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Faith

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An Apostolic School of Ministry



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Holy Spirit is the inspiration for the content of this book, however someone put words to it. This book was written by Brandy Helton.

This book is one of a series of books written and distributed by The Apostolic School of Ministry from The Garden Training Center, Inc. The series arises from the foundational teachings of the school of ministry, founded by Brandy Helton. Brandy wrote several sections that are included in each book such as “God’s Love” and the prayers included at the end of each book.

Many thanks to the team of writers of the series for their collaboration to make the series available to the public. The writers are: Lauren Caldwell, Jessica Doggett, Danetta Ferguson, Elisa Griffith, Paula Green, Nancy Hadley, Robin Harmon, Brandy Helton, Grant Hill, and Kevin McSpadden. Each have sought Holy Spirit for the words He wants to speak through them. The result is a mixture of personalities and communication strategies that convey the total message in a beautiful, diverse way.

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Encouragement and Prayer for the Reader

Beloved of God, these teachings are written to reveal Jesus Christ and His heart of love for all who call upon His name to save them.

God has sent His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, to save all who would believe in Him and His Word.

God desires to reveal Himself and to give us His divine nature in Christ Jesus our Lord through the power of His Holy Spirit.

God is Jealous. He wants us to encounter His presence daily and walk with Him in glory – intimate communion - today, while it is called today, and forever.

It is my prayer that this teaching would so impact the readers that all would come to know and believe JESUS, the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, our Great God and Savior, and receive the PERFECT LOVE He has for us all as we grow up into Him and mature as true sons and daughters of God.

May you grow in faith and knowledge of your God and Savior and come to know the love that He has for you. I pray for you the Apostle Paul's prayer for spiritual growth:

Ephesians 3:14-21 The Living Bible (TLB)

"14-15 When I think of the wisdom and scope of his plan, I fall down on my knees and pray to the Father of all the great family of God—some of them already in heaven and some down here on earth— 16 that out of his glorious, unlimited resources he will give you the mighty inner strengthening of his Holy Spirit. 17 And I pray that Christ will be more and more at home in your hearts, living within you as you trust in him. May your roots go down deep into the soil of God's marvelous love; 18-19 and may you be able to feel and understand, as all God's children should, how long, how wide, how deep, and how high his love really is; and to experience this love for yourselves, though it is so great that you will never see the end of it or fully know or understand it. And so at last you will be filled up with God himself.

20 Now glory be to God, who by his mighty power at work within us is able to do far more than we would ever dare to ask or even dream of—infinitely beyond our highest prayers, desires, thoughts, or hopes. 21 May he be given glory forever and ever through endless ages because of his master plan of salvation for the Church through Jesus Christ."

In Christ our Lord,
Brandy Helton
A child of God

God's Love

God's love is good news! Don't believe the lie that God is distant, unapproachable, and angry!

God is love. He is the only true, eternal God. He is perfect and holy, and He is truth. God is One. He has revealed Himself in three distinct, individual, equal persons: God the Father, God the Son – Jesus, and God the Holy Spirit.

The Bible tells the story of God's perfect love. In that love, God created the first family to live on the earth with Him. Through their deep intimate relationship with the Father, Adam and Eve were meant to fulfill all that was in God's heart on Earth just like it is in Heaven, for God's glory and purposes. Adam and Eve were chosen to walk with God, clothed in His glory presence and were perfect, as He is perfect, and they lived in His beautiful garden, the secret place called Eden. He gave them His breath, life and power to have dominion over all He created and wanted them to reproduce that LIFE replenishing the earth with it, until all the earth is filled with His glory.

Genesis 1:26-28

"26 Then God said, 'Let Us make man in Our

image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.’ 27 So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. 28 Then God blessed them, and God said to them, ‘Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.’”

God created His children in His likeness. He made them spirit beings, with a soul – mind, will and emotions – and placed them in a physical body. He gave His children the choice to love Him and to walk with Him in obedience to His every word. He gave the first family the power to overcome any temptation offered to them through God’s adversary, the devil, who had rebelled against the Most High God in Heaven’s glory and was cast down to the earth. The devil, Satan, brought great darkness and chaos prior to Adam and Eve’s existence.

Adam and Eve were deceived into thinking that God was not perfect in love as Satan, the adversary, tempted them to believe that God would not keep His Word to them. Through their own will, Adam and Eve disobeyed the Father by eating from a tree that had the power to open their eyes to both good and evil. Through their choice of disobedience, they willfully gave their inheritance and authority over to the devil and his kingdom. Sin entered mankind, which produced death, eternal separation from a Holy God. Adam and Eve were banished from the dwelling and intima-

cy of perfection in the garden and were sent into the world as a fallen creation.

Father God knew He had to come Himself and save His family, and in His wisdom, He chose to send His Son, Jesus Christ into the world to save us and restore fallen mankind back to relationship with Him. Through His Son, He destroyed all the works of the devil and the curse of death. Hebrews 9:22 says, *“And according to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no remission.”* Remission means to cancel the penalty, so according to the law there must be shedding of blood to cancel the penalty for sin. The Father cancelled the penalty for the sins of His children through the shedding of the blood of His innocent, holy Son Jesus, who was the Sent One, called and chosen to die for all, so all could live.

John 3:16-21

“16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. 17 For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. 18 ‘He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. 19 And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. 20 For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. 21 But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may

be clearly seen, that they have been done in God.”

Jesus was conceived by God’s Holy Spirit in the womb of a young virgin named Mary. He appeared as the second Adam, in the flesh, with the choice to walk in perfect love and obedience, full of God’s Spirit, as a man to do the will of His Father.

Jesus grew up as any male child did in the flesh but He had divine fellowship with His Father and Holy Spirit. At the appointed time, He was revealed as being sent from God to save. Jesus went around doing good and healed all who were oppressed by the devil spiritually and physically. He revealed His Father’s heart and perfect love to all who believed through His teachings, grace and miraculous power.

Salvation means eternal life, healing, deliverance, protection, peace, wholeness, and forgiveness. Salvation came to all men through the cross, where the Son of God, the perfect One, was slaughtered as a lamb, bearing all sin for all times from a fallen people. Jesus bore the wrath of God against the darkness that separated God’s family from Him. Jesus was punished for our sin and died to cleanse us from the guilt, shame and condemnation sin produces. Sin separates. Love restores.

Jesus was crucified, dead and buried, spending three days and nights in the depths of Hades, the realm of the dead fallen race. Jesus took back the keys of death and hell from that old serpent the devil, Satan, and therefore, all authority was restored back to Jesus.

Great Holy Spirit breathed LIFE into Jesus and raised Him from the dead. He appeared to His disciples, those who followed Him and obeyed His teachings. He showed them that He conquered sin, death and the grave and now, had the keys of hell and death, and would give ETERNAL LIFE to ALL who chose to believe in Him. King Jesus ascended back to the Father of glory where He ever lives to make intercession for us all, and He is coming again to the earth in power to establish His Father's Kingdom on Earth.

Jesus Christ is the head and Lord over His church, those who have made Him Lord and Savior, by believing He is the Son of the Living God and God in the flesh, who finished the work the Father gave Him to do. He not only died for our sins to save and heal us, He chose to give His authority to those He called and chose to follow Him as His disciples, His family.

Jesus has commissioned His followers to do the same works that He did while He lived on the earth.

John 14:12-14

“12 Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father. 13 And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. 14 If you ask anything in My name, I will do it.”

God loves us and desires that none should perish. He desires for His family to be with Him where He

is. These books are written to inspire all who read them and to reveal the heart of God the Father, Jesus Christ the Son, and Holy Spirit in order that we might RECEIVE THE LOVE HE HAS FOR US and be CHANGED INTO HIS VERY LIKENESS. God desires to dwell with His family forever and ever just as He did in the beginning. How glorious it is to live in His presence and dominion, beholding His goodness, forever and ever, amen.

The book of Revelation describes the time that is coming when all things are made new according to God's heart of love:

Revelation 21:1-7

"1 Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also, there was no more sea. 2 Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3 And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, 'Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God. 4 And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.' 5 Then He who sat on the throne said, 'Behold, I make all things new.' And He said to me, 'Write, for these words are true and faithful.' 6 And He said to me, 'It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts. 7 He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be

My son.”

To understand what is presented in the Bible, you must start by understanding God’s love. The good news is that God loves you!

The Heart of It

Faith is complete confidence and trust in someone or something without having proof. God wants us to have complete confidence and trust in Him. He wants to have a relationship with us and to put us in charge of His wonderful creation. He wants us to choose to follow His instructions so that He can give us His kingdom. He wants us to trust Him to know what is best for us and to follow His rules which are designed for our protection. He asks us to believe Him, obey Him, and have faith in Him. Faith starts when we choose to believe in God and in God's word. God values our decision, and our faith becomes a catalyst for God to begin His creative work in us. We receive salvation and healing through our faith, and we grow in faith as we draw near to God in whom all things are possible. Faith works in, with and through God's love. Unbelief neutralizes faith but faith increases in an unwavering heart. To be full of faith is our goal in Christ Jesus. Peace and true rest come as you wait upon the Lord to bring forth His promise. God wants His children to just believe Him in childlike faith.

Faith

What is Faith?

According to the dictionary, the word **faith** can mean: (1) confidence or trust in a person or thing. (2) Belief that is not based on proof. (3) Belief in God or in the doctrines or teachings of religion. (4) Belief in anything, as a code of ethics, standards of merit, etc. (5) A system of religious belief. (6) The obligation of loyalty or fidelity to a person, promise, engagement, etc. (7) The observance of this obligation; fidelity to one's promise, oath, allegiance, etc. (8) The trust in God and in His promises as made through Christ and the Scriptures by which humans are justified or saved. Dictionary.com

Faith is belief that is not based on proof. It means having confidence and trust in someone or something without seeing evidence that validates that trust. So, faith in God is belief and trust in God without being able to see God. Faith is especially important to God, so much so that His Word says it becomes a spiritual commodity, a substance that we cannot see. It is the raw material and the catalyst for God to produce what we believe will happen.

In Hebrews 11:1, the Bible declares: “Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.” In the New Living Translation, it is explained as: “What is faith? It is the confident assurance that what we hope for is going to happen. It is the evidence of things we cannot yet see.” In the Christian Standard Bible version, it is stated as: “Now faith is the reality of what is hoped for, the proof of what is not seen.”

So, faith is a ‘substance’; a confident assurance; evidence; a reality that we are hoping or believing God for. In response to our faith, God brings that invisible substance or reality into the seen realm.

In Hebrews 11:6, the Bible reveals the heart of God for mankind to believe who He is ***by faith***. “But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that **He is** a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.”

God values our belief in who He really is even though we cannot see Him. He delights in our efforts to pursue Him, and He rewards us for those efforts and for our faith in Him.

Faith is believing in God.

Numbers 23:19 reveals the essence of who God really is: “God is not a man, that He should lie, Nor a son of man, that He should repent. Has He said, and will He not do? Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good?”

Faith is believing God's Word.

God gives grace to believe His word, yet He sovereignly allows mankind to choose to believe according to his own will and heart's desire. Faith starts with that choice. When we choose to believe in God along with God's word, it opens the door for God to begin His creative work in us. It is God who created the world through His spoken word and brought all into existence by His very breath.

Hebrews 11:3

“3 By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible.”

To understand this scripture, let us look into the story of creation according to Genesis Chapter 1.

The Creation Story

Genesis 1:1-31

*“1 In the beginning **God created** the heavens and the earth. 2 The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.*

*3 **Then God said**, “Let there be light”; and there was light. 4 And God saw the light, that it was good; and God divided the light from the darkness. 5 God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night. So the evening and the morning were the first day.*

*6 **Then God said**, “Let there be a firmament in*

the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters.” 7 Thus God made the firmament, and divided the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament; and it was so. 8 And God called the firmament Heaven. So the evening and the morning were the second day.

9 Then God said, *“Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear”; and it was so. 10 And God called the dry land Earth, and the gathering together of the waters He called Seas. And God saw that it was good.*

11 Then God said, *“Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb that yields seed, and the fruit tree that yields fruit according to its kind, whose seed is in itself, on the earth”; and it was so. 12 And the earth brought forth grass, the herb that yields seed according to its kind, and the tree that yields fruit, whose seed is in itself according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. 13 So the evening and the morning were the third day.*

14 Then God said, *“Let there be lights in the firmament of the heavens to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs and seasons, and for days and years; 15 and let them be for lights in the firmament of the heavens to give light on the earth”; and it was so. 16 Then God made two great lights: the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night. He made the stars also. 17 God set them in the firmament of the heavens to give light on the earth, 18 and to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good.*

19 So the evening and the morning were the fourth day.

20 **Then God said**, “Let the waters abound with an abundance of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the face of the firmament of the heavens.” 21 So God created great sea creatures and every living thing that moves, with which the waters abounded, according to their kind, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. 22 And God blessed them, saying, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.” 23 So the evening and the morning were the fifth day.

24 **Then God said**, “Let the earth bring forth the living creature according to its kind: cattle and creeping thing and beast of the earth, each according to its kind”; and it was so. 25 And God made the beast of the earth according to its kind, cattle according to its kind, and everything that creeps on the earth according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

26 **Then God said**, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” 27 So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. 28 Then God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”

29 **And God said**, “See, I have given you every herb that yields seed which is on the face of all the earth, and every tree whose fruit yields seed; to you it shall be for food. 30 Also, to every beast of the earth, to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, in which there is life, I have given every green herb for food”; and it was so. 31 Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good. So the evening and the morning were the sixth day.”

In every instance, what God spoke materialized. Everything in the world was created by the words God spoke. He said it and it appeared just the way He wanted it to be. God also spoke purpose to each thing He created.

God reveals Himself through His Word.

It takes faith to believe in God and to believe that what He says is true. We must believe that what God says He can do! Let’s look at an example of an impossible situation that ONLY God could fix.

God chose to reveal Himself to a man named Abraham. He called Abraham to follow Him and to go to a land where He would send him, leaving his own homeland behind. Hebrews 11:8 recounts this testimony: “8 **By faith** Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going.”

God wanted to walk with Abraham and to bring forth a family for Himself. Eventually the family

would become God's own nation who would be called by His name and serve and follow Him. Yet, this man and his wife, Sarah had no children and were old and way past their childbearing years. God had promised to make Abraham a father of many, yet he had no children. How could he be **called a father of nations** if he did not even have a child of his own?

Romans 4:3, declares that Abraham believed all God told him: "3 For what does the Scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness."

By believing God, God made Abraham right with Him! That's what righteousness means: being right with God.

The Word continues to unfold this mystery of faith: "13 For the promise that he would be the heir of the world was not to Abraham or to his seed through the law, but through the righteousness of faith." Romans 4:13

Let's read the account below from Romans 4:16-22:

"16 Therefore it is of faith that it might be according to grace, so that the promise might be sure to all the seed, not only to those who are of the law, but also to those who are of the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all 17 (as it is written, "I have made you a father of many nations") in the presence of Him whom he believed—God, who gives life to the dead and calls those things which do not exist as though they did; 18 who, contrary to hope, in hope be-

*lieved, so that he became the father of many nations, according to what was spoken, "So shall your descendants be." 19 **And not being weak in faith, he did not consider his own body, already dead (since he was about a hundred years old), and the deadness of Sarah's womb. 20 He did not waver at the promise of God through unbelief, but was strengthened in faith, giving glory to God, 21 and being fully convinced that what He had promised He was also able to perform. 22 And therefore "it was accounted to him for righteousness."***

(You can read the story of Abraham in Genesis chapters 12-25.)

Abraham simply chose to believe what God had spoken and as a result, he received the blessed promise by faith. He called those things that 'are not as though they are', and is known to this day, as the father of faith.

Faith believes before it sees.

Just like Abraham, we can demonstrate faith by choosing to believe what God speaks to us personally, to the church, and through His word. The key is to believe before we see. It is not faith if we see first.

Faith Rooted in Love.

God is love.

In John 3:16-18, the Word of God declares that God sent His only Son into the world to SAVE

mankind from sin and eternal damnation. We see the love of God manifested through His action to save!

John 3:16-18

“16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. 17 For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. 18 “He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.”

John continues, pointing out that God chose us first:

I John 4:9-10

“9 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. 10 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.”

So, now we see we are empowered to believe through the love of God revealed to us! Thus, “...faith working through love.” Galatians 5:6. Through our faith, God demonstrates His love.

The greatest gift according to I Corinthians 13:1-8 is love. God puts this all into an amazing simple reality. If we believe God is love and He is a good Father, it is easy to receive all that pertains to God by faith.

1 Corinthians 13:1-8

“1 Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal. 2 And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. 3 And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profits me nothing. 4 Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; 5 does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; 6 does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; 7 bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. 8 Love never fails.”

Faith works in, with, and through LOVE.

Love is the source and root behind FAITH. Love bears all things...believes all things...hopes all things...endures all things. Love will never fail.

All I need to do is believe in the love of God and His Son, Jesus Christ, and faith will spring forth! Then as I believe God, He will empower me to overcome and lead me into His victorious plan for my life.

1 John 5:1-5

“1 Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves Him who begot also loves him who is begotten of Him. 2 By this we know that we love the children

of God, when we love God and keep His commandments. 3 For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome. 4 For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. 5 Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?”

Faith comes by Hearing the Word of God.

The scripture tells us in Romans 10:17, that ‘faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God.’

When we first heard of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the good news of SALVATION, we had to believe in our hearts and accept God’s plan of salvation by FAITH. Faith begins in the heart and then out of our heart, our mouths speak what we believe as God begins a mighty work of transformation in our lives.

Romans 10:8-13

“8 But what does it say? “The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith which we preach): 9 that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. 11 For the Scripture says, “Whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame.” 12 For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord over all is rich to all who call upon Him. 13 For “whoever calls on the name of

the Lord shall be saved.”

We know that we have been saved by the grace and goodness of a loving Heavenly Father and through His Son, Jesus Christ. This passage from Ephesians 2:4-10, explains this truth beautifully!

*“4 But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, 5 even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), 6 and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, 7 that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. **8 For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God,** 9 not of works, lest anyone should boast. 10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.”*

Believe You Receive When You Pray.

Jesus taught His disciples how to believe God and how to pray effectively.

One day while Jesus was traveling with His disciples, he saw a fig tree that had no figs. He ended up speaking to the tree itself and cursed it due to the lack of fruit. Jesus used this ‘teachable moment’ to reveal a powerful KEY to prayer and the power of our words released in faith. Let’s look into Mark 11:12-14; 19-24 and learn from our Lord.

“12 Now the next day, when they had come out from Bethany, He was hungry. 13 And seeing from afar a fig tree having leaves, He went to see if perhaps He would find something on it. When He came to it, He found nothing but leaves, for it was not the season for figs. 14 In response **Jesus said to it**, “Let no one eat fruit from you ever again.”

“19 When evening had come, He went out of the city. 20 Now in the morning, as they passed by, they saw the fig tree dried up from the roots. 21 And Peter, remembering, said to Him, “Rabbi, look! The fig tree which You cursed has withered away.”

“22 So Jesus answered and said to them, “**Have faith in God.** 23 For assuredly, I say to you, **whoever says** to this mountain, ‘Be removed and be cast into the sea,’ and **does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says.** 24 Therefore I say to you, **whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them.**”

Jesus believed before He spoke.

We must remember that our words are powerful. Jesus cursed the tree, so it died. Proverbs 18:20-21 explains the power of words: “A man’s stomach shall be satisfied from the fruit of his mouth; From the produce of his lips he shall be filled. Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit.”

Life and death are in the power of our tongue. God in His wisdom instructs those who follow Him of the highly creative power within our own mouths.

Faith chooses life and speaks life!

Faith in God's love and the sacrifice that Jesus made on the cross provides us with life. God values our faith and acts on it by giving us life. So, when we choose to believe in our heart, our faith chooses the life that is provided, then we begin to speak out of that life.

II Corinthians 4:13 declares, "13 And since we have the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, "I believed and therefore I spoke," we also believe and therefore speak..."

Even in our salvation experience with God, remember, we believe with our hearts and confess with our mouths, Jesus as Lord!

God encourages us to hold fast to our confession of faith!

Hebrews 10:19-23

*"19 Therefore, brethren, having boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus, 20 by a new and living way which He consecrated for us, through the veil, that is, His flesh, 21 and having a High Priest over the house of God, **22 let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith**, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. **23 Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering**, for He who promised is faithful."*

We must understand that whatever fills our hearts will come forth from our mouths, either good or evil; doubt or unbelief, etc.

Matthew 12:34 states, "...For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks."

James warns of the power of the tongue in his writing found in James 3:2-12:

"2 For we all stumble in many things. If anyone does not stumble in word, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle the whole body. 3 Indeed, we put bits in horses' mouths that they may obey us, and we turn their whole body. 4 Look also at ships: although they are so large and are driven by fierce winds, they are turned by a very small rudder wherever the pilot desires. 5 Even so the tongue is a little member and boasts great things. See how great a forest a little fire kindles! 6 And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity. The tongue is so set among our members that it defiles the whole body and sets on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire by hell. 7 For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and creature of the sea, is tamed and has been tamed by mankind. 8 But no man can tame the tongue. It is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison. 9 With it we bless our God and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in the similitude of God. 10 Out of the same mouth proceed blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not to be so. 11 Does a spring send forth fresh water and bitter from the same opening? 12 Can a fig tree, my brethren, bear olives, or a grapevine bear

figs? Thus no spring yields both salt water and fresh.”

Faith believes, receives, and speaks!

Faith starts with a choice. When we choose to believe God, faith is birthed and begins the process of receiving God’s love and provision. We hold on to our faith in our hearts and speak forth what we believe.

Faith acts

The Lord teaches us to not only believe what God says, but to obey His word and to live by our faith. We must carry forth what He teaches us and obey His Word in our actions.

John 14:23

“23 Jesus answered and said to him, “If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him.”

James chapter 1:22 declares, “22 But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.”

Faith without works is dead.

Faith requires action. The Bible records this in the following passage from James:

James 2:14-20

“14 What does it profit, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can faith save him? 15 If a brother or sister is

naked and destitute of daily food, 16 and one of you says to them, "Depart in peace, be warmed and filled," but you do not give them the things which are needed for the body, what does it profit? 17 Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. 18 But someone will say, "You have faith, and I have works." Show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith by my works. 19 You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe—and tremble! 20 But do you want to know, O foolish man, that faith without works is dead?"

Jesus commanded a lame man to 'pick up his mat and walk' after He supernaturally healed him. Action was also needed once the miracle was received in the body of the man by faith!

Matthew 9:6

*"6 But that you may know that the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins"—then He said to the paralytic, "Arise, **take up your bed, and go to your house.**"*

And again, we see in John 5:2-9 of a lame man who laid by a pool waiting for someone to take him into the waters so that perhaps he would be healed in the supernatural stirring of the waters.

"2 Now there is in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate a pool, which is called in Hebrew, Bethesda, having five porches. 3 In these lay a great multitude of sick people, blind, lame, paralyzed, waiting for the moving of the water. 4 For an angel went down at a certain time into the pool and stirred up the water; then whoever stepped

in first, after the stirring of the water, was made well of whatever disease he had. 5 Now a certain man was there who had an infirmity thirty-eight years. 6 When Jesus saw him lying there, and knew that he already had been in that condition a long time, He said to him, "Do you want to be made well?" 7 The sick man answered Him, "Sir, I have no man to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up; but while I am coming, another steps down before me." 8 Jesus said to him, "Rise, take up your bed and walk." 9 And immediately the man was made well, took up his bed, and walked."

This passage shows Jesus making sure of the man's choice to be made well along with giving him the chance to obey. Both choice and obedience in action are important.

With God All Things are Possible.

Jesus revealed the heart of His Father! The heart of the Father is to do many good works of miracles and healings out of His love. Everything that Jesus did was instigated from the Father's heart and given to those who had faith that God was able to do it and wanted to do it. Faith was the catalyst that moved the Father.

It is written in John 14:10 that Jesus did the works of His Father and if you had seen Jesus you had seen the Father. "Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father in Me? The words that I speak to you I do not speak on My own authority; but the Father who dwells in Me does the works."

Jesus taught everyone about His Father!

Matthew 19:26

“26 But Jesus looked at them and said to them, “With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.”

We are made in God’s image and likeness and Holy Spirit teaches the children of God how to believe God for the impossible. Jesus would ask those He was about to heal if they wanted to be healed. Some asked Him if He was willing to heal them. Some just cried out for help and mercy!

Jesus is our model and He ‘saw faith’. He would tell those He healed, to ‘rejoice, because their faith made them whole.’ He was astounded at people’s **‘great faith’** because they knew all He had to do was to just ‘say the word’.

Matthew 9:2

“2 Then behold, they brought to Him a paralytic lying on a bed. When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, “Son, be of good cheer; your sins are forgiven you.”

Matthew 9:28-29

*“28 And when He had come into the house, the blind men came to Him. And Jesus said to them, “Do you believe that I am able to do this?” They said to Him, “Yes, Lord.” 29 Then He touched their eyes, saying, “**According to your faith let it be to you.**”*

Luke 7:50

*“50 Then He said to the woman, “**Your faith has saved you. Go in peace.**”*

Matthew 9:20-22 KJV

*“20 And, behold, a woman, which was diseased with an issue of blood twelve years, came behind him, and touched the hem of his garment: 21 **For she said within herself, If I may but touch his garment, I shall be whole.** 22 But Jesus turned him about, and when he saw her, he said, Daughter, be of good comfort; **thy faith hath made thee whole.** And the woman was made whole from that hour.”*

Mark 10:51-52

*“51 So, Jesus answered and said to him, “What do you want Me to do for you?” The blind man said to Him, “Rabboni, that I may receive my sight.” 52 Then Jesus said to him, “Go your way; **your faith has made you well.**” And immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus on the road.”*

Luke 17:11-14

*“11 Now it happened as He went to Jerusalem that He passed through the midst of Samaria and Galilee. 12 Then as He entered a certain village, there met Him ten men who were lepers, who stood afar off. 13 And they lifted up their voices and said, “**Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!**” 14 So when **He saw** them, **He said** to them, “Go, show yourselves to the priests.” And so it was that as they went, they were cleansed.”*

Matthew 8:5-10, 13

“5 Now when Jesus had entered Capernaum, a centurion came to Him, pleading with Him, 6 saying, “Lord, my servant is lying at home

paralyzed, dreadfully tormented.” 7 And Jesus said to him, **“I will come and heal him.”** 8 The centurion answered and said, “Lord, I am not worthy that You should come under my roof. **But only speak a word, and my servant will be healed.** 9 For I also am a man under authority, having soldiers under me. And I say to this one, ‘Go,’ and he goes; and to another, ‘Come,’ and he comes; and to my servant, ‘Do this,’ and he does it.” 10 When Jesus heard it, He marveled, and said to those who followed, **“Assuredly, I say to you, I have not found such great faith, not even in Israel!”** 13 Then Jesus said to the centurion, “Go your way; and **as you have believed, so let it be done for you.**” And his servant was healed that same hour.”

Matthew 15:22-28

“22 And behold, a woman of Canaan came from that region and cried out to Him, saying, **“Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David!** My daughter is severely demon-possessed.” 23 But He answered her not a word. And His disciples came and urged Him, saying, “Send her away, for she cries out after us.” 24 But He answered and said, “I was not sent except to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” 25 Then she came and worshiped Him, saying, **“Lord, help me!”** 26 But He answered and said, “It is not good to take the children’s bread and throw it to the little dogs.” 27 And she said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the little dogs eat the crumbs which fall from their masters’ table.” 28 Then Jesus answered and said to her, **“O woman, great is your faith! Let it be to you as you desire.”** And her daughter was healed from that

very hour.”

Little faith

Remember, faith starts with a choice and grows from there based on our belief in who the God is and what we are certain He can do.

God knows that when we are first born again, we often are full of faith as we have just encountered God for the first time! Yet, we are still like ‘babes’ in our faith and will need to grow. Jesus mentioned more than once to those whom He taught about having ‘little faith’.

Matthew 6:30

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

Matthew 8:23-27

*“23 Now when He got into a boat, His disciples followed Him. 24 And suddenly a great tempest arose on the sea, so that the boat was covered with the waves. But He was asleep. 25 Then His disciples came to Him and awoke Him, saying, “Lord, save us! We are perishing!” 26 But He said to them, **“Why are you fearful, O you of little faith?”** Then He arose and rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was a great calm. 27 So the men marveled, saying, “Who can this be, that even the winds and the sea obey Him?”*

Matthew 14:25-33

“25 Now in the fourth watch of the night Je-

sus went to them, walking on the sea. 26 And when the disciples saw Him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out for fear. 27 But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Be of good cheer! It is I; do not be afraid." 28 And Peter answered Him and said, "Lord, if it is You, command me to come to You on the water." 29 So He said, "Come." And when Peter had come down out of the boat, he walked on the water to go to Jesus. 30 But when he saw that the wind was boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink he cried out, saying, "Lord, save me!" 31 And immediately Jesus stretched out His hand and caught him, and said to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" 32 And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. 33 Then those who were in the boat came and worshiped Him, saying, "Truly You are the Son of God."

The Lord is for us. He simply wants the His followers to believe all that He says, walking free from doubt.

Unbelief and a Lifestyle of Prayer

Unbelief means you have not made the decision to believe God, who He is, and what He can do. Unbelief neutralizes faith and it rises when things do not happen in the expected time.

Matthew 17:14-21

"14 And when they had come to the multitude, a man came to Him, kneeling down to Him and saying, 15 "Lord, have mercy on my son, for he is an epileptic and suffers severely; for he

often falls into the fire and often into the water. 16 So I brought him to Your disciples, but they could not cure him.” 17 Then Jesus answered and said, “O faithless and perverse generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I bear with you? Bring him here to Me.” 18 And Jesus rebuked the demon, and it came out of him; and the child was cured from that very hour. 19 Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, “Why could we not cast it out?” 20 So Jesus said to them, **“Because of your unbelief; for assuredly, I say to you, if you have faith as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you. 21 However, this kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting.”**

The disciples came upon a tough situation as they tried to help this father and his son but were seemingly unsuccessful. Jesus once again taught them of the power of God and their faith. He said the amount of faith needed to deliver and heal this young child, was just the same size as the smallest ‘seed’. He let them know that some demons only will leave with a lifestyle of prayer and fasting [Humbling one-self to seek the Lord, often without eating food].

James 1:6-8

*“6 But let him ask **in faith, with no doubting**, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. 7 For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; 8 he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.”*

It is clear that the greatest hindrance to faith is doubt. I have explained it this way. We have two choices when it comes to believing God. On one side is to BELIEVE GOD. On the other side is UN-BELIEF – where there is no belief in God. Doubt is what runs back and forth between the two options. So, when we ‘ask in faith with no doubting’, the Lord simply wants us to settle one way or the other and to choose and stand on that choice.

Matthew 21:21

*“21 So Jesus answered and said to them, “Assuredly, I say to you, **if you have faith and do not doubt**, you will not only do what was done to the fig tree, but also if you say to this mountain, ‘Be removed and be cast into the sea,’ it will be done.”*

There is no room for unbelief because it neutralizes faith. God can work with an unwavering decision to believe, but the scriptures are clear that being unstable in that decision does not produce what faith does.

Faith increases.

Jesus knows that we are ‘but flesh’. He knows our weaknesses. Jesus teaches us not to worry, but to **have faith in God**. He knows our doubt and little faith, but we all can grow in our faith as we believe and meditate upon God’s word. We grow from faith to faith!

Romans 1:17

“17 For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written,

“The just shall live by faith.”

This is good news that our faith can increase. We are called to grow in our faith as well as to stand fast in the faith and calling of God and His kingdom.

We increase in faith by staying in the faith!

Colossians 1:23

*“23 if indeed you **continue in the faith**, grounded and steadfast...”*

Luke 17:5

*“5 And the apostles said to the Lord, **“Increase our faith.”**”*

James 2:5

*“5 Listen, my beloved brethren: Has God not chosen the poor of this world to be **rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom** which He promised to those who love Him?”*

I Corinthians 10:14-15

*“...for it was to you that we came with the gospel of Christ; 15 not boasting of things beyond measure, that is, in other men’s labors, but having hope, that **as your faith is increased**, we shall be greatly enlarged by you in our sphere...”*

II Peter 1:5

*“5 But also for this very reason, **giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue...**”*

Full of Faith

To be full of faith is our goal in Christ Jesus. This comes by abiding in His word and having a close relationship with the Lord. Yet, it is still so child-like to simply believe God. Faith increases as we continue on in our journey with Christ, and we learn from one test or trial or victory to the next.

There are examples such as Stephen and Barnabas of men who were full of faith.

Acts 6:5

*“5 And the saying pleased the whole multitude. And they chose Stephen, a man **full of faith** and the Holy Spirit...”*

Acts 11:22-24

*“22 Then news of these things came to the ears of the church in Jerusalem, and they sent out Barnabas to go as far as Antioch. 23 When he came and had seen the grace of God, he was glad, and encouraged them all that with purpose of heart they should continue with the Lord. 24 For he was a good man, **full of the Holy Spirit and of faith**. And a great man”*

These scriptures reveal that being filled with Holy Spirit will produce a fullness, an overflow of faith. One example of this is when the disciples were persecuted for their faith after healing a lame man. They prayed and worshipped God asking Him to give them courage and boldness to speak His word. God responded by pouring out His Spirit upon them!

Acts 4:29-31

“29 Now, Lord, look on their threats, and grant to Your servants that with all boldness they

may speak Your word, 30 by stretching out Your hand to heal, and that signs and wonders may be done through the name of Your holy Servant Jesus.” 31 And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness.”

So, we make our unwavering decision to believe God and set our focus on growing our relationship with Him.

Hebrews 10:22

*“22 let us draw near with a **true heart in full assurance of faith**, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.”*

May Your Faith Fail Not

Sometimes our faith will be tested, and the Lord knows of these tests. Jesus prays for us. Jesus believes that we can come through these trials and come out victorious and actually grow from them!

Luke 22:31-32

*“31 And the Lord said, “Simon, Simon! Indeed, Satan has asked for you, that he may sift you as wheat. 32 But I have prayed for you, **that your faith should not fail; and when you have returned to Me**, strengthen your brethren.”*

Revelation 2:13

“13 “I know your works, and where you dwell,

*where Satan's throne is. And you hold fast to My name, and **did not deny My faith** even in the days in which Antipas was My faithful martyr, who was killed among you, where Satan dwells."*

Faith Perseveres

Oh, God how long? How long oh Lord? When will you answer me? All believers will experience this in their lifetime. Yet, God empowers us through His Holy Spirit to persevere in prayer and continue to seek Him for His breakthrough.

Luke 18:1-8

*"1 Then He spoke a parable to them, that men always ought to pray and not lose heart, 2 saying: "There was in a certain city a judge who did not fear God nor regard man. 3 Now there was a widow in that city; and she came to him, saying, 'Get justice for me from my adversary.' 4 And he would not for a while; but afterward he said within himself, 'Though I do not fear God nor regard man, 5 yet because this widow troubles me I will avenge her, lest by her **continual coming** she weary me.' "* 6 Then the Lord said, "Hear what the unjust judge said. 7 And shall God not avenge His own elect who cry out day and night to Him, though He bears long with them? 8 I tell you that He will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless, **when the Son of Man comes, will He really find faith on the earth?"**"

The church of God should strengthen one another in faith.

It is up to each individual to not only be unwavering in our decision to believe God, but to encourage others in their faith journey.

Acts 14:22

*“22 strengthening the souls of the disciples, **exhorting them to continue in the faith**, and saying, “We must through many tribulations enter the kingdom of God.””*

I Timothy 6:12

*“12 **Fight the good fight of faith**, lay hold on eternal life, to which you were also called and have confessed the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.”*

Ephesians 6:16

*“16 **above all, taking the shield of faith**, with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one.”*

Faith of a Child

Children just believe. God always wants His children to just believe Him, Abba Father!

“But Jesus called them to Him and said, “Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of God.” Luke 18:6

This is how we enter the kingdom of God – as little children, trusting and loving and depending on our heavenly Father.

Faith Rests

When you know that you know God has heard

you and you know that you have what you have asked of God, you will have a peace within. This produces a true rest as you wait upon the Lord to bring forth His promise.

Psalm 46:10

“10 Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!”

Isaiah 40:31

“31 But those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.”

II Timothy 1:12

*“12 For this reason I also suffer these things; nevertheless, I am not ashamed, **for I know whom I have believed and am persuaded** that He is able to keep what I have committed to Him until that Day.”*

Hebrews 4:1-3

*“1 Therefore, since a promise remains of entering His rest, let us fear lest any of you seem to have come short of it. **2 For indeed the gospel was preached to us as well as to them; but the word which they heard did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in those who heard it. 3 For we who have believed do enter that rest...”***

The True Unity of the Faith

Jesus is always working. He is revealing Himself to His church. His desire is for us all to come to

the true unity of the faith, which is to KNOW HIM and to KNOW THAT WE ARE KNOWN by Him! He uses His chosen servants to work with the saints to empower and equip them in the knowledge of God and His word and Spirit. He desires for His church to come into maturity in the faith.

Ephesians 4:11-16

*“11 And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, 12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, 13 till **we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;** 14 that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, 15 but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ—16 from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.”*

Conclusion

Jesse Duplantis sums up the need for faith from His book, “I Never Learned to Doubt”:

“It takes faith to receive salvation. It takes faith to receive healing. It takes faith to do anything God asks in His Word in order to receive from Him. It’s not faith to receive first and then believe. Our growth isn’t ever going to come by just receiving from God – we draw close to Him first, we read His Word first, and we grow as we apply it. Then, we receive. It’s how faith works.”

“Our goal should be to become spiritually aware, strong and humble before God as we live this life – and faith is the key to all of that. Because if you can’t believe that God can do something or fulfill His Word, how can you ever receive Who He Is or what He says? You can’t.”

“Childlike faith is what Jesus preached. To me, it is an eyes-wide-open wonder and a pure acceptance of God, and of pure belief that “what God said, He can do” – even when we have to grow to meet the challenge of receiving what

we ask of Him.” Excerpts taken from, “I Never Learned to Doubt”, pp. 8, 9.

Prayer for Salvation

If you have not made Jesus Christ your personal Lord and Savior, and you desire this with all your heart, then please, join me in prayer:

“Heavenly Father, I choose to believe with all my heart, Your love for me. I believe that Jesus Christ is Your Son, the Son of God, and that He is God in the flesh. I believe that You sent Him to this earth to save me. Thank You. I believe He died on the cross for my sins and He was dead and buried three days, and then rose again from the dead and that He ascended to Heaven and is now seated at Your right hand and is returning again.

Father, please forgive me for all my sin and iniquity and I choose to forgive others who have sinned against me. I give You all my heart and choose to live with You forever. I believe I have been born again according to Your Word and that I have been transferred out of the kingdom of darkness and into the kingdom of light. I declare I am forgiven and healed! Now, I ask for Holy Spirit to fill me. Jesus, baptize me in Holy Spirit and fullness in order that I may know You intimately and serve You all my days.

Thank You, Lord, for loving me. Amen.”

Scriptures:

John 14:6

“6 Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.’”

Romans 10:8-13

“8 But what does it say? ‘The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart’ (that is, the word of faith which we preach): 9 that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. 11 For the Scripture says, ‘Whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame.’ 12 For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord over all is rich to all who call upon Him. 13 For ‘whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.’”

John 3:3-8, 16-18

“3 Jesus answered and said to him, ‘Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.’ 4 Nicodemus said to Him, ‘How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born?’ 5 Jesus answered, ‘Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. 6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. 7 Do not marvel that I said

to you, “You must be born again.” 8 The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit.”

“16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. 17 For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. 18 ‘He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.’”

II Corinthians 5:17

“17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.”

I Corinthians 15:3-5

“3 For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, 4 and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures, 5 and that He was seen by Cephas, then by the twelve.”

II Corinthians 5:21

“21 For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.”

Colossians 1:13-14

“13 He has delivered us from the power of dark-

ness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love, 14 in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.”

Luke 11:9-13

“9 So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. 10 For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. 11 If a son asks for bread from any father among you, will he give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent instead of a fish? 12 Or if he asks for an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? 13 If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!”

Acts 1:8

“8 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.”

I Timothy 3:16

“16 And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness:

*God was manifested in the flesh,
Justified in the Spirit,
Seen by angels,
Preached among the Gentiles,
Believed on in the world,
Received up in glory.”*

Fresh Infilling of Holy Spirit

Acts 1:8

“8 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.”

If you have been born again and filled with Holy Spirit and you desire MORE and want to encounter the Lord's presence afresh and anew, please join me in prayer:

“Father, in the name of Jesus, I thank You for loving me and I ask according to Ephesians 1:17-19, that You would give me the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, Jesus, and the eyes of my understanding would be enlightened; that I may know what is the hope of His calling and what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power towards us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places. Amen.

Father, according to Colossians 3:9-12, I ask in Jesus name, that I would be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; that I would walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power. Amen.

I surrender and yield my life to the fullness of Holy Spirit; His power and anointing; the spirit of wisdom and revelation; counsel and might; the spirit of the fear of the Lord and knowledge according to Isaiah 11:2, in Jesus' name. Amen."

The Garden Training Center, Inc. The Apostolic School of Ministry

The Garden Apostolic Training Center is a place that fosters spiritual growth. The center provides training to equip believers in Jesus Christ for the work of the ministry and to be victorious and free in all areas of their lives through the supernatural empowerment of the Holy Spirit. For more information check out **thegardenstc.org**.

The Garden Gathering Church

The purpose of The Garden Gathering Church is to encourage believers in Jesus Christ: to fully embrace the love of God; to walk in freedom; to carry His presence and glory; and to be equipped and trained for the work of the ministry through worship, teachings, and impartation.

“It’s all about Love. When you see His eyes of Love for you, nothing else matters. That’s it. That’s all you need to know.”

-Brandy Helton

