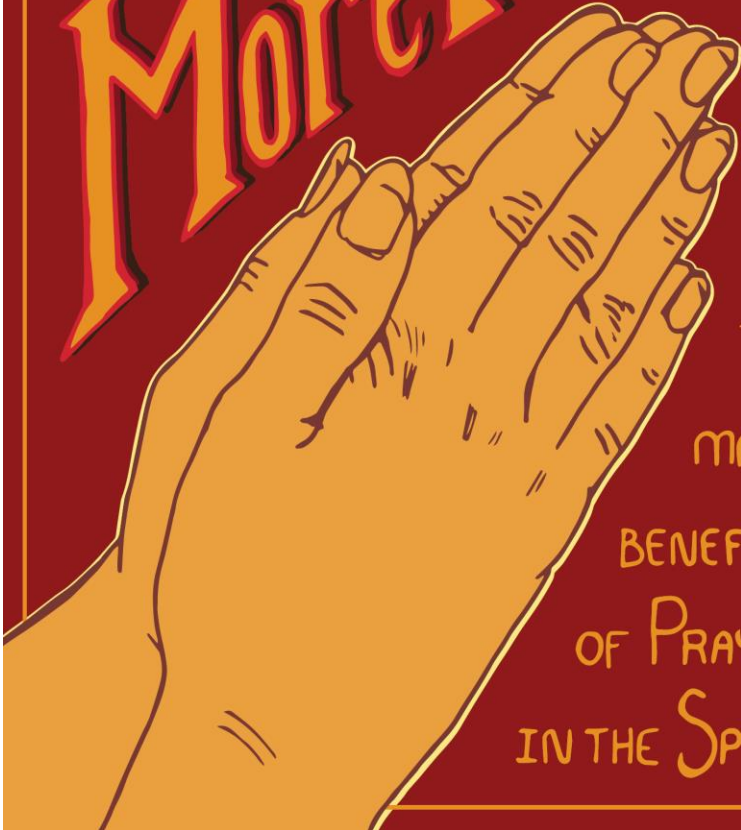


Leah Sivley's

More Love More Power



THE
MANY
BENEFITS
OF PRAYING
IN THE SPIRIT

HOW THIS ALL BEGAN

Recently, the Holy Spirit led me on an unforgettable journey to much needed freedom, and this teaching is the result. You see, a little while back while sleeping very soundly one night, I was awakened out of my sleep by what felt like a smack on my side. When I awoke, I saw no one, and my family was sleeping soundly. To make sure, the next morning I questioned my family concerning this and no one had attempted to wake me, however, it was very real to me.

This experience was so convincing to me that I began to seek God's counsel. As I began praying, He reminded me of this passage in Acts when Paul was in prison and an angel of the Lord, "*... gently smote Peter on the side and awakened him, saying, Get up quickly! And the chains fell off his hands...*" Acts 12:7 (AMPC) Though I saw no angel, I felt the Holy Spirit was directing me to respond to this obvious sign.

Just as Paul had to respond to the angel's commands in Acts, to claim his freedom, I had to respond to what the Holy Spirit was telling me. His message was that I needed to fervently pray in the Spirit.

Now, you must understand I was already in the habit of praying in the Spirit daily, but God was requiring more of me for this new elevation that He was leading me into.

As I began to pray in the Spirit every chance I had, I began to see God moving, and the chains were coming off! I prayed while driving, doing laundry, cleaning, while in the grocery store, on my walks, and when I could not sleep at night. I prayed basically every waking moment of the day

when I was not reading God's Word, or having to be involved with the natural activities which encompassed my day.

It was because of this supernatural journey that I developed a deep compassion for those around me who are still "in chains" (though like me, they may not know it) and I wanted to encourage them in the way to freedom. **You see praying in the Spirit, (in tongues) has received a bad rap for many years.** This is partially because of certain people who exercise false tongues in their flesh, and not of the Holy Spirit. **However, those who oppose this message of supernatural endowments lack understanding, therefore they oppose what they do not understand.**

God's Word plainly tells us this, "*Now about the spiritual gifts (the special endowments of supernatural energy), brethren, I do not want you to be misinformed.*" 1 Corinthians 12:1 (AMPC) Praying in the Spirit, (in tongues) is a spiritual gift, and God does not want us ignorant of the freedom that it entails for the believer!

THE PERFECT PRAYER

"So too the [Holy] Spirit comes to our aid and bears us up in our weakness; for we do not know what prayer to offer nor how to offer it worthily as we ought, but the Spirit Himself goes to meet our supplication and pleads in our behalf with unspeakable yearnings and groanings too deep for utterance. And He Who searches the hearts of men knows what is in the mind of the [Holy] Spirit [what His intent is], because the Spirit intercedes and pleads [before God] in behalf of the saints according to and in harmony with God's will." Romans 8:26-27 (AMPC)

1. He intercedes “...with *unspeakable yearnings and groanings too deep for utterance...*” I noticed that most of the time I prayed in the Spirit I never knew what I was praying. This must be characteristic of the nature of God for when Paul was caught up into the third heaven (Paradise) what did He say that he heard? He heard, “...utterances beyond the power of man to put into words, which man is not permitted to utter.” 2 Corinthians 12:4 (AMPC)
2. He searches the hearts of men. “... For the Lord sees not as man sees; for man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.” 1 Samuel 16:7 (AMPC) It is the nature of God to examine the heart. Among men we can feel justified, but Jesus said, “...You are the ones who declare yourselves just and upright before men, but God knows your hearts. For what is exalted and highly thought of among men is detestable and abhorrent (an abomination) in the sight of God.” Luke 16:15 (AMPC) When the eleven disciples needed another person, they acknowledged God as the One Who knew all their “... hearts (their thoughts, passions, desires, appetites, purposes, and endeavors) ...” Acts 1:24 (AMPC) Why should we want God to search our hearts? Revelation 2:23 (AMPC) declares, “... all the assemblies (churches) shall recognize and understand that I am He Who searches minds (the thoughts, feelings, and purposes) and the [inmost] hearts, and I will give to each of you [the reward for what you have done] as your work deserves.” We will be rewarded

according to what we have done, even if it was only in our hearts. (Remember God's Word even says if we hate our brother, we are murderers. If we look upon someone with lust in our hearts, we have already committed adultery.) Finally, God's Word clearly says, "*for with the heart a person believes...*" Romans 10:10 (NASB1995) When we allow His Spirit to search our hearts, His Spirit can work with the Word of God in our hearts and burn out any chaff of unbelief! Oh yes Holy Spirit come, even now, and search our hearts!

3. Remember God's Word declares, "...*He Who searches the hearts of men knows what is in the mind of the [Holy] Spirit [what His intent is] ...*" He intercedes, and pleads, "... *in behalf of the saints according to and in harmony with God's will.*" Romans 8:27 (AMPC) Here in Romans it plainly reads that, "...*we do not know what prayer to offer nor how to offer it worthily as we ought...*" Romans 8:26 (AMPC) Now, think about this. **If perfect prayers are "too deep for words" then far be it from us to think that we know how to offer the perfect prayer apart from the Helper, the Holy Spirit.**

GREATER LOVE

As I was led into a lifestyle of fervently praying in the Spirit, one of the first things that I noticed in me was a greater love. In the following scriptures I have inserted the proper words for "love" in the Greek. They are the noun *agape* (Strong's #25) and the verb of *agape* which is *agapao* (Strong's

#26). I challenge you to do your own studies on these words! In short agapao is the action of agape. It is walking out agape which is God's love!

"Eagerly pursue and seek to acquire [this] love..."
agape "...[make it your aim, your great quest]; AND earnestly desire and cultivate the spiritual endowments (gifts), especially that you may prophesy (interpret the divine will and purpose in inspired preaching and teaching)." 1 Corinthians 14:1 (AMPC) Along with earnestly desiring and cultivating spiritual gifts, we are supposed to eagerly pursue and seek to acquire **AGAPE**. Why is this?

"Beloved, let us love..." ***agapao*** "...one another, for love..." ***agape*** "... is from God; and everyone who loves..." ***agapao*** "...is born of God and knows God. The one who does not love..."***agapao*** "... does not know God, for God is love."***agape*** 1 John 4:7-8 (NASB1995) Agape is God, and God is agape. **To pursue and acquire agape, is to pursue and acquire God.** When we can love how He loves, (agapao) it is proof we are born of God, and we KNOW God, for we KNOW agape.

About two weeks into my journey of praying in the Spirit, people falsely reviled me. What was my response? My immediate response was not to revile them in return. I found myself like Jesus. "and while being reviled, He [Jesus] did not revile in return; while suffering, He [Jesus] uttered no threats, but kept entrusting Himself to Him who judges righteously;" 1 Peter 2:23 (NASB1995)

Instead of reviling, I began praying heartfelt prayers for my accusers! Not just "God bless them." My spirit was

genuinely sorrowful for my persecutors because they did not know what they were doing. Why was my spirit so sorrowful for my enemies? It was because I had already been sowing to the Spirit for two weeks in preparation for this moment, therefore, I was reaping the benefits! God's Spirit in me was building my love walk for these people, and when the situation arose, instead of anger and hatred, I felt great sorrow for them.

"We know that we have passed over out of death into Life by the fact that we love the brethren (our fellow Christians). He who does not love abides (remains, is held and kept continually) in [spiritual] death." 1 John 3:14 (AMPC) Let's really consider this passage. **When we have love, true agape, for our brothers and sisters, it is by this that we know that we have passed over out of death into Life...His Life! Glory!** Praying in the Spirit brings your love walk into further maturity, and the result is living in resurrection life, here and now!

"...hope never disappoints or deludes or shames us, for God's love***agape*** has been poured out in our hearts through the Holy Spirit Who has been given to us." Romans 5:5 (AMPC) God revealed to me BECAUSE I had already been praying in the Spirit, I had more *agape*, and I knew it. This *agape* had been shed abroad in my heart and it had been growing and flourishing tremendously for a couple of weeks already. Therefore, when persecution arose, for the sake of the Word of God, I did not waste any time praying for those who were against me. I prayed for them as I would pray for my own children, it was that heartfelt! It was only THROUGH the Holy Spirit that I could have God's *agape* to respond as I did.

"No one has seen God at any time; if we love..."
*****agapao***** *"...one another, God abides in us, and His love..."* *****agape***** *"... is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in Him and He in us, because He has given us of His Spirit."* 1 John 4:12-13 (NASB1995) I am totally convinced that praying in the Spirit increased my agape walk! Agape...His Love...is being perfected in us when we pray in the Spirit!

INCOMPREHENSIBLE PEACE, AND REJUVENATED LEVELS OF GENUINE JOY!

"So they went on their way from the presence of the Council, rejoicing that they had been considered worthy to suffer shame for His name." Acts 5:41 (NASB1995) In the past while going through trials, I remember being mindful of this passage and having to make myself rejoice, because I desired so desperately to be a doer of God's Word. It is extremely difficult to do this when it does not come naturally.

A few weeks further into my journey of praying in the Spirit God allowed me to be evaluated. I have to say that I had never really experienced anything like this in my life! **I had genuine joy in persecution.** There was no more making myself rejoice. I was laughing, praising, and sleeping soundly every night through it all, and this was not just a one-day ordeal. I was not ignorant of the situation. I was suffering for His Names' sake, and His Name is the Word of God. (Revelation 19:13) I now have genuine joy in taking part in suffering for His Names' sake! And oh, so much peace!

"Remember that I told you, A servant is not greater than his master [is not superior to him]. If they persecuted Me, they will

also persecute you; if they kept My word and obeyed My teachings, they will also keep and obey yours. **But they will do all this to you [inflict all this suffering on you] because of [your bearing] My name and on My account,** for they do not know or understand the One Who sent Me.” John 15:20-21 (AMPC)

“If you are reviled for the name of Christ, **you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you.**” 1 Peter 4:14 (NASB1995) It must have been the Spirit of glory and of God resting upon me! This HAD to have been the reason I felt the way I did.

Like Stephen, who was “*full of the Holy Ghost,*” said when he was persecuted, **I also could genuinely say, “Father, forgive them for they know not what they are doing.”** (Acts 7:55-60) I know Stephen must have had a lifestyle of praying in the Spirit, for the fruit of the Spirit was evident in his life.

It is just as Romans 8:6 (AMPC) “Now the mind of the flesh [**which is sense and reason without the Holy Spirit**] is death [death that comprises all the miseries arising from sin, both here and hereafter]. **But the mind of the [Holy] Spirit is life and [soul] peace [both now and forever].**” NOW AND FOREVER! A lifestyle of praying in the Spirit helps develop the mindset of the Holy Spirit, which is life and peace! Selah, pause and think about this.

“But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, **so that the surpassing greatness of the power will be of God and not from ourselves;** we are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not despairing; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying

*about in the body the dying of Jesus, **so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body.** For we who live are constantly being delivered over to death for Jesus' sake, **so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh.**" 2 Corinthians 4:7-11 (NASB1995) As I mentioned before, I was not ignorant of what was happening in this persecution, **but the persecution was not without purpose. The purpose was that the life of Jesus may be manifested in my mortal body!** Glory!*

I knew the surpassing greatness of this power was from God, and it was nothing I could have produced in my flesh. The only word I can use to describe my reactions is the word natural. **By this I mean, it was as if through the power of the Holy Spirit this reaction (the rejoicing, the joy, the peace) came naturally to me.** Through my persecution I was totally living out this verse! *"always carrying about in the body the dying of Jesus, **so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body.**" 2 Corinthians 4:10 (NASB1995)*

MANIFESTATIONS OF HEALING

Not only did I begin seeing emotional and mental healing in my body, but I was experiencing physical healing as well!

I was receiving a revelation of this scripture. *"Beloved, I pray that in all respects **you may prosper and be in good health, just as your soul prospers.**" 3 John 1:2 (NASB1995) When I was praying in the Spirit my soul was prospering! Therefore, God's Word says I will prosper and be in good health, **JUST AS MY SOUL PROSPERS!***

I had been battling a disease for seventeen years. But what you must understand is...I have never claimed it...and I have made a constant effort of thanking God routinely for my healing. FOR SEVENTEEN YEARS! Then about two weeks into praying in the Spirit, I began noticing some changes! I could tell a physical difference! About three weeks into praying in the Spirit I was able to receive documentation that what I was experiencing really was happening! God is still doing a miracle in me!

Do you remember me saying that my joy levels were rejuvenated? I received the revelation of this experience in this scripture, "*A happy heart is good medicine and a cheerful mind works healing, but a broken spirit dries up the bones.*" Proverbs 17:22 (AMPC) My heart was happy, and my mind was cheerful, because I was now allowing the Holy Spirit to have more freedom in my life! The result MUST BE HEALING.... SPIRIT, SOUL, AND BODY!

Praying in the Spirit helps KEEP your spirit in line with God's perfect plan for your life, in order that your spirit will not be broken.

Concerning the Holy Spirit, Jesus said, "*...He will teach you all things. And He will cause you to recall (will remind you of, bring to your remembrance) everything I have told you.*" John 14:26 (AMPC)

Here in Proverbs, we see the benefits of keeping His Word in remembrance is healing! "*My son, attend to my words; consent and submit to my sayings. Let them not depart from your sight; keep them in the center of your heart. For they are life to those who find them, healing and health to all their flesh. Keep and guard your*

heart with all vigilance and above all that you guard, for out of it flow the springs of life." Proverbs 4:20-23 (AMPC) Praying in the Spirit helps keep His Word in the center of your heart, and the Word of God is healing and health! Glory!

REVELATION OF STRENGTH

Remember in Romans 8:26 (AMPC) it says, "...*the [Holy] Spirit comes to our aid and bears us up in our weakness...*"

With love (agape) you have strength. In the past when trials would come, despite praying, I would still let my flesh rule because of deep insecurities that I "thought" I had dealt with. Oh yes, I thought I had broken off every generational curse, all ungodly soul ties, and everything I could think of from my life.

You must understand, I am not a new believer. I was filled with the baptism of the Holy Spirit as a teenager, and I have often operated in the manifestations of the Spirit many times. I desire to be used by Him! A believer is who I am. I am serious about the things of God. Though I prayed in the Spirit often, God was showing me there is still yet more. There is always room for growth in the realm of the Spirit!

"...From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded..." Luke 12:48 (NASB1995) I was still hungering for more in my life, and the only way to get where He wanted me to be, was to do it His way. He had given me much, but now He is demanding much from me.

Things like condemnation, comparing myself to others, and always "feeling" like no matter how much I read/studied God's Word I would never be good enough. I

believed false accusations of condemnation and still felt that I had failed God when people came against me.

I noticed by praying in the Spirit He must have been breaking off more of these inner strongholds that I “thought” I had already broken off. He must have known something that I did not know! I was totally experiencing Ephesians 3:16-19!

“May He grant you out of the rich treasury of His glory to be strengthened and reinforced with mighty power in the inner man by the [Holy] Spirit [Himself indwelling your innermost being and personality]. May Christ through your faith [actually] dwell (settle down, abide, make His permanent home) in your hearts! May you be rooted deep in love and founded securely on love, That you may have the power and be strong to apprehend and grasp with all the saints [God’s devoted people, the experience of that love] what is the breadth and length and height and depth [of it];” [That you may really come] to know [practically, through experience for yourselves] the love of Christ, which far surpasses mere knowledge [without experience]; that you may be filled [through all your being] unto all the fullness of God [may have the richest measure of the divine Presence, and become a body wholly filled and flooded with God Himself]!” Ephesians 3:16-19 (AMPC) Oh yes, I knew His divine presence was within me!

Because my love for people was growing, I also was gaining a genuine love for myself that I have never had before. This is not a selfish love, but this was a God thing. How can I genuinely love others, if I cannot love myself? This love, which passes all understanding, allowed me to again put to death my flesh. In this case it was bringing death to my feelings of unworthiness, because of numerous past

rejections. Oh yes, I had already forgiven my persecutors long ago, but there was still a void in my heart of love for myself. You see, most of the persecution came from people who were close to me, people who professed to be Christians. Wasn't it religious people (Abraham's offspring) that persecuted Jesus? Hello! God wants you to know that you have been accepted in the beloved today! *"...He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved."* Ephesians 1:4-6 (NKJV)

He loves us, and He wants us to love ourselves, for we are His creations-His children!

REVELATION OF HIS BOLDNESS LEADING TO OBEDIENCE

Since I was obtaining a greater love, what accompanied that was a lack of fear! *"There is no fear in love [dread does not exist], but full-grown (complete, perfect) love turns fear out of doors and expels every trace of terror! For fear brings with it the thought of punishment, and [so] he who is afraid has not reached the full maturity of love [is not yet grown into love's complete perfection]."* 1 John 4:18 (AMPC) I am telling you, it just keeps getting better and better!

A few weeks into this lifestyle change someone came to our house. I was praying in the Spirit when they pulled up, and the Holy Spirit told me, "Now is the time to release that dream I gave you." You see I had a dream a year ago or so about this person, and I have seen this person many times...but NOW I had the boldness to face them and release

it. God knew His timing, but I also needed the boldness. So, I did! Praise God! I had a power developing in me that was enabling me to overcome the will of the flesh, so that I would not quench the Spirit, but rather obey God!

“For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, “Abba! Father!” The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God,” Romans 8:14-16 (NASB1995)
This slavery is a bondage of the flesh, which promotes fear. Why? It is because allowing the flesh to control you is doing it man’s way. When we allow His Spirit to pray through us, He is leading us, and there is no fear! *“Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.”* 2 Corinthians 3:17 (NASB1995)

When the Spirit of the Lord is growing in you, it will empower you with boldness, because you will have freedom. You will have more confidence in ministry KNOWING that He is leading you.... YOU are a child of God, and whatever the Spirit is leading you to do, it WILL NOT FAIL BECAUSE YOU ARE DOING IT **BY THE WAY OF THE SPIRIT**.... NOT MAN’S WAY!

WITH MORE BOLDNESS CAME MORE ZEAL TO SPEAK THE GOSPEL

As I was praying in the Spirit, receiving more boldness, God was also downloading powerful messages in me. I would pray and He would give me a scripture, then another, and another! I knew that they all went together and that I needed to take note and release them. God’s Word instructs us to, *“Never lag in zeal and in earnest endeavor; **be***

aglow and burning with the Spirit, serving the Lord." Romans 12:11 (AMPC) Praying in the Spirit is helping you to do just that, to be aglow and burning with the Spirit!

For me it became just as Jeremiah expressed.... "But if I say, "I will not remember Him Or speak anymore in His name," Then in my heart it becomes like a burning fire Shut up in my bones; And I am weary of holding it in, And I cannot endure it." Jeremiah 20:9 (NASB1995)

"With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints, and pray on my behalf, that utterance may be given to me in the opening of my mouth, to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains; that in proclaiming it I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak." Ephesians 6:18-20 (NASB1995) Praying in the Spirit is how we exercise praying without ceasing! God would not tell us to do something without stopping, and then make it difficult. God's Word says we are to always pray in the Spirit!

REVELATION OF FRUIT PRODUCTION/DYING TO FLESH

"For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot perform it. [I have the intention and urge to do what is right, but no power to carry it out.]" Romans 7:18 (AMPC) The more that you allow your flesh to reign over the Spirit within you, that is exactly what you can expect...NOTHING GOOD. Why is this? It is because without the Holy Spirit you have no power to carry it out.

Remember the flesh works AGAINST the Spirit. *“For the flesh sets its desire against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; **for these are in opposition to one another**, so that you may not do the things that you please.”* Galatians 5:17 (NASB1995)

Jesus advised His disciples moments before He was arrested, *“All of you must keep awake (give strict attention, be cautious and active) **and watch and pray ...**”* [Why were they to watch and pray?] *“**...that you may not come into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.**”* Matthew 26:41 (AMPC) The Spirit in us is willing, but the flesh is weak. That is why we must “watch and pray.” We now have a prayer language that was not yet available to the disciples when Jesus told them to pray! We can now allow the Holy Spirit Himself to come and speak through us! Praying in the Spirit allows God’s Spirit to dominate the flesh in all its weaknesses!

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.” Galatians 5:22-24 (NASB1995) **I have known this verse for years, however, I am now thoroughly convinced that praying in the Spirit helps give you the power to continue to crucify anything that has to do with the flesh.**

“Do you not know that in a race all the runners compete, but [only] one receives the prize? So run [your race] that you may lay hold [of the prize] and make it yours. Now every athlete who goes into training conducts himself temperately and restricts himself in all things. They do it to win a wreath that will soon wither, but we [do it to receive a crown of eternal blessedness] that cannot wither.

Therefore I do not run uncertainly (without definite aim). I do not box like one beating the air and striking without an adversary. But [like a boxer] I buffet my body [handle it roughly, discipline it by hardships] and subdue it, for fear that after proclaiming to others the Gospel and things pertaining to it, I myself should become unfit [not stand the test, be unapproved and rejected as a counterfeit]." 1 Corinthians 9:24-27 (AMPC) Paul explains that he disciplines, and subdues, his flesh through hardship. He goes on to say that if he does not discipline his flesh, he could be a counterfeit, and unapproved after preaching the gospel.

THE POWER TO OVERCOME THE WILL OF THE FLESH

Paul read the Word and taught the Word, but there was something else going on here. The flesh just kept trying to work against him. However, through inspiration of the Holy Spirit Paul wrote, "... you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses ..." Acts 1:8 (NASB1995) The Holy Spirit is power enough to overcome the flesh. Remember Paul said, "*I thank God, I speak in tongues more than you all;*" 1 Corinthians 14:18 (NASB) Paul was fervent in praying in the Spirit.

The Word and the Spirit work together. When you continue to read the Word and have a lifestyle of praying in the Spirit, you will accomplish this scripture. "But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh." Galatians 5:16 (NASB1995) Praying in the Spirit is walking in the Spirit. It says IF you walk in the Spirit, YOU WILL NOT CARRY OUT THE DESIRE OF THE FLESH. Not "you might not, or it could be possible" ...YOU WILL NOT.

Yeah, the flesh may fight, but praying in the Spirit is feeding your spirit man. If you feed your spirit man, he will grow. However, vice versa, if you feed your flesh he will grow. Your spirit man feeds on the Word of God, and the Spirit of God, it must have both.

"It is the Spirit Who gives life [He is the Life-giver]; the flesh conveys no benefit whatever [there is no profit in it]. The words (truths) that I have been speaking to you are spirit and life." John 6:63 (AMPC) This word *life*, here in the Greek, is ZOE. (Strong's #2222) Zoe is LIFE...PHYSICAL AND SPIRITUAL.... THAT NOT ONLY COMES FROM GOD...BUT IS SUSTAINED BY GOD! To a believer, zoe life, is a life worth living!

Paul explains in Romans 1:9 that he serves God in his spirit. If our desire is to serve God, we must recognize we cannot serve God in our flesh. The ONLY way we can serve Him is by walking and remaining in the Spirit.

When I was reviled, I noticed that my spirit man would not allow the flesh to take over and get me into depression/condemnation because I had already been feeding my spirit man for weeks by praying in the Spirit. I knew I was justified before God in what happened. Therefore, I didn't carry out the deeds of the flesh allowing myself to come under a demonic attack. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, I put to death the deeds of the flesh, and brought them into subjection to the Spirit.

"What is born of [from] the flesh is flesh [of the physical is physical]; and what is born of the Spirit is spirit." John 3:6 (AMPC) I am convinced that praying in the Spirit is a huge

part of not only being born of the Spirit but nourishing the Spirit.

Since I had let the Holy Spirit take the reins in my prayer life, the outcome was that I had nothing but the fruits of the Holy Spirit manifesting through me in a greater magnitude than ever before, and it was coming naturally.

*“For if you live according to [the dictates of] the flesh, you will surely die. **But if through the power of the [Holy] Spirit you are [habitually] putting to death (making extinct, deadening) the [evil] deeds prompted by the body, you shall [really and genuinely] live forever.**”* Romans 8:13 (AMPC) This word *live* here in the Greek is Strong’s #2198 and it is the verb for the noun ZOE. A verb is an action word. Zoe is Strong’s #2222, and it is truly the LIFE OF GOD. Therefore, putting to death the deeds of the flesh enables us to live out the life that God has planned for us!

The bottom line is that **praying in the Spirit produces the fruit of the Spirit**, and this is all because the flesh is disciplined.

“For the love of Christ controls and urges and impels us, because we are of the opinion and conviction that [if] One died for all, then all died; And He died for all, so that all those who live might live no longer to and for themselves, but to and for Him Who died and was raised again for their sake.” 2 Corinthians 5:14-15 (AMPC) Since my agape was growing stronger it was evident, I was dying to the flesh more and more. Dying to the flesh enables us to live in a greater freedom for Him, while not in bondage and being controlled by the flesh! We have freedom to live a life in Him!

“He must increase, but I must decrease. [He must grow more prominent; I must grow less so.]” John 3:30 (AMPC) Praying in the Spirit allows the Spirit of God to grow in you. Remember Jesus told us, *“I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, **that He may be with you forever**”* John 14:16 (NASB1995) Once we have welcomed the Holy Spirit in, He will be with us helping us forever! Why not let His Spirit grow, increase, and flourish, in us always?

*“He is also the head of the body, the church; and He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that **He Himself will come to have first place in everything.**”* Colossians 1:18 (NASB1995) Praying in the Spirit is paving the way for Jesus to be FIRST PLACE IN EVERYTHING in your life!

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart And do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He will make your paths straight.” Proverbs 3:5-6 (NASB1995) Establishing a **habitual prayer life of praying in the Spirit is truly exercising (being a doer) of this scripture.** When we choose to pray in the Spirit, we are allowing the Holy Spirit to pray through us.... KNOWING that we should not be leaning on our own understanding. It truly is acknowledging Him in ALL our ways. We are allowing Him to pray through us and we are trusting we will have the fruit of His perfect prayers! Glory!

The Holy Spirit is like unto a gentleman, He is not going to force prayers or anything else on you. He gives you your own free will.

WE DO NOT KNOW WHAT WE ARE ASKING

When James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to Jesus in Matthew 20:20-22 and Mark 10:35-38 the request they had was that they may sit in His kingdom in glory...one on His right and one on His left. In doing scripture build up we see that Matthew's account says their mother was even with them making this request. However, how did Jesus respond? Jesus told them, *"You do not know what you are asking."*

In continuing to read both Matthew and Mark you can see how when the rest of the disciples heard their request for preferential treatment, they became indignant with James and John. Then Jesus had to be the peacemaker. *"But Jesus called them to Himself and said, "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great men exercise authority over them. It is not this way among you, but whoever wishes to become great among you shall be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you shall be your slave;"* Matthew 20:25-27 (NASB1995)

James learned of what he was doing because the Holy Spirit later inspired him to write this scripture for our learning. *"What is the source of quarrels and conflicts among you? Is not the source your pleasures that wage war in your members? You lust and do not have; so you commit murder. You are envious and cannot obtain; so you fight and quarrel. You do not have because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, so that you may spend it on your pleasures. You adulteresses, do you not know that friendship with the world is hostility toward God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. Or do you think that the Scripture speaks to no purpose: "He jealously desires the Spirit which He has made*

to dwell in us”? But He gives a greater grace. Therefore it says, “God is opposed to the proud, but gives grace to the humble.” James 4:1-6 (NASB1995)

Now, this is another reason to pray in the Spirit. James and John’s hearts were exposed in their prayer request. They were wanting to be exalted above the other disciples, which would have made them a friend of the world as pride is a worldly nature, and it is therefore hostile to God.

The reason I came here was that God’s Word explains to us, “...He jealously desires the Spirit which He has made to dwell in us.” This is speaking of *pneuma hagion*. The *pneuma hagion* is the gift from the giver, Who is *Pneuma Theos*. It is for His perfect purpose and His perfect will that the Holy Spirit dwells in us. However, we MUST allow Him to move through us, pray through us, and manifest through us! The perfect prayer results in His perfect will!

One of the benefits of praying in the Spirit is receiving revelation. Here in 2 Corinthians, we read of Paul’s abundance of revelations. However, we will see that great revelations resulted in spiritual warfare. A messenger of Satan was sent to torment him. Why was this messenger sent on a special assignment? It was sent to keep Paul from exalting himself. “*Because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, for this reason, to keep me from exalting myself, there was given me a thorn in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me – to keep me from exalting myself!*” 2 Corinthians 12:7 (NASB1995)

Now, how does Paul respond to this attack? Did Paul pray in the Spirit? Nope, he did not! “Concerning this I implored the Lord three times that it might leave me. And He has said to

me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness." Most gladly, therefore, I will rather boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. Therefore I am well content with weaknesses, with insults, with distresses, with persecutions, with difficulties, for Christ's sake; for when I am weak, then I am strong." 2 Corinthians 12:8-10 (NASB1995)

Paul's pleas to God were contrary to God's will. We know this because God did not answer his prayer. It was more important to God that Paul stay humble in his abundances of revelation knowledge. Perhaps this is why there was no mention of Paul praying in the Spirit over this. He was making a request of God for the comfort of the flesh, not the perfecting of his Spirit.

God's perfect will for Paul was that power would be perfected through weakness. It was obvious that despite the revelations, Paul was lacking humility. The beautiful harmony is that Paul learned this by experience in the end. Knowing that in weaknesses the power of Christ was dwelling in him, and when he was weak, he was strong! Had God answered Paul's pleas it would not have been the perfect will. Paul did not know what he was asking.

GREATER REVELATIONS

As I have mentioned Paul made it no secret that he prayed in tongues. *"I thank God, I speak in tongues more than you all;"* 1 Corinthians 14:18 (NASB1995) Remember, **it was because of the abundance of revelations** that a messenger of Satan was sent to him. However, let's keep reading about Paul's supernatural experiences.

*“Boasting is necessary, though it is not profitable; **but I will go on to visions and revelations of the Lord.** I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago – **whether in the body I do not know, or out of the body I do not know, God knows – such a man was caught up to the third heaven. And I know how such a man – whether in the body or apart from the body I do not know, God knows – was caught up into Paradise and heard inexpressible words, which a man is not permitted to speak.**” 2 Corinthians 12:1-4 (NASB1995)*

It was obvious the man Paul was speaking of was himself. He makes a confession here saying, “...**I will go on to visions and revelations of the Lord...**” Oh, shouldn’t that be what we all want?

He goes on to explain how he was caught up to the third heaven...into Paradise and heard inexpressible words that man is not even permitted to speak! Can you imagine that?

This is what I was experiencing! As I was praying in the Spirit, God would give me visions, and then the interpretation. Some visions were about the state of the churches, some were of those precious people on my prayer list, and some were just snapshots of His kingdom coming and His will being done on earth as it is in heaven! I was having union and communion with Him, and He was revealing His heart to me! This is completely scriptural as found here in 1 Corinthians 14! *“For one who speaks in an [unknown] tongue **speaks not to men but to God,** for no one understands or catches his meaning, **because in the [Holy] Spirit he utters secret truths and hidden things [not obvious to the understanding].**” 1 Corinthians 14:2 (AMPC)*

Praying in the Spirit helps us receive the wisdom that was formerly hidden from previous ages, but now, available to all! *“But rather what we are setting forth is a wisdom of God once hidden [from the human understanding] **and now revealed to us by God—[that wisdom] which God devised and decreed before the ages for our glorification [to lift us into the glory of His presence].**”* 1 Corinthians 2:7 (AMPC)

“But, on the contrary, as the Scripture says, What eye has not seen and ear has not heard and has not entered into the heart of man, [all that] God has prepared (made and keeps ready) for those who love Him [who hold Him in affectionate reverence, promptly obeying Him and gratefully recognizing the benefits He has bestowed].” We cannot stop now...keep reading. ***“Yet to us God has unveiled and revealed them by and through His Spirit,*** for the [Holy] Spirit searches diligently, exploring and examining everything, even sounding the profound and bottomless things of God [the divine counsels and things hidden and beyond man’s scrutiny].” 1 Corinthians 2:9-10 (AMPC) The reason many people have not stepped into these revelations is because **these things are only revealed by and through His Spirit.** Oh yes, you have the Holy Spirit, but are you using it? I can go buy a car, but if I just let it sit in my driveway and never use it, then it is of no benefit to me, right?

I must conclude here in 1 Corinthians, for it is beautifully laid out! *“For what person perceives (knows and understands) what passes through a man’s thoughts except the man’s own spirit within him? **Just so no one discerns (comes to know and comprehend) the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God.**”* Did you catch that? ***“Now we have not received the spirit [that belongs to] the world, but the [Holy] Spirit Who is from God, [given to us]”*** Why was the Holy Spirit given to us? *“... **that we might realize and comprehend and appreciate***

the gifts [of divine favor and blessing so freely and lavishly] bestowed on us by God. And we are setting these truths forth in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the [Holy] Spirit, combining and interpreting spiritual truths with spiritual language [to those who possess the Holy Spirit]. But the natural, nonspiritual man does not accept or welcome or admit into his heart the gifts and teachings and revelations of the Spirit of God..." 1 Corinthians 2:11-14 (AMPC)

The main reason the message of speaking in tongues has been so persecuted is that the natural man views it as nonsense. God's Word tells us that the natural man cannot receive the gifts, teachings, and revelations of the Spirit of God, "...for they are folly (meaningless nonsense) to him; and he is incapable of knowing them [of progressively recognizing, understanding, and becoming better acquainted with them] because they are spiritually discerned and estimated and appreciated. **But the spiritual man tries all things [he examines, investigates, inquires into, questions, and discerns all things]**, yet is himself to be put on trial and judged by no one [he can read the meaning of everything, but no one can properly discern or appraise or get an insight into him]. For who has known or understood the mind (the counsels and purposes) of the Lord so as to guide and instruct Him and give Him knowledge? **But we have the mind of Christ (the Messiah) and do hold the thoughts (feelings and purposes) of His heart.**" 1 Corinthians 2:14-16 (AMPC) Along with continuing in the Word of God, praying in the Spirit aids us in possessing the mind of Christ, consequently holding His thoughts, feelings, and purposes, and not the thoughts our adversary would attempt to place in our minds.

In one of Paul's prayers inspired by the Holy Spirit he says, "For this reason we also, from the day we heard of it, have not

ceased to pray and make [special] request for you, [asking] that you may be filled with the full (deep and clear) knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom [in comprehensive insight into the ways and purposes of God] and in understanding and discernment of spiritual things – "
Colossians 1:9 (AMPC)

Friend, let me tell you that praying in the Spirit is the gateway to "... the full (deep and clear) knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom [in comprehensive insight into the ways and purposes of God] and in understanding and discernment of spiritual things"

HIS MESSAGE IS TRUTH

"But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come." John 16:13 (NASB1995) The Spirit of truth speaks of nothing other than the truth.

"But the Comforter (Counselor, Helper, Intercessor, Advocate, Strengtheners, Standby), the Holy Spirit, Whom the Father will send in My name [in My place, to represent Me and act on My behalf], He will teach you all things. And He will cause you to recall (will remind you of, bring to your remembrance) everything I have told you." John 14:26 (AMPC) This is Jesus talking, and He is the Living Word! Just as the scripture says, the Holy Spirit is a Helper! Are we using our Helper today? Not only does He teach us all things, but as we have said before the Holy Spirit works with the Word, therefore the Holy Spirit brings the Word of God to our remembrance when it is needed most!

*“But you have been anointed by [you hold a sacred appointment from, you have been given an unction from] the Holy One, **and you all know [the Truth] or you know all things.**” 1 John 2:20 (AMPC)*

*“But as for you, the anointing (the sacred appointment, the unction) which you received from Him **abides [permanently] in you;** [so] then you have no need that anyone should instruct you. **But just as His anointing teaches you concerning everything and is true and is no falsehood, so you must abide in (live in, never depart from) Him [being rooted in Him, knit to Him], just as [His anointing] has taught you [to do].**” 1 John 2:27 (AMPC) His Spirit never leaves us, but when we pray in the Spirit we are inquiring of the Counselor. Remember the Holy Spirit does not force Himself on anyone. Praying in the Spirit develops a more dependent intimate nature in relying on Him because as the scriptures say, His anointing teaches us concerning everything, and it is true!*

*“And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Comforter (Counselor, Helper, Intercessor, Advocate, Strengtheners, and Standby), **that He may remain with you forever** – The Spirit of Truth, Whom the world cannot receive (welcome, take to its heart), because it does not see Him or know and recognize Him. **But you know and recognize Him, for He lives with you [constantly] and will be in you.**” John 14:16-17 (AMPC) Once you have made the life-changing decision to make Jesus the Master of your life, you received a pledge, or down-payment so-to-speak of the Holy Spirit. “In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation – having also believed, **you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is given as a pledge of our inheritance...**” Ephesians 1:13-14 (NASB1995)*

From that moment He remains with you, working with you day by day. We progress as fast as we want to. Praying in the Spirit moves us along so much faster in the realm of the Spirit, creating a deeper intimacy with Him. He is constantly in you!

BEYOND OUR HIGHEST PRAYERS

“But when you pray, go into your [most] private room, and, closing the door, pray to your Father, Who is in secret; and your Father, Who sees in secret, will reward you in the open.” Matthew 6:6 (AMPC) I am totally reaping the benefits of praying in the Spirit in secret! God is rewarding me openly in many areas of my life!

Here in Matthew Jesus tells us that the Father knows what we need BEFORE we ask. Therefore, He counsels us to avoid meaningless repetitive prayers. *“And when you are praying, do not use meaningless repetition as the Gentiles do, for they suppose that they will be heard for their many words. So do not be like them; **for your Father knows what you need before you ask Him.**”* Matthew 6:7-8 (NASB1995) Praying in the Spirit is doing just that. The Spirit will only pray for what is necessary, and it will be right on!

*“It will also come to pass that **before they call, I will answer; and while they are still speaking, I will hear.**”* Isaiah 65:24 (NASB1995) Praying in the Spirit is like unto this scripture. **The Holy Spirit is praying through you about things before you even know about them. He is already answering with the solutions before they even happen.** I am convinced praying in the Spirit keeps many things from happening to us!

Before you think lightly of this message consider this. *“Your eyes have seen my unformed substance; **And in Your book were all written The days that were ordained for me,** When as yet there was not one of them.”* Psalm 139:16 (NASB1995) God knows each minute of your life, and without His Spirit you know nothing. You have His Spirit inside of you, why not let Him pray out your destiny? The perfect prayer will always lead to His perfect will!

“Now to Him Who, by (in consequence of) the [action of His] power that is at work within us, is able to [carry out His purpose and] do superabundantly, far over and above all that we [dare] ask or think [infinitely beyond our highest prayers, desires, thoughts, hopes, or dreams] – ” Ephesians 3:20 (AMPC) Now, let's stop just for a moment and meditate on this scripture. When we pray in the Spirit, we are allowing His power to work within us, and conduct His purposes. We may not always know or understand the extent of what He is doing, and that is ok! I do not know about you, but I certainly want **superabundantly far over and above all that I dare ask or think and infinitely beyond my highest prayers, desires, thoughts, hopes, or dreams!**

*“[Not in your own strength] for **it is God Who is all the while effectually at work in you [energizing and creating in you the power and desire], both to will and to work for His good pleasure and satisfaction and delight.**”* Philippians 2:13 (AMPC) Praying in the Spirit advances His work in you even more! The result is His good pleasure!

ADVANCED MAINTENANCE

We all know that if we have a car, house, or whatever earthly possession, it will require maintenance. Consider this, would you allow your earthly possession to get to the point of no return where you just had to give up on it? No! Too many people wait until after the fact to pray. In fact, many only pray when there is a problem. **Praying in the Spirit is advanced maintenance for our lives.**

When you are praying in the Spirit you are praying for things of which you do not know. You could be praying in advance for a problem and avoiding it altogether, instead of reaping the sad aftermath. Even if the issue happened, you could have a confidence and peace knowing that you have been praying in the Spirit in advance, and God is already moving! This is staying "prayed up!" That is why God's Word would tell us to "*pray without ceasing;*" 1 Thessalonians 5:17 (NASB1995)

WHY THE TONGUE?

The ONLY physical body part that is specified in the manifestations of the Spirit is the tongue. Why would God choose the tongue? Let's look at the facts.

Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and they who indulge in it shall eat the fruit of it [for death or life]. Proverbs 18:21 (AMPC) God deliberately chose the tongue because of the power in it. Like the scriptures say, those who indulge in it, using it for evil or good, will have the fruit that follows- death or life! Praying in the Spirit, (in tongues) is choosing life because you are allowing the Holy Spirit to use your tongue for life!

"My heart overflows with a good theme; I address my verses to the King; My tongue is the pen of a ready writer." Psalm 45:1 (NASB1995) What was David writing with his tongue? David was writing his destiny. He was prophesying his future. He was using his tongue for life! The only way this could happen was if his heart were in the right condition. David's heart was overflowing with a "good theme."

"Rescue me, O Lord, from evil men; Preserve me from violent men Who devise evil things in their hearts; They continually stir up wars. They sharpen their tongues as a serpent; Poison of a viper is under their lips. Selah." Psalm 140:1-3 (NASB1995) Here is one of David's many prayers concerning his enemies. Notice again, it is the evil in their hearts that initiates the poison in their tongues. There is a reason "Selah" is at the end of this verse. God wants us to think about this. David's enemy's hearts had an evil theme, but his heart was overflowing with a good theme.

Jesus told the religious people, *"You offspring of vipers! How can you speak good things when you are evil (wicked)? For out of the fullness (the overflow, the superabundance) of the heart the mouth speaks. The good man from his inner good treasure flings forth good things, and the evil man out of his inner evil storehouse flings forth evil things. But I tell you, on the day of judgment men will have to give account for every idle (inoperative, nonworking) word they speak. For by your words you will be justified and acquitted, and by your words you will be condemned and sentenced."* Matthew 12:34-37 (AMPC) He called these people vipers because of the deadly poison in their tongues. However, as we see in Psalms and in Proverbs the tongue is used for good or evil, justification and acquittal, condemnation, and sentencing.

What was Zechariah's problem? We read that Gabriel told Zechariah, "I am Gabriel, who stands in the presence of God, and I was sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news." And what great news this was that Zechariah and Elizabeth were now going to have the child they had been believing for. Not just a child, but a child who would soon go as a forerunner before the Messiah and bring a much-needed message of repentance to the people! However, despite this good news we read in the next scripture that Gabriel told him, "And behold, you will be silent and unable to speak until the day when these things take place, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled at their proper time." Luke 1:19-20 (NASB1995) The power of the tongue was so evident here that we see it could have altered the plans God had for John, and it was all because of the unbelief that was in Zechariah's heart. Therefore, his mouth was shut to solve this problem! Glory!

"But no one can tame the tongue; it is a restless evil and full of deadly poison." James 3:8 (NASB1995) No one can tame the tongue, and this is why Zechariah's mouth was shut.

Despite the fact the tongue is untamable, it is through the Holy Spirit that we can discipline our flesh and bring it into subjection to the Spirit. You must allow the Holy Spirit to fully consume your heart, in order that it can dominate your flesh. Remember it is with the heart man believes. (Romans 10:10) Once the Word of God is planted in our hearts, it is our responsibility to guard it with all diligence. (Proverbs 4:23)

*"Then I said, "Woe is me, for I am ruined! **Because I am a man of unclean lips, And I live among a people of unclean lips;** For my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts. "Then one of the seraphim flew to me **with a burning coal in his hand,** which he had taken from the altar with tongs. **He touched my mouth with it and said, "Behold, this has touched your lips; and your iniquity is taken away and your sin is forgiven."**"* Isaiah 6:5-7 (NASB1995) The baptism of the Holy Spirit had not yet been given in Isaiah's day, but through a supernatural visitation from God, Isaiah's lips were cleansed.

Remember on the day of Pentecost when the people were all in one accord, we read this occurred. *"And suddenly there came from heaven a noise like a violent rushing wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. And **there appeared to them tongues as of fire** distributing themselves, and they rested on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit **and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance.**"* Acts 2:2-4 (NASB1995) The very first manifestation of the Holy Spirit was speaking in tongues. This simile of the tongues, which looked like fire, paints a picture of what praying in the Spirit does for us, from the inside out.

Praying in the Spirit assists in burning evil chaff from our hearts and purging our lips. This is just like what the burning coal did to Isaiah's lips.

THE SPIRIT WORKS WITH GOD'S WORD, AND VICE VERSA

I could not conclude this teaching without reminding you that the Holy Spirit collaborates with God's Word and vice versa! It is like a car with gasoline. The Holy Spirit will

take you anywhere He wants to take you, and as far as you want to go, but without the pure fuel of the Word of God you are limited. Jesus said, "... *apart from Me you can do nothing.*" John 15:5 (NASB1995) Well, we must remember Jesus is the Word of God! (John 1:14)

I say the "pure fuel of the Word of God" for a reason. Man's doctrines and theology, without the Holy Spirit, have made the Bible say whatever they want it to say. "*Study and be eager and do your utmost to present yourself to God approved (tested by trial), a workman who has no cause to be ashamed, correctly analyzing and accurately dividing [rightly handling and skillfully teaching] the Word of Truth.*" 2 Timothy 2:15 (AMPC) We must remember that the Word of Truth originated from the Spirit of Truth (*pneuma hagion*) **and we need to preserve it as Truth.** If we do this we will be like Paul when he was inspired to write this, "*For we can do nothing against the truth, but only for the truth.*" 2 Corinthians 13:8 (NASB1995)

I have been in churches all my life. I have witnessed people pray in tongues, but it was obvious by their lives that they did not make a practice of reading and studying God's Word. How do I know this? I know this because their natures were exposed through their hearts. Do you remember that earlier in this teaching we discussed that out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks? When someone makes a habit of reading and studying the Word of God, that is what is going to proceed out of their mouth. They are going to want to have Bible studies and discuss God's Word. They have a passion for His Word. However, an absence of the Word of God will be evident too, as the mouth will speak of what fills the heart.

“For the Word that God speaks is alive and full of power [making it active, operative, energizing, and effective]; it is sharper than any two-edged sword, penetrating to the dividing line of the breath of life (soul) and [the immortal] spirit, and of joints and marrow [of the deepest parts of our nature], exposing and sifting and analyzing and judging the very thoughts and purposes of the heart.” Hebrews 4:12 (AMPC)

Remember God is Spirit. (John 4:24) It is **His Spirit** that watches over **His Word** to perform it. God told Jeremiah, *“...You have seen well, for I am watching over My word to perform it.”* Jeremiah 1:12 (NASB1995)

After Jesus commissioned His disciples and ascended to the right hand of the Father, this is what is recorded concerning the disciples. *“And they went out and preached everywhere, while the Lord kept working with them and confirming the message by the attesting signs and miracles that closely accompanied [it]. Amen (so be it).”* Mark 16:20 (AMPC) It is **His Spirit** that will move on **His Word** and confirm it with signs following! There is no other Spirit that can do that!

“For since He Whom God has sent speaks the words of God [proclaims God’s own message], God does not give Him His Spirit sparingly or by measure, but boundless is the gift God makes of His Spirit!” John 3:34 (AMPC) The more Word of God you have, the more opportunity you have for the Spirit of God to work with His Word. In this verse it says we can have the Spirit without measure. I would say that is much better than a double portion! It is up to us!

The Holy Spirit works with the Word of God. If you do not fill your spirit with the Word of God, there is nothing for His Spirit to work with.

SPIRITUAL PROGRESS

When we can pray, but we refuse to pray in the Spirit, in honesty we are quenching the Spirit. God's Word plainly warns against that. *"Do not quench the Spirit;"* 1 Thessalonians 5:19 (NASB1995)

"But you, beloved, build yourselves up [founded] on your most holy faith [make progress, rise like an edifice higher and higher], praying in the Holy Spirit;" Jude 20 (AMPC) Praying in the Spirit truly does what this scripture says it does! When we pray in the Spirit, we are constantly making spiritual progress! It builds us up higher and higher because "in Him" there are no boundaries.

How much will you choose to progress in the realm of the Holy Spirit? This is up to you. However, I promise you that you will get out of it what you put into it. If you put no effort into allowing His Spirit to pray through you, you will get exactly that...nothing.

The one thing I learned from this experience is I never want to go one more day of my life without fervently praying in the Spirit! Praying in the Spirit is truly the gateway to a life of freedom in Him, to be able to truly live the life He intends for us to live. Praying in the Spirit is the perfect prayer! Remember from the first chapter of this teaching it was through this experience God was showing me I still was

bound in chains, but praying in the Spirit continues to bring me freedom.

**HOLY SPIRIT, I AM READY TO LET YOU
HAVE YOUR WAY!**

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“Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may have free course, and be glorified, even as it is with you:” 2 Thessalonians 3:1

“So mightily grew the word of God and prevailed.” Acts 19:20

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