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# **Pure Gold**

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



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## **Acknowledgments**

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, Paula Green, Elisa Griffith, 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**

The purpose of this book is to reveal God's heart for those whom He loves as they journey through this life. Jesus said in John 16:33, "In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world." In our journey of love with God in this life, God draws all of humanity to Himself through His Son, Jesus Christ. Due to sin, mankind has a strong propensity for disobedience and fear. God is concerned about our hearts. He desires for His children to follow Him in Christ Jesus, and obey His word, so that we will live blessed and be kept by His power. In this life you shall have tribulation. God will use the trials we face and turn them into good. He will use them to strengthen us in our faith in Him and His Word. Holy Spirit is within the believer of the Son of God. He will lead believers into truth. We will grow and mature through different tests and trials. God's heart is that we come out as PURE GOLD with hearts of GOLD. God will use the tests and trials to empower us to overcome and manifest the Kingdom of God on earth for the Father's glory.

### **Malachi 3:3**

*"3 He will sit as a refiner and a purifier of silver; He will purify the sons of Levi, and purge*

*them as gold and silver, that they may offer to the LORD an offering in righteousness.”*

# Pure Gold

## **Trials and Temptations in Life**

### **James 1:2-4**

*“2 My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, 3 knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. 4 But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.”*

God gives mankind a ‘free will’. His children have the ‘choice’ to believe God and His Word or not. Temptations in this life will come and He allows us to overcome them through His Spirit and Word. Scripture says that God HIMSELF does NOT tempt anyone. Mankind is ‘carried’ away by selfish carnal desires and often ignorance of truth.

### **James 1:12-15**

*“12 Blessed is the man who endures temptation; for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him. 13 Let no one say when he is tempted, “I am tempted by God”; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone. 14 But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own*

*desires and enticed. 15 Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death.”*

God has called His children to love and trust Him at His Word. He desires for all to be obedient to Him. If we ‘hear’ and disobey in our actions, we can fall into deception.

**James 1:22**

*“22 But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.”*

**Overcomers**

God promised that if we ‘endure’ and ‘overcome’ the temptations and trials in this life, we shall be greatly rewarded with the crown of life! God is working in our lives as He refines us like PURE GOLD. He purifies and cleanses us from all unrighteousness. We overcome by just believing in our Lord Jesus Christ.

**I John 5:5**

*“5 Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?”*

There is great reward to those who overcome in Christ Jesus.

**Revelation 2:7**

*“7 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes I will give to eat from the tree of life, which is in the midst of the Paradise of God.”*

**Revelation 2:11**

*“11 “He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. He who overcomes shall not be hurt by the second death.”*

**Revelation 2:17**

*“17 “He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes I will give some of the hidden manna to eat. And I will give him a white stone, and on the stone a new name written which no one knows except him who receives it.”*

**Revelation 2:26**

*“26 “And he who overcomes, and keeps My works until the end, to him I will give power over the nations—”*

**Revelation 3:5**

*“5 “He who overcomes shall be clothed in white garments, and I will not blot out his name from the Book of Life; but I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels.”*

**Revelation 3:12**

*“12 “He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he shall go out no more. I will write on him the name of My God and the name of the city of My God, the New Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God. And I will write on him My new name.”*

**Revelation 3:21**

*“21 “To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne.”*

**Revelation 21:7**

*“7 “He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son.”*

The winds of adversity will come in this life. Yet, God transforms us in these times as we cry out to Him and draw near to His Word and promises. The ‘north winds’ in scripture often allude to adversity and tests. In Song of Solomon 4:16, the author calls for those ‘northern winds’ to come so they will produce excellent ‘fruit’ within our lives.

### **Song of Solomon 4:16**

*“16 Awake, O north wind, and come, O south! Blow upon my garden, that its spices may flow out. Let my beloved come to his garden and eat its pleasant fruits.”*

The Word calls for the southern winds to come as well, knowing they will bring the refreshing!

Misty Edwards declares to God in her song, ‘Fling Wide’, *“Take me through the fire, take me through the rain, take me through the testing. I will do anything, test me, try me, prove me, and refine me, like the gold, like the gold. Fling wide the door unto my soul, open up the door of my heart, have your way, have your way, have your way! Yeah!”*

God promises His children, those He has redeemed, that He will be with them **as they go through** the trials of this life. He instructs His children NOT TO FEAR.

### **Isaiah 43:1-2**

*“But now, thus says the Lord, who created you, O Jacob, and He who formed you, O Israel; “Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have*

*called you by name; you are Mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow you. When you walk through the fire, you shall not be burned. Nor shall the flame scorch you.”*

The Apostle Paul exhorted the believers in Jesus Christ that sufferings will produce Christ-like attributes within their hearts.

**Romans 5:3-5 ESV**

*“3 Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, 4 and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, 5 and hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.”*

A simple acronym to remember is TECH. **T**rials produce **E**ndurance. Endurance produces **C**haracter. Character produces **H**OPE.

T - We glory in our tribulations [sufferings].

E – We learn endurance.

C – Our character is developed.

H – We grow in HOPE.

The Apostle Paul was persecuted repeatedly for his faith in Jesus. He gave up ALL for the sake of the Gospel. While writing from jail he penned the most beautiful expression of hope and glory!

**Philippians 3:7-14**

*““But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ. Yet indeed I also count*

*all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ and be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own, which is from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith; that **I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings**, being conformed to His death, if, by any means, I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.. Not that I have attained it, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me. Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead. I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.”*

## **Tests**

### **Jeremiah 17:10**

*“10 I, the Lord, search the heart, I test the mind, even to give every man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his doings.”*

The Lord tests the hearts and mind of those who serve Him. The word, ‘test’, according to the Strongs Concordance, means (1) to examine, prove, scrutinize, to test, prove, try (of gold, persons, the heart, man of God to be tried, proved.) To make a trial.

### **Psalm 11:4-5 ESV**



*“4 The Lord is in His holy temple; the Lord’s throne is in heaven; His eyes see, His eyelids test the children of man. 5 The Lord tests the righteous, but His soul hates the wicked and the one who loves violence.”*

**Proverbs 17:3**

*“3 The refining pot is for silver and the furnace for gold, but the Lord tests the hearts.”*

The Lord allows tests and trials in this life, so He will see our devotion to Him. Do we trust Him? Do we fear the things or circumstances in this life more than we fear God? All trials and tests have the opportunity to strengthen our faith.

As believers in Jesus Christ, we are called to ‘examine’ ourselves to see where we stand in the faith. We should be aware of the condition of our hearts. The Lord desires that we would know who we are IN HIM.

**Psalms 26:2**

*“2 Examine me, O Lord, and prove me; try my mind and my heart.”*

**II Corinthians 13:5-6**

*“5 Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you? —unless indeed you are disqualified. 6 But I trust that you will know that we are not disqualified.”*

The Apostle Paul wrote to the Corinthian church to encourage them in their obedience to his oversight and instruction. As a father in the faith, their obedience would reveal to him their spiritual

maturity.

### **II Corinthians 2:9**

*“9 For to this end I also wrote that I might put you to the test, whether you are obedient in all things.”*

### **Tests in the Wilderness**

God allowed Israel to be ‘tested’ in the wilderness in their journey.

### **Exodus 20:20**

*“20 And Moses said to the people, “Do not fear; for God has come to test you, and that His fear may be before you, so that you may not sin.”*

God had miraculously delivered them from their bondage in Egypt, yet daily they wrestled with fear and unbelief in their hearts. They began to ‘grumble and complain’, and God heard them.

### **Exodus 17:2**

*“2 Therefore, the people quarreled with Moses and said, “Give us water to drink.” And Moses said to them, “Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?”*

### **Do Not Put the Lord God to the Test.**

The Word of God teaches us that in this life it is possible to ‘test’ God in our hearts and through our actions. We are warned through the examples of Israel’s behavior not to ‘test’ God through sin or disobedience. God is Holy and is to be feared and revered. We should honor what God has spoken and obey His commands. Due to unbelief

in the hearts of His people, they tried and tested him.

**Psalm 78:17-18**

*“17 But they sinned even more against Him by rebelling against the Most High in the wilderness. 18 And they tested God in their heart by asking for the food of their fancy.”*

**Deuteronomy 6:16 ESV**

*“16 You shall not put the LORD your God to the test, as you tested him at Massah.”*

**God’s Blessings and Man’s Consequences in Disobedience**

The Lord God revealed the blessings that His people would possess as they listened to His voice, and obeyed His commandments. Yet, He warned them of pride and of thinking they obtained all by their ‘own might’ or ‘hands’.

**Deuteronomy 8:11-18**

*“11 “Beware that you do not forget the Lord your God by not keeping His commandments, His judgments, and His statutes which I command you today, 12 lest—when you have eaten and are full, and have built beautiful houses and dwell in them; 13 and when your herds and your flocks multiply, and your silver and your gold are multiplied, and all that you have is multiplied; 14 when your heart is lifted up, and you forget the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage; 15 who led you through that great and terrible wilderness, in which were fiery serpents and scorpions and thirsty land where*

*there was no water; who brought water for you out of the flinty rock; 16 who fed you in the wilderness with manna, which your fathers did not know, that He might humble you and that He might test you, to do you good in the end— 17 then you say in your heart, ‘My power and the might of my hand have gained me this wealth.’ 18 “And you shall remember the Lord your God, for it is He who gives you power to get wealth, that He may establish His covenant which He swore to your fathers, as it is this day.”*

The truth is that the Lord God prospers His children! He had sworn in His covenant with their forefathers to be their God and to always provide for them. His blessing would overtake them in the lands they were given. OBEDIENCE AND LOVE for God were of the upmost importance.

We read in Judges 2:20-23 that the Lord became angry due to the disobedience of His people:

### **Judges 2:20-23**

*“20 Then the anger of the Lord was hot against Israel; and He said, “Because this nation has transgressed My covenant which I commanded their fathers, and has not heeded My voice, 21 I also will no longer drive out before them any of the nations which Joshua left when he died, 22 so that through them **I may test Israel**, whether they will keep the ways of the Lord, to walk in them as their fathers kept them, or not.” 23 Therefore the Lord left those nations, without driving them out immediately; nor did He deliver them into the hand of Joshua.”*

Therefore, God’s children experienced defeat and

delayed their victories over the enemies in order to possess the lands He had chosen to give them.

### **Jesus Christ in the Wilderness**

Jesus Christ was ‘tempted’ in the wilderness by Satan himself. The devil chose to twist the Word of God and deceive Jesus. The liar was hoping Jesus would disobey His Father’s will in the wilderness.

#### **Matthew 4:5-7**

*“5 Then the devil took Him up into the holy city, set Him on the pinnacle of the temple, 6 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.’ ” 7 Jesus said to him, “It is written again, ‘You shall not tempt the Lord your God.’”*

Jesus boldly proclaimed to Satan the Word of God with every temptation and defeated the devil with His words, **“It is written!”** Thus, the believer in Jesus Christ can learn from the Lord Jesus in overcoming the lies and temptations from the evil one. This shows us the importance of abiding in His Word daily. When the enemy comes, we overcome Him and actually use the ‘sword of the Spirit’, which is the Word of God.

#### **Ephesians 6:10**

*“10 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. 11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.”*

**Ephesians 6:14-18**

*“14 Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, 15 and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; 16 above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. 17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; 18 praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit.”*

**Testing the Word of the Lord**

In the book of Judges, God chose a man named Gideon to serve Him by leading Israel to defeat her enemies, the Midianites. The Israelites were taken over by their enemies due to their rebellion.

**Judges 6:6-10**

*“6 So Israel was greatly impoverished because of the Midianites, and the children of Israel cried out to the Lord.*

*7 And it came to pass, when the children of Israel cried out to the Lord because of the Midianites, 8 that the Lord sent a prophet to the children of Israel, who said to them, “Thus says the Lord God of Israel: ‘I brought you up from Egypt and brought you out of the house of bondage; 9 and I delivered you out of the hand of the Egyptians and out of the hand of all who oppressed you, and drove them out before you and gave you their land. 10 Also I said to you, “I am the Lord your God; do not fear the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell.” But you have*

*not obeyed My voice.”*

Gideon did not believe that he was the man to lead Israel in battle. God assured him that He had not made a mistake by calling him. God KNEW Gideon.

**Judges 6:12**

*“12 And the Angel of the Lord appeared to him, and said to him, “The Lord is with you, you mighty man of valor!”*

Gideon was afraid, yet the Angel of the Lord called him a mighty man of valor! He continued to share his heart over this situation. He doubted. He argued with God’s Word for him.

**Judges 6:13-16**

*13 Gideon said to Him, “O my lord, if the Lord is with us, why then has all this happened to us? And where are all His miracles which our fathers told us about, saying, ‘Did not the Lord bring us up from Egypt?’ But now the Lord has forsaken us and delivered us into the hands of the Midianites.”*

*14 Then the Lord turned to him and said, “Go in this might of yours, and you shall save Israel from the hand of the Midianites. Have I not sent you?”*

*15 So he said to Him, “O my Lord, how can I save Israel? Indeed my clan is the weakest in Manasseh, and I am the least in my father’s house.”*

*16 And the Lord said to him, “Surely I will be*

*with you, and you shall defeat the Midianites as one man.”*

Gideon decided to test the Word of the Lord. He asked for a ‘sign’.

**Judges 6:17-24**

*“17 Then he said to Him, “If now I have found favor in Your sight, then show me a sign that it is You who talk with me. 18 Do not depart from here, I pray, until I come to You and bring out my offering and set it before You.”*

*And He said, “I will wait until you come back.”*

*19 So Gideon went in and prepared a young goat, and unleavened bread from an ephah of flour. The meat he put in a basket, and he put the broth in a pot; and he brought them out to Him under the terebinth tree and presented them. 20 The Angel of God said to him, “Take the meat and the unleavened bread and lay them on this rock, and pour out the broth.” And he did so.*

*21 Then the Angel of the Lord put out the end of the staff that was in His hand, and touched the meat and the unleavened bread; and fire rose out of the rock and consumed the meat and the unleavened bread. And the Angel of the Lord departed out of his sight.*

*22 Now Gideon perceived that He was the Angel of the Lord. So Gideon said, “Alas, O Lord God! For I have seen the Angel of the Lord face to face.”*



23 Then the Lord said to him, "Peace be with you; do not fear, you shall not die." 24 So Gideon built an altar there to the Lord, and called it *The-Lord-Is-Peace*. To this day it is still in Ophrah of the Abiezrites."

Later Gideon tested the Word of the Lord again.

The Sign of the Fleece

**Judges 6:36-40**

*"36 So Gideon said to God, "If You will save Israel by my hand as You have said— 37 look, I shall put a fleece of wool on the threshing floor; if there is dew on the fleece only, and it is dry on all the ground, then I shall know that You will save Israel by my hand, as You have said." 38 And it was so. When he rose early the next morning and squeezed the fleece together, he wrung the dew out of the fleece, a bowlful of water. 39 Then Gideon said to God, "Do not be angry with me, but let me speak just once more: Let me test, I pray, just once more with the fleece; let it now be dry only on the fleece, but on all the ground let there be dew." 40 And God did so that night. It was dry on the fleece only, but there was dew on all the ground."*

This is simply amazing and unfortunately very HUMAN! Man talks to the Lord who answers every request for proof. Only after proof does man finally believe! Oh, I wish that we would take God at His Word! God showed Himself strong to Gideon and worked with him to show and prove to him the call on his life. God saw a 'mighty man of valor' and revealed this to Gideon as he walked through the battle.

## **“Test Me in this!”**

In the book of Daniel, we read the testimony of a young man named Daniel and his friends who were carried away to Babylon. Daniel and his friends chose to follow the laws of God in the midst of their exile. Daniel told the Babylonians that they could ‘test them’ according to the Word of their God.

### **Daniel 1:8-16**

*“8 But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king’s delicacies, nor with the wine which he drank; therefore he requested of the chief of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself. 9 Now God had brought Daniel into the favor and goodwill of the chief of the eunuchs. 10 And the chief of the eunuchs said to Daniel, “I fear my lord the king, who has appointed your food and drink. For why should he see your faces looking worse than the young men who are your age? Then you would endanger my head before the king.”*

*11 So Daniel said to the steward whom the chief of the eunuchs had set over Daniel, Haniah, Mishael, and Azariah, 12 **“Please test your servants** for ten days, and let them give us vegetables to eat and water to drink. 13 Then let our appearance be examined before you, and the appearance of the young men who eat the portion of the king’s delicacies; and as you see fit, so deal with your servants.” 14 So he consented with them in this matter, and tested them ten days.*

*15 And at the end of ten days their features appeared better and fatter in flesh than all the young men who ate the portion of the king's delicacies. 16 Thus the steward took away their portion of delicacies and the wine that they were to drink, and gave them vegetables."*

God enabled Daniel and his friends to pass the test.

The only place in scripture that God tells His people to 'test Him' according to His word is found in Malachi chapter 3.

**Malachi 3:8-12**

*"8 "Will a man rob God? Yet you have robbed Me! But you say, 'In what way have we robbed You?' In tithes and offerings. 9 You are cursed with a curse, for you have robbed Me, even this whole nation. 10 Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house, and try [test] Me now in this," says the Lord of hosts, "If I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you such blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it. 11 "And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, so that he will not destroy the fruit of your ground, nor shall the vine fail to bear fruit for you in the field," says the Lord of hosts; 12 "And all nations will call you blessed, for you will be a delightful land," says the Lord of hosts."*

God is a covenant keeping God. As His people obey Him and bring their tithes and offerings into His house, He shall fulfill His Word to them. He

said, ‘test me now in this!’ His desire is to richly bless obedience in this area and He doesn’t lie.

**Numbers 23:19**

*“19 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?”*

**Jesus Tested**

The Lord Jesus was often tested by the people of Israel whom He came to save. Many tried to ‘trick him’ with their words. Over and over they asked for ‘signs’ to prove to them that He was from God. Some accused Him of ‘casting out demons’ through the power of Satan, who is referred to as Beelzebub, and not God’s Holy Spirit. How tragic this was!

The Pharisees Seek a Sign

**Mark 8:11**

*“11 Then the Pharisees came out and began to dispute with Him, seeking from Him a sign from heaven, testing Him. 12 But He sighed deeply in His spirit, and said, “Why does this generation seek a sign? Assuredly, I say to you, no sign shall be given to this generation.”*

**Luke 10:25**

*“25 And behold, a certain lawyer stood up and tested Him, saying, “Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?”*

**Luke 11:14-17**

*“14 And He was casting out a demon, and it*

*was mute. So it was, when the demon had gone out, that the mute spoke; and the multitudes marveled. 15 But some of them said, "He casts out demons by Beelzebub, the ruler of the demons." 16 Others, testing Him, sought from Him a sign from heaven. 17 But He, knowing their thoughts, said to them: "Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation, and a house divided against a house falls."*

Jesus patiently endured the testing.

### **Testing the Spirit of the Lord**

#### **Matthew 10:24-25**

*Jesus said, "24 "A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his master. 25 It is enough for a disciple that he be like his teacher, and a servant like his master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebub, how much more will they call those of his household!"*

After the Lord's resurrection and ascension back to Heaven, the church continued in His teachings and in the fullness of Holy Spirit. This account from Acts chapter 5 unfolds the story of a couple who chose to 'test the Holy Spirit' by lying to God and His Apostles.

#### **Acts 5:9-11**

*"1 But a certain man named Ananias, with Sapphira his wife, sold a possession. 2 And he kept back part of the proceeds, his wife also being aware of it, and brought a certain part and laid it at the apostles' feet. 3 But Peter said, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to*

*the Holy Spirit and keep back part of the price of the land for yourself? 4 While it remained, was it not your own? And after it was sold, was it not in your own control? Why have you conceived this thing in your heart? You have not lied to men but to God.” 5 Then Ananias, hearing these words, fell down and breathed his last. So great fear came upon all those who heard these things. 6 And the young men arose and wrapped him up, carried him out, and buried him.*

*7 Now it was about three hours later when his wife came in, not knowing what had happened. 8 And Peter answered her, “Tell me whether you sold the land for so much?” She said, “Yes, for so much.” **9 Then Peter said to her, “How is it that you have agreed together to test the Spirit of the Lord?** Look, the feet of those who have buried your husband are at the door, and they will carry you out.” 10 Then immediately she fell down at his feet and breathed her last. And the young men came in and found her dead, and carrying her out, buried her by her husband. 11 So great fear came upon all the church and upon all who heard these things.”*

God is LOVE, but He is Holy.

The religious Jews who were believers were so steeped in tradition that they tried to impose Jewish laws on all believers. Below is another example of ‘Humans’ testing Holy Spirit’s leadership. Perry Stone explains:

In Acts chapter 15, “A new controversy was brewing in the church: the teaching of circumcision.

All sons born to Jews from Abraham onward were to be circumcised on the 8th day as a sign of their covenant with God. (Genesis 17:11-12). Circumcision was also the rite of passage into the Jewish faith for men. Without circumcision, a person was void of covenant with God and was cut off from the people. (Genesis 17:14). Devout Jewish Christians were demanding that male Gentile converts be circumcised as a sign of their faith. These men linked salvation under Christ with the act of circumcision. **The challenge concerning circumcision for salvation** was taken to Jerusalem to the chief apostles.” Perry Stone, NT Hebraic Study Bible, p. 236.

#### **Acts 15:6-11**

*“6 Now the apostles and elders came together to consider this matter. 7 And when there had been much dispute, Peter rose up and said to them: “Men and brethren, you know that a good while ago God chose among us, that by my mouth the Gentiles should hear the word of the gospel and believe. 8 So God, who knows the heart, acknowledged them by giving them the Holy Spirit, just as He did to us, 9 and made no distinction between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith. 10 Now therefore, **why do you test God** by putting a yoke on the neck of the disciples which neither our fathers nor we were able to bear? 11 But we believe that through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ we shall be saved in the same manner as they.”*

Holy Spirit did indeed lead the church into the truth and revealed the heart of God. In the above scripture, Peter stood up to the leadership saying they were ‘testing God’ and adding to the Gospel

of Grace for the Gentiles (nations) outside of the covenant.

### **Test the spirits.**

A gift Holy Spirit gives the children of God, according to *I Corinthians 12:10* is, “to another discerning of spirits”. This spiritual gift empowers the Christian to be able to distinguish between spirits, whether they be of God, the devil, simply human, or angelic.

#### **I John 4:1**

*“4 Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world.”*

#### **Revelation 2:2**

*“2 “I know your works, your labor, your patience, and that you cannot bear those who are evil. And you have tested those who say they are apostles and are not, and have found them liars.”*

In Ken Howerton’s book, “Say Father”, he teaches how to apply this verse and test the spirit speaking.

A Prayer for Testing spirits:

“Father, in the name of Jesus, I address the spirit who said/told me \_\_\_\_\_. Do you call Jesus Christ Lord and do you worship and serve Him only? I command that spirit to answer me now, in Jesus’ name. A spirit from the Lord will testify that Jesus is Lord and that it serves Him only.



Silence, negative feelings, swearing, a definitive “no,” or anything that is not a direct affirmation of Jesus as Lord indicates that the spirit is not from God and it should be dealt with immediately.” “Say Father”, Ken Howerton, p. 125.

There are many scriptures that encourage us to be wise and test the spirits in order to stay out of deception.

**Romans 16:19**

*“19 For your obedience has become known to all. Therefore I am glad on your behalf; but I want you to be wise in what is good, and simple concerning evil.”*

**I Thessalonians 5:21**

*“21 Test all things; hold fast what is good.”*

**Revelation 2:2**

*“2 I know your works, your labor, your patience, and that you cannot bear those who are evil. And you have tested those who say they are apostles and are not, and have found them liars.”*

**Matthew 24:5**

*“5 ‘For many will come in My name, saying, ‘I am the Christ,’ and will deceive many.’”*

**II Peter 2:1**

*“1 But there were also false prophets among the people, even as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Lord who bought them, and bring on themselves swift destruction.”*

## **Judgment Seat of Christ**

Ultimately, for the born-again believer in Jesus Christ, all will stand before the Lord and will be judged and rewarded according to our works and deeds.

### **I Corinthians 3:11-15**

*11 For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. 12 Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, 13 each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because **it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is.** 14 If anyone's work which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward. 15 If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire."*

### **II Corinthians 13:5, 6**

*"5 Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?—unless indeed you are disqualified. 6 But I trust that you will know that we are not disqualified."*

### **II Corinthians 5:10 ESV**

*"10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil."*

### **Revelation 3:5 ESV**

*"5 The one who conquers will be clothed thus in*

*white garments, and I will never blot his name out of the book of life. I will confess his name before my Father and before his angels.”*

**Matthew 25:4 ESV**

*“4 Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.’”*

We do not want to be ignorant of this final test. Be ready. Be faithful with what the Lord has given you in this life.

**Tests you will receive with every revelation – by Kim Clement**

General outline “bullets” numbered were adapted from Kim Clement’s teachings that have been made public via internet, you-tube and/or his website. See also: <https://www.houseofdestiny.org>.

**1. The Time Test – Wait it Out.**

The ‘time test’ is simply when our faith is tested, in ***the waiting*** for the fulfillment of a promise or need. Many will grow ‘tired’ of waiting. Throughout scripture it is recorded, that in the ‘fullness of time it came to pass.’ It is easy to grow weary of waiting. God rewards us when we overcome and simply believe that God will perform His Word and His timing is always PERFECT.

**2. Word Test**

The ‘Word test’ is when the word, plan, or

promise God has given you is tested in many ways, not just in ‘the timing’ of its fulfillment. In this test believers will discover within their own hearts if they really believe God’s written or spoken Word to them. Maturity will say, “God said it and I believe it!”

### **3. The Character Test**

God will test the believer’s character. Remember, TECH! Tribulation produces endurance, endurance produces character and character produces hope. Holy Spirit is transforming us according to His power and our wills, that allow the work of God to be accomplished in our life. Our character must line up with the anointing and the call of God on our lives.

#### **Galatians 5:22-25**

*“22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. 24 And those who are Christ’s have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. 25 If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.”*

### **4. The Motivation Test**

What is your motive in life? Do you live for God, His will, and His Kingdom purposes? God calls us to be steadfast and immovable in the callings of God. Believers must not lose focus on His purpose, goals, and Kingdom vision. We must know who we are. Mature believers say, “I know what I am called to do, I am not double minded, and I will sing praise!” Sometimes we

may not feel too good about ourselves, but ultimately, it is up to us to see ourselves as God does. His LIFE motivates us to REALLY LIVE and to LIVE WITH PURPOSE.

## **5. The Servant Test**

The Lord came to serve those He called. He served all of humanity by giving His own life for the salvation of all. He washed the disciple's feet to demonstrate what true servanthood looked like. He said, *"28 Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 29 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. 30 For My yoke is easy and My burden is light."* Matthew 11:28-30. Believers will be tested in their servanthood. Pride may say, "I do not want to serve anymore!" Elisha served Elijah for many years and then carried double portion of his anointing. *"Every time you serve a person, you qualify yourself to receive a portion of that person's gifts and anointing on their life."* Kim Clement

## **6. The Wilderness Test**

At times in the believer's journey, all go through 'wilderness' tests. Wilderness times are when you go through difficult seasons in life and your faith is tested to believe that God is still there! Is He with me? Does He see me? Fear can come against believers, and they lose heart and faith that God will provide for them, spiritually, financially, physically, emotionally, or relationally. Sometimes in the wilderness people feel 'alone'. Yet, God always provides

in the wilderness, and He uses these ‘broken’ times to reveal Himself as the LORD who sees and provides.

## **7. The Misunderstanding Test**

The misunderstanding tests are when others try to discredit you. In these times you may want to fight back when you are criticized and defend yourself. You may cry out for God to vindicate you. Rest assured, God will bring strong victory and justice. This is where we place all injustices in His Hands, and trust that He shall defend and bless you. Oh Lord, *“5 prepare a table for me in the presence of my enemies”*. Psalm 23:5. Vindication is from God.

## **8. The Patience Test**

This test is when we have been given a promise and we grow tired of waiting on it to be fulfilled. So, we come up with another way to make that promise come to pass. The flesh hates to wait on God. But the promise of the Spirit is where His presence rests. Abraham was promised a son, and he and his wife grew weary in waiting for this to come to pass, and presumptuously chose to see it happen in another way. Sarah gave her handmaiden, Hagar, to her husband to produce the ‘promised child’. This only led to further trouble and heartbreak. God ultimately did bless and open Sarah’s womb at the age of 90. God will always show Himself strong to those who wait for Him.

## **9. Frustration Test**

The flesh is easily frustrated and impatient! It is human nature to become frustrated. Some say frustration is control. Worry sets in and believers can become so frustrated, that they begin to launch out at others in anger, rage, or resentment. *“4 But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.” James 1:4. “6 For I am confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus.” Philippians 1:6.*

### **10. Discouragement Test**

Discouragement is the lack of courage! Believers fight unbelief as they wait for God’s Promise to come to pass in their life. Sometimes, trials and tests seem to come one after the other, even after the believer has prayed, confessed the Word of God, or given freely in service, etc. Be encouraged, God will come and manifest His LIFE to those who wait for Him. The goal is to always believe God. Jesus said, that *“with God all things are possible.” Matthew 19:26.*

### **11. The Warfare Test**

The warfare test is when the enemy comes in like a flood! He brings resistance to the forward movement in your life through various means. He strikes in retaliation to progress by sending trouble our way. The believer can grow weary of having to bind, loose, and make war against the evil forces of hell in prayer. Scripture says, *“there is a time for war.” Ecclesiastes 3:8.* In these times the believer must stand and stand fast in the truth of God’s word and promises.

The believer must become skilled in hearing God's voice in these seasons.

## **12. The Self-Will Test**

The 'self-will' test is when the believer acts out of 'him or herself! Stubbornness takes over the heart. This is when the believer says, "I am going to do it!" We step out from the leading of the Lord and His way or truth and seem to take "matters into our own hands." Pride is always lurking like a beast in the shadows to capture the believer's heart and convince the mind into thinking that he/she can do it through personal strength and power, when the truth is it's all about God. What a privilege to walk with God!

## **13. The Vision Test**

*Proverbs 29:18 KJV, says, "Where there is no vision, the people perish."* This test comes when vision has been revealed to the believer, but others may not be in agreement with it or may not have the same passion or zeal to accomplish it! One can begin to doubt the 'vision' when all hell breaks out against it. Discouragement comes and folks can simply 'give up' and lose heart. Do you really believe in the vision? Can God really do this? The overcomer says, *"I know I am going to get there. I have perceived it."* *"God is watching me to see if I really believe it!" Kim Clement*

## **14. The Obedience Test**

God checks to see if we will be obedient! In



order to get to the next place in my journey, I must be obedient! God said, *“22 Obedience is better than sacrifice.” I Samuel 15:22.* All through scripture we see God’s heart for His children is to simply obey Him and His commands. True obedience yields so much fruit! *“It is through our obedience that we gain momentum! Never get too big to do the little things, or say, ‘That is too menial for me’”.* Kim Clement

## **15. The Promotion Test**

The promotion test is when believers may be offered a fantastic opportunity, gift, money, title, position, etc., and it is actually a test to see if they will become prideful or puffed up because of the ‘invitation’ or ‘new open doors’ someone has offered to them. God knows our hearts. He sees pride, and even in our most wonderful moments in life, He will judge to see if we will truly trust Him for where He is leading. *“Sometimes opportunities that come to you is NOT an open door from God. The enemy will act like it is a promotion for you but it is not.”* *“When the door opens, I will know it, and the promotion will come!”* Kim Clement.

Remember the promise from *Isaiah 22:22*, *“22 The key of the house of David I will lay on his shoulder; so he shall open, and no one shall shut; and he shall shut, and no one shall open.”*

God shall fulfill His Word and His Will in our lives as we humbly submit and obey and follow His Holy Spirit, all our days.



## Conclusion

We may have trials in this life, but we can rejoice in the Heavenly Inheritance through Jesus. God uses the trials to refine us like pure gold. This scripture couldn't be said any better! Amen!

### **I Peter 1:3-9**

*“3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, 5 who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.*

*6 In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, 7 that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ, 8 whom having not seen you love. Though now you do not see Him, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, 9 receiving the end of your faith—*

*the salvation of your souls.”*

## **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*

