# **Title: Vision Conference - Make This Your Mission**

# Grant Hill, Garden Gathering, 01/16/21

Part of what is nice about coming back once a year, as a family, in these Garden Vision Conferences, is to remember why you started and where you are going. People perish for lack of vision. You also have to know where you were, right? If you do not know the mandate that God gave Brandy, you are going to miss it. She is only going to do what God told her to do. So, if you do not know what God gave her, and you have said "yes" to that, then you will be di-vided, di-vision.

It is not that you might not have the right intentions, but that is what happens. That is how you get disjointed. As Danetta spoke this afternoon, God is putting someone in the wall next to the person that needed to be there. It is not that the guys three doors down did not have the same goal and mission, "we all are going to build a wall." But, they had to be connected the right way. If you are not connected the right way, you get in squabbles, and then you get *division.* "I am not going to work on Saturday, because that guy comes and works on Saturday. I am going to work on Mondays." You get divided. Do you understand?

I am encouraging you to remember that the mandate is always that you are the next apostles, prophets, teachers, evangelists, and pastors. You are the next ones. There will be a day when I do not do this. Somebody else in this house will do it. That is the truth. It is multiplication. It is multiplying ourselves. That has always been the vision and what it is about. I want you to have the same fire and passion and zeal and boldness as Brandy. But you first have to start with, "what did God tell you?" Remember where you started, so that you have the passion to continue to do it. That was the first love that Deborah was talking about. That is our vision. That is why you are here.

If I were to give my vision, when I first met Brandy, it was about knowing the Bridegroom King. That first love and encountering the presence of the Lover of your soul. That is how I started, with the vision, the mantle on Brandy. I saw the love of Jesus in her. It was Jesus. I knew it was Jesus, because I knew it was a supernatural thing I was seeing. She wanted to encounter the love of Jesus, and Jesus gave it to her. That mantle of love is in this house. If we lose that mantle of love, we will be divided. The Garden family will be divided unless we all carry the same mantle that she carries, that the Bride would be made ready, full of love for Jesus.

I wanted to touch base with you on what we are seeing. Our country is realizing that they are going to have to be pretty grassroots *focused, as Danetta was saying. In* almost everything that we do we have to get back to basics, as you cannot rely upon the overarching structures to teach your children, to give you the word. We have to be one of those virgins that had oil in their own lamps. We have to be a house that has the Presence of God. I am not going to keep looking for others. We cannot just send speakers and worship teams and prophets to every city like we used to do in the Church of the United States of America. All of those churches that relied upon the next prophet, the next pastor, the next teacher, the next evangelist, to come into town and give them that flow, all of a sudden, *find* there are virgins out there that do not have the fire. So, Brandy been saying, "No, I want you to be the next prophet to stand up in the house and prophesy just as that person did." You *say*, "I am not that person." That is what you *need* to have, your own oil, your own fire. We have to be our own house, our own Church, the Garden family in Midland and California, that has the oil. Our own evangelist, teacher, apostle, pastor, and prophet, the fivefold here, that is what we have been building. Because, you have

to have it yourself. If it is not in your hands, the enemy will try to take it away. That is the truth. It is an individual parable, that is also for families in houses of God.

#### Revelation 1, 2, 3

The first three chapters of Revelation are about the churches listening to His voice or, "I will come and remove your fire, your lamp stand." Why, because *they were* not tending the flame *themselves*. That was not just to one person, that was over the city of the Church. That is for San Angelo. There will be hungry people that are *looking for* who actually has the fire now. We have to supply it ourselves. Where are you going to go? You have to have that in you. Where does it start? In your rooms, in your houses, before you come to this house. Then you add to it here. That is when the prayers are so powerful. That is when worship is so powerful. Wow, everybody came in ready to praise with me. It is like, bang, you are already there. You do not have to "push through it." We are all back together. We are all here now. I am speaking in spiritual warfare terms. I need us to realize that our children, myself, and our older generation are the next Billy Grahams, the next Todd Whites, or the next fill in the blank, Charles Spurgeons, Smith Wigglesworths.

We have to come to a point where we realize, "wait God, it has to be me." It does not mean that you have to go and do that before thousands or hundreds of thousands of people like them. I am not saying that, but you can still carry that same fire for five people. Now, if you carry that same fire for five, it is going to multiply. Okay? But, you have to start with five that catch that mantle of love that is in the mandate of this house and is being diffused everywhere. "Thanks be to God that always leads us in triumph and diffuses the fragrance of Him." I hope I am encouraging you. That is what it is. It is what we are doing. That is what this is about. That is what it is for. So whether you are in Michigan or you are in California, or whether you are in Midland, or whether you are in Oklahoma, or whether you are in San Angelo Texas, the fire has to be tended. Because the enemy has shown us how easily he can take things away with fear and intimidation. The churches, a lot of them, have not met in six months. *Our* fire is completely gone. It is gone. How do you start it back up again?

But, thanks be to God that He is given us wisdom in our houses. We had to be broken apart. We had to have cell groups, because life is in the cells. Life is in the cells. The life of God is in the cells. Literally in your physical body, life is in your cells. Spiritually, that is a concept. If your body starts losing cells and dying, as we know in cancer. Cancer cells attack other cells and attack the body. That causes great division and wars against itself. We do not want that. What we want is the oil that connects and brings the life that we need.

The Lord has been building since 2008, the wisdom and understanding in our house to get through what we just went through in 2020. We did not lose anything in 2020. We did not gain the people that we wanted to. When we sat here a year ago, we *thought, "this is going to be a great year."* We gained authority. We gained understanding, and we gained in intercession. We gained in prayer. We gained in strategies. Even though the harvest might not have jumped in right then, we gained a lot.

So, we cannot look back. There were a lot of things that happened. Our family got twins in 2020. I got a house in 2020. I paid off my car in 2020. We have to go back and look. Some were married in 2020. It was great. There is a praise, there is a testimony, that life happened. The enemy is going to say, anytime you look at 2020, you are going to try to curse it. He is already trying to curse this year. If you want to curse it, you talk to Jesus about it. It is up to you.

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We know that it is not a bad thing to send people to other churches. Paul did that. We read that he was so thankful "that you sent Timothy to me, and I sent Titus to you." and it is such a joy Philemon is coming to you." We know that is okay. I am not talking about that. Yet the ones that were losing their life, losing their fire, like the Galatians. They got a rebuke because they were not tending the flame, *like the wise virgins* in the parable of the ten virgins. They were not tending the fire themselves and realizing you have to set up people in your house to lead this. You cannot rely on me. I am in chains in Rome. I long to come to you, that you would have the maturity that I have. But, I cannot do it and I am relying on the Holy Spirit to get you there. That is what Paul is saying. I have that same cry, and Brandy has that same cry. When it gets fiery, it feels like it is getting urgent for the family to go and get it, and be mature and hear.

Robin had said in her message, "Flourishing in Peace and Triumph," "choosing to look." That is a message of maturity, because there are times when you as a child you are not allowed to look at things. But, there are times when as an EMT, you have to choose to look at things. To be mature enough, to do the call that is on your life. We have to be bold enough to be able to read, look, and consider things, so that we have an answer of truth. We have to know what we ought to do. But, if I only know one side of it, I have not chosen to look and be mature enough to filter and decipher and weigh it out. To say, "Here is what we ought to do." I have to have a family that is mature enough to choose to look.

One of the biggest things the prophets have been saying is that the scales have been unbalanced. Have you heard those words? "The scales are unbalanced." That means that it is a predetermined outcome, because if your scales are unbalanced, the person weighing them already knew what was going to happen. If a rock is supposed to be a pound, but it is actually weighing point eight pounds. I am going to get more or less of what I want. I am going to get a predetermined outcome. So if my scales are unjust, then it is an abomination to the Lord, it says in Proverbs. If the Lord is shaking that, I have to be mature enough to choose to look at both sides of a scale and mature enough to understand and decipher what is evil and what is good and what is just and what is right and what we ought to do. That is where the Church has to be right now. We have to be a "spirit of truth" Church. But in order to know the truth, you have to hear both sides. You have to be mature enough to read it and look at it.

The reason why we have gotten to a place in this country, where we are literally squabbling over whether it is okay to kill our children, is because we have not been mature enough to talk about sexual immorality in a marriage covenant. God knew what He was doing with the ten commandments saying, "Do not commit adultery." Don't commit sexual immorality. Do not be one with someone unless you are married. Because if you choose to do that, someday you are going to have to choose between whether you kill the baby or not. Because you chose that pleasure and continued to choose that pleasure, now, America look where you are at *compared to* the 1960s. But, you are not mature *enough* to talk about that now. You are not mature enough to even hear that right now. You are not even mature enough to hear to "not be in the same house as one unless you are married." That is not a mature conversation I can have with America right now, because they have not chosen to look at the heart of God and why He said, "Do not commit adultery." The Church has not been mature enough to look at the root of what is really going on and confront it.

I want you to be able to hear those things. We have to have wise answers. I cannot be angry at someone. I know that we are going to run into so many people that have committed abortion. I am not angry at the person. I've messed up, just as much. If I have failed in one thing, I have committed them all. *Scripture* says that in James? If you lie to your parents, you have committed murder, because you have failed the heart of God. I am not angry, but there has to be a wisdom and a balance to talk about that. Wisdom and balance to come in love but also the truth.

What does it mean for a Church to actually not be afraid of death. What does it mean to have a people that when you are about to be let loose into an arena of people who are spitefully using you for their pleasure in seeing you get torn up, that you aren't even afraid of that death? We have not been persecuted, to that extent, yet. But my thoughts today have been, what does it actually mean to be not afraid of these things that are under our feet?

Juanita said it very beautifully, "Are you afraid of the floor below you right now? Are you afraid of this wood? Are you afraid of the carpet in your house? Well then, why are you afraid of all that is under your feet?" Well, there are rattlesnakes, and they try to bite your heels. That is true. In Genesis, we know that he will strike your heel, but He will crush and bruise your head. Naya had seen *that in a vision* today, the needle that pricked her heel. We understand that Jesus crushed the head of satan, and Jesus has given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions. You have to be aware of the devil's schemes, so that when you come near a pit, you are not afraid of the dirt. You are not afraid of the walkway, but sometimes he lays snares below your feet. It is all through the Bible, that the enemy lays snares below your feet. Because, he is not above you. He has to be a snake that comes and bites you from below. What does it mean to actually not be afraid of the next intimidating thing, or the next fear monger, or of whatever? What does it mean to be a Church that is not in pride and bravado, *but says,* "I am not afraid, I will take that mountain."

What did Jesus actually look like when He was on trial? Was He smug? Was He really just dejected? I do not know if He was dejected. I feel like He was not afraid. As we read the account of the trial, especially before the Jews and the high priest, they were infuriated at the lack of reaction they were getting from this Man who was not afraid of them. He was not afraid of them. They kept asking, "Don't you know what we can do to you? Don't you know what I have the power to do for you?" He says, "Unless my Father gave you that power, you would have none at all." But, He did not say it smugly or even pridefully.

Sometimes we look at "I am not afraid." Well, if God did not give you that, you can come across in the wrong spirit. What does it mean for a Church to have a serenity, a calm, a peace, and yet *say*, "I am not afraid of this." There is a balance there. What does the Church look like when we are not actually afraid of COVID or we are not actually afraid of leprosy? We are not actually afraid of those things, but we are also not in the other camp where we are so prideful in saying, "I am not afraid." There is that middle ground where Jesus was compassionate and soft, yet confident. "Nothing is going to touch me right now." There is a difference. There is a godly and a righteous thing there. A right spirit that I do not think we have seen in the Church in my lifetime, that I believe that He is calling us in the Garden to understand and to walk in. A confidence, yet not bravado, a serenity, yet, an engagement in a violent, take it by force in the Spirit. Yet, I am innocent as a dove when I show up. There is something there we haven't really tapped into. As wise as a serpent that is trying to attack me on this, I am that fiery serpent that swallows up all the rest like in Moses' story. But, I am as innocent as a dove and serene when I do it.

## Luke 6:27 NKJV

In talking about how the harvest is coming and us coming out of our paneled houses to build the house of God, I felt like the Lord gave me some practical *steps* on what it looks like. We are at a point in our history, in the United States, that *we* are not going to be able to do the big thing right now. So, the seven mountains can get overwhelming when you are called to transform all of the schools or feel called to the government of *our city*. You can get in that mode of doing it all right now and then just "shut down." But there is a "yes," to the call, then there is a "this is your next step." You cannot get overwhelmed by where you are going. You just have to do your "next step."

So I feel like these are the next steps, because we are not going to go and change the schools, government, or internet in a week, or by the end of 2021. We are not going to change both political parties by the end of 2021, unless you start with how everything else has been built in the entire world. You start with the basics. You start at the bottom and you do what they call "grassroots" steps. Do you know what "grass roots" are? You sprout up from out of the ground. It just becomes something that was unexpected. It is usually used in a term of political parties or political movements. They actually went and did the small work, went into little towns, and they met with actual people. They went door to door, shook people's hands, and talked about things. Many, many more people did that in every little town. All of a sudden, you had a grassroots movement, and a candidate that you never heard of before sprouts up. Okay, that is a political terminology for how they could do a grassroots campaign. In the spirit, we are always supposed to be doing a grassroots effort. That is how the fire never actually ever goes out, because most people try to swipe out the big things. But, God is always working with one-on-one. You can never knock out the Holy Spirit, because He is always doing life in the cells. He knows how to multiply one cell, to the next, and the next. That is how it always works. That is what God is always doing, and our job is to say, okay, what is my next step? If it is one person, it is one person. If it is five, it is five. If it is three, it is three. If it is ten, it is ten. But you do not just do ten, unless you have already done one. That is how it goes.

We are at that point where we have to start doing those things, again very well with the anointing of Billy Graham, with the anointing of Smith Wigglesworth. I am going to be an evangelist to this one. This one is coming in. This one is coming in. By the end of 2020, about the end of, whatever it is, this one is going to come in. There is prayer there. Do you think that you are going to get less of reward for bringing one in faithfully as bringing in ten? Tell me. What do you actually think? Do you really think that?

## Luke 6:27-28

You probably have heard this, but there is another level that we have to know in our house in the Garden for this year. Because, we are going to be hated. You are going to be hated. Now, He has given us the keys on how to get through this year. It is actually, "You hate me? Good, because you are going to get in the kingdom this year, because I am going to love you till you are in it. Yeah, I haven't learned that all the way yet either. "Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, and pray for those who spitefully use you." We have already seen that. We have already seen that happen. They have spitefully used people, me, you, and Christians in general.

## Luke 6:29-30

Are you kidding? That is not American in any way. But, it is the Lord's way to get our country back to His ways.

## Luke 6:31-36

Isn't that amazing? I think Matthew's version says, "then you will be made perfect as your Father in heaven is perfect." He is still kind to all who have cursed, rebuked, slandered, schemed evilly against Him in this country. God is still kind and merciful to them. It is unfathomable, but it is going to be a key for what we actually accomplish this year. This, I feel like, is a huge key to what we actually accomplish in 2021. Learning how to do this. Learning how to do this, because, He is perfect and we want to be known as the sons of the Most High God. The children of God, who aren't actually afraid. "I am not afraid of that." Or more often, we do not have to say that, but people will look at us and say, "why are you not afraid?" That is probably the testimony I would rather hear first, is that they recognize by the countenance I am

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walking in and the serenity and peace and calm in my life, that I am not afraid. Then, they have to ask, "why are you not afraid? Why are you not afraid? Why did you do this? I have hated you. I still hate you, and I do not know why." That is what we are trying to get to. That is what we want. That is what this country is going to need. This is the actual plan for unity. This is the actual plan that disarms division. When you do what is not expected. Then when somebody becomes defensive and angry, you tell them, "hit me, again. Why, because you have to get it out on somebody, and it might as well be me. They beat Jesus in anger and rage, and He took it and paid the price for it. He did."

#### Matthew 5:43 TPT

I want to read this in the Passion Translation. I think it will encourage you. "Your ancestors have also been taught, 'love your neighbors and hate the one who hates you.' However, if you will, listen to me. I say to you 'love your enemies, bless the one who curses you. Do something wonderful in return for the one who hates you. When you are mistreated and harassed by others, accept it as your mission to respond to the very ones who persecute you, by praying for them."

Brandy said yesterday, "this is going to be our mission in flourishing. I had already written, "Make It Your Mission." Make it your mission that when you are persecuted, you love them so much you are praying for their soul. When you are reviled in this country, because you already are reviled, part of the engagement that God is asking us to do is feel that anger. Feel that persecution towards Christians. Feel that persecution towards righteousness. Feel that persecution towards justice. Feel the persecution towards liberty, but instead of being angry and going back at it in anger, there is a prayer. Make it your mission to intercede and pray. Make it your mission.

#### Luke 6:29 TPT

There's a difference there that is engaging the enemy, but not how he expects you to actually do it. To those who despise you, continue to serve them and minister to them. If someone takes away your coat. Give Him as a gift, your shirt, as well. When someone comes to beg from you, give to that person what you have. When things are wrongly taken from you, do not demand that they be given back. However you wish to be treated by others, is how you should treat everyone else. For that will reveal your identity as children of your heavenly Father. He is kind to all, bringing the sunrise to warm and rainfall to refresh, whether a person does what is good, or what is evil. Are you really showing true love by only loving those who love you back? Even those who do not know God will do that. Are you really showing compassion when you do good deeds only to those who do good deeds back to you? Even those who do not know God will only love the lovable? What reward do you actually deserve, if you will only love the lovable? Don't even the tax collectors do that? How are you any different from others if you will limit your kindness only to your friends? Don't even the ungodly do that? Since you are children of a perfect Father in heaven, you are to be perfect, like Him.

I wrote down, "wear the backups." Do you know what I mean, "wear the backups?" You always have a good coat and a backup coat, good gloves and a back up pair. The work gloves and the work shoes. You know what I am talking about, the good shirts and the paint shirts? Give the good ones and wear the back ups. That feels right. It is hard. But, that feels right. When I give something, here are my good gloves. I have the back up ones. Do you know what I am saying? Here is my good cap. I will wear my old cap that smells bad. Why, because I am treating someone how I want to be treated? I am going to give the good stuff. Jesus does not give the backups. He does not give the secondhand ones, He gives the good stuff. At least, He has to me. He has given me the good stuff. He did not hold it back. He wants to give more. In the same way I want to be perfect like that. Where I shouldn't, in the back of my mind, think "oh I

have another pair." I should say, "these are the best I have. I will wear the back ups, with the holes in them." That is what He is saying. It is hard. But that is what He is saying.

Not just in finances, what else can we give? Not just your finances, what else can we give? We are going to be in a year, where everyone will tell you, "Do not reach out. Don't give of yourself. Give money. Don't do the contacts. Do not do the one on ones. Don't do that. Don't do that. Do not be connected, be divided. Don't do it. Be afraid of doing it. Be afraid of doing that. Be afraid of touching. Be afraid of reaching out. Be afraid."

Thankfully, our governor has limited it to ten people. You can have ten people together under the guidelines of Texas. That is not very much in the Helton family. But that is a guideline we know. I do not want you to be afraid. I do not want you to be afraid. I do not want you to be afraid. What else can I give besides my finances? I can give my clothes. I can give written letters. Written letters, handwritten letters, because when you write a handwritten letter automatically somebody feels like they are actually cared about. You took time to get a pen and wrote something you can give to them. If it is just to our house, that is a place to start. We have had a lot of time to practice this. Now, we need to start doing it to the lost.

We had some construction *work done* in our house. Not everybody that came into our house was saved. I do not know how many were saved that came into my house when we were doing construction. We always gave, and we touched, and I just talked and loved as much as the Holy Spirit showed us. Could we have done more? Yes, but when the construction was done, we asked the foreman, the right hand man of our contractor, to come over and we gave them a note we had taught our kids to write. We gave it to them to say thank you for all the work that they did. He was shocked. "Really, you actually want to thank me for the work that I did?" Then we gave them cookies. But, to the lost, that you would actually be thankful, *they are sometimes shocked.* "If you love the lovable, what reward do you actually have?" If we haven't learned how to be hospitable yet, you have to practice, because it is the year that we need to start being hospitable to the lost. It is a year that we have to actually start reaching out to those that aren't in the Garden family.

It is like, "Do you want to come out and eat at my table? Do you? When is your birthday? What do you like?" Reaching out to those that are not in this family, because they are going to be hurting. They are not going to be next to you with Jesus, unless we reach out. Nobody else is going to reach out but the Christians. Nobody else is going to say,"I am not afraid." Nobody else is going to say, "I actually care about you."

The world right now is, is full of intimidation and fear to not care, not reach out, not do it. We're in that moment where we have to do it phone calls, time, tutoring. I do not understand this subject, can you teach it better than I can. Yes, I can. Discipleship not just with our Garden family but with the actual lost. That is what it is going to take in 2021. Loving our enemies.

If we have been practicing hospitality, look to give more. Happy and hospitable, a cheerful giver. We always think that is just in finances, until you have a family over that does not know the Lord. Their three children are not disciplined at all. They have gone through the entire toy chest and destroyed the wheels it was on. *When they leave, you say, "*I am still a cheerful giver. I gave my time. I gave my food. I gave my energy to pick this all up for an hour after they left and loved it." When you can say, "you can open my fridge," and they look at you like are you kidding me? That is *the* reality of what it means to be hospitable. But, do you have that relationship with those in this family? The next step is to treat others the way that you want to be treated. Can you do that with somebody that you do not know? "If you are hungry, go look in my fridge and get something to eat." Yes, it takes relationship. Being that sincere, cheerful

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giver. Here is my cloak and my tunic as well. Here is my Welch's grape juice and my white fudge Oreo cookies as well. Not quite ice cream yet, but maybe next year. It is what He is saying, cheerfully give.

That is going to be how the harvest actually jumps in and we have success this year. As Brent said, "They are going to go say, "This guy actually thanked me for the work." That testimony goes out just as fast as a healing *testimony*. There is a "fire" in San Angelo because at this house they actually care. Word goes out that they actually love. The mandate that we started on and the vision that we have to love the Lord God, and encounter His presence which is love. Then diffuse that love in triumph wherever we go. That is the vision, call, and mandate of the Garden house.

Now is the time for our own country to truly encounter Jesus. Make it your mission. Texas is our mission field. The United States is our mission field. I know that there are many in this house that are called *to places outside* the United States of America. I understand that. But for *most of us* we have to realize that this is our mission field. It is going to take *applying* Luke 6.

#### Philippians 1:27 through 2:5 NKJV

That is *not* a works mentality. It is in the word that there is a labor, there is an engagement, there is an action in love. But, I am not alone. I am together with this house of spirit filled believers that have grown so much since 2008, in the mantles, calls, and destinies of our lives. We aren't doing what we did in 2008. We're doing so much more, yet we still have a plow to grab ahold of. There is still a field to go plow ahead. There is still a harvest to go pluck up. There are still seeds to be sown. You and I, striving together in the faith, in this house. It is there. It is right there.

## Philippians 1:28

What he is saying is that when you face an adversary, it is proof that you are saved. It is proof that Jesus is in you, because you are not of the world. Somebody is adversely confronting you *in* the spirit of the world, and it is a witness to you that, Jesus is right. If they persecuted Him, they are going to persecute me. Praise be to God. Praise be to God. If I am not being persecuted, that is a warning flag to me. That is a warning flag to me, because I am not diffusing Christ in the world, and not confronting it.

## Philippians 1:29-30, 2:1-4

Yes, we know there is wisdom *and it* obviously comes up there. It does not mean you totally negate your house. Jesus did not say that. It comes out here. Don't only look out for your interests, but look out for and treat others the same way you want to be treated. Look out for their interests as well, because they haven't been taught. They had not been told. It is the truth.

#### Philippians 2:5-7 He is our model.

How do we do our next step? What is your next step? Give all of yourself to one other who is not in the Garden family. Start with prayer. Then start with a note. Then start with a phone call or text. Next, have them in your house. Ask them what they need. Don't beat them with the Bible. Be filled with the countenance of the favor of God. Diffuse the serenity, peace, calm, and triumph in Him to them. They will *say*, "Why are you not afraid? What is different?" *Your response is*, "This is because I've been praying for you to know my God, the way that I know Him." That is your next step. That is how the harvest comes in. Because, if you get one then the whole family will come in, and households can be saved, cities can be saved. But you have to realize you cannot go get 90,000 people at one time. *Just begin with* one.

We have to submit the flesh to this. The flesh has got to go out kicking and screaming. "Those are my best gloves. That was my ice cream. Who told you to give those Oreos? Was it actually the Holy Spirit?" That is what the flesh will do. You have to put it in subjection. That is true.

## James 2:8

James is not afraid to give a strong statement. If you really do this, you do well. That is like the whole gospel of the kingdom right there. That is Jesus. You do well. He knows if you actually can do this, you are doing *well*. "If you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself," you do well."

#### James 2:9

"Oh, I am wearing my good gloves, but I gave away my gloves with holes in them." I chose myself over another person. I was partial to me over them." That is that is where it starts. The injustice that we see in our society with partiality, begins with selfishness in me. I am partial to myself first. Only the Christians have a gospel that says, "I am needing to be made less *important*." Not for my gain, but so that Christ can be glorified more. I must show less partiality to myself, so that Christ can be glorified and exalted more. We are the only ones that know and understand. We are asking God to show us how to do that.

#### James 2:10-13

We are in a judgment season in this country. Do you agree? In order to get out of it, we have to be a people that shows mercy. So that God's mercy can triumph over this judgment. We are in a judgment season. Because the Church has shown no mercy, there has been no mercy yet. Because the Church has shown partiality, there has been no mercy yet. But, if we get the keys of Luke 6, and start showing mercy, then, God's mercy can come and triumph over the judgment. That is the key.

# 1 Thessalonians 5:15-24

This is a charge for us all. It is the fire I want you to have and tend.

When anyone asks, "What is the will of God?" "Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, and always give thanks. That is the will of God." He wants us to not be afraid and to always be cheerful, because His face shines upon us. He is always interceding on behalf of all for their good, for their salvation, and for their mercy. When you know that, you are so thankful for what God has done for you. That is the will of God for His children, that we are not concerned about anything. This is the will of God for us. Amen.

Let us stand and receive the word of the Lord and thank Him for what He has released to us this weekend and for this upcoming year.

Holy Spirit we are very humbled and we rejoice. We ask that you would continue to teach us how to pray and to remain thankful. That you would show us how to show mercy, and be perfect like you are perfect. Showing goodness and mercy to those who spitefully use us, who are evil toward us, who do not like us, who are in angst and division against us. There is a way, and it is your way that disarms the ways of the world. I thank you, Father, for you have given us the power and authority to be as wise as serpents and innocent as doves. The violent take it by force. Yet, we are the salt of the earth. We cannot lose our flavor, Lord. Show us how to be seasoned in the Holy Spirit daily with the love of God, that diffuses to all in triumph in Christ Jesus. In Jesus name we pray, Amen.