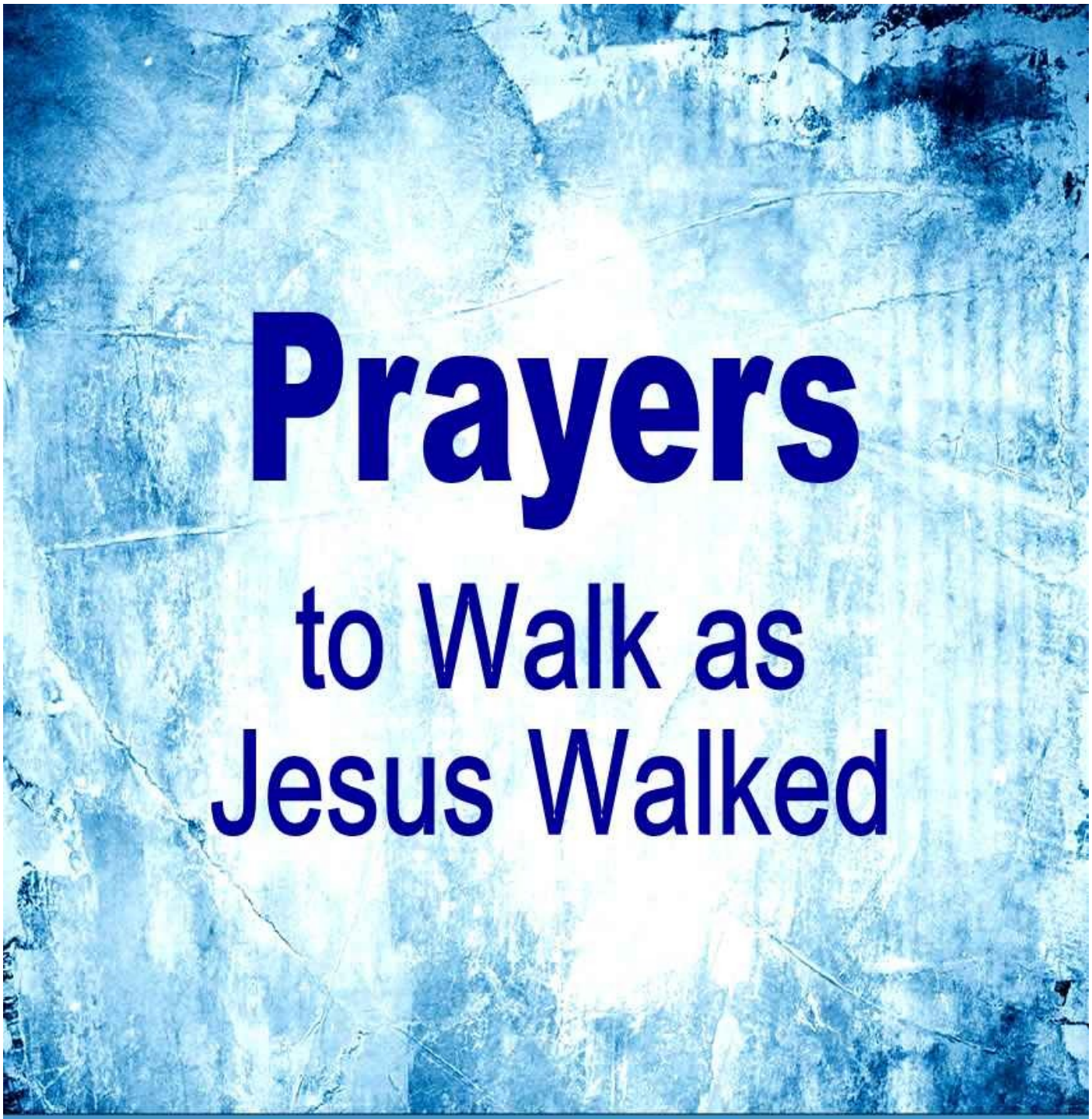


Bible Studies By Scott McConaughey

PRAYERS TO WALK AS JESUS WALKED

He who says he abides in Him ought himself
also to walk just as He walked. I John 2:6

Forty Days of Biblical Prayers to Walk in the Footsteps of Jesus

SCOTT MCCONAUGHEY

PRAYERS TO WALK AS JESUS WALKED
by Scott McConaughey

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INTRODUCTION

He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked.
I John 2:6

During Christmas time in 1995, I had an extraordinary visitation of the manifested presence of God that radically changed my life. Although, I had been a dedicated missionary for nearly 20 years, I had never experienced the Lord's presence so powerfully. This encounter completely changed my orientation towards serving God.

The Lord, by His grace, supernaturally imparted His faith to me at that time so that I would believe Him to make me completely holy in this natural realm. God gave me the understanding that His Spirit who lives in me is sufficient to enable me to abide in Christ and walk as He walked. In the years since that encounter, the Lord has been teaching me to walk more in agreement with Him by focusing on the life of Jesus and praying to walk as He walked.

God calls us to walk by faith in His word, not by natural sight. Looking by natural sight, there was no way that I could walk as Jesus walked because of my continual struggles with my carnal nature. The Lord showed me His great ability and gave me faith, by His word, to believe Him to transform me to become like Jesus.

Seeds of faith in God are usually tested through trials and tribulations. God calls us to overcome trials and hold onto our faith in Him and His word. The last decade has been an incredible adventure of being taught by the Holy Spirit to walk as Jesus walked and overcome many trials and personal failures. I have not fully arrived at the goal of walking as Jesus walked, but I am much closer today than I was in 1995. The Lord has helped me define the goal by examining the life of Jesus and praying prayers to become like Him. The journey begins as we believe it is possible to abide in Christ so that we can walk as He walked.

Every believer is called to abide in Christ. John instructed us that those who say they abide in Him, ought to walk as Jesus walked. This devotional book was written to enable you to pray to walk as Jesus walked. I pray you will receive faith in God's word as you pray these prayers and I know that you will grow to become more like Jesus when you do. All of the prayer themes in this book are found in the word of God centered on the life of Jesus Christ. Within each prayer

section, there will be Bible verses to meditate on, a devotional commentary, a suggested prayer and additional scriptures.

The suggested prayer is given as a springboard to launch you into a time of prayer devoted to that particular theme. You may feel the conviction of the Holy Spirit that you have not been walking as Jesus walked in a certain area. During those times, be sure to confess before the Lord your faults and ask Him to forgive you and cleanse you of all unrighteousness (I John 1:9). Allow the Holy Spirit to teach you how to pray each day!

A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone who is perfectly trained will be like his teacher. Luke 6:40

The Holy Spirit is the Teacher who has the challenge of teaching God's children to become like Jesus (John 14:26). To become like Jesus we must behold Him with the help of the Holy Spirit as we meditate on the Living Word (II Corinthians 3:18). The Holy Spirit enables us to hear the word that produces faith as we think on the word and pray the word. The word becomes living heavenly food by the power of the Holy Spirit. True hearers of the word become doers of the word. As disciples, we begin to come into agreement with what we behold in the word, when we pray to become like Him and walk it out in our daily life[1].

Father, I ask you to teach me to pray always with all prayer and supplication in and by the power of the Holy Spirit. It is my heart's desire to abide in Christ and walk as Jesus walked. Please help me walk in faith, hope and love today as Jesus did. I believe that by the power of the Holy Spirit in me and by faith in the word of God that I can grow to walk as Jesus walked. Holy Spirit, I ask you to disciple me and train me so that I become like Jesus in every aspect of my daily life. In Jesus' Name, amen.

Deuteronomy 5:29; Ezekiel 36:26-29: II Corinthians 5:17

All scriptures are quoted from the NKJV unless otherwise noted

[1] For extensive teaching on the prayer themes in this volume, please read my book, **THE NARROW GATE**.

PRAYER 1 - LET IT BE ACCORDING TO YOUR WORD

Then Mary said, "Behold the maidservant of the Lord! Let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her. Luke 1: 38

All life in Christ begins with a willingness to receive the word of God implanted in the heart. The word is the living and active seed of God to produce Christ in the heart of God's people. Mary received the word and the Son of God entered into her womb in the tiniest form.

In order to mature in Christ, we must become like Mary and be willing to receive God's word into our heart and let Him change our life. Mary was willing to become pregnant by supernatural means even though this would risk her life and ruin her reputation. God is still implanting the seed of Christ into willing vessels. We are not birthing the natural born Son of God, but we are birthing moves of His Spirit in our hearts. The incarnation of God in people continues today for those who walk by faith in God's word empowered by the Holy Spirit.

Then Simeon blessed them, and said to Mary His mother, "Behold, this Child is destined for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign which will be spoken against (yes, a sword will pierce through your own soul also), that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed." Luke 2:34,35

Simeon accurately prophesied that Mary's soul would be pierced because of her intimate relationship with Jesus, the living Word of God. The word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword and pierces through the soul realm dividing that which is of the flesh and that which is of the Spirit. Mary received the word from the angel and the piercings lasted many years with rejection, gossip, persecution and the great grief she experienced watching Jesus hang on the cross. Mary never gave up hope in God and was in the upper room when the Holy Spirit poured out on the Church.

Father, I thank you for the example of Mary in the Bible. I pray to be your servant and open my heart to receive your living word for me. Please continue to speak to me and teach me about Christ in me, the hope of Glory. Holy Spirit, I ask you to speak words of truth into my heart and reveal Your plan for my life. I agree to allow You to sow Your word into my heart. I want the Spirit of Christ in me to grow. I ask that He would increase and that I would decrease. In Jesus' Name, amen.

Luke 1:26-38; Psalm 119:105; Hebrews 4:12

PRAYER 2 - GROW STRONG IN SPIRIT

So when they had performed all things according to the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own city, Nazareth. And the Child grew and became strong in spirit, filled with wisdom; and the grace of God was upon Him.
Luke 2:39-40

It is vital that we follow the model of Jesus as we grow. He grew strong in spirit, was filled with wisdom and the grace of God was upon Him. We must spend time worshipping, praying and waiting on the Lord to grow strong in spirit. Meditating on God's word and spending time in the house of God also helps us grow strong in spirit. We must be determined to live by the truth of God's word and follow the Holy Spirit at all times.

One of the ways my wife Glenda and I have learned to grow strong in the spirit is by attending prayer meetings that flow in prophetic intercession. We worship, minister unto the Lord, pray in tongues and wait upon the Lord for revelation on how to pray according to the Holy Spirit. Many have discovered that praying loudly and intensely in tongues helps them press in to God and grow stronger in spirit. Ask the Holy Spirit to teach you how to grow strong in spirit. We also need the grace and wisdom of God to be upon us.

The grace of God flows to the humble and wisdom flows to those who ask for it. We must humble ourselves daily and seek the wisdom and grace of God so that we can become like Jesus. Glenda and I have discovered that fasting is a helpful tool in humbling ourselves before God as we pray. Fasting and prayer doesn't earn God's grace, but it positions the heart to be more sensitive to God and receive His grace.

The fear and reverence of the Lord, always seeking to please Him and not man, is the beginning of wisdom. Most believers need deliverance from the need for the approval of man which is the fear of man, a trap of the enemy. Wisdom enables us to have supernatural practical guidance to live our lives in the natural realm to glorify God and fulfill our destinies. The result is a fruitful life and an eternity filled with rewards.

Father, I humble myself before you this day and ask you to help me grow strong in spirit. Holy Spirit, please teach me to pray and worship in Spirit and truth. Lord, lead me in all Your ways today. Father, I ask you to fill me with wisdom and understanding in the knowledge of Jesus. As I continue to humble myself before You and

obey Your voice in all things, please let Your grace be upon my life as it was on Jesus. In Jesus' Name, amen.

Jude 20; James 1:5; Ephesians 1:15-23

PRAYER 3 - BE ABOUT THE FATHER'S BUSINESS

His parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. And when He was twelve years old, they went up to Jerusalem according to the custom of the feast. When they had finished the days, as they returned, the Boy Jesus lingered behind in Jerusalem. And Joseph and His mother did not know it; but supposing Him to have been in the company, they went a day's journey, and sought Him among their relatives and acquaintances. So when they did not find Him, they returned to Jerusalem, seeking Him. Now so it was that after three days they found Him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, both listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard Him were astonished at His understanding and answers. So when they saw Him, they were amazed; and His mother said to Him, "Son, why have You done this to us? Look, Your father and I have sought You anxiously." And He said to them, "Why did you seek Me? Did you not know that I must be about My Father's business?" But they did not understand the statement which He spoke to them. Luke 2:41-50

Young Jesus was found in the temple in the midst of the elders. Jesus studied the word of God as much as He was able. He attended Hebrew training and synagogue services. As a faithful Jewish boy, Jesus listened intently to those who taught. Jesus learned by the Holy Spirit and memorized scriptures and received the understanding deep in His heart.

Jesus asked Mary and Joseph, **"Why did you seek me? Did you not know that I must be about My Father's business?"** As we seek the Lord, we must look for Him in the house of God and be about His business. Joseph and Mary apparently looked for Jesus around Jerusalem where other boys were hanging out. Jesus understood His calling and stayed focused on doing what the Father called Him to do at a young age.

Some believers have isolated themselves from the Church because of imperfect leadership. Jesus sat at the feet of imperfect teachers and asked them questions and learned from them. We must humble ourselves to learn from other teachers in the Body of Christ. We can do this through books, conferences and tapes, but a mature Christian must develop a healthy relationship with a local church and spend time in the house of God just as Jesus did.

Father, give me a deep hunger for your word like Jesus had. I want to be about your business every day of my life. Holy Spirit, reveal to me the Father's business for me today. Show me the teachers that you want me to learn from. I choose to humble myself and eagerly desire to learn from elders and teachers in the Body of Christ. Please fill me with passion for your house. In Jesus' Name, amen.

John 2:17; Isaiah 59:16-21; Acts 2:46,47

PRAYER 4 - SUBMIT TO AUTHORITY

Then He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was subject to them, but His mother kept all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men. Luke 2:51,52

Every word we have about the boyhood of Jesus is precious. Jesus submitted to his earthly parents. His appointed father was Joseph, a righteous man, but he was a fallen creature. Mary was not perfect either. Jesus had good parents but they did not understand the ways of the Spirit as Jesus did. Even so, we observe Jesus submitting to His earthly parents during his childhood.

Submitting to authority is one of the most important principles in developing into Christ-like maturity. It is a doctrine that has been abused. Some church leaders have operated in unrighteous control and domination. Some believers have reacted against abuses and have become too independent, refusing to submit to authority.

We have to humble ourselves, as Jesus did, to be subject to imperfect leaders who stumble at times. The Lord may lead us to change churches to find better leadership, but no leaders have arrived at perfection. They will be held accountable for their leadership.

Obey those who rule over you, and be submissive, for they watch out for your souls, as those who must give account. Let them do so with joy and not with grief, for that would be unprofitable for you. Hebrews 13:17

The word of God is clear that we must obey those in the church who rule over us and we must be submissive to them. Submission is an inner attitude of trust that actively submits to leadership rather than acting independently or hiding important things from them. We are called to bring them joy and not grief. If our attitudes or actions grieve the leadership, it is unprofitable for us.

During His early years, Jesus submitted to His parents and the religious leaders of His day. As a result, Jesus increased in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and man. Submission to authority will gain you favor with God and man. Some Christians think that if they live wholly for God, they will not have favor with people. Jesus had favor with both God and man. We gain favor with God as we submit to Him and allow the Holy Spirit to lead us into proper submission relationships. God’s blessing will be on us as we submit to

leaders and His anointing will be evident upon us. The anointing enables us to experience the favor of man as well as God.

Father, I ask you for the grace and wisdom to submit to those leaders that you have placed over me. It is my hearts desire that I bring joy to my leaders by truly submitting to them as Jesus Christ did to His parents. As I submit and grow, I ask you Lord to cause an increase in wisdom and favor with You and with people. In Jesus' Name, amen.

Ephesians 5:21; 6:1,2; I Peter 5:5; Hebrews 13:7

PRAYER 5 - WAIT ON GOD FOR RELEASE INTO MINISTRY

Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him. And John tried to prevent Him, saying, "I need to be baptized by You, and are You coming to me?" But Jesus answered and said to him, "Permit it to be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he allowed Him. When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him. And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." Matthew 3:13-17

Jesus stayed in subjection to His parents for many years. The Bible does not tell us when He transferred that submission directly to the Father, but it was in the perfect timing of the Holy Spirit. Jesus always walked in agreement with the Spirit.

At 25 or 29 years old, Jesus could have had sensational ministry, but He waited on the Father and developed His relationship in prayer and learned the scriptures. Jesus did not attend the religious schools of the rabbis. He probably worked as a carpenter to support the family since history indicates that Joseph died before Jesus began His ministry years.

We can learn from the life of Jesus to wait on God's timing to be released into ministry. Jesus waited thirty years before stepping into ministry. We need to be patient and wait on the Lord for the perfect timing of the Spirit before entering into ministry. Jesus simply waited on the Father and the Spirit. He developed in every aspect in preparation to be a great teacher and the Savior of the world. When the time was right, the Holy Spirit led Him to go down to the Jordan River to finish His preparation season and move into active ministry.

Father, help me learn to wait upon you as Jesus did for release into work and ministry. Holy Spirit, I ask you to help me walk in perfect agreement with you each day. I want to walk in your timing and I trust you to help me flow with you this day. In Jesus' Name, amen.

Isaiah 40:31; 64:4; Psalm 25:5; 27:14; Lamentations 3:25,26; James 5:7,8

PRAYER 6 - GO AND LEARN FROM EXISTING MOVES OF THE SPIRIT

Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him. Matthew 3:13

Jesus traveled from His home region to the Jordan River to submit to baptism by the hands of John. This established the simple principle that we must go to places as the Spirit leads and learn from those who flow in the ministry of the Holy Spirit. John was leading a forerunner movement of the Spirit to prepare people to receive Jesus. Jesus understood the importance of John's ministry and went and submitted to the anointing on John to baptize. This astounded John who was, at first, unwilling to baptize Jesus.

Jesus told John that he should permit it so as to fulfill all righteousness. Jesus was being led by the Spirit and needed to obey His voice. There was a great model involved in this baptism. We need to humble ourselves and go and learn from those whom God has given a grace to minister. Many times, we have traveled by plane or driven a long way to hear anointed ministers. Every new thing God does on the earth is an extension of that which He began in former generations. A wise believer treasures old moves of the Spirit and new ones.

Growing up, Jesus received old revelation from elders and teachers. As an adult coming into ministry, He received from the current ministry of John the Baptist. Then Jesus released the new things the Father taught Him.

Therefore the wisdom of God also said, "I will send them prophets and apostles, and some of them they will kill and persecute." Luke 11:49-50

In His perfect wisdom, God continues to send prophets and apostles to the Church. The religious leaders of every age resist the Holy Spirit and the new things He seeks to do through prophets and apostles. We must be humble and be wise to recognize the Spirit of God coming in new ways through peculiar vessels. Jesus recognized John by the Holy Spirit and received ministry from him. Our Lord set a model for us and we must humble ourselves to go and learn also.

Father, I want to fulfill all righteousness and follow Your Spirit in all things. Please lead me where to go and learn from existing moves of Your Spirit. I reject pride and choose to humble myself before You. I

want to learn from those You have taught and receive the impartation of the deposit of Spirit that You have placed in them. Thank you that in Your wisdom, You are still sending prophets and apostles to the Church. Help me recognize them by Your Spirit and receive ministry from them. In Jesus' Name, amen.

Micah 4:2; Proverbs 2:1-5; 4:1; 19:20; Hebrews 2:1;

PRAYER 7 - BE BAPTIZED IN WATER

When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water.
Matthew 3:16a

Jesus was baptized by John in the Jordan River. God commanded Jesus to humble Himself and set this perfect example. **"Jesus came up immediately from the water."** It is as though the Spirit of Jesus exploded out of the water of baptism like the space shuttle igniting at liftoff. Jesus' ministry was getting fired up and would soon be launched.

While Jesus was not a sinner, He was baptized to fulfill all righteousness. He identified with the sins of His people. We need to be baptized after we repent and believe on the Lord Jesus Christ.

Baptism is a vital first step of obedience to God as we demonstrate the reality of repenting and converting our life to walk by faith in Jesus Christ. Every believer should be baptized as soon as possible after conversion.

Paul taught that baptism was a portrait of our old self becoming dead with Christ and our new self being raised up with Christ (see Romans 6:1-14). Baptism is a picture of a spiritual reality but also has an impact on our spiritual lives. God works to transform the heart as we humble ourselves and submit to baptism. We also need to have a humble and tender heart that is willing to repent daily if needed, dying to self rule, taking up our cross and following Jesus.

(Prayer for those already baptized) *Father, I thank you for the model of Jesus humbling Himself to be baptized by John. I choose to humble myself today and live a lifestyle of repenting as you convict me of sin and believing in the power of the blood of Jesus to cleanse me from all unrighteousness. Thank you that you washed me and cleansed me by the blood of Jesus. In Jesus Name, amen.*

(Prayer for those not yet baptized). *Father, I recognize the importance of being baptized in water and I want to submit to water baptism as soon as possible. Please lead me to the right church and time to be baptized so that I can obey Your word. In Jesus' Name, amen.*

Matthew 3:5,6; 28:19-20; Acts 2:38; 8:36-38

PRAYER 8 - WALK IN IDENTIFICATIONAL REPENTANCE

And he went into all the region around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the remission of sins. Luke 3:3

John preached a baptism of repentance for the remission of sins. Although John baptized in the water of the Jordan, the Holy Spirit wanted the people to be completely immersed in repentance for their sins. Jesus didn't have any sins to repent for, but He did stand in the waters of repentance on behalf of the nation of Israel.

The principle of identificational repentance has been taught often in the past decade in the Church as we have recognized the importance of passages like **II Chronicles 7:14. "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 I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land."**

Ezra repented on behalf of his people who intermarried with foreign wives in disobedience to God's command (see Ezra 9). Nehemiah led the Levites and the people in identificational repentance for their sins as they rebuilt the walls of Jerusalem and restored covenant with God (Nehemiah 9:2). Daniel mourned, fasted and cried out to God for mercy. Although Daniel was a righteous man, he identified with the sins of His people (Daniel 9). It is vital that we follow the model of Jesus and be willing to identify with the sins of the people and do identificational repentance with them and as often as needed.

Father, teach me the importance of identificational repentance. Holy Spirit, help me to humble myself, pray and seek Your face. Please let godly sorrow come upon me for any of my sins or the sins of my people that you want me to repent for. America is filled with sin through abortion, violence and great wickedness. Father, I repent on behalf of Americans for abortions, violence, abuse and evil. Forgive us for our great sins and heal our land. Show us how to pray and what action to take to correct these evils. In Jesus' Name, amen.

Ezra 9; Nehemiah 9; Daniel 9

PRAYER 9 - BE FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

And behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him. Matthew 3:16b

Jesus was anointed by the Holy Spirit after water baptism. The Spirit of God came like a beautiful dove upon Jesus. The dove pictures the peace of God and the anointing from above. The dove has a single focus and will only mate once. The Holy Spirit wants to immerse us into a single focus of pleasing God and have only one heart affection, to love Jesus.

There has been, unfortunately, much division in the body of Christ over aspects of the doctrine of the Holy Spirit. Having been a teacher on both sides the debate, I understand the arguments. However, I also recognize the need to be filled with, immersed in and empowered by the Holy Spirit every day!

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

Jesus promised His disciples that they would receive power when the Holy Spirit came on them so that they could be witnesses obeying His voice throughout the earth. A few weeks later the Holy Spirit came and fell upon them on the day of Pentecost. Paul exhorted us to be filled with the Holy Spirit continuously. No matter what our doctrine, we all need to be like Jesus and receive all that the Holy Spirit has for us every day so that we can walk as Jesus walked.

Father, I thank you for the Holy Spirit who has come to dwell in me through my faith in Jesus Christ. I want to be completely filled and saturated with You Holy Spirit. I pray that You will help me have a single focus of pleasing the Father as Jesus did. Lord, please fill me with the Holy Spirit today so that I can do all of Your will and glorify Your great name. In Jesus' Name, amen.

Acts 1:8; 2:2-4; Ephesians 5:18

PRAYER 10 - EXPERIENCE THE LOVE OF THE FATHER

And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." Matthew 3:17

The heavens were opened above Jesus and He heard the audible voice of His Father declaring that He was His beloved Son in whom He was well pleased. Jesus had not conducted any public ministry prior to this moment. He only humbled Himself and obeyed the Holy Spirit by submitting to baptism by water, identificational repentance and receiving the baptism and anointing of the Holy Spirit.

Jesus modeled what we all need after conversion. We need an open heaven revelation of the love of the Father that is not based on our performance or behavior. God loves us because He is love. He takes pleasure in our acts of faith and obedience as well.

Jesus needed to hear the revelation of the Father's perfect love and pleasure for Him in preparation to go through a grueling forty-day fast and wilderness experience. If Jesus needed to hear God's audible voice, how much more do we need to receive the love of the Father to heal us from our woundedness.

Many Christians never fully receive the revelation of the Father's love and have their hearts perfectly healed. The power of the blood of Jesus, the word of God and the Holy Spirit is sufficient to heal every person converted to Jesus who continues to walk with Him. God usually uses members of the body of Christ to minister His healing love although He can certainly do it directly. There are many good ministries devoted to helping believers experience the love of the Father and become whole and secure in His love. This enables us to be filled with love and flow in love to others. This is how Jesus walked.

Father, I desire to be filled with the revelation of your perfect love for me. I know You loved me so much that You sent your Son to suffer rejection and death on my behalf to forgive me and cleanse me of all my sins and the wounds of those who have hurt me. Holy Spirit, fill my heart with the love of the Father and heal all of my hurts. I forgive all those who have wounded me and desire to flow in perfect love to all that You lead into my path, especially those in the household of faith. In Jesus' Name, amen.

Deuteronomy 33:12 NIV; John 3:16; Romans 8:32; I John 4:18

PRAYER 11 – ABANDONED TO THE LEADERSHIP OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. Matthew 4:1

Jesus abandoned His will to follow the leadership of the Holy Spirit. As you follow in Jesus' steps, the Holy Spirit will lead you through some difficult seasons. Jesus obeyed the Holy Spirit's leadership and fasted forty days in a barren wilderness area. In wilderness times, we will be tempted, tried and tested as the Lord allows our faith to be purified. As we overcome trials, the Lord will grant us victory and new authority.

Jesus therefore answered and was saying to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, unless it is something He sees the Father doing; for whatever the Father does, these things the Son also does in like manner. For the Father loves the Son, and shows Him all things that He Himself is doing; and greater works than these will He show Him, that you may marvel….. I can do nothing on My own initiative. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is just, because I do not seek My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me. John 5:19,20,30 NASV

Jesus did nothing on His own initiative. Although Jesus was tempted to operate in selfish pursuits, there was nothing in His heart that would empower Him to act independent of His Father and the will of the Holy Spirit. During daily times of intimate prayer with His Father, Jesus saw what the Father wanted Him to do that day.

In order to know what the Holy Spirit wants us to do on a daily basis, we need to develop our spiritual faculties like Jesus did through intimate times of prayer. Jesus set His mind on things above and saw what God wanted Him to do each day. Jesus developed spiritual sight and taught us to pray that His will be done on earth as it was in heaven. Jesus wants us to see the will of the Father in heaven and pray that into the earth realm.

We can "see" through scriptures, visions, dreams, trances, a still small voice, angelic visitations and prophetic experiences as Jesus, Peter, John and others did. Years ago, I began praying the prayer of blind Bartimaeus so that I could see in the spirit. **"Lord Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me" (see Mark 10:46-52).** I prayed this for several years and God began to increase my spiritual sight and open

my spiritual ears to hear His voice. Everything we see or hear in the spirit must be in agreement with His word or it is not from above.

Father, I commit my heart to doing those things you show me to do. I abandon myself to the leadership of the Holy Spirit even if He leads me into difficult seasons. Holy Spirit, help me overcome every temptation and test. Lord Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me and open my spiritual eyes and ears. Holy Spirit, help me see and hear Your perfect will for my life each day. In Jesus' Name, amen.

Acts 9:10-12; Acts 10:9-16; Acts 27:23,24; Revelation 4

PRAYER 12 – FAST AND PRAY

And when He had fasted forty days and forty nights, afterward He was hungry. Matthew 4:2

In order to fully be like Jesus, we need to learn to fast and pray. Many Christians may not be able to fast exactly as Jesus did, but some will. After I diligently pressed in to God and asked Him to make me like Jesus, He simply said, "Do what Jesus did". The Lord directed me to Matthew 4 and led me to complete a forty day fast. It was very difficult and exposed a great deal of my flesh and irritations. Fasting increases God's fire which exposes our flesh. Fasting humbles you so that you can receive more grace from God and cleansing.

All believers need to set aside fasting seasons devoted to seeking the Lord, praying to hear His voice and eliminate distractions. Every believer can fast television, movies and junk food for forty days and be much better for it. The Lord is jealous for your heart devotion. In order to walk as Jesus walked, we all need to fast as the Holy Spirit leads us.

In a special dream the Lord gave me, an angel said to me, "If you seek Him with all your heart, you will find Him". As I prayed about the dream, the Lord led me to do a difficult extended fast to seek Him. At the end of the fast, I was disappointed that I had not experienced any revelation of the Lord. I felt led to break the fast by having communion. As I broke the bread and prepared the juice, I was suddenly overwhelmed with a fresh and powerful revelation of Jesus' love for me as He went through the cross. I fell to the floor weeping in tenderness over the mercy of God. After earnest seeking, by God's grace, I found Him at the cross.

There is a power in Spirit-led fasting that cannot be obtained without fasting. We minister to many people in need of deliverance and we have discovered that what Jesus said is true. Some demons only come out by prayer and fasting. We have to love people enough to be willing to fast and pray to see them get set free. Jesus lived a fasted lifestyle and kept Himself from all manners of self indulgence like gluttony. All demons He dealt with came out with only a word.

"Jesus said to them, 'My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work'" (John 4:34). Jesus found spiritual food and energy in doing the will of God. He fasted so that He could reach the Samaritan harvest.

Father, I ask You to give me grace to fast and pray as Jesus did. Holy Spirit, you know the frailties of my body. Please lead me into fasting in Your perfect wisdom and timing so that I might become more like Jesus and overcome the world, my flesh and the devil. I trust you to give me the grace to make it through any fasting you lead me into. In Jesus' Name, amen.

Matthew 17:21; Daniel 9:3; Luke 2:37; 5:35; II Corinthians 11:27

PRAYER 13 – BE AN OVERCOMER

For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace that we may obtain mercy and grace to help in time of need. Hebrews 4:15,16 For in that He Himself has suffered, being tempted, He is able to aid those who are tempted. Hebrews 2:18

Jesus was thoroughly tempted, tested, proved and tried by the fiery trials of the wilderness and His life. He is ever able to understand our needs and give us all the grace needed to overcome our temptations. God allows temptations and trials to prove the genuineness of our faith. **"The refining pot is for silver and the furnace for gold, but the Lord tests the hearts" (Proverbs 17:3).**

No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it. I Corinthians 10:13

Abraham was tested for many years as He waited on God's promise and then was tested by having to offer up Isaac. Joseph lost everything and was tempted and tested in Pharaoh's dungeon for many years before being released into his destiny. **"They hurt his feet with fetters, He was laid in irons. Until the time that his word came to pass, the word of the Lord tested him" (Psalm 105:18,19).** Moses endured forty years of transforming trials before leading the children of Israel out of Egypt. David hid in caves and suffered greatly while waiting for God to fulfill His word to make him the king.

God is most gracious and wise in testing His servants before giving them authority and power. King Saul was promoted prematurely by the demands of the people. Without proper heart preparations, King Saul, who was a man after the peoples' hearts (fear of man), soon fell into pride and rebellion which led to witchcraft and oppressive leadership.

Jesus was given great authority and power after He overcame all the testing in the wilderness including a confrontation with Satan. In order for us to walk in high levels of authority and power as Jesus did, we will have to overcome Satan in our personal lives also. We will

have to walk holy as Jesus walked. If we compromise in sin by giving in to temptation, Satan will have a place in our lives where he can defeat us. We must become overcomers by grace through faith and obedience in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Father, I come boldly before Your throne of grace. I need mercy and grace to overcome sin in my life. I humble myself to receive more grace so that I can be an overcomer. I thank you that You are faithful and provide a way of escape from all temptations. Thank You that Jesus has overcome and knows the trials and testings that I am going through. I trust You Holy Spirit to help me to overcome each day. In Jesus' Name, amen.

Romans 12:21; John 16:33; I John 4:4; 5:4,5; Revelation 2:7,11,17,26; 3:5,12,21; 21:7

PRAYER 14 - LIVE BY THE WORD OF GOD

And when He had fasted forty days and forty nights, afterward He was hungry. Now when the tempter came to Him, he said, "If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread." But He answered and said, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.'" Matthew 4:2-4

Satan is the tempter who continuously seeks to deceive man into sin. The first Adam fell into transgression but the second Adam, Jesus Christ, overcame. The way Jesus overcame is a model for us so that we can do what He did. Jesus always used the written word of God to overcome. We must do the same.

In the first two temptations, Satan challenged Jesus' identity by saying, "If you are the Son of God". Believers in Christ become "sons of God" through faith. We are granted a position of authority seated with the risen Christ in the heavenlies. We are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. Satan will always attack our identity in Christ so we must stand firm in what the word of God says about who we are in Christ.

Satan also tempted Jesus to obey his voice rather than the voice of His Father through the Spirit. Even though Jesus was extremely hungry and had the power to perform the miracle, the voice of God was not telling him to break the fast in this way. Jesus had memorized and meditated on the word of God from His youth.

The Spirit of God brought to Jesus' memory the scripture from Deuteronomy 8 to quote against the enemy. Rather than complain, murmur or question God like the children of Israel had done in the wilderness, Jesus submitted His physical appetites to the leadership of the Holy Spirit. To walk as Jesus walked, we must overcome all lusts of the flesh and live by the word of God.

Father, I thank you that I have been adopted as a "son of God" through faith in Christ Jesus. Thank You Lord that I am seated in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus and that I have sonship rights as your child. By your grace, I choose not to live for my physical appetites alone, but I will live by every word that proceeds from Your mouth. I ask you to help me overcome every lust of my flesh by the power of Your word and Your Spirit within me. Help me memorize and meditate on Your word in preparation to overcome trials that are yet to come. In Jesus' Name, amen.

Deuteronomy 8:2-3; Psalm 119:9-11; I John 2:15-17

PRAYER 15 - DO NOT TEMPT THE LORD YOUR GOD

Then the devil took Him up into the holy city, set Him on the pinnacle of the temple, and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down. For it is written: 'He shall give His angels charge over you,' and, 'In their hands they shall bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone.'" Jesus said to him, "It is written again, 'You shall not tempt the Lord your God.'" Matthew 4:5-7

The second temptation demonstrates the power and cunning of our enemy. He had the ability to supernaturally transport Jesus and himself to the pinnacle of the temple in Jerusalem. Satan questioned Jesus' identity again and called Him to prove it by a grand entrance in the temple courts. The devil quoted part of Psalm 91 and challenged Jesus to demonstrate His faith in God's word.

Jesus had complete faith in God's word, but this passage was quoted to cause presumption not faith. Satan used the Bible in an attempt to deceive Jesus, but the Lord recognized that the voice behind the scripture was not in tune with the Holy Spirit. **Jesus said to him, "It is written again, 'You shall not tempt the Lord your God'" (Matthew 4:7)**

Satan tempts us to walk in pride. Instead of humbly waiting and depending on God for clear direction and timing, how often do believers launch out with a few Bible promises and expect God to show up and answer their "faith prayers"! **"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen" (Hebrews 11:1).** Faith bases action on the word of God confirmed by the guidance of the Holy Spirit and the administration of His timing. When it is time to move out by faith, we have "substance" and "evidence" by the witness of the Holy Spirit within. If Satan can't stop us from our zeal to obey God's word, he will try to push us too far and tempt us to launch out ahead of God. This is the pride of life that we can all fall into.

Jesus did not presume to test God by jumping off the high place. He did not hear God say to jump off. Jesus had no substance or evidence by the Spirit that He was to act in this manner. On the contrary, He heard the Holy Spirit say, "Don't tempt the Lord". Jesus taught us by His model to be humble, to be patient and to wait on God. He also demonstrated that we must win spiritual warfare by quoting the word of God, which the Spirit gives us.

Father, I repent of all pride in my life. I do not want to tempt you in any way by acting in presumption rather than true faith. Holy Spirit, help me resist the enemy's temptation to become impatient and take "leaps of faith" that are foolish and would cause myself and others harm. Lord, make me an overcomer. In Jesus' Name, amen.

Exodus 17:7; Numbers 14:22,23; Psalm 78:41; James 1:2-4; I Corinthians 10:9,10

PRAYER 16 - WORSHIP GOD AND SERVE HIM ONLY

Again, the devil took Him up on an exceedingly high mountain, and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. And he said to Him, "All these things I will give You if You will fall down and worship me." Then Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only you shall serve.'" Matthew 4:8-10

Jesus resisted every temptation and Satan could gain no place or power over Him. For thousands of years, Satan had made deals with men to give them kingdoms and power if they would worship him. Few resisted such a great temptation and most fell into idol worship for the sake of temporary riches.

Knowing He was called to bear a cross and die for the sins of the world, Jesus would take no shortcut to authority or rule. He would fully and completely obey His Father even unto death on a cross. Jesus had a narrow path to follow and He was determined to walk through it. Jesus declared the true path for every disciple. **"You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only shall you serve".** We are called to be wholehearted lovers of God. Our lives must be consumed with passionate devotion to Christ alone. Anything else that becomes the central focus in our lives becomes an idol which we worship or render due worth unto higher than Christ.

We have been given authority and power to live and walk as Jesus walked. As we overcome, God's angels will come and minister to us and renew our strength. What great love the Father has for us and what a glorious heritage to be called the children of God.

Father, I set my heart to worship You only and serve You with all my might. I reject and renounce the lust of the eyes and the shortcuts of the devil. I desire to walk as Jesus walked by denying myself, taking up my cross daily and following You. Holy Spirit, reveal any idols in my heart and deliver me by Your great power. In Jesus' Name, amen.

Luke 10:18,19; Deuteronomy 6:5; Luke 10:27; Psalm 31:23,24

PRAYER 17 - BIND THE STRONG MAN AND PLUNDER HIS GOODS

And all the multitudes were amazed and said, "Could this be the Son of David?" Now when the Pharisees heard it they said, "This fellow does not cast out demons except by Beelzebub, the ruler of the demons." But Jesus knew their thoughts, and said to them: "Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation, and every city or house divided against itself will not stand. If Satan casts out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then will his kingdom stand? And if I cast out demons by Beelzebub, by whom do your sons cast them out? Therefore they shall be your judges. But if I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, surely the kingdom of God has come upon you. Or how can one enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man? And then he will plunder his house." Matthew 12:23-29

The public ministry of Jesus demonstrated that He had bound the strong man as He went about plundering His goods by setting captives free. Jesus bound the strong man by overcoming every temptation in the wilderness by using the word of God. When Jesus said, **"Away with you Satan!"** the enemy was bound. Satan had no area of darkness in Jesus' heart to rule. Satan was completely subject to Jesus' ministry on earth and was helpless to stop anything Jesus planned to do. We must grow in Christ-like character and knowledge of God's word so that we can bind the strong man and plunder His goods.

God delivered the children of Israel out of Egypt by His mighty power and the blood of the Passover lamb. The 40 years of wilderness wandering that followed was designed to deliver Egypt out of their hearts and teach them to walk by God's word. Those who learned to walk by faith in God's voice were blessed to cross the Jordan and go in to take the Promised Land by violent action.

Today, God delivers people out of the world who put their faith in the blood of Jesus. Then God wants to deliver the love of the world out of their hearts and teach them to walk by His word and His Spirit advancing the kingdom of God. As God shapes our character through difficult seasons and we learn to overcome, the Lord will anoint us with more authority and power to set captives free as Jesus did.

“For the ruler of this world is coming, and he has nothing in Me” (John 14:30b). We must grow in character to be like Jesus so that Satan has nothing in us where he can overcome us. As spiritual warfare intensifies in these last days, we will either overcome the enemy or be overcome.

Father, I pray that you would cleanse my heart completely so that the ruler of this world could find nothing in me. Holy Spirit, please convict me of any areas of sin that allow Satan to rule over me. I repent of loving this world, lust and pride. I want to be an overcomer, bind the strong man and set many captives free. In Jesus’ Name, amen.

Isaiah 61:1-3; Ephesians 6:10-18; I Peter 5:5-11

PRAYER 18 - LOVE GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART

Jesus said to him, " 'You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the first and great commandment." Matthew 22:37-38

Jesus loved the Father with all His heart. Every heart affection of Jesus was turned completely toward pleasing His Father in every aspect of His daily life. Jesus' heart, soul and mind was focused on loving the Father every day. Jesus loved the Father with all His energy and gave everything He had to do His will. We must conform to His image.

The Lord has given us a new heart through faith in Christ Jesus so that we could conform to the image of Jesus from within. We have the nature of Christ within us to love the Father as Jesus did. We must behold the love of Jesus and receive the impartation of the divine nature as He proclaims His name into our spirits.

And I have declared to them Your name, and will declare it, that the love with which You loved Me may be in them, and I in them. John 17:26

God is love. The name of God reflects His essential nature. As we hear the revelation of His name in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, the love of the Father, which He loved Jesus with, is imparted into our hearts in greater measure. Christ is gradually formed in our hearts and we become full of His love, mercy, grace, truth and righteousness.

The revelation of His name awakens our heart to love Him more and imparts to us the divine nature of His love. As a result, our passionate desire is to know Him more intimately, even as a bride longs for her bridegroom. Then we can join in the romance of the Song of Solomon with our Heavenly Bridegroom. **"I am my beloved's, and his desire is toward me" (Song of Solomon 7:10).** Our hearts must be completely given to Jesus in passionate love as He gave His heart to the Father.

Father, I ask you to proclaim Your name into my heart by the revelation of the Holy Spirit. Holy Spirit, open my eyes to see my beloved Bridegroom and have more passionate love for Him. Jesus, I choose to love You with all my heart, soul, mind and strength. Wash me Lord with Your word so that my heart is fully Yours. In Jesus' Name, amen.

Deuteronomy 30:6; Ezekiel 36:26,27; Song of Solomon 2:3-6

PRAYER 19 - LOVE PEOPLE WITH A HEART OF COMPASSION

And the second is like it: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Matthew 22:39

Jesus' heart is full of compassion and love for everyone. During His earthly ministry, Jesus loved everyone He came in contact with. He loved the multitudes, the rich, the poor, the businessman and the beggar. He even loved the Pharisees and had mercy in His heart toward them. As we behold the heart of Jesus, we must pray that the Father fill us with His compassionate nature so that we love our neighbors.

But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd. Matthew 9:36

Jesus has compassion for the nations. He cares for the weary, the homeless and the struggling souls on earth. Jesus longs to heal the sick because of His compassion. His compassion led Him to miraculously provide food for the multitudes. Jesus' compassion led Him to raise Lazarus and others from the dead.

Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do." And they divided His garments and cast lots. Luke 23:34

Jesus' heart, filled with mercy, compelled Him to petition the Father to forgive those who murdered Him. He knew that the punishment for killing the Son of God would be extreme and He loved His enemies. Jesus commands us to do the same.

But I say to you who hear: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, and pray for those who spitefully use you. Luke 6:27,28

In order to love our enemies under persecution and trial, we must have our hearts filled with the tender mercies of God. Mercy is the extension of undeserved kindness, forgiveness and grace. As we follow the leading of the Holy Spirit, the enemy will resist us through religious people who will accuse and assault us. If we allow our hearts to get into woundedness and bitterness, we can become like the Pharisees. We must guard our hearts from bitterness at all costs (Proverbs 4:23).

Father, I believe Your heart is full compassion and mercy. Thank You for Your mercy shown towards me in Your Son Jesus as You have forgiven me of all my sins. Open my heart to receive more revelation of Your great love. Holy Spirit, please fill me with compassion and mercy for others . I choose to forgive and release mercy to all who have sinned against me. Holy Spirit fill my heart with the mercy of God that I might learn mercy and love my enemies. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Matthew 14:14; 15:32; Luke 7:13; I Timothy 1:5; Colossians 3:12

PRAYER 20 - GLORIFY THE FATHER IN ALL THINGS

He who speaks from himself seeks his own glory; but He who seeks the glory of the One who sent Him is true, and no unrighteousness is in Him. John 7:18

And He who sent Me is with Me. The Father has not left Me alone, for I always do those things that please Him. John 8:29

Jesus never spoke from Himself independent of the Father's will. Jesus never uttered an idle word, but the words He spoke were life and spirit. Jesus lived His life on earth to glorify the Father and always did those things that pleased Him. Jesus glorified the Father by obeying His voice even unto death on the cross. Jesus glorified His Father by living a holy life and never transgressing into sin. Our created purpose is to conform our hearts to Jesus and live every day to the glory and praise of God our Father. We must live every day to please the Father as Jesus did.

And whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do those things that are pleasing in His sight. And this is His commandment: that we should believe on the name of His Son Jesus Christ and love one another, as He gave us commandment. I John 3:22-23

John understood that authority in prayer increased as he conformed his heart to Jesus'. When we keep God's commandments and always do those things that are pleasing in His sight, the Lord hears our prayers and answers them. God commands us to believe in Jesus and love one another. When we obey Him, we glorify the Father.

The Lord also calls us to glorify Him with good works done in His name. **"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven" (Matthew 5:16).** Jesus did many good works to glorify the Father. Those works included preaching, teaching, healing the sick, casting out demons, performing miracles, confronting the religious leaders and equipping disciples. Jesus always gave all the glory to His Father for everything He did. He called them the works of the Father. We are to do the same works as Jesus and greater works as we believe in Him and obey His voice.

Father, I repent of self focus and seeking glory from men. I confess that I have looked for the approval of man at times and I ask you to cleanse my heart. I choose today to focus on bringing You glory in all

my thoughts, words and deeds. Holy Spirit show me the will of the Father and guide me in the pathway that always pleases Him. In Jesus' Name, amen.

John 6:63; 10:37,38; 14:12-14

PRAYER 22 – DEVELOP A HEART OF PRAYER

So He Himself often withdrew into the wilderness and prayed. Luke 5:16
Now in the morning, having risen a long while before daylight, He went out and departed to a solitary place; and there He prayed. Mark 1:35
Now it came to pass in those days that He went out to the mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God. Luke 6:12
And when He had sent them away, He departed to the mountain to pray. Mark 6:46

Jesus had a heart that understood the need for intimate communication with His Father. Jesus had a heart of prayer. He often withdrew from ministry and found a solitary place in the wilderness where He could spend hours seeking the Father. Jesus sometime rose a long time before daylight and prayed. He went up on mountains to pray. Sometimes He prayed all night. Jesus prayed in agony before the cross to gain the victory. Even now, Jesus always lives to make intercession for us before His Father.

Apart from Him we can do nothing of eternal value. We need Jesus to teach us to pray as His first disciples also realized. Prayer must become a lifestyle of searching after God, communicating to Him, tuning in to His voice and listening to His guidance every day. Prayer includes praise, worship, meditation, rejoicing, reflecting, beholding, petitioning, intercession, listening and responding.

We are called to pray without ceasing. We need to abide in the spirit of prayer by keeping our hearts tuned to the heart of God so that He can speak to us at any time. Developing a heart of prayer is a challenge for many believers because they have not completely let go of this world nor have they understood the essence of communion with the Father that prayer brings.

Jesus walked in a pattern of prayer first and then ministry. He lived on earth as a human and needed to be refreshed in the presence of His Father. Jesus needed to receive daily revelation and guidance so that He could walk in perfect agreement with His Father and the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit led Jesus to withdraw and pray. All true ministry flows out of a life of being with God in prayer. A saying goes, “if you’re too busy to pray, you’re too busy”. You are also unwise. Without a heart of prayer, the fire starts to go out and life in Christ begins to dry up. No one had a busier ministry schedule than Jesus

yet He sacrificed sleep to pray. As we abide in Christ, we will learn to walk as He walked in the area of prayer.

Father, I ask you to give me a heart of prayer. I confess that I have been too busy and too self-focused to pray many times. Please forgive me and help me be led by Your Spirit into daily times of prayer. Holy Spirit, help me move in prayer and intercession so that I can walk as Jesus walked. In Jesus' Name, amen.

Luke 9:28; 18:1; Hebrews 7:25; Acts 6:4

PRAYER 22 – DEVELOP A HEART OF PURITY

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. Matthew 5:8

God wants us to have a pure heart that only does the will of God. A pure heart comes as we set our heart intent daily on pleasing the Father in all things as Jesus did. As our heart is delivered from selfish motivations, carnal lusts and worldly entanglements, we will begin to see God and His will for us.

A pure heart is completely set apart unto God. A pure heart is holy. A pure heart has an unveiled mind to see life as God reveals it. Jesus' heart was perfectly pure and holy and God expects us to conform to His heart. **"But as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, because it is written, 'Be holy, for I am holy'" (I Peter 1:15,16).** God calls His children to be separate from the world in order to be holy priests unto Him. We must embrace the Spirit of burning and of judgment to cleanse us from all unholiness (see Isaiah 4). As we repent of unholiness in the fire of God, the Holy Spirit will wash us with the word of God to make us pure and spotless before the Lord Jesus.

Just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish. Ephesians 5:25b-27

In order for the word of God to penetrate our hearts and transform us, we must prepare the soil of our heart through worship, repentance and humility. Jesus taught in His parable that only a heart with good soil could receive the seed of the word to produce fruit. The word of God, when taught by the Holy Spirit, has incredible power to cut out sin and impart the nature of Christ's sanctified life. As this process develops in the hungry heart that loves God and guards his heart against all other affections, pure Christ-like character develops that enables us to walk as Jesus walked.

Father, I ask you to produce in me a pure heart. I humble myself and repent of all my sins. I reject hardness of heart, pride, fear, worry, the cares of this world and all lusts so that the soil of my heart can be soft to receive Your word. Holy Spirit, I yield my flesh to You so that

you can place it under the cross and purify my life. In Jesus' Name, amen.

Matthew 13:3-9;18-23; Galatians 2:20; 5:16-25

PRAYER 23 – DEVELOP A HEART LIKE A CHILD

Then Jesus called a little child to Him, set him in the midst of them, and said, "Assuredly, I say to you, unless you are converted and become as little children, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven. Therefore whoever humbles himself as this little child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven." Matthew 18:2-4

A small child in a healthy home is a model of humility, trust and teachability. God wants our hearts to be humble like a little child. This speaks to us of our utter dependence upon God for everything. Jesus lived in complete dependence upon His Father and never acted by His own strength in anything. We are to be converted to become like humble children.

A humble heart does not worry about tomorrow, but trusts in the Lord for all things. We are called to have a deep trust in the Lord in every aspect of our hearts. We are not to rely on our own natural reason and understanding but rather seek an intimate relationship with Jesus and walk in agreement with Him at all times.

A healthy child is eager to learn new things and does not resist in pride when being instructed by a parent or teacher. We must develop a teachable spirit to receive the word of God planted in the good soil of our hearts. Even though I have studied the Bible for many years, I long to learn more and pray that I may have the heart of a child.

God wants us to have a teachable heart that welcomes correction. **"Whoever loves instruction loves knowledge, but he who hates correction is stupid" (Proverbs 12:1).** The pure heart of a child who receives instruction from spiritual parents will be delivered from many sins. It is foolish to refuse instruction and correction from the Lord through spiritual leaders. God calls us to trust in our spiritual leaders and obediently submit to them as a humble child would his parents.

The submissive, teachable, obedient child of God will become great in the kingdom of heaven according to Jesus. God flows His grace to the humble and it is wise to earnestly seek correction and the instruction of the Lord and His leadership.

Father, I desire to have a trusting and teachable heart like a child. I choose to trust you with all my heart and not to lean upon my own

understanding. Holy Spirit help me in all my ways to seek an intimate relationship with my Father. I pray that my heart would stay hungry to learn and be creative as I explore the beauty and glory of God. In Jesus' Name, amen.

Proverbs 3:5,6; Luke 8:15; James 4:6-10

PRAYER 24 – DEVELOP A HEART THAT IS GENTLE AND HUMBLE

Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light. Matthew 11:28-30

Jesus is gentle and lowly in heart. He calls us to come to Him in perfect submission and learn the walk of perfect agreement. There is work to do in the kingdom of God and it is only possible to do the works of the Father by being yoked with Jesus. The One who is gentle and humble in heart will flow His nature to us as we behold Him and walk with Him.

People get burdened with many heavy yokes when they walk apart from Jesus. Fleshly lusts wage war against their souls. The soul man is not capable of doing the work of the spirit man and gets burdened down with anxiety, stress, discouragement and depression when operating apart from Jesus. Many have tried to walk unyoked to Jesus and have come into great weariness of heart.

Once we are yoked with Jesus by submitting our wills to Him, we can rest assured that the Good Shepherd will take care of all of our needs. The work will not be easy, but the joy of fellowship with Him is worth the effort. The more we conform our heart to the heart of Jesus, the closer we will be in agreement with Him. Walking in agreement with Jesus leads to a life of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit .

The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit, a broken and a contrite heart -- these, O God, You will not despise. Psalm 51:17

When we get out of agreement with Jesus and walk our own way for a time, the Lord in His grace will convict us of our sin as He did King David. Responding to that conviction through confession with a broken and contrite heart immediately will restore us into fellowship with the Father through the grace of Jesus' sacrifice. Then we need to stay lowly and yoked with Jesus, keeping our heart tender.

Father, I ask you to give me a tender, humble and lowly heart like Jesus. I choose to take the yoke of Jesus today and submit to learn from Him. I realize that I am called to walk together in partnership with Jesus by the Holy Spirit. Lord, forgive me for my independence,

pride, stubbornness and foolish sins. Help me walk in humility today in perfect agreement with Jesus. In His Name, amen.

I Peter 2:11; Romans 14:17

PRAYER 25 – DEVELOP A HEART FULL OF FAITH

Then they said to Him, "What shall we do, that we may work the works of God?" Jesus answered and said to them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He sent." John 6:28,29

Jesus was able to do every good work of God because He believed completely in the voice of His Father and did what He said. Every Christian is called to do the good work of believing in Jesus and continuously grow from one level of faith to another. We are called to walk by faith and not by sight. Since faith comes by hearing the word of God, we must devote ourselves to prayer so that our spiritual eyes and ears may be opened to see and hear God's revelation in His word. Part of faith is to do the good works the Lord shows us to do since faith without works is dead.

A heart full of faith is pleasing to the Father since without faith it is impossible to please Him. The heart only receives true faith as the Holy Spirit reveals the word. The living word of God only bears fruit in a heart prepared, as good soil, to receive the word implanted. Those precious living seeds of faith must be nurtured to full maturity. This can take many seasons and go through fiery trials and testings before the fullness of fruit is released through our faith.

Jesus filled His heart from childhood with faith in God's word and was completely equipped to do the Father's will. Jesus passed every test and trial of His faith and is still bearing fruit by His work on the cross. Jesus wants us to abide in His word. The revealed word is the sword of the Holy Spirit that overcomes the enemy and sets us free from flesh issues. The word is our greatest weapon against all the wiles of the devil. As our hearts are full of faith in the word of God, we will not be deceived by the false words of the enemy.

Jesus is the author and finisher of our faith. In order to grow steadily in faith, we need to walk each day yielded to the Lord and spend time with Him and His word. As we do, He will author new chapters of faith in our lives. Jesus, by the Holy Spirit, will mature our faith so that we can bear much fruit and bring the Father glory.

Father, I want my heart to be full of faith in Jesus Christ, the living Word. Holy Spirit, I pray that you will tenderize my heart to make it good soil to receive the living words you want to nurture in my life. Lord, I ask you to give me a passionate desire for your word. Lord I

do believe in You. Help me in my areas of unbelief. Please author and finish Your work of faith in my life. In Jesus' Name, amen.

Romans 10:17; Hebrews 11:6; John 8:30-32; Proverbs 4:20-23

PRAYER 26 – DEVELOP A HEART FULL OF THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, submitting to one another in the fear of God. Ephesians 5:18-21

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

Jesus' heart was full of the fruit of the Spirit. While we need all the fruit, I want to focus on our need for joy. Jesus' heart filled with joy as He served His Father. Even during the crucifixion, Jesus had His heart focused on the joy set before Him that millions would be saved from destruction.

A joyful heart is good medicine and gives us strength to endure difficult times. The joy of the Lord is our strength. It brings healing to the body and refreshment to the bones. As we worship and delight in the Lord, He will give us the desires of our heart, because our heart will be filled with Him.

God calls us to rejoice always and shout for joy in His abundant goodness and incredible salvation. Rejoicing and delighting in God opens the spirit man and releases anointing that brings life to people. Depressed people have closed spirits and rarely reach out to anyone.

God gave my wife Glenda and I an extraordinary son named Jonathan. He is the most joyful person we've ever known. He walks in the light of God's glory and radiates joy and excitement everywhere he goes. Jonathan's 760 senior classmates voted him the most humorous student because of his extreme joy. People love to be around Jonathan and young children love to play with Him. Jonathan is a fountain of joy and has exuberance and faith that is astounding.

Joy is a great blessing from the Lord and it is impossible to follow Jesus very far with sorrow and sadness. There are many difficult things that assault us as we press into the kingdom of God, but we are called to serve the Lord with gladness. As the joy of the Lord fills our hearts through an abundance of worship and praise, the radiance of His life will shine wherever we go.

Father, I rejoice in Your abundant goodness. Your joy is my strength. I delight in You today and I ask You Lord to fill my heart with great joy and peace as I believe in You. Holy Spirit, anoint me to praise and worship with great joy. Please help me be delivered from all sadness and sorrow from this world. I want to drink the wine of Your supernatural river of pleasures. In Jesus' Name, amen.

Hebrews 12:2; Proverbs 17:22; Nehemiah 8:10; Psalm 37:4

PRAYER 27 – DEVELOP A HEART OF A SERVANT

So when He had washed their feet, taken His garments, and sat down again, He said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you? You call Me Teacher and Lord, and you say well, for so I am. If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you. Most assuredly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master; nor is he who is sent greater than he who sent him. If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them." John 13:12-17

Jesus set a perfect example of servanthood and calls us to serve one another. Jesus took the role of a common servant by washing the disciples' feet. Jesus promises us that we will be blessed if we serve. While I was the executive director of a camp ministry for eight years, the Lord really taught me to serve the campers and guests. Along with our staff, I waited tables, vacuumed floors, unplugged toilets in the middle of the night and many other lowly servant tasks. I learned the joy of serving. Although I am presently a pastor at a local church, I still wait tables, vacuum, scrub floors and pitch in to help wherever needed. There is great joy in serving that the Lord imparts to His people.

Jesus did not come to earth to be served, but to serve and to give His life as a ransom for many. Jesus humbled Himself and became a bondservant of the Holy Spirit. Jesus did everything the Father told Him to do and served the people with gladness. Jesus enjoyed serving and continues to serve us by His intercession on our behalf.

But Jesus called them to Himself and said to them, "You know that those who are considered rulers over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you shall be your servant. And whoever of you desires to be first shall be slave of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many." Mark 10:42-45

Years ago, we used to sing the song, "If you want to be great in God's kingdom, learn to be the servant of all." At the time, as a young believer, I still had a lot of carnal ambition and foolish pride. God caused it to work on me as I wanted to become great in His kingdom. Even though I started off with carnal ambition, I knew the pathway

was to become a servant. In the inner city, we served many poor people by giving them clothing, food or fixing maintenance problems in their homes. At times my attitude was just plain fleshly. The fire of the Holy Spirit burns that out over time as you stay close to Him. God calls all of us to develop the heart of a servant and over time, it becomes a joy to serve people.

Father, I thank You that Jesus was a perfect model of a servant. I want to be like Jesus and learn the joy of serving. Holy Spirit, help me develop the heart of a servant so that I can walk as Jesus walked. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Luke 22:27, Matthew 20:28, Philippians 2:1-11

PRAYER 28 – WALK IN THE POWER OF THE SPIRIT

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

Jesus completely obeyed the Holy Spirit in all things. After being filled with the Holy Spirit at the Jordan River, Jesus was led into the wilderness where He fasted and prayed and overcame the devil. Returning from the wilderness, Luke noted that Jesus was now flowing in the **"power"** of the Holy Spirit. As we mature in Christ, obey the Holy Spirit and overcome the enemy, the Lord will enable us to flow in more of His power also.

How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him. Acts 10:38

Jesus was anointed with the Holy Spirit and with power to do good and to heal all who were oppressed by the devil. Jesus preached the word of God, taught the people and then ministered to their physical needs with miraculous power. He healed the sick, cleansed lepers, cast out demons, raised the dead and performed many miracles. Jesus did these things by the leading of the Holy Spirit. The power of the Holy Spirit flowing through Jesus demonstrated God's love and demonstrated that the Kingdom of God was in their midst. Jesus wants us to express His love, demonstrate the kingdom and believe Him to enable us to do the works that He did and even greater works.

God wants His children to walk as Jesus walked in the Kingdom of God. As we reject the kingdom of this world and fully embrace the Kingdom of God, we will be led on a pathway by the Spirit to increasing manifestations of authority and power.

All Christians have been anointed with the Holy Spirit at some level but few have walked in higher levels of His power. To be empowered to do what Jesus did we must believe in and follow the pattern of Jesus during His life on earth. Jesus was completely led by the Holy Spirit and had to overcome Satan before He could walk in miraculous power. In time, as we fully submit to God, the Holy Spirit will lead us to fast, pray and overcome the enemy. After we have passed tests and overcome temptations, the Holy Spirit will lead us into greater maturity and faith and anoint us with His power. Then we will be able to do the works of the Father including healing all who are oppressed by the devil.

Father, I want to walk as Jesus walked. I believe in the model of Jesus. I believe in the power of the Holy Spirit within me to empower me to do what Jesus did. Today, I abandon myself to the leadership of the Holy Spirit. I am willing to fast and pray and go into a wilderness season to overcome the enemy in your perfect timing. I want to be anointed with the Holy Spirit and power to set many captives free. Guide me Lord and give me patient endurance so that I can overcome in all things. In Jesus' Name, amen.

John 14:12-14; Isaiah 61:1-3; Luke 3:22; 4:18; I John 2:27f

PRAYER 29 – TEACH AND PREACH BY THE ANOINTING

And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease among the people. Then His fame went throughout all Syria; and they brought to Him all sick people who were afflicted with various diseases and torments, and those who were demon-possessed, epileptics, and paralytics; and He healed them. Matthew 4:23-24

Jesus taught in their synagogues as One having authority. He traveled to various cities within Israel and taught in the appropriate meeting houses to the lost sheep of Israel. Jesus also taught in the open fields, on mountain tops and while sitting in a boat on a lake. Jesus taught the word of God and then His Father authenticated those words with signs and wonders. God wants us to walk as Jesus walked.

God calls us to teach His word systematically and help the people know God and His ways. Teaching is more methodical and systematic than preaching. Teaching is consistent line upon line, precept upon precept instruction. It is important for disciples of Jesus to learn from solid teaching. Every believer will be called to teach others to some degree. God has gifted some in the body of Christ as excellent teachers.

Jesus also continuously preached the gospel of the kingdom. Preaching tends to be more dynamic and inspirational than teaching. Preaching can be extremely challenging and often demands a response. Jesus preached that the pathway of salvation was difficult and that only a few would find it. He challenged Israel to repent and believe in the gospel. Jesus demanded that those who would become His disciples deny themselves, take up their crosses daily and follow Him.

The anointing on Jesus' teaching and preaching was incredible. The words He spoke were spirit and life. He always gave the messages the Father placed in His heart. Jesus loved everyone but always made His demands clear to the people. He was uncompromising as He taught and preached the gospel of the kingdom to the multitudes and to small groups.

Jesus also preached prophetically as He described the times and seasons to come upon the earth. Jesus told us to rely upon the Father to give us prophetic preaching when we are delivered up before kings

and rulers. Stephen demonstrated this kind of powerful preaching in Acts 7 where he spoke by the release of the Father's voice.

Father, I pray that You will help me learn to teach and preach as Jesus did. Holy Spirit, show me who You want me to invest my life in. Open my eyes and ears to hear the messages you want me to share with others. I ask You to anoint me with teaching and preaching and give me opportunities to minister by Your Spirit. In Jesus' Name, amen.

Matthew 10:19-20; Matthew 8:28,29; Luke 9:23,24; 13:22; John 6:63

PRAYER 30 – HEAL THE SICK AND CAST OUT DEMONS

Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons. Freely you have received, freely give. Matthew 10:8 Then He called His twelve disciples together and gave them power and authority over all demons, and to cure diseases. He sent them to preach the kingdom of God and to heal the sick… So they departed and went through the towns, preaching the gospel and healing everywhere. Luke 9:1,2,6

Jesus commanded His disciples to heal the sick, cleanse lepers, raise the dead and cast out demons. Jesus first modeled the works of the Father by healing all kinds of sicknesses and diseases. Then Jesus gave His disciples power and authority and commanded them to do what He did. The disciples flowed in healing and deliverance power before the birthing of the Church and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit based on the command of Jesus. The level of healings and miracles increased in the book of Acts after the Day of Pentecost. Paul also walked in many healing miracles.

"Remember those who rule over you, who have spoken the word of God to you, whose faith follow, considering the outcome of their conduct. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever" (Hebrews 13:7,8). We are called to follow the faith of those who have been leaders in the Church. Throughout history, disciples of Jesus have tapped into the faith Jesus walked in and have healed the sick and cast out demons. In the last one hundred years, we have the examples of John G. Lake, Smith Wigglesworth, Maria Woodsworth Etter, Aimee Semple McPherson, William Branham, Oral Roberts, Kathryn Kuhlman, Benny Hinn and many others. The anointing Jesus walked in yesterday is available today and will be available tomorrow for those who mature in faith. There are many oppressed people who need us to grow up quickly!

There were no demonized people too bound up for Jesus to release by the anointing of power that was on Him. Epileptics were set free along with paralytics and the mentally ill. The Gadarene's demonic dwelt naked among the tombs and was a well-known raving madman. Jesus spoke a word and the man was set free from 2,000 unclean spirits that tormented him.

Satan Himself could not stand before Jesus or get Him out of agreement with the Father or the Holy Spirit. No principality, power, spiritual force or confederacy of demons can maintain their ground when the mature Son of God arrives. We are the sons of God now and

we must mature and walk in the same delivering power of Jesus so the multitudes of demonized may be free.

Father, I want to walk in the mature faith needed to heal the sick and cast out demons. I ask you to increase my faith and bring me into mature sonship so that I can do the works of Jesus and even greater works by the power of Your Spirit. Holy Spirit, please teach me the pathway of faith so that I can be pleasing to the Father and glorify Him as I obey the command to heal the sick and cast out demons. In Jesus' Name, amen.

Acts 28:8-10; Mark 16:17-18; John 14:12-14

PRAYER 31 - WALK IN MIRACLES, SIGNS AND WONDERS

Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man attested by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs which God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves also know. Acts 2:22

The Father authenticated the message of Jesus by miracles, signs and wonders done in the midst of many people. Jesus raised the dead, cleansed lepers, raised up cripples, stilled the storms, multiplied food, changed water into wine, walked on water and rose from the dead. Jesus walked in the works of the Father.

And there are also many other things that Jesus did, which if they were written one by one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that would be written. Amen. John 21:25

Jesus performed so many miracles, signs, wonders and "other things" that John doubted that the whole world could contain the books that could be written about Him. The mature Church will walk in the miraculous power of God to perform miracles, signs and wonders of greater magnitude than Jesus, just as He promised. These miracles will be done to point people to Jesus so that they might respond to the gospel of the kingdom by repenting of sins and believing in His perfect life and vicarious sacrifice.

The first Church disciples walked in miracles, signs and wonders. Apostles, deacons and others walked in high levels of God's power. Philip did many miracles as he preached the gospel to the Samaritans. God has used many people to walk in miraculous power throughout the ages. I have read many missionary biographies and miracles are still happening today all over the world. We've seen some signs and wonders in our own ministry and are believing for many more.

"Therefore He who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you, does He do it by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith" (Galatians 3:5) ? God still works miracles through the Spirit by the "hearing of faith". As we hear the Holy Spirit give us His counsel and we follow it in ministry, He supplies the might so that the miracle happens by His power. We have begun to see more miracles in our ministry as we simply listen to the Holy Spirit and do exactly what He shows us to do. God wants us to

earnestly desire and be zealous to flow in His supernatural gifts of power.

Father, I want to walk in miracles, signs and wonders by the hearing of faith and through the power of the Holy Spirit. Holy Spirit, open my ears and help me become more sensitive to your counsel. I pray that you would speak clearly to me so that I can do exactly as you say. Lord, increase my faith and obedience so that I can glorify the Father by doing His great works. In Jesus' Name, amen.

Acts 8:6,13; 15:12; 19:11; I Corinthians 12:10,28; 14:1; II Corinthians 12:12;

PRAYER 32 - DISCIPLE THE FAITHFUL AND IMPART POWER TO THEM

And when He had called His twelve disciples to Him, He gave them power over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease. Matthew 10:1

Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations. Matthew 28:19b

And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also. II Timothy 2:2

Jesus discipled faithful followers and equipped them to reach others with the gospel of His kingdom. Jesus spent three years teaching and training the twelve so that they could be like Him and do the works that He did. Jesus also imparted anointing power to His disciples. We are called to impart anointing to those God calls us to disciple by the laying on of hands in the Spirit's timing.

The Great Commission of our Lord was to go and make disciples of all the nations. Discipleship is a vital aspect of helping new believers come into a mature life in Christ. Evangelism is like birthing a new baby. Discipling is providing parental care that is essential in helping young ones grow.

God calls us to invest heavily in the faithful disciples so that leaders are raised up to lead the Church in the next generation. Jesus wants us to disciple men and women, boys and girls who love the Lord. Jesus modeled discipleship in every way. Discipleship begins by providing a model of walking in the Spirit. Next Jesus built a strong relationship with His disciples. He involved them with Him in ministry at various levels during their development and provided them clear instructions on how to minister.

Jesus' discipleship was relational and practical. Jesus didn't use a programmed curriculum. His life was the curriculum. The marketplaces, the fisherman's boat, the open fields and everyday life events of the ministry were the classroom. He loved His disciples and poured His life into them. We are called to do the same as Jesus did with those faithful ones God gives us.

Father, I thank you for the model of Jesus in discipling His faithful followers. I ask You, Holy Spirit, to help me be fully discipled and be a discipler of others. I want to invest in faithful believers who will reproduce in others. Help me be an excellent model to those who look to me for spiritual leadership. In Jesus' Name, amen.

Matthew 5:1,2; Luke 6:40; John 17:4-8

PRAYER 33 - CONFRONT PHARISEES AND ENDURE PERSECUTION

You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it. John 8:44

Jesus stood in the face of the religious Pharisees and blistered them with hard wake-up-call words. They didn't wake up! They hated Him all the more. Jesus did avoid confrontations with the religious as the Spirit led Him, but He also stood powerfully against their hypocrisy and exposed their lawlessness.

Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you cleanse the outside of the cup and dish, but inside they are full of extortion and self-indulgence. Blind Pharisee, first cleanse the inside of the cup and dish, that the outside of them may be clean also. Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs which indeed appear beautiful outwardly, but inside are full of dead men's bones and all uncleanness. Even so you also outwardly appear righteous to men, but inside you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness. Matthew 23:25-28

Jesus' verbal attack against the Pharisees was relentless as He set His face like flint to go to the cross. His righteous indignation exposed their venomous rage. His confrontations brought their murderous hearts out from behind their religious robes. As we walk in the works of the Father, He will call us to have a zeal for His house that will consume us with fire towards those who would turn it into a den of robbers for personal gain.

Jesus confronted the religious leaders of His day on many occasions. He was direct and bold in dealing with their wicked hypocrisy. We are called to be like Him. As we confront the religious leaders of our day, we will have to endure their persecution just as Jesus did. The mature Church will stand against religiosity and overcome all persecution even unto death.

Father, I ask you to give me the zeal of Jesus for Your house. Holy Spirit grant me courage to stand against the religious ones who oppose you. Guide me when to avoid confrontation and when to speak

out against the evil of the Pharisees of my day. Lord, I ask you to give me the grace to endure persecution as Jesus did. In His Name, amen.

Matthew 5:10-12; John 15:20; Zechariah 9:13; II Timothy 3:12

PRAYER 34 – ZEAL FOR THE HOUSE OF GOD TO BE PURE

Now the Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. And He found in the temple those who sold oxen and sheep and doves, and the money changers doing business. When He had made a whip of cords, He drove them all out of the temple, with the sheep and the oxen, and poured out the changers' money and overturned the tables. And He said to those who sold doves, "Take these things away! Do not make My Father's house a house of merchandise!" Then His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for Your house has eaten Me up."
John 2:13-17

Jesus has passionate zeal for the purity and glory of His Father's house. The greedy religious leaders allowed the house of prayer for all nations to become a house of merchandise. Some of the Church today has become polluted with materialism and controlling leaders who try to imprison the Holy Spirit, represented, in Jesus' day, by the doves in cages, under their control. It will require violent prophetic and apostolic action to cleanse the house of God from the carnality we have in parts of the Church today.

All lawless people in churches must be lovingly called to repent. If they persistently refuse to repent and follow Jesus, they must eventually be put out of the church. This violent action must take place so that God can come and manifest His presence in our midst. Greedy, sensual pastors must not be followed. The Lord is going to bring His fire and cleanse His house.

Pursue love, and desire spiritual gifts, but especially that you may prophesy.
I Corinthians 14:1

We must grow up into the zeal of God for His house and the gifts needed to build His house. We must walk by faith and not by sight. God has called us to be faithful in stewardship in all areas as we zealously seek to follow His ways. We will need to meditate on His word day and night to be successful at this level.

Zeal comes by the impartation of the fire of God known as the spirit of burning and judgment. God's zeal imparts the seven fires of the Holy Spirit to burn all pride and carnality out of the believer. Zeal is the holy jealous passion of God to prepare a pure and spotless bride to the

everlasting Son. The zeal of God will supernaturally empower men and women to cleanse the Church of all compromise, merchandising and doctrines of demons. The fire is on the way!

Father, I earnestly desire to walk in the zeal that Jesus walked in. Lord Jesus, I ask you to baptize me in Your holy fire and burn out all that is carnal and worldly in me. Please give me passionate zeal for holiness and purity with perfect love. Holy Spirit, help me be zealous to be personally cleansed and then be useful to cleanse the house of God as you direct me. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Matthew 21:12-13; Isaiah 4; Joshua 1:8,9

PRAYER 35 - LOVE THE BODY OF CHRIST AS JESUS LOVED YOU

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

Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends. John 15:13

God is love and we must demonstrate maturity in loving one another as Christ loved us. Our hearts must be filled with love at all times. The love of God in us will cover a multitude of sins that we see in our brothers and sisters in Christ. His love will enable us to bear one another's burdens and thus fulfill the law of the Spirit of Christ.

We must unconditionally love through every trial and lay down our lives for one another. This new commandment of Jesus has been difficult for many in North American churches to obey. Our independent mindset and our pursuit of success at all costs has led us to disunity and division. Critical and judgmental attitudes must flee from the body of Christ. All jealousy, selfish ambition and carnal darkness will disappear in the light of His glorious love shining through His people. Demonic spirits of offense, faultfinding and accusation will try to slither their way into the holy house of God, but we must crush them under our feet.

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. He who does not love does not know God, for God is love. In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him. In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.
I John 4:7-11

Everything we say and do must ultimately be evaluated by the depth of our love for God and others. Jesus walked in perfect love for us. His perfect love casts out all of our fears and enables us to love as He did.

Father, I thank you for Your perfect love shown to me in the sacrifice of Your Son Jesus. I receive Your love and desire to flow in love

towards the body of Christ. Jesus, thank you for showing me how to love and forgive. Holy Spirit teach me to love people each day as Jesus did. Help me to walk in love towards all people but especially Christians who are struggling. Help me pray for them and bear their burdens in love. In Jesus' name. Amen.

I Peter 4:8; Galatians 6:1,2; I John 3:10-23

PRAYER 36 – BE A LIVING SACRIFICE

Therefore, when He came into the world, He said: "Sacrifice and offering You did not desire, but a body You have prepared for Me. In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin You had no pleasure. Then I said, 'Behold, I have come -- In the volume of the book it is written of Me --To do Your will, O God.'" Hebrews 10:5-7

Let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Hebrews 12:1b-2

The greatest work of Jesus was to willingly lay down His life in love for others. He despised the shame and with the joy set before Him of God's glory and our salvation, Jesus embraced the cross. He calls us to take up our cross daily, die to self, give our bodies to God and follow Him. God is love and we must allow His love to penetrate our hearts so that we can give everything to serve Him in this last hour.

And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death. Revelation 12:11

Many will be called to lay down their lives in martyrdom in the last days. They will not give in to compromise to save their lives. This powerful obedience unto death will be used by God to overcome the enemy and ultimately Jesus will come back to punish His enemies and establish His kingdom in full rule on earth.

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. Romans 12:1

Paul called us to follow Jesus' example by presenting our bodies daily as a living sacrifice unto God. We are to consecrate our lives daily unto God, seeking to please Him and serve Him in whatever way He directs. Because of His great mercy by which He saved us, we owe Him full allegiance of love, affection and service. Jesus lived a daily sacrificial life. He obeyed the Holy Spirit even to death on the cross. We are called to walk as He walked, dying to ourselves, taking up our cross and following Him.

Father, I thank you for the model of Jesus' sacrificial life of love and service. I present my body to you this day as a living sacrifice. I choose to die to my self and my will and I choose to submit to Your will for me. Holy Spirit, help me run the race with endurance, keeping my eyes upon Jesus who will complete my faith and enable me to bring glory and honor to the Father. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Luke 9:23,24; Hebrews 13:12-16; I Peter 2:21-25

PRAYER 37 - MINISTER TO THE NATIONS

Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age. Amen. Matthew 28:19,20

The heart of our heavenly Father is filled with love for people of every ethnic group on earth. He will not be satisfied until disciples are made among all peoples, tribes and tongues. In Los Angeles County, where we presently live, it is possible to preach the gospel to many "nations" within a two hour drive.

God is bringing the nations to major cities in preparation for a great harvest of souls. The Great Commission of our Lord must be fulfilled by anointed overcomers who walk in the power of the Holy Spirit. As we go in fellowship with Jesus Christ, He will enable us to disciple leaders throughout the nations so His kingdom will be advanced until He returns.

Now you Philippians know also that in the beginning of the gospel, when I departed from Macedonia, no church shared with me concerning giving and receiving but you only. For even in Thessalonica you sent aid once and again for my necessities. Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that abounds to your account. Philippians 4:15-17

Many of us may not be able to go out to the ends of the earth with the gospel, but we can all financially support some of those who do. We can pray and give as the Spirit leads and share in the fruit of the harvest. Paul commended the Philippian Church for their tangible support enabling him to minister as a missionary.

My wife Glenda and I were missionaries for over two decades and we still live a missionary lifestyle depending on the Lord for His supply through people. Not everyone is called to live the way we do and God has used the giving of many to support our mission. It is a tremendous blessing in every way and enables us to concentrate on the hard work of ministering in unchurched areas and accomplish the calling of God.

Jesus was called to the lost sheep of the house of Israel, but also ministered to Romans, Samaritans and people from other nations who came to Jerusalem for festivals. As the risen Lord with all authority

and power, Jesus commands us to go and minister to the nations. We can obey in prayer, giving and going as the Spirit leads.

Father, I hear your heart cry to bring the gospel to the nations of the earth. Please fill me with Your love for the nations. I ask you for the nations as my inheritance. I want to do everything You want me to do in order to minister to the nations. Holy Spirit, reveal to me how I can please You and minister to the nations and bear fruit for your glory. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Matthew 24:14; Mark 16:15-18; Revelation 7:9,10

PRAYER 38 – ASCEND INTO HIS PRESENCE

No one has ascended to heaven but He who came down from heaven, that is, the Son of Man who is in heaven. John 3:13

Then Jesus answered and said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner. For the Father loves the Son, and shows Him all things that He Himself does; and He will show Him greater works than these, that you may marvel." John 5:19,20

Through prayer, Jesus ascended in His Spirit to heaven to commune with His Father. In that place, Jesus entered into the counsel of His Father and received revelation and directions for His ministry. Jesus entered a dimension of spiritual experience that none before Him entered into. Through His blood sacrifice, we can now enter into new depths of revelatory experiences as we approach the throne of grace with boldness. We have been seated in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus and have a right to enter into the counsel of our Father just as He did.

The Apostle Paul was given many profound experiences of revelation so that He could understand the mind of Christ and the counsel of the Most High. Paul was caught up into the third heaven, where God is, and saw many incredible things. Paul ascended as Jesus did and saw what the Father was doing.

After these things I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven. And the first voice which I heard was like a trumpet speaking with me, saying, "Come up here, and I will show you things which must take place after this." Revelation 4:1

The Apostle John saw a door standing open in heaven and was called to ascend in the spirit to see things that God wanted to reveal to Him. The door is standing open today and the Holy Spirit is enabling some to enter into third heaven revelatory experiences. This will become more common place in the last days. As we grow in maturity and learn to walk as Jesus walked, the Holy Spirit will enable a greater depth of intimacy and revelation experiences of ascending and seeing what the Lord wants us to see so we can please the Father in all things.

Father, I want to ascend into Your presence and behold your glory. I believe the door is still open into the third heaven realm. I ask you to

catch me up into experiences of revelation that I may see what You are doing. I want to behold Your glory so that I can be transformed and be a witness of what I have seen and heard. Holy Spirit, I trust you to help me mature so that I can ascend, see and hear what the Father wants me to do. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Hebrews 4:16; Ephesians 2:4-6; Jeremiah 23:20-22; II Corinthians 12:2; Psalm 24:3-6

PRAYER 39 – WALK AS A ROYAL PRIEST

And having been perfected, He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him, called by God as High Priest "according to the order of Melchizedek." Hebrews 5:9,10

Jesus is our eternal High Priest after the order of Melchizedek. This mysterious ancient man was the King of Salem and a great priest who blessed Abraham. Melchizedek was a royal priest. Jesus is the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, who always lives as a High Priest to make intercession for us. We are called to be like Jesus and follow in the new order that He established.

But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light. 1 Peter 2:9

What great grace the Lord has given to us to be called a royal priesthood. We have a great honor to worship and minister unto the Lord offering spiritual sacrifices of praise. We have access to His throne as intercessors to pray for peoples and nations. He has given us great responsibility and authority to proclaim His messages to people on earth and advance His righteous kingdom.

Coming to Him as to a living stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God and precious, you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. I Peter 2:4,5

God has chosen us to walk in a holy priesthood after the model of our great High Priest. As we follow the Holy Spirit, He places us in the right position to serve Him in a local Church, a spiritual house. Jesus constantly gave Himself to prayer so that He might minister out of fresh experiences with His Father. We must be devoted to prayer and the ministry of God's word so that we can walk in the priesthood as Jesus did.

Father, I thank You for the model of Jesus Christ as my High Priest. I want to walk as Jesus walked as a priest, devoted to prayer and Your word. Holy Spirit, I ask you to teach me how to walk as a royal priest on this earth. Please teach me to pray and help me grow quickly so that I can faithfully represent you to people on earth. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Hebrews 3:1; John 16:13-15; Revelation 1:6;5:10

PRAYER 40 - WALK IN KINGLY AUTHORITY

To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood, and has made us kings and priests to His God and Father, to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. Revelation 1:5b, 6

Jesus has redeemed us so that we might reign with Him as kings and priests. God created man in His image so that he would be equipped to have kingly authority over the earth. God intends this to be a benevolent rulership for the welfare of the people, creatures and land. What Adam lost through sin, Jesus regained by His life, death and resurrection.

The kingly anointing will be evidenced by teaching that is characterized by authority. The revelational teaching God releases through His apostles, prophets and teachers will be astonishing to the people. The anointing on the word will enable it to penetrate the hearts of the hearers and plant the nature of Jesus in them in living seed form.

Jesus demonstrated the works of His Father by healing every sickness and disease. He cast out every demon with a word, performed countless miracles and did so many signs and wonders that the whole world could not contain the books written about Him. He did this in a little over three years. Jesus said that we would do the same works and greater works if we believe in Him.

The kingly anointing is evidenced by those who do the same works as Jesus and greater works. Jesus' disciples walked in power and authority as kings and priests. Those with the kingly anointing will not speak on their own authority but only what the Father releases them to speak. They will be in complete submission to the Lord in all their teaching.

The kingly anointing manifests in persons who search out the scriptures to discover the mysteries of God concealed in His word. They enter into the throne room council of the Most High and learn His secrets by the Holy Spirit, the great Teacher of all the ages.

The kingly anointing is characterized by a great deal of power in the tongue. Kings have the authority to bless and make decrees that have power in the spirit to manifest in the natural realm. Jesus blessed five loaves of bread and two fish that multiplied to feed five thousand. Kings prayers heal the sick, and they cast out demons with a word.

Anointed prophetic words and decrees are powerful to change the course of a life, church or region.

Father, I thank you that Jesus Christ shed His blood to enable me to become a priest and a king. I desire to walk in kingly authority and power. Grant me the wisdom to search out matters and know Your word each day. I choose to submit myself completely to Your authority and determine to only speak and act by the leadership of Your Holy Spirit. Holy Spirit, I ask you to help me walk in dominion and kingly authority each day. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Genesis 1:26-28; II Timothy 2:11-13; John 14:12-14; Revelation 20:6; 22:5

CONCLUSION

In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen. Matthew 6:9-13

Jesus taught His disciples a pattern of prayer so that they could bear lasting fruit and bring glory and honor to the Father. We are called to worship and adore the character, personality and nature of God revealed in His name. Focusing on the revealed names of God transforms us to become like Him and imparts the love of the Father to us. His perfect love casts out all fear and imparts the divine nature.

We pray for the rule of His kingdom to invade every aspect of our personal lives. Fully yielded to the Holy Spirit, we allow the King to rule us as we partner with Him to advance His kingdom around us. Jesus established kingdom dominion everywhere He went by preaching the truth of God's word, healing sickness, casting out demons and performing miracles.

As we set our minds on Christ, seated in the heavens, the Lord reveals to us His will through scriptures, visions, words or revelations. We are to pray the things the Father shows us into the earth realm. We know based on the word of God that it is God's will for us to abide in Christ and walk as He walked. The prayers in this devotional book are designed to help believers pray the will of God for their lives. God

hears, honors and answers the perservering prayer of faith. Faith comes by hearing God's word and manifests in the natural realm by acting upon it.

The Lord wants us to pray for all our needs. Nothing is too small or large for God to handle. We are exhorted to keep asking, seeking and knocking so that God can work on our behalf. The Lord's prayer leads us to pray for forgiveness and forgive all those who sin against us. We also pray for clear leadership from the Holy Spirit so that we can avoid temptation and to be delivered from the evil one.

In conclusion, the Lord taught us to worship the Father and give Him all the glory, honor and praise for His Kingdom is great, His power is infinite and His glory will last for all eternity. Keeping our focus on exalting the Lord in all things is essential as God begins to use us to walk in the works of Jesus. Abiding in the Lord leads to a life of perfect agreement with Him at all times. In agreement with Him, we can walk as He walked.

Final Prayer: Please pray the Lord's prayer quoted above.