

The Christian Life

An overview

By

Neville Salvetti

Preface

The Christian life becomes the expression of the individual, intimate relationships you have with The Father and The Lord Jesus, guided by The Holy Spirit so that all you do is done out of love for them and their purposes.

Because it is an act of love you do are not concerned about the cost to you, your health, finances, position - anything you have, as they no longer become important compared to the loving service you are doing for The Father and Jesus, your most intimate family members, so that you never complain about doing things for them as your love for them removes the need to complain.

True love is not concerned about the cost of the love it shows but seeks only to meet the needs the other does because they are so important to you, because of your love for them.

So, develop these relationships and the love you have for Jesus and The Father if you wish to grow in your Christian life and prepare yourself to have these relationships in heaven with them.

As you develop the loving relationships with them on earth, you prepare yourself to be with them forever in heaven where loving service is the basis of all activity.

This book aims to show this to you as well as how to maintain and develop these relationships as well as the attitudes needed to do these.

The Christian life has to begin somewhere and the following shows how God started it, helps us continue in it and what He is directing it all towards in the end.

Why did God Make you

This chapter discusses a very important topic. It explains the reason and purpose God had in making you.

Knowing this will influence everything you do: objectives, purposes, obedience to His Laws, Stewardship and everything else in your life!

Why were You Created

Why did God make you?

God is complete in Himself and does not need you or anything He has created!

You cannot really add anything to God or take anything away from Him.

In a sense we are completely redundant where God is concerned.

The Background

Before the beginning of everything there was only God – who always existed and has no beginning or end.

There was nothing but God!

No vacuum of Space

No Physical Matter

No such things as light or darkness

No such thing as time

No such thing as eternity

God decided to make a beginning and spoke.

Everything in the universe is a result of God speaking.

He spoke and the energy of His words resonated through whatever was there and energy came into existence as waves.

Everything is a form of energy/vibration, including what we perceive as matter and light which is a result of the wave vibration started by God when He spoke.

Physical matter, in any form” Liquid, solid, gas, plasma, is just an aggregation of these wave energies expressed as atoms. They appear to form something solid when in reality everything is really space with wave energy in it in some form.

He then made angels to serve Him.

Some Jews believe He looked at the angels and said that He had servants but no friends.

Why mankind was created?

God created mankind to relate to Him as a friend on an intimate, personal basis and to show His Love for them as their spiritual Father and Creator.

Like any good parent He did what was best for mankind and placed them in a perfect Garden that had met all their needs and He would walk in the afternoon and fellowship with them (Adam and Eve) and develop the face-to-face friendship He had with them (which will be restored fully in heaven).

Mankind was supposed to live forever with God in this perfect environment but did not do what God said so got evicted them and from His Kingdom into a world they would now die in.

They suffered the punishment of all who rebel against a King.

They were removed from The Kingdom and would die

They died spiritually as they were separated from God for eternity

They died Physically because the body they had would age and die

The Fall

Satan, whom God originally considered a servant, saw Adam and Eve were treated differently to Him. There is a difference between the way you treat a servant and a friend. So, Satan conspired to have them doubt God's Love and Authority.

He made them doubt God's Authority so they did what he wanted them to do and not what God had commanded them to do.

They doubted God's Love stopping them eating what must have appeared a beautiful fruit to eat and so their lust was aroused over the fruit and they ate it.

There always four elements in a sin and cause incorrect stewardship of a person or thing so that these are deliberately things done when you sin by rejecting God's Authority in a matter:

Idolatry: by making yourself a God by ignoring His requirement of you

Doubting His Love and calling Him a liar by implying His Love is not perfect towards you

Incorrect stewardship of something He has asked you to look after for Him.

Not expressing God's Love

They sinned.

If Adam and Eve had not sinned, they would be married for eternity.

The Purpose of The Bible

The Bible begins and ends with man in this perfect environment. The Bible is designed to help you know about God and how to restore your relationship with God as well as how to keep it so that you can be in this face-to-face fellowship relationship with Him again.

It tells us:

Who God is

What He has done for us

What He is doing for us

What He is going to do for us and

What He requires of us

It all is designed so we will know Him better and also His Love for us as well as how to develop the personal relationship with Him so that we will go to be with Him when we die.

The Purpose of Redemption

The purpose of redemption was to remove all that stopped us personally relating to God so that we could be His friend again as well as a spiritual child of The Father through His adopting us, Jesus becoming our spiritual step-brother because we are in the same family as Him so that we could be in a salvation relationship with them and have eternal life so that we

would forever be with them in this relationship of a close, personal, intimate friend.

Salvation is a relationship

Salvation is a relationship with The Father and Jesus guided by The Holy Spirit (Jn 17:3)

The Father has sent The Holy Spirit whose purpose is to help us understand God's Love for us and to guide us to live as we should so that we end up in heaven once again in an intimate, personal relationship with God.

This is why Christian fellowship correctly done is so important as it reflects the relationship we personally have with each member of The Trinity.

This is why Jesus said that salvation is personal, intimate relationship with The Father and Jesus (Jn 17:3) guided by The Holy Spirit (Jn 16:13).

The Father is the ruler of heaven and Jesus is the ruler of all creation so you need to be in a personal relationship with them both to enter heaven.

A lie of Satan is that you invite Jesus into your heart to become a Christian then continue basically to live as you did before, believing you will go to heaven when you are not working at holiness, obedience (Lordship) and the intimate relationship God desires you to have with Him.

It is a relationship with The Father as His adopted spiritual child which means Jesus is your spiritual step brother because of your adoption into His family by The Father.

Jesus is also Lord of all so we have the relationship with The Father as His spiritual Child and with Jesus as our Lord as well as with both of them as a citizen of their Kingdoms.

We do not serve Jesus out of fear but out of love for our step brother and our desire to help Him in His work on earth which primarily is rescuing people from the kingdom of the enemy and restoring them to a personal relationship with Jesus and The father.

The Christian life really is a reflection of our degree of intimate, personal relationship with God.

It is a relationship with The Father as His adopted spiritual child which means Jesus is our spiritual step brother because of our adoption into His family by The Father.

The Basics of The Christian Life

Faith is the foundation

Faith helps us to realise who God is and our relationship with Him.

We realise He is Lord of all so we practice Lordship.

To stay in this attitude, we practice Holiness and as a result are a good steward of all He gives to do or look after for Him.

We do this all in God's Quality of Love and Character which we need to develop in preparation for life in heaven

The practice of Lordship and Holiness as well as our knowledge of The Bible is the best defence we have against Satan as he cannot take our focus off Jesus onto what he desires us to do or think and knowledge of the truths of God and His Bible allows us to fight Satan's lies and half-truths (Jn 8:32) that he uses to try and cause us to sin.

We study God's requirements, found in His Bible, to learn about Him and His character so we can express it to those around us and be like Him (This approach is commended by God in Acts 17:11).

We study also to see what work He has asked us to do for Him as well as how and when we are to do it. It is carried out in an attitude of Love for our spiritual step brother, out of a desire to help Him do His work.

Jesus is also Lord of all so we have the relationship with The Father as His spiritual Child and as a citizen of The Kingdom of God with Jesus as our Lord.

We do not serve Jesus out of fear but out of love for our step brother and our desire to help Him in His work on earth.

The Christian life really is a reflection of our degree of the intimate, personal relationship we have with God.

We relate to Jesus two ways:

As our Lord

As our spiritual step brother

So, we obey Jesus as our Lord but we also walk and talk with Him as our friend and not as our Ruler with power of life and death over us.

After Death

Where you end up after death will be determined by your desire to Know God and relate to Him as well as to know how He is revealed in The Bible so that you alone will be responsible for your fate after death.

The king you are serving when you die is the one whose kingdom you go to after death which is why it is always a good practice to be always right with God no matter what the cost.

You can serve Satan by just being purposely being indifferent to what Jesus requires you to do which is a form of rebellion (Deliberate disobedience).

The Father is waiting to receive you in heaven and Jesus is on earth helping to protect you and limit what Satan can do to you so you can do all The Father requires of you so that you can be with them in heaven

So, remember, God made you so He could show His Love toward you and for no other reason except He wanted to be friends with you in an intimate, personal, relationship. This realization should Affect how we approach God and everything He asks us to do for Him!!

What you need to do to maintain the relationship

You need to pursue:

Holiness

Lordship

Be a good steward of all God gives you to look after and do for Him

Develop the personal relationship you have with God

Seek to develop His Character in you

Learn to be able to hear The Holy Spirit clearly so He can guide and teach you how to live the Christian life

Study The Bible to know its truths and learn how to apply it. Meditating on the Bible will help you in this.

Perform the work of The Kingdom and show that Jesus and The Kingdom of The Father are real.

If you desire to maintain the personal relationship you have with Jesus and The Father

Your relationship to Jesus

All who believe and obey Jesus as their Lord are part of God's spiritual family

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

Jesus said we are no longer servants but His friends if we do what He commands us! This is because we are in the intimate, love relationship God created for us to be in.

Joh 15:14 Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you.

Joh 15:15 Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you.

He also said we were His Family

Luk_8:21 And he answered and said unto them, My mother and my brethren are these which hear the word of God, and do it.

Rom_8:15 For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.

Gal_4:6 And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father

Learn to develop the relationship you have with The Father and Jesus guided by The Holy Spirit and always have one ear open to them and always remember they are there to talk too

and help you.

How do you develop the relationship with them?

The same way you develop an earthly relationship

Remember they Love you deeply and will only ever do what is best for you.

In the Old Testament we have this:

Micah 6:8 (Brenton) Has it not been told thee, O man, what is good? or what does the Lord require of thee, but to do justice, and love mercy, and be ready to walk with the Lord thy God?

Note: 'walk with' as if they are a friend and 'not walk' behind which a servant does.

A Clear and Simple Gospel Illustrating God's Love for you

GOD'S PURPOSE FOR YOU

God loves you and desires to have an intimate personal relationship with you and has done all He can to make it happen.

JESUS CAME TO HELP US ENTER INTO THEN DEVELOP THIS RELATIONSHIP

This is why God sent Jesus to teach us what He requires us to do to enter this relationship and maintain it and then have Jesus die on Calvary to remove everything which stops you entering fully into this relationship.

GOD IS KING OF ALL

God created everything and is King of all. When you do not do what ruler wants it is called rebellion and is punishable by death or being exiled from the king's kingdom.

REBELLION LEADS TO DEATH AND IMPRISONMENT

So, when you die, you are sent to the prison of his enemy called hell because you die a spiritual death as well as a physical one to get you there.

GOD LOOKS AT ATTITUDES

God does not look at your results but at our attitudes in how you do things.

WHOLEHEARTED IN ALL YOU DO

If you wholeheartedly try to do things and fail God is satisfied because your attitude towards him in the doing of it is correct. Even if you do fail all he requires is for you to continue wholeheartedly trying to obey him.

IN THE BIBLE IS ALL WE NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THIS RELATIONSHIP

You need to study the Bible and find out what God requires of you and what He is like and what He has done for you so you can develop greater love for him and get closer to him and more intimate in the relationship with him.

SALVATION IS A RELATIONSHIP WITH THE FATHER AND JESUS

Salvation is a relationship with The Father and Jesus guided by the Holy Spirit and the sole purpose of life is to develop this relationship in preparation to be with them after you die so you need to learn how to do this.

JESUS NEEDS TO BE YOUR KING

To enter into this relationship, you need to make Jesus your King so that you belong to His Kingdom so can have salvation and the relationship He offers you.

FAITH IN WHO JESUS IS AND WHAT HE HAS DONE

You do not need to do anything except to believe in who He is and accept what He has done for you and obey His requirements and Will for you.

Your Relationship with God

The Father, Jesus and The Holy Spirit are persons. They created you to be their friend and so naturally they want to interact with you. This is why salvation is a relationship with them (Jn 17:3) guided by The Holy Spirit (Jn 16:13, Rom 8:14). This is also why you need to be able to clearly hear The Holy Spirit clearly so you can hear Jesus and The Father talk to you.

When you become a Christian:

The Father adopts you as His spiritual child

The Lord Jesus becomes your Lord and spiritual step brother and protector

The Holy Spirit becomes a mentor to you like a wise uncle.

Every other Christian becomes your spiritual step brother or step sister.

So, you must learn how to interact correctly with each relationship above on a personal basis.

The Father is the father of all comfort so must be able to comfort us which means He must be able to communicate with us in some way. He also was the one Jesus said to pray to so He hears what we say to Him

Jesus has communicated with many people in dreams and visions so He can talk to us and hear us.

The Holy spirit is given to personally guide us into all the truth we need to know which means He must be able to communicate with us to do this. His presence is in our spirit so that there is no excuse for not being able to hear Him or talk to Him.

So, we know The Father, Jesus and The Holy Spirit can hear us and can communicate with us which is what you do with your close friends whom you are intimate with which is the type of relationship we have with each member of The Trinity.

So how does this relationship affect us

When we evangelise, we are talking about someone we love.

You should love to talk about Jesus and what He has done for you and you can do for Him. If you do not, do you really love Jesus or have a salvation relationship with

Him and do not have His Love for others who need Him.

When we conduct spiritual warfare, we are defending someone we love or something of theirs, which, because it is theirs, is also precious to us.

How do you value what Jesus has given you? As something precious? Or just as something normal?

When we study The Bible, you are learning about someone you Love. If you love someone you will want to learn all you can about them.

How much do you want to learn about Jesus, The Father and The Holy Spirit?

When we pray, we are having a conversation with someone we love with the expectation He will hear us. When you pray how much faith do you have God hears you and will answer prayer in the way that is best for you or the person you are praying for and not as you desire it answered?

Prayer is only a part of the conversations we can have with God where you share your heart with Him and show your love for Him by what you say.

So how should this affect our attitude as we do these things?

We should be in awe that the God of this universe desires us to relate to Him in an intimate, personal, way

It should foster love in us toward Him

As we do these things, we need to remember that we should be expressing His Quality of Love to Him

As we converse with Him, Love should be raised in our hearts that He humbles Himself to talk to us when He does not have too. When we are in their presence, we should have a sense of holiness but there should also be love in our hearts as we relate to them. After all, they call us their friend and desire to relate to us personally and provide all we need like any Loving father does for His children.

It is because of this relationship that in all things we should be thankful because the Love of our Spiritual Father is behind it.

As we go through life, do we have one ear open to The Holy Spirit to hear God's Will for us? Or do we decide what to do and do not listen to God to hear what He desires us to do.

Remember, to be a child of God you need to be guided in all you do by The Holy Spirit so you hear what you need to do to stay on the path God has prepared for you which will prepare you to be for eternity in heaven with Him.

Salvation is a relationship

How do you develop a relationship?

You spend time together

You do things together

You share your feelings and emotions

The talk to each other and listen to the other person

You joyfully serve and help each other

Nothing is too hard to do for them

You are interested in them, their problems and joys

They are like a family member whom you share your life with

According to the degree of intimacy will be the depth of a relationship

This is how Jesus desires to relate to you as does the Father and the Holy Spirit

Remember that God created you to have an intimate relationship with Him and all Satan does is designed to destroy this relationship.

Remember you are developing the relationship now that you will continue with in heaven

According to the depth of a relationship you have with God now will be determined your salvation and whether it will continue in heaven with us

The Father and Jesus loves you and desire a personal, intimate relationship with you with you

Jesus often spoke about the relationships we had with Him and The Father. The following section is designed to help you develop these attitudes as well as have attitudes necessary to maintain these intimate and personal relationships.

Faith and Lordship is required to do them and holiness is necessary to maintain them.

If you do them properly you will also be a good steward of all Jesus gives you to look after for Him of which the mind and its attitudes are one of the most important things He has given you to care for Him.

As you do these out of love for Jesus and The Father you will grow closer to them in your relationship with them and satisfy more and more their requirements of you so that your Christian life will develop and be closer to what you need to have when you go to heaven.

-Attitudes

We are responsible for the attitudes we have and the modifying of them in us to be what God desires them to be and will have to explain to God why we did what we did with the attitudes we had and why, if any we knew were not Godly, they were not corrected by us.

We must be a good steward of them and develop them so they become more and more Godlike.

The attitudes we have determine what we do and say because that is the way we think about things. Psalm 37:31 says

(ISV) The instruction of his God is in his heart; his steps will not slip.

Prov 23:7 says:

(MKJV) for as he thinks in his heart, so is he; Eat and drink, he says to you, but his heart is not with you.

The Bible says:

as a man 'thinketh in his heart so he is',

and warns us to control what we put into our heart because that will determine how we approach the Christian life. This is why the most important thing to put in our heart is to love as God Loves and to know His guidelines for us as that will determine the attitudes we need to have. If we do this, we will have a correct attitude in all we do

One of the factors that will determine our attitudes is to remember we are in a relationship with God and need to keep that relationship correct or we may end up in hell.

The way we have prepared our heart controls how we understand what we say as well as how we express our Christian life, which is why we are to control and monitor every input we have according to the principles of God.

The Bible says in 2 Corinthians 10:5;

(Syriac Peshitta) And we pull down reasonings and every high thing that is exalted against the knowledge of God, and we take all minds prisoner to the obedience of The Messiah.

(MKJV) pulling down imaginations and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought into the obedience of Christ;

And also, in 2 Cor 5:17;

(LITV) So that if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new!

(ISV) Therefore, if anyone is in the Messiah, he is a new creation. Old things have disappeared, and—look! —all things have become new!

Our approach should be to build correct attitudes towards things so that we have a mindset guided by The Holy Spirit that is controlled by the principles of God. In a sense, it is a stronghold in us.

Satan can build strongholds in our mind so can God. Whom we decide to follow builds the mindset in our minds and heart.

We have a responsibility as Christians to transform our mind from that which Satan has trained to that which God desires in us. In other words, all the inputs of Satan are to be negated, and be replaced by the inputs of God.

Satan tries to place in us, attitudes, so that we will think the way he desires us to think. This is why holiness is so important because it rejects Satan's inputs that try to control us and make

us have the thoughts, he desires us to have and stops the attitudes and thoughts of God in us being modified by these.

Remember! When you face God, you will have no one to blame for any wrong attitudes you did not change that may have caused you to lose your salvation.

We are responsible for the attitudes we have and for the modifying of them in us to be what God desires them to be and will have to explain to God why we did what we did with the attitudes we had and why, if any we knew were not Godly, were not corrected by us.

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The Bible says, as a man ‘thinketh in his heart so he is’, and warns us to control what we put into our heart because that will determine how we approach the Christian life. This is why the most important thing to put in our heart is to love everyone in the way God Loves them and to know His guidelines because that will determine the attitudes we have. If we do this, we will have a correct attitude in all we do,

One of the factors that will determine our attitudes is to remember we are in a relationship with God and need to keep that relationship correct or we may go to hell.

The way we have prepared our heart controls how we understand what we say and how we express our Christian life, which is why we are to control and monitor every input we have according to the principles of God.

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All of these attitudes need to be in place to live a Christian life in the way you need to live it. Underlying these is faith without which none of the four main attitudes will be done by you.

Faith

Foundational attitude

Without faith none of the other attitudes will occur

Must be a complete trust in God

Must trust completely in The Bible about who God is, who He says He is, what He has done and what He says He is going to do (Rom 10:17)

Lordship of your life. If this is in place the other three attitudes will be in place and you will maintain the salvation relationship you have with Jesus and The Father.

You make Him Lord because of who He is and what He has done for you

Your focus is on Him and His things so they will not be on Satan and his things

He is Lord so all He says to do must be done or you have become your own God which is the basis of idolatry

Obedience is out of Love for what He has done for you and not legalistic fear of punishment

Holiness: This attitude rejects everything Satan tries to have you do because your focus is solely on the requirements of Jesus for you.

Holiness is an attitude that rejects all Satan throws at or suggests to a person

The person's focus is solely on Jesus and His Will for them

Holiness results from complete obedience to God's Will for you

It is an expression of trust in all that God asks you to do

Stewardship: This is correct use of what God gives you to be steward of for Him. God owns everything and lets us have what we need to have so that we need to look after it for Him.

If stewardship is in place, you will correctly use what The Father has given you for the purpose of His Kingdom and Satan will not be able to steal it from you to use for his purposes.

God is steward of all and is our example of stewardship -He maintains a whole universe properly

If we Love God we will care for His things

We will care for His Kingdom and its people - helping and defending these things

We will care for His Name and defend it

It is required of stewards that they are faithful to their calling (Behind every sin is idolatry, a lack of love and wrong stewardship Love).

All that is done in the Christian life needs to express **God's quality of Love.**

God is Love

It expresses His character in us as we express it to others

It is worship through expressing His character

Love does not do for another what it should be doing for themselves

Obedience: Obedience keeps you in a correct relationship with God

It should be out of Love for God and not legalistic obedience

It is worship of Him by showing He is worth to be obeyed

Obedying Him always results in what is best for you

It brings rewards in heaven because God appreciates our obedience - and not because we deserve it having done what we are required to do for Him as His servant

What child does not love their father and what father does not want to bless his children.

Worship and obey them.

This should be a natural expression of your understanding of whom God is.

You worship someone because you believe they are worthy of your worship

If you believe God is who He says He is in The Bible, you will worship Him

It is an act of Love and not legalism

If it is forced it is not an act of worship but of compulsion and love has no part in it

Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving is a natural appreciation of love for a person who has helped you in some way

If it is forced it is not thanksgiving but compulsion and love has no part in it

It should be a natural expression of appreciation of all God for us

If we believe God is behind all that happens or allows to happen then we will always be thanking Him for whatever happens - good or bad because it will always be working for our best.

These core attitudes of Christianity will result if we Love and Serve God out of Love and appreciation of Him and who He is.

Our approach should be to build correct attitudes towards things so that we have a mindset that is controlled by the principles of God. In a sense, it is a stronghold in us.

Satan can build strongholds in our mind so can God if we desire Him too.

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trained to that which God desires in us. In other words, all the inputs of Satan are to be negated, and be replaced by the inputs of God.

Satan tries to place in us, attitudes. so that we will think the way he desires us to think. This is why holiness is so important because it rejects Satan's inputs that try to control us and make us have the thoughts, he desires us to have so that we have incorrect attitudes in us and it stops the attitudes and thoughts of God in us being modified by these attempted inputs of Satan.

Remember! When you face God, you will have no one to blame for any wrong attitudes you did not change that may have caused you to lose your salvation.

Lordship

People have no real idea what it means to have a Lord.

Satan has used democracy these days to hide it.

People say Jesus is Lord but most do not live that way as they do not really know what it means to have Jesus as their Lord!

Webster's dictionary defines Lord as follows:

A master; a person possessing supreme power and authority; a ruler; a governor.

In other words, one who can dictate everything you do and has power of life and death over you.

Jesus can only be Lord if you know His requirements of you so that you can do them. This is why we have been given The Holy Spirit to guide you which means we need to know how to hear His guidance and teaching.

The degree to which you believe in Jesus will determine the degree you will obey Him as your Lord.

Because He is Lord what He says is not just a suggestion or recommendation you can ignore. What The Lord says is what you must do. This is why you need to know your Bible so that you know what He requires of you.

Jesus said that if we called Him Lord, we would do what he says.

Christians call Him Lord but do not do what He says. At times this is from ignorance because pastors do not preach it so that they will have to give an account to Jesus for not preaching His Will to people.

Or they do not hear The Holy Spirit who has been sent to tell them what Jesus desires them to do.

Sin only occurs if you deliberately do not do what Jesus requires you to do.

If you do not realise His Will then you do not sin unless you ignore The Holy Spirit telling you not to do the thing you are about to do.

Lordship is a decision and if it is not a full one but deliberately half-hearted, because you do not give to Jesus every area of your life to be Lord of, you risk going to hell by not following Him in all your areas so you could be doing something Satan wants you to do when you die so that you will go to be with him in his kingdom of hell.

One reason you need to study and memorise The Bible is to know and understand what Jesus desire you to do for Him and His Kingdom

As the occasion arises you will:

Proclaim the Kingdom and Jesus (evangelism)

Defend It or Fight for it (spiritual warfare)

Demonstrate it (exorcism and healing using His Name – His Authority over Satan and his works that Jesus has delegated to us).

Encourage each other to live as you should

Teach others how to live it and relate to Jesus on a personal basis.

Lordship requires a change of focus from your plans and objectives to those of Jesus which means denying yourself and doing what Jesus desires you to do.

Lordship should be out of Love for Jesus and what He has done for you and not fear of judgment.

Satan has trained the world to be self-indulgent and seek its own purposes before that of God and others so that this self-denial is difficult in a world where others are enjoying what they want to do.

As you focus on their fate (hell) you will reject their lifestyle and follow what Jesus desires you to do which is best for you as it prepares you for heaven.

Lordship is something you must decide to and will have no one else to blame if you do not do it wholeheartedly and end up in hell.

Holiness

How important is holiness

In Heb 12:14 we are told to *Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord:*

It is so important that without pursuing holiness you will not get to heaven.

Holiness is the result of other attitudes falling into place, namely: Lordship and Faith

It is placing everything you do under the control of Jesus so that you are wholly dedicated to Him as the Lord of your life.

You believe in who Jesus and made Him Lord of your life so you pursue holiness to exclude all from your life that would adversely affect in some way this relationship you have with Him.

Basically, holiness is a state in which you reject all Satan tries to get you to do, either directly, Or indirectly through peer pressure from other people.

It eventually becomes a lifestyle.

To pursue holiness, you must know what is unholy and you have The Holy Spirit guide you away from unholy things when you are not certain of their 'holiness'.

This means you need to know The Bible to see what it calls unholy.

The truths of the Bible will free you from falling into unholy activities.

You also need to hear the guidance of The Holy Spirit when the state of something is unclear.

You can see why reading and studying The Bible is so important as it is how we learn to have faith in who God is as well as what is approved by Him for you to do or believe.

There is a progression”

Faith leads to Lordship which leads to holiness which leads to correct stewardship and finally to expressing the Character of God!

Holiness is an attitude of rejecting everything Satan offers you or suggests you do.

This attitude prevents you sinning and maintains your holiness before God

Because it is an attitude you have you are completely in control of it and will have no one else to blame if you deliberately do an unholy action.

As it constantly maintained you end up in a state of holiness as all is conformed to that attitude

Satan can only get you to sin if you agree to accept what He offers you so that the key to holiness is to reject all of Satan's things as well as what He suggests you directly or indirectly through others.

To do an unholy action not knowing it is such is not a sin and you do not lose your holiness. It is when you deliberately do something that is unholy that sin occurs.

Remember that The Holy Spirit has been sent to guide you in all things so that if you are not sure something will adversely affect your holiness then consult Him.

You need to be able to hear The Holy Spirit and be sensitive to Him which is covered in a later lecture.

The Importance of Holiness

There is only one kingdom on earth, the Kingdom of Satan. Christians are born, live and die in this enemy Kingdom and all around them are influences of the enemy, trying to capture them for the enemy king – Satan.

This is why holiness is so important as it rejects everything around you that the enemy tries to have you accept using his world system around you, trying to persuade you to follow what he offers you so that you will become a slave in his kingdom.

There are three main reasons people go to hell

They will not give up a sin they like

They will not forgive someone else. Not wanting to reconcile with another is the result of unforgiveness

They do not have a salvation relationship with Jesus and the father'

All rebellion against a king leads to death or exile.

Indifference to the will of the king is the same as rebellion.

The king you are following at the time death it's the one to whose Kingdom you will go too.

So, it is necessary to know what is unholy as well as to obey what your king desires you to do. The Bible tells us these things so it is necessary to study it.

The Commands of Jesus

The Ten Commandments are based on the expression of God's Love to others and this is why The Fruit of The Spirit is Love and its expression. Jesus gave us some commands and if you love others (the children of The Father - whether or not they are citizens of Heaven - you will express God's quality of Love towards them and do what Jesus said we were to do.

The commands of Jesus can be broken up into two periods: Those He gave in His life and those He gave after His death when He had the Authority to command them.

The one He gave while alive was as follows:

Joh 13:34 A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; just as I have loved you, that you also love one another.

Joh 13:35 By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

All Jesus did was to restate the attitude behind the Ten Commandments and to advise them that if they followed this, they were His disciples because He followed them. He also repeated some old testament commands such as "*be ye Holy for I am Holy*".

Note that there is no way out of the command to love others as He Love us. You must love people because they are fellow children of The Father, even if they are not citizens of The Kingdom. You may not like what they do but that does not mean you can judge them or reject them as a person.

It also does not mean you overlook their weaknesses or sins but you are to help them overcome them to the degree they allow you too. We are to guide and not force people to obey God. After all He wants obedience to be out of love for Him and not because evil will happen to them if they do not obey God. However, we are to advise them of the consequences of not obeying God or not showing His love in their circumstances but we are not their Judge because only Jesus has the right to do that, but we are to show them what God says and trying to help them avoid hell or other punishments.

We are told we will suffer the consequences of our actions:

Gal 6:7 Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for what a man sows, this also he will reap.

Gal 6:8 For he who sows to his flesh, from his own flesh will reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap everlasting life.

You do get results from the good or evil you do. Not necessarily in this life but you definitely will in the next.

Jesus said to them:

Joh 14:15 "If you love Me, keep My commandments.

In other words, if you love Jesus, you will obey Him.

After He rose from the dead, He gave new commands which were an expression of this Quality of Love and His authority to be able to give them, especially the delegation over demons. Jesus expressed these commands in His capacity of God so they are important.

The mission statement of Jesus was as follows:

(Luk 4:18-21) The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, To preach the acceptable year of the Lord.

And he closed the book, and he gave it again to the minister, and sat down. And the eyes of all them that were in the synagogue were fastened on him. And he began to say unto them, *This day is this scripture fulfilled in your ears.*

His example was as follows (Matthew 4:23):

*And Jesus went about all Galilee,
teaching in their synagogues,
and preaching the gospel of the kingdom,
delivering people from the effects of Satan on them
and healing all manner of **sickness** (short term sickness)
and all manner of **disease** among the people.*

This is what our objective should be.

The last words of Jesus to His people can be summarized as follows:

"All power (authority) is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

Go ye therefore, and teach all nations I have risen,

Baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you

And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in My name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

And these signs shall follow them that believe;

In my name shall they cast out devils;

They shall speak with new tongues; They shall take up serpents;

And if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; They shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover

And, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world."

These actions will be observable in the life of a follower of Jesus as an expression of God's quality of Love in them working through them to others as well as in the work of a church that follows Jesus.

Obedience to Jesus will result in The Kingdom of God manifesting in and through our lives and we will demonstrate it as He commanded us too in Mark 16:17-18. Jesus said the signs in these verses would be performed by His followers:

They shall cast out devils;

They shall speak with new tongues; They shall take up serpents;

And if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them;

They shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover

They will show God's quality of love in all they do

Remember that evangelism is really telling people what Jesus has done for people in the kingdom of Satan to deliver them from this kingdom as well as how He has affected your life as a result of your accepting what He has done for you.

If you love others with the same quality of Love that Jesus Loves them with you will go and tell others what He has done for them so they can enjoy what you have received as a result of your accepting what He has done for you. To not do these shows you are hypocritical or fearful and need training and/or deliverance to do these things.

This work should be an expression of our faith and it will be an expression of our faith to the degree we are able to express it without causing offence to another.

Even if our faith can only be expressed in our heart's attitude it must still be expressed in the attitude we have towards others.

Remember! God does not judge you on what you do but on the attitudes you have in your heart towards the thing you do which includes obedience to His Commands.

The Bible says how we think in our heart will be who we are.

The final warning is given by Jesus in Mark 8:38:

Mar 8:38 For whosoever is ashamed of Me and My words among this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will also be ashamed of him, whenever He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels."

In conclusion we are reminded that God's purpose for us is to believe in Jesus:

John 6:29 Jesus answered, "The work God wants you to do is this: to believe in the one he sent."

And if we believe in whom He is we will obey Him fully.

You must do what Jesus says or if you deliberately do not do what Jesus says you are in rebellion.

What you do will determine whether you go to heaven or hell and holiness helps keep you in the salvation relationship you have with Jesus so that you will go to heaven.

Where you end up is a result of your choices and you will have no one else to blame for where you end up (heaven or hell) after death.

Stewardship

God created everything so owns it but allows us to use for His purposes and our own enjoyment. This means we are stewards of these things and He allows us to use them according to His Guidelines.

He says in The Bible:

1Co 4:1 Let a man so account of us, as of the ministers of Christ, and stewards of the mysteries of God.

1Co 4:2 Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.

We are just stewards (either spiritual or physical) of what He allows us to have and stealing is the unauthorised removal of an object from someone's rightful stewardship of it to your unauthorised stewardship.

What are we stewards of?

Relationships with God and people

Possessions (everything He has placed in our care)

Our Spirit, soul. Body. Mind. Flesh

All we control such as family, people we employ or temporarily supervise, pets we have etc.

What are the duties of a steward?

They look after:

The property of the owner

The staff of the household

The finances of the owner

Whatever the owner desires them to do

So how does this relate to the Christian life?

God is the owner of all we are steward of so we need to use these things as He tells us too.

This means that when you buy something you must ask Jesus if He desires you to buy it and also why He wants you to buy it.

And when tells you to get rid of something you must do it the way He says too such as giving it to someone or selling it to whom He tells you to sell it too.

For correct stewardship to occur, Jesus must be Lord of your life and you need to be guided by The Holy Spirit to know what Jesus wants you to do with it.

He must be Lord of your:

Relationships

Attitudes

Objectives and purposes

What you are steward of on His behalf

Otherwise in all these areas you may not do what He requires you to do.

We are responsible for correctly using them and will have to explain to God why we did not use anything we have authority over in the way He desired us to use it.

To do this we need to be able to hear and understand what God requires us to do with anything we have so we use it according to His requirements.

This means we need to be able to hear the guidance of The Holy Spirit to know how we are to use things He has made us steward of.

This is why we need to learn how to clearly hear The Holy Spirit 24/7.

You will not be in trouble with God for wholeheartedly trying to do His Will and failing but for not trying to do His Will in the use of somethings He has trusted you with.

Stewardship is God trusting you to do correctly with what He has given you to look after for Him or at least wholeheartedly trying to do this.

Stealing is removing from another an object God has made them steward of without Him giving you permission to have it.

So, who is in charge of the areas in your life?

Do you ask Jesus what to do with what He has made you steward of?

The Holy Spirit has been given to you to guide you in all areas which is why we should always have one ear listening for His advice and guidance.

So, who rules your life?

You or Jesus?

It is your choice alone and your salvation and eternal life depend on this.

Precis

Lordship, holiness and stewardship are all logical requiring faith as a foundation to do what is required in each area.

If you have a lord over you then you will do what He requires of you (Lordship)

You will also avoid what he does not want you to do or believe (holiness)

And you will look after what he gives you to look after on his behalf (stewardship).

Jesus is our Lord.

You obey Him or be punished (Lordship)

You reject all He requires you to reject (holiness)

You look after what He gives you to care for Him (Stewardship).

If you have an intimate, personal relationship with Jesus, you will do these things out of Love for Him and His purposes and not just to avoid punishment or to be rewarded. Stewardship will be a natural expression of this love relationship.

These things are the basis of Christianity requiring faith and a love interrelation with Jesus and The Father to properly carry them out and even to learn about them.

Christian Love

Two world systems and types of love,

The world system we live in is run by Satan and at the core of it is lovelessness, indifference and self-centredness. This is why it is so hard to show the Love of God unless The Holy Spirit is in you helping you to express it

Christian Love should stand out

The Love of God expressed by a Christian in the darkness around them should stand out so that people will say (like they said of the early Christians) ‘Oh how they love’!

4 types of Love

Greek scholars use four words for Love in the New Testament because they applied Greek principles to their translations.

4 One type of Love not four

There is only one quality of Love in the New Testament – God’s version. It is just how it

can be expressed that is different. You can have sex with your wife but not your sister. You can hug your wife and sister but not a stranger.

The four types of love resulted from the translations into the Greek whereas the original Aramaic did not have them.

You express God or Satan's quality of Love

You either express God's quality of Love or Satan's version of love or lack of love.

In everything a Christian does, The Love of God should be behind it. Remember we are told that 'what is not of Love is sin'.

So, as you do things, ask yourself does it show God's Love?

Is it what a citizen of His Kingdom would be doing?

If you are not showing God's quality of Love then what you are showing, according to The Bible, is sin – failing to meet God's Standards.

How many types of love are there?

Theologians talk about four types of love because Greek has four different words for 'love'. But for a Christian there is only one type of love. The quality of Love that God has. It is the way it is expressed to others that varies and this is governed by the degree of trust and intimacy in the relationship and not by the way a relationship is categorised.

Any other type of love is sin as God says we are to love others as He loves them. This was the only real commandment Jesus gave and all others in The New Testament are based on this.

Joh 13:34-35 (CEV) But I am giving you a new command. You must love each other, just as I have loved you (in the way I love you). If you love each other (in the way I love you), everyone will know that you are my disciples.

This is God's standard and what we are to wholeheartedly aim for it. Only as we aim to love others as God Loves them will we begin to understand His quality of Love towards us.

We may fail to do this but if we try wholeheartedly to achieve this standard, we meet God's requirement of us in this area of showing God's quality of Love to others whether or not we succeed to do it.

Remember that there is no escape clause that allows us not to love like He Loves.

God's Love is our example of how we should love.

1Co 13:4-7 (ERV) Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous, it does not brag, and it is not proud. Love is not rude, it is not selfish, and it cannot be made angry easily. Love does not remember wrongs done against it. Love is never happy when others do wrong, but it is always happy with the truth. Love never gives up on people. It never stops trusting, never loses hope, and never quits.

Love shows no partiality

Jas 2:1 (CEV) My friends, if you have faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ, you won't treat some people better than others.

Mat 5:44-47 (ERV) But I tell you, love your enemies. Pray for those who treat you badly. If you do this, you will be children who are truly like your Father in heaven. He lets the sun rise for all people, whether they are good or bad. He sends rain to those who do right and to those who do wrong. If you love only those who love you, why should you get a reward for that? Even the tax collectors do that. And if you are nice only to your friends, you are no better than anyone else. Even the people who don't know God are nice to their friends.

Love expresses the Fruit of The Spirit

All expression of Christianity flows from Love which is why it is the first fruit of The Holy Spirit.

Gal 5:22-23 (ERV) But the fruit that the Spirit produces in a person's life is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against these kinds of things.

Love does not count the cost of expressing itself to another:

Php 2:2-9 (ERV) then do what will make my joy complete: Agree with each other, and show your love for each other. Be united in your goals and in the way you think. In whatever you do, don't let selfishness or pride be your guide. Be humble, and honour others more than yourselves. Don't be interested only in your own life, but care about the lives of others too. In your life together, think the way Christ Jesus thought. He was like God in every way, but he did not think that his being equal with God was something to use for his own benefit. Instead, he gave up everything, even his place with God. He accepted the role of a servant, appearing in human form. During his life as a man, he humbled himself by being fully obedient to God, even when that caused his death-- on a cross. So, God raised him up to the most important place and gave him the name that is greater than any other name.

God's Love responds immediately and even anticipates our needs before they occur.

EPh 2:10 (ERV) God has made us what we are. In Christ Jesus, God made us new people so that we would spend our lives doing the good things he had already planned for us to do.

Jesus trusted (had faith) in The Father's Love and so obeyed Him regardless of the cost. If we are to obey God, regardless of the cost to us, then we also need to have the same trust in the Love of God that Jesus had.

God does not sit there considering what to do. If He sees a need His Love immediately acts in a way that is best for The Kingdom and that person.

There are many other passages on love but these provide a good overview.

We are to love people for whom they are, created children of The Father, whom He Loves

and whom desires what is best for them as well as fellow members of the family of God (relatives by adoption). We are not to condone any wrong thing they do but in each there is a potential citizen of The Kingdom of God, a person whom The Father desires to be with Him in heaven so this should also be our desire for them and if we have the quality of love God has you will love others in the same way He loves them and will do what we can to help them obtain heaven and the rewards God has for them.

You would be like Jesus? Then love others with the same quality of Love He loves you and everyone else with and you will correctly serve Him in the work of The Kingdom!

It is only as we are guided by The Holy Spirit that we can understand this Love and learn how to express it to others. This is why it is so important to be guided by The Holy Spirit in everything.

God knew we would need Him so asked The Holy Spirit to come and place His presence in our spirit to help us love and live as God desires us too.

According to our faith in God will we love like God and seek to bring people into His Kingdom.

The Love of God

The Love of The Father

He made you and gave you your life. He made you so that He could show His Love to you!

He made you to have an intimate, personal, relationship with you and all He has done in The Bible He has done to help you have this relationship with Him.

He has prepared a place for you in heaven so you can be with Him forever!

He does everything He can to help you get there.

He provides every good thing you have which is designed to help you live as He desires you to live and to get to heaven to be with Him for eternity.

He removes you from the kingdom of Satan to The Kingdom of God

He enters in to a relationship with you and He adopts you as His spiritual child so that you are part of His Spiritual family and relates to you like a father relates to their child.

He gives your life real meaning and purpose and does all He can to help you fulfill these.

The Lord Jesus

He owned the universe and ruled it but gave it all up to become one of us so that He could teach us how God desired we should live and then died to make it possible for us to go to heaven to be with The Father.

He did not care what would happen to Him because He saw how it would eternally benefit us.

He taught us how The Father desired us to live.

He taught us how to defeat Satan and remove the damage Satan did to people.

Death was punishment for sin and Jesus did not sin so should not have died which is why The Father had to raise Jesus from the dead.

He willingly died because He loved us so much

He has given us authority to defeat Satan

He heals you of all Satan did you

He now rules all things from heaven and is able to protect His Citizens so that they can resist Satan and get to heaven.

The Holy Spirit

He left heaven to come to earth to place His presence in us to mark us as belonging to The Father and prevent demons inhabiting it.

He knows God's plan for your life and does all He can to guide you to fulfill it

When we do not know what to do, He intercedes for us (tells The Father our need) He and Jesus can then help us in the situation.

Jesus glorifies (promotes) The Father and The Holy Spirit Glorifies Jesus through what He does through us.

He unifies the citizens of The Kingdom of God on earth and guides them in promoting and demonstrating its existence and that Jesus is real,

He never promotes Himself or His Work but is content to work quietly desiring no recognition for what He does. He is our example of a true servant of God expressing God's Love toward us.

The Fruit of the Holy Spirit

God's Fruit in a life is not success as the world measures success. It is found in a changed life that exhibits His Character. Fruit is an expression of a tree so the Fruit of The Spirit is the expression of The Christian's character. Just as the fruit of a tree depends on the tree's nature so the Fruit of a Christian depends on the Christian's nature, which is why Jesus said: *'By their fruits you will know them'*.

The Holy Spirit is God. He expresses the Character of God in all He does and guides Christians to express the Character of God in all they do.

The fruit of a Christian is the result of the attitudes and understanding they have and when these align with those of The Holy Spirit, they will then express the Fruit of The Holy Spirit (the Character and attitudes of God) in their life.

Love is the basis from which all the other fruit flows. According to your degree of love for someone (God, yourself, family etc.), will be the quality of how you demonstrate this fruit in your relationships.

It is hard to demonstrate this fruit when the person is obnoxious, rejects you or is hard to love for some other reason. This is when The Holy Spirit strengthens you to love them, in the way the Father and Jesus loves them and by this assists you to demonstrate The Fruit of The Holy Spirit to them. God also uses this to mature you more to His character.

Until you can love people with the same quality of love with which The Father and Jesus loves them with you cannot really minister to them in the way God desires you too. It is as you are truly led by The Holy Spirit in all you do that you will love others and minister to them in the way The Father and Jesus desire you to.

(Gal 5:19-21 NCVj The wrong things the sinful self does are clear: being sexually unfaithful, not being pure, taking part in sexual sins, worshiping gods, doing witchcraft, hating, making trouble, being jealous, being angry, being selfish, making people angry with each other, causing divisions among people, feeling envy, being drunk, having wild and wasteful parties, and doing other things like these. I warn you now as I warned you before: Those who do these things will not inherit God's kingdom.

(Gal 5:22,23 NRSV) By contrast, the Fruit of the Spirit ...

(Gal 5:22,23 KJVj But the Fruit of The Spirit is Love, Joy, Peace Longsuffering, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance. Against such there is no law!

The 'Fruit of The Spirit' is the evidence of The Holy Spirit in you, guiding you in your expressing the Love and character of God to others. The fruit are an expression of your love to Jesus and The Father and are a sign you belong to them. It is what contrasts with those who belong to Satan or even lukewarm Christians which is why it is so important to have it because if you do not you may need deliverance in an area of your life or you might not even belong to Jesus.

Paul states the attitudes of worldliness then contrasts them with what should be the attitude of a Christian! It is to be noted that the more time you spend intimately with Jesus, the more you will show His Love and as a consequence, the Fruit of The Spirit in all you do in your life. The more time you spend with Jesus the more you know what He desires in you and the more you will assimilate of His mind's attitudes into yours.

'Fruit' in this verse is singular tense so there is only one type of Fruit but it has many colours. A Christian should show this one Fruit (love) in their life as it is the Character of God whose presence is in them and whose image they are being conformed too. Every Christian has The Holy Spirit in them so that the Fruit is in them. But how much of it they show in their life is up to them and the more they understand and show God's quality of Love in all they do the more of this Fruit they will show to the world.

The nature of God is love and its expression is that of a servant. If God's quality of Love is in you, then you will serve others in the same way He serves you and others and express His character as you do it.

Love is the key to expressing God's nature and character as well as relating to others and

the world as it is the way He relates to them.

Love is a result of God's nature, and His fruit in you.

It is only as you are led by The Holy Spirit to develop The Fruit of The Spirit in you will you live the Christian life as God desires you to live it!

What type of love are you to show?

Jesus only gave one commandment from which all the other commandments flow. This is to love God and others with the same quality of love with which He Loves you (Jn 13:34-35). That is the only type of love to show others. The concept of different Greek words to describe the type of love you show to others is humanistic in nature and an incorrect translation. You are to love all equally. It is just the expression of this love is limited by the type of relationship you are in. You express your love differently to your wife than that you express to your sister or a strange woman. But you are to love them all in the way God loves them and serve them as He would serve them.

Only in Satan's world are there four types of love. In the Kingdom of God there is only one type of Love and there is no way of avoiding the expression of this quality of love.

Love (1 Cor. 13:4-7)

The Fruit that is mentioned first, which should be the hallmark (the most noticeable attitude) of a Christian, from which all the other facets of this Fruit flow and which also contrast a Christian with the world, is love. Not just any type of love, but the same quality of love that marks God and His relationship with people. A Love that caused Him to forsake all, come to a Godless world (where His enemy rules) and die for the people in it so that those people could be with Him in a wonderful, intimate, relationship and enjoy the delights He has prepared for them, if they accepted Him and His teachings

The example of Jesus is our example of Love. The giving up of things far greater than we can ever imagine to come to earth and die for those who would reject Him.

Phi 2:5-10 (WEY) Let the same disposition (attitude be in you which was in Christ Jesus. Although from the beginning He had the nature of God (i.e., was God) He did not reckon His equality with God a treasure to be tightly grasped. Nay, He stripped Himself of His glory, and took on Him the nature of a bondservant by becoming a man like other men. And being recognized as truly human, He humbled Himself and even stooped to die; yes, to die on a cross. It is in consequence of this that God has also so highly exalted Him, and has conferred on Him the Name which is supreme above every other, in order that in the Name of JESUS every knee should bow, of beings in Heaven, of those on the earth, and of those in the underworld (demons),

When you give up a universe to face someone who is going to kill you terribly and who will not appreciate what you have done then not complain about what is happening to you as it is God's Will for you, then you will be like who Jesus faced this and did not complain and He is our example of loving suffering.

The love of God is explained in 1 Cor 13:4-7 and is self-explanatory:

1 Cor 13:4-8a is as follows (ESV):

Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends...

Gal 5:22-23 in detail

Love is the fruit from which all the others flow because you need a selfless attitude to be able to express the other aspects of the fruit of love.

Joy

Not just any joy. But the joy:

- of knowing you have eternal life
- of having a personal relationship with The Father and Jesus,
- of being delivered from the evil kingdom of Satan and hell,
- of being counted worthy of doing the work of Jesus,
- of knowing what His Love for you really means
- of knowing who you are a child of The Kingdom
- of knowing where you will go when you die
- of not having to worry about anything (Mat 6:33) as you do His Will,

Because you trust God's Love, Purposes, Plans and Control over all your circumstances.

This type of joy is content in all circumstances because it knows that whatever God does or allows is for your best (Rom 8:28)

Remember, God is in control of everything or He cannot be God. His Purposes and Plans are Perfect or He cannot be God. If He is not Love He is a hypocrite so cannot be God.

Either He is God and does only that which is good for you or He is not!

Peace (Is 26:3)

Not just rest but a peace that pervades all we do. Because you know The Father is in control of all your circumstances, loves you and meets your every need and that all things work out for your good! This is a peace that does not have a care as it casts all its worry on Jesus and trusts Him fully to deal in any matter concerning you in a way that is most advantageous for you and for the task God has called you to do.

It is peace resulting from the Love relationship you have with God because He only does all that is best for you.

Long-suffering (Patience in suffering 1 Cor 15:58)

This attitude of 'patience in suffering' results from knowing that your reward is Jesus and that at the end of the suffering is rest in the Kingdom of God with Jesus. It also is suffering while doing the work of Jesus. Because of your love for Jesus, you willingly bear any suffering for His purposes because of the resulting benefit it will bring to others and to The Kingdom of God. We should not care what happens to us as we trust Him for whatever happens to us. We know He will never do us any wrong but will always work only for our best.

Even death at times may be best for a Christian, given what they may face if they do not die. At times Jesus has taken people to stop them losing their salvation. No death is out of God's control so it is best for the Christian concerned.

These people understand Matt 24:13 and Rev 12:11.

Mat 24:13 But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.

Rev 12:11{KJV} And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.

Rev 12:11 (BBE) And they overcame him through the blood of the Lamb and the word of their witness; and loving not their lives they freely gave themselves up to death.

Gentleness (kindness out of compassion and love)

People who love with the same quality of love with which Jesus loves people cannot willingly hurt another or be harsh with them. This term 'gentleness' portrays this. It is kindness and compassion to others out of love for them. It is the attitude Jesus has with sinners and the unlovely that the world discards and that many have difficulty relating too. It is an expression of the Love Jesus has too all.

They may hate what the person does but the love the person like The Father in heaven does.

Goodness

This person is virtuous and honest in all they do. They have integrity of character. Their character expresses the goodness of God. They are pure in their motives and seek evil for none, esteeming the values of God above all the world's values so that God's values permeate their nature and they reflect the goodness of God in all they do. They are without guile or deceit in all they do!

Faith

This is an active belief and trust in what Jesus asks them to do: because of whom Jesus is, what Jesus has done and said as well as all that Jesus has promised to those who obey Him. This belief permeates everything they think and do. They evaluate everything in accordance with the Will of Jesus and the values of His Kingdom. They are assured of whom they have believed in and the promises made by Him (Jesus) and that He is able to

carry them out. The faith of this person cannot be shaken and they will die rather than deny their belief in Jesus, whom He is, what He has done, is doing and what He has promised to do for them (Heb 11:6.) It is an expression, like all the other fruit, of their love for Him.

These people are able to fully believe what Jesus has said for them to believe when most cannot.

Meekness (Humility)

The meek person realizes that he is only what he is by God's grace and takes no credit for what God has done or is doing. He has a true estimation of himself before God and knows that all that is good comes from God. He knows he lives only because God keeps him alive and that He is able to work and serve God only because God allows him to do this and also that God gives him what he needs to serve Him. He has no doubt as to his need to completely rely on God and as a result does not declare his own greatness or achievements! He cannot! He realizes he has only done what God has asked because God has prepared these things for him and allowed him to do them and that there is nothing in what he has done that he can claim any 'glory' or originality for!

He knows he is only a steward of what He has and that God has the ultimate say about what He does with what God has trusted him with.

Because of these attitudes, he has the heart of a servant and God can use him greatly.

God does not Love you for what you can do for Him. He can do it all Himself. He Loves you because He made you and is your 'Father' and because you love Him and serve Him out of this love. Those who respond in Love towards Him He will use to serve Him and they will be with Him in heaven. Those who reject His Love will be with His enemy in hell when they die. Remember, enemies are placed in prison where they cannot harm the good citizens of the kingdom. This is one reason hell is necessary.

Temperance (self-controlled in all things)

This person controls (disciplines) them self in all things so that they never abuse anything God allows them to have control over (what they are stewards of in other words) and are also able to control themselves so that they can express the 'Fruit of the Spirit' in all they do. While all the 'Fruit' flows from love, self-control is what allows a person to express them properly. These are the faithful and good stewards of all God has trusted them with.

Against such people, that love with the quality of love with which God Loves us and so express the fruit listed above of this love, there can be no application of the Mosaic Law. This type of Love fulfills God's requirements of The 'Law of Love' and the 'Fruit of the Spirit' is the expression of God's Love, through us, to all.

The above attitudes and way of thinking are designed to remove worry and fear from your minds as these cloud your thinking and make it hard for you to hear God. They also ensure you have the correct attitudes and habits to be a good citizen of The Kingdom of Heaven and to be able to fearlessly do the work of The Kingdom. In a sense they are Mat

6:33 in action!

Worry and fear are attitudes Satan tries to make you have so you will doubt God's Love for you as well as His control over all your circumstances so that you will be more hesitant to serve Jesus and trust in His will and control.

A Christian should always be positive. To be otherwise is to question God's love toward them as well as to bring it into disrepute.

God is in complete control and His nature is Love. So, whatever happens to you is for your best as God is using it to conform you to the image of Jesus and using it to prepare you to be in heaven with Him.

The Bible tells you to be positive (Rom 8:28, Gen 50:20) and not fear God not doing His part in our life

Job 3:25 (NCV) For the thing I greatly feared has come upon me and what I dreaded has happened to me.

This lack of trust in God being able to protect what Job had, was the sin that allowed Satan to attack Job. Job feared God would not be able to protect him and also what God had given him. So, Satan was able to remove the hedge of protection God had placed around Job (Job 1:10). God was not able to maintain it because of Job's doubt.

If you believe something will happen to you it may. Satan is always happy to fulfill your fears if it is against the Will of Jesus and help Christians be harmed in some way. If you trust in God's Providence and Control of all you will not be concerned about anything that happens to you as it will be best for you (Rom 8:28). God's Love is being expressed through what is happening to you so it is best for you.

The Christian life is a life of positives based on trust in God's Love! Not on negatives or fear that takes away hope and which binds the person in ritual and legalism. Fear comes from The Devil and not from God (2 Tim 1:7) as does all guilt, shame and condemnation after the death of Jesus on Calvary. Calvary Removed all of these things from the life of a Christian.

This positive attitude of faith needs to be cultivated through the Will of the person affirming God's promises in regard to all negative situations. In trusting God no matter what happens.

The more we are led by the Holy Spirit, the more we will trust God, express the character of God and serve Him on a daily basis in the way He desires us to serve him.

God illustrates the Fruit of The Spirit in the way He relates to us.

Love

God is Love and all He does for you is out of this Perfect Love He has for His created people. All he does is out of this Perfect Love for us. This is the quality of love we should express to all around us.

Joy

The Joy He has of seeing people growing into His Image as a result of responding to His Love being expressed to them as well as the delight, He has in the relationship they Have with Him and His people. We too should delight in the life of His faithful followers as well as in what He does for them.

Peace

The Peace that occurs because He is in charge of our life and which flows to us because He is our Lord. This is the peace we should have with all and which can only result if we are in a correct relationship with Him.

Long-suffering

The patience He shows, like a Father does to His errant children, as He works to draw them back to Himself. It is also the patience He shows when He provides the events and trials that mature us to His image. He does not rush things but patiently builds them up in a perfect way that is best for us and He will take years to do something we want finished in a minute. This is the patience we need to have that does not want things done quickly but, in His time, and in His way.

Remember that He makes all things beautiful in His timing and not ours.

Gentleness

He is like a loving parent and does not act in a harsh way to us but acts always in an encouraging, compassionate, loving manner to encourage us to keep going in what He has given us to do. God is an encourager and so should we be.

Goodness

The characteristic of desiring what is best for all because they are a creation of The Father. We should desire what is best for all we interact with because The Father loves them. Because we love The Father, we will want to do for us what gives Him pleasure. His character is such that goodness naturally flows from it as it should from our character as should all the Fruit of the Spirit flow.

Faith

He places faith (trust) in us that we will do His Will and Love Him just as we should and that we will trust what He allows too happens to us if only because He is in control and that all things that occur to us are for our best in some way. So, we should not complain but trust Him in all things.

Meekness

The Servant Heart of God that humbles Himself to put the need of others before His own need. He is our Lord but relates to us and serves us in this humility just as we should in humility serve all that God brings to us to serve. The more authority you have the higher the call to serve others and lead by the example of this service. In the same way that God

leads us by His example of service.

(Mat 20:26-28) But it shall not be so among you: but whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister; And whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant: Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.

Temperance

God is economical and only does what He needs to. He never over indulges in anything or in the way He expresses himself. We too should be moderate in all we do. Doing only what He tells us to do and buying or gathering only what He wants us to buy or gather so that Satan cannot use up our time from what God wants us to do by having us look after things we should not have.

God is our example to follow and we should have these attitudes to all:

To love others with the same quality of love with which God does

To Joy in the spiritual progress and maturity of others and the relationship they have with God and us

To be at peace with all through helping them be at peace with God and through not worrying what happens to us because God has allowed it to happen for our best.

To patiently endure in serving God and others desiring to serve them on behalf of Jesus and be willing to suffer and endure to help them be like Him because we love Jesus and desire others to have the same relationship with Him that we have.

To show gentleness to all in the way God is gentle with us so that people do not fear us but are attracted to Jesus because they see His quality of Love in us expressed toward them.

To only do good to all people and never evil of any kind so that they see our servant heart and the love in it that only desires what is best for them.

To show Jesus is worth following no matter what happens. Because we trust Him and His love for us regardless of what happens to us.

To be humble in all we do not trying to control others but treating them as equals and as worth knowing and not as inferior, because they are all children of the Father and should be treated as such (Gal 3:28).

To do all things in moderation so that people see our lives are not controlled by possessions or activity but that we use what we have for the purposes of God and are not driven by the world and its peer pressure to conform to it.

As we do these things, we show God is worthy to be followed and the demonstration of the Fruit of The Spirit in our life becomes an act of worship and praise to the Father and to Jesus!

Attitudes to avoid

There is really only one attitude to avoid (lovelessness which is really indifference) as there is only one command to obey:

Joh 13:34-35 A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By his shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.

The only wrong attitude is that of not loving another as God loves them. Obey This command and you will never sin.

All your life is really spent working at this commandment:

In relationship to God

In relationship to our self

In relationship to others!

Any activity: service, ministry, employment, relationships, socialising etc., that is does not show God's type of Love is wrong and is not of The Kingdom of God.

The Gifts of the Holy Spirit

The gifts of The Holy Spirit are just that. Gifts from God resulting from His Grace and Love towards us and are designed to be used for His Purposes as well as to help us do His Will.

You can ask for them or 'impart' them. But it is up to God whether or not they are given. If He does not give the gifts requested then Satan will try and give you his version of corrupted gifts and at times will succeed because a gift is expected and the source is expected to be The Holy Spirit. As The Holy Spirit does not give this gift Satan fills this empty spiritual space with His version of the 'gifts'. God will not go against our free will desire for the gifts and has to allow Satan to fulfill this is He will not because we have decided to receive that gift.

You do not need to ask for gifts, guidance or understanding. These are all promised when you live according to Mat 6:33. Not asking, but waiting for God to give one avoids this trap of a false gift being given to a person. Its being given also shows the start of the period when it is to be used as well of the ministry the gift is to be used in.

Gifts, like the Baptism of The Holy Spirit, are given for the purposes of service and are really part of the anointing (authorising) a person to minister in a certain area God has promoted them to minister in.

'Signs and wonders' are for evangelistic purposes while gifts are given to minister to a citizen of The Kingdom of God. This is why healing is mentioned as a gift and as a sign of evangelism. The gift of healing used in evangelism is to demonstrate to non-Christians the power of God over Satan and his works and that The Kingdom of God has come to them while the gift of healing is to demonstrate the Love of God to His people

Spiritual gifts are given for one purpose only. It is to assist a person in doing their work as a citizen of The Father's Kingdom and through their correct usage bringing Glory to Jesus. Any other reason is a misuse of the gifts, makes the gift an idol and is a sin against God if deliberately done.

The gifts are given as God determines and not because someone asks for them. If God was to give you what you ask and it was not beneficial for you it would cause you to stumble and/or sin. Accordingly, God gives you only what you need. It is we who desire more than we should and in doing so can allow demons to give us their corrupted gifts, who will gladly help us 'achieve' what we should not have or do as well as express these gifts in the way they desire them to be manifested.

The true test of a person's gift is whether it is used for the purposes of The Father or for their own edification, whether they use their God-given gift to promote The Kingdom of God or to promote their 'own ministry' achievements.

By their fruits you will know the source of their gift.

Ministries that advertise that at their services you will receive The Holy Spirit or gifts of The Holy Spirit, be healed or prophesied over or other gifts will be present are misusing the gifts and the anointing they are using them to sell their ministry and not to glorify Jesus unless they have asked Jesus and have been told what will happen to specific people. Even then it can only be in regard to some people and not all who will attend the service. They are also ignoring the role people have to play in having a right attitude towards God to be able receive the gifts as well as the fact that the gifts of The Holy Spirit are a result of promotion and for service and not for self-edification and their expression is for the purposes of encouraging the faith of a person.

They are ignoring the fact that God determines what gifts a person receives as well its expression and also how, where and when He desires these gifts to be used. It is in these types of services, that advertise the gifts are to be given to anyone, that demons step in and place their 'gifts' on people in place of The Holy Spirit. Beware of people freely giving the gifts and anointing of The Holy Spirit to whoever asks for them.

The gifts of The Holy Spirit are given for our good {profit}:

1 Cor 12:7 But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal.

And The Holy Spirit is the one who decides how they should be given:

1 Cor 12:11 But all these worketh that one and the self-same Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will.

They are given to unite The Body and to help each other care for one another:

1 Cor 12:25 That there should be no schism (doctrinal division) in the body; but that the members should have the same care one for another.

Each of us is given the gift(s) we need to play our part in The Body (Kingdom)

1 Cor 12:7 But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit

withal.

1 Cor 12:10 To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues:

There are three main passages that list the gifts of The Holy Spirit

Rom 12:6-8 Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith; Or ministry, let us wait on our ministering: or he that teacheth, on teaching: Or he that exhorteth, on exhortation: he that giveth, let him do it with simplicity; he that ruleth, with diligence; he that showeth mercy, with cheerfulness.

1Cor 12:8-10 For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another, the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; To another, faith by the same Spirit; to another, the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; To another, the working of miracles; to another, prophecy; to another, discerning of spirits; to another, divers kinds of languages; to another, the interpretation of languages

Eph 4:11 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;

These are the three main lists of spiritual gifts. Note the five-fold ministry are also a gift from God and are not earned by working or studying but by the maturity in your relationship with Jesus and are provided by Jesus to help you minister in the area He has sent you to minister in. In other words, they are not the result of years of service in a denomination or church or seminary, university or other types of degrees or certificates. One wonders what God makes of the modern system where these five 'gifts' are 'learned' and 'exams' passed to be given the right to use them even though God may not have approved the person to minister in the position for which he has been qualified by man's criteria.

The Various Gifts

I will give a brief description of the gifts then discuss other relevant points about some of them later in this chapter.

The various gifts are as follows in (alphabetical order)

Apostles: An apostle is someone sent by a person in authority on a special mission to represent them. In a Christian context they are sent by Jesus to evangelise in areas churches do not exist and to establish these churches. It is of no use to send them to preach the gospel; to churches where it is already known.

Apostles do not stay after they are established a church and establish it as that is not their role and they do not stay and spiritually minister after it is established as that is a pastor's role and not theirs. They should be training people to do this.

A church cannot declare anyone an apostle unless Jesus tells them to as they are his representatives and not a church's representative. God alone can give them the ministry for which He declares them to be an apostle of His.

They will stay in a place for a period. Either to found a new *ekklesia* or to spiritually strengthen the group they are staying with. Then they will move on to new areas.

An apostle does not go to an establish Church and stay there afterwards as that is not their role. If they do that, they are not apostles but pastors, teachers or administrators. In fact, a church can only declare someone an apostle who is going to leave them and go out and church plant in places where there are no churches. They cannot declare a person an apostle and leave them in the church to minister.

So, any apostle who says they are sent to an established church is deceived as they can only be teachers, pastors or administrators as apostles are sent away from established churches to work and not to an established church to minister.

If they are sent to a church for any other reason, it can only be as a prophet, usually to warn the church when the prophets in the church are not doing this.

Discerning of spirits: The ability to tell the nature of a spirit in a person, whether it belongs to Jesus or Satan. There is also the ability to look into a person's soul and see what their spirit is like. Often a person's eyes will show the spirit in them, and even demons in them looking out through them.

Evangelists: The ability to tell clearly the good news of the Gospel of The Kingdom as well as demonstrate it in some way (through signs and wonders).

Exhorting: The ability to encourage another to persevere in their trials and suffering and endure whatever is happening to them.

Faith: The ability to believe God when others would have given up doing so.

Healing: Physical and spiritual healing of a person. Spiritual and inner healing is done in the deliverance ministry, which is part of the Pastoral Ministry but which every Christian should be able to do using the five steps. Physical healing is more the gift this refers to.

Remember. The gifts are for the church while the miracle of healing is for evangelism to demonstrate The Kingdom of God is there

Jesus may not heal immediately

There may be lessons to learn through the illness

You may have asked for healing for the wrong reasons

Jesus may delay it to use the healing to bring someone into The Kingdom

The demons causing the illness (and the sin associated with them) have not been dealt with

Jesus may be using the illness to show His reality to others as you endure it in

faith in Him even though He is not healing you

Through the example of your faith in the way you deal with the illness you will Show His Lordship and sustaining power

He may want you home with Him in heaven (The example of Hezekiah shows what can happen if you are healed and God does not want it because of what will happen afterward).

Other reasons we do not know about (Duet 29:29, He only tells us what we need to know)

Whatever happens will be for your eternal best (Rom 8:28)

Mercy: The ability to show God's love when others cannot. Everyone can show love and compassion but these people can do so when others find it hard to do so.

Pastors: Those who look after the people of Jesus on a day-to-day basis, pray for them and minister The Word to them. Bishops and similar are just pastors who mentor other pastors.

These spiritual leaders do not get involved in worldly affairs such as administration or maintenance (see Acts 6). Their role is to wait on God then advise people of what God says. They are mentors and counsellors relying on God to tell them what to say to people.

There is a gift of administration which anyone running the physical organisational side of a church or organisation needs to have. People like deacons and elders who oversee the day to day running of an *ekklesia* are examples of people who should have this gift.

Notice there is no gift of; bishop' or 'ministry' Bishops are just pastors and all are expected to minister in some way.

Prophets: The ability to speak on God's behalf in regard to future events or current situations. Their gift is used to correct, encourage and warn but also to call people to repentance, especially those that are out of a proper relationship with God. Anyone with the gift of prophecy who is not calling people to repentance when God says too is not using their gift properly.

Prophets should be warning leaders of nations and telling them what God says they should be doing but are not!

Ruling: The correct stewardship of others and possessions under their authority. These people have a gift to be able to organise and maintain things, using wisely what God gives them to be stewards of, whether it be people or assets. These are the people you want running the church finances and administration. They will be deacons in the church and not elders or ministers as these ministers the word and pray (See Acts 6). It is also handy for the running of a family.

Teachers: The ability to teach the things of God correctly and clearly to people in a way the people can clearly understand and apply them.

The word of knowledge: The ability to tell of things unknown in the natural by them or another about a person or object. This is to do with things a person does not know but needs to know to minister to them self or others.

The word of Wisdom: The ability to give God's guidance on a situation, problem or question that is not covered by the Bible. (Wisdom is applied knowledge).

The working of miracles: The ability to change supernaturally, natural events. Note: All the gifts are empowered by The Holy Spirit and as people pronounce their faith in Jesus and His authority, He expresses these gifts in this world through people and uses them to minister through people to others.

Tongues: (Various kinds of languages). There is only one type of this gift. It is the ability to be understood in a language foreign to the one you speak, (demonic and angelic tongues are still a tongue that is foreign to us).

Tongues, Interpretation of: The ability to understand what a person is saying in a language that is foreign to you.

Both are mentioned together as if they only really are both used together and not individually. One is of no use without the other. Without the interpretation you do not know if it is from God or Satan. There is no need usually for interpretation in the church service as there should usually be no 'tongues' as it is only for communicating to others who do not speak your language and that is not usually necessary in a church service.

The is use of tongues in private prayer so Satan will not know what you are asking God fore.

Why have the gifts been given?

Eph 4:12-13 summarises this as follows

For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ:

Literally

For bringing to full maturity all those who have set themselves apart for Jesus, to help those in the offices appointed by God to minister in the way God desires them too, for the building up of all those who follow Jesus until we come to a common agreement and unity in our belief in and knowledge of Jesus, to the level of maturity He requires of us who have The Holy Spirit's presence in us.

The gifts are given for the benefit of all and not just for the benefit of those considered worthy of them.

Webster 1 Co 12:7 But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the profft of all.

God gives everyone the gifts they need to live the Christian life.

How does one receive a gift of The Holy Spirit?

Websters 1Co 12:4-7 Now there are various kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit. There are various kinds of service, and the same Lord. There are various kinds of workings, but the same God, who works all things in all. But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the profit of all.

The Holy Spirit gives them as He wills in accordance to need of the ministry or service and not as we think we need them.

I quote two verses:

Webster Jam 1:17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom can be no variation, nor turning shadow.

Webster Mat 6:32-33 For the Gentiles seek after all these things, for your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first God's Kingdom, and his righteousness; and all these things will be given to you as well.

All good gifts come from The Father so you can ask Him to release them towards you but only if you are seeking the good of His Kingdom and are wholeheartedly seeking His righteousness and ministry in accordance with His Will for His Kingdom. But it is The Holy Spirit who distributes them as He thinks necessary and works through your faith to release them as He tells you too. He is the one whose presence is in you and knows what you need and what God wants you to do with whatever He has trusted to you with.

Laying on of hands

The uses in The New Testament are as follows:

For the healing of the sick. Laying on of hands and the sick being healed are a sign of a follower of Jesus.

(Mar 5:23) And besought him greatly, saying, My little daughter lieth at the point of death: I pray thee, come and lay thy hands on her, that she may be healed; and she shall live.

For the Impartation of a gift.

(1Ti 4:14) Neglect not the gift that is in thee, which was given thee by prophecy, with the laying on of the hands of the presbytery.

The Holy Spirit would have told them to impart these gifts or healing or it would have been a sin to try to do so without God's authorisation.

Note the conditions:

The person to impart the gift may be any mature Christian who has been authorised by

God to impart that gift. The gift must be ordained by God (authorised) so the gift is really from Jesus (and at His direction) and not the people actually laying on hands. They are just carrying out the orders of their Lord and Master. It is Jesus that authorises the gift to the person receiving it under the guidance and empowerment of The Holy Spirit.

It may also be a group of people who have Jesus as Lord of their life and service and so represent Him and hear Him clearly to know what He wants them to.

Any gift must be in accordance with the Will of God so should not be quickly or carelessly given. Time must be taken to ask The Holy Spirit what type of gift(s) to give as well as when to give them and not just assume these things. To assume and not ask God may result in sin and the warning here is against people who go around supposedly imparting the His Gifts of The Holy Ghost at their command and direction while ignoring God's Will in this matter. The devil will gladly give gifts in place of those of The Holy Spirit. The people they are 'ministering' too are receptive to a gift and are open to it because they have been told that they are to receive one and have usually not checked with The Holy Spirit to ensure it is from Him.

(LTI 5:22) Lay hands suddenly on no man, neither be partaker of other men's sins: keep thyself pure.

The responsibilities of a citizen of The Kingdom of God

If you have faith in whom Jesus is you will carry out your responsibilities as a citizen of The Kingdom of God. Because you are a citizen of His Kingdom you have certain responsibilities. If you love God, you will carry them out or learn how to carry them out because you love him.

Love is the basis of all true service: to God and to others.

A citizen of a kingdom has five duties and these take precedent over their own needs:

To serve The King, as required by him, through complete obedience to Him.

To represent The King to persons both in and out of The Kingdom, either in an official capacity as a representative of The Kingdom or just by virtue of being a citizen of The Kingdom (evangelism).

To fight and protect what The King owns (as well as who He is, His Name and Glory as well as His Attributes and Character – spiritual warfare).

To be a good steward of what God has trusted Him with (including their mind, body, family, employment)

To relate in an appropriate manner to other citizens and those who are not citizens

Faith in God's Love is required to do His Will and if you have trouble doing any of these or have no desire to do them examine why because your faith may be lacking because we are told the effect of faith is to do God's work (James 2:26). In other words, if you have an active faith in God, you will willingly obey and truly love Him in all He asks you to do.

Ambassadors – their work

You have been given the great privilege of being an ambassador for God. Along with this privilege come the authority to carry out that role. Without using this authority, you really cannot be a true ambassador for God.

This authority is over Satan and his works and if you are not exercising it, you are not carrying out the role of an ambassador for God.

So, what is the role of an ambassador:

Represent the Kingdom

Defend the Kingdom

Expand the Kingdom

Demonstrate the King and the Kingdom are real.

Teach the Kingdom

Demonstrate the Character of its citizen

- Anything else the king desire you to do for Him

If you are not doing these things or at least try to do them then you are not really an ambassador but a member of a social club that hold themselves out to be an ambassador having the privileges of one but not doing the work of one.

Whenever God gives you the opportunity you must do this work of an ambassador. Deliberately not to do so is to reject the authority of Jesus and if you know you are to do this work but do not do it you are denying Christ and he will deny you at the last judgment.

God will give you everything you need to do the work and help you as much as he can if you are interested in doing it

The Commands of Jesus

This talk discusses the commands of Jesus

(Peshitta) Joh 6:28 And they were saying to him, "What shall we do to work the service of God?"

(CEV) Jesus answered, "God wants you to have faith in the one he sent."

(KJV) Joh 6:28 Then said they unto him, What shall we do, that we might work the works of God?

(DRB) Jesus answered and said to them: This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he hath sent.

The Disciples asked Jesus what they had to do to serve God. He replied that they had to believe in whom He (Jesus) was which means you need to obey what He commanded as well as everything else The Bible says about Him and His requirements of you.

Jesus gave the following commands to His disciples. If they do not apply to us it leads to the ridiculous scenario that we do not have to tell people about Jesus and all that He did was limited to his own generation. It also means we are at the mercy of demons and cannot be used by God to heal or show His power or to demonstrate that Jesus and The Kingdom of God are real! This makes Christianity a very dull religion indeed.

What follows are what Christians should be doing. It was commanded of all His followers and not just the Apostles. The verses are as follows:

“Mat 28:19-20 (AV) Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: teach and make disciples, of all nations} Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

Mark 16:15-18 And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.

Luke 22:19 And he took bread, and gave thanks, and brake it, and gave unto them, saying, This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me. (Note this meal was to be remembered not a ritual based on a cup of wine and some bread)

Luke 24:46-47 And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

Jn15:12 This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you.

Act 1:8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

A summary of what His follower should do is as follows:

They will teach all Nations about Jesus and His Gospel

They will preach repentance and remission of sins in Jesus Name

They will witness to Jesus in all the world

They will baptise people in the Name of the Trinity

They will teach people what Jesus requires of them

Showing the signs promised by Jesus to those whom had His delegated authority (all His followers that were in the upper room and not just the apostles so there is no excuse):

They shall cast out demons

They shall speak in new tongues

They shall capture serpents and scorpions (demons)

They will drink poisons and these will not hurt them

They shall heal the sick

They will love others as Jesus loves them (evangelism is an expression of this love)

They will fellowship together and remember what Jesus what Jesus did at Calvary when they eat together (have communion).

They will minister and be empowered by The Holy Spirit

These are the marks that should be a part of the Christian life. Any Christian not living them is not following Jesus and what He commanded unless they are teaching them, learning about them, learning how to put these things in to practice or resting from the battle.

Any fellowship, church or denomination not doing them is not doing what Jesus commanded. If they deliberately do not do these things then they are not Christian as they are not obeying Jesus.

You either follow Jesus or try to follow Him as Lord or you are serving another master (yourself) and by this serving Satan as you either serve Jesus or Satan.

The Christian life has no fence sitters.

Jesus needs to be Lord of all of you do or think and not just of what you want to give Him. If you keep wholeheartedly trying to make Him lord of all then that is all that He requires as it the attitude of the heart that Jesus looks at when you do things. You may not succeed but the important things it that you wholeheartedly tried to serve Jesus in the way He desires you too.

What we do to other Christians we do to Jesus

2Co_5:20 Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God.

Rom_8:15 For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.

Mat 25:39 Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee?

Mat 25:40 And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.

Note the following above:

We are ambassadors for God representing Him

We are part of His family so all other Christians are step brother or step sister to us

What we do to other Christians has two aspect s

As a relative

As a representative of Jesus.

Because they are a representative of Jesus, what we do to them as His representative we also do to Him.

How different would Christianity be if this was recognised by Christians and denominations.

Use of Time

How do you use your time?

Do you use it for the purposes of His Kingdom or by not doing the

The Will of Jesus

The will of Satan.

If you are not doing the Will of Jesus because you reject it or are indifferent to it then what you are doing serves the purposes of Satan by allowing Satan to use it for the purposes of his kingdom?

There are only two possible sources for all you do: done not being of My Kingdom and its Purposes.

When you see Jesus, you will have to give an account of how you used everything He gave you which includes your use of time and your will!

What will you say when you face Jesus and He asks you to give an account of how you used your time and will for the purposes of His Kingdom?

You are only pilgrims and travellers in this world surrounded by all Satan rules which is working against Him and His Kingdom and who is trying to influence you against it. You can see why you need The Holy Spirit's guidance where things not dealt with in The Bible are encountered.

He is the one who can tell you whether or not what you are going to do is for the purposes of The Kingdom

Do you know whether or not what you are doing is for the purposes of The Kingdom or helping Satan to destroy His People and by this destroy His Kingdom which is only expressed on earth through the actions of people?

In a relationship (which salvation is) people serve each other in love. Do you love Jesus to use your time for His Purposes?

Spiritual warfare is basic to the Christian life

The moment a person becomes a Christian they are automatically at war with the enemy of God, Satan. Every time you resist temptation you are conducting spiritual warfare.

So, you need to learn how to conduct this spiritual warfare:

How Satan attacks (tempts you)

How to defeat his attacks on you

How to deal with the consequences of his attacks on you.

This means you also need to learn the spiritual delegation Jesus gave you over Satan so that you can use this properly to defeat Satan.

Most Christians never learn these things, let alone taught to them early in their Christian life so do not reach the potential God has for them. They will reach a degree of it but not in its fulness.

Unless a person knows how”

Satan attacks

How to defeat these attacks

How to deal with the consequences of these attacks

They will never really live the full, victorious Christian life.

They will nearly always be at the mercy of the enemy, never realising when he attacks and how to remove these attacks safely as well as how to deal with the consequences of these attacks.

As part of their preparation for their Christian walk, they may, at times, be taken through the ministry of deliverance, which is one form of spiritual warfare as is evangelism. Both attack the kingdom of Satan and removes its influence on a person.

Introduction to spiritual warfare

There are two planes of existence the physical and the Spiritual.

We live in the physical plane.

Heaven, Angels and demons move in the spiritual plane.

We are told we fight demons only in this spiritual plane but the effects are often felt in the physical plane.

Eph 6:12 (ERV) Our fight is not against people on earth. We are fighting against the rulers and authorities and the powers of this world's darkness. We are fighting against the spiritual powers of evil in the heavenly places.

This means we are fighting the plans of demons whenever we are attacked and what happens in the physical plane is often a result of a spiritual battle.

so, we need to learn how to fight on this spiritual plane so that we can defeat the plans of the demons that the lower-level Demons are trying to impose on us.

All Temptations are the result of the plans of Satan to try and make us become a part of his kingdom

So, we need To recognise an attack of Satan so we know when we are being attacked.

We need to know what our weapons are and we really only have one weapon, the delegated authority Jesus, He has given us over Satan and his plans and work

We need to know how to use this delegated authority and when to use this delegated authority

To use this delegated authority, you must believe you have been given it and if you use modern Bibles this is hard as they imply it was not from Jesus. Modern bibles are heavily influenced by Satan who managed to get our weapon against him removed from it or made to appear that Jesus could not give the delegation to use it.

To use the delegation, you must believe you have been given it.

You must then identify the problem and ask the Holy Spirit what to do, how to deal with it. In other words what do command in Jesus' name so that you know it is the will of Jesus you are commanding. Otherwise, Jesus will not honour the command.

You need to hear say what the holy Spirit wants you to command Satan to stop doing and then send Satan to go to Jesus and take all he has done or is doing with him and ask The Holy Spirit take place of the demons that have just left.

The Holy Spirit will tell you when Satan is attacking and The Bible will also show you when Satan is doing things to attack you by showing you what God desires you know that Satan is trying to undermine and use for his purposes

Anything that enters your mind or body which take away your peace is probably from Satan

The Holy Spirit also give you a lack of peace when you are doing something wrong and Satan is usually behind it

Satan can only deceive or distract you. So, he can use lies or half-truths to mislead you or things to distract you. This is why you must know the truths of your Bible which is why it says

John 8:32 (LITV) And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.

This is why it is important to study the Bible so you know the truths of God to be able to recognize the lies of Satan and which is why you will also need to know where God wants you to be so you will know when Satan is trying to distract you from this place.

The Holy Spirit is given to guide you in all this so He can warn you when Satan is attacking as well as how to stop the attack and minimise any damage Satan has done.

The five steps are the best way of attacking Satan

Examples:

Demons will attack you personally

Your marriage relationship

Your wife's housekeeping

Or other relationships
Your Children's attitudes
Your children's relationships/schoolwork
Your employment
Or ministry

I will teach you how to pray in each instance.

Steps two to five never change. It is always step one that changes as this is what you are giving to Jesus to be Lord of.

They all begin

In The Name of Jesus, Satan, I command any demon attacking me in any way either directly or indirectly in any way [then name the area attacked] to go to Jesus and take all they did or are doing with them.

In Jesus' Name I command healing or restoration necessary and ask you Holy Spirit to replace the demons that have just gone,

You can also protect meetings and projects using this formula.

The Five Step framework

I now talk about the Five Steps which Jesus showed me to use for deliverance, dealing with temptation, oppression against you, protection and spiritual warfare.

Jesus showed me they are basic to dealing with problems in the Christian life.

The Holy Spirit showed me these five principles which I use constantly. They used against any type of attack Satan throws at you.

The five steps are a framework (principles) on which to use to fight Satan. They are not a rote prayer or magic formula so should not be treated that way but are an expression of the lordship of Christ over all things.

Jesus gave us authority over demons (Mark 16:17), but we must live the lifestyle that allows that authority to rest on us in order to be used overcoming them.

Satan can only get you to sin if you accept what he is suggesting you do. It is not thinking about what he suggests that is the sin. The sin is actually deciding to do something about it even if nothing actually happens in the physical realm. You have accepted the thought in your heart so that Jesus is no longer Lord of that area. The fact you desire in your heart to do it is all that is needed for sin to occur.

But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart.

The Five Steps to Victory and the reasons for them

These steps are not to be said as a magic formula as they are not one. They are only a

framework of principles to use. They are a giving in your heart areas to Jesus for Him to be Lord of repenting of any wrong done in these areas, removing Satan from them and all the damage he did in these areas.

They are based on the principal of James 4:7.

First, I give the step and then the reason for the step.

Step 1. Give the area, weakness, circumstance, event, oppression, sin or temptation to Jesus to be Lord over it, along with all the causes leading to these things, the consequences resulting from these things as well as any areas associated with what you are giving to Jesus to be Lord of.

What Jesus is Lord over, He can help you with and protect, so that Satan cannot use it against you. When Jesus is Lord of an area of your life Satan cannot use it to try and convince you to sin as you do not want to accept what he offers. To control any area Satan needs to deceive you so you will accept his control over it.

To get back control of it he has to fight Jesus who is now Lord of it and not you.

Step 2. Repent of any wrong attitude in you, either known or unknown to you, or any wrong thing done by you. Forgive all those who have offended you and yourself as well as repent of any bitterness, root of bitterness anger and wrong attitudes in your heart (whether you know of them or not) towards anyone (including yourself).

Repentance is a turning away from the things of Satan to the things of God and is a confirmation of your decision to give Jesus Lordship in that area repented of. Repentance is the start of holiness in an area of your life.

Repentance is usually of a blanket type of an area when using The Five Steps and does not need to be a specific sin (unless specific things are being given to Jesus or The Holy Spirit calls specific things to your remembrance). It is the heart attitude that is important not the words.

It is necessary to forgive others or The Father in heaven cannot forgive your sins and you do not go to heaven. If you keep bitterness, root of bitterness, anger or any other wrong attitudes in your heart you are in unforgiveness.

Not wanting to reconcile to another who has offended you can be a sign of unforgiveness.

You may have to pray "*Lord forgives. Help me to forgive please*".

You must also give up any sins and this is best done giving it to Jesus using step one.

Step 3. Command Satan in Jesus' Name to leave the areas or things given to Jesus and go to The Throne of God and be judged and to take all he did with him.

It is a battle of kings, so you address the enemy king and tell him to leave control of what that has just been given to Jesus, otherwise he will not go. That is why prayer alone is ineffective, as it still leaves the demons around since you have not been

commanded them to leave. As the area is delivered from the control of the kingdom of Satan to the control of Jesus all that is in there of Satan (demons, illness caused by them) must go when told to do so.

Because Jesus now has control of the area Satan no longer has it to hold onto so must go when commanded to do so from that area in The Name of Jesus.

Step 4. Command healing and restoration in The Name Jesus and necessary healing.

This removes damage demons have done to whatever you are removing them from.

I just command healing and restoration in accordance with the Will of Jesus and this seems to cover all that Jesus wants to do in these areas.

Jesus has the right to heal illness when it is best for the purposes of His Kingdom so if healing does not occur ask why and you may find it is a timing issue (for the purposes of The kingdom) or more repentance needs to be done.

Step 5. Ask The Holy Spirit to fill what the demons have been cast out of as well as any the empty area of your soul and claim it for Jesus.

The Five Steps are all based on Worship

Step 1. We give these things to Jesus because He is worthy and can deal with them in a worthy fashion. We love Him and thus worship Him by trusting Him with the things we give him. We also declare He is Lord of all as we do this and that He is greater than Satan.

Step 2. We repent (admit we have fallen short of His standards) and by this worship Him showing that we consider His values more worthy to follow than our own values and purposes and that we desire to live according to His standards.

Step 3. He is more worthy than Satan having defeated him by His sinless life as well as His death at Calvary, so Satan must do what is commanded in the authority of Jesus (as he and his demons are now 'spoils of war' and the prisoner of Jesus). By using the authority Jesus has delegated to us over Satan, we show we consider Jesus to be more worthy of worship than Satan.

Step 4. Jesus is worthy to be worshipped as He has authority over all the natural world as well as the spiritual world so He can heal the body, soul and spirit. We use His authority delegated to us as an act of worship to Him as we command these healings in His Name in accordance with His Will.

Step 5. We desire to be Like Jesus (as He is the most desirable person we know) and as an act of worship ask for His Spirit to take the place of the enemy that has been evicted from us so that His Spirit can guide us and mature into the image of Jesus and so the enemy

Note

The five steps are not a litany or magic formula you recite by rote but are a framework of five principles to use like a ladder. Each rung leads to the next rung and on each rung, you place

what is appropriate to that rung. The first rung is the one that varies according to the situation, and is based on giving the situation to Jesus to be Lord of. The rest never changes.

How to Hear the Holy Spirit

We are told that to live the Christian life we need to be guided by The Holy Spirit.

Joh 16:13 Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.

Rom 8:14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.

So, it is important to be able to hear The Holy Spirit clearly as He is your guide to live as Jesus desires you to live and to fight Satan in the way Jesus desires you to fight Satan. Remember that to be an adopted child of The Father you need to be guided by The Holy Spirit (Rom 8:14).

1. Preparatory Prayer

Lord, I want to hear The Holy Spirit correctly so I can do Your Will and be guided to be your follower and live as an adopted son or daughter of The Father. I give this desire to you and am sorry for anything I have done wrong in this area or associated areas of hearing The Holy Spirit.

In Jesus' Name I command any demons that are blocking me from hearing and understanding the truths and guidance that The Father, Jesus and The Holy Spirit desires me to hear and understand in The Name of Jesus to go immediately to The Throne of Judgment to be dealt with by Jesus and take with them all they have done to me. I ask You, Holy Spirit, to take their place and fill my soul so they cannot come back in.

2. How You Hear Him

Unless The Holy Spirit or Satan actually appear to you, they can only talk to you in your mind. When they are communicating with you it is as if they are your own thoughts or that you are talking to yourself. People often mistake this for a disorder as if there are apparently two personalities in them when demons are speaking audibly in their mind. Also, when The Holy Spirit is speaking, they usually think it is their own thoughts. So, you need to know who is interacting with you.

They both communicate through: thoughts, dreams, day dreams, emotions, sensations, feelings etc.

You can actually hold a conversation with the Holy Spirit or the demons representing Satan and ask them questions and they will answer. Only answers from The Holy Spirit are 100% truthful. Demons will answer in a way that furthers their purposes for you.

You will need to silence your mind. You may have trouble hearing Him (The Holy Spirit) especially if you are in a place full of distractions or in a place where Satan rules. Remember, The Holy Spirit, has a still, small (quiet) voice.

He will place an impression, picture, or thought in your mind, give you an emotion or feeling, or even speak to you in an audible voice. You will know it is from Him as it will not cause you to fear. He may speak in other ways than these, but these are the normal ways. You may feel a check in your spirit which is a 'No'. If He does not reply it is also a 'No', so you ask Him the reason why He said 'No' as He may tell you and you may find out more by this than by the answer you wanted.

If He gives you an answer it will line up with The Bible, and you will have peace in your heart over it. Remember, God will not contradict His Bible.

Satan will try to cause you doubt about what you are hearing then cause you to reason that it is wrong or impossible so that you believe you are not hearing correctly. Satan will also at times place fear or other wrong emotions or feelings in you to cause you to doubt God's Love, Control, Plans or Purposes for you. Satan does this to take away your trust in God and His Love for you, your Joy in Him as well as rewards and the things God has for you.

Satan will also try to have you misinterpret or misapply The Bible in a way that suits his purposes. At times Satan will block you hearing The Holy Spirit so you need to cast him out and stop him doing this and ask the Holy Spirit again what you desired to know. If you do not hear from The Holy Spirit, ask the following:

Are you in a place in which Satan rules so that the spiritual atmosphere is blocking The Holy Spirit?

Are you in sin (especially unforgiveness) and do you need to deal with it using the five steps?

Are you to ask this particular question of The Holy Spirit? If you do not get an answer, it may not be the time to ask It may not be the time to receive the answer It may not be an appropriate question to ask. So, ask Him why He did not answer and this may be more important than the actual answer to the question you asked Him.

Jesus may not want you to have the answer so Satan will not know what Jesus is going to do and try to stop it or replace it with his version of what you are to do:

Are you to command demons that are blocking you from hearing the Holy Spirit to leave in Jesus' Name?

Do you really want to hear the answer?

Are you seriously listening or just going through the motions of listening?

You do not really need to know what God is doing as God will always do His best for you if you seek to know Him better and to do His Will. As long as you obey what you know He asks you to do, you will be on the path He has prepared from before creation on which are all

the things, He needs you to do as well as all the promises and blessings He has given you (Matt 6:33, Eph 2:10).

A danger is to desire something so much you do not hear God's answer but one Satan is able to give because it is the one you want to accept. This is why it is good to have another witness like the Bible recommends whenever you have an answer or prophecy from The Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit is your Companion in this life, so it is necessary to be in continual communication with Him as He helps you to navigate the traps of Satan and do the Will of God.

It is hard to be a child of The Father if you do not know what He desires you to do and The Holy Spirit has been given so you can hear what The Father desires you to do so you need to be able to clearly hear Him.

In conclusion

The Christian life is an interpersonal, intimate, relationship with Jesus and The Father guided by The Holy Spirit and unless it is lived this way you are living it the way Satan taught the church.

Satan emphasised knowledge about God as being more important than having a relationship with The Father and Jesus.

Jesus has told two people that when the rapture occurs only 20% of people who call themselves Christian will go up in the rapture. This was because the 80% who did not go up in the rapture knew about Jesus and called themselves Christian but did not have the relationship based on love for Jesus and The Father required to be a true Christian.

They are like the demons who know about God and obey Him but do not have a personal relationship with Him.

This personal relationship on earth is part of the preparation to relate to God in eternity so becomes extremely important as preparation for heaven.

Jesus said that eternal life was to have a relationship with Him and The Father (Jn17:3) and this should be the starting point for anyone who desires to have eternal life.