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Honor, Favor, and Grace

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



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Scripture taken from the New King James Version of the Bible ©. Used by Permission, all rights reserved.

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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 Lauren Caldwell.

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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 PER-FECT 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 intimacy 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

Honor, favor, and grace are common words, especially within more conservative cultures. However, that doesn't necessarily mean these words are understood or valued. It's been said that familiarity breeds contempt. Practically, this saying means that people tend not to appreciate or recognize familiar words or concepts to the degree that they should. The brief explorations of these words and concepts in this book will give you a deeper understanding of God's Kingdom and how these terms relate to it.

Honor, Favor, and Grace

Sowing and Reaping

One of the most significant principles of God's Kingdom is that of sowing and reaping. Galatians 6:7 says, "7 Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap." Sowing is commonly called planting, and reaping conveys a harvest of that which was planted. Therefore, it's easy to see that whatever someone plants determines what will grow. This truth is not only a natural law, but spiritual one as well. Galatians 6:8 says, "8 For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life." Put into everyday terms, these verses could be paraphrased by saying, "What you say or do, whether that's good or bad, will produce a spiritual result in your life due to God's Kingdom principles."

It is within the context of this principle that we suggest honor, favor, and grace can be related to sowing and reaping in the Kingdom of God. If you are lacking honor, favor, and grace in your life, it could be because you do not have a grasp of what they mean, or you simply do not know how to sow them into your life.

In the following pages we will define these words, expound upon them, and show you how to make them a part of your life.

Honor

Honor has many facets. Let's examine the meaning of this word by considering some of its meanings. (Note: italicized portions of the sentences that follow were taken from Dictionary.com). Honor can be understood as relating to *honesty*, fairness, or integrity in one's beliefs and actions. It can also relate to a source of credit or distinction: to be an honor to one's family. It can be a position of high respect, worth, merit, or rank: to be held in honor. Another dimension of honor is the privilege of being associated with or receiving a favor from a respected person, group, organization, etc.: to have the honor of serving on a prize jury; I have the honor of introducing this evening's speaker. These definitions each reveal important aspects of the concept of honor. Honor is not only a desirable quality, but it also plays an important role in God's Kingdom.

God has placed a special value on the concept of Honor. For example, consider what God said about honoring parents in the Ten Commandments: "12 Honor your Father and Mother, that your days may be long upon the land which the Lord your God is giving you." Exodus 20:12

This scripture comes with a promise of long life depending upon whether or not you honor your parents. You may object or think you are exempt from this command because your parents were bad parents and do not deserve honor. However, there is no exception to the command to show honor. If only perfect people received honor, we would all be disqualified. Therefore, while the command does not excuse parents from evil or sin, it does make it clear that God blesses those who honor their parents regardless of how "worthy" the parents may be. It's a Kingdom principle literally carved into stone.

With that in mind, you may be wondering why you don't receive more honor from your children or others. The principle of sowing and reaping reveals that to receive honor, you must first sow it. If you're not being honored appropriately, the likely issue is that you have failed to sow honor and obey God yourself. There is always something to honor in someone if only because they are created in the image of God. If that is the only way you are able to see honor in your parents, then that is where you begin. Ultimately, by honoring those God commanded you to honor, you honor the One who gave the commandment, which is even more important.

Sometimes, people do not demonstrate honor because they simply don't know how. They've never been taught what honor is or how to show it, so even though they may have no ill intention, they are not sowing honor in and through their lives. That's why it's so essential to allow God to teach us. We'll talk about this more in a later section, but God has given us His Holy Spirit and His Word so that we can learn what honor means to Him. Thankfully, God is very patient, and He is a fantastic teacher. Here's an example of how being teachable could lead to an increase of honor. Proverbs 3:9-10 says, "9 Honor the LORD with your possessions, And with the firstfruits of your increase; 10 So your barns will be filled with plenty, And your vats will overflow with new wine." But what if someone simply didn't know that one way to honor God is to give him the best part (the firstfruits) of our labors? When Holy Spirit brings this principle to that person's attention, they now have the opportunity to obey the command, which this passage teaches will lead to the Lord's blessing. Choosing to listen to God's Word and His Spirit opens the door for His outpouring on our lives. He loves to show us His ways for our own good!

Ironically, whereas there are those who simply do not know how to show honor, many people actually do honor God even though they do not know Him. They are aware of a greater power, and their lives reflect the honor they have for this power, but they simply do not know who it is. They will learn how to honor God as they honor and accept Jesus. Matthew 10:40 says, "40 He who receives you receives Me, and he who receives Me receives Him who sent Me." The opposite of that is also true, "23 that all should honor the Son just as they honor the Father. He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent Him," as Jesus said in John 5:23.

Finally, on a different note, many claim to know God, but do not honor Him. Jesus describes this kind of people in Matthew 15:8-9: "8 These people draw near to Me with their mouth, and honor Me with their lips, but their heart is far from Me. 9 And in vain they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men." A large part of honor and respect is obedience. You must obey what God says in order to truly honor Him. In the example below, Israel believed they practiced full obedience to God's law in the Old Covenant, yet they did not believe in Jesus as their Messiah. The whole purpose of the Old Covenant was to reveal Jesus. Therefore, since the Israelites did not believe in the revealed Christ, they were not obedient. Ultimately, this is why Jesus says they are lacking in honor.

John 5:41-46

"41 I do not receive honor from men. 42 But I know you, that you do not have the love of God in you. 43 I have come in My Father's name, and you do not receive Me; if another comes in his own name, him you will receive. 44 How can you believe, who receive honor from one another, and do not seek the honor that comes from the only God? 45 Do not think that I shall accuse you to the Father; there is one who accuses you—Moses, in whom you trust.46 For if you believed Moses, you would believe Me; for he wrote about Me."

Another grave error many people make is a failure to honor and obey the Holy Spirit. While the writings of the New Testament make it clear that Holy Spirit is to be revered just as Jesus or God the Father, the Church lost sight of that truth many centuries ago. Only in the last few centuries has Holy Spirit been widely recognized again as an equal part of the Godhead.

Many believers will honor the Father and Son.

Few give Holy Sprit the honor He is due, although He was present at creation, raised Jesus from the dead, and works in our world today, to say the least about Him. It is time to give honor where honor is due and see Holy Spirit as the Lord of your life as well. Genesis 1:1-3 states, "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." Romans 8:11 is clear as well: "11 But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you." Additionally, John 16:8 says, "8 And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judg*ment.*" Honoring the present-day work of the Holy Spirit is key to fully receiving the honor God intends for His people.

Because of Love

As you consider the importance of both sowing and reaping honor, remember that God's Kingdom principles are always rooted in love. Honor is no exception. Psalm says 91:14-16 "14 Because he has set his love upon Me, therefore I will deliver him; I will set him on high, because he has known My name.15 He shall call upon Me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him and honor him.16 With long life I will satisfy him, And show him My salvation."

Love the Lord first. Choose to honor Him in your obedience and service, and then you can receive honor from Him. Consequently, you will freely give honor to others. Consider these quotes from Danny Silk's book, <u>Culture of Honor</u>, pages 25 – 27:

"Life flows through honor."

"The Principle of Honor states that: accurately acknowledging who people are will position us to give them what they deserve and to receive the gift of who they are in our lives."

"Honor creates life-giving and life-promoting relationships."

"A culture of honor is created as a community of people learns to discern and receive people in their God-given identities."

"Leaders treat the people as free sons and daughters, not slaves; as righteous, not sinners; as wealthy, not poor. Leaders also acknowledge their interdependence on the diverse anointings God has distributed among His leadership and their design for functioning as a team that creates a 'funnel' from Heaven to earth. They lead in teaching and preaching a Gospel that accurately acknowledges God's identity as good, as love, as shalom, and look for clear manifestations of these realities as signs that God's presence is truly welcome in the culture. And in the safety and freedom that grow as His presence grows, leaders lead by developing ways to help people get along with one another in a free culture. They have tools for confrontation that are congruent with people's God-given identities and are motivated by the passion to protect and grow the connections that God is building among us. Finally, leaders in a culture of honor naturally lead their people in extending the honor of the Kingdom to the wider community, creating ways for our cities to experience the life that is flowing among us."

Reflection

Take a moment to reflect upon these questions:

Have you given honor to the Lord? How?

Have you received honor from the Lord? How?

Are you currently giving honor to others? How?

What, if anything, keeps you from honoring?

Ask the Holy Spirit to guide you as you answer these questions, and journal what you receive from Him. Pray as led and allow Holy Spirit to launch you into a lifestyle of honor.

Common Enemies to Honor

Jealousy, fear, envy, lies, pride, and rejection are all enemies to honor. Jealousy snarls, "What you have is supposed to be mine." Envy whines, "I want what you have." Fear snivels, "I won't get what you have." Pride declares, "I am better than you and you should honor me." Rejection huffs, "You don't honor me so I will not honor you or anyone else." Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal any of these enemies of honor in your life and deliver you from them. Declare war on these mindsets and refuse to allow any of them to stop you from living in the honor of the Lord.

Favor

Like honor, the concept or word, "favor," has many aspects. According to dictionary.com it can be something done or granted out of goodwill, rather than from justice or for remuneration; a kind act: to ask a favor. Favor can mean friendly or well-disposed regard; goodwill: to win the favor of the king. Yet, another facet can refer to the state of being approved or held in regard: to be in favor at court; styles that are now in favor.

Listen to Job's description of the favor of God:

Job 29:2-6

"2 Oh, that I were as in months past, as in the days when God watched over me; 3 when His lamp shone upon my head, and when by His light I walked through darkness; 4 Just as I was in the days of my prime, When the friendly counsel of God was over my tent; 5 When the Almighty was yet with me, When my children were around me; 6 When my steps were bathed with cream, and the rock poured out rivers of oil for me!"

In the previous passage, Job poetically describes what life looks like when God's favor is upon it. In short, it is an abundant, blessed life. Do you feel you are favored of God? Why or Why not?

Can we ask for favor? YES! Luke 2:52 says, "52 Jesus increased in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and men." God gives favor to us when our lives please and satisfy Him. His favor

surrounds us like a shield. Psalm 5:12 proclaims, "12 For You, O Lord, will bless the righteous; With favor You will surround him as with a shield." Favor includes God's protection! As the children of God made righteous by the death and resurrection of His Son, we can expect favor in all we do, but it takes faith to believe this. Favor will increase, just as faith grows in our lives. God will provide favor for every task, assignment, or service that He requires of us. Psalm 30:7 says "7 Lord, by Your favor You have made my mountain stand strong; You hid Your face, and I was troubled."

Obedience is also the key to increased favor! Proverbs 8:35 says, "35 For whoever finds me finds life and obtains favor from the Lord." Expanding on this truth, Proverbs 12:2 says, "2 A good man obtains favor from the Lord, But a man of wicked intentions He will condemn." Proverbs 19:12 says, "12 The king's wrath is like the roaring of a lion, but his favor is like dew on the grass."

Each of these passages demonstrates the blessings that come from God's favor. Make it your goal to live in obedience to God so that He may pour His favor upon you.

Grace

We now turn our attention to the word and concept of grace. According to dictionary.com, grace is often associated with *elegance or beauty of form, manner, motion, or action.* It is seen as a *pleasing or attractive quality or endowment.* Grace is often associated with *favor, especially by a superior. It was only through the dean's grace that I wasn't expelled from school.* A common definition of Grace within spiritual conversation is that of *mercy; clemency; pardon: an act of grace*. Another perception of grace is *favor shown in granting a delay or temporary immunity*. Pastor Bill Johnson says, "Grace is the atmosphere created by love that makes faith the only reasonable response." These concepts are seen in various scriptures. In no way are these definitions of grace comprehensive, but you can begin to grasp His infinite mercy through reading and thinking upon the following scripture:

Ephesians 2:4-5, 8

"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)...8 for by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God."

The Gospel of Jesus is the perfect expression of God's grace. Think about the grace revealed in each aspect of the Gospel: Love came. By God's grace and mercy, He saved us, forgave us, healed us, delivered us, and redeemed us. He gave us freely all that is HIS!

Do you KNOW God's grace given to you? Has that grace changed since you got born again? Grace is not Lord of the Spirit, but the Holy Spirit is Lord of Grace. You must obey God to receive the full benefits of His grace. Beware that it is possible to turn from Him. Galatians 1:6 warns, "6 I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ..." Are you yielding to Holy Spirit? When fully submitted to Holy Spirit we will demonstrate and radiate the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ! Grace is not a covering or excuse to sin, nor is it a covering or excuse to disobey Holy Spirt and thus fall short of the glory. Grace empowers believers who remain in submission to God's will. Romans 6:14 says "14 For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace." You have been set free from the bondage of sin by Jesus' payment on your behalf. You are no longer a sinner but made right with God. The very same grace that saved you from sin will empower you live in dominion over sin. You get to choose: will you receive God's grace and live in the power it brings?

Conclusion

Now that you are more familiar with the meanings and concepts of honor, favor and grace, you can begin to sow them into your life and the lives of others. You sow these into your life by acting upon what Holy Spirit leads you to think, do, and speak. If you consistently and willingly sow honor, favor, and grace, you will see a change in yourself and your circumstances. This change will also affect anywhere you have influence. Eventually you will have created a culture of honor within your sphere of influence and people will recognize that something is different. You take part in bringing Heaven to Earth when you generously sow and reap honor, favor and grace.

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 righteous-ness 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

