

CHRIST IN YOU, THE HOPE OF CGLORY

MY NEW LIFE

KAYEMBE

MBIOLA



CHRIST IN ME, THE HOPE OF GLORY "MY NEW LIFE"

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The biblical passages used in this book are taken from New International Version (NIV) or King James Version (KJV), unless otherwise noted.

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INTRODUCTION

Inspired by the book "VIE NOUVELLE" from the Centre Evangelique Francophone La Borne, which contains basic teachings for stable and balanced spiritual growth, we translated a significant portion and added additional information. The original book was created by a counseling team from the Church where I grew up. I am grateful to have been raised in a family where both of my parents, Alphonse MBIOLA MUSAKAYI and MARCELLINE KAPINGA TSHIBANDA, are devoted followers of God.

I am thrilled and honored that my mother, who is a deaconess and counselor in the counseling department of La Borne, contributed to the writing of this book. The book has had a positive impact on many generations and continues to inspire me in my work with Gloria House in its compassion department, which is dedicated to the salvation and strengthening of souls.

We provide support to churches, ministries, and organizations to enhance their evangelism and discipleship endeavors.

This season, we were eager to carry out this work to specifically support the Ministry of 'Christ in you global missions' led by Pastor Cheryl Bethel, which was established in 2020.

The ministry is centered on three main objectives: prayer and intercession, discipleship, and evangelism. We believe that now, more than ever is the time to burn for the Lord and address the things that are lacking in the body of Christ. We travel all over the world, preaching the gospel of Jesus Christ, reminding the body of the Lord's return, and calling the lost to salvation.

KAYEMBE MBIOLA
Gloria House Founder

ENCOURAGEMENT WORDS

After hearing the word of God, you were convicted of sin and you repented; conversion is now there and you have decided to walk with Jesus as lord and saviour of your life so this little book will help you to better look into the word of God to know what will happen next in relation to your questions about this new life in Jesus. Know that Christ is in you, the hope of glory.

LESSON 1 BORN AGAIN

The new birth that you certainly want to know what it means; yes, as we know physically when a baby is born, he/she needs all the nutrients to grow; This is how when we are born again in Christ Jesus we need the word of God, excellent food for our growth, so let's discover together what you must do after this new birth.

I know that you are asking yourself questions but no worry, along with you we will open the bible and find answers to get help and knowledge about the new life in Christ and its different aspects:

How can you be born again?

The new birth is a term used to describe the new life that the Spirit produces when we trust in Jesus and receive him as the Lord and Savior of our lives. It can also be called "regeneration". The words most often used are: "born again".

For this first chapter let me post the verses here in full then for the rest of the chapters you will be given some verses to read on your own and I want you to open your Bible which is now your life manual and let's discover together the answers:

John 3: 1 Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council. ² He came to Jesus at night and said, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him." Jesus replied, "Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again. [a]" How can someone be born when they are old?" Nicodemus asked. "Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother's womb to be born!" Jesus answered, "Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. ⁶ Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit...

Why should you be born again?

EPHESIANS 2:1 As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, 2 in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. 3 All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh[4] and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath.

we are all sinners

Romans 3:9 What shall we conclude then? Do we have any advantage? Not at all! For we have already made the charge that Jews and Gentiles alike are all under the power of sin. ¹⁰ As it is written: "There is no one righteous, not even one; ¹¹ there is no one who understands; there is no one who seeks God.

Romans 3:23 For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

God loves us

Romans 5:8 But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

John 3: 16 For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

- God's remedy for sin

Romans 6: 23 For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in [a] Christ Jesus our Lord.

1 john 2:12 I am writing to you, dear children, because your sins have been forgiven on account of his name.

1 Cor 15 : 3 For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance [a]: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures,

- All can be saved

Revelation 3:20 Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with that person, and they with me.

Romains 10: 9-11 If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

Romans 10: 15 And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!" [a]

Acts 2: 38 Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Isaiah 1:18 "Come now, let us settle the matter, "says the LORD. "Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool.

What are the benefits of being born again (salvation)?

- A Born again child of God must know the will of God

Hosea 4:6 my people are destroyed from lack of knowledge. "Because you have rejected knowledge, I also reject you as my priests; because you have ignored the law of your God, I also will ignore your children.

- Forgiveness of Sin

1John 1: 9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Colossians 2:14 Blotting out the handwritting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailling it to his cross;

- Eternal life

I John 5:13 These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.

John 20:31 But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name.

- No more condemnation

Rom. 8:1 There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. ² For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.

John 1:12 But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:

I am reconciled to God

2 Corinthians 5: 18 All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation:

- I am redeemed and forgiven

Ephesians 1: 7 In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace ⁸ that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and understanding,

I am a child of God

1 John 3: 1 See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ² Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.

- I am a saint

Ephesians 1: 1 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, To God's holy people in Ephesus, at the faithful in Christ Jesus:

Philippians 1:1 Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus, To all God's holy people in Christ Jesus at Philippi, together with the overseers and deacons

- I am Christ's friend

John 15: 15 I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you.

- I am a citizen of Heaven

Philippians 3: 20 But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ,

I have eternal life

John 5: 24 "Very truly I tell you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be judged but has crossed over from death to life.

1 John 5:11 And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. ¹² Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life. ¹³ I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life.

I have received the Spirit of God

1 Corinthians 2: 12 What we have received is not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may understand what God has freely given us.

I have been made alive with Christ

2 Corinthians 5: 17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!

I am God's masterpiece

Ephesians 2: 10 For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

- I am God's temple

1Corinthians 3: 16 Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in your midst?

1Corinthians 6: 19 Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own.

I am blessed with EVERY spiritual blessing

Ephesians 1: 3 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ.

> WHY NOT OTHER MEDIATOR?

- Jesus is the only Mediator.

1Timothy 2:5 For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus:

God gave his only Son Jesus

John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

No other name given to us

Acts 4:12 Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

No other foundation besides Jesus

1 Corinthians 3:11 For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ

- The Way, the Truth and the Life

John 14: 6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

WHAT TO DO WITH FETISHES AND OTHER IDOLS?

- They are abominations

Isaiah 8:19 When someone tells you to consult mediums and spiritists, who whisper and mutter, should not a people inquire of their God? Why consult the dead on behalf of the living.

Deuteronomy 16:21 Do not set up any wooden Asherah pole beside the altar you build to the LORD your God, ²² and do not erect a sacred stone, for these the LORD your God hates.

Beware of the occult

Deuteronomy 18: 9 When you enter the land the LORD your God is giving you, do not learn to imitate the detestable ways of the nations there. ¹⁰ Let no one be found among you who sacrifices their son or daughter in the fire, who practices divination or sorcery, interprets omens, engages in witchcraft, ¹¹ or casts spells, or who is a medium or spiritist or who consults the dead. ¹² Anyone who does these things is detestable to the LORD; because of these same detestable practices the LORD your God will drive out those nations before you. ¹³ You must be blameless before the LORD your God. ¹⁴ The nations you will dispossess listen to those who practice sorcery or divination. But as for you, the LORD your God has not permitted you to do so.

He disarmed the powers and authorities

Colossians 2:15 And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.

- The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work

1John 3:8 The one who does what is sinful is of the devil, because the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work.

- The one who is in you is greater

1 John 4:4 You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world.

- I have given you authority

Luke 10: 19 I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you.

- Bring your scrolls together and burn them publicly

Acts 19:19 A number who had practiced sorcery brought their scrolls together and burned them publicly. When they calculated the value of the scrolls, the total came to fifty thousand drachmas.

CONCLUSION

2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: [a] The old has gone, the new is here!

Galatians 2:20 I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

Hebrew 12:1 Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, ² fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

LESSON 2 THE BIBLE AND THE MEDITATION OF THE WORD OF GOD

SOME ADVISES ON THE BIBLE: READING AND THE MEDITATION

Joshua 1:8 Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful.

2 Peter 1:21 For prophecy never had its origin in the human will, but prophets, though human, spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

Despite its diversity, the Bible is a coherent unity because it is inspired by God himself. The Scriptures are God's revelation of himself through human authors who have been illuminated and guided by the Spirit of God.

Meditating on the word of God goes beyond just reading the Bible. As we read it, we gain understanding from God's precepts, which leads us to hate every wrong path.

I want to emphasize that meditating on the word of God is not difficult. The unfolding of God's words brings light and understanding to even the simplest minds. His words provide light and discernment even to those without much experience. Meditation is not a difficult and mysterious practice reserved only for learned individuals.

It's about deeply contemplating a verse, memorizing it, internalizing it, and allowing it to become a guiding force in your daily life.

How can a young person stay on the path of purity? By living according to your word says the psalm 119:9

If reading and meditating on this has such a powerful effect on young people, it will have the same impact on anyone. It influences your thoughts, mind, and spirit. This leads to producing good behaviors and bearing successful and prosperous fruit in life, in line with God's will.

The word of God helps us to be taught, to have endurance, and to receive encouragement so that we may have hope. By meditating, we also receive the wisdom of God, which is the best and wisest way to live. We learn that happiness results from our choice to follow God's direction in life. This should be done every day.

Acts 17:11 Now the Berean Jews were of more noble character than those in Thessalonica, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true.

Devote yourself to the teachings of the apostles contained in the Bible.

Acts 2:42 They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

To grow better, we must not only grasp the Word, but also let ourselves be grasped by it.

Before you read, take time to pray and plan for peaceful moments.

Don't worry about how many verses or pages you read, or how many chapters you get through in your allotted time. Concentrate on what you read, take the time to fully understand everything you read, meditate, ask God to enlighten you on the meaning of His Word.

Memorize passages from the Bible: When you want to remember a passage or verse you just read in the Bible, try memorizing it using whatever method works best for you.

If you have never read the Bible or have read very little of it, it's generally recommended to start with the four gospels, which are the first books of the New Testament. They recount the story of Jesus' first coming to Earth. While it's important to eventually read the entire Bible, if you were to start with just one book, it should be the Gospel of John.

This gospel is also often distributed during evangelization campaigns because it perfectly summarizes the work of Jesus and implicitly states the divinity of Jesus, the Word of God made flesh. We also discover numerous stories not present in the three other gospels (Of Matthew, Mark and Luke)

> THE BENEFITS OF MEDITATING THE WORD OF GOD?

Now that you are born again, just like a newborn baby, you need spiritual nourishment, and the word of God provides that nourishment for your growth.

The Lord Jesus himself affirms in "Mattthew 4:4 Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God," that the

word of God is just as important for the inner nutrition of man as physical nourishment is for the body.

The fact that food helps strengthen our immune system. Similarly, meditation on the word of God makes us more resistant to the various attacks of the enemy.

Ephesians 6:16 In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one.

Romans 10:17 Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word about Christ.

Therefore, if we find it difficult to resist the temptation of sin, generally it's because we are discouraged in our faith, it is also important to review our life of meditation on the word of God.

Now open your bible and read with me some of the below benefits and connected verses:

- The Word is a lamp to our feet, a light to our path. (Psalm 119:105)
- The Word is like a mirror for us (James 1:23-25)
- The Word of GOD helps us to fight the enemy's oppressions (Rom 8:1)
- The Word is a fire and a hammer (Jeremiah 23:29)
- The Word teaches, encourages, and gives hope (Romans 15:4)
- The Word of GOD encourages us (Philippians 4:13)
- The Word is an incorruptible seed (1 Peter 1:23)
- The Word gives light and understanding (Psalm 119:130)
- It is a sword of the Lord (Ephesians 6:17; Hebrew 4:12)
- The Word warns us and gives examples to avoid other people's mistake (1 Corinthians 10:11)
- The Word keeps us from sin (Psalm 119:11)
- The Word of GOD helps us to fight the enemy's fear (Psalm 118:6, Isaiah 41:13)

You can uncover more benefits as you delve deeper into the Bible. The potential for growth and discovery is limitless, these are not the only rewards.

LESSON 3 PRAYER

1 Thessalonians 5:17 « pray continually, »

What is prayer?

We can simply say that prayer is communicating with God. As Christians, we have an open line of communication with God at all times. We don't need to wait until we face an emergency to call upon Him. Through prayer, we express our hearts to God.

As a child of God, you are invited to come boldly before His throne.

Hebrews 4: "¹⁴ Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, ^[a] Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. ¹⁵ For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin. ¹⁶ Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need."

God is your loving heavenly Father who cares for you and delights in having fellowship with you.

- Jesus Himself prayed and taught His disciples to pray, He is our perfect example so that we can learn from Him. (Matthew 14:23, Mark 1:35, Luke 18:1, Luke 6:12, Matthew 26:36, -Luke 5:16)
- Prayer is also a way of serving God (Luke 2:36–38)
- Prayer helps you gain an understanding of God's loving nature (1 John 4:8)
- We pray because God commands us to (Philippians 4:6-7)
- Christ and the early Church serve as examples of prayer for us (Acts 1:14, 2:42, 3:1, 4:23-31, 6:4, 13:1-3)
- Prayer is a way to help others. (James 5:16)
- Prayer gives you strength to avoid temptation. (Matthew 26:41)
- Prayer changes our focus. Colossians 3:2
- To overcome demonic barriers (Matthew 17.14-21)
- We pray for sending workers into the spiritual harvest (Luke 10.2)
- Prayer ushers us into God's presence. (Hebrews 4:16)
- Helps us to be able to strengthen other people spiritually (Ephesians 6.18-19).
- Prayer brings us closer to God. (James 4:8, Psalm 145:18)
- Prayer gives us peace in times of trouble (1 Peter 5:7, Philippians 4:6-7)
- Prayer brings about change. (<u>James 4:16-18</u>, <u>Ezekiel 36:26</u>)
- We pray before making an important decision (Luke 6.12-13)

➤ Who can pray?

John 14:14 You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.

In this verse, Jesus was addressing His disciples, indicating that anyone can pray. However, only His children who walk in faith and obedience to Christ can expect to receive answers to their prayers.

One day Jesus was teaching on prayer, and it is written that:

Luke 11:1 Now it came to pass, as He was praying in a certain place, when He ceased, that one of His disciples said to Him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples." 2 So He said to them, "When you pray, say: Our [a] Father [b] in heaven,...

It does not say **when people** pray but when **"when YOU"** He is addressing His disciples that He considers as His children. And the prayer starts with **"Our FATHER"** We can see that it is a relationship between God and those who belong to Him.

The exhortation of the word of God through the apostle Paul in this verse to "pray continually" does not mean that we must stay with our heads bowed and our eyes closed all day. Paul does not ask us to speak constantly but to always be fully aware of God and submissive to his will. We must live each moment aware that God is with us and is actively involved in our thoughts and actions.

Prayer is essential in the life of a Christian just as breathing is essential to life. It is the Word that we address to God. The prayer of Christians is not an incantation or a magic formula; instead, we communicate with the one who created the earth through Jesus Christ. Prayer is a dialogue where we talk to God and He answers us.

To pray is to speak with God and to listen to him; If Jesus thought that it was worth it, we should too. If He needed to pray to remain in the will of the Father, how much more do we need it?

When should we pray?

We must pray daily, and it requires discipline. The enemy will never let you pray so we need to be faithful and in a consistent way not only for a while.

Beware of being too tired to get up early or too distracted by other things.

And **Ephesians 6:18** gives us the answer! "And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people."

In other words, Ephesians 6:18 says: "Pray anytime there's an opportunity — no matter where you are or what you're doing. We must use every occasion, every season, every possible moment to pray. Prayer is not optional for the Christian who is serious about their spiritual life.

- Daniel prayed three times a day. (Dan 6:10)
- JESUS prayed all night. (Luke 6:12)
- JESUS prayed early in the morning. (Mark 1:35)
- 1 Thess. 5:17: Pray without ceasing, that is to say, always being in communion with the Lord.
- In times of affliction and distress (Psalms 102:1–2)
- As we remember God (Psalm 63:4-7)
- In times of blessing and prosperity (Psalms 107:1-3)
- At noon and at night (Psalms 55:16-17)
- In the morning and evening (Psalms 57:7–8)
- As God burdens us to pray (2 Chronicles 6:28-31).

➤ Where to pray?

We see through these below verses that we can pray everywhere

- In your room (math 6:6)
- On the Mountain (Luke 6:2)
- solitary place (marc 1:35)
- On your bed (Psalm 63:6)
- To the river (Acts 16:13, Acts 21:5)
- Beside spring of water (Genesis 24:12-13)
- To the House of the Lord "Temple" (Luke 2:36-37)
- In the community (Joshua 10:12-13)

➤ How to pray?

Jesus taught the disciples how to pray:

Matthew 6: 9" Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, our kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

The Matthew 6 prayer is not a recitation to be repeated, but a model of what our prayer should contain. Our Father's prayer must inspire us.

The Lord looks at the heart so present your request to God as a son to His father. Freely withholding nothing,

Philippians 4:6 Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

1 Corinthians 14:15 So what shall I do? I will pray with my spirit, but I will also pray with my understanding; I will sing with my spirit, but I will also sing with my understanding.

1. with my understanding

These are all the prayers that we formulate in intelligible languages.

A good time of prayer generally includes Humiliation, Praise and worship, Thanksgiving, intercession: for the church, our families, our needs...

2. with my spirit

1 Corinthians 14:2 For anyone who speaks in a tongue^[a] does not speak to people but to God. Indeed, no one understands them; they utter mysteries by the Spirit.

Verse 4 **Anyone who speaks in a tongue edifies themselves**, but the one who prophesies edifies the church.

Verse 5 **I would like every one of you to speak in tongues**, [a] but I would rather have you prophesy. The one who prophesies is greater than the one who speaks in tongues, [b] unless someone interprets, so that the church may be edified.

Verse 18 I thank God that I speak in tongues more than all of you.

Romans 8:26 In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. ²⁷ And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God.

Speaking in tongues: Speaking in tongues appears as a succession of syllables, usually incomprehensible from a human point of view, that a person filled with the Holy Spirit speaks.

Speaking in tongues is biblical and has nothing to do with a human makeup that was born in certain churches.

It was the coming of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost, manifested by this speaking in tongues, which aroused the Church. We must understand that if speaking in tongues was not of certain importance, the Lord would not have allowed it to persist until our days given that speaking in tongues exposes itself to criticism. On the very day of Pentecost, this was already the case:

acts 2:13 Some, however, made fun of them and said, "They have had too much wine."

1 Corinthians 14: 23 So if the whole church comes together and everyone speaks in tongues, and inquirers or unbelievers come in, will they not say that you are out of your mind?

Speaking with tongues is a continual experience for the rest of one's life. It is very important as Paul says in the above verses.

To build oneself is to edify yourself, you build yourself spiritually, you build your "spiritual personality" you strengthen your spiritual life,

Let's be from the side of those who strive for it and not with those who criticize the gift of God. Let's honor its value because it's God's gift. Let's practice it and do not be discouraged by others.

Let us use and fully exploit this supernatural resource that God has given us His children.

Why should I pray and What should I pray for?

Let's open our Bible and consider some reasons. Though there are more verses than the ones below, let's read, discover, and fill in the blank spaces together.

-	For the physical provision (Matthe	w 6:11)
-	() (Luke	11:9-10)
-	() (Matth	new 18:19-20)
-	() (Psalm	31)
-	() (Psalm	91)
-	() (James	s 4: 8)
-	() (Hebre	ews 4:16)
-	() (Psalm	118)
-	() (Ephes	ians 1:15–22)
-	() (Roma	ns 15:13)
_	() (Ephes	ians 3:14–19)

-	for Fruitfulness and Good Work	ks (2 Thessalonians 3:1)
-	()	(Colossians 1:9–11)
-	()	(Philippians 1:9–11)
-	()	(Psalm 145:18)
-	()	(Psalm 116:12, 17)
-	()	(1 Thessalonians 5:23)
-	()	(Ephesians 5:19-20)
-	()	(1 Timothy 4:4-5)
-	()	(2 Thessalonians 2:16–17)
-	()	(Philippians 4:6)
-	Prayer for persevering in praye	er (Romans 12:12)
-	()	(Mark 8:6)
-	2 ()	(Romans 15:13).
-	()	(Colossians 1:10)
-	()	(Philippians 1:11)
-	()	(2 Thessalonians 2:17)
-	()	(Ephesians 2:10)
-	()	(Psalm 62:8)
-	()	(Colossians 4:2-3)
-	()	(1 John 5:14–15)

- () (Hebrew 4:16

➤ More advise about prayer

- Make sure that your heart is clean and forgive whoever you need to forgive

Mark 11:25 And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive them, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins."

Luke 17: 3 So watch yourselves. "If your brother or sister^[a] sins against you, rebuke them; and if they repent, forgive them. ⁴ Even if they sin against you seven times in a day and seven times come back to you saying 'I repent,' you must forgive them."

Mathew 18:21 Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?" Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times. [a]

John 20:23 If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.

Mathew 18 :23-35 (´
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- Fasting and prayer

Oh yes! There will come a time when you will have moments of personal fasting or group fasting with other believers and certainly you have already often heard these two concepts together, why then must we fast as children of God?

The Bible presents fasting as something good and profitable. The book of Acts tells how believers fasted **before making an important decision**.

Acts 13:2 While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." ³ So after they had fasted and prayed, they placed their hands on them and sent them off.

Acts 14:23 Paul and Barnabas appointed elders^[a] for them in each church and, with prayer and fasting, committed them to the Lord, in whom they had put their trust.

Fasting and prayer are often linked:

Luke 2:37 and then was a widow until she was eighty-four. [a] She never left the temple but worshiped night and day, fasting and praying.

Luke 5:33 They said to him, "John's disciples often fast and pray, and so do the disciples of the Pharisees, but yours go on eating and drinking.

Too often the emphasis is on abstaining from food, when the goal is to turn our attention away from the things of this world and focus on God. Fasting is a way to show God and ourselves that we take our relationship with Him seriously. It gives us a new perspective and allows us to depend more on God. We consecrate ourselves **and give attention to prayer and meditation on THE WORD OF GOD.**

Fasting is not forcing the hand of GOD, fasting does not give us the right to merit, because all merit goes to CHRIST, and even when we fast, it is always the grace of the Lord that manifests itself. This is why the desire to see CHRIST glorified in our lives and our assemblies must be the key to our motivation.

"FASTING IS AN ABOMINATION IF OUR LIFE IS NOT IN AGREEMENT WITH THE LORD, IT EVEN BECOMES AN OPEN DOOR TO DEMONS".

"If we live Isaiah 58, then our fast is acceptable to GOD."

- Biblical Cases of fasting
- 1. MOSES:

Exode 34:28 Moses was there with the LORD forty days and forty nights without eating bread or drinking water. And he wrote on the tablets the words of the covenant—the Ten Commandments

Deuteronomy 9:9 When I went up on the mountain to receive the tablets of stone, the tablets of the covenant that the LORD had made with you, I stayed on the mountain forty days and forty nights; I ate no bread and drank no water.

Read and find out who in these scriptures fasted and why did they fast?

2
2 Samuel 12:14-16:
3
Jonah 3:7-10:
4
Nehemiah 9:1: Confession and re-consecration
5
Esdras 8 :21-23:
6
Esther 4:16-17: Insurance in a project or action
7

Matthew 17:21:
8
Acts 13 :2-3:
9
2 Corinthians 11:27: In the life of Paul
10
Luko 2:26-27

Matthew 9:14 Then John's disciples came and asked him, "How is it that we and the Pharisees fast often, but your disciples do not fast?" Jesus answered, "How can the guests of the bridegroom mourn while he is with them? The time will come when the bridegroom will be taken from them; then they will fast.

JESUS said that when the bridegroom is taken away, they will fast. The Bridegroom has not yet returned, so let us fast, whenever we or the church have it to heart.

How long should you fast?

Moses, Elijah, and JESUS are the only ones to have gone the maximum of 40 days and 40 nights without eating according to the Bible. (Deuteronomy 9:9; 1 Kings 19:8; Luke 4:2) It was only possible through God's supernatural intervention.

We must be led by the Holy Spirit, and we have to practice. It is not good to do a long-term fast if you have not been trained to do it little by little.

LESSON 4 BE A WITNESS AND SERVE

▶ WHAT IS TO BE WITNESS?

"witness" is used to describe both a person and an action, someone who sees something and then talks about what they have seen.

- Before Jesus ascended to heaven, He told His disciples a lot of great things and recommendations that we will learn here.

Acts 1:8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." ⁹ After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight.

- Show us the missionary order received from CHRIST: Go and make disciples of all nations.

Matthew 28: 19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Additionally, the more we proclaim CHRIST and his blessings in our lives, the more salvation and blessings become ours. This is the principle that we can call: Appropriation by proclamation.

- Everyone has received something as a Christian, JESUS that saves and transforms lives.

John 4: 28 Then, leaving her water jar, the woman went back to the town and said to the people, ²⁹ "Come, see a man who told me everything I ever did. Could this be the Messiah?" ³⁰ They came out of the town and made their way toward him.

Because you are now His disciple, and you have His spirit dwelling in you, you will have to be a witness as well.

A disciple is the witness of his Master. We are imitators of Christ; we reflect the image of Christ.

▶ WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO SERVE?

Serving God means serving others as well

When we are available for the Lord, we are also available for others. Not only to serve them the benefits of the Gospel, but also to serve them concretely, in tasks that do not necessarily have a "spiritual" aspect, but which are no less part of the Christian life.

Our whole life is a testimony

When you received Jesus into your life, you received the Holy Spirit. Jesus is alive in you; He would like to be able to act freely through you. So let Him work in your daily situations, just as you would in church.

Jesus is present, but He gives you the freedom to choose the direction of your life. Don't wait for your arms to start moving on their own to clean the church - that will never happen! It's up to you to make the decision and take action.

In a human state of mind, it is difficult to put ourselves in the service of others, but God gives us the grace to be able to do so.

Philippians 2: 13 for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose.

Now that you're saved, don't keep this good news to yourself. Share it with others around you in your family, at your school, in your workplace, in short wherever you are, share the joy of the salvation that you have in Jesus Christ.

Mark 16:15 He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation. ¹⁶ Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned. ¹⁷ And these signs will accompany those who believe: In my name they will drive out demons; they will speak in new tongues; ¹⁸ they will pick up snakes with their hands; and when they drink deadly poison, it will not hurt them at all; they will place their hands on sick people, and they will get well.

Acts 4: 19 But Peter and John replied, "Which is right in God's eyes: to listen to you, or to him? You be the judges! ²⁰ As for us, we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard."

We have a message: "CHRIST is resurrected, and He still saves today"

In **Acts 17: 22** Paul then stood up in the meeting of the Areopagus and said: "People of Athens! I see that in every way you are very religious. ²³ For as I walked around and looked carefully at your objects of worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: TO AN UNKNOWN GOD. So you are ignorant of the very thing you worship—and this is what I am going to proclaim to you. ³² When they heard about the resurrection of the dead, some of them sneered, but others said, "We want to hear you again on this subject." ³³ At that, Paul left the Council. ³⁴ Some of the people became followers of Paul and believed. Among them was Dionysius, a member of the Areopagus, also a woman named Damaris, and a number of others.

Paul did not remain silent; he spoke to the Athenians, who were extremely religious but did not know the truth. He proclaimed the good news and announced Christ, and many people

came to Christ despite facing opposition from others. This serves as a great example of witnessing Christ's example.

Our life: a living testimony

A life transformed with little words is better than the grand speeches of a religious hypocrite.

- Your life is now the salt of the earth

Matthew 5:13 "You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot

Your life is now the Light of the world

Matthew. 5:14 "You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden

- A letter from Christ
- **2 Corinthians 3:3** You show that you are a letter from Christ, the result of our ministry, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts.

> TESTIMONY AND SERVICE FOR GOD ARE ALSO PRACTICAL THINGS IN THE CHURCH

Acts 6: 1 In those days when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenistic Jews^[a] among them complained against the Hebraic Jews because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food. ² So the Twelve gathered all the disciples together and said, "It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables. ³ Brothers and sisters, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them

We can see clearly that brothers and sisters can take care of other things in the community like cleaning, sweeping, arranging the chairs in the sanctuary; visiting the sick; visiting those who are going through hard times, to supporting those who are getting graduated and many other services in the church.

GOD REWARDS FAITHFUL SERVANTS

1 Corinthians 15: 58 Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.

Luke 19: 17 'Well done, my good servant!' his master replied. 'Because you have been trustworthy in a very small matter, take charge of ten cities.'

LESSON 5 OBEDIENCE

Luke 11:28 He replied, "Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and obey it.

I Samuel 15:22-23 "Does the LORD delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices as much as in obeying the LORD? To obey is better than sacrifice, and to heed is better than the fat of rams.²³ For rebellion is like the sin of divination, and arrogance like the evil of idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the LORD, he has rejected you as king."

➢ WHAT IS OBEDIENCE?

To obey is to submit to someone by conforming to everything they command or forbid. For us Christians, it is bowing under the authority of the one who is above every other name.

You can't say you're an obedient servant when you're doing the exact opposite of what God asks of you.

> BENEFITS OF OBEDIENCE

Open now your bible and let's discover together some of those benefits:

- Obedience gives your life in abundance (Isaiah 48:18)
- It makes you please God and allows you to benefit from his favor (1 John 3:22)
- Obedience produces blessing (Deuteronomy 28:3-14)
- Obedience protects you from sin and its destructive consequences (Romans 6:16)
- Thanks to it, you become more and more like Christ through the fruit of the Holy Spirit (John 15.2)
- Obedience elevates you (Matthew 5:19)
- It teaches you to serve others (Galatians 5.13)
- It allows you to enter your destiny and live what God has called you to do (Ephesians 2.10)
- Obedience is a true demonstration of faith
- It allows you to win victories over the enemy (James 4.7)
- Obedience makes you prosperous (Joshua 1:8)
- Obedience produces power (Acts 1:4, Acts 2:2)
- Obedience brings you closer to God and he reveals himself to you (John 14.21)
- Obedience to God proves our love for Him (1 John 5:2)
- Obedience produces growth and experience (1 Timothy 1)
- Obedience allows you to follow God's guidance (Exodus 24.12)
- Obedience opens the heavens for us (Deuteronomy 28:12)
- Obedience produces victory (Judge 6 and Judge 7)

- Obedience produces miracles (Acts 3)
- Obedience advances God's work (Acts 10, Acts 8, Acts 17)
- Obedience allows you to live out God's provision (Leviticus 26.3-4)

BEWARE OF SUBSTITUTES FOR OBEDIENCE

Prayers, fasts, vigils, tithes, testimonies, and various other sacrifices are of no use if one does not walk in obedience. Our faith and our conscience must not be soiled by disobedience.

- **1 Timothy 1: 18** Timothy, my son, I am giving you this command in keeping with the prophecies once made about you, so that by recalling them you may fight the battle well, ¹⁹ holding on to faith and a good conscience, which some have rejected and so have suffered shipwreck with regard to the faith.
 - You who fornicate
 - You who gossip
 - You who lie
 - You who live in cohabitation
 - You who are on drugs
 - You who steal
 - You whose fiance is a non-believer
 - You who live in adultery
 - You who are stubborn and proud in service or church

How do you want to be blessed if you don't want to apply the word of GOD in your daily life?

CONSEQUENCE OF DISOBEDIENCE

We will never cease reading again and again, enjoy your reading time, and let's go to these scriptures:

- Disaster Proclaimed (Jeremiah 11:11)
- Curses in the City and Field (Deuteronomy 28:16)
- Sudden Terror, Wasting Diseases (Leviticus 26:16)
- Curses on Offspring and Produce (Deuteronomy 28:18)
- Exile and Captivity (Deuteronomy 28:63)
- Defeat by Enemies (Deuteronomy 28:25)

- Sickness and Disease (Deuteronomy 28:21)
- Famine and Lack of Bread (Leviticus 26:19)
- Defeat by Enemies (Leviticus 26:17)
- Exile (Leviticus 26:33)
- Rejection of Kingship (1 Samuel 15:23)
- Willingness and Obedience (Isaiah 1:19)
- Just Retribution (Hebrews 2:2-3)
- Birth of Sin and Death (James 1:14-15)
- Wild Beasts (Leviticus 26:22)
- Desolation (Leviticus 26:31)
- Resistance and Rebellion (Isaiah 1:20)
- Curses on Daily Life (Deuteronomy 28:17)
- Wages of Sin (Romans 6:23)

Here in this scripture, you will know more, please take time and read: Deuteronomy 28 :15-68

LESSON 6 GOING TO CHURCH

THE WILL OF GOD IS TO SEE BELIEVERS ATTENDING CHURCH

Hebrews 10:25 not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

We can see a great example of devotion that should be followed in the Book of Acts with the early church:

Acts 2:42 They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

We need to attend church so we can worship God with other believers and be taught His Word for our spiritual growth.

In the same way, just as we have a biological family when we are born, when we are born again in Christ, we become part of a spiritual family where we will be nurtured and grow.

Also, a young plant that is transplanted at any time, even if it has water and sun, will never be able to strengthen its roots.

Let us be faithful in the assembly and the meetings of the church. Let the life of the church take priority over entertainment.

It will help us to grow and to be secure and be protected against false doctrines that are rising in this world day after day.

SOME EXAMPLES OF THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH IN THE BOOK OF ACTS

- THE CHURCH WAS DEVOTED TO THE APOSTLES 'S TEACHING (Acts 2:42)
- THE CHURCH WAS FILLED WITH AWE OF AT THE MANY WONDERS AND SIGNS PERFORMED BY THE APOSTLES (ACTS 2:43)
- THE CHURCH WAS DEVOTED TO FELLOWSHIP (Acts 2:42)
- THE CHURCH WAS DEVOTED TO PRAYER (Acts 2:42)
- THE CHURCH WAS DEVOTED TO BREAKING OF BREAD (Acts 2:42)
- THE CHURCH WAS UNITED (Acts 2:44)
- THE CHURCH WAS GENEROUS (Acts 2:45)
- THEY SPEND TIME IN PRAISE AND WORSHIP (Acts 2:47)
- THE CHURCH WAS EVANGELISTIC AND GROWING (Acts 2:47)
- THE CHURCH WAS JOYOUS AND THEY HAD A SINCERE HEART (Acts 2:47)

> SOME QUALITIES OF THE MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH OF THESSALONICA

Let's open our bible and read those qualities:

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10:

- The work produced by faith,
- Their labor prompted by love,
- Their endurance is inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.
- They welcomed the message amid severe suffering with the joy given by the Holy Spirit.
- They became a model to all the believers in Macedonia and Achaia.
- Their faith in God has become known everywhere.
- They had a great hospitality heart
- They turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God,
- They were in expectation and waited for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.

BAPTISM IN THE CHURCH

Through baptism, we are buried with CHRIST and we are resurrected with HIM, the symbol of a walk in the newness of life.

Romans 6:4 We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.

Acts 10:47 "Surely no one can stand in the way of their being baptized with water. They have received the Holy Spirit just as we have."

Acts 8:38 And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him.

- Baptism takes place in a place where there is plenty of water

Jean 3:23 Now John also was baptizing at Aenon near Salim, because there was plenty of water, and people were coming and being baptized.

- Jesus Himself set an example He asked for baptism and was baptized

Marc 1:9 At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan.

- The church baptizes committed disciples

Matthew 28:19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

THE HOLY SUPPER IN THE CHURCH

- It is for the disciples, those who are born again

Acts 2:42 They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

Acts 2:46 Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

- Commemoration of the death of the Lord (1 Cor 11:23-34)
- Last meal with the Lord until his return (Matthew 26-20-29)
- We discern the body and blood of CHRIST
- Examine ourselves before taking the Holy Communion.

> THE 5 MAIN MINISTRIES THAT CHRIST GAVE TO THE CHURCH FOR HER EDIFICATION

Ephesians 4:11 So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, ¹² to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up ¹³ until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

- Apostles: Pioneers who founded churches
- Prophets: Build the church through prophecies
- Evangelists: Bring souls to CHRIST

- Pastor: He is the shepherd of the assembly
- Teachers: Have the gift of dissecting the Word and giving very profound teachings.

> THE MAIN MESSAGES OF THE CHURCH ABOUT JESUS

- His virgin birth (Matthew 1:23)
- His atoning death (1 Peter 2:24)
- His victorious resurrection (1 Corinthians 15:4)
- His near coming to take us away (Revelation 22:12)

> UNSHAKEABLE INSURANCE

Matth 16:18 And I tell you that you are Peter, [a] and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades [b] will not overcome it.

LESSON 7 THE HOLY SPIRIT

THE PERSON OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Before returning to heaven, the Lord Jesus Christ promised his disciples that He would send them a comforter, the Holy Spirit.

What is He named in the Bible

Acts 5:3-4: Then Peter said, "Ananias, how is it that Satan has so filled your heart that you have lied to the Holy Spirit and have kept for yourself some of the money you received for the land? ⁴ Didn't it belong to you before it was sold? And after it was sold, wasn't the money at your disposal? What made you think of doing such a thing? You have not lied just to human beings but to God."

The HOLY SPIRIT OF GOD: is God in action on earth.

Like the Father and the Son, the Holy Spirit is God. In the Old Testament, the Holy Spirit is often described as: "the Spirit." In the New Testament, it is described: as "The Holy Spirit". In the church, the Holy Spirit is described as the third person of the trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

The Bible teaches that there is only One True God. But the Bible teaches that the Father is God, the Son is God, and the Holy Spirit is God. Certainly, the reality of the oneness of God in his Trinity is beyond our human intelligence. But as the Bible teaches us, we accept it by faith. We therefore worship the One God, but who manifests himself in us in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

- What is His role

HE HELPS US TO MAKE CHOICES

Acts 13:2 While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, **the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me** Bar2nabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them."

• THE HOLY SPIRIT SUPPORTS AND STRENGTHENS THE CHRISTIAN IN TIMES OF TRIAL

Ephesians 3:16 I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being,

HE ADVISES US

Acts 15:28 It seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us not to burden you with anything beyond the following requirements: ²⁹ You are to abstain from food sacrificed to idols, from

blood, from the meat of strangled animals and from sexual immorality. You will do well to avoid these things.

• THE HOLY SPIRIT IS THE CHRISTIAN'S HELPER AND TEACHER

John 14:26 But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.

John 16:13 But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come.

• HE GLORIFIES JESUS CHRIST

John 16:14 He will glorify me because it is from me that he will receive what he will make known to you.

• THE HOLY SPIRIT HELPS THE CHRISTIAN TO PRAY

Romans 8:26 In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans.

• HE LEADS US INTO ALL TRUTH

John 16:13 But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come.

• THE HOLY SPIRIT HELPS AND EMPOWERS US IN OUR STRUGGLE AGAINST SIN

Acts 1:5 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.

Ephesians 4:30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption

THE HOLY SPIRIT BEARS WITNESS TO THE SPIRIT OF THE CHRISTIAN

Romans 8:16 The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children.

Ephesians 1:13 And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit,

HE HELPS US TO PREACH THE WORD OF GOD WITH BOLDNESS

Acts 4:31 After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly

THE HOLY SPIRIT EQUIPS THE CHRISTIAN TO PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL

ACTS 1:8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

HE INTERCEDES FOR US

Romans 8:26 In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. ²⁷ And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God

THE HOLY SPIRIT GRANTS SUPERNATURAL GIFTS TO THE CHRISTIAN

1 Corinthians 12:8-11 To one there is given through the Spirit a message of wisdom, to another a message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, ⁹ to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, ¹⁰ to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹ All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he distributes them to each one, just as he determines.

HE MAKES DECISIONS ACCORDING TO HIS WILL

1 Corinthians 12:11 all these are the work of one and the same spirit, and he distributes them to each one, just as he determines.

• THE HOLY SPIRIT HELPS THE CHRISTIAN TO BE BORN AGAIN

John 3:5 Jesus answered, "Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. ⁶ Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit^w gives birth to spirit.

> THE FRUIT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Through the presence of the Holy Spirit in your life, as a disciple, you would be able to produce spiritual fruit that would glorify God. The Holy Spirit would purify the lives of the disciples, and help them live in the love, joy, and peace of God. But more than that, the Holy Spirit would enable the disciples to be witnesses to their faith with power and effectiveness to bring unbelievers to faith in Christ.

The Holy Spirit is truly a divine person like the Father and the Son. He thinks, feels, purifies us, He hears our prayers, He dwells in us, He guides us, He loves, and He acts. He comforts us, He prays for us, He teaches us.

We recognize a tree by its fruits, likewise, we recognize a disciple of CHRIST by the fruit of the HOLY SPIRIT in him.

Galatians 5:¹⁹ The acts of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; ²⁰ idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions ²¹ and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God. ²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

- The fruit of the Spirit is a work of sanctification
- Without holiness, no one will see GOD

Hebrew 12:14 Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord:

You will be holy because I am HOLY.

Leviticus 11:44 I am the LORD your God; consecrate yourselves and be holy, because I am holy. Do not make yourselves unclean by any creature that moves along the ground.

- let the holy person continue to be holy

Revelation 22:10 Then he told me, "Do not seal up the words of the prophecy of this scroll, because the time is near. "Let the one who does wrong continue to do wrong; let the vile person continue to be vile; let the one who does right continue to do right; and let the holy person continue to be holy."

2 Cor 5:17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: [a] The old has gone, the new is here!

BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT

Acts 1:8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.

- main purpose

From Acts 1:8 we can see that the main purpose is to be: witnesses, being powerful witnesses, dynamic in our immediate surroundings and far away

> THE NECESSITY OF THE BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT

Acts 19:2-6 shows that the Christians are filled

Acts 8:14-17 The disciples of Samaria were also filled

IS THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT FOR ALL THE CHRISTIANS?

Acts 2:17 In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams.

▶ IS THIS VALID TODAY?

Acts 2:39 The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call." The promise is for you, your children. For all who are far off, as many as the Lord calls.

➢ HOW TO RECEIVE BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT?

- Repent and convert. (Acts 2:38)
- Being thirsty. (John 7:37-39)
- Ask for it (Luke 11:9-13)
- Have the faith and confidence that he gives (Hebrew 11:6; 1 John 5:14-15)

➤ WHAT ARE THE SIGNS OF HOLY SPIRIT BAPTISM?

- speaking in tongues (Acts 2:4)
- Prophecies, visions and dreams (Acts 2:17)
- speaking in tongues, praising God, magnifying God, prophecies (Acts 10:46: acts 19:6)

> SOME FEW THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT SPEAKING IN TONGUES

- There are mysteries to human understanding

1 Corinthians 14: 2 For anyone who speaks in a tongue^[a] does not speak to people but to God. Indeed, no one understands them; they utter mysteries by the Spirit.

The one speaking in tongues edifies himself

1 Corinthians 14:4 Anyone who speaks in a tongue edifies themselves, but the one who prophesies edifies the church.

Paul would like everyone to speak in tongues.

1 Corinthians 14:5 I would like every one of you to speak in tongues, [a] but I would rather have you prophesy. The one who prophesies is greater than the one who speaks in tongues, [b] unless someone interprets, so that the church may be edified.

➤ HOW TO REMAIN FILLED?

- Walking in the Spirit (Galatians 5:16-17)
- Do not grieve the Spirit with sin (Ephesians 4:30)
- Speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit (Ephesians 5:19-20)
- Do not quench the Spirit and Do not treat prophecies with contempt (1 Thessalonians 5:19-20)

> THE GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Spiritual gifts or charismata: That means the gifts of grace.

- My people perish for lack of knowledge

Hosea 4:6 my people are destroyed from lack of knowledge. "Because you have rejected knowledge, I also reject you as my priests; because you have ignored the law of your God, I also will ignore your children.

1 Corinthians 12:1 Now about the gifts of the Spirit, brothers, and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed.

(Ignorance kills)

More reading: Number 9; 1 Corinthians 12:8-12

- 1. Vocal gifts: Prophecy, tongues, interpretation of tongues
- 2. Gifts of revelation: Wisdom, Knowledge, Discernmening of spirits.
- 3. Gifts of Power: Faith, Healing and Miracles.

Who distributes them?

- The Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 12:11)

- > To whom?
 - To everyone (1 Corinthians 12:11)
- For whose benefit?
 - For the common good (1 Corinthians 12:7)
 - The building up of the church (1 Corinthians 14:12)
- > Can we desire it?
 - Yes, and even the greater gifts (1 Corinthians 12:31)
- How to exercise gifts?
 - In a fitting and orderly way. (1 Corinthians 14:40)
- What is the gift to which we must especially aspire (1 Corinthians 14:40) (without forgetting love)? 1 Corinthians (to meditate on).

LESSON 8 THE DEAD IN CHRIST

Believers Who Have Died

Here below are some scriptures showing the great place in Jesus's presence waiting for us.

1 Thessalonians 4:13 Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be uninformed about those who sleep in death, so that you do not grieve like the rest of mankind, who have no hope. ¹⁴ For we believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him. ¹⁵ According to the Lord's word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep. ¹⁶ For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷ After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. ¹⁸ Therefore encourage one another with these words.

You are surely concerned about what would happen when a believer dies or even to those who have died before the return of Jesus Christ.

The primary purpose of this passage is to comfort those believers who have lost believing loved ones.

The message of this passage is a message of hope. Christians have hope that unbelievers do not have when they lose loved ones.

There is hope beyond the grave for Christians, and part of that hope is that, at the return of Christ, those who have already died "will rise first." After that, Christians who are still alive will be transformed. Both groups will be "caught up" and will meet the Lord in the air.

Stephen

Acts 7:54⁻⁶⁰ When the members of the Sanhedrin heard this, they were furious and gnashed their teeth at him. ⁵⁵ But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶ "Look," he said, "I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God." ⁵⁷ At this they covered their ears and, yelling at the top of their voices, they all rushed at him, ⁵⁸ dragged him out of the city and began to stone him. Meanwhile, the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹ While they were stoning him, Stephen prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." ⁶⁰ Then he fell on his knees and cried out, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he fell asleep.

Lazarus

Luke 16:19-31 (To be read fully)

Some other Hope scriptures

2Corinthians 5:1 For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. ² For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed upon with our house which is from heaven:

Ecclesiastes 12: ⁷ Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it.

Philippians 1:23 For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ; which is far better:

LESSON 9 SOME PRACTICAL ADVICE

Matthew 28: ¹⁹ Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

It's our responsibility to teach others as Jesus commanded us, people need someone to talk to and it's also our role to disciple people that we won to Jesus.

As counsellors, we must:

- Be sure, convinced of one's salvation
- Love our task of exhorting others
- Be victorious in your battles
- Read the Bible a lot
- Spend more time in the presence of the Lord
- Enrich yourself by reading Christian books and taking notes
- Be regular at church meetings.
- Hospitable to those who need counselling and we advise:
- Brother towards brother,
- Sister to sister,
- Young to young,
- older to Older
 - Be polite, respectful, dressed properly
 - Take time and show an interest in the person to create trust.

Example: Ask for name, address, and impressions of the meeting then pray to begin.

- Hear, but above all listen carefully to the person. Many burdened people feel partly relieved if they see that counsellors are listening attentively
- Sometimes, stop the person wisely and lovingly and ask them to get to the point, to the real problem
- Learn to refer to the person concerned. The advice must be consistent with the Word of GOD
- Explain the passage and some keywords if necessary

Example:

Sin: Rebellion against GOD, transgression, disobedience.

Grace: That which is free, undeserved.

- One or two personal testimonies can be of great help.
- Do not show shocking reactions during a confession, but rather compassionate reactions.
- If the person does not know CHRIST, present him with the cross as condemnation, but also the cross as forgiveness and reconciliation with CHRIST.
- Never be a "know-it-all" but recognize your limits.

example: How old is humanity?

Answer: without panic say: "I don't know". This is better than giving an answer that would cause you to be ridiculed.

- By saying, "I don't know," you gain the trust of the person.
- By giving a false answer, you lose trust.
- We can also answer like this: I do not know how old humanity is, but I know that GOD is the Creator.
- Deuteronomy 29:29 may be helpful to you at times, but let's not use it to escape.
- Sometimes you can say, "I may not be able to provide a definite answer at the moment. However, I can recommend that you seek assistance from Brother X or Sister Y, who may be able to help you better."
- Avoid slipping into off-topic things:

example: Diverting into the millennium when we are talking about a problem of child rebelliousness.

- Always end with Prayer. If this requires follow-up, take the address and arrange to meet at the church or home.
- Always mention the name in the agenda or a personal follow-up notebook to pray for this case for a time according to the conviction of the Spirit.

JESUS IS COMING BACK SOON -

GOD BLESS YOU

ABOUT GLORIA HOUSE AND ITS FOUNDER



AYEMBE MBIOLA gave his life to Christ at the age of seven. At the age of twelve, he became involved in serving the Lord by joining the Sunday School theater troupe of his church, La Borne UPN in Kinshasa.

Later, he joined the worship team as a pianist and devoted his time to teaching children, adolescents, and other young people in the church about God's ways.

In addition to being an entrepreneur, teacher, pianist, and trainer, he is the founder of Gloria House(URL: www.gloriahouse.org), a platform that he established. Among other things, its mission is to provide education and training for the renewal of the mind, as outlined in Romans 12:2.

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