



SPIRITUALLY CONNECTED

*Mark
Selle*

Unless otherwise stated, all scripture comes from
the KJV King James Version of the Bible

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INDEX

Chapter 1	Spiritually Unaware	3
Chapter 2	Spiritually Transformed	7
Chapter 3	Spiritually Understanding	11
Chapter 4	Spiritually Minded	15
Chapter 5	Spiritually Speaking	19
Chapter 6	Spiritually Equipped	23
Chapter 7	Spiritually Knowing	31
Chapter 8	Spiritually Loving	37
Chapter 9	Spiritually Qualified	41

Forward

After reacquainting myself with Mark in August of 2021, I've had the privilege to meet one of the most spiritual people in my life. Little did I know then that we would become strong brothers in Christ. Since that time, though we are miles apart, I've been able to meet weekly with my friend in Christ through Zoom meetings. This opportunity has given me a better understanding of the Holy Spirit and why believers need to learn how important the Spirit is in their lives. Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to guide and direct us, and we should seek His help throughout the day every day. As for me, the Holy Spirit does just that, showing me what I need to change or rearrange in my life. He has every correct answer to every question I ask Him, always trying to keep me in line with God's plan for me.

Please take your time and ask the Holy Spirit to help you see and understand all that will help you personally. Keep an open spiritual mind and receive all God's Spirit has for you through this book.

Bruce Herrmann - Wisconsin

In today's world many are confused in their beliefs about religion and faith. Mark takes you into the spiritual, concerning spirit, soul and body. This book can help to give you a new understanding that you may be searching for. When I first met Mark, I was in need of answers concerning faith and where it exists in all of us.

I pray his book may help you find some of your answers on your journey to true peace and complete joy.

Dedicated to the Holy Spirit,

Joyce McMillian - Florida

Introduction and Instruction

I remember using my faith to get on an airplane without knowing how it worked and why it could fly. I believed with my faith because of all the people at the airport who also believed planes were a safe way to travel. **Hebrews 11:1** in the Easy to Read version says:

Faith is what makes real the things we hope for. It is proof of what we cannot see.

Faith makes things real while we hope for them. Faith makes unseen things become see. Faith makes you have things you didn't have before. Faith is proof of what we can't see. Everything that is spiritual can only be seen spiritually, it's only the results of faith that can be seen physically. No one ever saw Jesus do a miracle, they only saw the results of the miracle which was physically seen.

Looking at **Joshua 1:8** in the Easy to Read version:

Always remember what is written in that book of law. Speak about that book and study it day and night. Then you can be sure to obey what is written there. If you do this, you will be wise and successful in everything you do.

Study, remember and speak about God's Word. We must comprehend that the Bible is in a spiritual wrapping. Written by spiritual people as they were influenced by the Holy Spirit of God. If you read the Bible without the leading of the true author, you will have difficulty understanding it. I have found that as I grow spiritually, I can read a verse that I read many times and still get a new revelation of what it says. This is why you should read and reread God's Word daily because as your spiritual strength grows, your revelation increases. This can make it easier to meditate on God's Word day and night. Meditating on God is to have Him in your thoughts and mind, honoring and obeying Him, doing what pleases Him and letting His Spirit lead you throughout your day.

Let's look next at **John 8:31&32**:

31 So Jesus said to the Jews who believed in him, "If you continue to accept and obey my teaching, you are really my followers. 32 You will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.

V. 31 Jesus spoke this only to the ones who believed in Him. Only if you continue to accept and obey my teaching will you be my real followers.

V.32 Jesus said: You will know the truth because I'll teach it to you as you continue to accept and obey what I teach you. It's the truth that I teach you that will free you from the bondage of sin.

The Jews believed in Jesus with their faith, then Jesus showed them what would help them if they continued to believe with their faith. If you're an "I have to see it to believe it" kind of person, you will never have all that God wants to give you. It seems everyone wants to understand everything in the Bible. Verse 32 says you should know the truth, not you should understand the truth. The Holy Spirit will show you the truth because He took Jesus' place in your spiritual heart (your spirit). This is where you will be able to receive more from this book.

The Holy Spirit is your witness through your conscience, and He can guide you spiritually if you allow Him to. You will get so much more from this book if you permit the Holy Spirit to show you the truth that is hidden between the pages. It is only with His leading, discernment and direction that you will see the most benefits in being *spiritually connected* to God and His Word .

Pray First

Pray each time before you read, ask God for His help as His Spirit leads your thoughts and mind. The more you devote yourself to receive from God, the stronger you will become spiritually. Distractions and confusion will not help you stay focused. God gave us a free will to decide how much of Him we want.

Chapter 1 Spiritually Unaware

I was raised in the farmlands of Wisconsin in the 1960's and 70's. I was attending a denominational church and by the age of 14, I began to struggle with the ways of the church and believed there was much more that wasn't being told. I was *spiritually unaware* of what more wasn't being shared, I didn't pursue it and didn't find it. I wasn't seeing the importance of a personal loving relationship with God.

When I was 17, I was working and boarding with a farmer. My dad came out to a field where I was working, he came up to me and said, "you need to go to church". My mom died when I was 13 and as my dad was walking back to his car, I thought about how my mom had to nudge him when he started snoring during the 10-minute sermon. It was then that I realized I would never learn all that I was searching for in 10-minute sermons every Sunday. Being *unaware* of the things of God and their value, more years passed not knowing what more I wanted and how to pursue it. In 2000 I relocated to Cincinnati, Ohio. I began attending a non-denominational church. On Mother's Day May 13th, 2001, I became born-again and baptized in the Holy Spirit. I began listening to good teachings and was involved in that church but still no real change. Something was still missing. Finally, 14 years later while I was visiting my step-daughter over Christmas, I heard from God. It wasn't audible but just a knowing inside to spend more time with Him. As I began to seek Him first and put His things first, I started to grow. He taught me to be led by His Spirit and to follow His will and His ways. I was starting to become aware of who He is and how He does things spiritually.

When the Spirit of God showed me, I should spend more time with Him, it did something to me. I didn't feel anything, it wasn't anything God did, it was something I did. I was yielding to God's Spirit, I put God first, I allowed Him to lead me all the way down to Sarasota, Florida. Now I can't tell you exactly what you need to do because God has a different call and purpose for each of His children. God has no favorites, and He loves us all the same, so you can be sure He has something great lined up for you personally and spiritually.

I often find myself *spiritually* unaware of things but God forgives me, and brings me back to the right path. Over the last few years, the Spirit of God has lead us to some spectacular opportunities and blessing. Now I look back at all those years that I wasted because I didn't see the value of a strong intimate relationship with our Heavenly Father and the importance of being led by His Spirit.

This is the purpose for me writing this book, so you won't have to waste all the years that I did. Did you ever buy a car or a house and a few months later, wish you would have waited because you found one you liked better? A spiritual life of being led by God's Spirit doesn't just get better, it always and forever gets better and better. It's up to the individual how much better they want their life to be. God is the God of increase, not of decrease or just enough. He is still creating, empowering, strengthening, developing and multiplying. Our job is to continually mature, grow and strengthen spiritually. When things grow, they get stronger, as we grow spiritually, we will become stronger spiritually.

Back in 2002 in the beginning of my spiritual life I was inspired to memorize Romans 12:2. I later found out in 2016 (after 14 years of nothing), that it did me no earthly good to just learn and memorize it. God wanted me to live by it, get it in my soul, my spiritual heart. This is where He wanted it to be planted so His Spirit inside me could help it grow and strengthen me to be more *spiritually connected*.

Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Romans 12:2

When we are conformed to the world, we think like the world instead of like God. To be transformed by the renewing of your mind is to totally redirect your thinking. Renewing your mind is the only possible way you can know the good, acceptable and perfect will of God. The word "Perfect" here means complete, lacking nothing.

Evidently, we can know the will of God and know His complete will. How does this happen? You make it happen through being *spiritually connected* to God. God loves you as much as He does Jesus, Jesus wants you to follow Him, not physically like the disciples did, but by being *spiritually connected* to the Father. We are to be led by the Holy Spirit of God who lives inside us. He knows everything that is true, correct, good, acceptable and perfect (complete). God gives us His Holy Spirit when we receive Jesus into our heart as Lord and Savior. If you haven't received Christ, you can pray the prayer on the next page to get *spiritually connected*.

Pray This Prayer for Your Spiritual Connection

Dear Heavenly Father, I repent of all my sins, please see in my heart that I am truly sorry. I dedicate my life totally to You forever.

Jesus, I accept You as my Lord and Savior, I thank You for dying on the cross so that all my sins can be forgiven, past, present and future. I want to follow You all the rest of my days, I receive the Holy Spirit and want to be led by Him, I look forward to knowing and growing by learning and applying Your word to my life. I receive the peace from you Father, that surpasses all human understanding, and I look forward to spending eternity with You.

Thank You, Father

If you prayed this prayer and believe in your heart that you are now a new creation in Christ, you are *spiritually connected* to the Father, His Son Jesus, and His Spirit that is now living in your spirit. You may not feel different because spiritual things like the peace of God are way above human understanding. You should however sense a knowing, an assurance, a confidence that you are now part of the family of God.

After I prayed that prayer, I didn't have anyone hand me a book like this. I wanted more of God so bad that I went home from work and would read the Bible every free minute I had. After months of reading from cover to cover, all I accomplished was reading it from cover to cover. I didn't get a single thing out of it because I wasn't *spiritually connected*. Fourteen wasted years later, after I was influenced and led by the Holy Spirit, I found that *spiritual connection*.

Chapter 2 Spiritually Transformed

We can only receive from God if we do and live according to how He wants us to live. Very few Christians give their everything to God. The biggest reason is that they do not know all God expects from them. The more committed we are to Him, the more committed He will be to us. God wants an intimate and personal love relationship with us. One way that we can build on this relationship is by being involved in His work. Here are just some verses that show us ways we should submit ourselves to Him.

God said in 1 Samuel 2:30 the second part, - *but now the LORD declares: 'Far be it from me, for those who honor me I will honor, and those who despise me shall be lightly esteemed.*

Until we honor Him, He will not honor us. He will always love us, but these other things like honor, dignity, esteem, and respect carry a much higher rank.

Isaiah 1:19 says *If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land.*

Here is an "If" situation, you will not eat the good or the BEST unless you are willing and obedient, plain and simple.

John 14:21 says *Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him."*

The word "whoever" does not mean everybody, Jesus is looking for selected ones for this exchange. You keep the commandments to show Him you love

Him. Then the Father will love you, Jesus will love you, and reveal Himself to you spiritually. Remember to keep His commandments first, also, there are many more than 10 commandments.

You might see this spiritual transformation as growing out of your old way of living and into a new way of life. This new way of life comes from a new way of thinking. Just as we grew out of our baby teeth and got ourselves a nice set of choppers. Those little teeth had no value once something better came along. It's the same for transforming our thought patterns. Until you can spiritually see that a strong relationship with God supersedes any other relationship, you will always put too much value on physical relationships.

Remember that your spirit and soul will never die, they will go up to heaven or down to hell. God is good at everything, owns everything, and never makes a mistake. We must transform our thinking and lifestyle to line up with what God wants and expects from us. Then we must follow the leading of His Spirit so He can teach us how God does things and how He wants things done.

In your *spiritual transformation*, God will not take anything from you that is good for you, but He will be happy to receive anything you would like to give Him that is not good for you. Let me point something out, some people have experienced a time when they gave up something that was very difficult and God replaced it with something life-changing that they didn't even know existed. This must have been a great way to be *spiritually transformed*.

Look at the diagram on the right, at the bottom when life begins, you are a weak light gray and satan is a stronger darker gray. Then moving up you meet Jesus, you now become stronger (darker gray) and satan becomes weaker (lighter gray). When you receive Jesus old things pass away, and all things become new spiritually. Your physical body stays the same and your mental, soulish parts also stay the same.

Once you accept Christ as Lord and God gives you His Spirit, help is now available for you. Since God also gave you a free will that will allow you to make your own choices, you still control your thoughts and decisions. God offers us everything He has for us, but we must receive all that He has for us. Transforming must always be steering away from the world and more toward God. You will live in the world until you go to heaven, but God doesn't want you to be controlled by the ways of the world.

Submit yourselves therefore to God.
Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.
James 4:7

Submit to God comes before you can resist the devil. Transforming is getting things in the correct order, and in line with God's perfect will and ways.



Becoming *spiritually transformed* must be done completely to connect you with the greatest benefits. Changing how you think can only be done with God's help through the leading of His Spirit. You need to give up the junk God knows can't help you, then God can and will help you transform into spiritual ways that will help you. I recall the first time I saw a big truck from a company called "GOT JUNK", I thought, if I had that much junk in God's way, it would take a long time to transform.

I remember when my wife and I walked on the beach once in the soft sand. The next day we had pains in our legs we didn't know existed. That was not a good transformation from hard sand to soft sand. Becoming *spiritually transformed* is just that, it's being transformed into the spiritual. Many people will start by building a spiritual life from scratch, they don't know where to start. They have no foundation to build on and have to learn how to hear from and be led by the Holy Spirit. This transformation is like the sand on the beach, it can cause spiritual growing pains. As your spiritual muscles are strengthened and you grow into your spiritual life, the pains will fade as you become stronger.

I always carry the fact that when I give God my best, He will always give me the best I can receive from Him. Since satan is also a spirit, resisting him, as in James 4:7, becomes easier. As our leading and sensitivity to the Holy Spirit are strengthened, we can have more authority and power over the demonic forces. Let God transform you to perfectly fit into the mold that fits His call and purpose for your life.

Chapter 3 Spiritually Understanding

For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; Colossians 1:9

Although you don't understand how a plane stays in the air, you trust it will. Many people who don't understand God, will never understand God because they don't understand how He operates. From experience I can tell you that the more time I spend with God, the more I love Him, the more I value our relationship, and the more I understand Him and how He does things. God loves His children and has so much He wants to give them and do for them. His children receive from Him by giving and doing for Him. God operates by spiritual laws and some of them will be shown to you throughout this book.

Just as your earthly father did not expect you to read and write when you were 2 years old, God wants you to grow and mature in the ways that He operates in the spiritual so you can grow and understand. God puts His Spirit inside you to help you understand Him. The way we grow spiritually is by spending time with God and worshiping Him in spirit and in truth.

God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." John 4:24

If we are not spiritually understanding God, we cannot worship Him in spirit, if we have His Spirit of truth in our spirit, we can worship Him in spirit and truth.

You are a 3 part being, spirit, soul and body.

*And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole **spirit** and **soul** and **body** be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

1 Thessalonians 5:23

When you receive Christ as your Lord, God replaces your spirit and puts His Holy Spirit inside your spirit. Your spirit and soul are not visible. Your soul is made up of your mind, will and emotions and your soul is sinful and corrupt. God places His Spirit inside your spirit to guide you and lead you. His Spirit can show you how to think like Him and live like He wants you to live. God's Spirit can help you slowly work on cleaning up your mind, will and emotions.

Remember, God gave you a free will to make your own choices, His Spirit is available 24/7 to help you make correct decisions. How long it takes you to line up your mind, will and emotions to match God's expectations is totally in your control. Your soul is your responsibility. God lets you make your own choices, but He always wants you to make the right ones. Your physical heart only pumps blood and, like all the other organs in your body, it will die. God looks at your heart. (1 Samuel 16:7) Your soul and spirit are your spiritual heart, the two unseen parts of you that go to heaven when your body dies. Along with your mind, will and emotions, your intellect, conscience, memory and thoughts. A spiritual life being led by God's Spirit is how we will live out eternity. There is so much more that can only be taught to us by the leading of God's Spirit. This is only accomplished through *spiritually understanding*.

Get wisdom, get understanding: forget it not; neither
decline from the words of my mouth. Proverbs 4:5

I call this a “no excuse” verse. If we are told to
get wisdom and get understanding, they must be
available to us.

And he said, “Are you also still without understanding?”
Matthew 15:16

We can see how important understanding is to
Jesus even in this short verse. Wisdom and understanding
come from God’s Spirit spiritually.

God is not a respecter of persons.
Then Peter opened his mouth, and said, Of a truth I perceive
that God is no respecter of persons: 35 But in every nation he
that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with
him. Acts 10:34 & 35

We can already see how important *spiritually
understanding* God and how He does things is to an
intimate relationship with Him. Wisdom and understanding
of God is truth that will set us free.

So, Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, “If you
abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know
the truth, and the truth will set you free.” John 8:31&32

You will never know the truth until you believe
in your heart that you can. If you can *believe to know
the truth* you can be set free from sin. Read the verses
above again, do you see that your believing isn’t what
sets you free? It’s the truth that sets us free, God’s
Spirit inside our spirit, the Spirit of Truth.

even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for *he dwells with you and will be in you. John 14:17

Jesus told the disciples that the Spirit of truth was not seen or known by the world because the Spirit of truth is unseen and unknown to unbelievers. He also told the disciples “you know the Spirit of truth because he dwells with you.” The Spirit of truth was *dwelling inside Jesus and will also be in them.

“But when the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness about me. John 15:26

Jesus is sharing how the Father is involved in the sending of the Helper, the Spirit of truth, the same one who is in you and me. He is always available to us but does not push Himself on us. The Holy Spirit will bear witness about Jesus to us so we can bear witness about Jesus to others and share what He can and will do for the people who believe in Him.

When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. John 16:13

When you go on a tour with a tour guide you get much more information than without a guide, but do you trust that everything he tells you is true? The Spirit of God wants to guide you into all the truth, He will only tell you what the Father tells Him to tell you. Always telling you the truth saves a lot of time and effort.

Chapter 4 Spiritually Minded

Your life will never change until you change how you think.

For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. Romans 8:6

Thinking in all the wrong ways is being carnally minded. Thinking in God's will and ways is being *spiritually minded*.

God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth. John 4:24

We must be *spiritually minded* to worship in spirit and in truth. Since God is Spirit, we must communicate with Him in the spiritual. *Kenneth E Hagin* always said we need to be "God Inside Minded."

Remember Romans 8:6, above being worldly minded is death, but spiritually minded brings life and peace. Changing how you think changes your direction, it points you toward the unfamiliar, out of your comfort zone and into an area where you can receive comfort and strong leading from the Holy Spirit. If our mind stays focused on God and we keep our thoughts *spiritually connected* to Him, we can have a stronger resistance against the evil one. Our soul will be glorified when our body dies, until then we will always have the roaring adversary in our midst and be connected to a sin nature.

Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.
1 Peter 5:8

Here's what the apostle Paul tells us in Romans 7 starting with verse 23.

But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members. 24 O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death? 25 I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God, but with the flesh the law of sin.

We can see where Paul was in a spiritual battle in his mind. God sent Jesus to, not only give us a way of salvation, but also gave us His Spirit to guide us and lead us in the right direction.

Double-Mindedness

A double-minded man is unstable in all his ways.

James 1:8

Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double-minded.

James 4:8

James uses this term to describe someone who is inconsistent, wavering or even two-faced. Double-minded comes from the Greek word *dipsychos*, which means "two souls" or "a person with two minds". Being double-minded is to have different minds at different times, to be unsettled or unstable. Anytime a person is confused or conflicted with what they are trying to understand, it cannot benefit them. We cannot go both ways when we get to a fork in the road.

A double-minded person is restless and may be confused in his thoughts, his actions, and even his behavior. Such a person is always in conflict with, and can never find solid focus on God and His promises. We cannot be both certain and doubtful as the double-minded person is. One part of his mind is sure of something, while the other part doubts God's ways. Worldly ways are so completely opposite, (spiritual vs carnal), that it is impossible to love either one completely without hating the other. This is why a strong spiritual mind is so important and needed to be sensitive to the leading of the Spirit.

When I think about double-mindedness I recall sitting with my wife and watching a movie. As the movie gets interesting and has my focus, I would hear another voice not coming from the movie but from her phone. This caused confusion and was a disruption. This was forcing me to think in two directions. Your spiritual strength comes from God's Spirit inside your spirit. God's Spirit is never confused and always ready to help you. We always have to remember, satan is also a spirit and wants to confuse us, he wants to keep us from being *spiritually connected* to God.

I always remember the cartoons from many years gone by where they had a little angel on one shoulder and a little devil on the other shoulder whispering in their ears what they should choose. Being sensitive to the Holy Spirit takes time and effort. Learning His soft nonaudible voice in your conscience, building your faith and confidence toward an assurance that you are becoming more *spiritually minded*.

Your mind is part of your soul, which is part of your spiritual heart. Let's just look at some segments of verses that support this.

Genesis 6:5 KJV

.... every imagination of the thoughts of his heart

Job 17:11 KJV *.... even the thoughts of my heart.*

Psalms 33:11 KJV

.... the thoughts of his heart to all generations.

Mark 7:21 KJV

.... For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts

Luke 24:38 KJV.... *thoughts arise in your hearts?*

For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. Hebrews 4:12

In this verse from Hebrews 4, we can see where the Word of God is Christ, He brings life and activity to what God says. I never read the Bible in the past tense like a history book. God's Word is always alive. John 1:14 tells us the Word became flesh and dwelt among us. We are still dwelling and abiding with Jesus today and will forever because we are His and He is ours, discerning not just our thoughts, but also our intentions. Our soul is where we have a free will from God to make our own choices, thoughts, opinions and activities. It is in the mind where we must apply the spiritual principles from God's Word to stay *spiritually minded*.

Chapter 5 Spiritually Speaking

*It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh is no help at all.
The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life.*

John 6:63

Here Jesus spoke spiritually from the Spirit of God that He had inside Him before He was even born. The capital "S" Spirit of God gives us life, the flesh is useless. Then He said "The words I have spoken to you are spirit and life. When we read the Bible like any other book we will get the same results. The Bible is a spiritual book, it was written by the direction of the Holy Spirit as He guided and directed the authors on what to write. When we ask the Holy Spirit to help us before we start reading, He can guide us into all the truth because He wrote the book. He also is the part of God who has every word of spirit and life that Jesus wants us to have, and He wants to help us *remember those words.

*But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your *remembrance all that I have said to you.* John 14:26

The Holy Spirit is the only viable way for us to be *spiritually connected* to God. We pray to the Father, we follow Jesus and we are lead by the Spirit. The more time we spend with them and in their presence, the stronger our spiritual life becomes. Growing spiritually strengthens our communication with God, our knowledge of God and our relationship with Jesus and the Father. Since Jesus was God on earth, He was spiritually speaking all the time and what He said had power, truth and life.

The words we speak are not only important to God, but they can also affect our personal lives through the outcome that they manifest.

The mouth of the righteous brings forth wisdom, but the perverse tongue will be cut off. Proverbs 10:31

The tongue of the wise commends knowledge, but the mouths of fools pour out folly. Proverbs 15:2

Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruits. Proverbs 18:21

If someone says: "my arthritis is bothering me this morning." First, calling it theirs is claiming it to be theirs. If you say it is yours, you speak as if you do not want it to go away. If you say it is bothering you in the morning, it may also be bothering you in the afternoon. What the person should say is "God wants me whole and complete. I ask You right now Lord, for healing and deliverance in Jesus' name."

Negative words will never bring a positive outcome. Positive words have the potential to bring positive results depending on the strength of faith and trust in God that is applied. Just as a prayer needs to have faith applied to it, our positive words also need faith applied to them. When we receive Christ as Savior, we should start becoming Christ-like, and imitators of God.

Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children.
Ephesians 5:1

Imitators speak like and sound like the one they are imitating. Jesus was God on earth with a body. He looked just like us Although we can never be Jesus, we should strive to walk and talk like Him daily, this should become the foundation for a new way of living

Spiritually Speaking in Tongues

Before I began my spiritual life, I did not see and hear with my spiritual eyes and ears what the values and advantages were of speaking or praying in tongues. Since I was uninformed of the topic, I was also unaware of the benefits. I remember saying to myself "This doesn't make sense." Since speaking in tongues is spiritual, you cannot experience it with any of your senses.

Here is some scripture evidence to build our spiritual confidence about the coming of the Holy Spirit.

When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. 2 And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. 3 And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance. Acts 2:1-4

God breathed into Adam the breath of life in Genesis 2:7, the AMPC says God breathed into Adam the spirit of life. Then, in John 20:22 Jesus breathed on the disciples saying receive the Holy Spirit. And now in Acts chapter 2, we have the sound of a rushing mighty wind.

When you pray in tongues, also known as praying in the Spirit, you are praying the perfect prayer from your spirit to the Father with the utterance (vocal sound) given to you by the Holy Spirit. Think of this as the perfect prayer to the Father with the help and aid

of the Holy Spirit, who knows everything. There have been times when I was seeking the direction of the Spirit, and he directed me to pray in the Spirit. Then I saw what Paul wrote in 1Corinthians 14:18:

I thank God that I speak in tongues more than all of you.

If this is something that Paul is thanking God for, to speak in tongues more than the rest, it must have high value and benefits. This is the ultimate way of spiritually speaking, from your spirit, personally to our Father in heaven. One reason I believe praying in tongues is perfect prayer; is because the devil has no idea what you are praying. This makes it, not only the perfect prayer, but a powerful prayer orchestrated and directed by the Holy Spirit who knows everything you should pray.

While Peter was still saying these things, the Holy Spirit fell on all who heard the word. 45 And the believers from among the circumcised who had come with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out even on the Gentiles.

Acts 10: 44-45

We use the word amazed or amazing so much today, but when we look in the Bible at how people were amazed by the miracles of Jesus, the gift of the Spirit, and speaking in tongues, it truly amazes me.

AMA'ZE, noun Astonishment; confusion; perplexity, arising from fear, surprise or wonder.

Noah Webster's 1828 Dictionary

Only the God and creator of this universe can amaze us in ways beyond our understanding.

Chapter 6 Spiritually Equipped

When we get upset with someone, it may not be that person. It may be a spiritual influencer trying to cause a dispute between you and the person you are upset with. This is your real culprit: he is always trying to influence us badly. Yes, it is Satan who tries to manipulate relationships, destroy marriages, and devour us spiritually, mentally, and physically. These are spiritual wars caused by spiritual forces and as believers, we must be aware of them and learn to take control of them.

When I grew up in a denominational church, little was shared about the Holy Spirit, spiritual life, spiritual wars, or a spiritual walk with God. I was completely ignorant of the spiritual side of things. Since I have made God a much bigger part of my life, I now see how it is the only way to build a strong relationship with Jesus and the Father. Striving toward the spiritual has shown me that different denominational churches only live by the physical and emotional. I would have never found out about the spiritual without chasing after it.

Living in the spirit realm takes a different mindset and different territory where your thoughts are discerned spiritually. It is where we fight our spiritual battles aimed at our spiritual heart, (spirit and soul). The influences from the devil are always opposite of what God wants for us. Satan is against God, so he always wants you to always focus on what God does not like. Our authority is in the spirit realm and comes through God's Spirit who resides in our spirit.

Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. 11 Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. 12 For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. 13 Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm.

Ephesians 6:10-13

First, we must become strong in the Lord and in His mighty power, this can only happen through a spiritual connection. Verse 12, we battle against spiritual demonic powers; and must speak our spiritual commands against the demonic realm of influence. Notice that it says you are not wrestling against flesh and blood. We are not wrestling against people or animals. Not knowing what we need to know, can't help us. If we need to know more about the spiritual, shouldn't we learn it from the perfect and powerful Spirit of God?

Verses 11 and 13 tell us to put on and take up the full armor of God discribed in the next verses.

14 Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness,

15 and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace.

16 In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one;

17 and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God,

18 praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints,

The Full Armor Of God

14 We can stand in confidence when we are wearing the full armor of God. The defensive armor starts with the belt of truth, it protects us all the way around with the Holy Spirit of truth, without His power, we can do nothing. The breastplate of righteousness expresses our right standing with God, protecting us because we are His and a temple for His Spirit.

15 The soles of peace are under your feet, Jesus said in Luke 10:19, Behold, I have given you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall hurt you. If nothing shall hurt us, we should have peace; if we have peace, we have readiness to stand.

16 In all circumstances, always use your faith to extinguish all the fiery darts of delusions, deceptions, distractions, dishonesty, and disappointments.

17 If you have received Christ as Lord, you have a head of protection because of your salvation, you have an offensive piece of armor, the sword of the Spirit, God's Word, our final piece, our final authority.

18 There is power in prayer and there is power in any prayer prayed in faith, that lines up with the will of God. Everything we want from God; we need to ask Him for.

You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have, because you do not ask.

James 4:2

God has made available all that you need to be all He wants you to be for Him. He has given His children the talents and abilities to complete their call and purpose. Since God has done His part, what's not finished will be confronted when we go before Him.

Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruits. Proverbs 18:21

Just as there is power in God's words when He creates, our words have power to create. What you say can cause what you want or don't want to happen. That is how we can rebuke the devil and use our words with other God-given authority.

You need to prioritize the importance of spiritual discernment and how to apply it to your life. Often, I blamed others, or the situations because I could physically see them. I could not see the bad thoughts, jealousy, or pride that had created those situations.

The words you say, the steps you take, what you believe, and what you choose to do will determine whether God or Satan dominates your life. Satan can only influence your thoughts; he cannot control your choices. God gave you a free will to choose what you want, but you are responsible for your bad choices.

I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live,
Deuteronomy 30:19

God shows us the best choice for our life, we need to discipline ourselves to make good choices and allow the Holy Spirit to help us with our choices. The spiritual battle is against the devil, but the Spirit of God can overpower him every time. Get to know the Holy Spirit by becoming *spiritually connected*.

You will never be able to use any authority that you don't believe you have. Faith must be applied to the unseen spiritual, where God operates and expects us to use our authority. The five senses are no help in the spiritual.

And the Lord said, "If you had faith like a grain of mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you.

Luke 17:6

Jesus said you can move a tree with faith as small as a mustard seed. Size has nothing to do with it, the strength of our faith has everything to do with it. It takes the power of God's Spirit through us, our faith believing in that power, then we must release that faith to receive what we want when we ask.

I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.

John 15:5

Abiding in Jesus and He in us, keeps us spiritually connected to Him, apart from Him we cannot do anything. Staying connected to Jesus will help us bear much fruit, quality fruit in abundance but only when it aligns with God's will and our spiritual heart's condition. Since God cannot make mistakes, it's our mistake every time. Our mistakes are made in our souls, caused by our sinful nature, and the spiritual influences of the devil. What if people took some time to learn about their authority and how to use it, fewer mistakes would happen, and then more could be accomplished and achieved. This could create more control for them to live a happier life..

Too much stuff brings too many distractions,
too many distractions bring too much confusion,
too much confusion weakens the spiritual connection.

This is an example of the “GOT JUNK” truck, where the useless physical gets in the way of the useful spiritual, causing the useful spiritual that God equipped us with to malfunction and stop producing.

Until we receive Jesus as Lord of our life, we only have lived in the physical and emotional. God gives us a new spirit with His Spirit to help us learn to live in the spiritual through the help of His Spirit. As I mentioned in Romans 12:2 on page 5, we must renew our minds and learn how to live in the spiritual through our spiritual connection, only God’s Spirit in our spirit can help us achieve this. God equips us with what we need but we still have to learn how the spiritual equipment works.

I often read devotionals that say God will do this for you and God will do that for you. God has news for you; He gave us dominion of this world and we are to take care of it. We can’t rebuke the devil by reading a quick devotional. Just as your earthly father didn’t give you everything you wanted, God also won’t. We are the children of God, and we always will be His children. God loves us but disciplines us and wants us involved in what He wants us to do for Him, this is an area where He wants us to build an intimate loving relationship with Him. He wants us to help Him grow His kingdom, be fruitful and productive, love one another, and keep growing our spiritual connection towards Him. Make things happen for Him first, then He will make things happen for you.

People create phrases like “God is in control” and “Let Go and Let God”. If someone tried to put these together to read “Let Go and Let God be in control” it could cause people to grab some chips and salsa and sit in front of the TV for a few hours, wait! I think they already do this. God has a purpose for your life, to be involved and help Him with His work. God never stops creating and we should always be available for Him to create through us. God the Father is on the throne, and Jesus is at His right hand. We are, not only His children but His servants. God paid a huge price for us, His Son Jesus, He owns us now, so we owe everything to Him. God did not equip us with all our spiritual armor and authority for nothing, we are supposed to utilize it for our benefit.

Let's look at Ephesians 6:10-11 one more time in the King James version:

Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. 11 Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

Being strong in the Lord's power with His full armor gives you confidence and assurance. The word wiles is defined as cunning craftiness and deception. The only thing the devil can do is deceive you to change your thoughts, that's why we need to renew our minds (Romans 12:2). Once you can defeat his deception you will be one up on him, remember he roams about, my paraphrase includes the words constantly and continuously to seek whom he can devour (1 Peter 5:8). He is not like a fly in your face or a bad case of allergies, devour means to consume or destroy.

Satan did not get his power from God, people have been giving him his power ever since the apple in the garden, Adam and Eve were deceived. The evil in the world doesn't come from Satan, it comes from the people being deceived by his leading. Let's look at Luke 10:19-20, in the Passion translation, where Jesus said to the disciples:

Now you understand that I have imparted to you all my authority to trample over his kingdom. You will trample upon every demon before you and overcome every power Satan possesses. Absolutely nothing will be able to harm you as you walk in this authority. 20 However, your real source of joy isn't merely that these spirits submit to your authority, but that your names are written in the journals of heaven and that you belong to God's kingdom. This is the true source of your authority."

Since our words have power, Jesus was not just telling this to the disciples, He was decreeing or ordering this to come to pass. Since God does not have favorites, this authority is available to all His people. Authority is Delegated Power!

DELEGATED, sent with a trust or commission to act for another; committed, an authority. Noah Webster's 1828 Dictionary

God trusts us to use this authority, and we have a commission: a charge; order; mandate; authority given. 1 Timothy 6:12 ERV says:

We have to fight to keep our faith. Try as hard as you can to win that fight. Take hold of eternal life. It is the life you were chosen to have when you confessed your faith in Jesus—that wonderful truth that you spoke so openly and that so many people heard.

Chapter 7 Spiritually Knowing

This chapter should help you grow through what you come to know spiritually. Some of these verses were told to Jesus from the Father as “come follow me” instructions for the disciples and us. Jesus wants you to be His, totally and completely, not just a part-time follower, but a full-time follower.

God has already given His children everything He has for them. Until you find what you don't yet spiritually know, it cannot help you. See if you can find some knowledge in these verses.

“For who has understood the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?” But we have the mind of Christ. 1 Corinthians 2:16

You have the mind of Christ. We have been given Christ's way of thinking. It's in our spirit and available to us, as it is obtainable from the Father. If it says you have the mind of Christ, receive it, then continuously look for it expecting to find it.

For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few. Matthew 7:14

Few people find this spiritual life from God's Spirit. This shows us that the way to this life must not be easy because few people find true life. I am very concerned about all the people who think they have found true life because the devil has convinced them through his deception. I am still trying to find more of it, but I want to help you at least get as far as I am. Spiritual knowing and growing will continuously enhance your life.

Just as being a full-time follower of Jesus, we must be a full-time obeyer of God and His Word. God never does anything part way, He always completes what He starts. We must willingly follow in His steps and not live apart from Jesus. Leading and direction from God's Spirit is crucial and must be completely fulfilled.

And whoever comes to me must follow in my steps and be willing to share my cross and experience it as his own, or he cannot be considered to be my disciple. 39 All who seek to live apart from me will lose it all. But those who let go of their lives for my sake and surrender it all to me will discover true life.
Matthew 10:38&39 TPT

It's time to be a full-time follower, it's a must decision, to share His cross, what does this mean? Jesus doesn't just want us to follow Him when things are going well, part-time. Our strength comes from Jesus in the hard times. When hiking, we go through the dark and muddy valley before we can even start climbing the mountain. Jesus wants to be sure that you won't back down until you finish what He gives you to do. God gave us the mind of Christ so we can think like Jesus. Do what Jesus would do, what the Father tells Him to do, and what the Spirit prompts Him to do.

This is exactly what we are supposed to do, follow the leader, not perfectly, but to the best of our ability. As God notices our dedication to Him and Jesus, He may increase our abilities, wisdom, and understanding. God is constantly giving to us, as givers, He's the first one we should give back to. There is a good reason God should come first in your life because He deserves it. You will only become more *spiritually connected* to God when you become more spiritually committed to Him.

People are continuously waiting for God to do something for them. They don't realize that God is waiting to show them how they can get that something with the abilities God already gave them, that they never knew they had. Sometimes instead of asking God for something, ask Him what you should do to get what you want. I often think about all the things that haven't been accomplished because people didn't believe they could do them. Let's look again at this great verse, Romans 12:2 ERV:

Don't change yourselves to be like the people of this world, but let God change you inside with a new way of thinking. Then you will be able to understand and accept what God wants for you. You will be able to know what is good and pleasing to him and what is perfect.

Don't you change yourself, let God change you inside, let Him help you fix your mind on Him where you're not thinking straight. Where it says, "you will be able", that's more ability. God wants you to understand how Jesus lived, in God's perfect will.

Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another.

Proverbs 27:17

Know that this is a "love one another" direction. By helping each other, we are helping ourselves, someone else and serving God with His love all at the same time. God's intention is to always put us in win/win situations. There is a special love sensation from the Spirit of God that we can only receive when we love others, by caring and sharing with them about our spiritual growth.

Physically Seeing or Spiritually Knowing?

John 3:1-6

Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. **2** This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him." **3** Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, 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, "Truly, truly, 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.

In verse **2**, Nicodemus talked about what he knew and had seen physically. He knew Jesus came from God but only because of what he saw Jesus do spiritually that caused physical outcomes. In verse **3** Jesus told him something spiritual that can only have a spiritual outcome. In verse **4** again Nicodemus doesn't understand verse **3** spiritually, so he turns back and asks 2 physical questions. In verse **5** Jesus comes right back to the spiritual side and in verse **6** Jesus is showing Nicodemus again to get away from the physical and more toward the spiritual. Let me show you something I tell people all the time.

"What You Don't Know Can Hurt You"

We can see so far in this scripture writing that Nicodemus was nowhere near spiritually connected to Jesus and had no clue what He was talking about. Not understanding the spiritual is causing confusion in the natural.

John 3:7-12

7 Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.'
8 The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." **9** Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" **10** Jesus answered him, "Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things?" **11** Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen, but you do not receive our testimony. **12** If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things?

In verse **7**, Jesus used the word "must," there is no other way. No cutting corners, no substitutes, and no part-time commitment. In verse **8**, Jesus used the earthly example for one who can't understand the spiritual. In verse **9**, Nicodemus is again lost and confused and wants to know how it can be instead of just believing what Jesus says. In verse **10**, Jesus says, "You're a teacher of Israel and don't understand this." He's telling Nicodemus that he is not very well spiritually educated. In verses **11** and **12**, Jesus told Nicodemus, that he couldn't receive their testimony, he couldn't even believe the physical, how could he possibly try to believe the heavenly or spiritual things? We can see here where what Nicodemus didn't know could and did hurt him.

Jesus told physical parables as examples of spiritual laws and God's ways of doing things right. Many were still spiritually blind and deaf to the spiritual truth. Today God's people have the same Holy Spirit in them that Jesus has, yet they have no desire to get to know Him, be led by Him, and allow Him to show them where to go and what to find to help them make the correct changes in their lives.

So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, 32 and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

John 8:31&32

It doesn't matter what nationality you are, what religion you follow, who you came from, or where you live, you must believe in Jesus and abide in His word to truly be His disciple. Then, and only then will you know the truth that sets you free.

DISCIPLE, noun [Latin , to learn.]

A follower; an adherent to the doctrines of another. Hence **the constant attendants of Christ** were called his disciples; and hence **all Christians are called his disciples**, as they profess to learn and receive his doctrines and precepts.

Noah Webster's 1828 Dictionary

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

John 14:6

Jesus is telling us the importance of knowing the truth which He is. When we can know and believe more about Jesus, we can know and believe more of the truth. We must know what He wants and how He wants things done. The Holy Spirit inside us is the only one who will show us the truth from Jesus, He knows Jesus better than anyone. Jesus nor the Holy Spirit can tell a lie or misdirect us. God gave us all our perfect and complete needs, yet many don't want to be directed through their life. Surely you can see the importance of *spiritually knowing* the Truth.

Chapter 8 Spiritually Loving

You will never know God's love for you until you believe in God, that He is love, and abide in His love spiritually. Since we are to worship Him in spirit and truth, shouldn't we also love Him in spirit and truth?

So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. John 4:16

ABI'DE, To continue permanently, to remain, to dwell
Noah Webster's 1828 Dictionary

Since God is Spirit (p. 11) and we are to abide in love and Him, we can see where we are to be spiritually loving to God. For God to abide in us, we must be spiritually connected to Him. This connection is totally in our control. Since the power company gave you the power to your house, you must make the final connection at the switch or receptacle.

Dear friends, we should love each other, because love comes from God. Everyone who loves has become God's child. And so everyone who loves knows God. 1John 4:7

Again, since God is Spirit, we should spiritually love each other with God's love, the love from the Spirit inside us. In Romans 15, Paul was planning a visit to Rome, he was looking for unity from the parts of the body of Christ, striving together, loving one another. In verse 30 Paul said:

I appeal to you, brothers, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to strive together with me in your prayers to God on my behalf,

The Spirit of God is the distributor of God's love. Since we each have God's Spirit in us, we can not only share God's love with other believers (striving together in prayer) but with unbelievers. This is called "letting our light shine." We won't glow like a light bulb, but what we say should line up with the spiritual love of God that dwells and abides inside us, in our spirit.

If you are a child of God, and someone you're talking to says "There is something about you that I like, but I can't put my finger on what it is?" The person may be referring to your spirit, where you are expressing God's love from, that they can't put their finger on. Jesus always was spiritually loving, He was born with it and always obeyed it. Though Jesus was a physical man, He always operated in the spiritual by doing what the Father told Him to do and saying what the Father told Him to say.

Here is another reason the Holy Spirit helps share God's love. Let's call it God's true perfect love. Let's first remember that water and oil can't mix, if water is God's love and oil is hate, destruction, or confusion, the Spirit of God has to direct love to where it can be received. He will also direct us not to say or do something that could cause confusion and hinder God's love from being expressed through us.

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. Romans 5:5

It's God's love poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, we can love with God's complete and spiritual love.

Let's take a look at some more water and oil in
1 John 3:17:

But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him?

Here we can say the brother in need is someone God expects us to help, he's the water. Anyone who closes his heart against him is the oil. The love of God cannot abide in a cold uncaring person.

Jesus had followers and non-followers, nowhere in the Bible does it say "part-time lukewarm followers".

So, because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of my mouth. Revelations 3:16

Jesus said this to the Church in Laodicea, He wants followers who are all in or all out. He wanted people who respected Him, those He could count on. The Father could always rely on Jesus, Jesus is looking for those who He can rely on.

But instead we will remain strong and always sincere in our love as we express the truth. All our direction and ministries will flow from Christ and lead us deeper into him, the anointed Head of his body, the church. Ephesians 4:15 TPT

To remain is a definition for abiding. The first sentence in this verse sounds like the kind of people Jesus was looking for, to abide strong, always sincere in love, leading them deeper into Him. We can love Jesus this much spiritually. It is possible to love the unlovable with spiritually guided love. Jesus did at the cross, not liking what they said and did to Him. He said, "Forgive them for they know not what they are doing."

As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love.¹⁰ If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love.
John 15:9 & 10

Here again, we can see how important it is to abide in Jesus, in His love. We abide in Him, and He abides in us, it's a covenant commitment, and we are spiritually connected in love.

He's informed us of the many wonderful ways love is being demonstrated through your lives by the empowerment of the Holy Spirit.
Colossians 1:8 TPT

The power of the Holy Spirit makes it possible to become spiritually loving people. We need His power to love those we believe are unlovable. When Jesus told us to love one another, love our neighbor, and love our enemies, that pretty much covers everyone.

And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.'
Mark 12:30

Loving God to this degree takes a spiritual love backed by the power of His Spirit.

And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.
Colossians 3:14

Since this verse starts with above all, love must be very important, put it on and wear it all the time. It binds everything together in perfect harmony by spiritually loving each other.

Chapter 9 Spiritually Qualified

If you want to get a job, but you're not completely qualified, you don't get the job. If you want to get a miracle, but you're not completely qualified, can you still get a miracle? Since a job is gotten in the natural and a miracle is gotten in the spiritual it's impossible to compare the two. We have the same Spirit of God inside us who's power raised Jesus from the dead, yet we can't even get rid of a common cold with that mighty power because we don't qualify. God doesn't call the qualified, He qualifies the called.

Not that we are sufficiently qualified in ourselves to claim anything as coming from us, but our sufficiency and qualifications come from God. 2 Corinthians 3:5 AMP

Apart from God we can't do anything, so for everything we can do, a praise of thanks should go to our great God.

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work. 2 Timothy 3:16&17

Just as God breathed into Adam the breath of life, He has breathed life into every scripture. As believers we can use the life from the Word to be completely equipped for any good work God has qualified us to do. Always remember, God qualifies the called, He will always provide all that you need to do all that He asks of you. Never say you can't when God knows you can.

Since we all have a different call and purpose from God, we all have different qualifications. Until you know and believe you have the qualifications you need, you won't be confident to get things done. Being led by the Holy Spirit is what brings this together. He thinks as God thinks, He knows your call and purpose, He knows what you need and what you need to do with it. The Holy Spirit is your confidence, your assurance, and your teacher. He can qualify you and strengthen you when you are not fully capable.

The first qualification that you need that is also the most important is absolute total dependence on God. We always have to remember, all our choices are up to us, Wrong choices never bring good results, even when they happen to qualified servants. One of the main reasons I wrote this book is to help you become spiritually qualified. Being spiritually led by the Holy Spirit, is a qualification from Jesus.

But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you. John 14:26

Can you see how important it is to be led by the helper, comforter, teacher and advocate. He's also going to remind us of all that Jesus said. Make sure you make this all-important spiritual connection with the Holy Spirit. When you accomplish this connection, it will help you achieve success in many of the other chapters. Although God knows what you need and what you want, He still wants you to ask for it.

Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. Matthew 7:7

Some more things He is asking us to do, we won't get what we don't ask for, we won't find what we don't seek after, and the door won't be opened unless we knock on it. You should be seeing how we cannot just "let go and let God," He has spiritual laws that take a spiritual connection with Him. It's two-way communication called prayer where you pray to the Father and then quietly listen through His Spirit for what He wants to say to you. Many people don't do the listening part, they rattle off a short prayer and hit the road. Weather we want to or not, we need to respect God more, much more.

For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. 9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. Isaiah 55:8&9

God said here that we don't think like Him, and we have different ways of doing things. He wants us to come up higher in our thoughts and ways. I always try to see why verses are worded the way they are and what the verse is trying to tell me. Could this be why God gave us His Spirit and the mind of Christ, so we can think like Him in the ways He thinks? Here is something we can all pray and ask Him about. This is how we learn how to become spiritually qualified, it's a process that we apply to our covenant, our commitment with God.

God qualifies the called just for this reason, the called are committed and locked in for the long haul.

When we think about being spiritually qualified, we also have to remember that there are different duties at different levels. We should strive to be at the level God wants us at. If you want to know exactly what God wants from you personally use the ask, seek, find concept.

We must remember that God is Spirit and does all in the spiritual. If you want to grow spiritually, do God's things in God's ways the way God thinks and the way God wants things done. The more you do things like this the stronger your relationship will become with the Father and the Holy Spirit.

If we can put God first, and keep Him there, we can learn how to keep Him as our number one source. He loves us as much as Jesus, He wants to help us with everything and He wants us to go to Him (ask, seek, and knock), for everything. Just imagine the intimate spiritual relationships you can build with God and His Spirit by always putting God first.

What you should want most is God's kingdom and doing what he wants you to do. Then he will give you all these other things you need.
Matthew 6:33 ERV

Wanting God's kingdom most and doing what He wants you to do should be first. After you put God first, He will give you all and everything you need. Putting God and His things first, is the most important part of becoming spiritually qualified. Giving God thanks, praise, worship and honor daily is what He wants, through willingness and obedience.

Concluding Remarks

Since we each have a different call and purpose from God, we all need different direction and leading from God's Spirit inside us. Since I don't know you personally, I don't know what you need personally. Anyone who wants more or has questions may contact this ministry and we will pray for you and seek ways to assist you in any way we can. Just as this book is free, any advice or guidance we can give is also free. It's easy to go into all the world with Zoom and e-mail. We would be happy to connect with you and assist you and get you spiritually connected.

More than being a pastor, I strive to be the church through my temple for the Holy Spirit. This keeps my costs down so I can give my materials away freely. I don't believe Jesus ever charged anyone for advice, but He did accept offering when people felt led to contribute. He never held back a person's opportunity to sow into the kingdom of God, and I don't want to either. This ministry is run by God and His Spirit; therefore, I know He will provide all that I need to accomplish all that He wants me to do.

I always get excited when I see what God is positioning me to do next, and I can't wait to see what this book may possibly do for others. Here's to the words from God that you may find between the pages and we are believing for lives to be changed through being spiritually connected to their creator.

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John 14:26

But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.

We see where Jesus called the Holy Spirit the Helper and He would teach the disciples all things, this includes bringing back to their memory all that Jesus said to them. This shows that the Holy Spirit took the place of Jesus, the same Holy Spirit that was in Jesus and taught Jesus everything He knew and still knows.

John 14:17

even the Spirit of Truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.

Jesus told them they know the Spirit because He dwells with them through Him (Jesus). The same Spirit of Truth that was in Jesus was soon to be in them, to take His place and continue teaching them and guiding them into all the truth.

Only the Holy Spirit can get you Spiritually Connected

Mandi Settle



SPIRITUAL - MENTAL - PHYSICAL

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