who strengthens you. Be like Jesus and enjoy the relationship with the Lord.

14. Praying in the Spirit

“And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints.” Eph. 6:18

This is one of the most important verses in scripture because it reveals how to pray. Prayer is one of the most important things we do in relationship with the Lord. It is a divine weapon that God has given us to impact ourselves and the world around us. It is one of the vehicles by which we have intimacy with God Himself. We not only communicate with God in prayer but ultimately commune with Him.

Commune means to be “**in common with**”, to have like mind and heart.

Paul discussed this in Phil. 2:2 “then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose”. Paul is talking about intimacy with one another. To pray in the Spirit, one must be communing with God and be **in alignment with His thoughts, one in spirit and purpose**.

To have effectual prayer, you must be “in the Spirit”, in Him. As a result of being in Him and thus communing, your heart and mind are transformed to be like His.

What happens if I pray and I am not “in the Spirit”? We are praying our will, our thoughts; independent of God. In this verse, He is telling us that in order to have effectual prayer; we cannot pray independent of Him. He wants us to pray this way on all occasions, with all kinds of prayers, and especially for other believers, the saints.

To be praying in the Spirit begins with an **in Him lifestyle**. Let’s look at the context of praying in the Spirit. It is putting on God’s armor. Because the enemy is going to oppose us, hammer on us...we must remember in John 10:10, it speaks about satan’s intention: to steal, kill & destroy. To live the life God desires, we will have on-going victory if we put on all the armor of God. The enemy can’t penetrate this armor that covers the whole body. This armor, full of God’s power, not only defends us (individually and our initiatives), but we can do battle offensively: the sword of the Spirit (Word of God) and praying in the Spirit. It is when we are wearing the armor of God and full of His Spirit that we are more than conquerors to defeat the enemy. (Rom. 8:37) The enemy will give you set backs in direct proportion if you don’t have the full armor of God on. If you have God’s full armor on, you are in the Spirit! Therefore, you can pray in the Spirit with God’s thoughts, direction, and purpose, thus empowering God’s army to carry your prayers to heaven.

Eph. 6:10-20 Our struggle is not against flesh and blood but against the evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against the mighty powers in this dark world, and against the evil spirits in the heavenly places.

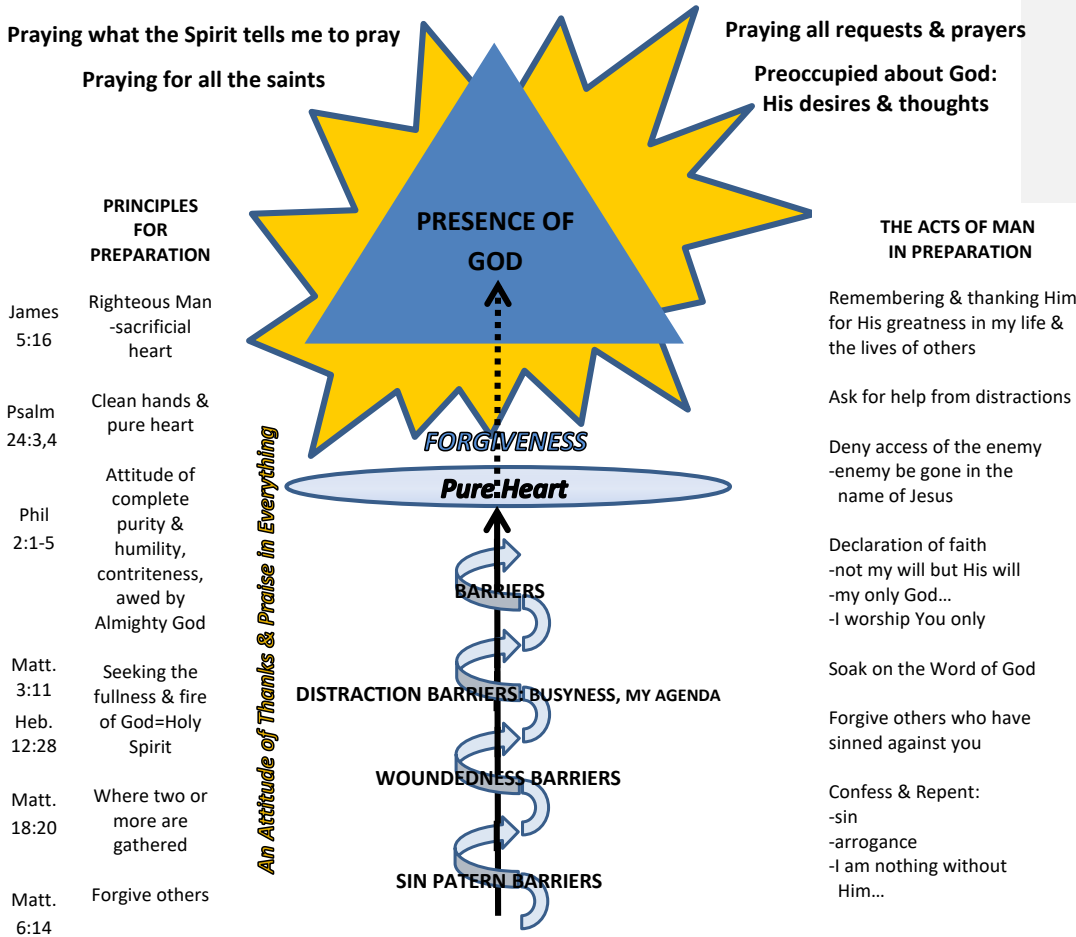
The following diagram is to help us understand the principles of effectual prayer. Immediately, this means that one must be “in the Spirit”, “in Him”. The goal of the diagram is to move into the Presence of God (triangle), but it won’t happen just because we want it. His Presence is pure and holy; He desires that we gain a pure heart. Whether sin, woundedness, distractions, or anything else - these must be purified, hopefully healed of them. Then, you will meet with God and have effectual prayer. Carefully study this diagram to hear what God is saying and to gain His help in heart purification.

Moving **into** His Presence – PRAYING IN THE SPIRIT Eph. 6:18

The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective.

James 5:16

🔑 There is effectual prayer and non-effectual prayer. Praying in the Spirit assures that your prayers are effectual!



A contaminated heart can't enter His Presence
- Aaron's preparation to enter the Holy of Holies (Exodus & Leviticus)

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Praying in the Spirit is one of your most powerful tools for the Saturation Lifestyle. It is a divine weapon that God has given us to transform us and the world. The illustration shows us a process one can go through in order to move into His Presence and to be “in Him”! As it says at the bottom of the page, when one has a contaminated heart, full of sin, wrong motives, wrong direction; we must be cleansed of it in order to move into His Presence. This chart gives you the opportunity to confess and repent in order that your heart might be cleansed. It is an “awe experience” to be in the very Presence of God and therefore our heart should be poised with anticipation of how one will be set free and able to commune with God Himself, and receive heart blessing & direction for our life. Enjoy the effectual prayer that will come and the increase of answers to all your requests for the glory of God.

REFLECTIONS: Transformation should be taking place in you as you are seeking. You must engage in order to be cleansed & filled.

When you pray, do you seek a pure heart before entering prayer? _____

How would you change how you prepare to have effectual prayer and praying in the Spirit?

Is your heart prepared and longing to be in His Presence? _____

God is awesome & wonderful. How must your attitude about prayer change?

Are you praying about God’s purposes and His direction?

What is your plan to have effectual prayer in your life?

15. GLORY

What a beautiful thing the glory of God is! Full of splendor, honor, in great quantity...there is no limit to this treasure. We get to raise up that glory by giving glory and also get to receive His glory. God the Father gave His glory to Jesus and Jesus gave that glory to the disciples and to us, through the Holy Spirit.

Exodus 15:11 speaks of God:

“majestic in holiness, awesome in glory, working wonders”.

God uses His glory to accomplish things. Do you think He will use His glory to accomplish His purposes in you and through you? When you are full of the Holy Spirit, you will reflect His glory. Being full of the Holy Spirit most of the time, the glory of God will dwell in you richly... dwell in you for your benefit and for His purposes.

It is clear in the Old Testament that His glory can be seen. It appears in the cloud, it settles on top of a mountain, it looks like a consuming fire. It is so brilliant that a person can't even look at it. His glory fills the tabernacle to the point that no one can enter, it is so great. The glory of the Lord appears to the entire assembly. One might expect that the burning bush Moses saw and wasn't consumed was the glory of God. We get to appreciate this glory. 1 Samuel speaks of the glory of God departing from Israel because the ark was captured. King David was fearful that he would lose the glory of God. Does glory interest you?

Glory radiates on Moses' face. The commands of the Lord are radiant. In Isaiah, His glory "appears over you...then you will look and be radiant, your heart will throb and swell with joy; the wealth on the seas will be brought to you, to you the riches of the nations will come." The Church is to be presented as "radiant", just as husbands are to present their wives as holy and radiant; glowing metal as if full of fire, a brilliant light that surrounds. The Son is the radiance of Gods' glory and the exact representation of His being. (All references are to follow.)

Glory is the manifestation of His grace and power, the glory of God was exhibited in the resurrection and Jesus' ascension. Glory was displayed at the Mt. of Transfiguration; it is His everlasting power and divinity. It is the revelation of God's power and righteousness. It is the display of God's perfection. This comes as we thirst and hunger for the glory of God. It is so great that in Rev. 21:23 in speaking about Heaven:

"I did not see a temple in the city, because the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are it's temple. The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and the lamb is its lamp."

A deeper understanding of God's glory in you:

Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. 18 And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit. 2 Corinthians 3:17-18

We believers who have unveiled faces reflect the Lord's glory. It also says that we are being transformed into His likeness with ever increasing glory. This ever-increasing glory is glory being accumulated in you. Because you walk in the Spirit, because you love the Lord with all your heart, because you have surrendered your whole life and heart to Him...glory is given you and it will accumulate. If we walk in lock step with the Holy Spirit, God's glory will radiate from within. These verses finish telling us where this glory comes from. It comes from the Lord, Who is the Spirit.

Other important facts on glory: Glory sanctifies, releases fire, **we are made for His glory**. When glory is shown, it can terrify. It is majestic. Glory fills. In the midst of God's glory, one falls face down. There is a crowning of glory. Within this study, we will look at scripture that will authenticate these statements.

God's Awesome Glory:

Exodus 24:16,17 and the glory of the Lord settled on Mount Sinai...To the Israelites the glory of the Lord looked like consuming fire on top of the mountain.

Exodus 40:33-35 ...and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle.

Numbers 20:6-8 Moses and Aaron... fell facedown, and the glory of the Lord appeared to them.

1 Kings 8:10-11 ...for the glory of the Lord filled his temple.

Psalms 3:3 But you are a shield around me, O Lord, you bestow glory on me and lift up my head.

Psalms 85:9 Surely His salvation is near those who fear Him, that His glory may dwell in our land.

Isaiah 43:7 everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

Isaiah 58:8 ... your righteousness will go before you, and the glory of the Lord will be your rear guard.

Isaiah 60:1 Arise, shine...the glory of the Lord rises upon you

Isaiah 4:5-6 ...cloud of smoke by day and a glow of flaming fire by night

Isaiah 6:3 ... "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty; the whole earth is full of His glory."

Ezekiel 1:27 ...He looked like glowing metal, as if full of fire ... brilliant light surrounded Him...the likeness of the glory

Haggai 2:7.. I will shake all nations, and the desired of all nations will come, and I will fill this house with glory,'

Matthew 16:27 For the Son of Man is going to come in His Father's glory

Luke 9:32 Peter and his companions ... they saw His glory and the two men standing with him.

John 2:11 This, the first of his miraculous signs, Jesus performed at Cana in Galilee. He thus revealed His glory, and His disciples put their faith in Him.

John 17:22 I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one:

Acts 7:55 But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God,

Romans 1: 23... and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like mortal man and birds and animals and reptiles.

Romans 6 4 ...just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father,

Romans 8:17 ...we share in His sufferings in order that we may also share in His glory.

1 Corinthians 11:7 A man ought not to cover his head, since he is the image and glory of God; but the woman is the glory of man.

2 Corinthians 4:4 The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, Who is the image of God.

Hebrews 2:7 You made him a little lower than the angels; You crowned Him with glory and honor

1 Peter 4:14-15 If you are insulted ...for the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you.

1 Peter 5:2 Be shepherds of God's flock ...you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away.

Revelation 15:7-8 And the temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God and from His power

Revelation 21: 11 It shone with the glory of God, and its brilliance was like that of a very precious jewel, like a jasper, clear as crystal...23 The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and the Lamb is its lamp.

Give God the glory: We are studying glory in the context of being full of the Holy Spirit and thus full of His glory. We are to give glory to God. We are to proclaim His glory to others. We are to praise Him for His glory. God loves to gain glory for Himself. Our life is to show His glory; our physical being to show His glory to the rest of the world. Let's look at some verses to reinforce these thoughts:

1 Chronicles 16:29 ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name...worship the Lord in the splendor of his holiness.

Psalms 29:1-3 Ascribe to the Lord, O mighty ones, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.2 Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; worship the Lord in the splendor of his holiness.3 The voice of the Lord is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the Lord thunders over the mighty waters.

Psalms 29:9...And in His temple all cry, "Glory!"

Isaiah 42:12 Let them give glory to the Lord and proclaim his praise in the islands.

Psalms 145:11 They will tell of the glory of your kingdom and speak of your might,

Isaiah 66:19-20 ...that have not heard of my fame or seen my glory. They will proclaim my glory among the nations.

John 16:14 He will bring glory to me by taking from what is mine and making it known to you.

Romans 15:17 Therefore I glory in Christ Jesus in my service to God.

1 Corinthians 10:31 So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.

2 Corinthians 4:15 ...thanksgiving to overflow to the glory of God.

Philippians 4:20 To our God and Father be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Revelation 4:11 "You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power...

Revelation 19:1 "Hallelujah! Salvation and glory and power belong to our God,

Created For His Glory:

Isaiah 43:7 ... everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory,

Isaiah 60:1...and the glory of the Lord rises upon you. ...and his glory appears over you

John 2:11 This, the first of his miraculous signs...He thus revealed his glory, and his disciples put their faith in him.

John 15:8 This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

John 17:4 I have brought you glory on earth by completing the work you gave me to do.

Romans 2:10 ... but glory, honor and peace for everyone who does good

As you can see as a follower of Jesus and filled with the Holy Spirit, His glory resides in you and is shown outwardly to others. Our Lord loves to display His glory. This glory is most welcome in hearts completely surrendered to Him, thirsting and hungering for His Presence, hearts that are in fellowship and have a passionate love for God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Remember: as a result of looking at God's glory

- At Paul's conversion a bright light blinded him (Acts 9:3; 22:6; 26:13).
- As Stephen was about to be stoned the people saw that Stephen's face was like the face of an angel (Acts 6:15)
- During Peters incarceration (Acts 12:7), the angel of the Lord appeared and a light shone in the cell

These are the visible means of seeing the glory of God. As a result of these incredible thoughts from our God, we discover that fire is a part of God's glory.

Hebrews 12:28-29 Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe, 29 for our "God is a consuming fire."

We must become more familiar with the glory of God. It seems so futuristic, and yet it is not, because **when the glory of God is present, all things change.**

REFLECTIONS:

1. How has your view of glory changed? _____

2. God's awesome glory is to be recognized. Do you think you have observed His glory? How? How do you think you could see more of His glory?

3. We are to give God the glory. How do you go about doing that? How could you do more of it?

4. In Isaiah 43:7, it says we are created for His glory. What does that mean? How can you exhibit His glory in you, through you, more often?

16. PROSPER

God has demonstrated that He loves us with all His heart and He desires for His people to prosper and have victory.

“They go from strength to strength... Psalm 84:7

These are pilgrims who have their hearts set to experience the fullness of God. When they are walking with Him, they go from strength to strength in victory.

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.” Rom. 8:37

It is the great and awesome God Who lives in us, therefore, as we walk with Him, He prospers us and we are more than conquerors.

I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from Me you can do nothing. John 15:5

Once again, here we see the power of God when we are **“in Him”**. We are to remain in Him and if we do, we will bear **much fruit**. But, if we don't remain in Him, apart from Him, we can create nothing of value.

...if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, “move from here to there” and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you. Matt. 17:20

It is very clear: God wants to empower & prosper us to be victorious: in our ministry, our work, our marriage, our family and neighborhood. It is too easy to doubt that God wants to prosper us, because we don't understand the conditions He has for this. Let's look at few Old Testament scriptures that reveal more about **prospering** His people and the **conditions** to prosper that are set there.

Here is God talking to His people:

Gen. 32:9... “go back and I will make you prosper

Gen. 32:12...I will make you prosper

Deut. 5:32,33...be careful to do what I command and do not turn to the left or to the right, walk in My commands and so live and prosper

Deut. 6:24...obey & fear the Lord and so prosper

Deut. 29:9...carefully walk in the terms of this covenant and so prosper in everything that you do

1 Kings 2:3...observe what the Lord your God requires, walk in His ways...so that you may prosper wherever you go.

Prov. 3:5,6...trust in the Lord and you will prosper...in everything

Can you see how this loving, awesome and good God wants His people to flourish, thrive and prosper? He wants His people to demonstrate His greatness in them. He wants to show His Kingdom and His plan, **in you and through you**, to **draw people to Him**. But, the Lord has conditions:

2 Chron. 24:20...Joash...this is what the Lord says, why do you disobey the Lord's commands. You will not prosper...because you have forsaken the Lord.

Prov. 17:20...a perverse heart will not prosper

Prov. 28:13...he who conceals sins will not prosper

Jer. 10:21...shepherds are senseless and do not inquire of the Lord... so they do not prosper

Acts 5:32...we are witnesses of these things and so is the Holy Spirit Who God has given to those who obey

God has a plan. He desires:

Psalm 24:3,4 "who can ascend the hill of the Lord...he who has clean hands and a pure heart."

Matt. 5:8 Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

The Lord is imploring us to **love Him with all our heart and to be full of the Holy Spirit**. This is being **Saturated by the Presence of God**. When you choose to give the Lord your whole life, give Him all your wrong loves & sins...**He Saturates you** and in the midst of being Saturated, He **prosper your heart, so that it overflows with the Fruit of the Spirit**. **He will prosper your marriage, family, workplace...** He is calling you to let go of your sins and to beg Him for release. Too often, we choose to be blind and don't look authentically at how we are not following the Lord. Will you repent until you have a pure heart? Will you ask Him to transform your heart so you can be **free, full of His power so that you may prosper?**

REFLECTIONS: Transformation should be taking place in you as you are seeking. You must engage in order to be cleansed & filled.

According to these verses, what does "prosper" mean? _____

What are you holding back from God that hinders prospering and blessing in your life?

Tell someone else what God has revealed to you so that they can pray healing over your heart.

We thank the Lord for His plan, His love, and how He wants to prosper you.

PART 2

GREAT IN GOD'S EYES

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LESSON

1. **Blessed Is The Man of God Who Transforms Baca – Psalm 84**
2. **Great in God's Eyes Psalm 18**
3. **Revival in You and through You**
4. **God's Vision: Community Transformations**
5. **Multiplication from Good Soil**
6. **Daily Faith Walking in the Spirit**
7. **Purposed Kingdom Life is Dedicated to God's Will Only**
8. **Blessing Overflowing to Others**
9. **Blessing Your Spouse and Family**
10. **Blessing Your Employer / Employees**
11. **Stewardship: A Key to Being Great in God's Eyes**

REFLECTIONS

- Trusting God with everything and being a transformer.
- David is in complete relationship with the Lord.
- Being saturated to the point of having a move of God within you.
- Your position in God affects the community.
- Being good soil and planting the right crop.
- Practicing faith and Spirit walking.
- God desires all, not some
- Preparation to bless.
- Blessing those closest to me.
- Being a blessing through work to myself and my employer
- Fulfilling God's calling on my life.

Great in God's Eyes is taken from **Psalm 18**. It is David's dialogue with God of how He took a shepherd boy and made him a king. God gently moved David forward & taught him many things about being a king, and many things about being great in His eyes.

1. BLESSED IS THE MAN OF GOD WHO TRANSFORMS "BACA" - Psalms 84

How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord Almighty! 2 My soul yearns, even faints, for the courts of the Lord; my heart and my flesh cry out for the living God.
3 Even the sparrow has found a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may have her young — a place near your altar, O Lord Almighty, my King and my God. 4 Blessed are those who dwell in your house; they are ever praising you. Selah
5 Blessed are those whose strength is in you, who have set their hearts on pilgrimage. 6 As they pass through the Valley of Baca, they make it a place of springs; the autumn rains also cover it with pools. 7 They go from strength to strength, till each appears before God in Zion.
8 Hear my prayer, O Lord God Almighty; listen to me, O God of Jacob. Selah 9 Look upon our shield, O God; look with favor on your anointed one.
10 Better is one day in your courts than a thousand elsewhere; I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked. 11 For the Lord God is a sun and shield; the Lord bestows favor and honor; no good thing does he withhold from those whose walk is blameless.
12 O Lord Almighty, blessed is the man who trusts in you.

This Psalm is written by the sons of Korah presenting a poem that sets the record straight for **the fruitful man/woman of God**. The Psalm teaches us **the keys to being used by God**. It reveals part of how God wants to bless us:

"our Lord is a sun and a shield" vs.11

Our God is light, heat, and a protecting shield. He wants no harm to happen to us. He wants us protected. He bestows favor upon us. We have an example in God's approach with King David: as a result of having the Holy Spirit and being after God's own heart, wanting what God wants - **God gave him favor, victory in the things of his life**, including war. The Lord bestows honor. He wants you seen (by Himself and others) as a man/woman of God: full of grace, full of His glory. "No good thing does He withhold from those whose walk is blameless." He desires that you have a great marriage, are full of joy, peace, hope and purpose. He desires that you flourish in the things of God...and much more!

The condition is: *"those whose walk is blameless". Vs. 11*

You will not be able to train your behaviors to be blameless without the presence of God. You will need Him, His power in you, His grace overflowing, and His forgiveness. The Psalmists finish:

"blessed is the man who trusts in You." Vs. 12

This is the key that opens the door of blessing. Trust means to be confident in, reliant on, to be without suspicion of, to be sure to take refuge in. This is the test: do I really believe He is the one, true God: all knowing, all powerful, all present. He is the only one who is holy...He is your Father, Savior, and Holy Spirit Advocate. He has the answers to all of life:

"His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and goodness". 2 Peter 1:3

As your Father, He desires your comfort and flourishing in this world, but He will not bless you more than what you can maturely handle. The key is whether we are **"fully trusting in everything He has done and is doing"**, **we will live transformed lives, pleasing Him in every way...we will transform the world** around us as a result of **His love and power being complete in us**. This is not a passive trust, it is an **active trust**. To trust means you will know Him fully, trusting in everything He is and has said, trusting in everything He is doing. He is expecting us and empowering us to live according to His plan.

Will you trust Him and do according to His leading and teaching? _____
Because if you will, He will bestow His grace/favor upon you; and you will overflow with the things of God, it will be on display to the world. Much of the world will be attracted to your life. This is the **Kingdom Life!**

God's plan is so magnificent and He is so awesome, that we are to be moved to surrender and love Him with all of our heart. In vs. 1,2: we see this on display:

*"How lovely is Your dwelling place" (Your tabernacle)
"my soul yearns, even faints over your dwelling place. My heart and flesh cry out for the living God".*

This is love for God, a passionate love for where God dwells. It has everything one wants:

- if you want to be comforted then He is the place
- if you want to be encouraged then His presence is the place
- if you want to find a place of peace, or to speak with Him and be exploding with joy, then you will find it in His presence.

These are the things that God represents; these are the things God wants to give us. It is here that you will find and experience real love. It is here that you will see God's magnificence and forget about self, worshipping Him!

"even a sparrow (swallow) finds comfort near His altar"

Even the birds find protection for themselves and their young in God's dwelling place, His Presence. This is awe-inspiring because this is who God is! The man/woman of God yearns to the point that they are willing to sacrifice in order to get into the Presence of God. They "pant" to be before Him, becoming saturated with Him in every way. All the cares of the world become unimportant. That is what His Word says:

"Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him". 1 John 2:15

If you love God and His dwelling place, therefore trusting in everything He has said, did, and is doing...then you are a powerful man/woman of God!

"Blessed are those who dwell in His house for they will be ever praising Him" (Psalm 84:4)

When you are continually dwelling in the presence of God, in His dwelling place, your life is such a joy that you can't stop praising and thanking Him. **This isn't measured by the circumstances in life** because you understand that the most precious things in life are love, joy, hope and the work of the Kingdom. *Psalm 84:5 "blessed are those whose strength is in You".*

This doesn't state "in your own strength and wisdom; **it's His strength, His wisdom, His power!**

"who set their hearts on pilgrimage"

A man/woman of God is a pilgrim (on a journey to the very heart of God), looking to be saturated by Him and thus operating with His power and grace. They have set their hearts to be complete before Him, full of all His fullness (Eph. 3:19b), being like Jesus.

"I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in Me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father." John 14:12

Jesus is saying: if you have faith in Him, a faith without limit, active, trusting...you will be able to do the things that Jesus did. This is the man/woman of God.

Now the psalmist demonstrates that as a result of this trust, this passionate love for God and His dwelling place, operating in His strength, setting your heart to dwell in His presence as a pilgrim, they then...

as they pass through the valley of Baca... vs. 6

Baca: a place of weeping, gnashing of teeth, an unhappy world like the world without Jesus and the Holy Spirit. (Apart from God there is no satisfaction in life.) This man/woman of God will go into this world, (where-ever they live and have their relationships) and because God is so prevalent in them,

they will make it a place of springs; the autumn rains also cover it with pools. They go from strength to strength, till each appears before God in Zion." vs. 6

This is what God is saying will take place in each of our lives as pilgrims. We have people in our lives that dwell in the Valley of Baca: weeping, sad, depressed! Through you, God is going to save them. You are going to share God's message of love with them verified by the fruit in your life. The fruit is to be so prevalent that it shouts and overflows to them! We will be a people that look holy, productive, wise and full of joy and they will want to be pilgrims as well.

"they go from strength to strength, till each appears before God in Zion". Vs. 7

We go from spiritual victory to spiritual victory in our lives, because we have such a love for God and measure life by the people God transforms through us. These victories are vital.

Vs. 8-10 is a cry to the Lord that He would hear our prayer, listen to us, look at our shield and how faithful we are being, look with favor on our children – your anointed ones. It is clear that:

"Better is one day in (His dwelling place and His presence) than 1,000 elsewhere. I would rather be a door-keeper in the house of my God than dwell with the tents of the wicked".

We are to be men and women of God, (great in God's eyes) because

- we trust completely in Him
- we yearn and love His very presence
- we dwell in Him daily because our strength is in Him,
- we have set our hearts on pilgrimage
- we allow God to work through us to transform our Valley of Baca.

REFLECTIONS: Transformation should be taking place in you as you are seeking. You must engage in order to be cleansed & filled.

Will you become a man/woman of God, living a transformed life, complete before Him, bearing fruit in your marriage, work, and neighborhood? Are you sharing the glory of God everywhere you go? With whom?

What is one thing God wants changed in your life today?

Have you trusted God with “all”? God wants you to bring glory to Him through each role of your life: spouse, children, extended family, grandchildren, work, friends & neighbors, church, learning/education, your physical body, and your spiritual life.

Do you trust God to the point that you have given Him ownership in each of the areas above?

Which ones haven't you given to Him? _____

Which one or two areas is God calling you to give to Him today? _____

2. GREAT IN GOD'S EYES – Psalm 18

This Psalm from David is a great picture for us to see the relationship that David had with his God. The Holy Spirit indwelt him from the point of his crowning (1 Samuel 16:13 “the Spirit of the Lord came on David in power”.) What we see in Psalm 18 is the real relationship that David and the Lord had. Psalm 18:35 “*You give me Your shield of victory, and Your right hand sustains me; You stoop down to make me great*”. As God stooped down to make David great, it wasn't just this once that God touched him. The literal Hebrew is “Thy gentleness hath made me great.” It was God's gentle touch throughout their relationship that caused David to become great before God. It's not about becoming great before man that is important, because if I become great in God's eyes, I will live with honor here on earth and have much impact. God gently touched David and David received everything God had to give him. As we look throughout the Psalms, clearly David was in awe of God and recognized that if he wanted to become great; he needed to become great in God's eyes. David was known to be a passionate man, a warrior, a defender, a man of vision and wisdom because of **his relationship with God**.

How does this greatness take place in me? Here are some of the words - how David saw the Lord: (Please read Psalm 18)

- **My God is Worthy of praise:**

Vs. 1 O Lord, my strength

Vs. 2 *The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer...I take refuge...He is my shield...the horn of my salvation...my stronghold*
Vs. 3...*worthy of praise, and I am saved from my enemies*

- **I call/cry to my God for help:**

Vs. 4 *The cords of death entangle me...torrents of destruction overwhelm me...cords and snares confront me...*

- **My God is powerful & awesome; He hears and answers my cries:**

Vs. 7-15 *Earth trembled and quaked...mountains shook of His anger...smoke from His nostrils...fire from His mouth...coals blazed...heavens parted...and He came down...dark clouds under His feet...mounted the cherubim and flew...soared on the wings of the wind...made darkness of clouds His canopy...the brightness of His presence...hailstones, bolts of lightning...the Lord thundered...He shot arrows & scattered the enemies...great bolts of lightning and routed them*

- **God reached down and took hold of me:**

Vs. 16-24 *He rescued me...He supported me in disaster...He delighted in me...He dealt with me according to my righteousness and cleanness and rewarded me...I have kept the ways of the Lord...kept myself from sin...He rewards me according to my righteousness...*

- **God shows Himself to be beautiful and attractive:**

Vs. 25-29 *Faithful, blameless, pure, shrewd, saves the humble, keeps my lamp burning, turns darkness in me to light...with Your help I can advance and scale wall*

- **God is great and makes me great:**

Vs. 30-36 *His way is perfect...His word is flawless...He is a shield to those who take refuge in Him...He is the rock...God arms me with strength and makes my way perfect...makes my feet like the feet of a deer...He enables me to stand on the heights...He trains my hands for battle...makes me strong to bend a bow of bronze...gives His shield of victory...sustains me...**stoops down to make me great**...broadens my path beneath me*

- **He gives me victory:**

Vs. 37-42 *Victory over those who oppose me...puts enemies under my feet...arms me with strength...makes adversaries bow at my feet, makes enemies turn back in flight...I destroyed my foes...enemies have no god to save them...I beat them as fine as dust...*

- **You make me great before men:**

Vs. 43-45 *Delivered me from the attacks...You have made me the head of nations...they hear me & obey...foreigners cringe & lose heart & tremble.*

- **I praise God Who makes me great in His eyes:**

Vs. 46 *The Lord lives! Praise be to my rock! My savior, avenger...He subdues nations under me and my enemies...He exalts you above foes...rescues me...therefore, I praise You among the nations...He gives His king great victories...**He shows unfailing kindness to His anointed***

It is God that can make you great. Will you embrace Him the way He has embraced you? As a result of the relationship between God and David, you can see that David loved and admired His God. As David obeyed and kept from sinning, righteousness was produced in his life and he was rewarded. The key is that David totally embraced God. In this **relationship** he saw Who God was and everything God did for him. In modern day, David became saturated with God, he sought Him in every way he could. He worshipped Him, he prayed to Him, he had

fellowship with Him, he has God’s wisdom & knowledge and sought more, he was in awe of God so he praised and thanked Him because he saw God moving in and through his life, he knew scripture, he studied God and he received the power of the Holy Spirit. David understood that **out of the love relationship with God, God would make him great and he would be able to achieve the great and mighty things God had in store for him**, like Baca.

If you are great in God’s eyes, then you are able to do the things that David did...because God does them! God will use you if you give everything you are to Him. You can be used by God to transform a marriage, a family, a church, a community, a nation, because His magnificence will work through you to accomplish it. God will use you to transform your Baca.

REFLECTIONS: Transformation should be taking place in you as you are seeking. You must engage in order to be cleansed & filled.

David was great in God’s eyes because he loved his magnificent God. What are the 3 important things God has taught you through David about being Great in His Eyes?

How did God use this message in your life? In what way did you experience transformation?

In what ways did God use you to impact or help others in transformation _____

Will you become this person who loves the Lord with all? _____

What holds you back? _____

How would you like God to use you and foster greatness through you? What is your personal Baca?

3. Revival in You and Through You

What a great word – Revival! Yet it is not a word that is used in the Bible. The Church would define it as mighty moves of God; where people are saved, grow in the Lord and a community is transformed to be Christ-like. Let’s dig deeper: Revival by our definition is “**a move of God in us**”, which can often happen if we become Saturated with His Presence; Saturated in our soul, heart and our mind. We are then fully empowered by the Holy Spirit and become **Kingdom focused**. If you want to see a great move of God, let it begin in you first.

You would then:

- Hate all the sin in your life and repent of it
- Ask for the Holy Spirit; that He be full within you
- Seek to be full of the Holy Spirit all the time
- Make room in your heart for the fullness of the Spirit
- Live an authentic God surrendered life
- Be willing to present before the Lord the wrongs in your life, asking the Holy Spirit to come and bless/heal you in these areas
- Have the capacity to love like Jesus loved
- Have the capacity to have a great marriage
- Overflow with love toward others, joy, peace, patience, hope and God's power
- Have a remarkable Kingdom harvest
- Be your most effective and a great producer
- Be so attractive to the world that people would be drawn to you
- See Revival break out in your spouse, children, neighbors, work associates
- See your life light shine on the top of a hill

You can't find more satisfaction in life, more effectiveness in any other way. Your being in Revival = continually being Saturated with the Presence of God. Don't let Satan fool you that if you are full of the Holy Spirit for a period of time or have a move of God because you allow God to saturate you for a period of time, that you don't **need to be refilled daily!** Almost all of us don't constantly reflect this life; we have a distance to go not only in becoming complete in Him but also in receiving the blessings that comes from it. You must be transformed from your present spiritual position to a position of being in **continual Heart Transformation**, moving ever closer and **living in the very heart of God**. Consider these references:

Matthew 22:37 Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind."

Ephesians 3:18-19 ... and to know this love that surpasses knowledge — that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

Ephesians 5:18 Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit.

Romans 12:1-2 Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God — this is your spiritual act of worship. 2 Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is — his good, pleasing and perfect will.

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

Matthew 10:8,9 Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy, drive out demons. Freely you have received, freely give.

Therefore, the point is to **become Saturated with the Presence of God and stay Saturated**.

How does one get saturated with the Presence of God? (Please turn to these references.)

1. Loving and yearning for His Presence:
Psalm 84:1,2
Matt. 22:37
Phil. 3:10
Josh. 1:8
2. With a pure heart, pray in the Spirit continually
Psalm 24:3,4
Eph. 6:18
1 Thess. 5:16
3. Worship the Lord and serve Him only
Matt. 4:10
4. Overflow with thanksgiving and praise
2 Cor. 4:15
5. Be in fellowship (koinonia – deep intimacy with others to encourage and be encouraged.)
Heb. 3:13
6. Be shepherded by someone who will teach, guide, and exhort you to be a man/woman of God
2 Tim. 2:2
7. Be a shepherd to others: friends, children, grandchildren, neighbors, co-workers
John 21:16
Acts 20:28
1 Peter 5:2
8. Be continually transformed.
Heb. 12:1,2
Rom. 12:1,2
9. Live by the Spirit throughout each day
Gal. 5:16
Rom. 8:5
10. Bless others every day, in every way
Matt. 28:19
Matt. 10:8
John 13:35
11. Study and know Him & His Word
Josh. 1:8

There are other things one can add to this list. The idea is that this is a “**way of life**”. It is a fun way of life: to have the very presence of God dwelling in you and being full of the Holy Spirit most of the time; you could not please your Father in any greater way. This is the intimacy that He desires and as your Father, He will reward you with much, much more in every way.

Revival is not something mysterious. It is as simple as this and we will be able to minister with His power working through us to lead others to salvation, to heal, to bless, to encourage others. This is what God desires and through living in this way; God will work in you and through you to transform your world. Now let’s answer the second question: How does Revival grow? The best answer is not with programs or literature; it’s with your life. **We are a living testimony** (not only in our lives but in our words) **of the mighty things God has done**. Your life is going to become one that is “supernatural”; we are truly blessed. Alleluia!!

REFLECTIONS: Transformation should be taking place in you as you are seeking. You must engage in order to be cleansed & filled.

Revival is being Saturated with the Presence of God. Being in Revival is not a one time event; it is on going and must be daily sought.

Do you seek to be in Revival daily? _____

Do you desire to operate in Him and in His power daily? _____

What things haven't you entrusted to Him? _____

1. Repent of seeking the world, the things of the flesh. In faith, ask Him what He wants you to be. _____
2. Ask to be immersed in the Holy Spirit. _____
3. Confess to Him your willingness to be transformed in any way. _____
4. Ask the Holy Spirit to move in you and through you. _____
5. Note how God is touching you in relationship and touching others through you.

What does it mean to you to be Saturated with the Presence of God? _____

What is your daily plan to stay Saturated with the Presence of God? _____

4. GOD'S VISION: COMMUNITY TRANSFORMATION

What does God desire?

God desires that all would be saved; that none should perish (2 Peter 3:9). God desires that we be full of all the fullness of God (Eph. 3:19). God desires that we be full of the Holy Spirit (Eph. 5:18). When we are followers of Jesus and full of the Holy Spirit as Jesus was (Luke 4:1), we can be powerfully used by God and we will experience that power in our own lives as well. We will be overflowing with the things of God, just as Jesus was. God wants us in this condition so that whole **communities can be transformed**. God wants us Saturated with His Presence so that we can be in Revival. He wants each community to be Saturated with His Presence so it can be transformed. One of the Revivals of the past was as a result of Jehoshaphat's (King of Judah) seeking God:

2 Chronicles 17:3-14

³ Now the LORD was with Jehoshaphat, because he walked in the former ways of his father David; he did not seek the Baals, ⁴ but sought the God^d of his father, and walked in His commandments and not according to the acts of Israel. ⁵ Therefore the LORD established the kingdom in his hand; and all Judah

gave presents to Jehoshaphat, and he had riches and honor in abundance.⁶ And his heart took delight in the ways of the LORD; more over he removed the high places and wooden images from Judah.⁷ Also in the third year of his reign he sent his leaders, Ben-Hail, Obadiah, Zechariah, Nethanel, and Michaiah, to teach in the cities of Judah.⁸ And with them he sent Levites: Shemaiah, Nethaniah, Zebadiah, Asahel, Shemiramoth, Jehonathan, Adonijah, Tobijah, and Tobadonijah—the Levites; and with them Elishama and Jehoram, the priests.⁹ So they taught in Judah and had the Book of the Law of the LORD with them; they went throughout all the cities of Judah and taught the people.¹⁰ And the fear of the LORD fell on all the kingdoms of the lands that were around Judah, so that they did not make war against Jehoshaphat.¹¹ Also some of the Philistines brought Jehoshaphat presents and silver as tribute; and the Arabians brought him flocks, seven thousand seven hundred rams and seven thousand seven hundred male goats.¹² So Jehoshaphat became increasingly powerful, and he built fortresses and storage cities in Judah.¹³ He had much property in the cities of Judah; and the men of war, mighty men of valor, were in Jerusalem.¹⁴ These are their numbers, according to their fathers' houses. Of Judah, the captains of thousands: Adnah the captain, and with him three hundred thousand mighty men of valor;

Here we have Jehoshaphat wanting himself and all of Judah to desire to be Saturated with the Presence of God. His heart was devoted (committed) to the ways of the Lord. Leaders, Levites and priests went out and taught the people (vs.9); there was such a great move of God Himself, that the fear of the Lord fell on the nations surrounding them and they submitted to Judah. Judah became more and more powerful, built forts and store cities and had large supplies in their towns. **There was such fruitfulness that came from their turning their hearts to God**; it affected the crops – they multiplied! The nations feared them. They were bursting in many ways, perhaps all ways. **This is a picture of community transformation**; a community Saturated with the Presence of God; a **community that turned their hearts fully to God**. They removed the high places where worship of idols took place. (We should turn away from the idols within our own lives and communities.) Judah became united, a team went out teaching, thus each person became Saturated and there was a move of God.

Why does a breakout of the Saturation of the Presence of God happen too seldom?

God challenges us (Col 3:1,2) to set our hearts (affection) on things above; which means to seek (set in your heart what you are going to pursue) those things which are above. Often, we find that individual followers of Jesus who set their hearts to be Saturated by the Presence of God, flourish in their lives as a result. Too often the rest of us stand back and watch. No, God is calling all of us to set our hearts to seek the things of God. We must be committed, devoted like Jehoshaphat, as communities, churches, and families. The question isn't whether God will move; the question is: **will we personally set our hearts to pursue God?** As a result of God invading all of our hearts individually, we then **cumulatively become a community that is committed to being Saturated**. We must encourage one another on an individual and group basis, daily, that a special move of God is coming. We must continually ask Him to come and give special blessing to each of us and to the whole community. If you are daily seeking this and living to it; it is time to anticipate that it will happen. God loves to fulfill all His promises to His children. He desires that we remove the high places (the idols), as well as the sin patterns of divorce, co-habitation, corruption, and the lack of preparation to be great workers. God is waiting for us to demonstrate that we want all of His Presence in our lives and community. Will you choose today to be one of these devoted ones? _____
 Will we choose today, as a community, to be devoted to this end? _____

What is community transformation?

It is a move of God in His people, in His church, in the community, where His power is evident. God tells us in Acts 1:8

“we will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on us”

He wants us to know that we have His power within us...that same power that Jesus had. It is love for Jesus that peaks that power in us, then affects communities directly. We, the people, as a result of being Saturated with the Presence of God, will overflow with joy, love, peace, thanksgiving. We will give generously; have compassion; live with confidence; friendships are natural; we operate in freedom- free of anxiety, worry and fear; give hope to others; confessing the greatness of God and what He has done within us. We will:

- love our enemies,
- have victory over temptation,
- have great marriages,
- be great employees,
- free the poor & oppressed,
- become market leading business people,
- become great employees,
- have healthy families,
- our students will excel in education and purposefulness,
- the media will cooperate,
- our government will become useful, effective, efficient, and serving.
- Churches that are full of God’s Presence will overflow.
- Many new churches are established and flourish.
- Crime going away.
- Immorality diminished...

Does this appeal to you? Are you willing to become devoted to this? _____

Let’s remind ourselves of the people in Northeast India (Nagaland) who in their history were head-hunters but today are church planters. 85-95% of their community have become true followers of Jesus.

Let’s remember Almalonga, Guatemala: they were in poverty, drunkenness, marriages and families in disrepute, the productiveness was 4 truckloads sold/month. Today, more than 90% of the community are followers of Jesus, devoted to being Saturated by Him. The 4 jails are now closed because the people were transformed. They removed the idol worship and became steeped in prayer. Poverty is gone. Great families were restored. Now they produce 160 truckloads of produce to be sold each month. This is a **transformed community**. The police were no longer needed; they became public servants helping the community to thrive.

REFLECTIONS: Transformation should be taking place in you as you are seeking. You must engage in order to be cleansed & filled.

Your position in God affects the community.

Community Transformation takes place because of our being personally in Revival and sharing it with everyone around us. As you continue to live by the Spirit, walk in the Spirit and be full of Him for the rest of your life; God will multiply the fruit. Hundreds of thousands, millions can be saved and directed towards an abundant life. What is strategic to Revival throughout history is extraordinary prayer. What is vital, is agreeing together, to be praying in the Spirit that Revival will take place, a Saturation of the Presence of God. Each of us needs to be implementing this prayer strategy in our communities. A prayer strategy can be people meeting 3 times per week to pray for personal and corporate Revival. Another strategy: walking my neighborhood 1 or 2 times per week and praying the Saturation of the Presence of God over each family. Another choice would be to pray over businesses that they would prosper and be full of godly honor. What will your strategy be? _____

- Discuss with a trusted associate the different prayers that could be prayed and agree on a specific prayer.
- Begin doing this immediately and follow through.
- Record how God is answering prayers (Journal) _____

Note: you can begin praying that your goals for your marriage, family, neighbors, church & community will be empowered & answered. Our Lord will do great and mighty things because of your prayers.

Does your community need transformation? _____

To what extent will you be devoted for it to take place? _____

5. MULTIPLICATION FROM GOOD SOIL

God desires for His message and blessings to be received by all:

2 Peter 3:9 (NKJV)

⁹The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us,^[a] not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.

Acts 2:21

²¹And it shall come to pass that whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved.

Matthew 28:19-20

¹⁹Go therefore^[a] and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen

MULTIPLICATION FROM GOOD SOIL

Colossians 1:28

²⁸ *Him we preach, warning every man and teaching every man in all wisdom, that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus.*

John 10:10

¹⁰ *The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.*

These scriptures make it clear that God wants everyone to be saved and live a life that follows the way of Jesus. Jesus completely believed. He did everything His Father wanted Him to do. He gave His life for us to be saved. He ascended to heaven that we could have the power of the Holy Spirit within us, all of us! God created each of us for His glory. (Isaiah 43:7) We are to become everything that He created us to be and experience all the promises He made available to us as a result of being full of all the fullness of God, full of the Holy Spirit! Since we are believers and followers of Jesus (few as it relates to the total population), He wants us to multiply. To multiply shouldn't be out of our own strength but rather out of His leading and power. We are incapable of His leading and His power without being Saturated with His Presence! It is not impossible, with God's plan:

Mark 9:23

²³ *Jesus said to him, "If you can believe,^[a] all things are possible to him who believes."*

Mark 10:26

²⁶ *And they were greatly astonished, saying among themselves, "Who then can be saved?"*

The impossible becomes possible as a result of believing in the Lord. God loves to display His greatness in overcoming the impossible, because all things are possible through Him. That is why it is so important to be Saturated by Him.

Are you good soil?

Just like the parable of the soils: if you are good soil, Saturated with the Presence of God most of the time, then the crops of your life can be 30, 60, 100x's what was sown. There are 2 factors here: sowing and being good soil. You control both of these factors: the person who sows little - multiplies little; the person that sows much - reaps a great harvest. The person that is good soil - their harvest will be multiplied. The good soil here is the person that opens their heart to remove all the high places (all the wounds & sin patterns); it is the person that invites the Holy Spirit to fill all these places that previously took up God's space in your heart. **God is waiting** for us to make room to fill every aspect of our heart with His presence. God is waiting for you to make Him the owner of all the aspects of your life: your mind, your body, your loves, your time, your responsibilities. Each of these responsibilities is **given to you for the glory of God**, not for your glory! Marriage is given to you for the glory of God, relationships are given to you for the glory of God, work is given to you for the glory of God, neighbors & friends are given to you for the glory of God, family is given to you for the glory of God! It is not for our glory that these blessings are given. God has given you all these things, including your talents and giftedness, so that you can become great in His eyes. It is when we give

Him everything that we become more powerful because He fills us with His presence and His power. It is like the parable:

Matthew 13:44-46

⁴⁴ "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and hid; and for joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. ⁴⁵ "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking beautiful pearls, ⁴⁶ who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had and bought it.

God wants our heart. He wants us to give Him every aspect of our lives. He is telling us what the **treasure** is: to be **Saturated with His Presence**. The Kingdom of Heaven is like treasure hidden in a field: once you find the treasure, sell everything you have to buy that field. You are releasing all the things that keep you chained to the world. If you no longer care about the things of this world or no longer carry the pride of man but celebrate by living as a **man/woman of God committed to bring Him glory**...it is then you will find joy, peace, hope...and become effective in all the areas of your life. God will multiply fruit in you and through you.

Let's talk about a Multiplication Model that not only leads people to Jesus, but disciples them to become great in God's eyes. We want the local Church to be a vital part of this model because this is the structure God has given us in the New Testament. Revival is desired to take place in every Church—the whole Church being Saturated with the Presence of God. A key role within that Church is the Pastor – the chief shepherd. The Pastor represents someone who is good soil. Not all good soil is highly productive. If we want the Church to flourish, the Pastor must be in Revival. The Pastor should be exhibiting all the characteristics we have been talking about thus far. The Pastors need to be mentored, taught, and encouraged, just like the people do. They need to connect with other Pastors who are seeking or who are in Revival, Saturated.

Heart Transformation causes unity & connection. We put 10 Churches in what we call a Community Training Center. They weep, cry, rejoice, serve one another, and commit together to not only personally be in Revival but to bring Revival to their Church. The Community Training Centers are led by Pastors/Leaders who fulfill the Chairperson's role and the Secretary's role for that Community Training Center. Each of those 10 Pastors are to be led into Revival personally, and then to bring it to their Churches. If all 10 Churches move into Revival, great transformation will take place in the Churches and the community.

All these people in Revival, Saturated, are having their lives transformed into the image of Jesus. The people are celebrating together, rejoicing in what God is doing, and it becomes so contagious that the community is drawn to it; other churches are drawn to it; and we will see a dramatic outpouring of the Spirit: people's lives changed, family relationships corrected. It doesn't get any better than this, except for heaven. **Be a part of this move of God, be a multiplier.**

I would like you to consider what God can do with people who obey, open their hearts and are led by the Spirit. In Matt. 28:19, we are told to make disciples; "teaching them to obey everything I have commanded." **We are in need of people who love the Lord with all their heart, that desire to fulfill God's plan of making disciples and as a result of being full of the Holy Spirit, living a holy life.**

Take some time and examine this Church Growth Model that will demonstrate multiplication.

MULTIPLICATION THROUGH SATURATION & NEW SALVATIONS

This growth model illustrates what God might do over a 20-30 year period.

God does mighty things when His people follow His plan & operate with His blessing and power, long term.

	CTC's Community Training Cntrs	Churches	People /church	Total People	Shepherds needed
This illustration shows that it is miraculous what God will do when we become Saturated and follow God's plan, long-term.	1	10	50	500	60
If we don't, it means that satan is defeating us with doubt & sin.					
This model is founded on Community Training Centers (CTC) & volunteerism.	30	300	50	15,000	1800
Volunteerism = a passionate love for God & serving His Kingdom.					
A CTC consists of a Chairperson, Secretary & 10-15 Churches that meet 2 times per month. Their purpose is for each Pastor/Leader to be Saturated, trained & encouraged that their whole Church will become Saturated. Another strategic goal is that they prepare each Pastor & Church to develop 6 Shepherds in each Church so that they will teach, lead, & encourage the Body to become Saturated. A key tool that each will use is "In Christ The School of Transforming Community (SOTC)."	100	1,000	50	50,000	6,000
People are to go through this book in small groups & meet weekly (or twice per month) to receive	500	5,000	50	250,000	30,000
& discuss more about the Kingdom of God and thus be led to Revival.	1,000	10,000	50	500,000	60,000
Each CTC is to reproduce 4-10 other CTC's so that new Pastors/Leaders can be led and move into personal Revival. As you can see, over a 20 year period of time, 7,500,000 people will be impacted & become Great in God's eyes! Now consider this: if each person averaged leading 4 people to Christ over a 20-year period of time, 30 million new believers would be established.	2,000	20,000	50	1,000,000	120,000
Please note on this chart: we will move from 1 CTC to 15,000 CTC's and with these 15,000 Branches CTC's = 150,000 Pastors will move into Revival, being Saturated with the Presence of God. This will lead us to National Revival which will transform the culture to a Kingdom Culture full of God's power. This model works in every country, fostering Community Transformation!	5,000	50,000	50	2,500,000	300,000
	10,000	100,000	50	5,000,000	600,000
	15,000	150,000	50	7,500,000	900,000

Please note:

A CTC includes a Chairperson & Secretary. Each CTC has 10-15 Churches

Each Church should have 6 Shepherds to develop & encourage member growth. It is our hope that each CTC would reproduce 10 more CTC's.

We must consider how an individual church grows. We know that we are going to share the miracles God is doing in and through us with others. As a result, we should experience 3 or more new believers in our church every year. Please note: 6 shepherds/church need to be identified & developed. These will be the foundation for developing a strong, growing Church. They will be used to role model & nurture a Saturated life in Christ. This will position the Church to grow in spiritual maturity and numbers. This will also help the HT Network to have quality growth.

Church growth will take place because of improved teaching and the **development of disciples**. We should retain the existing flock and see 3 additional new believers every year. If the church size is 35 congregants and adds 3 new believers every year, training them up to be disciples: in 18 years, the church size will grow (including turn over) to 60-90 congregants. **Pastors must remain "in Him", & remain "Saturated with Him"**, being obedient in all things...then the church will most likely experience this kind of growth or more! If we individually fulfill God's plan in our personal lives, in our congregations, in our CTC, multiplication is the result.

REFLECTIONS:

Being good soil and planting the right crop.

1. The first application principle is: being good soil. That means "daily living by the Spirit, throughout each day". It means praying in the Spirit every day! It means reading and soaking on the word, every day. These are gifts God has given each of us: to be Saturated.
2. The second principle: multiply!

2 Timothy 2:2

And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.

- This is the key: choose faithful men and women to invest in and share your life. Be transparent with them.
- List potential candidates and ask God to reveal with whom He wants you to begin. _____

Will you choose to multiply for the rest of your life? _____

How can multiplication take place in your territory? _____

To what is God calling you? _____

What is the first thing you will do & who will you include to be part of your endeavor for His Kingdom? _____

6. DAILY FAITH WALKING IN THE SPIRIT

2 Cor.5:7; Deut.5:33; Gal.5:16; Gen.5:24; Rom.13:13

It would seem that **faith is a trigger** that takes us deeper in our supernatural journey, most descriptively: **Stephen** in Acts 6:5

“They chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit.”

Stephen was also full of wisdom, grace and power. (v.8)

Let’s consider **Jesus**; He did only what the Father said and did. His desire was to do only the work that the Father sent Him to do, without limit. Jesus didn’t hesitate exhibiting His faith by taking actions consistent with what His Father desired.

Moses, who went to Pharaoh and told him to “let My people go”. That was great faith. **Gideon** who began with an army of **32,000**; the Lord directed that he shrink it down to **300** to do battle and he did so. That was great faith.

During the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus was encouraging the people not to worry because God would take care of them.

Matt. 6:30 (NKJV)

³⁰ Now if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?

Jesus desires that we operate with great faith (as a mustard seed), as a result you will be able to move mountains, nothing will be impossible for you.

Matthew 17:20

So Jesus said to them, "Because of your unbelief; for assuredly, I say to you, if you have faith as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you.

As the disciples got into the boat, without warning a furious storm came up. Jesus was sleeping and they woke Him,

Matt. 8:26

²⁶ But He said to them, "Why are you fearful, O you of little faith?" Then He arose and rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was a great calm.

The Lord gives us illustrations of those with little faith: **Peter** in the boat with the other disciples. He saw Jesus walking on the water. Peter stepped out of the boat and began walking toward Jesus. That seemed very courageous and exhibited great faith. He had great faith for a short period of time but when he looked at his circumstances, he began to sink.

Matt. 14:31 NKJV

³¹ And immediately Jesus stretched out His hand and caught him, and said to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?"

Jesus addressing His disciples regarding feeding the 4,000 one time and 5,000 another:

Matthew 16:8-9 NKJV

⁸ But Jesus, being aware of it, said to them, "O you of little faith, why do you reason among yourselves because you have brought no bread?" ⁹ Do you not yet understand, or remember the five loaves of the five thousand and how many baskets you took up?

There is no limit what God can do for His purposes and His children. Are we going to think along the lines of great faith or little faith? Great faith was the Centurion who didn't want Jesus to have to travel to him, who asked the Lord to only speak the word and his servant would be healed.

What is this faith?

John 14:12 NKJV

¹² "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father.

Faith according to the Greek definition is "believe on Me/reliance on God" (to entrust). This isn't little faith. To believe everything Jesus said & did, then entrust yourself to Him and His promises, that's big faith. Therefore, when you are full of the Spirit, you probably will be full of faith and able to move mountains. Faith believes as though it were so. Therefore, when we go to the marketplace, we are so full of God and full of faith that we overflow with the fruit of God in us; we can't stop sharing the love of Jesus with everyone.

FULL OF THE SPIRIT = FULL OF FAITH

1. DAILY FAITH WALKING: *Heb.10:22; Eph.3:12*

Faith and action are partners. God desires that we exhibit our faith in Him in order to ignite His actions in our daily circumstances through the Holy Spirit. **He is calling us to execute His actions with His power, here on earth.** God is waiting for us to demonstrate our faith by listening, hearing what He says, and doing the very things He wants us to do! That is what Jesus did.

2. The Lord has given us a second part to that secret to **LIVING THE KINGDOM LIFE ON EARTH: BY HIS SPIRIT.**

*Romans 8:5-6 For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. ⁶For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. (Also: Gal.5:16-18, 25-26) Those who live according to the sinful nature have their minds set on what that nature desires; but those who live **in accordance with the Spirit** have their minds set on what the Spirit desires.*

The secret is to live by the Spirit. We will daily be tested as to what we have faith in. Following is a Daily Faith Walking in the Spirit graphic. The challenge for each day's events: **Are you going to respond by walking in the Spirit or walking in the natural desires/flesh?**

An event is any type situation within your day with which you are confronted. The question is: which process will you follow? The subject here is which choice I will make on a daily, event by event basis.

It is a lifestyle that is developed within you. If you are interested in living by the Spirit, what is crucial is Preparation of the Heart to Walk in the Spirit on a daily basis and revisiting the Preparation throughout the day. It is like putting on the Armor of God, DAILY!

When we have a quiet time in the morning, we consider that a good thing. That preparation in the past has been called Quiet Time. That quiet time, however, is to fill us with the Spirit at the beginning of each day, and to be full of faith each day, so that when the events of the day happen, I will **operate in the Spirit** and not in my natural desires/flesh. This is the big **choice we must make daily** and throughout each day.

Now, please consider the chart on the next page, and the stages within the heart:

Preparation of the Heart to Walk in the Spirit:

1. The Preparation of the Heart is to prepare you in advance for when you encounter that event of the day. The Preparation has 3 steps: Seek His Presence, Talk with Him About What He Wants, Honor Him by Completing What He Says.

As a result of following these elements, you are prepared to hear and make the right choice in each event of the day.

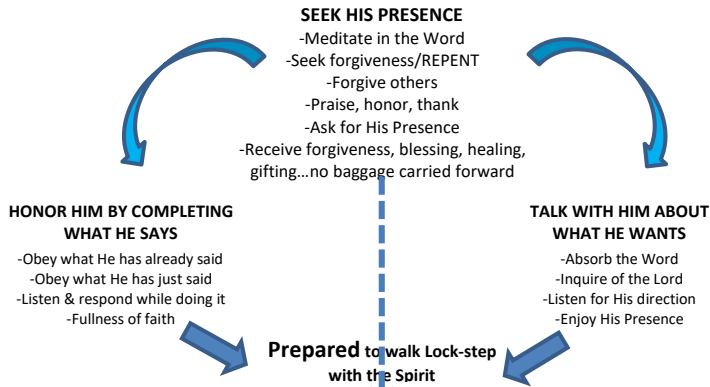
2. Event Choice: an event will present itself. When we respond to that event, we will automatically respond according to what my heart is full of within me. Am I full of the Spirit or full of the flesh and worldly desires? The success of the spiritual walk is executed in the choices you make and whether you have little or great faith.

The Chart is self-explanatory so please carefully follow it and discover how it works and what the results might be in your life.

DAILY FAITH WALKING IN THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

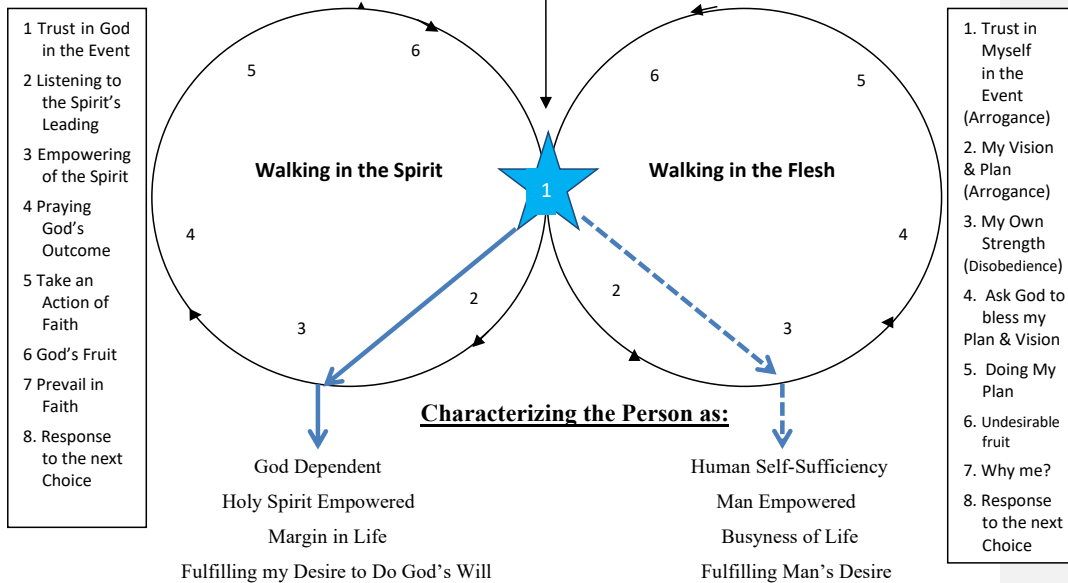
The Outcome of a life that is walking in the Spirit throughout the day!

PREPARATION of the HEART to Walk in the Spirit



Event Choice:

With each event that happens in a day, I get to choose whether to live by the Spirit or the Flesh!



Walking in the Spirit



Joy
Hope
Peace
Faith
Love
Contentment

Miraculous Blessing & Healing

of Heart, Body, Exercising God’s Authority
More Freedom from Sin



God’s Power

Walking in the Flesh



Anxious
Fear
Envy
Worry
Anger

Chasing After the Wind

No Miracles in Life

Left with the Luck of the World



Chasing after the Wind/Meaningless

The Fruit of Life:

3. Characterizing the individual. Will you be characterized as walking in the Spirit or walking in the flesh? It will be known by others. They will observe it, see it in your life.
4. The Fruit of Life. Will we be characterized as joyful and hopeful or full of anxiety and fear. The **outcome** is a demonstration of **God’s power** or someone just **chasing after the wind**, and never catching anything.

We have been trained throughout our lives to rely upon self rather than the Holy Spirit. We have thinking habits, heart expectation habits – these habits need to be transformed by the Holy Spirit. Do I trust in God or do I trust in me? Which will characterize you?

Galatians 3:1-4 NKJV

O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you that you should not obey the truth,^[a] before whose eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed among you^[b] as crucified? ²This only I want to learn from you: Did you receive the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith? ³Are you so foolish? Having begun in the Spirit, are you now being made perfect by the flesh? ⁴Have you suffered so many things in vain—if indeed it was in vain?

REFLECTIONS: Practicing faith and Spirit walking.

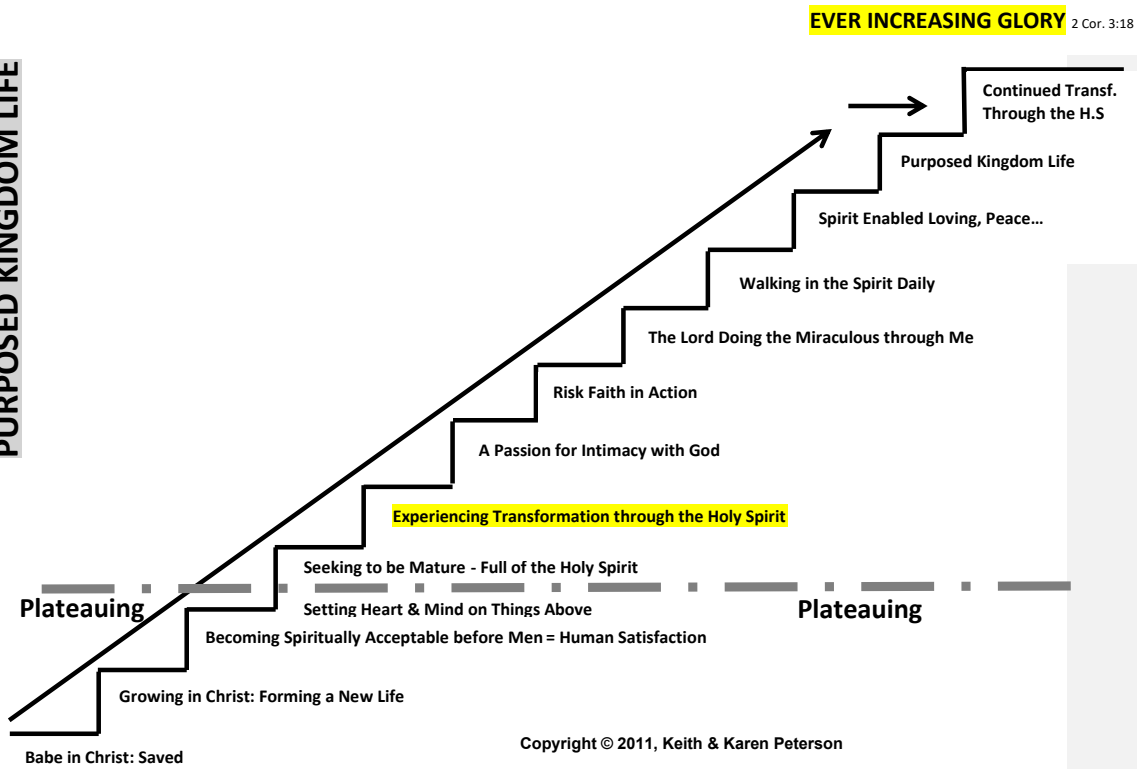
The greatest challenge we all face is what we do each day with our first thought and action! It is easy for all of us to make our first thought about our burdens and the challenges of the day. Often, we get carried away for the rest of the day with those thoughts. **The secret is moving into the Presence of God; first thing in the morning** - begin your time worshipping, meditating on the Word and praying in the Spirit.

- How do you begin each day now? _____
- What should your plan be in how to start each day? _____
- Pray about each item that God has for you to do that day.
- Before you start the next event, pray about that event and what God wants out of it, and how He wants you to do it.

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7. PURPOSED KINGDOM LIFE IS DEDICATED TO GOD'S WILL ONLY

PURPOSED KINGDOM LIFE



The goal of this illustration is to show us the prize that we long for: **ever-increasing glory**. Our Lord tells us in 2 Cor. 3:18 that we are not only transformed into His likeness but we experience ever-increasing glory. We go from glory to glory because of our love for Him. We are consumed with bringing glory to Him, because He is everything to us. There is no greater treasure for us than to become like Jesus and all that He did (John 14:12).

Too often, we live our lives loving the world or portions of the world. This love can't be there if you want to receive ever-increasing glory. Dividing ourselves into our different interests, we can't fulfill God's plan when we split between heaven and the world. He wants the unity of one body, seeking & thirsting to be just like Jesus, led by the Holy Spirit.

To succeed at this Purposed Kingdom Life, we must choose at every step to live according to His guidelines, rules, & direction. We must choose to live a purposed life. That is what volition is: He has given us the choice to have life with Him with ever-increasing glory or to have a confused life: with wrong loves, wrong passions, wrong actions; loving too many things of the world, which leaves you with less or eternal death itself.

As we are saved and grow in Christ, we get to a point of spiritual acceptability before men, we get human satisfaction. But we are not looking for acceptance from man, we are looking for acceptance from God. We as a people, have a tendency of compromising when relationships get tougher. So, we convince one another that this is an acceptable level of spirituality. If you look at the dotted line: it represents a ceiling of acceptability of spiritual maturity in man's eyes. Don't be fooled; to be filled with the glory of God is at the top of the staircase & that is where He wants us to arrive. We have a tendency of fooling ourselves into making this present lifestyle look more spiritual than it really is: Plateauing. We have a tendency of bringing God's standard down to our Plateau level. Therefore, we have been fooled that our standards equate with God's standards & purpose. We are looking for men & women who cross that barrier and **want the fullness of God in their life so that they can become everything God designed them to be.**

The first step is seeking to be mature, full of the Holy Spirit, setting heart & mind on things above. Is this your goal to move into this step, past the barrier, shattering the ceiling that holds you back? You should **be seeking for ever-increasing glory.**

If you are open to the work of the Holy Spirit in your life, you will move onto the next step: **longing and stretching into transformation through the Spirit.** In your longing you will want and see the Holy Spirit transform you from the past and the things that held you back; whether a low prayer life or patterned sin, but you decide you are going on.

This causes you to have a **passion for intimacy with God**, because as you are transformed from who you were, you are set free to love Him more. The sins of the past are gone that got in the way of your love relationship with Him. You now hear the Lord more clearly in what He tells you to do. This now leads you to operate with more faith than you ever had before; because you have this relationship with Him, He has given you God-confidence to move out. It is in **risk faith** that you are doing the very things He wants you to do.

This naturally leads you to the next step: **Spirit Enabled Living.** The Spirit helps you see what you are doing now as being far beyond what you were doing. He is helping you see what you used to hear from God, and comparing it to how rich it is to what He is telling you to do today. You are having victory in hearing and doing the will of God. As you continue in hearing & doing the will of God, you move from victory to victory, glory to glory. (Ps. 84:7) You now are experiencing what a **Purposed Kingdom Life** is.

This Purposed Kingdom Life looks like Jesus's life.

John 17:4 "I have glorified you on the earth. I have finished the work you have given me to do. And now, Oh Father, glorify me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was..."

Jesus purposed to do everything God wanted Him to do. As a result of doing everything God told Him to do, He is finishing the work of the Lord and is looking for the Father to glorify not only Himself but also His Son, because He **purposed to do the will of God in all that He did**.

This is the same experience that we get to have when we **operate in Risk Faith**, when we operate in cutting off the world from our heart, not paying attention to this foolish world any longer. But we hear & do what God has told us to do and we do it just like Jesus did. This purposed life is a life that continues to go on and we get to participate through our relationship with our Lord. God wants us operating according to everything He has told us to do in scripture and those things He speaks to us now; as we love Him and serve Him only.

Luke 4:8,

"and Jesus answered and said to Him, get behind me, satan! For it is written, you shall worship the Lord your God and Him only you shall serve."

When God is our only God, life becomes much simpler. You can hear what God wants you to do to win in your family, with your children, in your church, in your neighborhood, because when you love and serve Him only, it is very easy to hear what God wants you to do.

This is a brief narrative that gives you an image that God wants you to become complete in Him; to live & walk in His steps; and to do His will.

1 John 2:17 "And the world passes away, and the lust thereof: but he who doeth the will of God abideth forever."

REFLECTIONS: Transformation should be taking place in you as you are seeking. You must engage in order to be cleansed & filled.

1. God desires all of you not some of you. If you want to receive all His blessings and promises, then you must live the Kingdom Purposed Life. A Kingdom Purposed Life is only about Him. As you reflect on your spiritual life, how must things change to experience more of this Kingdom Purposed Life?

-
2. Would you turn to someone else and **pray for them**, for their need? Would you ask them with an open heart to **pray for you** that you might be transformed?

8. BLESSING OVERFLOWING TO OTHERS

As one becomes full of God, His Spirit, you will overflow with the character of God. God's plan is that it indeed will overflow to all of those around us. This is our opportunity to display the glory of God by loving the way our Lord loved.

Genesis 22:18 (NKJV)

¹⁸ *In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice."*

Ezekiel 34:25-26

²⁵ *"I will make a covenant of peace with them, and cause wild beasts to cease from the land; and they will dwell safely in the wilderness and sleep in the woods. ²⁶ I will make them and the places all around My hill a blessing; and I will cause showers to come down in their season; there shall be showers of blessing.*

Proverbs 10:6

*Blessings are on the head of the righteous,
But violence covers the mouth of the wicked.*

In the Greek, the word "bless" means to speak well of or invoke a benediction upon, prosper, happy. The greatest blessing that anyone has received in our lifetime is

John 3:16

"For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life".

Eternal life is a gift; eternally living with our God. That is what happens when we die as long as we have believed and received Jesus as our Savior. The proof is whether we have followed and been transformed from who we were. There will be no more crying, no more pain, no more suffering and struggling because in heaven there is no satan, no darkness. Is there a greater blessing in life than that? But there is a second special blessing that Jesus gave us:

John 10:10

¹⁰ *The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.*

The greatest blessing of all:

When we choose to be saturated with the fullness of God and stay saturated we get to experience this **abundant life**; a little bit of heaven here on earth. He wants His children to **prosper and be fruitful** for the sake of the Kingdom. Does that mean we won't experience testing and trials, no. James tells us to "*count it all joy when you encounter various trials*". You can't get eternal life or this abundant life without Jesus. There are countless people that you know that do not know Jesus; haven't understood being Saturated or immersed in intimate relationship with our God. There is no greater treasure than this and our Lord wants everyone to be saved; why wouldn't we tell everyone we know?

What happens when we are saturated?

At the time of Pentecost, Peter and John (Acts 3) began talking to some on-lookers. They healed a crippled man and shared about Christ. As a result, Peter and John were seized and taken before the Sanhedrin, then put in jail. They met with the rulers, elders and teachers of the Law; told not to speak of this Jesus any longer. But Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit stated:

"We cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard."

Peter and John were filled with the Holy Spirit and wanted these people to be saved from eternal death. Their love was so great, they were so compelled & empowered by God--they could not hold back their words; they had to share, even with the threat of imprisonment. The Holy Spirit had transformed their fear of imprisonment and physical death with an intense passion to share the Jesus story...that all could be saved. Peter and John didn't need a motivational speech by someone, their love, thankfulness, and praise was so deep that they overflowed with the love of God.

Here are some scriptures that show this principle of overflowing:

Psalms 119:171

My lips shall utter praise for You teach me Your statutes.

Matthew 12:34

³⁴Brood of vipers! How can you, being evil, speak good things? For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.

Romans 15:13

Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

2 Corinthians 4:15

For all things are for your sakes, that grace, having spread through the many, may cause thanksgiving to abound to the glory of God.

Philippians 1:26

that your rejoicing for me may be more abundant in Jesus Christ by my coming to you again.

1 Thessalonians 3:12-13

¹²And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love to one another and to all, just as we do to you, ¹³so that He may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all His saints.

These verses are talking about overflowing/abounding with words, hope, thanksgiving, joy and love. Another way of saying overflow is the excess after being full, flowing out like a fountain; people seeing it, touching it, being blessed by it. That's what Peter and John were doing, overflowing, as they fearlessly proclaimed the gospel. These are the blessings that every person in the world could be receiving if they had people sharing their awesome, magnificent God. Each believer should be giving testimony of the mighty things God has done in them.

God's plan is for us to **overflow to the rest of the world**, especially those closest to us. As a result of the empowerment of the Spirit and overflowing from the Spirit, we are to share all good things with all people.

One of the most powerful things you can do for another person is to pray for them:

Prayers for encouragement, deliverance, healing, empowerment, intercession, filling.

You can go to a neighbor, family member, even a stranger; most will be pleased that you asked to pray for them, and many will ask for prayer for a specific problem. This is blessing others.

Overflowing of a generous Spirit within you, bless them:

- | | | |
|------------------------------|--------------|--|
| Serve them | Counsel them | Comfort them |
| Bless them with fellowship | | Give money |
| Give them scripture | | Give them compassion |
| Feed them | | Defend/stand up for them |
| Endure with them | | Share God’s light |
| Give God’s salvation | | Proclaim what God has done – give your testimony |
| Take them to Church with you | | |

Do you have an overflow of the Spirit flowing out of you? It is simply being available and asking caring questions; giving them yourself and the Lord. If you will overflow, and then overflow on others:

John 15:8

By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.

Blessing others is revealing the transformation that has been completed and is ongoing within you. If you are not bearing fruit, then you are not overflowing. If you are not overflowing you are not Saturated with the Presence of God. If you are not Saturated with the Presence of God, then you are in a state of being lukewarm. **This is the measure of whether you are following God’s plan.**

Following God’s commission through blessing others is the greatest way to lead people to Jesus (through your transformed life) so they can experience this abundant life.

Hallelujah!

REFLECTIONS: Preparation to bless.

The best way to bless others is to daily begin by living & walking in the Spirit, being full of the Spirit. Sometimes when you are in His Presence, God will reveal to you people He wants you to bless. God just wants you to bless everyone around you.

Outside of your family, who comes to mind that you could bless? Write their names down and then ask the Lord how could I bless this person? _____

Ask God to show you more about the needs of these people and the circumstances that they are in.

Ask God to prepare them to be blessed.
Now go, bless people God has told you to bless!!

9. BLESSING YOUR SPOUSE AND FAMILY

Marriage is to be a beautiful display of the glory of God. We are made in the image of God: male and female. Together in unity (being one), we can display the complete image of God. God hates divorce because He desires His image to be displayed in all its glory for the sake of intimacy with Him and for the sake of saving the world. He created us in such a way that we can enjoy and satisfy one another in every way. He created the institution for the sake of us discovering what intimacy is with another person so that we are helped to discover intimacy with Him. It is intimacy with Him (oneness with our Lord) that opens the door to oneness with our spouse. He gave us marriage in order to bless one another. He gave us marriage to bring glory to Himself. He intended that great marriages would be the foundation for reproducing great families, great people, and great future marriages. Marriage is foundational to reproducing a people that would continue to be Saturated with His Presence.

When the institution of marriage is so important to God, how can we have a 50-70% divorce rate? There have been many set-backs in our present state, but God can help bring marriage in the church to become great and the divorce rate to be 5% or less. God wants to restore this foundational principle around the world. Let's look at some scripture:

Genesis 1:27-28

²⁷ So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. ²⁸ Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

Here the Lord is saying that we are created in His image, male and female. Clearly, men and women are different, but when they are united in heart, they display the complete image of God. Our Lord wants to announce to the world how beautiful that image is.

Mark 10:4-9 They said, "Moses permitted a man to write a certificate of divorce, and to dismiss her."

⁵ And Jesus answered and said to them, "Because of the hardness of your heart he wrote you this precept. ⁶ But from the beginning of the creation, God 'made them male and female.' ⁷ 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, ⁸ and the two shall become one flesh'; so then they are no longer two, but one flesh.

⁹ Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate."

It is very clear that God hates divorce, but because of the weakness of man, it is permitted only in unusual circumstances like infidelity. Divorce is common because of your hard hearts. (Verse 5) It's not just a hard hearts toward your spouse; it is a hard heart before God. In fact, in order to have a great marriage, if you are Saturated with the Presence of God, a great marriage comes easy; especially when both parties are Saturated.

We are to become "one" not stay two! And we are not to be separated, because God has joined you together. Choose to say "I will never divorce and I will always stay Saturated with the Presence of God."

Matthew 22:37-40^{m7} Jesus said to him, "You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind." ³⁸ This is the first and great commandment. ³⁹ And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' ⁴⁰ On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets."

When we love the Lord with all our heart, the Lord will give us the grace, strength and wisdom to love our neighbor as ourselves. Who is our closest neighbor? Isn't it our spouse! When we are Saturated with God's love and with the power of the Holy Spirit, we have the capacity to love our spouse as ourselves. You will care about their needs as much as your own. This will build the two of you becoming best friends. You will serve your spouse's needs as much as your own. This will create much enjoyment and pleasure for both of you.

*John 17:20-22 "I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word;²¹ that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that **they also may be one in Us**, that the world may believe that You sent Me.²² And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one...*

Here we have Jesus talking to the disciples about intimacy with one another and also intimacy with Him. It shows that as a result of our cooperation and belief in all that the Lord teaches us; we lay aside our selfish agenda and unite to be "one". Just as the Lord speaks that the Father and the Son are one: "You are in Me and I am in You"—so is the picture of a marriage: that we are "in" one another. What makes it powerful is that we each are "in Him" as well. This is when we are displaying the image of God to the world. The world will be attracted by this and attracted to the gospel as well; to being followers of Jesus. There will be so much joy, expressed love, and kindness towards one another that it will bring enjoyment and satisfaction to your life and many others around you.

Hebrews 13:4

Marriage is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge.

This scripture is very clear: we all are to honor marriage. We all are to keep pure in our marriage: this honors God, honors the spouse and blesses them. It continually builds trust within the marriage. It keeps the enemy away by eliminating doubt in the marriage and so often doubt in a marriage reproduces itself in many other areas. Living with **God-confidence** is one of the fruits of this: that when you are true to His principles, blessing comes into your life and that encourages more faith in the principles and promises of God and even more faith in doing the things He calls the marriage to do.

Keys to a Great Marriage:

Arrogance – the enemy of a great marriage! As illustrated by doing things my way vs. God's way: doing things according to my traditions at the exclusion of my spouse's desires; doing things at the exclusion of the biblical way. When our traditions are greater than God's way—unity is not possible. **Humility** is the answer; this also comes when we are Saturated with the Presence of God. It's **no longer about me**; but about **bringing glory to God**. **Humility is pleasing the other person and helping them achieve their purpose and goals**. It is a willingness to lay down your life for your spouse, who is your **best friend and the love of your life** in this physical world.

Proverbs 18:12 Before destruction the heart of a man is haughty, and before honor is humility.

Philippians 2:3 Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself.

Colossians 3:12 Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering.

In Philippians 2, it speaks of Jesus and His humility. One reason Jesus was so successful is because He was humble; He put other's needs as more important than His own. He did it with strength and power because He was full of the Holy Spirit. That is why Paul says "clothe yourselves with humility".

Ephesians 5:25-29

Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, ²⁶ that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, ²⁷ that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish. ²⁸ So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself. ²⁹ For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord does the church.

This reference talks about husbands, but I would like to use it to talk to husbands and wives. We each, individually, are to love the Lord with all our heart...just as Christ loved the church. Jesus loved the Church with all His heart because it belonged to His Father. Jesus was willing to lay down His life for the Church; Jesus loved unconditionally. He loved with passion. He fought for it all the way to saving the Church and each individual. We are to have that same kind of love for our spouse. To have a passionate love and fruitful marriage is one of the great blessings God is offering us.

Having a great marriage is accomplished through our Lord and the Holy Spirit. Every one of you can have this great marriage if you are willing to follow all the biblical principles and be saturated with the Holy Spirit. Only you can keep this from happening. Only you can free yourself from a hard heart and thus live the abundant life of a great marriage.

Will you humble yourself; will you love?
Will you remove all sin and distraction that hinders your marriage?
God wants you to be great in His eyes. This is one of the strategic aspects where He wants to see victory in you! God blesses great marriages. Praise the Lord!

REFLECTIONS: Blessing those closest to me.

This is the easiest opportunity we have before us: to bless our spouse and family. They are the ones we see most often, the ones we know best. Before God, you committed that no matter the circumstance: to love, serve, and honor. To have a great marriage, each party must supernaturally empowered by the Saturation with the Presence of God.

Take time and write down the things that honor your spouse, that meet his/her needs, the things that may help his/her lives. _____

Write down your thoughts for each of your children in this same manner. _____

Write down how you can bless your family, so the Kingdom of God would flourish in them.

10. BLESSING YOUR EMPLOYER/EMPLOYEES

Why Work?

We have a confused view of work in our role as an employee or employer. We also have a disobedient attitude about work because most do not excel in it. Not only does our Lord want us to excel at work but He also wants to bless us through work. He called us to “rule and multiply” the earth. Is this an important issue before God? Very much so! Do you want to be great in God’s eyes? Then we must work as though **we are working unto the Lord for His glory**. What is the purpose of work? It is to bring glory to God!

Wouldn’t it be great if all the businesses in the world would come to the Church to hire people because the best employees come from the church? God wants to build His Kingdom through **workers that honor God and their employer**. I know of a church that has high unemployment; maybe there are many churches like that. How can this be? God is calling us to be great employees. Think of it this way: as a result of receiving Jesus as my personal Savior, as a result of being Saturated with His Presence...will I be a worse or better worker? The answer: I will be a **better worker** because I have the **mind/passions/and love of Christ**. He can give me supernatural strengths and talents; He can and will – if I ask so that I might bring Him more glory! By being a **great, productive worker, then my God will be honored and so will I**.

How are we to work? God desires that we excel at everything we do. Let’s look at some scriptures:

Genesis 1:28

*Then God blessed them, and God said to them, “**Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it...**”*
God wants us to produce at work and to multiply through increased productivity.

1 Cor. 3:13

*...each ones work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because **it will be revealed by fire**; the fire will test **each ones work**, of what sort it is.*

Paul is talking about the quality of each person’s spiritual work, but this would also be true in extending it to excel in our physical work for the glory of God.

*Col. 3:23 **Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord...***

Whatever we do at work, we are to do it with all our heart because we are working for the Lord and we want to please Him...being your very best!

*1 Cor. 15:10 ...No, I **worked harder than all of them**-yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me.*

Paul is talking about how hard he worked with the Corinthians. This is the same as any other work we would do because we are working as unto the Lord and He wants us to work harder while we excel.

2 Thessalonians 3:7-12 ... worked with labor and toil night and day, that we might not be a burden to any of you...to make ourselves an example of how you should follow us.... If anyone will not work, neither shall he eat...

Clearly, **God has called us to work**. Paul is making himself a **model** for the believers to follow. Paul both worked and preached. Scripture goes on to say that there is no room for those who will not work because if you do not work, you do not eat. The question isn’t whether we should not work, the question is whether **I am prepared to work and excel at work!** God wants each of us to be great employees. God wants us to excel at work so we become indispensable to a

business; someone who is in great demand for other businesses. This brings opportunity and glory to God!!

*Ephesians 6:5 Bondservants, be obedient to those who are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in sincerity of heart, as to Christ...**doing the will of God from your heart.***

We are working unto Christ, therefore, we are to obey our earthly masters with respect, fear and sincerity of heart. The literal translation of respect is trembling in singleness/sincerity of heart. When I look at this verse and am working unto Christ, I will work much harder and much better...**this is what God desires, that we excel.**

Ephesians 6:6-7 ... not with eyeservice, as men-pleasers, but as bondservants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart, ⁷with goodwill doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men,

Here we are talking about winning the masters favor (whether he is looking at us or not), because working is doing the will of God. Therefore, you want to excel. As a result of excelling, you will have greater earnings. God will reward you for the good you do and more opportunity will surface.

⁹And you, masters, do the same things to them, giving up threatening, knowing that your own Master also¹⁰ is in heaven, and there is no partiality with Him.

Employers:

The masters are called to the same thing: they are to work and have their business produce as though working unto Christ. The business exists for the sake of **bringing glory to God**, therefore, the masters are not producing just for their own benefit but for God and the people's benefit. They are not to threaten workers or show favoritism. They are to be developing their workers: developing their heart, skills, knowledge and training them to do their job well. The job is to become great employers in God's eyes and **thus producing great services, products and employees for the glory of God**. The result is that we have businesses and employees who will draw people to Jesus that they might become saved and Saturated with the Presence of God. It also will create the opportunity for a business to grow and multiply, which creates more opportunity for everyone.

In Proverbs, it speaks of the fool and the wise man.

The **fool** is hasty, impatient, despises advice and instruction, speaks and acts without thinking, is quick to anger, quarrel and strife. Being stupid is acceptable to the fool. He is associated with evil, sluggish/a sluggard has poor self-discipline, ignorance, thoughtlessness, and contentious, not responsible, frivolous, bullish, associates with slander, untrustworthy, untimely. Is that enough? Would this person's behavior display the image and glory of God?

Let's look at the **godly man/woman: a person of wisdom!**

Wisdom represents the opposite of the fool. Wisdom is full of virtues: self-discipline, compassion, responsibility, friendship, work hard, courageous, persevering, honesty, integrity, loyalty and faithful. These people **desire that the company excel**. They are **knowledgeable about their product, have best skills, best attitudes**. They become market leaders in what they do. They honor their co-workers and employer. They become strategic & vital to that business. The wise are **desperately needed and wanted**.

Great Employers and Employees in God's Eyes: God wants His people to display His image and glory everywhere, including the workplace. When you have a whole country that believes in

these things and a high percentage of people demonstrating the things of God...that **country will flourish**. Clearly, if we do not follow what He is teaching here, we are in direct disobedience to God Himself. That should cause fear and trembling. Because we decide to become great in God's eyes, we move from fear and trembling to faith that God will fulfill His promises in me and through me.

We believe God doesn't want high unemployment; God wants no unemployment; especially in the congregation of the church. The church should be leading the way in having great employees, creating great businesses and new businesses, creating great government, creating great schools, creating great hospitals.

Will we obey and follow?

Will we become Saturated with the Presence of God and be **great in this area of life as well**.

REFLECTIONS:

Be a blessing through work to myself and my employer

God has a miraculous design: the purpose of work is for God to provide you a way of living as a result of working. Your working value is determined by how good you perform in your role at work. God desires to see you flourish and that the business would flourish, especially when that business is established for the glory of God. Our purpose as employees is to bring glory to God by excelling at my job. God has given us a mind and heart to work in unison; our hands and our whole body to do good work.

Preparation to be a great employee:

1. Understand my giftedness and strengths, my desires.
2. Be a disciplined employee, exhibiting all the virtues previously discussed.
3. Have skills, as many skills as you can for the career you choose.
4. Knowledgeable about the industry, product/service, and how it all works.
5. Be effective in communication, which includes knowing the most common language and being able to read, speak and write it.

These are the employees that will excel and have great value to a company, therefore being compensated according to their value. When you work, work at it with all your heart in the fullness of the Spirit of God.

6. A great employee is thankful and honors their employer.
7. What attitude/virtues do you now have toward work? _____

God wants to bless you and others as a result of good work.

What skills do I have? _____

What skills am I missing? _____

What is my plan to gain these skills? _____

What job would you like to have? _____

11. STEWARDSHIP: A KEY TO BEING GREAT IN GOD'S EYES

A steward is an overseer and responsible to fulfill goals & guidelines of a household (an estate), and is accountable to this achievement. Overseer can also relate to a church or an individual according to the responsibilities/duties God has set before them. One who best fulfills these overseer responsibilities is one who is Saturated with the Presence of God. To fulfill these responsibilities, we need the power of God; leading us and helping us to fulfill God's plan.

Matthew 13:11

He replied, the knowledge of the secrets of the Kingdom of Heaven has been given to you, but not to them. For whoever has, to him more will be given, and he will have abundance; but whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken away from him.

Here is a summary verse that reveals that the secrets of the Kingdom of Heaven have been given to you. We have been talking about the secrets of Heaven. It says here that "to those who understand these secrets and are fulfilling them in their own lives as well as in their church/organization will be given more: more power, more responsibility, more opportunity and from that great abundance, multiplication will take place. Our Lord desires that we excel in moving forward with these secrets, which means we will each move into Revival and become Saturated. We will turn our responsibilities over to the Lord and live them to the glory of God: the purpose of marriage is for the glory of God; as is family, work, community...all for the glory of God. Out of this we are going to experience **huge blessing in our life**; blessings we can get no other way because they come from God and He is the only source for them. Taking this role of overseer/steward will be an **incredible adventure** of seeing God work in you and through you. Your reward will be great. The blessings in your own life will be huge. Who are some people who have done this well?

- **Moses**, who wasn't qualified in his own view to take God's people out of Egypt. God gave him all the resources he needed for that to be fulfilled.
-
- The apostle **Paul**, who once was an enemy of Christianity, but as a result of God's touch received Jesus as Lord and Savior, became Saturated with the Presence of God and the Holy

Spirit. God gave him the responsibility of being the apostle to the Gentiles. With God's leading & power, he planted churches in Antioch, Iconium, Lystra, Derby, Ephesus, Macedonia, Thessalonica, Corinth; and he took the gospel to the end of the world. **He excelled/fulfilled God's plan for him as a steward/overseer.**

- **Jesus**, who was born of the Holy Spirit and Mary, was fully man and took the gospel throughout the region of Israel, raised up 12 apostles, said nothing more than the Father told him, and fulfilled it all.

John 17:4

I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do.

Jesus was born of God, received and taught the gospel, was filled with the Holy Spirit, crucified, buried and ascended to heaven. Jesus fulfilled everything that God planned for him to do. Will we do the same?

With an open heart, will I invite the Holy Spirit to **come and transform my spiritual life, to transform how I approach all my responsibilities, and transform my purpose in life?**

Out of this personal commitment will come **community transformation**. Just as community took place in the story of Jehoshaphat where the whole nation was transformed; just like Nagaland where people were being transformed from head-hunters to church planters until 95% of them now love and serve Jesus; just like Almalonga, Guatemala where the Lord transformed drunken, idol-worshipping, ineffective workers into a productive land with healthy marriages and families.

Therefore, we charge you with the following goals: Our hope & desire is that Community Transformation takes place as individuals are involved & transformed. Triggered by a movement of God and a special blessing from the Holy Spirit, the following characteristics are desired:

- That **Pastors/Churches would become Saturated with the Presence of God**
- **Great Marriages** in the Church
 - 0% Divorce rate within the Church
 - 0% Co-habitation – much teaching and counseling will be needed
- **Full employment** within the Church
 - People trained to be great employees
 - Great Business Owners who develop great employees
 - Developing great future business owners

- Establish a job opportunity strategy with Micro-Industry and Micro-Finance
- Develop **great governmental employees** (Reduce corruption)
- Establish a network of **1,000 Pastors & Churches who are Saturated with the Presence of God**
 - Develop a **Bible School** for Pastors/Leaders that assist in developing pastors/leaders who are Saturated with the Presence of God
 - Curriculum to include: Heart Transformation, Great Business People, Creating Innovative Leading Companies, Inductive Bible Study, Great Marriages & Families, Living by the Spirit, Praying in the Spirit, Growing Healthy Churches & planting new ones
- Churches mobilize godly men & women to **bring Heart Transformation to Schools** –
- Develop **HT Leaders** that understand and implement Heart Transformation
 - Heart Transformation for Kingdom Living - SOTC
 - Living the Empowered Life School of Transforming Community
 - Gospel Road - Prayer Initiatives

REFLECTIONS:

Fulfilling God’s calling on my life.

Jesus fulfilled everything that God planned for Him to do.

1. Will you fulfill everything that God has planned for you to do? _____
2. With an open heart, will you invite the Holy Spirit to:
 - Come and transform your spiritual life _____
 - To transform how you approach all your responsibilities _____
 - Transform your purpose in life? _____

Also understand that stewardship is making sure the cause moves forward. **You are the owner of this cause: for your family, church, community and country!** Not only are you to take ownership but also sacrificially give to it, just as Jesus did, financially and in every other way. This also means that your congregation is to take ownership for this Kingdom cause: they are to help afford the work; both they and yourself in giving financially – being generous. This commitment will help you understand its importance and not take it for granted.

*Matt. 6
For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.*

What are you willing to contribute financially to this Kingdom purpose? _____

What are you willing to contribute of your time to advance this cause? _____

In following all that we have talked about, **you are richly blessed**. You will be blessed even greater as you pursue His Presence, moment by moment throughout the day! Amen and Amen!!

Glory to God!

PART 3

DEVOTED
To
HIS VISION

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DEVOTED TO HIS VISION

1. Do You Want All of It or Some of It

God wants us to experience every spiritual blessing; He doesn't want us to miss one thing. He offers a complete relationship; a relationship where you become Saturated with Him. We are going to look at Peter's letter. Peter was a powerful, passionate man. He desired to honor and please God with all his heart. When Peter received the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, he was transformed from being a man of the Jewish law to being a man full of the Holy Spirit. His letter was written to people throughout a region: Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia and Bithynia; written approximately 65 A.D., about 30 years after Jesus had departed. Peter was a proven man of God, full of the Holy Spirit. We are going to look at his key points in this first letter. Peter wants us to **make a "decision" to live for the "Kingdom of God"**, to be part of the royal priesthood; all of us, everyone, especially in your congregations! So often we make a casual decision to be what the Lord wants us to be, yet we condone things in our lives that separate us from this powerful life. Let's look at the highlights of Peter's first letter-think about what he wants to tell us:

1. Be Holy, because I am holy (1 Peter 1:16)

- We can't be holy on our own. It is the Holy Spirit that sanctifies and empowers us. We can't be holy unless we are **obedient** to Jesus Christ, doing what He has already told us to do. (1 Peter 1:2, 14, 22)
- We can't be holy unless we gird up the loins of our minds for action. (Prepare my mind for action.) That I be sober to the end. (Self-controlled)
- We can't be holy unless we set our hope fully on the grace to be given us...eternal life. (1 Peter 1:13) Our hope is that which we are passionate about. Are you more passionate about the Presence of God or the issues of life?
- We can't be holy unless we lay aside all malice, all deceit, hypocrisy, envy and all evil speaking. (1 Peter 2:1) "Lay aside" means to "put off, rid yourself". As new born babes, we are to "desire the pure milk of the word". (Desire means to **crave it**.)
- As a result, we will become part of the spiritual priesthood of God and we will **live for righteousness**. We will be purposed to have righteousness overflow in us. (1 Peter 2:24) **We will be powerful people of God that He will use in many different ways.**

2. Sanctify the Lord God in your hearts (1 Peter 3:15)

This is living for the will of God. When you live for the will of God, you **silence** all the things that foolish men think about and work at; continually being **attentive to God's Presence** and living in a **constant state of worship of Him**.

3. Live for the will of God (1 Peter 4:2)

- We must arm ourselves with the same attitude as Jesus, with the same mind set: willing to endure suffering.
- Live according to God in the Spirit. (1 Peter 4:6) This is living by the Spirit. This is living to **please God** and **what He wants**. This is asking the Holy Spirit to **empower me** at each turn in my life. This is **powerful living**. This is defeating the enemy when I live for the will of God and according to the Spirit.

4. Shepherd the flock (1 Peter 5:2)

Peter is communicating that as a result of being holy, of living for the will of God, and in constant worship, of living according to God in the Spirit...we are now **God-empowered to shepherd the flock**. He is saying: **feed** the flock, **be an example** for the flock, live out your life in **humility, cast out all anxiety**...and you will **receive a crown of glory!** Praise God. Can you see that as a result of following Peter's plan, life will be rich and satisfying, full of joy...no matter your circumstances!

5. Be Sober, Be Vigilant of the enemy, the devil (1 Peter 5:8)

The devil is roaring and seeking to devour your holiness, your priesthood, your purpose to live for the will of God and according to God. He wants to take you out. He wants you to operate in the flesh as a shepherd instead of **in the Spirit with power!** You must be alert, a watchman, daily (24 hours a day) to keep him away! You have been **given all authority** over the devil and his attacks; **do not allow him access to you**, your family, your friends, your church, your work, your marriage. If you stay vigilant by passionately seeking to be Saturated by God in everything in your life; **the enemy has no access**. Peter is making his case to you: it's time to make a decision for the rest of your life that you are going to stay Saturated with the Presence of God! Somewhere, somehow, everyone must make this decision, to make this promise to God and match that covenant to Him with **a devotion to being Saturated with Him!!!**

Peter is also saying that as a result of **making this decision**, God will **empower you to shepherd the flock** and as a result: many will be saved, many will be blessed, many will live joyfully as a result of your choice to join God in His work with His power!

If you decide to live **holy, sanctified lives for the will of God**, there will be a difference between experiencing **some** of God's **blessing and power** or **all** of His blessing and power. It is the difference between having an average marriage or a great marriage. It's the difference between just being another worker or excelling at work. It's the difference between just being part of the herd in life or changing the world around you. You can have fruit and it can be 30, 60, 100x's more as a result of your decision! (Mark 4:20)

REFLECTIONS: Transformation should be taking place in you as you are seeking. You must engage in order to be cleansed & filled.

A life of holiness is aligned with loving the Lord with all your heart, no other loves. What other loves, besides Jesus, is within your heart? Ask God to change this in your life.

Do you live as part of the will of God or do you live for the will of God? _____

Do you shepherd like Jesus that guides/leads? Cares for each one of the flock? Or do you drive your herd and push them? _____

Say a prayer for how God would transform you to be a true shepherd. _____

2. THE BLESSINGS OF BEING SATURATED

Ephesians 3:19; Acts 1:8; Ephesians 1:3-4

Peter is a great example of one who is Saturated with the Presence of God. He understands the whole idea of being holy, sanctified, living for the will of God. Peter even talks about these people becoming part of the Royal Priesthood. But it is too often that we don't understand/remind ourselves of the blessings that come from this Kingdom Lifestyle. Once again, this is an illustration of someone who is Saturated. Too often, we are focused on the "doing of our Christian faith" and not looking up and appreciating what God has done. He has been giving you blessings. When we are in Peter's state and Saturated, we are empowered to display the power of the Holy Spirit in and through our lives. He wants you to display the things of God; both in power and in the blessings & promises you receive.

We will not receive and experience all these spiritual blessings if we are contaminated with sin, if we are not full of the Holy Spirit, if we aren't full of all the fullness of God. We are going to talk about some of the blessings that God offers us when we are filled/Saturated with Him.

1. FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

Gal.5:22-23; John 15:2; Eph.5:9; Col.3:12; Rom15:14; 1Cor.13:7

Once you have become saved & have chosen to stay full of the Holy Spirit, your life will exhibit these characteristics; they are a gift from the Holy Spirit. You can't get these gifts any other way than from the Holy Spirit; being Saturated with His Presence. What an incredible Father you have; to give you all this - regardless of life's circumstances. Whether rich or poor, these will be most precious to you, treasured by you. Seek to **receive** these blessings, as a result of your living according to the Spirit. Watch for them, receive them.

Below are the fruits that we need to possess as dear children of God:

- having a **joy & peace** that passes all understanding, no matter my circumstance
- having a **love for God** that is full of affection & passion for His Presence
- having a **faith** that moves mountains & heals my broken heart as well as others
- having a **patience** that is long suffering & steadfast without selfish agenda
- having a **meekness/humility** and mildness that cares for God's people naturally
- having a **goodness** that comes from an upright heart
- having a **gentleness** from moral goodness and integrity
- having **self-control** [being without excessiveness in thought, action or feeling], experiencing every spiritual blessing.

The enemy wants to distract and steal them from you – don't let him!

2. FREEDOM FROM THE SIN OF THE OLD MAN

Romans 6:6; Gal.2:20; Col.2:11

We live according to the Spirit. We are free:

- without responding to sinful cravings within me
- without jealousy
- without coveting
- without hate
- without participating in factions
- without hypocrisy
- without lusting
- without haughty eyes
- without discord
- without worry and stress
- without dissensions causing divisions/factions
- without sinful ambition
- without deceit
- without malice and gossip
- without boasting
- without false witness and slander
- without manipulation and scheming
- without anxiousness
- without lying
- without pride

When we are Saturated with the Presence of God, we continue to keep our old self crucified.

Our natural desires no longer control us. We are controlled by the Holy Spirit and we desire what the Spirit desires. Temptation and sin no longer control us – we have been set free. The strategic point here is that you can still be a slave to your sin if you don't **choose to be Saturated with the Presence of God daily**. You have been set free as a result of Jesus' death and resurrection, so now **live DAILY with joyful freedom and the power of God**.

3. BLESSINGS FROM THE PROMISES OF GOD:

1 Corinthians 9:23

I do all this for the sake of the gospel, that I may share in its blessings.

We are about to look at many blessings & promises of God. This verse says "this I do" which speaks of serving all men. As a result of doing it for the sake of the gospel, sharing it wherever you go, you become a partaker of the fruit of the gospel. Let's discuss some of the blessings God is offering, found throughout the Bible.

- He desires to give me every spiritual blessing in Christ
- He offers me intimacy with Him personally
- He listens to me & answers
- He causes me to be more productive
- He gives me wisdom & understanding
- He comforts me
- He multiplies my fruit: 30,60, 100 times
- He gives me His favor
- He strengthens me
- He trains my hands for battle
- He ends my striving
- He works all things for good in my life
- He directs my paths & makes them straight
- In Him, I lack no good thing
- He creates a pure heart & a steadfast spirit within me
- He is my shield, help & guidance
- He rescues & delivers me
- He sustains me
- He is merciful
- He leads me
- He wants oneness with Him & others
- He gives me His power
- He protects me
- He revives my soul
- He stoops down to make me great
- He frees me: anxiousness, worry, stress
- He never forsakes me
- His love never fails me
- He stirs my heart to a noble theme

These blessings/promises are glorious! Your Father wants to please you. As you are saturated with Him, these blessings you will see. Look for them, not for your glory but for His glory, so that you can thank Him for all the different ways He is being your Father! We have a remarkable Father that blesses His children. This should motivate us to **be in relationship with Him, to know Him, to be in awe of Him so that we will overflow with the blessings of God in our life because we are Saturated.**

4. The Blessings of being Prospered

*“This book of the law shall not depart from your mouth; but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way **prosperous** and then you will have good success” {Josh. 1:8}*

God desires to bless you in all you do. Here are other blessings you are being given:

- Having a great marriage in God’s eyes
- Becoming great parents
- Becoming a great employee
- Becoming a great owner
- Have great friends
- Become great in ministry

This greatness is God in you and through you. It is you being Saturated with Him and out of that He blesses and gives you capacity to fulfill all these things. **He will give you the power** to do this. He is asking us to participate and **be everything He created us to be and do.** We are **partners with Him.** We would not have the ability to be great in all these things if we weren’t Saturated with Him. **Enjoy God prospering you; enjoy His Presence and the fruit that comes from it!**

REFLECTIONS: Transformation should be taking place in you as you are seeking. You must engage in order to be cleansed & filled.

What are the top 3 blessings you would like to see more of in your life? _____

What do you think keeps you from experiencing more of those blessings? _____

Ask God to transform you. _____

3. DAILY GREAT FAITH

2 Tim. 4:7; Eph.2:8; Heb.12:2; James 1:3

To have the supernatural work of God in us and through us, it requires great faith, not little faith. Jesus illustrated this many times with the apostles. We have set our hearts on becoming great in God's eyes (Psalm 18). God wants to do a great and mighty work in us and through us.

He wants our lives to be **full of the Holy Spirit and power**, but this can't take place if we aren't willing to step out differently than we have before. God is calling us to take **faith risk**. Faith risk is stepping out when not assured of the outcome; I must trust in the Lord for the outcome. Our churches would flourish if everyone in the church exercised this risk faith.

1. **Great faith** is the Centurion who didn't want Jesus to have to travel to him; who asked the Lord to only speak the word and his servant would be healed. Faith according to the Greek definition is "believe on Me"/reliance on God" (to entrust). This isn't little faith. **To believe everything Jesus said and did and entrust yourself to Him and His promises, that's big faith.** Therefore, when you are full of the Spirit, you will be full of faith and able to **move mountains**. **Faith believes as though it were so.** Therefore, when we go to the marketplace, we are so full of God and full of faith, that we overflow with the fruit of God in us; we can't stop sharing the love of Jesus with everyone. We are willing to invest in many Kingdom opportunities.

2. **Faith is a trigger/igniter of the Holy Spirit** that takes us deeper in our supernatural journey, most descriptively: Stephen in the New Testament

Acts 6:5

...and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit...

If we do not have the reputation as Stephen did, to be full of faith and the Holy Spirit, then there is no need for the Holy Spirit to work. But Stephen had faith, and he was filled with it, he blessed everyone around him; they could see his faith.

Let's consider **Jesus**; He did only what the Father said and did. His desire was to do only the work that the Father sent Him to do, without limit. Jesus didn't hesitate exhibiting His faith. He took actions consistent with what His Father desired.

Moses, who went to Pharaoh and told him to "let My people go". That was great faith. **Gideon** who began with an army of 32,000 - the Lord directed that he shrink it down to 300 to do battle against 135,000 and he did so. That was great faith.

Consider Hebrews 11: Moses, Gideon, and all the people of God who exhibited faith. We would call them the heroes of faith. We could be one of the heroes of faith, just like them, if we **stepped out boldly and relied upon God. Therefore, the Holy Spirit is triggered/ignited to do His work because of people's demonstrated faith.**

3. **GREAT FAITH OR LITTLE FAITH – YOUR CHOICE:** *Matt.6:30; 17:20; Matt.8:23-26; Matt.14:31*
During the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus was encouraging the people not to worry because God would take care of them.

Here, Jesus is contrasting little faith with great faith. Great faith is as small as a mustard seed. When you have that amount of faith, you will be able to move a mountain; nothing is impossible for you. Unless you ask for mountains to be moved in and around your life, expecting God to answer...do you have little or great faith?

The Lord gives us illustrations of those with little faith: **Peter** in the boat with the other disciples and he saw Jesus walking on the water. Peter stepped out of the boat and began walking toward Jesus. That seemed very courageous and exhibited great faith. He had great faith for a short period of time but when he **looked at his circumstances**, he began to sink.

Are you operating with enduring, great faith?

Jesus addressing His disciples regarding feeding the 4,000 one time and 5,000 another:

There is no limit to what God can do for His purposes and His children. Are we going to think along the lines of great faith or little faith? **Do not allow your circumstances or the hugeness of the task to deter you.** If God wants it done...He will hear you and answer your prayer!

4. GREAT FAITH AND ACTION ARE PARTNERS. *James 2:18-24*

Simply: great faith includes **taking action on what God wants you to do!** **Faith and action go together.** The action is the demonstration of your faith and reliance on God.

God desires that we exhibit our faith in Him in order to ignite His actions in our daily circumstances through the Holy Spirit. **He is calling us to execute His actions with His power, here on earth.** God is waiting for us to demonstrate our faith by listening, hearing what He says, and doing the very things He wants us to do! That is what Jesus did. The Church and its members are not exercising their faith; otherwise our churches would be overflowing. Remember: **your action ignites the work of the Holy Spirit.** When God has called you to move a mountain in your life; you must step out in faith and it will ignite a great work of the Holy Spirit.

In summary: Our Lord desires that we **rely on Him by taking risk faith** and acting on it. God will **move mountains in you and around you**, if you operate with the faith that He expects from us.

REFLECTIONS: Transformation should be taking place in you as you are seeking. You must engage in order to be cleansed & filled.

How do you think you daily operate: with big faith or little faith? _____

Regarding His Kingdom, in what is God calling you to have great faith? _____

4. PREPARATION FOR SATURATION

2 Peter 1:2-4; 2 Peter 1:3, 4; 2 Peter 1:5-9

Each of us desires to be Saturated with the blessings of God. We each desire to have great marriages and families in God's eyes, and in our work, in serving at Church and in the community. We desire to be full of the Fruit of the Spirit, loving as Jesus did. In 1 Peter we are encouraged to make a lifelong decision: to be part of a holy priesthood. This is what we want, but how do we get there?

2 Peter tells us the next step: there is a phrase repeated 3 times in the first 9 verses and we are going to look at that! ...**the knowledge of Him** (vs. 2, 3 & 8)

Our Lord requires that we have **intimate relationship with Him**. We can't be saturated without knowing Him: Who He is, what He is, what He desires, what hurts Him, what He gets angry over, how much He loves us, how powerful He is. What a great condition He puts before us: becoming Saturated with His Presence and the key is being in relationship with this Almighty God, being intimate with Him. **As a result of this relationship, we receive blessing, honor and His power**...all because we are His children.

This is what the Lord is offering us: that **grace and peace be multiplied in us** through the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord. This is talking about **Saturation**. He has told us clearly in scripture all the different ways we can know Him. If you are getting into relationship with someone, you must know that person completely, so it is with God! As a result of relationship, He opens heaven's doors for you, to get a taste of heaven: having an abundance of grace and peace.

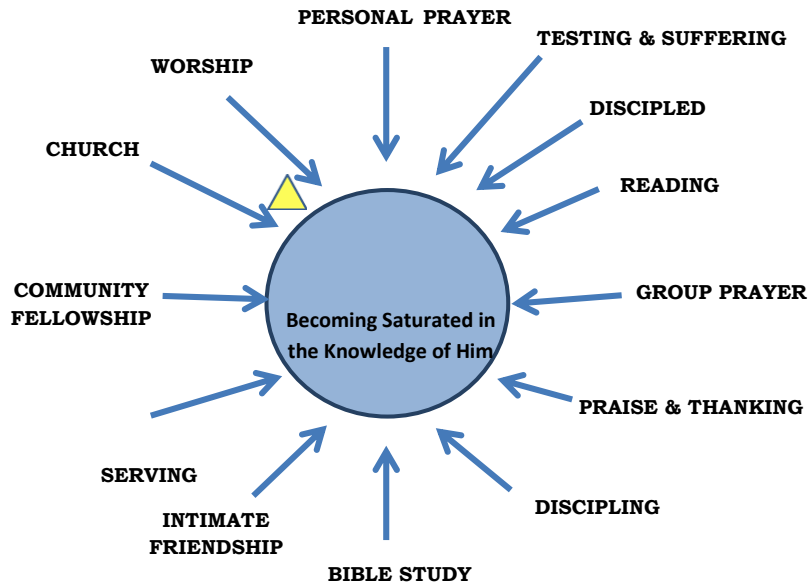
Knowledge, as spoken of, means to know thoroughly, to recognize this God for what He really is, to acknowledge Who He is. Because you know so much about God, you are able to recognize His Presence.

In vs. 3, God's power has put in us the things that pertain to life and godliness as a result of our salvation and sanctification; through what means? Again, **through the knowledge of Him!** The reality is that one of the key tools God has given us to have knowledge about Him is the **Word** of God. **As we know Him completely, we then release His power in and through us to receive and give blessing.**

As a result of our knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ, He offers us the opportunity to add the things of God: faith, goodness, knowledge, self-control, perseverance, godliness and love. Without our full knowledge, our full recognition, we would not be able to add these things to our spiritual character. It is in being **Saturated in the knowledge of God**, that we begin being in such **awe of Him** that we receive and do everything He puts before us. It is then that we establish the potentiality of becoming great in God's eyes. Here is an illustration on all the elements God gives us to know Him.

We can become Saturated with the knowledge of God through all these vehicles:

PREPARATION for SATURATION of the KNOWLEDGE & PRESENCE of GOD (SPG)



The soul of the individual is being saturated by the Presence of God. An open heart is rewarded by the filling of the Lord. This transforms the individual and every role they have in life. Deep, intimate relationship with the Lord is discovered!

Ephesians 3:17,18,19

...rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge...

We are going to talk about the things in which you can begin immersing yourself so that you will open your hearts to receive everything He brings into your life. This next step is all about gaining complete knowledge of your God.

You will probably never get to the point of knowing God's every aspect because humanly we don't have that capacity. Every day for the rest of your life, seek this saturation of knowing Him. Let's look at some of the **elements that God offers us to become saturated:**

1. **KNOWING HIM THROUGH THE WORD OF GOD (THE BIBLE)** *Joshua 1:8-9*
Studying, reading, memorizing scripture is meditating day and night. This is one of the great tools God has given to know Him. If we want to be saturated, want all the blessings...then **knowing the Word of God is vital and necessary**. It means we can't go a day without soaking in it.
2. **KNOWING HIM THROUGH WORSHIP** *Luke 4:8*
The interesting word here is "only". Only means to **exclusively worship Him**. We are to have no other gods, whether in the form of another god or in the form of my personal

desires. This is much more difficult than we think because some of our desires need to be removed from us with God's grace. He is worthy and when we come to know Him, it becomes easy it is to worship Him.

3. **KNOWING HIM THROUGH PRAYER** *1 Thessalonians 5:17*

Our Lord has told us how important praying is, not just in this verse but He also stated that *"my house will be called a house of prayer"*. Prayer is a means of sitting before Him, without distraction, to talk with Him, commune with Him and so you are enabled to hear from Him. **Prayer is more about worship, honor, thanks and praise** than it is praying our requests, because when you are "praying in the Spirit on all occasions" (Eph. 6:18), you will be **hearing what He wants** you to be praying about and you will know how to pray for the things that are heavy on your heart. Praying continually isn't just being in a prayer closet for worship and requests, but it is also **praying as you walk through your day**. This is, again, an activity that God desires we engage in that helps us become saturated and demonstrates we are saturated.

4. **KNOWING HIM THROUGH COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP** *Hebrews 10:25;3:13*

The church and fellowship groups are vital to your having full knowledge of Him. They help you get an additional view of God. They encourage you. Few pilgrims, in journeying to the heart of God, will make it on their own. We need others who can aid in our protection and help us see the right path. We are **stronger as a group** in becoming saturated with the Presence of God.

5. **KNOWING GOD THROUGH BEING DISCIPLED AND DISCIPLING OTHERS** *Hebrews 3:13; 1Peter 5:2-3*

We need having Godly shepherds speak into our lives; shepherds that know God and have His power active within them. They will guide us, exhort us, teach us, and bless us. It is also true that each of you should be discipling others, but only if you are committed to being Saturated with the Presence of God. If you have that commitment and desire, God has already given you much and there are people around you that need what you have. Obey the Lord and bless others with what you now have of God.

6. **KNOWING GOD THROUGH PRAISE & THANKSGIVING** *Psalms 117:1; 2 Corinthians 9:12*

Praise and thanksgiving is not just saying words. As a result of knowing Him, you are to be moved into awe of God in Who He is, What He is, and how He is moving in your life. Knowing Him is singing songs to Him and about Him. Knowing Him is knowing the very things He has done throughout history, but more importantly, the things He is now doing for you! If you don't recognize how He is moving in your life, it quenches the work of the Holy Spirit in you. It means you are really not in relationship. So, praising and thanking happens as you walk through the day, as you are with people, and as you pray!

7. **CONFESSION AND REPENTANCE** *1 John 1:8-10*

To confess means “to make covenant, to not only proclaim that I have sinned but that I will sin no more”. As you continue to grow in being Saturated with the Presence of God, you will hate sin in you. This is part of the transformation as a result of Saturating yourself with the knowledge of God. Your heart begins to desire the things of God and someday desiring only God. This covenanting to **sin no more** is not just an act of your obedience but **transformation** will take place and you will no longer desire that sin. Transformation from your sin life means that you are declaring and **welcoming the Holy Spirit to fill the places in your heart where sin once dwelt**. Make sure you not only welcome the Holy Spirit to dwell there but to continually welcome the **Holy Spirit to stay** there.

8. **TESTING & SUFFERING**

James 1:2;

*...Count it all joy when you fall into various trials,
knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience...*

1 Peter 4:1,2

*Therefore, since Christ suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves also with the same mind,
for he who has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin.*

Look at how strategic these verses are. We would prefer they not be part of the process but are within the process of us becoming Saturated. Testing & suffering helps us to see our hearts and to learn from it so that we can grow in our knowledge of God and ask to be Transformed of hidden obstacles that keep us from God finishing His work within us. Embrace the testing & suffering for the glory of God.

As a result of taking into our hearts all these things about the knowledge of God, we will not only be transformed from our sinning, but how we see the world and what we desire will be transformed. The Holy Spirit will become more active in your life because you are **no longer quenching the work of the Holy Spirit but actually activating it**. Therefore, your life will begin **overflowing with the things of God and exploding the things of God everywhere in your life**. The following illustration shows this. **The Holy Spirit is enabling all these things because you are becoming Saturated with the Presence of God.**

Now that I have received the Saturation of God, I have been Transformed to overflowing to others the things of God. Please note the following illustration:

FULLNESS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT ON DISPLAY IN ME



Each area is surrendered & given to the Lord, therefore available for the Holy Spirit's blessing & supernatural work.

REFLECTIONS: Transformation should be taking place in you as you are seeking. You must engage in order to be cleansed & filled.

Is there anything holding you back from becoming totally prepared for Saturation, Transformation and blessing? _____

Ask God, now, to Transform you! _____

5. SATURATION IN YOU AND THROUGH YOU

Heart Transformation (HT) is a ministry fostering **moves of God in individuals and communities** through becoming **Saturated with the Presence of God**. This ignites an overflow of God's love and power in you and through you.

Acts 1:8 ...and you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you.

We are pleased to work with a specific **spiritually hungry community that seeks complete transformation**.

When an individual becomes Saturated with the Presence of God, everything becomes transformed. So, it applies to a Community: if a large percentage of its people become saturated then **Community Transformation** takes place: **churches will flourish, the business community will thrive, the amount of poverty and orphans will diminish, crime will dissipate, fruitful learning will be exhibited...** This is our **Long Term Strategy**. Using the tools that God has given us, a community will be transformed so they might experience the fullness of God and the blessings of the Fruit of the Spirit, most of the time, in their lives.

Matt. 17:20 ...nothing will be impossible for you

REFLECTIONS: Transformation should be taking place in you as you are seeking. You must engage in order to be cleansed & filled.

To prove this Saturation out in your life, there must be **evidence of God's working in and through you**. Please declare those supernatural evidences: _____

6. DAILY APPOINTMENT WITH GOD

John 17:20, 21; 15:5-6

If you want to be full of the Holy Spirit; if you want to know your Lord completely, if you want to be empowered by the Spirit, if you want to receive every spiritual blessing, if you want the blessing of a great marriage or to be a great employee...it all begins with your **Daily Appointment with God**.

*CS Lewis wrote: "The greatest challenge that each person faces every day is the **first thought first thing** – we succumb to our natural desire to begin thinking about our day and the circumstances before communing with Him? In order for us to have Him engaged in our lives, we need to bring the Lord into our heart & mind each morning, first thing – so that He can direct your path and make it powerful and straight. This is as well, preparation of the heart to walk in the Spirit.*

The Daily Appointment with God can include all the things or one of the things that cause you to commune with Him, to be **"in Him"**.

*John 17:20 My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe **in Me** through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as You are **in Me** and I am **in You**. May they also be **in Us** so that the world may believe that You have sent Me. I have given them the glory that you gave Me, that they may be one as We are One...*

Here we see how Jesus is encouraging us to be **one with Him**, to be **"in the Father and the Son"**. To be **"in Him"** means being free of sin and completely engaged **in His purposes**. This scripture also tells us not only to be **in Him** but to abide/**remain in Him**.

John 15:5I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in Me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from Me you can do nothing.

This is not possible without meeting with Him first thing in the morning. We also know that one of the keys to receiving grace and peace in abundance, and to have everything we need for life, godliness and being effective and productive; we must have **knowledge of our God!** (2 Peter 1:2,3, 8) Knowing Him is not about head knowledge but about **heart power**. That's why the daily appointment with God is so vital. The daily appointment with God can include many different forms of worship. One may use one of them or all of them. But, if you do it according to what your heart needs from God, you will succeed. Let's look at what this daily appointment is about. Until I became consistent with my daily appointment, the world was controlling too much of my life. It is in the daily appointment with Him that you will find the victory in life. Here is a suggested order.

1. THE WORD OF GOD: *Josh. 1:8-9; Eph.5:27-28*

Meditating on the Word of God day & night is pondering it, reading, studying, memorizing...in all these ways God can purify and open your heart to hearing Him. As it says in Ephesians: "the Word washes/cleanses us". It helps us to begin to think God thoughts, from God's point of view. One might start in the Word to prepare your heart and then move on to the next step. You may wander back to the Word again in your appointment with God. Always record from your meditation the thoughts God reveals to you.

2. DEAL WITH THE PREOCCUPATIONS

- A. Preoccupations of the flesh within you: fear, worry, doubt, jealousy, anxiety, judgement of others...and the earthly concerns of the day. Turn them over to the Lord. (*1 Peter 5:6-7*) He desires to carry them for you and He will help you.
- B. Sin and sin living in you (*Romans 7:20*) Paul makes it very clear that when we do what we do not want to do, it is because we are allowing sin to dwell in us.
- C. Confess & Repent: *If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins. (1 John 1:9)* Confess means to covenant, to turn around and not engage in that sinful pattern again. What God is doing is purifying your heart from the previous day. You are being washed so that you can put on the mind of Christ and so that the Holy Spirit can be full within you. You should now have a freedom within you; feeling His Presence come upon you.

3. WORSHIP THE LORD AND SERVE HIM ONLY: *Matt. 4:10*

- A. Worship Him and Who He is and all His incredible characteristics
- B. Worship Him for what He has done throughout history, Worship Him in what He is doing

4. PRAISE AND THANK HIM: *Psa. 150:1-4; 2 Cor. 4:15*

Praise and thanking Him can done through music or prayer, proclaiming & recording what He did in your life yesterday or how you saw Him move in someone else's life. Don't be shy, declare His greatness, goodness, and love.

5. LISTENING: *John 10:27*

As a result of being in His Word and stopping to listen for His voice, He will tell you great and wonderful things. At times, He'll even make you laugh. Listen in a quiet place

because sometimes He speaks in a quiet voice. Desire that He will speak into burdens in your life or tell you of the exploits that He has for you to serve Him. Enjoy this time of fellowship with Him.

6. PRAYING: *James 5:16,17*

The prayer of a righteous person avails much. God wants to bless you because of effectual prayer. When you are communing & worshipping Him, you will be moved to be “in Him” and when you are in Him, free of pre-occupation and free of sin, He will hear your prayer and will answer. The Lord loves a pure heart; pray the things He wants you to pray. Pray continually (*1 Thess. 5:17*). *Pray in the Spirit on all occasions.*

Too often, we pray casually and we are not in Him. We pray too seldom. As a result, we are not like Elijah because when he prayed for it to rain, it rained. When he prayed for it not to rain, it didn't rain. You will find great victory in life because of praying much with effectual prayer. You will see much fruit produced, because God is with you, because you are living in and by the Holy Spirit. Pray all kinds of prayers. One day, you will hear the Lord say “You are a house of prayer”. (*Mark 11:17*)

Not all appointments with God are the same. Sometimes God is responding with a loudspeaker; sometimes you wonder if you are hearing Him. Never give up, continue on. There is much more going on than what we know or see. Have faith that He will answer your prayers and give you every spiritual blessing. Have enduring prayer where you never give up.

If you want to be in Revival, you are now prepared to meet the challenges of the day; having success with each event because you are coming at it from God's perspective. He will bless. You are now prepared to live by the Spirit though out each day.

REFLECTIONS: Transformation should be taking place in you as you are seeking Him. You must engage to be cleansed & filled.

How important is the Daily Appointment with God for daily Saturation? _____

How would you transform your appointments with God to a Daily Appointment with God? How should you transform it? _____

7. CRAVING TO KNOW HIM & HIS WORD

1 Peter 2:1,2 Therefore, laying aside all malice, all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and all evil speaking, as new born babes, desire (crave) the pure milk of the Word, that you may grow...

We all desire success & prosperity in our lives, in every way, especially of heart. We desire that our children experience the same. The interesting point is that God gives us the answer to this desire for prosperity throughout scripture. Unfortunately, there are too few that “crave” to read, meditate, and understand knowing Him through scripture: knowing what He thinks, feels, His passions, His power and so much more. He has answers to all of life within His book; His answers to know the deepest things about Him. Knowing Him is the greatest thrill in life.

Isaiah 43:7 Everyone who is called by My name, Whom I have created for My glory; I have formed him, yes, I have made him.”

He created each of us to have relationship with Him, so we could know Him and thus out of that relationship, we would be empowered to create “glory” for Him. **If we know Him and conform to Him completely, we would be like Him**—full of joy, peace, love and power, daily. Don’t you want the peace of God that passes all understanding? (Phil. 4:7) This is what He wants for each of us. If we know Him thoroughly, He would love to bless us in every way possible because we wouldn’t be immature. We wouldn’t be living this life alone without His power. We would be living this life with Him and without desires for the world.

Philippians 3:10-11 (NKJV)

¹⁰ that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death, ¹¹ if, by any means, I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.

Here, the apostle **Paul** is speaking that he was a champion for the Jewish nation, a champion of his faith. Then he had this supernatural encounter with Jesus & the Holy Spirit and was transformed; he no longer desired to be great in the eyes of man/the Jewish nation, but rather to be great in the eyes of God. He states clearly in this verse: “that I may know Him and His power”; he **wanted to know everything about God and experience all that God did** for the sake of the “freeing power of the gospel”; the full message of salvation, being filled with the Holy Spirit and Saturated with the Presence of God. He had a taste of this now. Paul wanted to know everything about God. To know someone, is being in fellowship & relationship with them. Paul was in intimate relationship with God: enabling God to reveal the secrets of Kingdom success. God desires Kingdom success for everyone.

The foundational piece is “**knowing Him**” and it begins and continues all your life: discovering more about Him each day **through scripture**. Scripture is God’s very words. There is no way of knowing Him without it. We are to be bathing, soaking in Scripture every day, even throughout the day. God reveals Himself and the future through it. One of the ways He inspires you is through scripture. It **opens the door to the work of the Holy Spirit** in you and through you.

Joshua 1:8-9 (NKJV)

⁸ This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success. ⁹ Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.”

We are to **know** the Book of the Law/the Bible, God’s breathed words, so we can **meditate** on it day & night; so that we can **obey** what we are to **do**; so that we may “**know Him**” and be able to **talk with Him, commune** with Him, **worship** Him, **pray**. Out of this, we will prosper (to break out, flourish). Do you really want to prosper in your heart; in all of life? The measure is **do you know scripture, do you know Him, are you allowing Him to impart Himself to you?** Without knowing Him, allowing Him to impart Himself to you; you will not know the things that need to be done that will **prosper your life through your relationship with Him**.

I met a Chinese man that has taken the gospel to millions. When he was a young boy, he heard about our Lord and the wonderful things that God did for His people, His children. From his mother, he heard it was all recorded in the Bible. But in China, at that time, you could not possess a Bible or you would be persecuted, even unto death. That didn’t matter to him because he knew he needed the secrets of the Kingdom of God. He was illiterate, yet he prayed day & night to receive a bible. Suddenly, he had a vision from the Lord, that a man

would bring him a bible. The Lord had heard his cry and supernaturally empowered someone to bring a bible to him. That day came. Brother Yun was a teenager. Once he got the bible, he so committed himself to it, that he learned how to read and understand the scriptures. As a result of God imparting Himself to Brother Yun, saturating him in knowledge and the power of the Holy Spirit; Brother Yun led a secret movement throughout China; through the gospel -millions came to God. They not only hungered and thirsted for God Himself but all that He could do to prosper their lives.

Let me be clear, **to the degree that you know Him**, and to the degree that you are being **obedient to what He says**; will determine the degree to which you have the outpouring of the Holy Spirit and His power which transforms; **bringing forth a prosperous heart and life**. I can't guarantee that you will instantly, quickly become wildly financially prosperous. But, we do know that unless there are unusual circumstances: when you become Saturated with God's Presence: you will think much more clearly & have better ideas. You will gain His favor and He will open doors for you to prosper financially, much more than you do now. You will work more effectively; you will become more valuable in the marketplace and thus earn more. This all happens when you choose to know all about Him through scripture and crave His very Presence.

There is a final thought: without knowing Him through the study of scripture, meditating on it day & night; you will not become mature and complete; you will not be able to know & obey the secrets of prospering in life. Because you do have scripture, you are accountable to it. Therefore, our Father in heaven, just as a father here, cannot bless a child beyond their maturity, because it would ruin them. **Knowing scripture and Him** is an absolute necessity in life to succeed and become everything God created you to be and do.

Let's get practical: How is knowing Him through scripture to take place?

1. Your motive must be driven with the idea of craving scripture so that "your life will be transformed into the image of Jesus" as a result of knowing Him in every way. (Phil. 3:10,11) You are seeking to receive all that He has for you in scripture, not just the words, not just the knowledge but He has things to tell you personally; so advance in the study of scripture to discover the treasures He has for you.
2. To know Him and His scripture.
 - a. Hearing (Rom. 10:17) Our faith is encouraged by the Word of God. Therefore, hear it from godly pastors & teachers, that you might gain fresh insight into scripture, to expand your thinking & understanding and increase your appetite for its truth.
 - b. Reading (Rev. 1:3) We are blessed when we read scripture. As a result of reading scripture, God directly speaks to us. He speaks not only from the words but through His Holy Spirit. So, meditate on it, day and night and it will transform you.
 - c. Studying (Acts 17:11) Studying is when you take extended time to examine a section of scripture: reading it several times, outlining what it is says, understanding the subject of the verse, paragraph or book of the bible. You will seek to understand the primary action being requested. You will look for the object of what is to take place. Once again: use the same technique whether a verse, paragraph, chapter or a whole book of the bible. I didn't learn to study

properly until I was 26 years old – I had a learning disability. But, because I craved, and sought to hear God and know Him; God revealed His scripture to me. (1 John 2:27) After this, I was so motivated, that I sought someone (a seminarian) to teach me a Bible Study Technique. My life was radically turned around as a result of hearing God’s Word & voice.

- d. Memorizing (Psalm 119:9,11) How can I obey God if I don’t know what He says and how important it is to Him? How can I keep from sinning? I can do it when His Word is hidden within me, in my heart & mind. Jesus used memorized scripture, knowing scripture in His heart, when He resisted satan’s offers in the desert of testing. He was armed with God’s Word. Memorizing scripture helps you meditate day and night; it brings comfort, inspires, reveals answers to challenges. Proverbs speaks of scoring scripture on your heart. This is memorizing. Memorizing those scriptures, that God reveals, are important.
 - e. Meditate (Psalm 1:2,3) Meditating is to ponder: the Word of God, the things of God and what He is saying. It helps me to meditate when I find important things that God reveals and I will underline it in my Bible. I will circle it. I record about what God has said in a journal: this is my conversation with God as to what He is saying and what it means to me. I even ask Him questions in my journal so that I can hear Him answer. You must do all the disciplines we have talked about here: to ponder and allow God to speak clearly to you! Please know He is speaking to you all the time, but because we aren’t motivated to “know Him”, we don’t listen and then obey.
3. Read, study in an organized manner.
- a. If it is one subject and you have access to a Concordance, you can see what God wrote about that subject in many books of the Bible.
 - b. My preferred way of studying scripture is studying one book at a time to hear what God has to say to that specific people, at that time, in that location, and what special message He has for them. As you study each book, you can discover what the subject of that book is, what action God is calling for, and what is to happen to the object receiving the action.

You can know and have intimate relationship with God. There are no excuses; you have teachers; you have the Holy Spirit...all that is required beyond that is you craving His Presence and power to **transform your life that you might prosper in every way!!**

REFLECTIONS: Transformation should be taking place in you as you are seeking. You must engage in order to be cleansed & filled.

To what degree do you believe how important it is to master & know scripture? (2 Timothy 2:15) _____

What kind of commitment are you prepared to make to know God? _____

Who will you meet with and make confession to your negligence and pray with about your healing from this sin and fulfillment of your commitment? _____

8. HIS VISION FOR HIS CHURCH

Jeremiah 29:11

For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope.

The word “Church” was only used in the New Testament. It means “a gathering of people to further the Body of Christ”. The Church is not a building, it is the people. God wants His people to prosper. He wants His Church to prosper. Just as God wants us to love Him with all of our heart, individually; so He wants the Church to love Him with all its heart.

Matt.22:37

Jesus said to him, you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.

The Church can't love Him with all its heart if the people don't love Him totally. The Lord is very clear that it's not **some** of your heart but **all** of your heart!!

Matt. 5:8 “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.”

The pure heart of a Church is without earthly loves, without patterned sin, without covetousness, bitterness... It is holy and wants **all people to become saved**; all people to become **mature and complete**; all people to become **filled with the Holy Spirit daily and Saturated with the Presence of God**...then the **Fruit of the Spirit will be on display** for all the world to see. It is in the Church that the world is to see the very image of God, through its people. When the Church and its members live this way; it will **flourish** in the community and the lost will be drawn to the Church and its people. When a Church has a pure heart, it can then be filled by the Holy Spirit, if we so ask, and thus we will see radical transformation.

The people of the world will not be drawn to the Church & it's people if divorce/cohabitation is no different than the world; if unemployment is the same comparing the Church and the world. I remember when I was sharing my faith with a business owner and he was hesitant to become part of the Church and receive Jesus as Lord because he saw too few successful Christians. This is not God's way, if the Church & its people loved the Lord with all its heart; they would have no cohabitation, great marriages, great families, great employees, great employers and a prosperous people in their hearts and throughout their lives. When a Church is filled with people that do not love Him with all their hearts, they will not have all of God's favor nor all His blessings available. Our Lord is sitting and waiting for us to respond to having a loving relationship with Him that is complete. Therefore, we would be transformed into the very likeness of Jesus. Let's take a look at this more deeply:

1. A Vibrant Congregation Overflowing with the Love of God
 - a. In order to be full of the love of God, we must **first love Him totally**. (Matt. 22:37) The Church will apply 1 John 2:15

Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

A vibrant congregation is without patterned sin, bitterness, jealousy, covetousness, hate... They only display the loving character of God, not by learning good words and behaviors, but by **being pure hearted-full of God**. This community will be seeking full

repentance, not just apologizing to God, but expecting to be purified by Him as they open their heart to Him and ask Him to fill it with His Presence. They remove the contamination in individual hearts and therefore the heart of the Church is purified. When the Church allows the Lord to purify its heart; it motivates its people to do the same. For purification to become complete, all the people will also do this in their own lives. As the Church asks for the blessings of God, to fill it with all the fullness of God, to be filled with the Holy Spirit and daily be Saturated with His Presence; God will surely answer.

John 3:34

...He gives the Spirit without limit to those who ask...

You then become a **vibrant community**. But it is not completed until this same transformation in individuals happens, asking for the Holy Spirit to fill them. This vibrant community will then **overflow** with the love of God & the peace that passes all understanding; a joyful spirit that comes from God no matter the circumstance; the power of God on display with answered prayer: healed bodies, healed hearts and renewed minds. This doesn't happen all at one time; it happens at the rate of its people's hearts being transformed and filled. It's not one transformation, it is many transformations. Each time transformation takes place, you have differentiated yourself from the world. You then will have people wanting to become part of your Church. You will have a Church spilling over to others with the love of God.

2. A prospering people. We each become transformed into the likeness of Jesus, full of love for the Lord. We are being transformed into Jesus' likeness (2 Cor. 3:18). When we have faith in all Jesus said, did and demonstrated, we will be enabled to do what He did and more. (John 14:12) Each of us will look to be transformed by the Holy Spirit and to love the Lord with all our heart. This is when we become dangerous to the enemy and powerful for the Lord to help people. We will each carry the mind and heart of Jesus which will amaze the world. We will be empowered to have great marriages and families, be the greatest workers in the land, be the greatest business people... We will flourish only by being perfectly aligned with Him and receive His plan, favor, and blessing. Each of us will burst with the Fruit of the Spirit and the world will see.
3. A Church body that gives **testimony** to the lost. When we are filled with the fullness of God (Eph. 3:19) and filled by the Holy Spirit (Eph. 5:18); we have encounters with our Lord when He helps us, heals our heart, heals our family's heart, heals our bodies, and we overflow with the Fruit of the Spirit daily. (Gal. 5:22) We can't hold our joy in so we overflow (Luke 6:45) with others, of what the Lord has done for me. **The world stands amazed**. The world will ask: where, how, can I get what you have.
4. The vibrant Church **trains & leads people by the power of the Holy Spirit** to: have great families in God's eyes, great marriages in God's eyes, great employees in God's eyes, great citizens in God's eyes, great educators in God's eyes, great government in God's eyes, great youth in God's eyes. This all happens because the vibrant Church loves the Lord with all its heart; the Church trains up followers of Jesus, trains up excellent employees & employers, trains up great parents, trains up great citizenship. The Church becomes the **center point of all that is good in the community**, blessing it to the full.

REFLECTIONS: Transformation should be taking place in you as you are seeking. You must engage in order to be cleansed & filled.

What % of the people in your Church are Saturated with the Presence of God? _____

What keeps your Church from loving the Lord with all its heart? Therefore, all the blessings that come from it? _____

Are you personally prepared to be fully transformed? _____

What are you prepared to do to enter the journey of Heart Transformation? _____

9. TRANSFORMING COMMUNITY

As a result of having vibrant Churches, full of the goodness of God bursting out in every direction to meet needs; it is the Church that will lead society and transform it as a result of a move of God in you and through you. God desires to reach down in His awesomeness and gentleness and make you great like He did with King David.

Ps. 18:35

*You give me your shield of victory, Your right hand sustains me;
You stoop down to **make me great.** NIV*

David was a simple shepherd boy who became a mighty king for God. God wants to do the same thing for you. He wants to use you and the Church, with the help of the Holy Spirit to transform your community. He desires to see children coming from married couples only, reducing society's confusion. He desires to see less hate and crime. He desires to see His love bursting out to everyone. He desires to see us helping one another: those who are down and out. He desires to see good citizenship. He desires to see truth shouting out from everywhere. He desires to see His wisdom in use and on display in the community. This all comes from the people of vibrant Churches.

God will raise up leaders in all areas of the community that either come from the Church or are trained by the Church to transform your Community into the likeness of Jesus

2 Cor. 3:18

*But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord,
Are being **transformed into the same image** from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.*

When the vibrant Church shows this kind of leadership, the people will flock to your Church because they will want all that the Lord has in store for them.

Please encourage and be part of a HT Community Training Center. In a group, members are seeking to be fully transformed, to impact themselves and all those in their communities.

The strength of a Community Training Center, recognized & evidenced with the power of God, will see miraculous moves of God, which will happen in the group and happen in the Churches. Here you will see the unity of the body: one macro-church seeking to build the Body of Christ and become everything that the Lord intends. This can happen to you, to your Community. We must pray and encourage our Pastor/Leaders to fully engage and we will see much more of the glory of God here on earth. Like a plant: the main stem is the pastor/leader. He/she must have roots that go deep in risk faith and trust in God. The power of God flows in/through him/her and nourishes the flock, producing more fruit than he/she could ask or imagine by the power of the Holy Spirit. (Eph. 3:20,21)

Each Community Training Center has a Chairperson & Secretary. They will be called upon to inspire, lead and train in these Transforming Churches. A Transforming Community is connected to other Transforming Communities. It is through this structure that God will move and transform your territory into the likeness of Jesus. Your thirsting & hungry hearts are the very things God needs to move in and through you, and every community.

REFLECTIONS: Transformation should be taking place in you as you are seeking. You must engage to be cleansed & filled.

Are you committed to live the Kingdom of God Lifestyle? Why or why not?

How can you help spread this message of freedom & joy in the Lord? _____

HEART TRANSFORMATION MEMBERSHIP COMMITMENT

HT desires every Pastor/Leader to foster Transformation in LIFE, CHURCH, BUSINESS, GOVERNMENT, FARMER, STUDENT, FAMILY, MARRIAGE, COMMUNITY and NATION.

“And the LORD answered me, and said, Write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it” Hab. 2:2,3

*“Where there is **no vision**, the people **perish**: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he” Prov. 29:18*

*“And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will **pour out my spirit** upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions:” Joel 2:28*

MISSION STATEMENT...Heart Transformation (HT) is a ministry fostering moves of God in individuals and communities that produce transformation through becoming Saturated with the Presence of God, **being His disciples** that make other disciples.

VISION STATEMENT...Our Vision is to **ignite and train communities** around the world that they might experience the fullness & power of God therefore being transformed. God will then use them to ignite and transform other communities.

PLANNING in 20-30 YEARS...HT's Plan is to **win 10-30 million people throughout the world to Christ**

1. Reach, transform and influence communities & countries by building a large Christ-centered, Holy Spirit empowered membership, changing and transforming hearts while empowering people to lead and impact every sphere of life.
2. Addressing the urgent needs of the Church Community & growing them in depth and numbers
3. Building trusted leaders and planning with the Community.
4. Project work and Community mobilization – Job creation
5. Improve the lives of youths and children – Youth Move of God
6. Love God, love people, and reach out to the Pastors/Leaders of churches as well as business men/women
7. Produce Kingdom Leaders/Disciples that welcome & encourage the Kingdom Life in their communities

KEY STRATEGIES:

Community Transformation and Networking the people to become Saturated with the Presence of God is our key strategy. Heart Transformation is the tool of God that brings all the Leaders from various denominations on board to foster Revival/Transformation in us and through us.

1. To affect the community for God, you as a person must first be transformed (Personal Revival)
2. To affect genuinely born-again believers especially leaders in Churches, business, marriages, families, friends, schools, hospitals, government and many more.
3. To affect communities by bringing Revival to the Villages, City and Regions in your territory and beyond.
4. To affect Pastors/Leaders by teaching, training, equipping and shepherding them.
5. To expect every Pastor/Leader to affect their community
6. Churches will unite to have their own events: Pastor/Leadership Seminars, Conferences, medical outreaches, crusades, youth gatherings and many more.
7. To expect to live lives of Holiness

OTHER HT VISIONS:

1. Unify the Christian Churches for Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit using HT's **SOTC**.
2. Become a training center to equip Pastors/Leaders & provide pastoral skills.

Experiencing God is not just our commitment to know about God, but to know him intimately, encounter Him through worship, prayer, salvation and the present manifestation of the Holy

Spirit in the lives of believers, and in divine guidance (dreams, visions, words of knowledge, words of wisdom, discernment and much more). It also means to reveal the Father heart of God to those who do not know God, and to come into a full knowledge (heart, mind and soul) of His great love for humanity, and for the individual.

HT HAS SEVEN COMMITMENTS:

1. We are **called by God to Live a Saturated with the Presence of God Lifestyle.**
2. We are **called to Serve People**
God has designed each one of us as leaders with unique gifts and callings to serve the body of Pastors/Leaders and the world at large.
3. We are **called by God to Give Back to God**
We consider it a privilege to give back to God what he has so freely given us. We celebrate generosity and the work God does through our consistent and sacrificial giving.
4. We are **called by God to Extend the Kingdom**
This HT Network exists to extend the invitation to the kingdom of God and experience God's forgiveness and mercy through Jesus Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit. In HT, we are one family with one heart of transformation in Christ Jesus. No person shall have the ability to divide us.
5. We are **called by God to raise HT Community Training Centers**
6. We are **called by God to Live a Kingdom of God Lifestyle**
To love God through a lifestyle of the Fruit of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control, and to avoid the works of the flesh: sexual immorality, divorce in marriage, cohabitation, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, envy, drunkenness, orgies, bitterness...
7. We are **called by God to be faithful and sincere to one another.** We are to love one another, exhibiting integrity at all times to our God given beliefs; therefore, not participating in the evils and corrupt practices going on around the globe today. Whatever is committed into your hand make sure you commit to keep it going and going till heaven is achieved.

OUR MAIN FOCUS:

It is our hope that you would become a HT Member by signing this document and live this Kingdom of God Lifestyle all the days of your life. Our expectation is that you will become fully transformed, live holy lives and will have a giant Kingdom impact. As you sign this commitment, you are becoming unified with many others, who are building Transforming Communities.

Name

Date

10. DAILY LIVING IN/BY the SPIRIT

There is a miraculous difference between the people in the Old Testament vs. those in the New Testament (The Church Age). We have the Holy Spirit dwelling in us and He has made His power available to us. **Seeing His power in our lives should be a daily occurrence**, not just something that happens occasionally. Our Lord wants us to live with great faith – action, which activates the work of the Holy Spirit. The question becomes: How do we make this a daily living reality? You will find a process chart (following) that enables you to see how it works. Let's look at the scripture that tells how we are to work with the Holy Spirit.

Romans 8:4-8 For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. 6 For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. 7 Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be. 8 So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

Galatians 5:16-18 ... say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. 17 For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish. 18 But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

Galatians 5:25-26 If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. 26 Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

The key words are to “**live according to, be led by, live in, walk in**” the Holy Spirit. This is the secret to living the **empowered life** that performs supernatural miracles and receives supernatural blessings. Being “in the Spirit” means that you are within Him and therefore you can't be contaminated with sin. You have given yourself totally to Him: His agenda not yours. Your agenda adapts and is transformed into His and will bring glory to Him.

Attached is a **Daily Living In/By the Spirit graphic**. The challenge for each day's events: Are you going to respond by walking in the Spirit or walking in the natural desires/flesh? An event is any type situation within your day with which you are confronted. The question is: which process will you follow? The subject here is which choice will I make on a daily (event by event) basis. It is a lifestyle that is developed within you. If you desire living by/in the Spirit, what is crucial is preparation of the heart to walk in the Spirit on a daily basis and **revisiting that commitment throughout the day**.

When we have an Appointment with God in the morning, we consider that a good thing. That preparation is to fill us with the Spirit at the beginning of each day, and to be full of faith each day, so that when the events of the day happen, I will operate in the Spirit and not in my natural desires/flesh. This is the big choice we must make daily and throughout each day.

Now, please consider the chart on the next page. There are 3 stages within the chart: Preparation of the Heart to Walk in the Spirit, Event Choice and the Fruit that is born from that Choice.

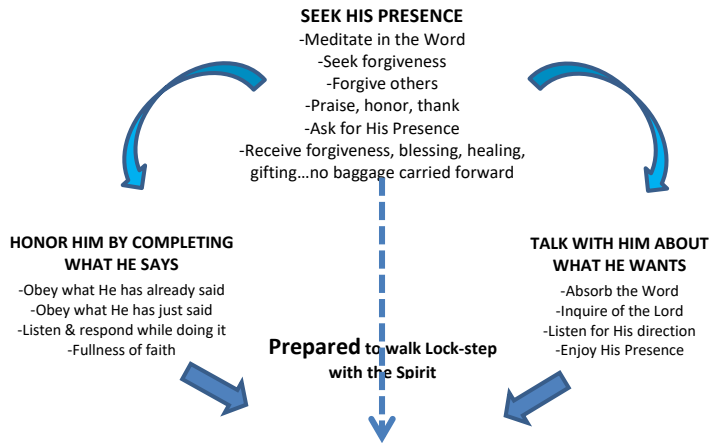
1. The **Preparation of the Heart** is to prepare you in advance for when you encounter the events of the day. The Preparation has 3 steps: Seek His Presence, Commune with Him About What He Wants, and Honor Him by Completing What He Says. As a result of following these elements, you are prepared to **hear and make the right choice in each event of the day**.
2. Event Choice: When we respond to an event, we will automatically respond according to what my heart is full of within me. Am I full of the Spirit or full of the flesh and worldly desires? The success of the spiritual walk is executed in the choices we make at the point of the event: whether you walk in the flesh or in the Spirit. If your heart is prepared, you will tend to walk in the Spirit. This demonstrates little or great faith.
3. Characterizing the individual. Will you be characterized as walking in the Spirit or walking in the flesh? It will be known by others. They will observe it, see it in your life.
4. **Fruit** that is born from your Choice: **If you live by the Spirit in each event, God will bring joy, hope, peace, faith, love, and contentment...**or if you have walked in the flesh then what you will feel is anxiousness, fear, envy, worry, anger... You will accumulate this fruit throughout each day and therefore, know whether you are walking in the Spirit or in the flesh. If your thought & heart life, as the day goes on, is full of hope and optimism as to what God is doing and going to do; then you have succeeded that day!

Please examine the following chart, so that you can understand how this can work in your life:

DAILY LIVING IN/BY THE HOLY SPIRIT

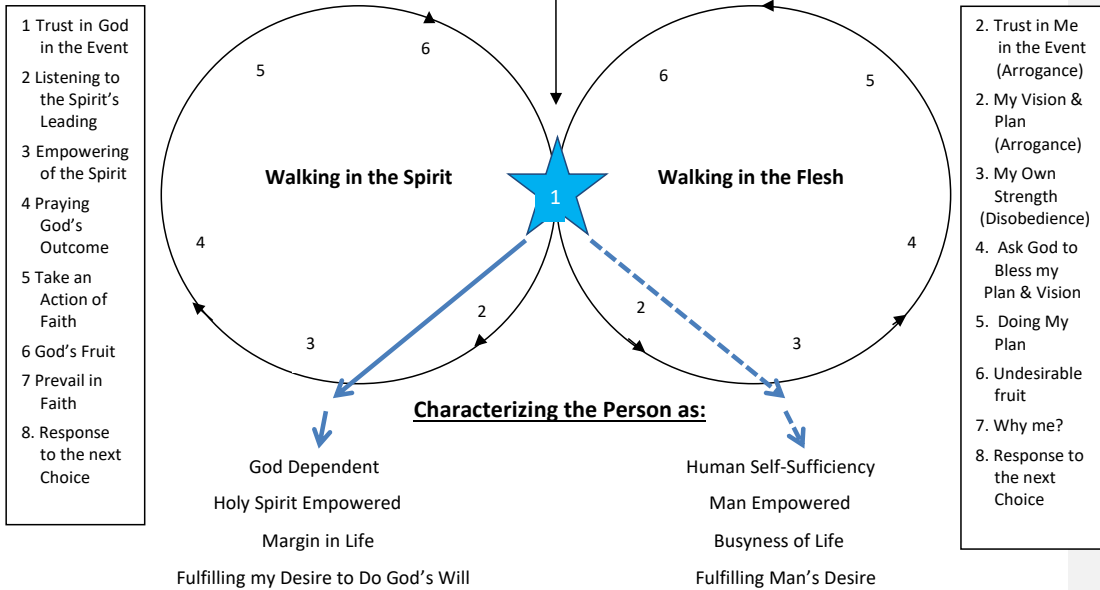
The Outcome of a life that is walking in the Spirit throughout the day!

PREPARATION of the HEART to Walk in the Spirit



Event Choice:

With each event that happens in a day, I get to choose whether to live by the Spirit or the Flesh!



DAILY FAITH WALKING

The Fruit of Life:

Walking in the Spirit

Joy
Hope
Peace
Faith
Love
Contentment

Miraculous Blessing & Healing

of Heart, Body, Exercising God's Authority
More Freedom from Sin



God's Power

Walking in the Flesh

Anxious
Fear
Envy
Worry
Anger
Chasing After the Wind

No Miracles in Life

Left with the Luck of the World



Chasing after the Wind/Meaningless

We have been trained throughout our lives to rely upon self rather than the Holy Spirit. We have thinking habits, heart expectation habits – these habits need to be transformed by the Holy Spirit.

Do I trust in God or do I trust in me?

Galatians 3:1-5

O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you that you should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed among you as crucified? 2 This only I want to learn from you: Did you receive the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith? 3 Are you so foolish? Having begun in the Spirit, are you now being made perfect by the flesh? 4 Have you suffered so many things in vain — if indeed it was in vain? 5 Therefore He who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you, does He do it by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith? NKJV

When you first received the Lord, you were sanctified and thus operating by the Spirit. But, soon after, you began to operate in your own strength, the way you had been trained for years. This is not God's intention. We are to live "in and by" the Holy Spirit and therefore get to receive the Fruit of living by the Spirit. The flesh and satan desire to destroy you, thus causing you not to live in/by God's Spirit. **You control this, it's your choice.** It must begin with a Daily Appointment with God. **So, thrive and be abundant as you follow God's plan.**

REFLECTIONS: Transformation should be taking place in you as you are seeking. You must engage in order to be cleansed & filled.

Do you believe that you would have a substantial increase both in success and the enjoyment of life if you lived by the Spirit each day? _____

What would be different? _____

When will you begin this new walk in/by the Spirit? _____

Thank you for listening to the Lord's ideas written in scripture. We thank the Lord for what He has already done in you and through you. You can revolutionize your Christian faith by engaging the principles within this book, which is directly from the Word of God.

You now are part of a whole Community that wants to revolutionize its cultural norms, which includes:

- 0% Divorce & Cohabitation
- Employment of its people, growing more faithful in employer/employee principles
- Many other blessings

Thus, God has created a new environment for your children & youth in which to flourish. **You will daily discover a deeper peace, joy, love and a hope that motivates you to do your best.**

You are a pilgrim: as you need to be encouraged, so encourage others. Pray for your leadership. As a result of your engagement & leadership in this process; you will draw many to engage. **Many will be saved** as a result of your life. It's all up to you! With God's help, you can change any cultural ill that holds you back, thereby loving and working with others.

Glory to God!!!

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About the authors...

Keith & Karen Peterson have been deeply involved in church leadership and the pursuit of Christian living for many decades. Twenty+ years ago, they realized that they were not doing the things Jesus did (John14:12): they weren't overflowing with love, joy, hope, thanksgiving and God's power. They asked the bold question: "Is this all there is; must it be this way? Why are our lives not exhibiting the life promised by Jesus?" It was at that point that the Lord revealed the need for them to love Him with all their hearts. They began doing studies and God revealed a process for learning to love Him wholeheartedly, step by step. It took five years for the process to be formulated and another three years to refine it. Small groups began to use their study, churches became involved, and even businesses witnessed unusual transformation take place among their employees, as they grew in Christlikeness.

This process has personally given Keith and Karen the deepest, most intimate relationship they have ever had with the Lord. They have experienced an overflowing of God's presence that is unquenchable, greater than any other time in their lives. They have seen the power of God work dramatically in cleaning up sin patterns and fulfilling God's plan for them. They now view life as a daily adventure, seeing how God leads and intervenes according to his good pleasure. This process of whole-hearted devotion is continually growing in them.

Keith & Karen are excited about the impact this process is having on Churches around the world; about Pastors & Leaders being Transformed, even to the point of being in personal Revival. As a result of this move of God, we are going to see a greater Revival in different communities and even nations! Hallelujah!!

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ARE YOU A SON/DAUGHTER OF GOD?

Look at what our Lord has done:

"God demonstrates His own love for us in this; while we were still sinners, Christ died for us". Romans 5:8

It is **Jesus' love** for us that frees us. Yes, thank You God!

*"for Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to **bring you to God.**" 1 Peter 3:18*

This means that Jesus was the righteous person that paid for all the unrighteous. He wants to bring each of us to God so that we can have a life of **fellowship** with Him!

*"yet to all that **received Him**, to those who **believe in His name**, He gave the right to become children of God." John 1:12*

"Received" here means to "get hold of". It is taking Jesus into our hearts, asking Him to dwell there, turning our lives over to Him. This allows us to live an extraordinary **Kingdom life** here on earth, full of joy and hope. The word "Kingdom" here means a heavenly realm. If we allow our heart to dwell in this Kingdom realm, some of the blessings & victory that heaven has, can be experienced now.

Are you ready to make that choice now and receive Jesus, believing everything He said and did for your sake?

"If we confess our sins, He is faithful & just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." 1 John 1:9



To receive Jesus, pray a similar

prayer to this:

"Dear Lord, I know I have done wrong. I am willing to turn from my sins. I believe Jesus Christ died for me. Please Jesus, come into my life & forgive me of my sins. I receive You into my life as my Savior & Lord, as best I understand how, right now."

You are promised eternal life and fellowship with God because Jesus has become your bridge to **full relationship**.

1 John 5:13 "I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life. This is the confidence we have in approaching God..."

We can have **confidence** because of taking hold and inviting Jesus into our hearts; that we have eternal life. There is no more concern about what will happen when we die. Since Jesus is dwelling in our hearts, He is making Himself available to us individually to experience the **Kingdom of God life here** on earth. This is an incredible privilege to be experiencing heavenly things, now! They are merely a foretaste of what we will continually experience in heaven.

Rom. 8:16 "The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children."

As a result of receiving Jesus and walking in Him daily, the indwelling Holy Spirit will testify with our spirit and give us confidence and peace about our eternal position.

The Adventure of a Lifetime: OVERFLOWING with HOPE!!

School of Transforming Community

Volume 1 UPDATE 2023

- *What impact does rampant divorce & cohabitation have on a culture & it's people?*
- *What would full employment mean to you, your family, your church, & your community?*
- *What would it mean if you had a life overflowing with love, joy, peace, hope, thanksgiving, and God's power?*
- *Can you see that when an individual becomes Saturated with the Presence of God: it will spread to others in the Community, from the Community to the District, then to the Regions, and eventually the whole Country is transformed by God's very Presence?*

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**TRANSFORMED INTO HIS IMAGE
GREAT IN GOD'S EYES
DEVOTED TO HIS VISION**

"But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord." 2 Cor. 3:18