

WALKING IN  
GOD'S POWER

**MATTHEW G. NEEDHAM**

## **WALKING IN GOD'S POWER**

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Cover painting by Rajendra Moktan (Jwala)  
Jesus Says, "Be Healed!"

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# INTRODUCTION

From a young age I was serious about finding the true meaning of life. It took some time before I got a real breakthrough, but this turning point took place when I was sixteen years old at a Christian youth camp. My parents had sold their farm and shifted to a new place. I had gone to live with my grandparents for schooling, but most weekends I would go home to be with my parents. They had started going along to a new church and they encouraged me to go to its youth camp. I didn't want to go to it because I didn't know those youth very well and I was still much of a stranger to them. Yet my parents convinced me to go. What then happened brought about one of the biggest changes in my life as I came to experience the reality of God's awesome power.

At the start of the camp on the Friday evening a man was preaching, giving his testimony, about how God had saved him out of the drug scene and a sinful life. I felt an amazing presence as a strong pressure come upon my chest while he was speaking. Something strange yet interesting was happening. The feeling became stronger and stronger and it made me think that God or an angel must be touching me. I began to realize that it was my time; God was calling me in some kind of special way. Our family was brought up to attend a small Methodist church that loved Jesus but was not always praying for people or seeing demonstrations of the power of God. When my parents shifted to the city, they found this new bigger church that did things differently. I had never seen so many people raising their hands to God in worship. I wasn't used to that. Anyway, this strong pressure was upon my chest.

Having been to some of their meetings I knew that this kind of church would ask people to come to the front for prayer at the end of the message. I realized I needed to go forward urgently. The end of the message finally came and then the preacher asked for people to respond. I couldn't wait any longer and I rushed up straight away. As soon as I got there I

found myself crying and crying and crying; the most I had ever cried in my whole life. I didn't even know why I was crying, except for the fact that God was doing something incredibly deep in my life.

My eyelashes started blinking incredibly fast and I could see a bright shining light. Whenever I closed my eyes I could see this shining, pure, white light in front of me. Afterwards, when I could control my emotions, I shared this with someone and he then quoted the Scripture to me of when Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life" (John 8:12). I remembered that the apostle Paul spoke of how he was blinded by a brilliant light that blazed around him more dazzling than the sun (Acts 26:13-14). The literal light of God does come from Jesus.

In a small way I had glimpsed the same light that Saul, who became the apostle Paul, saw and had left him humbled before the majesty of God. He was blinded for three days and I often think of his state of heart and mind during that time. When his eyesight returned he immediately began preaching that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God. In a similar way I was to receive a call as an evangelist to walk with God and to know His power. Paul heard the voice of the Lord speaking to Him. I never heard a voice but something incredible and life changing was about to happen.

## **OVERWHELMED BY THE REALITY OF GOD**

The preacher was slowly making his way down the line praying for those who had come forward. This preacher had a very interesting way of praying for people. He would go "Whoosshhh" as he waved his hand. He would move to the next person and go "Whoosshhh." When he did that to me it was like an electric shock of power and warmth went right through my whole body. Something like an electric shock of tremendous energy and warmth went through me like a wave. It was powerful, but also gentle. It is hard to describe, but it was like an electric warmth. When I looked around most of the

people who had been prayed for had fallen to the ground. I didn't fall as a couple of people were behind me holding me up.

I was bewildered and didn't know what had really happened. I just kept crying and thinking, 'What kind of power is this? What is this power that has touched me?' Until that time I had never known about the supernatural power of the Holy Spirit or that He was a person, just like God the Father and Jesus Christ, whom we can know. That was the first time I literally experienced God's power in such a supernatural way and my life was totally changed. I was set free to walk with God more intimately. Suddenly the Bible came alive and prayer became so real.

My grandmother who I was living with at that time for schooling is now 88 years old. She recently reminded me of what happened when I came back from that weekend youth camp. I walked into the room with my bag on my back. I put my bag on the ground. I turned around and said, "Praise the Lord, Nana!" I was filled with joy and excitement. Immediately I wanted to tell people that Jesus is alive! God is real! His power transformed my life and we need our spiritual eyes opened more and more. The fire of God began to burn within my heart and I could not hold back from the call of God. A burden to save the lost gripped me and I had to go out and proclaim the words of eternal life.

To begin with I would share my testimony about how God touched me, but then I realized that God wants me to do more than that. It is such a blessing to experience God's power, but I have come to realize that this is not just for myself; it is for other people. The power that touched me is the same power that is here right now to touch you. It is the resurrection power of Jesus Christ. You can have an experience with God, with the King of Heaven, the King of Glory, and get closer to the mighty Creator of the Universe. The same power that raised Jesus from the dead is at work in the lives of those who believe and those who really know the Lord will do great exploits.

Jesus spoke to Paul saying, "I have appeared to you to appoint you as a servant and as a witness of what you have seen of me and what I will show you... I am sending you to them to open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me" (Acts 26:16-18). Paul's commission from Jesus was to break the devil's power by bringing people into the power of God and that is what the messages in this book are all about. You can have faith for miracles and enjoy deeper fellowship with the Holy Spirit. You can learn how to walk in God's power.

## **LEARN FROM GOD'S ANOINTED SERVANTS**

We need to learn from others as the Lord works through His people. I had the great blessing of learning more from an evangelist called Bill Subritzky. He has a great healing and deliverance ministry ([www.doveministries.com](http://www.doveministries.com)). For a time I was helping organize healing crusades for him in Fiji and my home country of New Zealand (2008-9). During that time I was also doing my own healing meetings and putting into practice what I had learnt. I acknowledge the great blessings I received from working with Bill. His ministry helped me to learn a lot about the spiritual gifts, deliverance and healing. I especially acknowledge my application of his teaching seminar on the spiritual gifts. These simple keys can show people how to lay hold of God and operate in the power of His Spirit.

While stepping out in faith to conduct my own healing meetings, I actually had people coming up afterwards and telling me they were healed. This was a great encouragement. Often you pray for a person and you don't know if they have really received a healing or not. But I had people telling me that they were healed of breathing problems and back problems; they could feel a warmth going through their back or shoulder; one boy could see waves of light going through his eyes and a girl with a major demonic bondage was delivered, etc. Another good experience was when I felt to call a person



forward with a certain physical ailment and I felt they were seated in a particular part of the audience on my right side. The correct person responded to that word. Other types of miracles took place, such as after binding the devil missing people would suddenly make contact with their families. To God be the glory!

I then had to go on a missions trip to Nepal and Pakistan. One of my most memorable events was when I was doing street preaching with a translator and a small group of other believers. In Nepal there are many Hindu and Buddhist temples. One such temple had many steps going up a large hill. At the bottom was a flat area and right there I began to proclaim the great power of Jesus Christ. A small crowd quickly gathered around to listen. I then called upon God's power and asked if anyone needed healing prayer. People came forward and they were being touched by God. It was wonderful. One man filled with body weakness said he couldn't jump when I asked him to jump. I could feel God's healing power was upon him and he started jumping and walking. Some people with back problems were telling others that God's power had touched them. After that I then preached a repentance message and we gave out many tracts and gospel DVD's.

## **THE IMPORTANCE OF SPIRITUAL TRAINING**

To evangelize the world we need to believe, proclaim, pray into the church and pray out to the community the power of God. Do you want to walk in God's power? Do you want the presence of the Lord to move through you to minister to others? If so, you need to learn more about God's wonderful presence, the anointing and baptism with the Holy Spirit, how to hear God's voice, the gifts of the Holy Spirit, how to cast out evil spirits and break curses, how to pray for God's power to heal the sick and how to develop an effective ministry as you step out in faith. What the world needs to see is the power of God and we as believers need to show them what a great God we have. God's presence can fall upon us and His power can

flow wherever His word is preached. Jesus wants us to believe so that His glory is manifested (John 11:40).

It is important that believers are fully trained to walk in God's power, so that we may do the works that Jesus did and even greater works (Luke 6:40; John 14:11-12). This training is necessary for developing fully equipped disciples. Jesus taught His followers to cast out demons and to heal the sick. They in turn had to teach the church to obey everything Jesus had commanded them (Matthew 28:20). That is why every Christian has to be taught how to walk in God's power and to be filled with the Spirit. Get yourself prepared and equipped. Press on in your walk with the Lord for greater manifestations of His awesome splendour and majesty. I encourage you to learn far more about God's miraculous powers and anointing, for today is the day of miracles!

*'He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation... And these signs will accompany those who believe: In my name they will drive out demons; they will speak in new tongues; ...they will place their hands on sick people, and they will get well." ...Then the disciples went out and preached everywhere, and the Lord worked with them and confirmed his word by the signs that accompanied it' (Mark 16:15-20).*

# 1) THE DIVINE PRESENCE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Holy Spirit has been sent to glorify Jesus, so we can become aware of God in a literal, ongoing, life changing way. We can know God more intimately and become constantly aware of His presence. One of the names of Jesus Christ is Immanuel (Matthew 1:23), which means "God with us." We need to think of Jesus in the sense of being God with us right now. Not just God with us in the past or God with us in the future, but we have got to know the reality of God today. Then we can come into a greater awareness of God's presence and get closer to Him. Many who read the Bible believe in all the miracles that God has done in the past, but what we need is the God who is with us right now and can do His miracles today.

The Bible doesn't say a lot about Enoch but what it does say is very significant. It says, "Enoch walked with God" (Genesis 5:21-24). That means he wasn't walking with the devil, he wasn't walking in the ways of the world and he wasn't being led by sinful desires. He was walking with God and our aim should be to walk with God in everything we do. Every step we take we have to be walking with God. God is with us and I believe for the Lord to manifest His presence and reveal His glory to us as we apply His word to our lives. I pray that you will get a greater revelation as to how close God is to you, for His eyes are upon you for a special purpose. Are you ready to get closer to God?

## **UNDERSTAND THE REALITY OF THE POWER AND THE PRESENCE OF GOD**

*'One day as he was teaching, Pharisees and teachers of the law, who had come from every village of Galilee and from Judea and Jerusalem, were sitting there. And the power of the Lord was present for him to heal the sick' (Luke 5:17).*

We find that there was a large gathering; a lot of religious leaders were there, the Pharisees and teachers of the law, and they had come from all around the different villages for this special occasion. This was still early on in Christ's ministry but He was already well known for casting out evil spirits and healing the sick. A few days earlier Jesus had healed a man with a skin disease and people were coming to Him from everywhere (Mark 1-2). People gathered to listen to the miracle worker because of the tremendous authority of His words and the presence of God that was being manifested through Him in a special way.

On this occasion Jesus went on to forgive a man of his sins and to heal him from being paralyzed. This man could not move himself and some friends lowered him through an opening they had made in the roof so he could get past the large crowd to Jesus. An amazing miracle took place, but what I want to focus on is this verse at the beginning of the story, where the power of the Lord was present for Him to heal the sick. The power of God was there in a remarkable way and there was a specific healing anointing. The Holy Spirit's presence had filled that room. Jesus had to do all His miracles through the power of the Holy Spirit.

We all know that Jesus Christ is Lord, but we have to know that the Bible also refers to the Holy Spirit as Lord. Paul brings this out very clearly in one of his letters to the Corinthians where he specifically says that the Holy Spirit is Lord (2 Corinthians 3:16-18). Jesus is divine and the Holy Spirit is divine. We have to know the Holy Trinity; the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit (Matthew 28:19). Jesus knew that the power of the Lord was present for Him to heal the sick. The Lord on this occasion was the Holy Spirit.

We should apply this to whenever we gather to hear the word of God, which includes evangelistic outreaches, house fellowships and any regular church service. We gather for a significant purpose: to let Jesus Christ teach us and for the presence of the Holy Spirit to be manifested. Whenever someone stands up to preach the gospel, we should believe for the power of the Lord to be present, for God's anointing to

come upon those gathered and for God to touch people's lives. When people are aware of God's presence, miracles take place.

## **DIFFERENT LEVELS OF GOD'S PRESENCE**

There are different levels of God's presence. We will now look at four different types or ways in which God is working among us: 1) God's omnipresence; 2) God's dwelling within the believer; 3) Being led by the Holy Spirit, and; 4) Operating in the power and anointing of the Holy Spirit. A greater awareness of God's presence is what prepares us to minister in the power of God.

**1) God's Omnipresence** – God is omnipresent, which means He is everywhere. God is so much bigger and greater than what we think or imagine. In one sense the fullness of God is upon the throne in Heaven, for God is seated there in all His brilliant light, glory, power and presence. Yet we also need to be aware how close God is to us all the time and that there is nowhere to hide from God's Spirit (Psalm 139:7-10). Gazing upon the night sky gives us a glimpse of how big the universe is, but we are only seeing the surface of how far it goes. There are billions and billions of stars with huge distances between each one. A never-ending expanding universe seems so big to us, yet the Lord has got the whole universe in the palm of His hand. This entire vast expanse is held within the palm of God's hand!

It is very easy for God to be omnipresent because He is so much bigger than the universe and He existed when there was no universe. Remember that at one time there was no physical, material world. Then we have what occurred in Genesis 1:1, 'In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.' That was the beginning of time. In one sense God is outside of time; He's eternal with no beginning and no end, yet He created time and works within it to outwork and fulfil His plans and purposes. God is so much greater than what

our minds can conceive, but He wants us to know Him and that is why He created us.

When I am doing evangelism and sharing the gospel with people, I often like to tell them, “God is watching you right now.” It is an obvious truth that God is watching us all the time, but often our minds are distracted, we are not focused on God and we forget that He knows everything about us (Psalm 33:13-15). We need this constant focus that God is watching us at this very moment. There is a sense in which all of us live and move and have our being within His omnipresence (Acts 17:28). There is nowhere we can run or hide from God’s watchful eye. He wants to reveal His kingdom and change people’s lives with His wonderful presence, yet it is up to us to discern the dealings of God in our lives and to see this world from His point of view. By faith we can see God with the eyes of our hearts.

After I had been powerfully touched by God in my teenage years, I was walking along the road when suddenly I became aware of the fact that God was watching me. Right at that moment I had a wonderful sense of God being with me. Another time this happened was when I was doing some house to house evangelism down some back roads where there was quite a distance between each house. As I was walking that day I also sensed the eyes of God upon me, looking to and fro throughout the earth to strengthen those who are fully committed to Him (2 Chronicles 16:9). When you know that God is watching you, you receive more strength to do His will.

Another occasion when I felt God watching me was when I was in the mall of my hometown. I had been witnessing to a couple of young men and I was telling them about the Second Coming of the Lord, how that Jesus will come to judge the world. To them it was a bit of a joke and they didn’t believe it, but as I was proclaiming the return of Christ I suddenly had a strong awareness in my spirit that Jesus was watching me and He heard my words. I was thinking, “Yes, Jesus, when You come back remember me,” – a bit like the one who was dying

on the cross next to the Lord who said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom” (Luke 23:42). No matter what the people of the world think, we need Jesus to remember us and to grant us His favour.

We have to realize that God is listening to our conversations and at times God specifically takes notice of what we have said and makes a record of it (Malachi 3:13-18). Too many people are talking nonsense; talking about silly, meaningless things and they have no awareness that God is listening to them. To walk intimately with God we have to fear Him and acknowledge His greatness and power. God is so big that He holds the entire universe together, yet the omnipresence of God is so close and personal that He is right here with us now. The whole universe is held together by the omnipresence of the Lord Jesus Christ (Colossians 1:17). Knowing this truth helps you to realize that God will never leave you nor forsake you, rather He will be with you at all times. Everyone needs to be aware of God’s omnipresence so that they will fear God, reach out to Him and seek after Him wholeheartedly.

**2) God’s Dwelling Within The Believer** – In ancient times the Holy Spirit would come upon prophets, priests and kings to anoint them, but Jesus came to bring something even greater than that. Jesus came to bring the kingdom of God within us (Luke 17:21). In the Old Testament the Holy Spirit wasn’t dwelling within people permanently, yet Jesus came to give His people a spiritual rebirth so that we actually become the dwelling place for God and God Himself lives in our hearts. Jesus talked about both Himself and His Father coming and making their home in us (John 14:23). When you are born again by the Spirit of God, Jesus comes and lives in your heart and the kingdom of God is within you.

The apostle Paul wrote, ‘I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith’ (Ephesians 3:16-17). We are to have the Holy Spirit in our inner being so that Jesus Christ dwells in our hearts. We are

the temple of God when we accept Jesus as our Lord and Saviour. The Holy Spirit is then operating in our inner being and strengthening us with His power. You are to know the presence of God within you. You are to know the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit in this intimate way.

One Sunday morning when I went forward for prayer, I felt the literal presence of God fill me. It was a deep awareness of God like a physical weight of joy and peace that filled me from within. I've often felt a strong pressure come upon my chest, sometimes like a burning fire. God lives and dwells within the true believer. In this sense God is not in everyone. He is only in the "born again" believer who has entered the true spiritual life. Unbelievers do not have the Holy Spirit dwelling within them in this way. They will be convicted of their sins by the Holy Spirit, but until they repent they are outside of God's kingdom.

One important truth we have to always remember is that the Holy Spirit is holy and if we want to be a dwelling place for God we have to walk in holiness. We find in the Old Testament that the Lord had to withdraw His presence from His own temple due to the sinful ways of the people (Ezekiel 10:18). Mankind is separated from God even though we are still within God's omnipresence. God is everywhere, yet there is a veil of darkness in this world due to sin and most people are not aware of God because they are darkened in their understanding. God has got the whole universe in His hand and He can see everything that happens, yet He also has to turn His head and look away for His eyes are too pure to look upon evil. He cannot bear to dwell with wickedness because that is the total opposite of who He is. Holiness is the most important attribute of God's Spirit. God is searching for a people who will live with Him forever and ever, but they will be the people who are made compatible with His holiness.

To receive Jesus into your heart you must receive forgiveness and cleansing of sin. The message of salvation is simple: sin separates us from God, yet there is a mediator between God and man and His name is Jesus. He paid the



penalty for our sin by dying upon the cross in our place. He shed His holy, righteous blood to atone for the sins of the world. 'He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God – children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God' (John 1:10-13).

Jesus said that you must be born again to enter His kingdom (John 3:3,7). This spiritual rebirth takes place when we are washed clean through Christ's blood and renewed by the Holy Spirit (Titus 3:5). The new believer should then be baptized with water, which symbolizes being united to the death and resurrection of Christ (Mark 16:16; Romans 6:3-5). If you have never been water baptized you should do so immediately. This will bring you into a greater awareness and appreciation of what God has done to save you. As a child of God you should know God's great love (1 John 3:1) and that God Himself is dwelling within you. Salvation is having the power of the risen Christ in us. The mystery of God is Christ in you, the hope of glory (Colossians 1:27). A truth you need to lay hold of is that God only dwells within the "born again" believer.

**3) Being Led By The Holy Spirit** – As Jesus was water baptized, the heavens were opened and then the Spirit of God came down upon Him like a dove (Luke 3:21-22). Jesus was then led by the Holy Spirit into the desert so that He could overcome the devil and the powers of darkness (Matthew 4:1). Jesus was led and guided by the Holy Spirit in everything He did. This is how we must walk with God in order to have a greater awareness of His presence with us all the time. Jesus had the fullness of God dwelling within Him (Colossians 2:9), yet He could not perform miracles until His Father's appointed time, which was when the anointing of the Holy Spirit came upon Him. The fullness of God dwells in Christ, yet He became a man and had to wait for the anointing to be present for Him to heal the sick. When the Holy Spirit came upon

Jesus in the bodily form of a dove, Jesus could then minister in the full anointing of the Spirit (John 3:34-35).

We must look totally to God to work through us as we receive direction from the Holy Spirit. It is written that 'those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God' (Romans 8:14). We are the children of God as we walk in Christ's footsteps. Every day you need to look for the Lord's leading in your life. God will go before you. Jesus was constantly looking in His heart to His heavenly Father because He could do nothing of Himself (John 5:19). Jesus knew that God the Father was living in Him doing the work. The words He spoke were not just His own. It was His Father speaking and doing the mighty miracles through Him (John 14:10-11). The Holy Spirit knows the mind of the Father and reveals it to us (1 Corinthians 2:10-16). Within the Holy Trinity there is perfect unity and to know God we must be led by His Spirit. We must totally yield and surrender ourselves to God with childlike faith (Matthew 18:3).

The people of the world are those who follow their sinful human nature, while the people of God are those who follow the Holy Spirit. 'So I say, live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature. For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit and the Spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature. They are in conflict with each other, so that you do not do what you want. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under law' (Galatians 5:16-18). The law shows us how we have sinned, while the Holy Spirit enables us to overcome sinful desires. The Holy Spirit produces holiness in your life. He is the one who sanctifies you, purifies you and sets you apart for God (1 Peter 1:2; Acts 13:2). When the Holy Spirit is living within you, He doesn't want you to fall into sin and that is why you will come under strong conviction if you start to take the wrong path.

'The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit

the kingdom of God. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires. Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit' (Galatians 5:19-25). To walk in holiness always remember that God created the sexual relationship to take place within the bonds of marriage. Sexual immorality includes fornication, adultery and homosexuality. There must be complete repentance of these sins and the development of self-control if we are to keep in step with the Spirit.

We have to make it clear that those who are living in deliberate sin are not being led by God, but by the devil and they will not inherit the kingdom of God unless they repent. The Holy Spirit convicts us of guilt in regard to sin, righteousness and judgment (John 16:8). We have a daily choice and a daily battle between the flesh (sinful nature) and the Spirit. To follow Jesus we must take up our cross each day and crucify the flesh by putting to death envy, jealousy, unforgiveness, lust, rebellion and other wrong attitudes. We must count ourselves dead to sin and alive to the righteousness of Christ. We must turn our hearts wholeheartedly to the Lord in repentance from all the works of the flesh and let the fruit of the Holy Spirit be outworked in our lives. We must keep in step with the Spirit, which means we must keep up with what God is doing. We cannot drift behind; otherwise we will fall into sin. Repentance is a continuous exercise of turning from darkness and walking in God's perfect light.

If a true believer falls into sin they will be deeply convicted because God doesn't want them to be lost. God wants them to be saved, but if they refuse to turn back to the Lord they will not inherit the kingdom of Heaven. You can be the pastor of the biggest church, you can be the most famous evangelist, you can be a bishop or a pope, but if you continue in sexual immorality or some other form of blatant sin you will be cast out of God's kingdom into the darkness where there will be

weeping and gnashing of teeth. Often people continue in their sin thinking that they are saved, yet the Bible is clear that there does come a point where if people refuse to repent they lose their salvation (John 15:6; 1 Corinthians 9:27; 2 Peter 2:20-22). We cannot compromise in this area. If a true believer is living in sin, he will feel guilty because the Holy Spirit is striving with him to bring him to repentance to get him back on track with the Lord. We must keep our faith in God and remain in Christ to overcome the world, the flesh (sinful nature) and the devil. Jesus overcame the devil and so must we.

Each day I look to the Lord to lead me by His Spirit. I believe that He will lead me to the people I need to meet and give me opportunities to witness to people and to share a word from the Lord. I find a constant leading of the Holy Spirit in my missions and evangelism work. I am also aware that the Holy Spirit convicts me of my sin so that I keep my thoughts pure. In this way I know the Holy Spirit is always with me and I am walking in the presence of God. There have been times in my life when I have been deeply convicted and that is a blessing because God doesn't want to let me go the wrong way. He wants to continue to lead each of us on the Highway of Holiness and He strives with us to turn us from doing wrong. Sorrow for our sins in a deep and godly manner produces a change within us, so that we are set free and can walk intimately with Christ (2 Corinthians 7:10-11). If the Holy Spirit is convicting you of any sin at this moment, please repent and recommit your life to Christ.

**4) Operating In The Power And Anointing Of The Holy Spirit** – After Jesus was baptized and led by the Holy Spirit into the wilderness, He then returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit (Luke 4:14). He went to the synagogue in Nazareth where He was brought up and He was handed the book of Isaiah to read. He found the place where it is written: “The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to

release the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour" (Luke 4:16-21). Then He told the people that He was the fulfillment of this Scripture. Jesus knew the Holy Spirit was upon Him and we need to know the presence of the Holy Spirit upon us.

The apostle Peter talks about how Jesus was anointed with the Holy Spirit and power, to heal all who were under the power of the devil (Acts 10:38). Jesus had an anointing to preach and an anointing to heal. As we know God in a greater way and walk with Him more intimately, we will also know more of the Holy Spirit's power. To have an effective healing and evangelistic ministry, we have to know the presence of God and specifically the presence of the Holy Spirit being manifested among and through us today. In ourselves we know that we can't do any miracles and we can't heal anyone, but our aim is to let the Holy Spirit's presence come and let the Spirit of God work through us. We need the power of the risen Christ, who has conquered death, demons and sickness. He is alive today and He is mighty to save, deliver and heal those who come to Him.

As Jesus was teaching, He sensed the power of the Lord present for Him to heal the sick (Luke 5:17). Jesus was at this meeting with all these religious leaders and He had a strong awareness of the Holy Spirit's presence. He sensed the manifestation of the Holy Spirit for a specific anointing and it was a healing anointing. I believe this is the key to healing because it is the anointing of the Holy Spirit which breaks the yoke, casts out evil spirits and heals the sick. This is what enabled Jesus to go forth performing miracles wherever He went. We must believe for this anointing and presence of God so that miracles flow as we share the word of God. The power of God overshadows a person when the Holy Spirit comes upon them (Luke 1:35). The dove is a symbol of the Holy Spirit and we should believe that the Spirit of God will come upon people like a gentle dove, just as He came upon Christ (Luke 3:21-22).

A basic understanding of how we must walk with God and know His presence prepares us to step out in faith and believe

God for miracles. We are then equipped to minister in the power of the Holy Spirit. I believe that the power of God can flow through us in the same way it operated through Christ. Healing power was coming from Jesus (Luke 6:19). This power flowed out of Him especially when they touched Him (Mark 6:56; Luke 8:46-48). The power in His body was released by the touch of faith. This same anointing can flow through us as we believe. Jesus dwells by His Spirit within the heart of the true believer and because of this His power can flow through us. God will give us more of His power as we seek to give His power to others (Luke 6:38).

The apostle Paul knew that it was by the power of the Spirit that he performed miracles in Jesus' name (Romans 15:19). We must also come into this awareness of the Holy Spirit, His presence and power with us today. Paul explained these manifestations in more detail when he taught the believers about the spiritual gifts (1 Corinthians 12:1-11). This teaching is included in the Holy Scriptures for our benefit, so that we will also learn to operate in accordance with the manifestations of God's Spirit. We are living in the time when God has promised to pour out His Spirit upon all people (Acts 2:17-18). The Holy Spirit speaks to us (Acts 8:29; Revelation 2:29) and we are to have fellowship with Him (2 Corinthians 13:14). We are in partnership with Him to lead people to salvation through faith in Christ (Revelation 22:17). We must always have an inward burning desire for closer fellowship with the Lord, knowing that the power of God is for those who believe.

In this message I have sought to build upon a right foundation, which is to know God's presence so we truly walk with God and come into a greater knowledge and experience of His power. We have to be aware of God's divine presence and know the increasing reality of this. To move in God's power you have to step out by faith with the Holy Spirit, but you won't be able to do that effectively unless you believe what I have been seeking to teach you in this chapter. In some of my early healing meetings I would ask people with bad backs to stand up or come to the front. Then I would ask the

members of the congregation to raise their hands towards them and believe for the power of God to flow through them. Most of those who had come forward found that their backs had improved or that they were totally healed. Be encouraged and believe for the power of God to flow through you.

## SUMMARY

1) At all times we are within God's omnipresence. God made the world and everything in it. He did this so that we would reach out to Him and find Him (Acts 17:27-28). God is watching us and listening to us all the time.

2) We have to be born again, or reborn spiritually, so that our bodies become the temple of the Holy Spirit and Jesus dwells within our hearts. We must accept Jesus Christ as our Lord and Saviour and walk in holiness. In obedience to Christ we are then to be baptized in water without delay (Acts 8:36-38).

3) We must be led by the Holy Spirit so that we do not fall back into sin. We must press on with God to overcome the world, the flesh and the devil. I especially emphasize the point that we cannot claim to be walking with God if we are living in sexual immorality. Our bodies are meant to be the temples of the Holy Spirit and sexual sins defile that (1 Corinthians 3:16-17; 6:18-20; Hebrews 13:4). Have no compromise with sin. Rather, let the Holy Spirit lead you to people to witness to and to share an encouraging word from the Lord. Do you look by faith to be led by the Holy Spirit? This is something you need to learn to do.

4) Jesus came in the power of the Spirit and He was aware of the specific anointing for healing. As Jesus walked, so we must walk also. We must know the divine presence of the Holy Spirit, believe for the power of God to work among us and believe for manifestations of this power.

5) Just repeating these points again: We are to know God's presence all around us, within us, upon us, leading us and operating through us. We must open our hearts to the Lord in each of these areas. Every moment we are to be led and guided by the divine presence of the Holy Spirit.

## **Prayer For More Awareness Of God's Presence**

**“Father God, I come before You. I believe in You and I want to know You more. I specifically renounce any sexual sins, occult or witchcraft sins, wrong attitudes and anything I have done which has displeased You. (If God is convicting you of any specific sin please confess and repent of that now.)**

**I believe that You sent Jesus from Heaven, born of a virgin, to carry my sins to the cross, to die for me, but on the third day He rose from the dead. I believe that He ascended to Your right hand upon Your magnificent throne and He is alive forever and ever.**

**Lord Jesus, come into my heart and be my Lord and Saviour. I believe that through Your precious blood all my sins have been forgiven and I have been made holy unto God. Help me to follow You every day and make me the kind of person You want me to be.**

**Come Holy Spirit and fill me now. I acknowledge that my body is Your temple and I will not go into any sexual sin. Lead and guide me from this day forward. I ask and believe for Your power to work in and through me for the glory of God. Let me know more of Your presence and more of Your anointing. Let the mighty hand of God be upon me in a greater way. Thank You for Your presence. In Jesus name I pray. Amen.”**

*‘And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counsellor to be with you forever – the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you’ (John 14:16-17).*



## 2) MINISTERING UNDER THE ANOINTING

*‘Meanwhile a Jew named Apollos, a native of Alexandria, came to Ephesus. He was a learned man, with a thorough knowledge of the Scriptures. He had been instructed in the way of the Lord, and he spoke with great fervour and taught about Jesus accurately, though he knew only the baptism of John. He began to speak boldly in the synagogue. When Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they invited him to their home and explained to him the way of God more adequately’ (Acts 18:24-26).*

To be an effective preacher of God’s word you need to have a thorough knowledge of the Scriptures. You need to be instructed in the way of the Lord. You need to speak with great fervour or zeal and teach accurately about Jesus. You need to have been water baptized and you need to be able to speak boldly in the name of the Lord. Yet, a preacher can have all these good attributes and still have something missing. Apollos had something missing. He needed to receive a greater understanding of how to minister in the anointing of the Holy Spirit.

When the apostle Paul went on to Ephesus, he found that the believers had only received John’s baptism. He asked them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?” They answered, “No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.” After explaining to them that John’s baptism was for repentance and that John had told the people to believe in the one coming after him, that is Jesus, Paul placed his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them and they spoke in tongues and prophesied (Acts 19:1-7). Apollos only knew John’s baptism. Yet John had spoken of the one who was more powerful than him, who would baptize people with the Holy Spirit and fire (Matthew 3:11).

The apostle Paul had worked with Aquila and Priscilla while in Corinth (Acts 18:1-11). In founding the Corinthian church Paul was able to say, 'My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power, so that your faith might not rest on men's wisdom, but on God's power' (1 Corinthians 2:4-5). The Holy Spirit wants to demonstrate the power of God through us. It was to the Corinthians that Paul taught on the spiritual gifts (1 Corinthians 12,14). Therefore, when Priscilla and Aquila heard the preaching of Apollos, they knew that something was missing and he needed to come into the fullness of the Spirit. I believe that Priscilla and Aquila taught Apollos about the anointing and baptism of the Holy Spirit, so that he could also minister in the spiritual gifts.

There is a need for men and women, especially those called to preach and teach, to move and minister in the power of the Holy Spirit. The lies of the devil are so rampant today and so deceptive that those who don't move in the power of God have missed an essential element in destroying the devil's works. We need to know how to lead people into the baptism of the Holy Spirit so they experience the tremendous power of God. Then we need to teach people about the spiritual gifts so they can also minister in this way to others. We don't have to be people of great learning or have a special position to operate in the gifts. We simply need to believe the Lord and trust Him to minister through us. We need to hunger and thirst for the things of God so that we keep moving on. Priscilla and Aquila encouraged Apollos and in a similar way I hope to be able to encourage you.

## **HOW TO LEAD PEOPLE INTO THE BAPTISM WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT**

The purpose of this baptism is to give us power to witness for Jesus. We need this experience of being baptized in the Holy Spirit to preach, witness and minister more powerfully (Acts 1:4-5,8). It is likened to being clothed with power from on high, that is, heavenly power (Luke 24:49). The power of God is

then upon you and covering you. The baptism of the Holy Spirit is a gift from God just like salvation is a gift. Just as we need to believe to be saved, so we need to believe to be filled with the Holy Spirit and receive the gift of speaking in other tongues. Speaking in tongues is allowing your spirit to pray and in this way you are edified and built up in your spirit (1 Corinthians 14:4,14). Tongues come from within and not from your natural mind. I don't have to think about it to pray in tongues. It just flows out of me like a river (John 7:38-39).

In each of the gospels Jesus is described as the Baptizer in the Holy Spirit (Matthew 3:11; Mark 1:8; Luke 3:16; John 1:33), yet He did not assume this role until after He had ascended to Heaven and then He poured out the Spirit as God the Father had promised (Acts 2:33). Jesus was ministering this gift from the right hand of God and this is a ministry He continues today. Miracles of healing and deliverance became common among the early church after the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost (Acts 2:1-4; 8:5-7). The word of God clearly shows that this experience is for all Christians and God will give this blessing through Jesus Christ to those who believe (Acts 2:38-39). We can have confidence in the promise that God gives the Holy Spirit as a gift to those who ask (Luke 11:13).

The baptism with the Holy Spirit is definitely a separate experience from being "born again" when you received Christ as your Saviour. On the first Sunday night of Christ's resurrection, Jesus appeared to His disciples, breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit" (John 20:19-22). In this way the disciples had the Holy Spirit dwelling within them before the day of Pentecost. Even though they had the Holy Spirit through the new-birth experience, Jesus told them to wait in Jerusalem until the Holy Spirit came upon them in power and then they were baptized with the Holy Spirit. The disciples did not say, "We have enough," or "We already have been baptized with the Spirit." No, they were obedient in waiting upon the Lord for the fulfillment of His promise. Every Christian needs to be constantly filled with the Spirit to the point of overflowing (Ephesians 5:18). The apostle Paul said to

be filled with Spirit to those who were already born again believers.

'When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them' (Acts 2:1-4). The outside crowd was bewildered when this happened. They didn't understand it, but the apostle Peter stood up boldly and explained to them that this is what the prophet Joel had predicted would happen in the last days (Acts 2:16-18). Immediately the apostles began to operate in the gifts of the Spirit and many were drawn to the Lord through wonderful miracles. We too can be empowered in exactly the same way as we wait upon the Lord and allow Jesus Christ to baptize us with the Holy Spirit.

When the evangelist Philip was preaching the gospel with great power in Samaria many of the people believed and were filled with the joy of the Lord. God wanted the apostles to come and see how the Holy Spirit was moving there. It was not until the apostles arrived and were led by the Holy Spirit to lay hands upon the believers, who had already been water baptized, that these people then received the baptism with the Holy Spirit (Acts 8:14-17). Therefore, being baptized with the Holy Spirit is something that takes place after the salvation experience. With Cornelius and his family, they were baptized with the Holy Spirit the moment they believed the message of salvation because they had an intense spiritual hunger accompanied with an attitude of repentance, but this is not always the case (Acts 11:13-18). Often people have trusted in Christ for many years before they have learnt to receive this further experience in God. It seems that Apollos and a number of the Ephesian believers were like this.

I first came to speak in tongues in quite a wonderful way. I had read a small book about it and at the end there was a simple prayer. I came before God with childlike faith and

repeated the prayer to ask the Lord to baptize me with the Holy Spirit. Suddenly into my mind I could see words written in front of me. I could literally see these words written in my mind. I had no idea what they meant or what language they were, but I could actually read them. I started reading those words out loud and that is how I personally began to speak in other tongues. After a little while those words in my mind vanished and I continued on to speak this new language. I knew that when I received this blessing it had definitely come from God and that is why I have never doubted that the tongue I received came from the Holy Spirit. Since that time I have continued to pray in tongues every day.

### **RECEIVING THE GIFT**

Once believers realize that the baptism with the Holy Spirit is a necessary experience that is available for them today, they are then in a position to ask God for this gift. Remember that the baptism with the Holy Spirit is called a gift (Acts 2:38; 10:45). A gift can be received or rejected. We are to pray with the people who are willing to receive this gift (Acts 8:15). Here are some practical suggestions when praying for a person to receive this baptism:

1) Let them know that speaking in tongues is trusting God to give them a language which they do not know, so their spirit is speaking to God with the help of the Holy Spirit. Praying in tongues is not praying from your mind but praying with your spirit and receiving God's power. It is a spiritual experience.

2) Explain to them that after prayer they will need to make some sounds, even though they are meaningless to them. They should be told to become as a little child and make these childlike sounds as though they are learning a new language. As he/she does this the Holy Spirit can begin to flow within their spirit and upon their tongue. We are encouraging them that they will have to open their mouth and begin to speak.

3) To help them to get started you can ask them to say the word "Abba," which means "Father," referring to God as our

Father (Romans 8:15; Galatians 4:6). You could also speak slowly a few words of your own tongue and ask them to repeat a few of your words. This is to get them used to saying some words that are not familiar to them. To speak in tongues we do have to be child-like. To some people speaking in tongues does appear foolish, but this is a means that God has given so that we are spiritually edified and built up in our faith (Acts 2:13; 1 Corinthians 14:4,39; Jude 20).

4) When you are ready to pray with the person, allow the Holy Spirit to cleanse you both through the blood of Jesus and come before God with an attitude of worship.

5) Ask the person to wait quietly with their thoughts fixed upon the Lord Jesus, believing and expecting God's presence and anointing to come. Quietly pray in your own tongue and be sensitive to the Holy Spirit coming upon the other person. Be open to the Lord and expectant for the person to receive from Him.

6) Place your hands on the person's shoulders or forehead, or take hold of their hands as appropriate. Believe that an impartation of the Holy Spirit will flow through you as you do this (Acts 19:6). This can help bring them into God's presence and then the Holy Spirit can fall upon them, giving them their own language.

7) You may need to lead them in a prayer to renounce any blockage that is hindering them from receiving this gift; such as any unconfessed sin, fear, doubt, unbelief, blockage of mind, past involvement in the occult, wrong doctrine, or anything else that stands as a barrier to prevent them from coming into this experience.

8) Continue praying for more of God's power to come upon them. You can also ask the Holy Spirit to arise within them like a mighty river (John 7:37-39). As they start to speak out, the Holy Spirit can give them further words and phrases. If a person is only repeating the same word encourage them to allow the Holy Spirit to give them further words. The Holy Spirit is the one who will enable them to speak in tongues.

## **Prayer For The Baptism With The Holy Spirit**

**“Heavenly Father, I commit my life wholeheartedly to You. Once again I ask You to forgive me of any sin and I plead the precious blood of Jesus Christ, Your Son, upon my life. I renounce any involvement in witchcraft or idolatry on my own part or that of my ancestors. I renounce all fear, unbelief and any blockage of my mind. I confess that Jesus Christ has risen from the dead and He is watching over me at this very moment.**

**Now I ask You to fill me with the Holy Spirit and grant me power to be a witness for Your kingdom. I believe this gift is for me and I believe that Jesus is the one who baptizes people with the Holy Spirit. I open my heart to receive this gift. I ask for Your power and anointing to come upon me right now. Baptize me with Your Spirit and fill me to overflowing with Your power.**

**By faith in Jesus I receive the gift of speaking in other tongues. I also request that You release to me the gift of prophecy and any other spiritual gift according to Your will. Thank You Father, for hearing and answering this prayer, and anointing me with Your amazing power. In Jesus’ mighty name I pray. Amen.”**

This is a tremendous experience with God and they should be encouraged to continue speaking in their tongue on a regular basis once they have received.

## **KNOWING THE ANOINTING OF GOD**

Having received the baptism with the Holy Spirit you should now experience a greater awareness of God’s presence with you and within you. Knowing the anointing is knowing God’s presence with us and through us to minister to others. In the Old Testament kings and priests were anointed with oil (Exodus 30:22-33; Leviticus 8:12; Psalm 133:2-3). In the New Testament all believers are to be priests and kings, anointed for the purposes of Christ (1 Peter 2:9; Revelation 1:6; 2 Corinthians 1:21).

Jesus was anointed to heal the sick and destroy the works of the devil (Acts 10:38). In Christian meetings where there is a strong anointing people can often smell the fragrance of the Holy Spirit like a beautiful perfume or anointing oil (Psalm 45:8). Miracles then begin to take place.

We must yield and yield and yield to God so that we are absolutely filled with the Holy Spirit. As we yield ourselves to be used of Christ, the anointing of God will begin to flow and we will sense God's presence. We need to know this if we are to pray for others with tremendous faith. When praying with someone with a terrible sickness, an awareness of God's presence will encourage you to believe for their healing. The anointing can often be experienced as a warm presence of the Holy Spirit upon our body. Sometimes we will feel a great heat come upon parts of our body as we pray for others and we will sense the power of the Holy Spirit to minister to the other person.

We can pray for people to know the anointing of God by asking them to stand quietly before the Lord, to raise their hands and wait for the Spirit of God to fall upon them. This will happen as we have total belief that God will do it. Keep your eyes fixed upon the Lord, pray in faith and God will release His power. We should expect the anointing of God to come down upon us like a shower from Heaven and for Jesus to put His marvellous hand upon them. We should then sense the warm presence of the Holy Spirit and the power of God touching people. As we lay hands upon them, the anointing flows over them. I encourage you to say the following prayer:

### **Prayer For A Greater Anointing**

**“Dear Heavenly Father, I come before Your throne of grace in the mighty name of Jesus Christ. I pray that I may receive a greater anointing of the Holy Spirit from the top of my head to the soles of my feet. Fill me afresh with the Spirit of God and let Your presence come upon me now. I ask for more anointing. Release Your mighty**



**power. Thank You Lord for Your great love and a greater awareness of Your presence with me at all times. Amen.”**

As you do this you should sense the wonderful presence of the Holy Spirit throughout your whole body. Sensing the anointing or presence of God gives us assurance and confidence that we are moving in the power of the Holy Spirit when stepping out to minister healing, deliverance and believing for God to touch people as we pray for them. As you firmly believe in Christ, the anointing is with you. God has put His power in all of us as believers. The issue is – are you really practicing and walking in that power? Are you really believing His word?

## **BASIS OF FAITH FOR THE LAYING ON OF HANDS**

In the Bible we find that there were three reasons for the laying on of hands: 1) To impart a gift or spiritual blessing; 2) To carry or release from sin; and 3) To set apart for service. Let's look at these three areas and how we can apply this to minister to others with stronger confidence and faith:

**1) To Impart A Spiritual Gift Or Blessing** – The first time the laying of hands occurs in the Bible is when Jacob, named Israel towards the end of his life, laid hands on his grandchildren to bless them. Joseph brought his two sons to Jacob to receive this blessing. Normally the older son would receive the greater blessing, but Jacob crossed his hands over, putting his right hand on the younger son, so that he could receive a greater inheritance (Genesis 48:13-20).

Jesus put His hands upon the children and blessed them (Matthew 19:13-15). By the laying on of hands Jesus often imparted the gift of healing. Jairus begged Jesus to lay hands on his daughter so that she would be healed and live (Mark 5:23). He had obviously seen Jesus doing this to heal many sick people. By the time Jesus got to her she had already died, yet Jesus took her by the hand and raised her from the dead (Mark 5:41-42).

When Jesus went to his hometown and found great unbelief, He could not do any miracles there, except lay His hands on a few sick people and heal them (Mark 6:1-6). We need to believe that when we pray for the sick, God's power will flow through us as we our lay hands upon them. When large numbers of sick people were brought for prayer, Jesus laid His hands upon each one of them and they were healed (Luke 4:40).

All believers in Jesus Christ have been given authority to lay hands on the sick and expect that they will get well (Mark 16:17-18). The apostle Paul laid hands upon a man with a fever and healed him. The result of this was that multitudes of sick people came to be cured (Acts 28:8-9). The baptism with the Holy Spirit can be imparted through the laying on of hands (Acts 8:18; 9:17; 19:6). An impartation of spiritual gifts can also take place through the laying on of hands by an anointed servant of God (1 Timothy 4:14; 2 Timothy 1:6). This is a biblical method for receiving from God.

**2) To Carry Or Release From Sin** – In the Old Testament hands were laid upon the heads of sacrificial animals (Exodus 29:15). As Aaron, the high priest, laid hands on the head of a live goat, all the sins of Israel were put on its head and then the goat was sent into the desert to symbolize how the sins of the people were taken away with it (Leviticus 16:21-22). This pictures what Jesus has done for us on the cross when all the sins of the world were placed upon Him and He died for you and me (Isaiah 53:11-12). Now that Jesus has carried our sins it is not necessary to lay hands upon animals. Jesus is our sin offering.

As a way of encouragement, when a person comes to the Lord and confesses their sins, we can lay hands upon them and declare by the authority of God's word that their sins are forgiven through faith in Jesus Christ and His precious blood (1 John 1:7-9). As a person truly repents, they should experience the forgiveness of God and have a certainty of salvation (1 John 5:13). They should know the reality of God's wonderful love (1

John 4:16-18). If you are still having the problem of guilt in regard to past sin, I suggest you say the following prayer:

### **Prayer For Cleansing From Guilt**

**“Dear Heavenly Father, I have done many things wrong in the past of which I am feeling guilty. You have promised that You are faithful and just to forgive those who confess their sins to You. I stand on Your faithfulness and mercy, and I receive Your love. Having put my faith in Jesus and having confessed my sins, I know I am received as one of Your children. I renounce the accusations and condemnation of the devil. I renounce past guilt because of the fact that my sins have been washed away by the precious blood of Christ. My name is written in the Book of Life and I am forgiven. Thank You for making my heart clean and pure.”**

**3) To Set Apart For Service** – The Levites were set apart for God with the laying on of hands (Numbers 8:10). Hands were laid upon them to consecrate them for service. As the time of Moses’ death came closer, the LORD told him to lay hands upon Joshua to set him apart as the next leader (Number 27:23). Joshua received an impartation of wisdom and authority through the laying on of Moses’ hands (Numbers 27:18-20; Deuteronomy 34:9). It was then clear that Joshua was the leader to continue after Moses. The same anointing can be imparted from one person to another (Numbers 11:16-17; 2 Kings 2:9).

The early Church regarded the laying on of hands as an important method of commissioning those appointed by God into their respective ministries. Seven men were chosen to oversee the needs of the widows. They were presented to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them (Acts 6:6). In a similar way Paul and Barnabas were commissioned to undertake their missionary work and to take the gospel to the unreached parts of the world (Acts 13:1-3). As well as receiving spiritual gifts, Timothy was set apart for preaching and teaching by the laying on of hands (1 Timothy 4:13-14). People

are set apart for God's special service by an impartation of the Holy Spirit through the laying on of hands.

When we lay hands upon people in the name of the Lord, God can do something great. The fulfillment of this blessing is often not seen right away, but we must trust God that an impartation of the Holy Spirit has taken place. As we have seen the biblical basis for the laying on of hands, I hope your faith has been encouraged and greatly strengthened to believe that God can meet you and work through you by this method. The laying on of hands was a well known practice of the early church (Hebrews 6:2).

## **HOW TO HEAR THE VOICE OF GOD**

As we are looking at receiving more anointing and moving in God's power, we urgently need to look at hearing God's voice and coming into deeper intimacy with the Lord. If we are going to see God's miracles we are going to have to listen to His voice and obey Him. Walking with God and doing His will is dependent upon hearing His voice. We must allow God to do a deep work in our lives and we must believe to hear from Him more clearly. Jesus said, "My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand" (John 10:27-28). The main point Jesus wanted to make was that His sheep listen to His voice. Here we see the importance of listening, so how do we listen to the voice of our Good Shepherd?

To hear the voice of God realize that you are in His hands and as one of His sheep the Lord will continue to speak to you. He spoke to your heart by first drawing you to Himself and He has gone ahead of you so that you may follow Him. He has prepared the way for your life. He calls you by name and leads you to where He wants to take you. You are in the Master's hand and no one can snatch you away from Him. You have to believe and trust that Jesus is good; He is the Good Shepherd and He protects His sheep from the wolves

(John 10:3-4,14-16). Simply trust that God is watching over you and He is working in your life. The better we know His voice the more closely we will be able to walk with Him. Trust God that He is speaking to you in a variety of ways and He is the one leading you as you are obedient to His perfect will. Our focus must be on following Jesus.

### **Prayer For Hearing God's Voice**

**“Jesus, I am one of Your sheep and You have promised that I will hear Your voice. You have promised to speak to me. I open my heart to You, Lord, and I wait upon You. What do you want to say to me? I am listening.”**

Remember that God hears the prayers that you pray. Expect Him to answer. Listen for an answer. When you have prayed earnestly, you must equally allow God to speak to you. This may be through a thought, impression, vision, a verse from Scripture or His still small voice. There was a time when the prophet Elijah saw great outward manifestations – wind, earthquake and fire – but he didn't receive anything from that. When Elijah was silent and waiting in anticipation for what God would do next, he then heard a gentle whisper (1 Kings 19:11-13). As we wait upon the Lord we should expect Him to come to us and speak to us in a gentle way.

The Holy Spirit has come into the world to speak to us the things He hears from God (John 16:13). Jesus is saying that the Holy Spirit will speak to us. Learn to be sensitive. Expect to hear His voice. Believe in God and trust Him that you are walking in the Spirit and being led by Him (Matthew 4:1; Romans 8:14; Galatians 5:18,25). We need to hear the voice of God and that voice is available to us if we are prepared to listen. God speaks to us. He speaks to unbelievers, but mostly they are not willing to listen. God is speaking to us all the time, but we need to learn to discern it by having an open heart and by seeking after God earnestly (Psalm 63:1; Jeremiah 29:13).

First and foremost, God's word is written for us in the Holy Scriptures (2 Timothy 3:15-17). Be diligent in reading the Bible

and expect God to speak to you as you study it. A balanced study of God's word includes reading a part of the Old Testament, the Gospels, the history of the early church as found in the book of Acts, the Epistles and the special message that Jesus has for us in the book of Revelation. As you are seeking to hear from God the Scriptures will come alive to you and He will speak to you through them. If you are not reading the Bible you are missing a tremendous amount that God wants to say to you. God has revealed Himself through His word and He is speaking to you whenever you read or listen to it (1 Samuel 3:21). Press on for a deeper walk with God.

God can also answer your prayer by speaking to you through other people in your church, home group or by members of your family, as long as you are prepared to hear what He is saying. There are times when God speaks through the ministry of angels, which often come through dreams (Genesis 31:11; Matthew 1:20; 2:13,19). God can even speak to people audibly straight from Heaven (Matthew 3:17; John 12:28; Acts 11:9; 2 Peter 1:18; Revelation 18:4). As you cry out to the Lord and put your faith in Jesus, you can trust Him that He will lead you and guide you in the right way. Remember His promises and it will encourage you to have faith to hear His voice.

After a time of prayer or praise, wait upon the Lord in reverent silence and allow God to speak to you (Habakkuk 2:20; Zephaniah 1:7). God loves to speak to His people and we must give Him the chance by focusing our attention on Him. The Bible says, "Be still, and know that I am God" (Psalm 46:10); 'Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for him' (Psalm 37:7). As you wait upon the Lord He may speak to you by bringing some thoughts, impressions or visions to your mind. Wait in silent expectancy believing that Christ's followers hear His voice. Then in obedience and faith, share anything that God has brought to your mind or laid upon your heart. In this way you will be able to give very accurate words directly from the Lord.

Sometimes after prayer and waiting upon God, you may still feel that you haven't heard anything direct. Nevertheless, trust the Lord that His hand is upon you and your circumstances

are committed into His hands. The more we yield to the Holy Spirit the more we will hear Him. Have an expectation of hearing God's voice every day. As you wait upon the Lord He will give you wisdom and speak gently into your heart. Often it will come as a still, soft voice, but as you trust Him He will move mightily and reveal Himself to you. All of us have our own walk with Jesus and we need to hear from Him more and more. What is God saying to you today?

## **SUMMARY**

1) The baptism with the Holy Spirit is a separate experience from being "born again." It gives us power to witness for Christ and the ability to speak in other tongues. It is essential to believe in this experience because a person is not going to receive without faith that Jesus is the one who baptizes us with the Holy Spirit.

2) Learn to wait upon God for the anointing. Surrendering our lives fully to Jesus helps us to know the presence of the Holy Spirit and we will begin to feel the anointing, which often comes as a warmth upon us. In this way God demonstrates His presence.

3) The laying on of hands is a biblical method to impart spiritual gifts, blessings and to commission believers into their God-given callings. We should have faith that God will minister through us in this way. If you are still feeling guilty for any past sin, get someone to lay hands upon you and pray with you. Receive an impartation of God's love (Romans 5:5).

4) We need to be aware of how God speaks to us and grow in confidence in hearing His voice. Believe that by thought, impression, vision or by audible voice you will hear from the Lord. As you are disciplined in reading the Bible on a daily basis, you will more readily discern the voice of God.

5) The secret of receiving God's power is to rely continuously on Him, being filled and led by the Spirit, and hearing the Lord's voice. God's presence is accompanied by God's voice. Anticipate impressions from the Lord as you wait expectantly upon Him. Then step out in faith to do what you

know God has called you to do. Minister to others under the anointing of the Holy Spirit.

*‘The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favour’ (Luke 4:18-19).*



# 3) THE SPIRITUAL GIFTS

This message is a continuation of the previous chapter where we learnt about the baptism with the Holy Spirit, the anointing, how blessings can be released by the laying on of hands and how we can hear the voice of God. We now need to take that a step further to press into the fullness of the spiritual gifts. Even young Christians can move quickly into the gifts of the Spirit if rightly encouraged to do so. Encouragement is a key if there is to be growth in this area of ministry. In this chapter I hope to teach how you can step out in faith to minister in the power of the Holy Spirit with the spiritual gifts.

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION AND EXAMPLE OF THE GIFTS

*'Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. To one there is given through the Spirit the message of wisdom, to another the message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues' (1 Corinthians 12:7-10).*

**1) Message Of Wisdom** – A word of guidance at the right time how to deal with a situation, which gives understanding as to what is right to do. Jesus had a word of wisdom how to answer the Pharisees about the tax issue (Matthew 22:15-22).

**2) Message Of Knowledge** – A word about a situation that you did not know naturally. Jesus had a word of knowledge about money being in a fish's mouth (Matthew 17:27).

**3) Gift Of Faith** – The ability to believe and know for certain that the impossible will happen. Jesus delayed His journey

because He had the faith that He would raise Lazarus from the dead (John 11:6,11,43-44).

**4) Gifts Of Healing** – The curing of the body without medical assistance. Jesus continually healed people throughout His ministry (Matthew 8:14-17).

**5) Miraculous Powers** – Power to change or alter circumstances and bring about something supernatural. Jesus fed over 5000 people from five loaves and two fish (Matthew 14:19-21).

**6) Gift Of Prophecy** – Declaring what God has to say to encourage and build up the faith of others. The testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy (Revelation 19:10), so this gift should always encourage people to follow the Lord and know His wonderful hand guiding them.

**7) Distinguishing Between Spirits** – Reveals the spiritual forces or type of spirit that can be affecting a person or situation. Jesus discerned the spirit behind Peter's words and said to him, "Get behind me, Satan" (Matthew 16:23).

**8) Different Kinds Of Tongues** – The ability to give a message in an unknown language that was not learnt naturally. Jesus told His disciples that signs will follow those who believe and they would speak in new tongues (Mark 16:17). On the day of Pentecost the disciples amazed the people by speaking in at least fifteen different languages (Acts 2:6-12).

**9) Interpretation Of Tongues** – An interpretation of a message which has already been given in an unknown tongue so that people can understand what has been said. The apostle Paul taught the church that anyone who speaks a message in an unknown tongue should pray that he may interpret what he says (1 Corinthians 14:13).

## **ENCOURAGE PEOPLE TO RECEIVE THE SPIRITUAL GIFTS**

We should encourage and help one another into the gifts of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 12:1). The spiritual gifts are a major and important way that the Holy Spirit is able to show His presence among us. Many believers have not learnt the basics of the gifts and therefore don't know how to believe God for them. Teaching these basic truths can help encourage them to step out and believe God for Him to move in power. We need to teach other believers how they can operate in these spiritual gifts so that God's mighty miracles can take place among us and more people will be drawn in repentance to commit their lives to the Lord. When unbelievers come into this type of meeting they will say, "God is really among you" (1 Corinthians 14:25). The gifts are a manifestation of the Holy Spirit to reveal the glory of God (1 Corinthians 12:7).

The gifts of the Spirit can be received by the laying on of hands (2 Timothy 1:6; 1 Timothy 4:14) or by a sovereign act of the Holy Spirit as we eagerly desire them. As you ask for the gifts of the Spirit in faith, God will grant your request (Luke 11:9-13). The spiritual gifts can be imparted by those who minister in them. The apostle Paul clearly had a desire to impart gifts to others and he believed that he could do so through the anointing of the Holy Spirit (Romans 1:11-12). Remember that the laying on of hands is a Scriptural basis for receiving the gifts and a great way to encourage other believers to receive them. Ask anointed servants of God to lay hands upon you to receive them.

Those who have a desire to move on in God will want to move into and experience these manifestations of the Spirit. As we wait upon the Lord and believe for the spiritual gifts, God can move mightily. You will find that the spiritual gifts are available to all who are prepared to reach out to God and believe for them. Often people just need to be shown how to get started and be encouraged to continue stepping out and believing God. Then they will come into the exercise of these gifts. God plants the seed of faith in our hearts, but He asks us

to exercise it. As we step out and do so, He is able to pour out His blessing. The person wishing to receive them must believe that he/she will receive them when prayed for, act in faith and step out to exercise them.

## **HOW TO STEP INTO THE GIFT OF PROPHECY**

It is God's will to grant every person the gift of prophecy (1 Corinthians 14:31). Therefore you should say the following prayer with belief:

### **Prayer For A Release Of Prophetic Impartation**

**“Dear Heavenly Father, I come believing to receive the gift of prophecy. I ask You to fill me with Your Holy Spirit and release this gift through me now. I ask You to speak to me with thoughts, impressions, pictures, visions or Your audible voice, so I can share a word from You to others in Jesus’ mighty name. Amen.”**

As you have asked the Lord to give you some words of encouragement for another person, trust God to give you some thoughts and then speak them out. It may be a Scripture or a simple word. As you do so the Spirit of God will fall upon the person and bless them. Encourage those who have never prophesied before to wait quietly upon the Lord, expecting Him to bring a Bible verse or some other words to their mind. Remain as a child, relying upon God to give you some words. The Holy Spirit may give you a picture in your mind's eye. You may see a waterfall, a field, a flower or some other situation. The Lord wants to speak through you about it and bring a timely message as you speak out the picture in your mind. As you begin to give expression to it you will find that the prophecy becomes clearer.

To learn and practice this gift in a group setting it is good to break up into pairs.

1) Begin by saying something about God to each other such as “God is here,” “God loves you,” or “God is good.”

2) Now say something simply on behalf of God, such as “I love you My people” or “I am with you My people to bless you.” If you are speaking to an individual you would say, “I am with you My son/daughter to bless you.”

3) Next say something you think God wants you to say. Then allow the Holy Spirit to add further words. Thoughts and impressions will come into your mind as you begin to reach out and speak out what you think God would like you to say. It is important to make a start. As you act in faith, God will begin to quicken further words. The more you step out the more you receive. Remember that the gift of prophecy is for everyone and we should all be able to participate in this. Learning how to prophecy is also a stepping stone for many of the other gifts.

What is God saying to you? When you get desperate for God that is when He can really move. To begin you need to think, ‘Well, I had better say something.’ As you begin to say some thoughts that are coming into your mind the rest will follow. You have to step out to let God speak through you. As you begin to speak out words of encouragement to others and believe for this gift, you will find that the Lord will speak through you. The Lord is always willing to give a word and the Holy Spirit will quicken a word of prophecy through you.

With further encouragement you can move into a greater anointing under this gift. The more you practice the more easily you will hear the voice of God. It is amazing to see how the Holy Spirit begins to move when there is a group of people with a strong expectation and they are giving an opportunity for this to happen. You begin by speaking out whatever God is laying upon your heart. Then there should be a witness in the spirit of others that it is of God (1 Corinthians 14:29). If the word brings people into bondage then it should not be accepted. The safest way to get started is to speak out words of truth from the Bible. Our aim is to bring a word that will strengthen, encourage and comfort others (1 Corinthians 14:3). Reach out in faith and speak those words, and you will grow in faith as you do so.

## **HOW TO STEP INTO THE GIFTS OF A PUBLIC TONGUE AND INTERPRETATION**

We should wait for the anointing presence of God and we should speak out boldly in our tongue when we sense this anointing, believing that God will bless it. As we make a start and believe that the Holy Spirit is directing us we will find that indeed God has called us to speak out. But we must make a start. Be encouraged to speak out in your prayer language. Another person should then speak out in English (or the common language of the group) what they believe the Holy Spirit is saying. As the Holy Spirit quickens thoughts or impressions, you will find you are coming into what the Holy Spirit is seeking to say through the message in tongues. We need to sense the anointing and then make a start in faith. God will then give us the words for the interpretation.

If we are prepared to put aside the thoughts of our natural mind and really centre them on Jesus Christ in order to allow Him to speak to us, we will feel a quickening in our spirit that we should speak out in this way. As we do so God will anoint us with a message. You will find that from your innermost being flows a river of living water as the Holy Spirit helps you to speak in tongues (John 4:14). We should realize that the Holy Spirit deep within our hearts will rise up as we allow Him to do so. Speaking in tongues is really our spirit speaking to God with the aid of the Holy Spirit, right past our natural mind. If a person speaking in tongues continually repeats the same syllables, encourage them to go on to other words which God would have them speak.

If you believe that the Lord wants you to move in this gift, it is suggested you pray quietly in the Spirit so that no other person can hear you. Then as the opportunity offers itself and you believe it is God's will, bring forth the message in a tongue. After a message in a tongue has been brought, there should be a pause to enable the interpretation. Here the leader of the meeting needs to be sensitive to the Lord. Often God has already given the interpretation to someone in the meeting, but they may need a little motivation to bring forth the

message. To bring the interpretation it is again a question of simply waiting upon God and trusting Him. If you believe He is speaking to you, then speak out according to that direction. Beautiful words of interpretation can be brought as you move in boldness. God wants bold people. As we move in His boldness and love, in obedience to His word, He will anoint us.

In a group setting you can ask everybody to break into pairs. Then encourage them to individually speak in tongues and let the other person give what they believe to be an interpretation. This should be in the similar form to a prophecy. We should explain that we are only practicing and people should feel at ease. Ask someone to speak in tongues and suggest that another gives what they believe to be the interpretation. Encourage people who speak in tongues to wait upon the Lord and follow it up with words in their native language that come into their mind. You can practice by seeking God for the interpretation of your own tongue. As with the gift of prophecy, we have to make a start and trust God. That is why it is important to encourage people to move in this ministry of bringing a message in tongues, followed by an interpretation.

### **HOW TO BRING A WORD OF KNOWLEDGE AND A WORD OF WISDOM**

We should now be ready to allow God to give us thoughts and impressions concerning other people. Pray silently and allow the Holy Spirit to reveal a concern or situation affecting a person and then share the word of knowledge that you believe God is giving you. Put all unwarranted thoughts and distractions completely out of your mind and concentrate upon Jesus Christ and His presence. As you do so He is able to speak to you concerning the person you are counselling or praying for. To learn and practice this gift it is good to be in a group of five to six people. In this group setting ask people in each group to allow the Holy Spirit to give them a thought or impression concerning someone in the group, such as some

particular illness, problem or concern someone has in their life.

Giving words of knowledge is very effective in evangelistic meetings. As a preacher it is good to have a time of prayer before the meeting, asking the Lord to give you some specific words for that gathering. Write them down, making notes of the types of conditions you feel God would want you to pray for and then call them out at the meeting. God will often bring attention to conditions well known by the individuals concerned. When giving this kind of word it will increase the level of faith amongst the people. If no one responds immediately you may need to persevere, explaining what you mean more clearly and wait for the right person to respond. Sometimes people are shy and you may need to move onto your next word. Press ahead in faith trusting God to minister through you.

Be encouraged to seek the Lord for words of knowledge concerning people in your meetings. As people respond and the level of faith rises among those who are there, they will expect God to touch them and you will see many marvellous things happen. As they come forward for prayer you can have confidence that God will move mightily in their lives. Whenever you stand to preach the gospel, expect to hear the Lord's voice concerning those in that meeting. It is a tremendous gift in the ministry to awaken people to the reality of God's presence with us today. To move forward in ministry we have to take steps of faith. It can be a leap of faith for you to share what you believe God has laid upon your heart, but words of knowledge can open people's lives and help bring restoration to those who have great needs.

As you wait upon God or are praying with a person, something can be impressed upon your mind as to how to deal with their situation and that is a word of wisdom. A beautiful solution can be found for any problem. The Holy Spirit may quicken to you a portion of God's word that is just right for that particular situation. We should all seek the wisdom of God because He has promised to give this to those who ask (James 1:5-8). A good way to practice this in a group



setting would be to ask someone to share a situation or problem affecting their life. Others should then wait for a word of wisdom from the Lord as to how to deal with that situation, knowing that God wants to show us how to deal appropriately in different circumstances. You also need wisdom in how to apply words of knowledge and that is why these two gifts often go together. People are in constant need of God's wisdom for their lives and we should look to the Holy Spirit to speak to us in this way.

### **HOW TO RELEASE GIFTS OF HEALING AND DISTINGUISHING OF SPIRITS**

Ask a person who needs prayer to come forward. Ask for the Holy Spirit to fall and wait for the anointing to come upon him/her. When praying for the sick we should centre our thoughts totally on Jesus Christ at the right hand of God. We must allow no unbelief as this affects the faith in which we are praying for the person to be healed. To lay hands upon the sick and believe for their healing is a Scriptural method for being healed (Mark 16:18). Lay hands upon the person as directed by the Holy Spirit and pray a simple prayer asking the Lord to heal him/her. As you have a total dependency upon the Lord, His power is able to operate in the most impossible situations. Always believe for God's power to move as you pray.

The Holy Spirit gives continuous instruction as to how to pray for a person during the course of ministry to them. The Holy Spirit will direct you as to where you should lay your hands, such as on their forehead, back of their neck, head, shoulder or arm. He may lead you to ask them to raise their arms or close their eyes. As you follow the Holy Spirit's direction you will find that the anointing of God falls upon the person. When we know the anointing of the Holy Spirit and sense the power of God flowing through them, we may sense that an instantaneous healing can be effected. At other times you must believe that their recovery started the moment you laid hands upon them according to the promise of God's word.

Sometimes while preaching the Holy Spirit can indicate that He is healing somebody of a particular condition while seated in the audience. When this is expressed it further strengthens faith and expectancy in the meeting. Someone will know that they are being healed or at least know that the power of God is falling upon them at that moment. Exercise faith for their healing by believing the word of God. Praying for people by anointing them with oil is also a Scriptural way to pray for the sick. Oil symbolizes the anointing of the Holy Spirit and as you do this you can believe for the healing power of God to flow through their bodies. Then the Lord will raise them up (Mark 6:13; James 5:14-16).

While praying for the sick there may need to be distinguishing of spirits as to what is causing the problem and that spirit should then be bound and commanded to leave. As you pray for people, the Holy Spirit can show you various demons that are binding or controlling them. You will feel uneasiness within you concerning the situation. As you wait upon the Lord you realize that there may be a spirit of fear, rejection, hatred, violence, resentment, bitterness, lust, rebellion, deception, insanity, affliction, oppression, infirmity or some other force operating within the person. The Holy Spirit will bring to your mind through the gift of distinguishing of spirits the names of various demons that may be involved and as they are named the demons will manifest themselves. Reach out for the Holy Spirit to reveal any spiritual forces that are attacking the person or are involved in the situation. Speak out which spirit you believe is discerned and command it to leave in the name of Jesus Christ.

Those who need healing or deliverance should be asked to stand up to be prayed for. Counsel them to forgive others, to honour their parents and to put God first in their lives. Often people need to be encouraged to forgive those who have hurt them before they can be totally set free. Wait upon the Lord for the anointing to come upon them. Then pray for them or lay hands upon them as you feel the Holy Spirit is guiding you. If a demonic power manifests itself, command it to be cast out. Another way to practice would be to bring forward someone

who knows they have a problem such as sickness or some oppression like fear, addiction, doubt or something driving, compelling or tormenting them. The others in the group should wait upon the Lord as to what type of spirit might have been affecting that person. You can then pray for them accordingly.

God wants to set people free. Discerning of spirits afflicting or tormenting a person is so that they can be delivered. You must know your authority in Jesus Christ so that the evil spirits are cast out. Jesus has given us authority so that we can break curses and command deliverances in His name (Luke 10:17-19). As you wait upon the Lord He may give you a clear indication of the nature of a demonic power or stronghold over a particular place or nation. Through prayer and fasting these strongholds can be pulled down. Believe in the authority of Christ to be manifested through you over sickness and demonic powers (Matthew 10:1). Every Christian, and especially the evangelist as he goes forth in Jesus' name, should be prepared to pray for the sick and cast out evil spirits. Believe for these gifts to be manifested through your ministry.

## **HOW TO WALK IN THE GIFT OF FAITH AND MIRACULOUS POWERS**

As we wholeheartedly believe the word of God, read it and trust it completely then God is able to implant the gift of faith in our hearts. The basis for operating in any of the gifts is faith in Jesus Christ, but Jesus also wants to grant faith for specific situations so that we will believe God and trust Him to intervene in a wonderful way. We need to have an absolute belief in the word of God. Totally believing God's word is what enables our faith to grow (Romans 10:17). When you open the Bible, ask God to speak to you and to give you what we call a "*Rhema*" word – that is to make a specific verse or passage of His word alive and personal to you.

If you rely upon your natural thinking you will not operate in faith. The failure of our natural mind to grasp the spiritual insights that God offers us is what prevents us from seeing His greater miracles. Build upon the faith which God has already

given you. Maybe you will start in a simple area of healing. Just continue to believe and as you do so you will grow in that area. God offers us this gift of faith and we are to have an open heart to receive it. Faith is also a gift to the person for whom you are praying. As you minister to others in faith you will feel the presence of God. When you are facing an impossible situation ask God to grant you this gift. Maybe someone whose body is twisted and deformed is brought to you for prayer. With your natural mind you may think that this situation is hopeless. You have to put aside the natural thoughts and let the faith of God arise within your heart for a miracle.

Have an expectant faith that the gifts will operate through you and you will discover it happening. God offers His power as we turn to Him and believe His word. As we believe God in small things, He can then extend our faith into larger things. As we move in the faith of Christ, the Holy Spirit can move through us and the miracles of God can be clearly manifested. It is the prayer of faith that “moves mountains” and heals the sick, etc. It is not so much the amount of faith as making a decision to exercise what faith you already have. If you are still finding it hard to step into the spiritual gifts, don’t give up; persevere. In the spiritual realm, miracles are within our grasp if we only move into that realm with total belief in our hearts. As we remain humble before the Lord and believe His word, He is able to accomplish His mighty works.

A definition of a miracle is something that can only be done through supernatural power. Miracles are a demonstration of the power of God. They are a sign of the presence and power of the Lord. Miracles are linked with signs and wonders, and many times these three words are mentioned together in the Scriptures (Acts 2:22; 2 Corinthians 12:12; Hebrews 2:4). Miracles are the key to opening up new areas to the gospel (Acts 8:4-7). Miraculous powers were constantly flowing from the Lord Jesus Christ (Matthew 13:54; Mark 5:30; 6:14; Luke 6:17-19) and that is why He could perform miracles wherever He went, such as raising the dead (Luke 7:11-17), multiplying food (Matthew 14:19-21) and even walking on water (Matthew 14:25).

Miraculous powers are also one of the gifts of the Holy Spirit that Jesus wants to impart to His people. Believe for supernatural intervention, for God can perform a miracle in whatever situation you are facing. With God all things are indeed possible. Believe for the power of God to flow through you. Ask those in your group to mention any situation where they need God to intervene. It may be a financial or relational problem. Pray with faith and expect a miracle.

## **PRAY FOR OTHERS TO RECEIVE THE SPIRITUAL GIFTS**

I suggest that all the people present should be prayed for by one another to receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Ask for the anointing to fall upon them and as you continue to wait upon the Lord, He can quicken to you the various gifts which He desires to impart to the other believer. As you pray for that person you can speak the name of the gift out and encourage them to have faith to minister in that gift. The nine gifts of the Spirit can be read out slowly so that each person can be thinking of what the Holy Spirit may be imparting to another person (1 Corinthians 12:8-10). You can pray for a person in this way:

### **Impartation Prayer**

**“Dear Heavenly Father, in the name of Jesus Christ, I ask You to impart to my brother/sister the gifts of Your Holy Spirit that You desire to grant them. I believe that You want to grant them the gift of.....”**

Tell the person what gifts you believe God has given to the person you are praying for. We want to help people to receive what God is offering them. When the apostle Paul and the elders imparted a spiritual gift to Timothy they also prophesied over him (1 Timothy 4:14). You can also give them a word of encouragement by way of prophecy and pray a greater blessing upon their life and ministry. Frequently, when we are laying hands on people to receive gifts, the Holy Spirit gives

us a clear word of prophecy to encourage the person in their walk with the Lord. The gifts are given for the glorification of Christ. They are not waiting for some future occasion but need to be stepped into today. We have to step out in faith to let the Holy Spirit use us and minister through us.

As a word of caution, remember that we always need wisdom and accountability to the body of Christ (the Church). There have been many who have gone off on a tangent due to false words or have spoken out of a wrong spirit and have said things that could be damaging. To speak a word from God we need to have an attitude of humility, not pride, selfish ambition or prejudice. Keep focused on the fact that we are to strengthen, encourage and comfort others (1 Corinthians 14:3). Check out any word with a mature believer if you are unsure about it. The spiritual gifts have to be developed and used properly. Again this shows the importance of each believer reading the Bible regularly so as to be well grounded and on a firm foundation, for everything we say or do needs to be based upon the word of God.

You will grow in the gifts of the Holy Spirit by going into situations where you have opportunities to practise. Evangelistic outreaches are an excellent opportunity to step out in faith and believe for the presence of God to touch people, yet you may feel more comfortable by beginning in small home group meetings. The more you practise and use the gifts the Holy Spirit has given you, the more you will be used by God. You could practise by beginning to prophesy to yourself each morning. What do you feel God is wanting to say today? Practise by speaking in tongues and asking God to give you the interpretation for it. When you find someone who is unwell, offer to pray for them. Step by step God will give you faith for other areas of ministry.

Be open for the Lord to lead you to a person who needs to receive ministry and the Lord will send someone in need across your path so you can minister to them. God can give you words of encouragement for that person and then you can flow into the other gifts. Whenever you pray for people you can practise hearing God's voice and receive His wisdom for

that situation. Jesus is our example to follow in every aspect of ministry. Jesus allowed the Holy Spirit to do miracles through Him and so should we. We must keep our hearts open and press on, growing in faith, so that we will move more deeply in this. Stepping out in faith and walking in the gifts of the Holy Spirit is what really challenges us to listen to the voice of God.

## SUMMARY

1) Every Christian should be taught about the spiritual gifts. It is a biblical topic that God wants us to clearly understand.

2) Simple steps can be taken to encourage believers to operate in them. We must make a start and step out in faith to exercise the gifts. You can walk in the power of God.

3) The spiritual gifts are a manifestation of the Holy Spirit. In this way God's presence is revealed among us and His power touches people's lives. The Spirit of God is with us today and His gifts should be in operation wherever He is present.

4) As believers, we should encourage one another to minister in the power of the Holy Spirit and give opportunities for people to step out and operate in the spiritual gifts. This is how faith is developed and real spiritual progress can be made. Each believer should expect various spiritual gifts and grow in their use of them.

*'Now about spiritual gifts, brothers, I do not want you to be ignorant... Follow the way of love and eagerly desire spiritual gifts, especially the gift of prophecy' (1 Corinthians 12:1; 14:1).*





## 4) THE DELIVERANCE MINISTRY

*“The seventy-two returned with joy and said, “Lord, even the demons submit to us in your name.”*

*He replied, “I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you. However, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven” (Luke 10:17-20).*

### **MAKE SURE PEOPLE’S NAMES ARE WRITTEN IN HEAVEN**

The main purpose of the deliverance ministry is the salvation of souls. We are not to rejoice that the demons submit to us when we cast them out by the power and authority of Christ, but rather we are to rejoice that our names are written in Heaven. First of all we must all make sure that our names are written in the Lamb’s Book of Life because there are some who cast out demons whose lives are not right. They are living a double life and walking in wickedness, therefore Jesus will disown them (Matthew 7:21-23). Judas Iscariot was among the Twelve apostles who were given power and authority to heal the sick and to cast out evil spirits (Mark 3:14-19). He saw the miracles of Christ and was a part of that ministry, yet due to his unfaithfulness his name is not written in the Book of Life (Matthew 26:24; Acts 1:17,25). All believers can receive authority from the Lord to cast out demons, but they must also realize that in their hearts they must continue in their walk with Christ and remain faithful to Him.

When people sincerely receive Jesus as their Lord and Saviour and believe in the power of His name, they have a spiritual birth and are “born again” by the Spirit of God (John 1:12-13). To continue in their walk with Christ they then need to be baptized in water and baptized with the Holy Spirit. They should realize that they are in the kingdom of God and they

can then operate in kingdom power. All believers should seek to operate in the gifts of the Holy Spirit. For the deliverance ministry we should seek God for distinguishing between spirits, the word of knowledge and the word of wisdom, the gift of faith, healing and miraculous powers. We should act with boldness in the love of Jesus Christ, believe for God's power and then set people free. Most importantly our aim is to get them saved. Once the demons powers are broken from their lives, their hearts will be more open to respond to the gospel.

## **HOW DEMONS ENTER PEOPLE**

**1) Through Their Own Sin** – Our body is intended to be the temple of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 3:16-17; 6:18-20). The main way that Satan can defile this temple is through the sin of sexual immorality (fornication, adultery, homosexuality, etc.). Demon powers pass from one person to the other during the act of fornication and that is why when people have been involved in such activity and become Christians, they usually need deliverance from the demons of fornication, adultery, lust, etc. Believers should present themselves properly in dress, not to provoke lustful thinking. A homosexual will not seek deliverance until he recognizes he has a problem and that there is a demonic force behind his sinful desires. Satan enters through the door of wrong relationships, bringing disharmony. Pornographic material allows the spirit of lust to enter a person's mind through their eyes and causes them to enter into habits which are unclean (Matthew 5:28; 1 Timothy 1:10).

Addictions to alcohol and smoking can also be demonic. An alcoholic will do nothing about being set free from alcoholism until he or she recognizes there is a problem. They must realize that drunkenness is a sin and that there is a demonic force binding them to this addiction. People must recognize that they have a problem so they open up that area of their hearts to God. Only then can they be set free from that particular bondage. For example, if a woman has had an abortion, or a man has been party to an abortion, they will not be delivered until they recognize that deliberate abortion is the

killing of an innocent child and God holds them accountable for this sin (James 5:6). We must repent of all dishonesty and lying otherwise Satan will fill our hearts (Acts 5:3). Our problem is disobedience and sin towards God. Repentance is the first key to deliverance and people will not be fully delivered if they do not repent.

**2) The Sins Of Their Ancestors** – “I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, but showing love to a thousand [generations] of those who love me and keep my commandments” (Exodus 20:5-6). Sometimes when praying for a person the Holy Spirit may show various forms of hereditary bondage which has come down the generational lines of their parents, due to the fact that their ancestors hated God by living in rebellion towards Him. As they renounce these bondages great deliverance can take place.

A leader may need to repent for the sins of a previous leader, as in the case of King David with King Saul. A famine was upon the land and that curse was not broken until King David made restoration for the sin of the previous king (2 Samuel 21:1-14). The sin of one generation was visited on the following generation and would have continued up to the fourth generation if restoration had not been made. Demonic spirits seek to come down the generational line, causing the same sin or weakness in a family to continue on so there is havoc and strife. Repentance and appropriate restoration is in need.

**3) Witchcraft And The Occult** – Demonic practices have included making human sacrifices, cannibalism, practicing divination or sorcery, interpreting omens, engaging in witchcraft, casting spells, being a medium or spiritist and seeking to consult the dead (Deuteronomy 18:10-12). Using amulets, black magic, clairvoyance, fetishes, fire-walking, fortune telling, hallucinogenic drugs (cocaine, heroin, marijuana, glue sniffing, etc.), horoscopes, hypnosis,

incantations, lucky charms, mantras, martial arts, occultic games, palm reading, psychic practices, pyramidology, reincarnation, satanism, séances, pagan celebrations such as Halloween, superstitions, tarot cards, Transcendental Meditation, UFO fixation, voodoo, white magic and the Hindu philosophy behind yoga can all be entry points for demonic powers.

The affects of witchcraft can cause abnormal fears, especially in the dark, disturbing dreams, hatred of being left alone, deep depression, suicidal thoughts, no desire for prayer or blockages when trying to pray, inner resistance to God's word or no desire for Bible reading, visions of ghostly forms, blasphemous thoughts, inability to make decisions, feeling of anxiety, gripping feeling around the throat, constant headaches, voices in the mind you can't get rid of, schizophrenia, fits of rage, etc.

Jesus calls His followers to turn people away from the power of Satan, unto the power of God (Acts 26:18). There are many kinds of deceiving spirits at work through people who promote the doctrines of demons and the so called deep secrets of Satan (1 Timothy 4:1-2; Revelation 2:24). The nations have been deceived by a spirit of sorcery (Revelation 18:23). Those who have been involved in witchcraft need deliverance. They need to make sure they remove all occultic objects from their houses and that such items are destroyed (Acts 19:19).

**4) Unforgiveness** – Often there is a need in a person's heart for them to forgive others before they are set free. Forgiveness is a basic requirement to expressing love, releasing healing and breaking demonic interferences. As people forgive those who have hurt them or spoken against them, a release takes place and God's power of healing and deliverance will flow. By fully forgiving they can come into the blessing of God and have His love blossom in their lives. Forgiveness is at the heart of salvation. Even though Jesus has died for the forgiveness of all people, we cannot appropriate this forgiveness to ourselves unless we forgive

others. We cannot expect God to forgive us of our sins if we don't forgive one another (Matthew 6:14-15).

Unforgiveness causes people to retain the sins of others and this grants the devil a foothold in their lives. People come under torment when they are unwilling to forgive (Matthew 18:21-35). This can cause depression, misery, rejection and self-hatred. Forgiveness is a crucial area for deliverance. Those who do not forgive are often attacked by a spirit of anger. A small thing can set them off and they can't control their temper. Many people need to stand before the Lord and begin to forgive others by naming those whom they should forgive. One entry point for demonic activity can be the failure of people to accept and forgive themselves. This blocks them from receiving God's love. They need to appropriate what Jesus has done for them on the cross and accept God's wonderful love. Forgiveness breaks the chains of the devil.

**5) Dishonouring One's Parents** – We cannot have a rebellious heart towards our parents (Romans 1:30; 2 Timothy 3:2). If we honour our father and mother things will go well for us (Deuteronomy 5:16), yet if we treat our parents in contempt we will come under a curse (Deuteronomy 27:16). Honouring our parents means to have love and respect for them, and also to forgive them if they have acted or said something wrong towards us. If we don't honour them, the curses of the law (Deuteronomy 28:15-68), which include every form of sickness and disease can affect us. Honouring one's parents is necessary for breaking ancestral curses. We don't know what wickedness has occurred in our previous generations. In order to avoid curses being passed down from those generations we must honour our parents.

If there has been a blockage between you and your parents you must honour and forgive them, then the love of God can come into your situation and the anointing of God can come upon you. In some situations people need to write to their parents and ask them for forgiveness for any wrong attitudes they have had towards them. Tell them you honour them and forgive them no matter how you feel. Let past sins be washed

away and any broken relationship restored. Pray the blessing of God upon them.

**6) Marriage Breakdowns** – One of Satan’s biggest attacks is against the marriage covenant. Marriage was created by God and faithfulness in marriage symbolizes Christ and the Church (Ephesians 5:22-33). Marriage breakdowns are always a victory for Satan and leave behind a mess of disastrous consequences. Problems occur because people are not obedient to the principles of God’s word. A marriage can have fallen apart even though the couple are still living in the same house. The husband must protect, cherish, encourage and support his wife, otherwise his prayers will be hindered (1 Peter 3:7). Demonic forces are what hinder our prayers (Daniel 10).

Marriage is a covenant before God and God makes a husband and wife one because He is seeking godly offspring. He therefore calls the husband to guard himself in his spirit, and not to break faith with his wife. “I hate divorce,” says the LORD God of Israel (Malachi 2:14-16). Divorce is a breaking of faith. Results of divorce on children can be guilt, pain, shock, heartache, grief, misery, condemnation, bitterness, confusion, rejection, fear, anger, violence, inability to respond to love, desire to die, damage to the spirit or self-rejection which causes problems later in life. Often the children need deliverance from what was brought upon them by their parent’s sin.

**7) Curses** – The primary reason curses come upon people is through disobedience towards God; such as having false gods, disrespecting parents, treachery, injustice, sexual immorality or accepting bribes (Deuteronomy 27:15-26). Stealing and lying (Zechariah 5:3-4), depending upon people rather than God (Jeremiah 17:5), turning against the Jews (Genesis 12:3), having heathen objects of worship in your home (Deuteronomy 7:26), and perverting the message of the gospel (Galatians 1:8-9) also bring curses upon people. Indications of a curse can be mental and emotional breakdowns; feminine problems, barrenness or miscarriage; humiliation, poverty and failure;

being accident prone; repeated sickness – especially hereditary sickness where the doctors can't find a cause; or a history of unnatural deaths in the family.

'Like a fluttering sparrow or a darting swallow, an undeserved curse does not come to rest' (Proverbs 26:2). In the Bible, Jesus used birds to symbolically illustrate the work of the devil (Matthew 13:4,19). Behind curses there are demonic influences that need to be broken from people's lives. Many times people pronounce curses upon themselves or others by speaking negatively. For example: "You are hopeless," "You will never achieve anything," "You are ugly," "You'll never be any good," or "I hate myself and want to die," "God doesn't love me." The Bible says that the tongue has the power of life and death (Proverbs 18:21). We should be careful what we say. Verbal abuse gives footholds to the devil and often brings curses that need to be removed.

The good news is that upon the cross Jesus became a curse so that we could be set free from all curses (Galatians 3:13-14). To be set free people need to realize when a curse is operating, repent from all sin, renounce the curse, resist the devil and by faith in Jesus Christ receive the blessings of God. Receive the love and forgiveness of God and know that by humbling yourself before Christ you are accepted by God. Put away grumbling, complaining and abusing, and speak the blessing of God upon yourself and others.

**8) Fear** – Types of fear can include fear of death, fear of sickness, fear of failure, fear of rejection, fear of enclosed spaces, fear of the dark, fear of being unclean, fear of animals or insects, or fear of other people. Fear is often a spiritual force that seeks to attack people's minds and can lead to worry, anxiety, overeating, guilt, lack of rest and tiredness, stress, depression, confusion, ulcers, a variety of sicknesses and can bring premature death. Fear anticipates the worst and keeps people in bondage (Psalm 53:5). It is a major way in which the devil is able to operate in people's lives. If we operate in fear, which is a lack of faith, we are in danger of opening our lives to the very thing we don't want to happen

(Romans 14:23). Fear grows by meditating upon the lies of the devil (Job 3:25). Replace fear with faith and trust the Lord to protect, lead and guide you in all that you do.

The first evil force to grip Adam and Eve after they fell into sin was fear (Genesis 3:10). Fear comes upon the wicked (Proverbs 28:1). Fear enters people because they fail to trust God completely. Not knowing the fullness of God's love gives entry to fear (1 John 4:18), as does viewing evil things on television, film, books and music that is satanically inspired. Jesus wants to give us His peace to overcome all our fears (John 16:33). Perfect peace is promised to those who fix their minds upon God and keep their trust in Him (Isaiah 26:3). The spirit of fear seeks to divert people away from trusting in the Lord. Therefore we should rebuke that spirit and encourage everyone to trust in the Lord Jesus Christ.

**9) Idolatry** – The Bible clearly teaches that there are demonic powers behind idols and that those who worship them are worshipping demons (Deuteronomy 32:16-17; Psalm 106:37-38; 1 Corinthians 10:19-21; Revelation 9:20-21). Those who worship idols have therefore brought a demonic curse upon themselves (Deuteronomy 27:15). If your ancestors have worshipped idols, you should renounce their sin. Make sure you do not bring any idol into your house (Deuteronomy 7:25-26). Covetousness for material things is also idolatry (Colossians 3:5), causing overspending and can bring people into bondage and debt. We should renounce the sin of idolatry and greed, and be content with what we have, looking to God as our helper (Hebrews 13:5-6).

**10) Denying Jesus Christ** – False religions and teachings which deny Jesus Christ bring people under Satan's control. Heresies, such as Jehovah's Witnesses, Mormons, Freemasonry, Scientology, Rastafarianism, Christian Science, Moonies, Unitarians, etc, hold people in demonic bondage. Denying the Sovereign Lordship of Christ is a terrible form of spiritual blindness. There is an antichrist spirit behind the denial of Christ. We are warned that in the last days there will



be many false Christs and people claiming that they are Jesus. We are warned not to believe them (Matthew 24:24-27). Atheism, agnosticism, Buddhism, Taoism, etc, deny the truth of God.

It is the devil who blinds people and keeps them in spiritual darkness. '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' (2 Corinthians 4:4). Anyone who denies Jesus is bound by the devil in some way (Ephesians 2:1-2; 1 John 5:19). Judas became possessed by Satan because he went out to betray the Lord (John 13:27). The antichrist spirit denies the Father/Son relationship of the Holy Trinity (1 John 2:22-23). The antichrist spirit is behind the religion of Islam. It is written: 'If anyone does not love the Lord – a curse be on him' (1 Corinthians 16:22). That curse ultimately leads them into the same eternal fire that is prepared for the devil and his angels (Matthew 25:41).

## **HOW TO BREAK DEMONIC BONDAGES**

Evil spirits can operate from outside the body or from within the body. If they are outside, we must resist them (James 4:7). If they are within the body, we must expel them and drive them out (Mark 1:39). The agent of deliverance is the Holy Spirit. Satan often attacks the believer, particularly after they come to Jesus Christ and fail to open every area of their being to God. There are still footholds of the devil that haven't been blocked. Many people have demonic problems and are in need of deliverance. To break the chains of the devil, I suggest you do the following things:

1) Humble yourself before God, turning from all pride and rebellion. Satan fell from Heaven due to his sin of pride (Ezekiel 28:17). God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble (1 Peter 5:5).

2) Be completely honest and confess all your sins, especially if you have fallen into sexual sin or deliberate abortion (1 John 1:9). People should get on their knees before

God, confess their sins and come into true repentance. Without this there will be no lasting deliverance. Some people who ask for help do not want to really give up the sin they are involved in. Therefore they keep a door open for the devil. They must understand the need for a change of mind and heart.

3) Forgive those who have sinned against you and forgive anyone who has betrayed your trust. Total forgiveness of other people is a necessity (Mark 11:25-26).

4) Honour and respect your parents, so that things will go well for you (Ephesians 6:1-3).

5) Renounce the sins of your ancestors. When you let go of any sin that your parents or ancestors may have committed there is a complete cutting off from the curses of the past.

6) Renounce all forms of witchcraft and involvement with the occult (Acts 19:14-19). Until those who have been involved with witchcraft renounce it, there will be an occultic influence over them. Any occultic material in your possession should be destroyed.

7) Renounce all forms of idolatry and cleanse your house from any idols. Know that God hates idols, for they are detestable to Him (Ezekiel 7:20; Jeremiah 44:3-5).

8) Call on the name of the Lord and place your complete faith in Jesus, having renounced the spirit of unbelief (Acts 2:21; Ephesians 6:16).

9) Claim deliverance through the cross of Jesus and His precious blood. It is through the blood of Jesus that we overcome Satan and are redeemed out of the hand of the devil (Revelation 12:11).

10) Totally yield to Jesus every area of your life, making Him your Lord. Acknowledge the Sovereign Lordship and divinity of Christ. Confess with your mouth a number of times, "Jesus is Lord!"

11) The person must exercise their will and resist the devil (James 4:7). Sometimes fasting is required. Fasting opens our spirit to the power of the Holy Spirit and throws the devil down.

12) Praise God repeatedly. Demonic powers hate it when we praise the Lord because God is coming into that person's situation.

## **KNOW YOUR AUTHORITY IN CHRIST**

To stand against spiritual powers and defeat them we need to know our authority in Christ and operate in that authority. As we do what God has called us to do, standing upon the truth of His word in conjunction with the Holy Spirit, the power of God is released. Jesus had authority over demons and He has given us that same authority. 'Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations..." (Matthew 28:18-19). We must accept that Jesus has all authority and He has sent us to go and use that authority to deal with demonic powers. Exercise the authority of Christ by commanding the demon to go.

As people saw Christ ministering they were amazed and said to each other, "What is this teaching? With authority and power He gives orders to evil spirits and they come out!" (Luke 4:36). Jesus said to His disciples, "I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you" (Luke 10:19). When we understand that Jesus has given us authority to drive out demons and that we are under His authority, then we will see real manifestations of deliverance (Luke 9:1). While praying for a person, look to Jesus and think of the authority He has given you from God. The key to exercising the deliverance ministry is to know your authority in Christ.

The Bible is an incredibly deep book with tremendous and wonderful insight. As you stand in faith upon the Bible as the true and inspired word of God, you will find an increased authority given to you by the Holy Spirit. Use the authority of God's word to command the spirit to be cast out. Believe the word of God in your heart and not just your mind. Jesus' message and teaching had authority and that is why the demon possessed would often cry in terror (Luke 4:32-33). To

come into that authority you must simply believe God's word and then you can have an effective ministry against demonic power. We must be thoroughly grounded in our spirit with that authority by believing God's word.

## **HOW TO PRAY WITH PEOPLE FOR DELIVERANCE**

In a church or evangelistic meeting, ask those who feel they have had curses placed upon them to stand and come forward for prayer. The person or persons to pray for them should then stand at their side. Those who have come forward should then be lead in a prayer such as the following:

### **Prayer For The Breaking Of Curses**

**“I renounce all curses that have been placed upon my life through the words of those who have abused, damaged or spoken against me. I forgive them and ask You, Lord, to release me from the consequences. I renounce all curses that have been placed upon my life through witchcraft. I release myself and those under me from any curse by the power and authority of the name of Jesus Christ.**

**I believe that You have redeemed me from the curses of the law through dying for me upon the cross and that by faith in You I will inherit the promises of blessing given to Abraham. I claim my freedom and blessing in You and declare myself released from every curse. The devil's power is broken in Jesus' mighty name.”**

Now ask everyone who feels they need any type of deliverance, because they have something driving, compelling and tormenting them, to come forward. Have a person experienced in deliverance prayer stand beside each person who has come forward.

## Deliverance Prayer

**“Dear Heavenly Father, I come to You in the name of Jesus Christ to confess all my sins. I specifically renounce the following sins..... (name your sins). I confess I have been wrong and I now turn from all that is evil. I ask You, Father, to forgive me, to give me discernment when temptation arises and the strength to resist it. I confess that in my own strength I have been unable to defeat the attacks of the enemy, but by the grace of God I will overcome the works of the devil.**

**I also renounce any other sins such as rejection and unforgiveness. I especially forgive the following persons..... (name any person you need to forgive). I honour my parents and forgive them, and I renounce the sins of my ancestors. I especially renounce all idolatry, witchcraft, everything of the occult and all the hidden things of darkness.**

**Thank You Father for Your love for me. I believe that Jesus Christ died on the cross and rose from the dead. I believe that through His precious blood I have been redeemed out of the hand of the devil, all my sins have been forgiven and I have been made holy unto God. I confess that Jesus is my Lord and my Saviour.**

**I call upon You, Lord Jesus, to set me free from every demonic power that has affected me. I renounce Satan and all his works. I loose myself from every demonic spirit, from every evil influence and satanic bondage, and from any spirit in me or upon me that is not of God. I command every demonic power that has lived within me or oppressed me to leave me now in the name of Jesus Christ. Go from me now in the name of Jesus.**

**I declare that I am a child of the Living God and that Satan has no right to inhabit any part of me or to oppress me. By faith in Jesus I put on the armour of God and I am made strong by the Lord and His mighty power. Thank You, heavenly Father, for your work in my life. I give You all the glory and praise in Jesus’ wonderful name. Amen.”**

Those praying with the people coming forward should command the demons to go. Remember your authority in Jesus Christ (Matthew 28:18) and that Jesus has already made a public spectacle over the demonic powers and they are defeated (Colossians 2:15). A simple command to 'Go' will always be effective when you are aware that you are acting under God's authority through Jesus Christ.

## **OTHER METHODS OF PRAYER**

As you are praying keep your mind fixed on Jesus and listen to what the Holy Spirit is saying as to how you should pray. You can use your prayer language and pray in tongues. You may need to anoint them with oil or use the laying on of hands. Oil is a symbol of the anointing of the Holy Spirit (Exodus 29:7; 1 Samuel 16:13). Use an anointed prayer cloth according to Acts 19:11-12. There is enormous power on prayer cloths that are anointed with the Holy Spirit. In taking a prayer cloth the person must continue to exercise faith and believe that God's power is flowing upon them. Get the person to repeatedly praise God and this will release a tremendous anointing. Sometimes fasting is required, particularly when the person has deep rooted bondages. Those involved in the deliverance ministry should have regular times of fasting to know an increased anointing of God.

In breaking addictions, the Lord may lead you to place your forefingers above their nose and ask them to breathe in and out. It is good to breathe in the Holy Spirit and breathe out sharply the spirit of affliction or whatever spirit is afflicting them. If they will breathe out sharply, say four or five times, they will find that something has been expelled from their body and the Holy Spirit has refilled them. Frequently people will feel much lighter after deliverance has taken place. They will know that something has left them and the peace of God has refilled them.

By faith in Jesus we can bind the influence of demons and set the person free by cutting any spiritual chains of darkness (Matthew 18:18). I recommend cutting these spiritual cords by

passing your hands over the head of the person you are praying for. You can pass your hand over the person's forehead or base of the spine or in front of their naval and thus cut off the spirits holding onto them. The Holy Spirit may show you parts of the body to which demons are attached. We are cutting by faith any unseen cords which exist between that person and the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

Many people have difficulties in their lives they are not able to overcome and behind this there are satanic forces that haven't been broken. We cannot blame Satan for our own actions. We must repent, but we must also never underestimate the spiritual attack of the enemy. We are definitely wrestling against spiritual forces of evil everyday of our lives (Ephesians 6:10-20). This is why the ministry of deliverance belongs to the body of Christ. Many have had a prolonged life of sin before coming to the Lord and they are drawn back or hindered in their spiritual progress by demonic influence. They will find rapid improvement from deliverance prayer.

People afflicted by evil spirits are continually unsettled and have no peace. We frequently find in a deliverance session that the person's body trembles violently as the demon realizes it must go. Demons tremble when they think of God (James 2:19). At times you should get the person to look at you and tell the demon to go. If the demon is shouting or screaming through the person, command the demon to be quiet; also speak to the person concerned and tell them to exercise their will. If this is during a public meeting, it is good to proclaim protection through the blood of Jesus and command the demon to go from the building and touch no person. This gives confidence to those who are witnessing the event.

Many times demons will name themselves, giving such names as anger, hate, envy, jealousy and fear, etc. The person will feel free from some kind of oppression as they go. The peace of God will then come into the person's heart and they will rejoice for their breakthrough. Pray that the Holy Spirit will fill every area of the person's life and minister through

prayer, Bible study or Christian fellowship God's love and acceptance to the person. They should receive ongoing discipleship and be trained more fully to become a strong Christian. They can then use their testimony to set people free and be used by God to minister to others.

## SUMMARY

1) The main purpose of the deliverance ministry is the salvation of souls. Our concern is to make sure people's names are written in the Book of Life. You should know how to present the gospel and lead a person in a salvation prayer. We must get people saved!

2) Sin gives entry to demonic attack and oppression. Unless there is full repentance there will not be complete or lasting deliverance. The salvation message needs to be thorough in explaining what sin is and why these acts are an abomination to the holiness of God. The Holy Spirit will convict people of their sins and lead them to renounce the works of darkness.

3) This aspect of ministry should not be ignored. Many people have demonic problems and are in need of deliverance. Believers should be trained to operate in a wide range of ministry so they are fully equipped for different situations. You never know when a demon may suddenly manifest and you have to instantly rebuke it and drive it out.

4) We have a position of tremendous authority and power through faith in Christ. It is by this authority we are to command demons to go. The evil spirits tremble when a person stands in the authority of Christ. The devil is defeated and Jesus is Lord! Praise God for our victory in Christ!

5) All curses should be broken and renounced through the precious blood of Jesus Christ. Speak the powerful word of God into people's lives and believe for God's power to be present whenever you gather in Jesus' name.

*"But if I drive out demons by the finger of God, then the kingdom of God has come to you" (Luke 11:20).*



## 5) THE MINISTRY OF HEALING

*‘When Jesus came into Peter’s house, he saw Peter’s mother-in-law lying in bed with a fever. He touched her hand and the fever left her, and she got up and began to wait on him.*

*When evening came, many who were demon-possessed were brought to him, and he drove out the spirits with a word and healed all the sick. This was to fulfil what was spoken through the prophet Isaiah:*

*“He took up our infirmities and carried our diseases” (Matthew 8:14-17).*

The power of God for healing comes through the fact that Jesus Christ has not only carried our sins to the cross, but also our sicknesses and diseases. In seeing the wonderful demonstrations of healing and deliverance through the ministry of Christ, the gospel writer of the book of Matthew is enlightened by the Holy Spirit as to how this fulfils what was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah. Isaiah chapter 53 is well known as a prophetic description of the crucifixion of Christ. It is written:

*‘He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering. Like one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not. Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed’ (Isaiah 53:3-5).*

The apostle Matthew applied this to mean that Jesus was carrying our diseases when the prophet Isaiah spoke of Jesus carrying our sorrows or grief. Matthew speaks of Jesus carrying away and making atonement for our literal diseases. Jesus was afflicted, pierced and crushed for our sins and it is by His wounds we are healed. By His death upon the cross, Jesus has healed us both physically and spiritually. To receive

what Christ has done for us, this must be appropriated by faith. We know that Jesus bore our sin upon the cross, but we must also believe that Jesus took upon Himself our infirmities or sicknesses.

The Bible makes it clear that blood must be shed in order for us to receive forgiveness of sins. In the Old Testament this was prefigured by the sacrifice of goats and lambs, but this pointed to the day when God would send His one and only Son, born of a virgin, to bear the sins of the world and shed His holy, righteous blood for each of us. This has been done so that whoever comes to Him and repents from sin and receives Jesus as their Lord and Saviour comes under the protection of His blood and their sins are forgiven. Jesus took our punishment upon the cross so that we could have peace, being reconciled to God. We should have the peace of God in our hearts no matter what circumstances we are going through.

In the same way we receive the forgiveness of our sins, we are to receive healing. Both come through the precious blood of Jesus which He shed upon the cross. The apostle Peter applies the words of Isaiah in this way: 'He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed' (1 Peter 2:24). Peter speaks of what Christ has done in the past tense and that you have been healed. This means that all healings are due in a fundamental way to the cross of Christ. All of God's blessings come through the atoning sacrifice of the Lord Jesus.

Jesus explained it like this: "Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the desert, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life" (John 3:14-15). Jesus was referring to a time in the history of Israel when the LORD sent venomous snakes among them; they bit the people and many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, "We sinned when we spoke against the LORD and against you. Pray that the LORD will take the snakes away from us." So Moses prayed for the people. The LORD said to Moses, "Make a snake and put it up on a pole; anyone who is

bitten can look at it and live.” So Moses made a bronze snake and put it up on a pole. Then when anyone was bitten by a snake and looked at it they lived (Numbers 21:6-9).

Moses lifted up a bronze snake upon a pole and whoever looked at it was healed. The venomous snake poison then had no effect upon them. Jesus applied this to how He would be lifted up on the cross for our salvation. Salvation includes physical healing and the gift of eternal life for those who believe. The right foundation for any healing ministry is faith in the atoning work upon the cross of Calvary and the fact that Jesus Christ has carried not only our sins, but also our infirmities and diseases. There has been a tremendous price paid for healing. Understanding the price that Jesus has paid should be the foundation of our faith as we pray for someone to be healed.

The good news of salvation is that Jesus did not remain upon the cross, but that He was buried and on the third day He rose from the dead. The atonement is then followed with resurrection power. We must look to Jesus, acknowledging the power of His blood and that death and the grave could not hold Him down. Jesus Christ is alive! He is the Saviour and He is the Healer. Salvation – forgiveness of sins and healing, are His work and that is why we must look to Him in faith for His power to be demonstrated among us today. The resurrection power of Jesus Christ will bring healing to our bodies.

## **HEALING AND DELIVERANCE**

Another point that the apostle Matthew brings out when He speaks of Jesus carrying our sickness and diseases is how this applies to both the healing and the deliverance ministries. Many who were demon-possessed were brought to Jesus, and He drove out the spirits with a word and healed all the sick to fulfil what was spoken through the prophet Isaiah (Matthew 8:16-17). The Lord Jesus never commissioned His disciples to pray for the sick without also commissioning them to cast out demons (Matthew 10:1; Mark 3:14-15; 6:7-13; 16:15-18). Physical infirmities, such as tumours, heart attacks, cancer,

arthritis, allergies, cramps, asthma, etc, can be caused by demonic influence. In such cases we may need to continually rebuke and stand against these satanic forces (Ephesians 6:12).

While Jesus was teaching in the synagogue there was a woman there who had been crippled by a spirit for eighteen years (Luke 13:10-17). A demonic spirit under the command of Satan had bound her physically. The Bible speaks of how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how He went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil (Acts 10:38). There are many more demonically caused symptoms than most people realize. Sometimes people are not cured because the indwelling demons are not cast out. As we speak to the sickness with full belief in our heart and tell it to go, the power of the Holy Spirit comes into action. Driving out demons and healing people were always closely connected in the ministry of Christ (Luke 13:32).

### **Prayer For Rebuking Sickness**

**“In the name of Jesus Christ I rebuke every spirit of infirmity and command it to come out. Sickness come out and go from this person. I rebuke every pain and any demonic power behind it. Tormenting spirit go in Jesus’ name. I command the devil to take his unclean hands off this person. Be healed in the name of Jesus Christ.”**

### **CONFESSION OF SIN**

Healing and deliverance cannot be effective without a radical breaking with sin and the surrendering of one’s heart to the Lordship of Christ. Jesus had to sternly warn a disabled man whom He had healed to, “Stop sinning or something worse may happen to you” (John 5:14). We must acknowledge God’s sovereignty and that He can heal anyone at any time. Yet it is important that we realize our need for true repentance if we are going to walk in the fullness of God’s mercy and blessing. People need to examine their lives to ensure that

there are no areas of blockage that can hinder them from having faith for healing.

God does not listen to people's prayers when they refuse to repent of their sin. As it is written: 'Surely the arm of the LORD is not too short to save, nor his ear too dull to hear. But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear' (Isaiah 59:1-2). God will not answer the prayers of those who turn away from His word (Proverbs 28:9). Sin is a blockage to the answering of your prayers by God. For your prayers to be effective you have to stop sinning. Effective prayer comes through obeying and acting upon God's holy word. God is faithful and He is ready to answer our prayers as we faithfully walk with Him.

In the book of James we are told that if anyone is in trouble they should pray and if anyone is sick they should call for the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well, for the Lord will raise him up. If he has sinned he will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed (James 5:13-16). This shows that sin must be dealt with and in many cases there can be a definite link between sickness and unconfessed sin. Anointed servants of God can offer the prayer of faith so that healing and deliverance in the power of the Holy Spirit takes place. We should seek God earnestly in prayer for healing, having confessed all of our sins.

As previously stated, the acts of the sinful nature are as follows: sexual immorality (fornication, adultery, homosexuality, sodomy), idolatry (having other gods or idolizing people or things) thieving, greed, extortion, lying, reviling, cursing, using bad language, uncleanness, pornography, jealousies, envy, bitterness, hatred, outbursts of anger, murder, deliberate abortion, drunkenness, abuse of drugs, witchcraft, fortune telling, charms, horoscopes, séances, hypnosis, worship of creation, the Hindu philosophy behind yoga, martial arts (which seek the help of demonic spirits and are rooted in Taoism and Buddhism), druids lodge, Freemasonry, heresies such as Jehovah's Witnesses who

deny the Sovereign Lordship of Christ and Mormons whose teachings have gone astray from the Bible. Denying Jesus Christ causes people to be lost forever unless they repent (John 8:24).

It is sad to see in today's world that the sin of sexual immorality has become extremely common, even among many who profess to be Christians. The Bible strongly warns us against this deception. The holiness of marriage must always be proclaimed (Hebrews 13:4). Believers who persist in sexual sins are inviting sickness into their lives (Proverbs 6:32). Jesus warned the church in Thyatira of a woman called Jezebel who was misleading them into sexual immorality and the eating of food sacrificed to idols. Jesus said, "I have given her time to repent of her immorality, but she is unwilling. So I will cast her on a bed of suffering, and I will make those who commit adultery with her suffer intensely, unless they repent of her ways" (Revelation 2:21-22). Our bodies are meant to be the temples of the Holy Spirit and God will destroy those who defile His temple due to the sin of sexual immorality.

Often there can be sins in people's lives which they have confessed many times before, but because the grip of this sin is still unbroken they keep falling and going back into it. This is where true repentance and total surrender to Christ is needed and not merely worldly sorrow (2 Corinthians 7:10-11). Fasting can help a person come to a place of deep humility in repentance and break the strongholds they thought could not be broken. Repentance is the key to the door of salvation, baptism in the Spirit, deliverance and healing. True repentance turns us from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to the power of God. We should consider the prayer of King David and pray it deeply from our hearts:

### **Prayer For Repentance And Humility Before God**

**“Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your unfailing love; according to Your great compassion blot out my transgressions. Wash away all my iniquity and**

**cleanse me from my sin. For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me...**

**Hide Your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquity. Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me from Your presence or take Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me. Then I will teach transgressors Your ways, and sinners will turn back to You...**

**The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise' (Psalm 51:1-3,9-13,17).**

**I come before You, Lord my God, in humility and brokenness to have true repentance and a right relationship with You. I don't want to be a false Christian who continues to go back to his old sin, but a true Christian who walks intimately with You. Have mercy upon me and accept me as Your child."**

## **THE TREMENDOUS IMPORTANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

We cannot receive the full benefits of forgiveness of sins and healing from sickness given to us at the cross while we are failing to forgive others. Unforgiveness is one of the greatest barriers to healing. As the perfect Lamb of God, Jesus sacrificed His life and died a dreadful death so that we could be forgiven by God. In order to appropriate that forgiveness we must forgive other people no matter what they have done to us. When we come to God in prayer, we must forgive anything we have against anyone, otherwise we cannot expect God to forgive, save and heal us (Matthew 6:14-15; Mark 11:25-26). If we do not forgive others we will bring judgment upon ourselves (Matthew 18:34-35).

Demonic powers which are behind sin will continue to have a foothold in our lives if we hold onto unforgiveness. This can bring depression, rejection, anger, fear or self-hatred and cause many other problems to remain in a person's life. 'Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander,

along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you' (Ephesians 4:31-32). We must absolutely forgive so that we can have total healing. We can do this by praying a blessing on those who have damaged or mistreated us (Matthew 5:43-44). When we forgive the person who has hurt or spoken against us then we no longer carry that person's sins on our shoulders. We are then able to receive God's love and acceptance into our hearts. Forgiveness allows God's love and healing power to flow through us.

### **Forgiveness Prayer**

**“Dear Heavenly Father, I completely forgive everyone who has hurt or spoken against me. I particularly forgive..... (name the person or persons). I forgive them in the same way and measure that You have forgiven me. I ask You to bless them, forgive them and let Your love be with them in a special way. I renounce any depression, rejection, anger, fear and self-hatred. I now receive Your healing love and acceptance into my heart. Thank You for setting me free in Jesus' name. Amen.”**

Always be open to seeking reconciliation as needed. If appropriate write a letter to the person explaining that you forgive them and accept them and request their forgiveness in turn.

### **LET GOD'S HEALING POWER FLOW THROUGH YOU**

After we accept God's healing love and power, we must then come to the place where we believe for it to flow through us to heal others. For nothing is impossible with God (Luke 1:37). He has called us to manifest the fullness of Christ. The healing ministry of Jesus is displayed in and through His Church. Therefore we need to train and equip believers to operate in the healing ministry. What we are believing for is the anointing of the Holy Spirit and the power of the Lord



being present to heal (Luke 5:17). The name of Christ is glorified by extraordinary miracles. Please pray the following prayer with faith and expect God to grant you an anointing to minister in His healing power:

### **Prayer Of Faith For A Release Of God's Power**

**“Dear Heavenly Father, I ask You to fill me afresh with the Holy Spirit and grant me a greater anointing of Your presence. I believe in the healing power of the Lord Jesus Christ. I ask for a special healing anointing, for the gifts of healing and miraculous powers. Let Your power flow through me and touch those I pray for in a mighty way. I believe for an impartation of Your Spirit right now, that Your healing power is upon me and that many I pray for will be healed. Thank You for encouraging my faith to minister to others. Amen.”**

### **HOW TO PRAY FOR OTHER PEOPLE**

God is with us all the time and He is watching us even now. God will touch people's lives in a powerful way if we learn how to minister with the Holy Spirit. You shouldn't think that you can't pray for the sick. You have already received an anointing because it is a gift from God. You can pray believing that the power of Jesus is flowing through you. There is power in Jesus' name, power in the blood of Jesus and we are to pray for people with faith in His name. The power of God becomes available to us through faith in God and submission to Him. Jesus has given us power and authority to pray for people.

Prayer is essential to healing and without it nothing much happens. Prayer is the source by which we take in and give out the power of Jesus Christ. Prayer is what opens the way and brings the answer. The prayer offered in faith will heal the sick, for the prayers of a righteous person are powerful and effective. God hears our prayers, so believe that you have received the answer that you need. Tremendous power is

available to us by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and we release this to others as we pray for them.

I want to give you some practical advice how to pray for people so that you can feel more relaxed and confident to let the Holy Spirit minister through you. There are always plenty of people who need prayer for healing. God often pours out a greater anointing when there is a hunger and expectation for Him to move. We need a hunger for God and an expectation that He will release His power. God is with you and His anointing and power is with you at all times. Here are some keys for praying with other people for their particular healing needs:

1) Have all your faith centred upon the Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus is the Healer, not you. We are just vessels through whom Jesus will move. Looking to Jesus in your heart will build up your faith for God's power to come upon the person you are praying for.

2) Briefly inquire of their need. They may share a particular problem or sickness, but don't spend too much time talking about it. Rather focus on coming before the Lord with an expectancy that He will work in their situation.

3) The secret to moving in the power of God is that you don't struggle, fight or think how is this person going to get healed; rather you believe the word of God and let His power flow through you. Pause for a moment and look to the Lord. Don't be afraid of silence. Relax, be patient and give time for God to move.

4) Expect an anointing of the Holy Spirit to come upon the person and the power of God to touch them mightily. You may like to ask the person to close their eyes and focus upon Jesus or to raise their hands slightly in expectation before God. Believe for God's presence to come in a stronger way and for them to have a greater awareness of His presence. You can say a simple prayer such as this:

## **Prayer For The Healing Anointing**

**“Heavenly Father, let Your healing anointing come upon this person in a tremendous way. Let the power of the Holy Spirit come upon them right now. Touch them and bless them.”**

5) Seek to be led by the Holy Spirit. If we plunge in without waiting and listening to Him we will miss His direction. You have got to get a thought or impression every time you are praying with someone; what to do next, where you are going to lay hands and how to pray. God may say put your hand on their right ear and then wait for the anointing. It is by thought or impression all the time and He will give it to you as you look to Him.

6) Believe that God's power is flowing out of you. Power flowed out of Jesus, so we should believe that the power of the Holy Spirit is flowing out of us as we stand praying for the person. Believe that the Lord is working through you and He will confirm His word (Mark 16:19-20). The Holy Spirit is here all the time and we are vessels of His power.

7) Jesus has called us to lay hands on the sick and they will get well (Mark 16:18). There is nothing special about our hands but by faith in Jesus we believe that His power moves through us. Be careful where you lay your hands and keep in mind male/female sensitivity. It can be better for a woman to lay hands on a woman even if a man is praying. The best place is either the shoulder or forehead, etc.

8) If the person is afflicted or oppressed by an evil spirit, God will lead you to rebuke that spirit in Jesus' name. Exercise the authority of Christ and speak healing to the person. Get them to take a deep breath and breathe out hard. Rebuke the devil in Jesus' name and break every curse by the authority of Christ. Because much sickness has a demonic influence, as the demons flee the person is healed.

9) When I pray for people my focus is not on seeing them fall down. Some people overly keen for this virtually push people over. If God touches them and they fall that is good,

but it's a distraction if people are being pushed over. God can knock people to the ground, yet sometimes people can fall under a heaviness from an evil spirit that is against what God is doing. Always be open for discernment and look to the Lord for wisdom.

10) When you are praying about something which is hard you have got to always remember God's miraculous power and the fact that He has created everything. Your natural mind will say 'this is a hard one,' but the spiritual mind will say 'with God nothing is impossible.' God knows every cell and every particle of our body and He can do anything. You've got to put aside your natural mind and believe. Trust God and let Him do it.

11) Jesus said that everything is possible for him who believes (Mark 9:23). It's not how we feel. It is what the word of God says. We must believe that without question or doubt. Base your ministry on absolute belief in the word of God. It is not about struggling for healing but believing for healing. We have to believe before we see things happen so that the power of God can move mightily in our lives. Prayer is not about begging but believing. The same power that was in Jesus Christ is in us, so let's believe for marvellous things to take place.

12) Let the Lord implant His love into the person's heart by the Holy Spirit. Many Christians even though they have frequently heard about God's love, still need a greater impartation and revelation of this love for them. As you are standing with the person, believe for the Holy Spirit to minister to them and that God's love is being poured into their heart according to His word (Romans 5:5). God delights in those who put their hope in His unfailing love (Psalm 147:11). Right now you can know the love, favour and healing power of God.

That is how I have learnt to pray for people believing that God will touch them. Every Christian can easily pray for people like this. As a Christian remember that greater is the one who is in you than the one who is the world and we can do everything through Christ who gives us strength (1 John 4:4;

Philippines 4:13). Know the greatness of Jesus and His strength to minister through your life. You can lead the person in the following prayer for healing:

### **Prayer For Healing**

**“Dear Heavenly Father, I come before You in the mighty name of Jesus Christ. I proclaim the power of the blood of Jesus for the forgiveness of my sins and for the physical healing of my body. I ask for a greater anointing of Your Holy Spirit to come upon me now and I come by faith into Your presence.**

**I humble myself before You. I renounce any known sins on my part and the sins of my ancestors. I renounce any involvement with the occult and any form of sexual sin. I honour my parents and I forgive others. As I repent from all sin, especially of any unforgiveness, I ask for Your healing touch upon my body, soul and spirit.**

**I believe the word of God and I renounce all unbelief. I rebuke every spirit of sickness and I command it to go. Drive out every sickness from my body. I rebuke every pain and I believe that the healing power of God is bringing correction to my body now.**

**I believe that by the wounds of Jesus Christ I am healed and that Your power is moving through my whole body. I thank You for touching me now by Your Spirit. Thank You, Father, for your healing power in Jesus’ name. Amen.”**

Whenever a preacher stands before an audience to proclaim the word of God we should believe that the power of God will fall strongly upon the audience and there will be a great response to the message. The presence of God is with us whenever we proclaim the good news of salvation through faith in Jesus Christ. We should believe that Jesus will confirm His word with signs and wonders, healings and deliverances and all the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Healing is a demonstration of God’s love and concern and can be used to awaken lost

people to consider the salvation of their precious souls. Large crowds came to see Jesus because of His miracles. The lost multitudes of our generation need to experience the power of God today.

## SUMMARY

1) Jesus shed His precious blood to provide both physical and spiritual healing. Healing power comes through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

2) Sickness is a work of Satan and often there is need of deliverance for a person to be healed.

3) Confession of sin and forgiveness towards anyone who may have hurt you is often necessary for healing.

4) God's power flows through us as we pray for one another. There are times when we should seek God earnestly for healing and expect the answer to our prayers. When I pray, something will happen.

5) The healing ministry is an important aspect of evangelism to awaken people to the good news of the gospel. By our faith in God we can encourage people to expect a healing touch.

*'Praise the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits – who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion, who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's' (Psalm 103:2-5).*

# CONCLUSION

Demonstrating the power of God is an important part of evangelism. When the proconsul called for Paul and Barnabas to share with him the word of the Lord, there was a sorcerer who tried to turn him from the faith. God struck that sorcerer blind through the ministry of Paul. When the proconsul saw what had happened, he believed, for he was amazed at the teaching about the Lord (Acts 13:12). Many people need to see something happen and then they will believe. If millions of lost people are to be saved they must have proof that Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever (Hebrews 13:8). Power is available to all who call upon the name of Jesus and we have to believe that He will confirm His word with signs and wonders. Every man has to press on to be a mighty man of God and every woman has to press on to be a mighty woman of God.

We are often praying and asking God to do it when He is telling us to do it. Have you led a person to salvation? Have you led a person into the baptism with the Holy Spirit? Have you prayed for a person to receive the spiritual gifts? Are you praying for people for deliverance and healing? We are called to be God's fellow workers (1 Corinthians 3:9). The Lord wants to do certain works and He shows that to our hearts. As we submit ourselves to God's will, He will perform the work through us. God will do wonders if He gets more willing people to work through. That is, those who trust and obey and have the vision and faith to press into it (John 14:12). Having prayed and earnestly sought the Lord, we must then step out in faith, believing that Jesus will manifest Himself through us.

My aim is to lead people into a deeper walk with the Lord. Every part of our being needs to be yielded to the lordship of Christ. That includes our thought life, physical life, sexual life and emotional life. The way to Heaven is a narrow path and although many are called, few are chosen because they go their own way and do not allow Jesus to be the Lord of their lives. There are many who have had their sins forgiven but

they have never come into the fullness of what God has for them. We must encourage people to commit their lives fully to Christ, to receive the baptism with the Holy Spirit and to learn how to move in the spiritual gifts. Every believer should expect the power of God to operate through them. To reach this lost world we need to move in the power and anointing of the Holy Spirit, and continue to grow in our walk with the Lord. We should never stop learning.

Jesus Christ was anointed with the Holy Spirit and power. He was healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God the Father was with Him (Acts 10:38). Jesus prayed to His Father saying: "As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world" (John 17:18). Our job is to continue to do what Jesus did, having been sent by Him in the same way He was sent from Heaven to minister with a powerful anointing. Tremendous power is available to us if we will submit completely to the guidance of God and to the leading of the Holy Spirit. We must step out in faith for miracles, knowing that we are sent by Jesus to bring His answer to situations. As the Lord stood beside Moses to perform wonders (Exodus 17:5-6), we must also look to the Lord to stand at our side and to give us strength so that His word will be fully proclaimed (2 Timothy 4:17). I hope this book has stirred you to become more hungry for the things of God.

## **EQUIPPED FOR THE WORK OF THE MINISTRY**

When God called me I began preaching almost immediately and then I spent a year at a Bible College. At the end of that year, some recognized men of God were invited to pray and prophesy God's blessing upon each student. I noticed a man who had the gift of receiving very accurate visions by the Holy Spirit, so I decided that I would get in his prayer line. This is what he said to me, "I can see you standing in front of a large group of people in a large building. The Bible is opened up in your hand and I can see you preaching the word of God with power and authority. I can see you pointing people out and the Spirit is moving. I can see a lot of bizarre things happening in



the Spirit.’ But he also said, “Maybe in ten years.” I was not encouraged by his prophecy. I was annoyed because I didn’t want to wait for ten years, but over time I have realized that we need to be disciplined and trained by the Lord if we are to become effective. We need to undergo the best training in order to have a powerful ministry.

I have heard a number of people say, and I’ve said it myself, “Where are God’s miracles?” Gideon said that and the LORD responded by sending him (Judges 6:13-14). I can’t snap my finger and make a miracle happen, but over time while praying for people and sharing the gospel I have seen God do great things and therefore have many testimonies of God’s miraculous power. We are to grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ, and He is to get all the glory (2 Peter 3:18). I am now expecting God to release a greater wave and outpouring of the Holy Spirit. God will release healing power in such a great way that it will amaze the world and He will take us into greater manifestations of the spiritual gifts. I am expecting a lot of bizarre things to happen as I point people out and pray for them with power and authority. I expect revival. I expect a mighty move of God whenever I preach!

To see miracles you have to step out, pray for them and believe for them even when nothing seems to happen. As you grow in faith you will have more confidence that God’s power will minister through you. We should be bold in our witness for the Lord and in this way we will see the captives set free. We all need to be encouraged and equipped for the work of the ministry. I am thankful for my time of training. I hope this book can do that for you and help you to become more effective in your service for the Master. Many valuable lessons have been shared so that you can grow in faith. Go over these lessons again and again. To minister in the anointing takes steps of faith, but step by step you will draw closer to God and see His mighty hand touching people’s lives. I pray that many people will be touched by the Lord as you walk in God’s power and love. The anointing and power of the Lord be with you forever!

## **FINAL SUMMARY**

1) Jesus is the Saviour and by faith in Him we have right-standing with God. We are to know the wonderful presence of God: His omnipresence, the dwelling of the Holy Spirit within our hearts, being led and guided by the Holy Spirit and His power operating through us.

2) Jesus is the Baptizer. We are to be baptized with the Holy Spirit and then continue to know further anointing. The anointing can then be imparted through us as we lay hands upon others and listen and follow God's voice attentively.

3) God manifests His presence among us by the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Every Christian should be encouraged to operate in the spiritual gifts. As we step out in faith we will minister to others in a wonderful way. The ministry of Christ is to continue through us.

4) Jesus is the Deliverer. Many people are in need of deliverance from demonic oppression. They should be led in repentance and then the demonic power should be commanded to go by the authority that Jesus has bestowed on us.

5) Jesus is the Healer and His healing power is released through us as we pray for one another. We must keep our eyes fixed on Jesus and expect Him to minister healing through us.

The Lord says to His people: "I am with you to speak through you and to minister to those in need. I have given you an impartation of My power. As you exercise this power you will find a greater release of My presence and a further strengthening in your inner being by My Spirit. I always ministered in love and compassion, and as you do the same you will find a greater awareness of My anointing. Go forward in My name and declare My wonders."

*"The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace" (Numbers 6:24-26).*

## APPENDIX - 1

# DOES GOD USE DOCTORS TO HEAL THE SICK?

In Jesus' parable of the Good Samaritan, there lay an injured man who was left half-dead after being beaten by thieves. A couple of religious men who were travelling that way both passed to the other side of the road when they saw him. Maybe they said a prayer for his healing as they continued their journey. When a Samaritan man saw him he was filled with pity. He bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his donkey, brought him to an inn and took care of him. The next day he paid the innkeeper and asked him to look after the man, with the promise that he would reimburse him for any extra expenses (Luke 10:30-35). When a person is in need of immediate medical care we should not hesitate to take them to the doctor or to the hospital. In emergencies we may need to call for the ambulance. Like the Good Samaritan we want to help people recover as quickly as possible.

God can anoint people with different skills of learning and expertise. During the time of Moses, God chose a man called Bezalel and filled him with the Holy Spirit so that he would have incredible skill, ability and knowledge to engage in all kinds of artistic craftsmanship. Along with Oholiab, God gave them the ability to teach others, so there would be many master craftsmen and designers (Exodus 35:30-35). If God can do that in the arts field He can also do it in the medical field. If someone you know, or even if it is yourself, is about to have an operation, you should pray that the surgeon is anointed by God and given greater insight and ability to do their work. Luke, who wrote the gospel known by his name and the book of Acts, was a trained doctor and the Scriptures refer to him as such (Colossians 4:14). Many doctors and nurses are Christians who shine with the love of Christ.

We must at all times look to God as the source of our hope. The Lord may send people of faith to pray for our healing and to release His power, or He may choose to allow us to be healed by modern medical means. God has given man the ability to make scientific discoveries, to produce ways of saving lives and He has put compassion in people's hearts to take care of those who are suffering severe or prolonged illness. We should not limit God. God has created our body with certain abilities to heal itself, but that has been restricted through the curse of sin and death. This healing ability is restored during the millennial rule of Christ and people in that time will live far longer lives (Isaiah 65:20). In the new earth, God will provide natural healing for the nations through the leaves of the tree of life (Revelation 22:2). In one sense a doctor cannot heal, but only uses means to bring about healing. God is the true and ultimate Healer.

### **OUR FAITH IS IN GOD**

After praying for the sick, I don't pretend that people are healed when they are not. Jesus spoke of how those who are unwell do need a doctor by saying, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick" (Luke 5:31). The apostle Paul had one of the greatest healing ministries after the Lord Jesus Christ. He saw people healed everywhere, yet not everyone was healed even through Paul. He writes towards the end of his ministry that 'Erastus stayed in Corinth, and I left Trophimus sick in Miletus' (2 Timothy 4:20). God in His wisdom did not allow Trophimus to be healed at that moment, even though he was a friend and helper of the apostle Paul (Acts 20:4; 21:29). There are times when we pray for people and they are not healed. The prophet Elisha in the Old Testament had a healing ministry, yet he himself died from an illness (2 Kings 13:14). All of us are going to die one day, but we shouldn't cut our lives short through things like obesity or a lifetime of bad habits. We should take care of our bodies by eating healthy foods and by regular exercise.

I have met some believers who are totally against using any medical means. Praise God for their complete trust in God's healing provision, yet their belief is not totally scriptural. The apostle Paul advised Timothy, 'Stop drinking only water, and use a little wine because of your stomach and your frequent illnesses' (1 Timothy 5:23). This shows us that there are times when we should advise people to take medication. It doesn't mean that because a person is going to see a doctor or is taking some medicine that they have a lack of faith in God. Their faith in Jesus could be very strong and they know beyond doubt that He is with them through any kind of trial, operation or unforeseen circumstance.

Now there are times when people harden their hearts towards God and refuse to look to Him for healing. King Asa was afflicted with a disease in his feet after having turned away from the LORD in his later years. Though his disease was severe, even in his illness he did not seek help from the LORD, but only from the physicians (2 Chronicles 16:12-14). There are times when God does allow backslidden believers to go through severe illness in the hope that they will repent. That does not mean they cannot necessarily go to the doctor, but in order to be saved they must first and foremost be restored in their relationship with the Lord. If we keep our faith in Jesus nothing can separate us from His love, but when a person turns from God and goes into deep sin, the pains of their body can awaken them to the reality of eternal judgment. Only God knows how many have returned to the Lord and have been saved through death-bed repentance.

## **COMFORTING THOSE WHO ARE ILL**

The case of Job is well worth our consideration. Job was a man who was lifted up from a terrible time of illness and he lived to be an old man full of years (Job 42:16), but this did not happen until after Job had gone through a prolonged season of extreme suffering and pain. Job was struck by the devil and it is the devil who seeks to steal, kill and destroy (John 10:10). Satan was given permission to strike Job's flesh and bones.

Job was afflicted with painful sores from the soles of his feet to the top of his head. Not a part of his body was spared. He took a piece of broken pottery and scraped himself with it as he sat in the ashes (Job 2:4-8). Job had three friends who came to visit him to supposedly sympathise and comfort him. When they saw him from a distance, they could hardly recognize him; they began to weep aloud, and they tore their robes and sprinkled dust on their heads. No one said a word to him, because they saw how great his suffering was (Job 2:11-13).

When the friends did finally begin to speak to Job after many days, instead of sympathising and comforting him they began to argue with him and tell Job how sinful he was. They had no gentleness and no ability to bring him any comfort. In the parable of the Sheep and the Goats Jesus speaks of those who were His good and faithful servants because they fed the hungry, gave drink to the thirsty, took care of the stranger, clothed the naked, looked after the sick and visited those in prison. Jesus said that whatever was done to the least of His brothers was done unto Him. Those who did nothing were condemned because they had abandoned those in these awful conditions and in essence had abandoned the Lord (Matthew 25:31-46). Looking after the sick is a godly virtue and maybe there will be a time when someone in your family has a lingering illness like Job and you are the one who has to care for them. Remember that whatever you do unto that person you are doing unto the Lord Jesus Christ.

To be able to really comfort those who are suffering, we ourselves need to have suffered. The apostle Paul wrote: 'Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God. For just as the sufferings of Christ flow over into our lives, so also through Christ our comfort overflows' (2 Corinthians 1:3-5). It seems that Job's friends could not help him because they themselves had never been through anything like he had and they could not understand his position. No matter what kind of trouble you are going through, you need to

look to God to comfort you so that the time will come when you can comfort others. Some believers who have the most effective healing ministries are those who themselves had an ailment from which they were healed. Their miraculous healing then enabled them to bring healing to others.

The remaining appendixes are about building up your faith by confession of God's healing promises, the promises of answered prayer and the promises of Christ's authority to pull down and destroy the works of the devil. They are for the purpose of pressing into God to see a greater manifestation of His healing power on the earth. First of all I wanted to balance this with the fact that there are wonderful Christians who have believed and prayed for their loved ones with all their hearts until the end, but God saw fit to heal them only by taking them to Heaven. They had to go through the grief of losing that loved one. The Bible says that as believers we are not to grieve like the rest of men who have no hope, because we know that Jesus Christ died, rose from the dead and has granted us the hope of eternal life (1 Thessalonians 4:13-14). Even so, the pain of losing a family member, relative or a precious friend after having believed so ardently for their healing can be difficult.

We need to keep seeking God for His healing power, but no matter how many healings or miracles take place in the last days, our main goal is to save souls and to make sure the sick person is ready to enter the kingdom of Heaven. The greatest need is to make sure people are born again by the Spirit of God, their hearts are right with the Lord and they have Christ in them, the hope of glory (Colossians 1:27). If you are taken to hospital or to a person's room to pray for someone who is seriously unwell, first of all think about the salvation of their soul. Often you can present the gospel through praying for their healing and speaking of the greatness of Christ. One of the most important fields of evangelism is to be among those who are suffering with illness. If you are in that position, God bless you and anoint you for such an important work.

*'I know, O LORD, that your laws are righteous, and in faithfulness you have afflicted me. May your unfailing love be my comfort, according to your promise to your servant. Let your compassion come to me that I may live, for your law is my delight' (Psalm 119:75-77).*



## APPENDIX - 2

# HEALING PROMISES

There is something very powerful about proclaiming aloud healing verses from the Bible. If we are going to see the healing power of God in our lives we must stand upon the word of God and listen to it with faith, believing that God will fulfil what He has said He will do. God wants us to take advantage of the promises that He has already given us in His word. Our confidence comes and grows from the Scriptures. There is power in the word of God and that is where we get faith. We must look to the word of God for healing and absolutely believe that God will heal us. We need faith to arise in our hearts so that we can believe to receive.

After prayer for healing the person may feel some improvement or no improvement whatsoever, but they must be careful not to trust their feelings. Our faith is in God's word, not our own feelings. Believe for your healing even if you don't feel healed. Sometimes a person's healing does not occur immediately. Often we need to persist in prayer until we get a complete breakthrough. Healing can be a process and we must trust God, believing that He has heard our prayers. As we pray there is a tremendous power operating in the spiritual realm and our prayers will be answered. To encourage your faith to continue believing for a healing anointing, I suggest you read the following Scriptures aloud everyday for at least the next week:

### **Exercise Faith For A Miracle By Proclaiming Healing Scriptures**

#### **THE OLD TESTAMENT**

*'Then Abraham prayed to God, and God healed Abimelech, his wife and his slave girls so they could have children again'*  
(Genesis 20:17).

*‘He said, “If you listen carefully to the voice of the LORD your God and do what is right in his eyes, if you pay attention to his commands and keep all his decrees, I will not bring on you any of the diseases I brought on the Egyptians, for I am the LORD, who heals you” (Exodus 15:26).*

*‘Worship the LORD your God, and his blessing will be on your food and water. I will take away sickness from among you, and none will miscarry or be barren in your land. I will give you a full life span’ (Exodus 23:25-26).*

*‘So Moses cried out to the LORD, “O God, please heal her!” (Numbers 12:13)*

*‘The LORD will keep you free from every disease. He will not inflict on you the horrible diseases you knew in Egypt, but he will inflict them on all who hate you’ (Deuteronomy 7:15).*

*‘And if you walk in my ways and obey my statutes and commands as David your father did, I will give you a long life’ (1 Kings 3:14).*

*‘And the LORD heard Hezekiah and healed the people’ (2 Chronicles 30:20).*

*“Or a man may be chastened on a bed of pain with constant distress in his bones, so that his very being finds food repulsive and his soul loathes the choicest meal. His flesh wastes away to nothing, and his bones, once hidden, now stick out. His soul draws near to the pit, and his life to the messengers of death.*

*Yet if there is an angel on his side as a mediator, one out of a thousand, to tell a man what is right for him, to be gracious to him and say, ‘Spare him from going down to the pit; I have found a ransom for him’ – then his flesh is renewed like a child’s; it is restored as in the days of his youth” (Job 33:19-25).*

*‘Be merciful to me, LORD, for I am faint; O LORD, heal me, for my bones are in agony’ (Psalm 6:2).*

*'O LORD my God, I called to you for help and you healed me' (Psalm 30:2).*

*'The LORD will sustain him on his sickbed and restore him from his bed of illness.*

*I said, "O LORD, have mercy on me; heal me, for I have sinned against you" (Psalm 41:3-4).*

*'Praise the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits – who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion, who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's' (Psalm 103:2-5).*

*'Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, and he saved them from their distress. He sent forth his word and healed them; he rescued them from the grave. Let them give thanks to the LORD for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for men' (Psalm 107:19-21).*

*'I will not die but live, and will proclaim what the LORD has done. The LORD has chastened me severely, but he has not given me over to death' (Psalm 118:17-18).*

*'He heals the broken-hearted and binds up their wounds' (Psalm 147:3).*

*'Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD and shun evil. This will bring health to your body and nourishment to your bones' (Proverbs 3:7-8).*

*'Then will the eyes of the blind be opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped. Then will the lame leap like a deer, and the mute tongue shout for joy. Water will gush forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert' (Isaiah 35:5-6).*

*'He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run*

*and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint' (Isaiah 40:29-31).*

*'Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed' (Isaiah 53:4-5).*

*'Then your light will break forth like the dawn, and your healing will quickly appear; then your righteousness will go before you, and the glory of the LORD will be your rear guard. Then you will call, and the LORD will answer; you will cry for help, and he will say: Here am I...'* (Isaiah 58:8-9)

*'Heal me, O LORD, and I will be healed; save me and I will be saved, for you are the one I praise' (Jeremiah 17:14).*

*'But for you who revere my name, the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its wings. And you will go out and leap like calves released from the stall' (Malachi 4:2).*

## **THE NEW TESTAMENT**

*'Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and sickness among the people. News about him spread all over Syria, and people brought to him all who were ill with various diseases, those suffering severe pain, the demon-possessed, those having seizures, and the paralyzed, and he healed them' (Matthew 4:23-24).*

*'A man with leprosy came and knelt before him and said, "Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean."*

*Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man. "I am willing," he said. "Be clean!" Immediately he was cured of his leprosy' (Matthew 8:2-3).*

*'When Jesus came into Peter's house, he saw Peter's mother-in-law lying in bed with a fever. He touched her hand and the fever left her, and she got up and began to wait on him.*

*When evening came, many who were demon-possessed were brought to him, and he drove out the spirits with a word and healed all the sick. This was to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet Isaiah:*

*"He took up our infirmities and carried our diseases" (Matthew 8:14-17).*

*'Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness' (Matthew 9:35).*

*'Aware of this, Jesus withdrew from that place. Many followed him, and he healed all their sick' (Matthew 12:15).*

*'And when the men of that place recognized Jesus, they sent word to all the surrounding country. People brought all their sick to him and begged him to let the sick just touch the edge of his cloak, and all who touched him were healed' (Matthew 14:35-36).*

*"Lord," they answered, "we want our sight."*

*Jesus had compassion on them and touched their eyes. Immediately they received their sight and followed him' (Matthew 20:33-34).*

*'They went out and preached that people should repent. They drove out many demons and anointed many sick people with oil and healed them' (Mark 6:12-13).*

*'And wherever he went – into villages, towns or countryside – they placed the sick in the marketplaces. They begged him to let them touch even the edge of his cloak, and all who touched him were healed' (Mark 6:56).*

*"What do you want me to do for you?" Jesus asked him. The blind man said, "Rabbi, I want to see."*

*“Go,” said Jesus, “your faith has healed you.” Immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus along the road’ (Mark 10:51-52).*

*‘One day as he was teaching, Pharisees and teachers of the law, who had come from every village of Galilee and from Judea and Jerusalem, were sitting there. And the power of the Lord was present for him to heal the sick’ (Luke 5:17).*

*‘He went down with them and stood on a level place. A large crowd of his disciples was there and a great number of people from all over Judea, from Jerusalem, and from the coast of Tyre and Sidon, who had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases. Those troubled by evil spirits were cured, and the people all tried to touch him, because power was coming from him and healing them all’ (Luke 6:17-19).*

*‘But Jesus said, “Someone touched me; I know that power has gone out from me.”*

*Then the woman, seeing that she could not go unnoticed, came trembling and fell at his feet. In the presence of all the people, she told why she had touched him and how she had been instantly healed. Then he said to her, “Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace” (Luke 8:46-48).*

*‘Hearing this, Jesus said to Jairus, “Don’t be afraid; just believe, and she will be healed” (Luke 8:50).*

*‘When Jesus saw her, he called her forward and said to her, “Woman, you are set free from your infirmity.” Then he put his hands on her, and immediately she straightened up and praised God’ (Luke 13:12-13).*

*‘Then Peter said, “Silver or gold I do not have, but what I have I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk.” Taking him by the right hand, he helped him up, and instantly the man’s feet and ankles became strong....*

*“By faith in the name of Jesus, this man whom you see and know was made strong. It is Jesus’ name and the faith that*

*comes through him that has given this complete healing to him, as you can all see” (Acts 3:6-7,16).*

*“Stretch out your hand to heal and perform miraculous signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus.”*

*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’ (Acts 4:30-31).*

*‘The apostles performed many miraculous signs and wonders among the people... As a result, people brought the sick into the streets and laid them on beds and mats so that at least Peter’s shadow might fall on some of them as he passed by. Crowds gathered also from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing their sick and those tormented by evil spirits, and all of them were healed’ (Acts 5:12,15-16).*

*‘There he found a man named Aeneas, a paralytic who had been bedridden for eight years. “Aeneas,” Peter said to him, “Jesus Christ heals you. Get up and take care of your mat.” Immediately Aeneas got up. All those who lived in Lydda and Sharon saw him and turned to the Lord’ (Acts 9:33-35).*

*‘Peter sent them all out of the room; then he got down on his knees and prayed. Turning toward the dead woman, he said, “Tabitha, get up.” She opened her eyes, and seeing Peter she sat up. He took her by the hand and helped her to her feet. Then he called the believers and the widows and presented her to them alive. This became known all over Joppa, and many people believed in the Lord’ (Acts 9:40-42).*

*‘In Lystra there sat a man crippled in his feet, who was lame from birth and had never walked. He listened to Paul as he was speaking. Paul looked directly at him, saw that he had faith to be healed and called out, “Stand up on your feet!” At that, the man jumped up and began to walk’ (Acts 14:8-10).*

*‘God did extraordinary miracles through Paul, so that even handkerchiefs and aprons that had touched him were taken to*

*the sick, and their illnesses were cured and the evil spirits left them' (Acts 19:11-12).*

*'His father was sick in bed, suffering from fever and dysentery. Paul went in to see him and, after prayer, placed his hands on him and healed him. When this had happened, the rest of the sick on the island came and were cured' (Acts 28:8-9).*

*'Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever' (Hebrews 13:8).*

*'Is any one of you in trouble? He should pray. Is anyone happy? Let him sing songs of praise. Is any one of you sick? He should call the elders of the church to pray over him and anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise him up. If he has sinned, he will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective' (James 5:13-16).*

*'He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed' (1 Peter 2:24).*

*'Dear friend, I pray that you may enjoy good health and that all may go well with you, even as your soul is getting along well' (3 John 2).*

*'On each side of the river stood the tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding its fruit every month. And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. No longer will there be any curse' (Revelation 22:2b-3a).*

## **LET THE WORD OF GOD BURN IN YOUR HEART**

Stand upon the promises of God's word each day. The anointing of God will fall upon you mightily as this is done with



full belief. The word of God must be combined with faith (Hebrews 4:2). Faith is the door which opens the way for God's grace and power. 'Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ' (Romans 10:17). The Holy Spirit will ignite God's word in your heart so that healing takes place. Believe the healing Scriptures are for you, so that the Bible will become more alive and burn within you as you are pursuing God for your miracle. You should apply the Scriptures to yourself whenever you need healing. As you go over the Scriptures they will transform you by the renewing of your mind (Romans 12:2). Through the word of God we receive the mind of Christ for miracles and healing.

**GOD HEALS PEOPLE TODAY!**



## APPENDIX - 3

# PROMISES OF ANSWERED PRAYER

As a Christian who has repented of your sins and given your life to the Lord Jesus Christ, you can have absolute confidence that God is hearing and answering your prayers. If you are having a problem praying, then examine your heart to see if you have really put God first in your life. It is beneficial to examine the way you pray in order to increase your faith and develop a deeper friendship with God. As you pray you must have your total trust in God and believe that He will respond to your prayers. Reading the following Scriptures aloud on a daily basis can strengthen your innermost being and encourage your faith to receive incredible answers to your prayers:

### THE OLD TESTAMENT

*'Isaac prayed to the LORD on behalf of his wife, because she was barren. The LORD answered his prayer, and his wife Rebekah became pregnant' (Genesis 25:21).*

*'I prayed for this child, and the LORD has granted me what I asked of him' (1 Samuel 1:27).*

*'David built an altar to the LORD there and sacrificed burnt offerings and fellowship offerings. Then the LORD answered prayer in behalf of the land, and the plague on Israel was stopped' (2 Samuel 24:25).*

*'The LORD said to him: "I have heard the prayer and plea you have made before me; I have consecrated this temple, which you have built, by putting my Name there forever. My eyes and my heart will always be there" (1 Kings 9:3).*

*'Jabez cried out to the God of Israel, "Oh, that you would bless me and enlarge my territory! Let your hand be with me, and keep me from harm so that I will be free from pain." And God granted his request' (1 Chronicles 4:10).*

*"When I shut up the heavens so that there is no rain, or command locusts to devour the land or send a plague among my people, if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land. Now my eyes will be open and my ears attentive to the prayers offered in this place" (2 Chronicles 7:13-15).*

*'The priests and the Levites stood to bless the people, and God heard them, for their prayer reached heaven, his holy dwelling place' (2 Chronicles 30:27).*

*'And when he prayed to him, the LORD was moved by his entreaty and listened to his plea; so he brought him back to Jerusalem and to his kingdom. Then Manasseh knew that the LORD is God' (2 Chronicles 33:13).*

*'I was ashamed to ask the king for soldiers and horsemen to protect us from enemies on the road, because we had told the king, "The gracious hand of our God is on everyone who looks to him, but his great anger is against all who forsake him." So we fasted and petitioned our God about this, and he answered our prayer' (Ezra 8:22-23).*

*'Know that the LORD has set apart the godly for himself; the LORD will hear when I call to him' (Psalm 4:3).*

*'May the LORD answer you when you are in distress; may the name of the God of Jacob protect you. May he send you help from the sanctuary and grant you support from Zion. May he remember all your sacrifices and accept your burnt offerings. Selah.*

*May he give you the desire of your heart and make all your plans succeed' (Psalm 20:1-4).*

*'If I had cherished sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened; but God has surely listened and heard my voice in prayer. Praise be to God, who has not rejected my prayer or withheld his love from me!' (Psalm 66:18-20)*

*'Moses and Aaron were among his priests, Samuel was among those who called on his name; they called on the LORD and he answered them' (Psalm 99:6).*

*'The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth' (Psalm 145:18).*

*"Go and tell Hezekiah, 'This is what the LORD, the God of your father David, says: I have heard your prayer and seen your tears; I will add fifteen years to your life'" (Isaiah 38:5).*

*'You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart' (Jeremiah 29:13).*

*"Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know" (Jeremiah 33:3).*

## **THE NEW TESTAMENT**

*'Then Jesus answered, "Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted." And her daughter was healed from that very hour' (Matthew 15:28).*

*"I tell you the truth, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.*

*Again, I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything you ask for, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them" (Matthew 18:18-20).*

*‘Jesus replied, “I tell you the truth, if you have faith and do not doubt, not only can you do what was done to the fig tree, but also you can say to this mountain, ‘Go, throw yourself into the sea,’ and it will be done. If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer” (Matthew 21:21-22).*

*‘Ignoring what they said, Jesus told the synagogue ruler, “Don’t be afraid; just believe” (Mark 5:36).*

*“If you can’?” said Jesus. “Everything is possible for him who believes.”*

*Immediately the boy’s father exclaimed, “I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief!” (Mark 9:23-24)*

*“Have faith in God,” Jesus answered. “I tell you the truth, if anyone says to this mountain, ‘Go, throw yourself into the sea,’ and does not doubt in his heart but believes that what he says will happen, it will be done for him. Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours” (Mark 11:22-24).*

*“Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be barren is in her sixth month. For nothing is impossible with God” (Luke 1:36-37).*

*“So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened.*

*Which of you fathers, if your son asks for a fish, will give him a snake instead? Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!” (Luke 11:9-14)*

*‘The apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith!”*

*He replied, "If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it will obey you" (Luke 17:5-6).*

*'Then Jesus said, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?"*

*So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me" (John 11:40-42).*

*'And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father. You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it' (John 14:13-14).*

*'If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you. This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples' (John 15:7-8).*

*'You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit – fruit that will last. Then the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name' (John 15:16).*

*'Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete' (John 16:24).*

*'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' (Acts 4:31).*

*'He and all his family were devout and God-fearing; he gave generously to those in need and prayed to God regularly. One day at about three in the afternoon he had a vision. He distinctly saw an angel of God, who came to him and said, "Cornelius!"*

*Cornelius stared at him in fear. "What is it, Lord?" he asked. The angel answered, "Your prayers and gifts to the poor have come up as a memorial offering before God" (Acts 10:2-4).*

*‘Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so became the father of many nations, just as it had been said to him, “So shall your offspring be.” Without weakening in his faith, he faced the fact that his body was as good as dead – since he was about a hundred years old – and that Sarah’s womb was also dead. Yet he did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God, being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised’ (Romans 4:18-21).*

*‘He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all – how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? (Romans 8:32)*

*‘He has delivered us from such a deadly peril, and he will deliver us. On him we have set our hope that he will continue to deliver us, as you help us by your prayers. Then many will give thanks on our behalf for the gracious favour granted us in answer to the prayers of many’ (2 Corinthians 1:10-11).*

*‘For no matter how many promises God has made, they are “Yes” in Christ. And so through him the “Amen” is spoken by us to the glory of God’ (2 Corinthians 1:20).*

*‘Does God give you his Spirit and work miracles among you because you observe the law, or because you believe what you heard?’*

*Consider Abraham: “He believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness.”*

*...He redeemed us in order that the blessing given to Abraham might come to the Gentiles through Christ Jesus, so that by faith we might receive the promise of the Spirit.*

*...If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise’ (Galatians 3:5-6,14,29).*

*‘In him and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence’ (Ephesians 3:12).*



*'And one thing more: Prepare a guest room for me, because I hope to be restored to you in answer to your prayers' (Philemon 22).*

*'Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need' (Hebrews 4:16).*

*'We do not want you to become lazy, but to imitate those who through faith and patience inherit what has been promised' (Hebrews 6:12).*

*'So do not throw away your confidence; it will be richly rewarded. You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what he has promised' (Hebrews 10:35-36).*

*'And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him' (Hebrews 11:6).*

*'If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him. But when he asks, he must believe and not doubt, because he who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. That man should not think he will receive anything from the Lord; he is a double-minded man, unstable in all he does' (James 1:5-8).*

*'Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded' (James 4:8).*

*'Elijah was a man just like us. He prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the land for three and a half years. Again he prayed, and the heavens gave rain, and the earth produced its crops' (James 5:17-18).*

*'Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God and receive from him anything we ask,*

*because we obey his commands and do what pleases him' (1 John 3:21-22).*

*'This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us – whatever we ask – we know that we have what we asked of him' (1 John 5:14-15).*

*'Another angel, who had a golden censer, came and stood at the altar. He was given much incense to offer, with the prayers of all the saints, on the golden altar before the throne. The smoke of the incense, together with the prayers of the saints, went up before God from the angel's hand. Then the angel took the censer, filled it with fire from the altar, and hurled it on the earth; and there came peals of thunder, rumblings, flashes of lightning and an earthquake' (Revelation 8:3-5).*

**GOD ANSWERS PRAYER TODAY!**

## APPENDIX - 4

# OUR AUTHORITY IN CHRIST

While proclaiming the following Scriptures, believe for a greater impartation of the authority of Christ that belongs to the believer. Believe that Jesus Himself will bestow upon you His authority to drive out evil spirits, heal the sick, baptize with the Holy Spirit, perform signs and wonders and inherit all the promises of God for your life. A key to miracles is to speak out God's word and meditate upon it so that it is alive and comes from deep within your heart and spirit (Joshua 1:8). Everything we do needs to be based on the word of God. Continue reading these Scriptures out loud each day. This will strengthen your faith to step out to see amazing miracles. The devil will flee as you speak them out with faith.

### THE OLD TESTAMENT

*'So the LORD said to Moses, "Take Joshua son of Nun, a man in whom is the spirit, and lay your hand on him. Have him stand before Eleazar the priest and the entire assembly and commission him in their presence. Give him some of your authority so the whole Israelite community will obey him" (Numbers 27:18-20).*

*'Take possession of the land and settle in it, for I have given you the land to possess' (Number 33:53).*

*'Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the LORD your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you' (Deuteronomy 31:6).*

*'Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go' (Joshua 1:9).*

*“Don’t be afraid,” the prophet answered. “Those who are with us are more than those who are with them.”*

*And Elisha prayed, “O LORD, open his eyes so he may see.” Then the LORD opened the servant’s eyes, and he looked and saw the hills full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.*

*As the enemy came down toward him, Elisha prayed to the LORD, “Strike these people with blindness.” So he struck them with blindness, as Elisha had asked...*

*After they entered the city, Elisha said, “LORD, open the eyes of these men so they can see.” Then the LORD opened their eyes and they looked, and there they were, inside Samaria’ (2 Kings 6:16-18,20).*

*‘Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or discouraged because of the king of Assyria and the vast army with him, for there is a greater power with us than with him’ (2 Chronicles 32:7).*

*‘If you make the Most High your dwelling – even the LORD, who is my refuge – then no harm will befall you, no disaster will come near your tent. For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways; they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone. You will tread upon the lion and the cobra; you will trample the great lion and the serpent’ (Psalm 91:9-13).*

*‘I will clothe him with your robe and fasten your sash around him and hand your authority over to him. He will be a father to those who live in Jerusalem and to the house of Judah. I will place on his shoulder the key to the house of David; what he opens no one can shut, and what he shuts no one can open. I will drive him like a peg into a firm place; he will be a seat of honour for the house of his father’ (Isaiah 22:21-23).*

*‘The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me, because the LORD has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the*

*prisoners, to proclaim the year of the LORD's favour and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn' (Isaiah 61:1-2).*

*"I am the LORD, the God of all mankind. Is anything too hard for me?" (Jeremiah 32:27)*

*'In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man, coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence. He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all peoples, nations and men of every language worshipped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed' (Daniel 7:13-14).*

*'The LORD said to Satan, "The LORD rebuke you, Satan! The LORD, who has chosen Jerusalem, rebuke you! Is not this man a burning stick snatched from the fire?" (Zechariah 3:2)*

## **THE NEW TESTAMENT**

*'Jesus said to him, "Away from me, Satan! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.'"*

*Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him' (Matthew 4:10-11).*

*"And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one' (Matthew 6:13).*

*'The centurion replied, "Lord, I do not deserve to have you come under my roof. But just say the word, and my servant will be healed. For I myself am a man under authority, with soldiers under me. I tell this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and that one, 'Come,' and he comes. I say to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it."*

*When Jesus heard this, he was astonished and said to those following him, "I tell you the truth, I have not found anyone in Israel with such great faith...."*

*Then Jesus said to the centurion, "Go! It will be done just as you believed it would." And his servant was healed at that very hour' (Matthew 8:8-10,13).*

*'When the crowd saw this, they were filled with awe; and they praised God, who had given such authority to men' (Matthew 9:8).*

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

*'But if I drive out demons by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God has come upon you' (Matthew 12:28).*

*'Jesus rebuked the demon, and it came out of the boy, and he was healed from that moment.*

*Then the disciples came to Jesus in private and asked, "Why couldn't we drive it out?"*

*He replied, "Because you have so little faith. I tell you the truth, 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" (Matthew 17:18-20).*

*'His master replied, "Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!" (Matthew 25:23)*

*'Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age" (Matthew 28:18-20).*

*"Be quiet!" said Jesus sternly. "Come out of him!" The evil spirit shook the man violently and came out of him with a shriek.*

*The people were all so amazed that they asked each other, "What is this? A new teaching – and with authority! He even gives orders to evil spirits and they obey him" (Mark 1:25-27).*

*'For Jesus had said to him, "Come out of this man, you evil spirit!"*

*Then Jesus asked him, "What is your name?"*

*"My name is Legion," he replied, "for we are many." And he begged Jesus again and again not to send them out of the area.*

*A large herd of pigs was feeding on the nearby hillside. The demons begged Jesus, "Send us among the pigs; allow us to go into them." He gave them permission, and the evil spirits came out and went into the pigs. The herd, about two thousand in number, rushed down the steep bank into the lake and were drowned.*

*Those tending the pigs ran off and reported this in the town and countryside, and the people went out to see what had happened. When they came to Jesus, they saw the man who had been possessed by the legion of demons, sitting there, dressed and in his right mind; and they were afraid' (Mark 5:8-15).*

*"And these signs will accompany those who believe: In my name they will drive out demons; they will speak in new tongues; they will pick up snakes with their hands; and when they drink deadly poison, it will not hurt them at all; they will place their hands on sick people, and they will get well" (Mark 16:17-18).*

*'When Jesus had called the Twelve together, he gave them power and authority to drive out all demons and to cure diseases, and he sent them out to preach the kingdom of God and to heal the sick' (Luke 9:1-2).*

*'The seventy-two returned with joy and said, "Lord, even the demons submit to us in your name."*

*He replied, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions*

*and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you. However, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven” (Luke 10:17-20).*

*‘Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the miracles themselves. 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 14:11-12).*

*‘When the crowds heard Philip and saw the miraculous signs he did, they all paid close attention to what he said. With shrieks, evil spirits came out of many, and many paralytics and cripples were healed’ (Acts 8:6-7).*

*‘You know what has happened throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached – how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him’ (Acts 10:37-38).*

*‘She kept this up for many days. Finally Paul became so troubled that he turned around and said to the spirit, “In the name of Jesus Christ I command you to come out of her!” At that moment the spirit left her’ (Acts 16:18).*

*‘The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children. Now if we are children, then we are heirs – heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory’ (Romans 8:16-17).*

*‘The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet.  
The grace of our Lord Jesus be with you’ (Romans 16:20).*

*‘Because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, “Abba, Father.” So you are*



*no longer a slave, but a son; and since you are a son, God has made you also an heir' (Galatians 4:6-7).*

*'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, and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is like the working of his mighty strength, which he exerted in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every title that can be given, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way' (Ephesians 1:18-23).*

*'But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions – it is by grace you have been saved. And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus' (Ephesians 2:4-7).*

*'Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. 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. Therefore put on the full armour of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition to*

*all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. 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' (Ephesians 6:10-18).*

*'...giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the kingdom of light. For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.*

*He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him (Colossians 1:12-19).*

*'To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory' (Colossians 1:27).*

*'For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form, and you have been given fullness in Christ, who is the head over every power and authority' (Colossians 2:9-10).*

*'And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross' (Colossians 2:15).*

*'For you know what instructions we gave you by the authority of the Lord Jesus' (1 Thessalonians 4:2).*

*'Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you' (James 4:7).*

*'I write to you, young men, because you are strong, and the word of God lives in you, and you have overcome the evil one' (1 John 2:14b).*

*'You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world' (1 John 4:4).*

*'But even the archangel Michael, when he was disputing with the devil about the body of Moses, did not dare to bring a slanderous accusation against him, but said, "The Lord rebuke you!" (Jude 9)*

*'To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood, and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father – to him be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen' (Revelation 1:5b-6).*

*"To him who overcomes and does my will to the end, I will give authority over the nations – 'He will rule them with an iron sceptre; he will dash them to pieces like pottery' – just as I have received authority from my Father" (Revelation 2:26-27).*

*"To the angel of the church in Philadelphia write:*

*These are the words of him who is holy and true, who holds the key of David. What he opens no one can shut, and what he shuts no one can open. I know your deeds. See, I have placed before you an open door that no one can shut. I know that you have little strength, yet you have kept my word and have not denied my name" (Revelation 3:7-8).*

*'To him who overcomes, I will give the right to sit with me on my throne, just as I overcame and sat down with my Father on his throne. He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches' (Revelation 3:21-22).*

*And there was war in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon, and the dragon and his angels fought back. But he was not strong enough, and they lost their place in heaven. The great dragon was hurled down – that*

*ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him.*

*Then I heard a loud voice in heaven say:*

*“Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God, and the authority of his Christ. For the accuser of our brothers, who accuses them before our God day and night, has been hurled down” (Revelation 12:7-10).*

**STAND IN THE AUTHORITY OF CHRIST TODAY!**

## APPENDIX - 5

# PRAYER INDEX

Throughout this book there have been a number of prayers that are useful for leading people in when counselling them or dealing with a specific need. Larger groups, such as a church congregation, can also be led in these prayers as appropriate:

<b>Prayer For More Awareness Of God's Presence</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Prayer For The Baptism With The Holy Spirit</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>Prayer For A Greater Anointing</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>Prayer For Cleansing From Guilt</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>Prayer For Hearing God's Voice</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>Prayer For A Release Of Prophetic Impartation</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>Impartation Prayer (For Spiritual Gifts)</b>	<b>49</b>
<b>Prayer For The Breaking Of Curses</b>	<b>64</b>
<b>Deliverance Prayer</b>	<b>65</b>
<b>Prayer For Rebuking Sickness</b>	<b>72</b>
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<b>Forgiveness Prayer</b>	<b>76</b>
<b>Prayer Of Faith For A Release Of God's Power</b>	<b>77</b>
<b>Prayer For The Healing Anointing</b>	<b>79</b>
<b>Prayer For Healing</b>	<b>81</b>



# ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Matthew Needham is an international evangelist called by God at the age of 16 to begin an evangelistic ministry. He stepped out by faith in 1991 to travel through his home country of New Zealand, witnessing on the streets and working through whichever churches gave him opportunity.

After six years of doing street evangelism he went on his first overseas missions trip to Fiji in 1997, but returned home feeling unprepared. A call to the mission field came a second time in 1999, which led him into evangelism among Muslims in Africa. The third time the Lord called him to leave everything and go at once was in 2003 to preach the gospel to the Hindus, Muslims and Buddhists of India and Nepal. In 2009 Matthew went on his first and second mission to Pakistan.

His testimony booklets have been translated into many languages and over 220,000 copies were given out in street witnessing to share the gospel with those who have never heard the good news of salvation. Thousands of copies of his books have also been distributed to reach unbelievers and to strengthen the church in the work that Christ has given us to do.

Matthew had some time working with evangelist Bill Subritzky ([www.doveministries.com](http://www.doveministries.com)), organizing healing outreaches, mainly in Fiji and also in New Zealand. They printed another 200,000 testimony booklets in native languages, of which a large amount were distributed to an unreached people group in Nepal and India.

Matthew's passion is to reveal the glory of the Lord Jesus to those who are living in spiritual darkness and to press ahead to reach the fullness of Christ for the ministry of the evangelist. This is an evangelistic, literature, crusade ministry, doing large and small outreach meetings, leader's seminars, Bible College teaching and constant street evangelism and witnessing. His love for the Lord and for the salvation of lost souls is bringing many into the kingdom of God.

## **BOOKS BY MATTHEW G. NEEDHAM**

Make Sure Of Your Salvation (2007)

The Awesome Magnificence Of Jesus Christ (2009)

Walking In God's Power (2010)

The Church That Might Save The World (2010)

How The Devil Destroyed The Youth Group (2010)