

**The
Victorious
Life in God**

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Edited by Carlos O. Mañón

**Scripture quotations marked KJV are from the King James
Version of the Bible; and scripture quotations marked NIV are
from the New International Version of the Bible**

But thanks be to God,
Which giveth us the victory
Through our Lord Jesus Christ.
(1 Corinthians 15:57 KJV)

DEDICATION

This book is especially dedicated to those people that have surrendered their lives to Jesus, but have not experience the abundant life the bible says.

I want to encourage you. There still hope for you, remember that Jesus is alive and want to bless your life besides your mistakes.

Never is too late to have a new beginning, God is waiting for you. Decide today to make a turn in your life and tell Him as Jesus said to the Father once *Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass; but not be my will but yours.* Do not be afraid and remember that all things work for good for those who love God.

I also dedicate this book to those who do not know Jesus yet, but are curious about real christian life. I want you to know that is possible to live a life full of joy and peace even in the middle of difficult situations, but this is only possible when we surrender our hearts to Jesus and live as He wants us to live.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

TO GOD IN HIS THREE MANIFESTATIONS (Father, Son and Holy Spirit)

Words are not enough, even writing a million books, to thank you for all you have done and I know you will do for me. Thank you for your patience, love, understanding and mercy. Thank you for the time you spend for my transformation. Thank you for the trials and tribulations and many things more, but more than anything thanks for your unconditional love showed to me in the sacrifice made by Jesus to save me. I love you

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Thanks for your support and for blessing my life.

TO MY FRIENDS AND BRETHREN IN CHRIST

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Iris Hernández. Thanks, because when nobody believed in me you supported and listened me even when you did not understand.

INTRODUCTION

What it means to live a victorious life in God?

Many of us think a victorious life is one without trials and tribulations, but is the opposite. The victorious life is to remain steadfast in spite of the difficult situations that come to our lives.

Jesus did not promise us a life without tribulations, but a victorious one in God. This life belief in God, because knows He has control and cares on everything.

The bible says that all things work for good for those who love God. This means that everything that happens in our life has a purpose in God, to transform us into His image or to glorify His name through our lives.

God did not call us to put our sight on the things of the world because they perish, but in those that are everlasting. When we do it that way, He takes care of the other things and we can live that victorious life He has called us to live. I invite you today to surrender your life entirely to Jesus in order to experience that victorious life He has for all of us.

LOVE



“By this shall all men know
that ye are my disciples,
if ye have love one to another..”
(John 13:35 KJV)

LOVE

To love is to be willing to deny ourselves in order to be a blessing for others regardless of who they are.

LOVING GOD

Many times, we ask, what it means to love God.

The first expression of love towards God is when we surrender our hearts to Him to follow and do His will for our lives. When we do this, we show God He is important for us and we want to know Him.

God's major desire is to have people who love Him with all their heart, mind, and soul, willing to obey Him in all things.

To love God is very important to live a victorious life because that is what shows our obedience to Him.

When we surrender to God, we allow Him to transform our lives into His image; and when that happens, He can show His glory through us.

***And now, Israel, what doth the LORD
thy God require of thee,
but to fear the LORD thy God, to walk
in all his ways, and to love him, and to
serve the LORD thy God with all thy
heart and with all thy soul.
(Deuteronomy 10:12 KJV)***

When we truly love God, whatever He ask from us is easier to do because real love is willing to do anything for the loved one. True love does not need encouragement because does it by itself. The person that really loves God will always try to please Him in all things.

There is a precious promise for those who surrender their heart to God: His presence continuously dwelling in their lives, a presence that overwhelms our being. A presence that gives us that abundant life we all want and sometimes we try to find through the things of the world.

When we love God we become His habitation, He becomes part of our being.

*Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.
(John 14:23 KJV)*

His grace helps us fulfill the purpose He has for our lives, without any effort. This grace is that special gift that makes the people sees something different in our lives. This is nothing but His presence dwelling within us.

*Grace be with all them that love our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity. Amen.
(Ephesians 6:24 KJV)*

For us, fleshy human beings, highly influenced by a sinful nature is difficult to love God, as He desires. However, if we draw near Him with a humble heart He will help us grow in love towards Him. This love will make our hearts overflow with joy and peace.

LOVING THE WORLD

Sometimes we think that to love the world is only to please our flesh and do what we want. However, we do

not realize we show our love to the world when we do not give God the opportunity to be part of our lives; and when we do not let Him lead us.

We also think that to love the world is to live a crazy life having bad desires. However, when we do not surrender our lives to Jesus, we show we love the world more than we love God.

In 1 John 2:15 the bible says that if we love the world and everything on it the love of the Father is not in our lives. God dislike the things of the world, so if we say we love Him the things of the world will not have the first place in our lives.

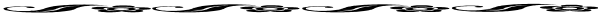
The world passes and the things that are in it, but those who obey the Lord endure forever. If we already surrendered our hearts to Jesus, we can still be placing God in second place in our lives. We show this when we put earthly things on first place, being anxious about getting the things of the world.

Being a christian does not mean we cannot enjoy earthly things, but that we give God the first place. We should allow Him to lead us on every decision we take.


Only He knows what is best for us, because He is the only one who really knows us.

We should draw near God and have a close relationship with Him. When we do that, His love becomes part of our being and we can testify to the people around us.

God created us to have a close relationship with Him. When we do not do that, there is an emptiness feeling inside of us. Only God's love can make us feel whole. The bible says that He is the light of the world and only those who follow Him will not be in darkness. That light is the love that dwells within us when we come close to Him.

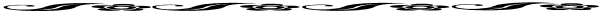


***Then spake Jesus again unto them,
saying, I am the light of the world:
he that followeth me shall not walk
in darkness, but shall have the
light of life.
(John 8:12 KJV)***

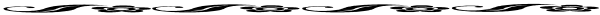


Today the world lives in darkness because do not have a relationship with God. The people follow the desires of their hearts, destroying not only their lives but also those around them.

God is looking for true worshipers that worship Him in spirit and truth (John 4:23-24). True worshipers are those willing to surrender their will to God drawing near Him, to see His glory through their lives. When people become light, they enlighten the darkness of this world. However, this is only possible when we have a close relationship with God, giving Him the first place in our lives.



***No man, when he hath lighted a candle,
covereth it with a vessel, or putteth it
under a bed; but setteth it on a
candlestick, that they which enter
in may see the light.
(Luke 8:16 KJV).***



The world has many things that seem to fulfill our expectations, but when we get them, we realize the empty feeling within us still there. Jesus said we could not do anything apart from Him; He is the only one that can bring joy and peace to our lives.

We have to focus in God through Jesus, because He is the only one who can fill our lives.

*He that believeth on me, as the
scripture hath said, out of his belly
shall flow rivers of living water.
(John 7:38 KJV)*

LOVING MONEY

When we do not have a relationship with God, we think that money can fulfil all our needs. It is true that money can buy many things, but cannot meet the need of love we have within us.

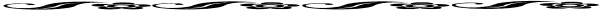

*In 1 Timothy 6:9-10 the bible says that *they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition. For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.**

When we focus on money, thinking that will fill the emptiness we have inside, we will do wrong things to get it. In our desperation, we will behave against the will of God bringing curses to our lives and all around us.

This does not mean it is bad to have money, but to think that we will fulfill our desires and needs the more we have it.

In Ephesians 4:10, the bible says that only God can fill our lives, which means there is nothing we can do apart from Him. The only way we will feel whole is having a close relationship with Him.

There are times that God bless their children with earthly possessions, but this always comes with spiritual growth. His first goal is to have us close to Him in order to attain spiritual maturity manifest Jesus through our lives. When He blesses us in that way, His purpose is not to please our flesh but share the blessings with others.


***Beloved, I wish above all things that
thou mayest prosper and be in health,
even as thy soul prospereth.
(3 John 1:2 KJV)***


The bible says in Proverbs 10:22 that *the blessing of the LORD, it maketh rich, and he addeth no sorrow with it.* This means that if God blesses us, we should not be

selfish. It also means that this will bring changes to our spiritual life and with those around us.

Be blessed not only means to be wealthy but also to have stability in our families, to have a good health among other things. God material blessings do not involve any kind of deceit or illegal things. The bible says in 1 John 1:5 that God is light and there is no darkness in Him, and every work that is against the word of God belongs to the darkness. Therefore, if we get what we call a blessing through situations that are against the bible, God is not part of it.

Judas Iscariot is a clear example of what happens when we focus on money. He used to be very close to Jesus but he did not appreciate that and preferred to get thirty silver coins in exchange for Jesus life. What Judas did showed his avarice and lack of love for Jesus. Judas love for money was so strong that when Mary anointed Jesus feet with the alabaster perfume, he only thought about the material lost and not the offering given. (John 12:3-5).

When we give God a second place to be wealthy, we act like Judas. If we prefer to spend more time making

money than having a close relationship with God, we are also acting like Judas.

We should ask ourselves today if we are putting a price to our faith like Judas, who lost his place in heaven for thirty silver coins? Are we trying to have a relationship with God because we really love Him, or because what we can get from Him?

In Matthew 6:24 the bible says that *no man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.*

God wants to bless us, but His blessings are not focus on worldly things but on the spiritual. His blessings are also, the things that happen in our daily living. The most important thing for Him is that we remain close to Him.

LOVING OUR NEIGHBORS

One of the main commandments established by God is to love our neighbors.

We think that we love our neighbors when we do not harm them, but this is not the only way we show love to

our neighbors. The best way to love them is when we show God's love through our lives.

To love our neighbors is not to please them, but to be good with them no matter what they do to us. It is to rebuke them with love when we see them doing something wrong or going in the wrong direction.

We not only show God's love when we provide for their needs, but also when we give them a hug, have time to listen to them, among other things. Showing affection can fill a need of love even when we think is nothing. This can be the only thing a person need at once.

We say we know God, but we do not show His love. If we really have a relationship with God, we will show His love to everybody no matter the way they treat us.

Jesus gave up His life not only for those who hated and mistreated Him, but also for those that today reject Him and do not surrender to God. The bible says on Matthew 5:45 that He *sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust* which means that God show His love even to those who does not deserve it.

The way we behave shows the kind of relationship we have with God. The Bible says in John 13:35 that we have to love each other as God loves us. If we have experienced God's love, we will share it with everybody around us.

True love does not expect to receive, but to give. As God first loved us approaching to us to save us, we should love first.

In 1 John 4:10 the bible says that *love, is not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins..* In the same way, we have to love expecting nothing from the other people, as God loves us. (Ephesians 5:1-2)


It is true that there are people hard to love, but God is not asking us to love them in our own strength. He is willing to help us through the Holy Spirit if we let Him lead us.

LOVE OVERCOME FEAR


The world lives in fear because they do not know or love God. The bible says in 1 John 4:18 *that there is no fear*

in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.

Fear comes to our lives when we do not know of God. When we love God and have a relationship with Him, we will realize He cares for us and is in control of everything. Even when we do not understand the things that happen around us, when we love God, we will know that everything works according to His will.



***The earth is the LORD's, and the
fulness thereof; the world, and they
that dwell therein.
(Psalm 24:1 KJV)***



We, who declare to know God sometimes live in the same fear the world lives. This happens because we do not have a close relationship with Him, and do not really know Him.

If we really love God, there will be no fear in our hearts because we will trust that He is with us all the time. The bible says that He will never leave us or forsake us, that even when we are unfaithful He remains faithful.

LOVE AND FORGIVENESS

We think forgiveness is to go and reconcile with the offended person. However, true forgiveness comes when there is no bitterness in our heart.

Forgiveness is very important. When we do that, we clean our hearts and if our hearts are clean it is easier for God to work in our lives.

When we have resentment this becomes an obstacle for our relationship with God. This hinders the victorious life that God has for us.

If we have truly experienced what Jesus did on Calvary, giving up His life even though we were unworthy of it will be easier for us to forgive. God showed us His forgiveness through that.

We have to forgive not only once, but every time needed even to the same person. Jesus said in Matthew 18:22 that we have to forgive our brethren seventy times seven. However, this does not mean we have to do it a certain number of times, but that we have to do it all the time.

Jesus is our main example of love and forgiveness, because He gave up himself without having any fault to deliver us from condemnation. He humbled himself taking the position of a servant to save our souls.

We have to forgive not only to fulfill the Word of God, but also to avoid bitterness in our hearts. When we have bitterness, our relationship with God is affected and we can lose our communion with Him.

Sometimes is not easy to forgive, but if we really love God and want to please Him we will do it. We just have to ask God to help us and He will be pleased to do it. Forgiveness is very important not only for us but for those we forgive, even when we do not see immediate results.

*For if ye forgive men their trespasses,
your heavenly Father will also
forgive you.
(Matthew 6:14 KJV)*

LOVE AND MERCY

Mercy is an act of goodness and love shown to a person that does not deserve it.

God gave the first example of mercy sending His only son to die in order to reconcile us with Him. (2 Corinthians 5:18-19).

In Matthew 5:7 the bible says that happy are the merciful, because they will also receive mercy. However, how many times have we been merciful to those around us?

True mercy is not only for those worthy of it, but for those we think not. God says that *he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust.* (Matthew 5:45).

There is no compensation loving only those who love us because the world does it that way. When we are merciful with those unworthy of it, we show Jesus through our lives. (Matthew 5:46-48).

None of us is perfect and some day we will need mercy. The bible says in Matthew 7:12 that *all things*

whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets.

Mercy open doors of blessing in our lives not only through the people we practice it, but through any situation that comes to our lives.

***He that followeth after righteousness
and mercy findeth life, righteousness,
and honour.
(Proverbs 21:21 KJV)***

When we are merciful with those around us we show them the love of God and that becomes a testimony of the relationship we have with Him.

TRUE LOVE

The definition of true love is in 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 where it says that *love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts,*

always hopes, always perseveres. This means that real love endures no matter what.

The highest manifestation of love was the sacrifice made by Jesus Christ on Calvary. He gave up himself to reconcile us with God and deliver us from condemnation.

In Romans 12:9a the bible says that there is no duplicity in real love. God knows our heart and He knows when we are honest in our feelings.

God knows we are not perfect, but He knows the intentions of our heart. God can tell if we love Him for who He is and not because what we can get from Him.

The first commandment established by God was to love Him with all our hearts, mind and soul, that is the desire of His heart for every one of us. He wants to have the first place in our hearts.

God knows we have a sinful nature and that we cannot show real love in our own strength. However, the bible says we have the Holy Spirit to help us grow in godly love.

God is love and we only grow in His love if we have a close relationship with Him. When we are close to Him, we become like Him. The student only learn from the teacher when is close to him.

When we come before God with a humble heart recognizing our need to learn from Him, God will begin to develop His love within us.

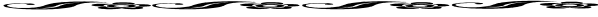
THE GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT AND LOVE

The gifts of the Spirit are those supernatural capabilities God gives us to fulfill His purpose for our lives.

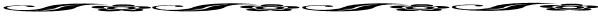
We all want gifts because we think that are the best way to manifest God, but the bible says in 1 Corinthians 13:13 that love is the most important gift.

If we have gifts and ministries and do not have love, we will not show God but ourselves. When we show ourselves, the only purpose is to glorify us and not Him. However, when we show the gifts in love we bless those around us and show the real personality of God. We glorify His name and not ours.

Love is essential because it is what shows God to the world.



***Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing.
(1 Corinthians 13:1-2 KJV)***



THE POWER OF LOVE

Love is the strongest spiritual weapon we have, and that is why the enemy (Satan) fights so hard against it.

It was through an act of love we were reconciled with God. Jesus Christ gave up himself as a sacrifice to redeem us from sin.

The church of Christ of these days lacks authority because of the lack of love. When there is division, jealousy, struggles God will not manifest all His glory.

*Set me as a seal upon thine heart, as a seal upon thine arm: for love is strong as death; jealousy is cruel as the grave: the coals thereof are coals of fire, which hath a most vehement flame. Many waters cannot quench love, neither can the floods drown it: if a man would give all the substance of his house for love, it would utterly be contemned.
(Song of Solomon 8:6-7 KJV)*

If we examine the verse above, we will see it says that love is as strong as death. We human beings are afraid of two things, to love and to die, and they are both related. It is necessary to die to ourselves, to our own interests, ambitions and desires to show real love. Jesus said in Matthew 16:24 that if we want to follow Him we first have to deny ourselves and take our daily cross.

The church of Jesus Christ and the world are dying because of the lack of love.

It is not a ministry or a new strategy that is going to change the things around us. Only love can do it. If we only surrender to God to become vessels of love, we will see great things happening around us.

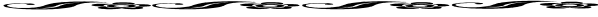
This scripture also says that many waters cannot quench love, which means that there is nothing stronger than love. Real love will remain forever no matter the circumstances. In 1 Corinthians 13 the bible says that love endures forever, which means that nothing can stop it.

People will hate us because of love. Love is willing to give up everything for nothing. When we really love there is no jealousy or envy, there is no competition. We help each other to grow, and we are willing to give up ourselves in order to see others prospered. One example was John the Baptist, who was willing to die to see Jesus ministry grow.

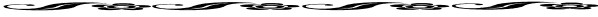
When we love, we do not depend on positions or situations because we know that everything belongs to God, and is for Him and to Him. We know that our salvation does not depend on what we do but on how much we love.

In the book of Revelation 2:4, God reproached one of the churches because of their lack of love towards Him (Revelation 2:4). The first commandment established by God was not only to love Him but also to love each other.

Love is the most important gift because is the manifestation of God personality.



***And now these three remain: faith,
hope and love.
But the greatest of these is love.
(1 Corinthians 13:13 NIV)***



OBEDIENCE



“As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do;”

(1 Peter 1:14-15 NIV)

OBEDIENCE

Obedience is not doing everything like a robot, but to surrender ourselves with all our heart. Real obedience does not need supervision, because it is done by love.

OUR DISOBEDIENT NATURE

All humanity is disobedient by nature because of our inheritance. The bible says that when Adam and Eve were in the Garden of Eden they disobeyed God. Then, God separated them from Him. (Genesis 2:16-17)

Noah's generation was also disobedient, and God sent judgment because of their rebellion. However, God protected Noah and his family keeping them in a safe place, because Noah was a righteous man.


God took the kingdom away from King Saul because of his disobedience. God commanded him to do something and he did not accomplish everything because he wanted to please the people more than God. (1 Samuel 13:1-14). Sometimes we do like Saul and disobey God because we want to follow our own ways,

or because we want to please the people more than God.

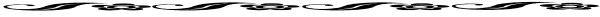
We think we are obedient when we do godly things before asking God, but real obedience is doing things when God wants, in His time not in ours. When we do it like that, God prosper our paths and as He was with Moses He is with us.

OBEDIENCE AND BLESSINGS

Obedience and blessings come together. Blessings are the fruit of obedience, because they open doors for it.



Study this Book of Instruction continually. Meditate on it day and night so you will be sure to obey everything written in it. Only then will you prosper and succeed in all you do.
(Joshua 1:8 NIV)



Obedience is very important to get a blessed and victorious life but is one of the hardest things to do because of our sinful inheritance. Our heart tends more to disobey and do our own will than to obey God and His word.

*Not everyone who calls out to me,
'Lord! Lord!' will enter the Kingdom of
Heaven. Only those who actually do
the will of my Father in heaven
will enter.*

(Matthew 7:21 NIV)

The bible says that only the obedient will be in heaven. It is not that we have to be perfect because the only perfect is God, but He knows our hearts. God knows when we do things by ignorance and when we insist in our disobedience.

Many times, we disobey God because we want to please everybody around us.

The lack of love towards God is also one of the reasons for our disobedience, because if we really love God we will please Him. Real obedience does not care about the consequences that come with it, because it is done by love.

*Jesus replied, "All who love me will do
what I say. My Father will love them,
and we will come and make our home
with each of them.*


(John 14:23 NIV)

Obedience is the key to have a victorious life.

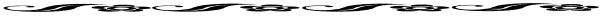
God removed Adam and Eve from the Garden of Eden, and separated them from His presence because of their disobedience.

We can lose our communion with God if we insist on following our own desires instead of submitting to God and His word.

Many of us do not have a victorious life in God because our lack of obedience. The bible says that only the obedient is blessed.



***But if you look carefully into the perfect law that sets you free, and if you do what it says and don't forget what you heard, then God will bless you for doing it.
(James 1:25 NIV)***

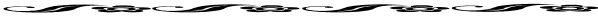


To be obedient does not mean we will not face tribulations, but that the people around us will see God in our lives. When the people see God in our lives, we become a witness for them and they will ask about God.

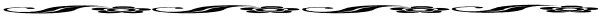
OBEDIENCE AS SPIRITUAL WEAPON

Why do we say that obedience is a spiritual weapon? Because when we are obedient, God's presence and authority is stronger in our life to confront the enemy. We also have more strength to face the trials and tribulations that come to our lives.

Obedience is one of the most powerful spiritual weapons we have against the enemy. The bible says in James 4:7 that if we want the enemy to flee from us we first have to submit to God and then resist the devil. To submit to God is to obey Him doing all He demands in the word.



***So humble yourselves before God.
Resist the devil, and
he will flee from you.
(James 4:7 NIV)***



When we become disobedient, we open doors to the enemy in our lives. Disobedience is rebellion and that is not a part of God's personality.

The bible says in Matthew 7:24 that those who hear the word of God and obey are compared to wise people.

Wise people built their house upon the rock who is Jesus Christ, which means that if we are obedient we will not be defeated. When we are obedient, also trials and tribulations will be easier to handle.

THE PRICE OF OBEDIENCE

When we decide be obedient we are going to confront difficult situations because the bible says that fleshly people do not understand spiritual things. This means we could face false accusations, mocking, and critics because of our desire to please God.

In the book of Matthew the 5th chapter, Jesus says that blessed are those who face tribulations because of their desire to please God.

Jesus Christ was an example of the things we can face when we become obedient. The bible speaks about all the sufferings Jesus faced due to his obedience. However, every time we decide to obey God He will be with us providing the strength we need to handle the situation, or He will remove the situation.

Jesus said christian life is not be an easier journey, but He promised to be with us all the time.

*These things I have spoken unto you,
that in me ye might have peace. In the
world ye shall have tribulation: but be
of good cheer;
I have overcome the world.
(John 16:33 KJV)*

Jesus was not the only example of obedience in the bible. All those obedient always had to face difficult situations, but God was also there acting in behalf of them. Among them, we find Noah, Elijah, Joshua, Daniel and others.

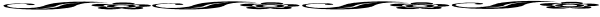
If we live in obedience in spite of any circumstance, God is going to use us to show His glory. Obedience gives God the opportunity to manifest His glory through our lives.

*Say not thou, I will recompense evil;
but wait on the LORD, and he shall
save thee.
(Proverbs 20:22 KJV)*


OBEDIENCE AND RENUNCIATION

It is necessary to renounce to our own desires and ambitions to obey God, because the things we think are good for us cannot be convenient. Only God knows what is best and does according to it. Sometimes it is necessary to renounce to our own interests to obey God. If we are obedient, God will fulfil the purpose He has for our lives.

To renounce does not mean to stop living or enjoying what we like, but to surrender to the will of God for our lives. God knows what we really like because He created us. We do not have to be afraid of surrender to Him, He knows more about us than ourselves.



***I am crucified with Christ:
nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ
liveth in me: and the life
which I now live in the flesh I live by
the faith of the Son of God, who loved
me, and gave himself for me.
(Galatians 2:20 KJV)***



To renounce it does not mean to leave our families or job, but to allow God to manifest through our lives.

Jesus is the perfect example of renounce. He gave up all His glory coming to the earth as a man putting His life, to reconcile us with God. Through that, He saved us from eternal condemnation.

Jesus never complained about the sufferings that He faced to accomplish God purpose. He was willing to deal with everything.

When we renounce we have to understand that all things that happen to us have a purpose in God for our own good and those around us.

To renounce means to leave or put aside those things that are against the word of God and those that make us show a bad testimony of Jesus. God knows our flesh is weak and He is not asking us to do things in our own strength, but with the help of the Holy Spirit. However, that is only possible when we humble ourselves and recognize the need of help.

To renounce will also mean to move away from certain people that were a bad influence for us in the past. They can make us go back we were before approaching God.

We have to know that we will always have a true friend that will never leave us or forsake us, Jesus. When we become a living testimony of God's glory, the people will see the difference in us.

THE OBEDIENCE AND THE CROSS

The cross is also important if we want to live a victorious life in God. However, this is not the cross were Jesus was crucified, but the different situations we have to face because of obedience.

The bible says that Jesus was obedient to death and because of that, God exalted Him and gave Him a name above all names. (Philippians 2:8).

Sometimes we want to be exalted without crucifying our being. It is necessary to live this process of renunciation to have the abundant life God has for us. However, we have to remember we will never be alone in any situation we face.

Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.
(Isaiah 41:10 KJV)

Isaiah 53:3 says that Jesus was despised, rejected by men, and familiar with suffering. Many times, we want to be exalted without been prepared for it.

The only price Jesus paid on Calvary was for salvation. Therefore, to live a victorious life is necessary to walk in obedience before God. Sometimes this will be hard to do because our flesh always wants to rebel against the will of God, but if we have a close relationship with God it will be easier since He will give us the strength to do it.

If we walk in obedience, God will always be by our side to strengthen us or to help us continue on our journey.

RELIGION AND OBEDIENCE

Religion is a series of doctrines and traditions we have to accomplish to get something. God says in His word that is by grace we receive all things.

When we talk about grace, we are not talking about licentiousness but an unconditional love willing to forgive the faults of a repented heart.

Religion also makes you think you have to do something in ministry to walk in obedience, but the word never says we are God's employees but children. The only thing

God ask from us is love and obedience to His word in all things of our lives.

The works mentioned in the book of James 3 are the manifestation of God's personality through our lives, and we can do this anywhere out or inside the place of worship where we go to praise the Lord.

The bible says we are a body, which means we all have different purposes and functions and not always inside the place of worship. Sometimes we do so many things that we do not let other people do something. We could be doing things that are not the will of God for our lives even when they seem to be good.

In these days, even among christians, families are divided because sometimes we do so much that we put them aside. To do things for the kingdom is not only to do something inside the place of worship or in ministries. The bible says in Colossians 3:23 that whatever we do we have to do it as to the Lord. Is from God we receive the reward because is Him we serve.

We are call to be light wherever we are (job, home, place of worship, ministry) so that the people around see God in us and not a religion.

We do not have the same function in the body of Christ, some do inside the place of worship and some outside. The most important thing is to glorify the name of God in all we do.

How can we be a witness if our families are divided because our disobedience and disorder?

If we take the right path, been obedient to God, we will see all the promises of the bible manifested in us. The world and those around us will see that God is real. (John 14:31).

OBEDIENCE AND TITHING

To tithe is not only a way to obey God but to show Him our love and gratefulness. If we say to the people that they have to pay certain amount of money to receive something from God, we are acting under the law, which is by works, and not under the grace, which is through faith in Jesus Christ.

We are not saying that it is not necessary to tithe but that we do not lose our salvation if we do not do it. Tithes are a way to open doors of blessings in our lives

and this does not mean we can manipulate God through it but that is part of our worship towards Him.

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***Every man according as he purposeth  
in his heart, so let him give; not  
grudgingly, or of necessity: for God  
loveth a cheerful giver.  
(2 Corinthians 9:7 KJV)***

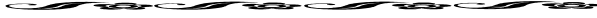
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Tithing is not a way to be justified before God, this depends on the integrity of our heart and the honesty we show when we do it.

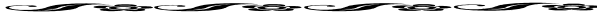
God says in the Word that we should put our sight on eternity and not on the earthly things because our life is hiding in Jesus. When we see tithing as a way to obtain God acceptance as children we are putting a price to what He already gave us through the sacrifice made by Jesus on Calvary.

If we see tithing as a way to please our desire of material things, we are putting our sight on earthly things because we do it to obtain material blessings and satisfy our selfish desires. We have to see it as it is: a way to show our love towards God and His kingdom.

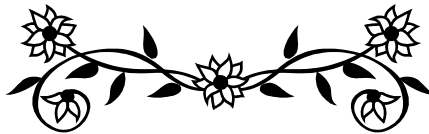
The most important thing is to remember that all we have was given by God not only to enjoy it but to share it, especially with those in need.



***A generous man will prosper; he who
refreshes others will himself be
refreshed.
(Proverbs 11:25 NIV)***



PRAYER



“Devote yourselves to prayer,
being watchful and thankful.”
(Colossians 4:2, NIV)

PRAYER

Many of us think prayer is a repetition or to place a petition before God. Prayer is the way we communicate with God.

When we have conversation with someone both parts speak, it is the same thing when we talk to God. Therefore, when we pray we have to take time to hear God remaining in a quiet position for a while.

A prayer life is not having a lonely time with God the whole day, but a discipline on taking a time to be alone with God. It is true that we can speak with God everywhere, but it is necessary to have a special time to be alone with Him in the place we chose.

PRAYER AND COMMUNION WITH GOD

A prayer life is the key to live a victorious life in God. It is through prayer we communicate with God to develop a relationship with Him. This is the only way we can get to know Him and the purposes He has for our lives.

The place of worship is not the only place for prayer, but a separate place where only you and God will meet.

This does not mean we cannot pray with other people but that is important to have that special time alone with God. The bible says He will reveal in public what we do in secret.

***But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly.
(Matthew 6:6 KJV)***

Jesus used to get up early to speak with the Father, because He loved God and wanted to be alone with Him. He also knew this was very important to live an obedient life and fulfil the purpose God had for Him. (Mark 1:35)

It is through prayer we begin a relationship with God, because that is the way we share with Him not only the different questions we have but also what we feel for Him.

Our flesh is weak, and does not want to be close to God but if we seek Him with a humble heart, He sees our faithfulness and is pleased.

He will also help us to come closer to Him because that is the desire of His heart.

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***...the spirit indeed is willing, but the  
flash is weak.  
(Matthew 26:41b KJV)***

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There are many temptations in the world, but if we remain close to God through a prayer life, we will have the strength and wisdom to overcome everything.

~~~~~

***Watch and pray, that ye enter not into  
temptation: the spirit indeed is willing,  
but the flash is weak.  
(Matthew 26:41 KJV)***

~~~~~

PRAYER AND TRIALS

Trials are the situations God allows in our lives to transform us into His image and show His glory through us.

It is through prayer we becomes wiser and receive the strength to overcome the trials that come to our lives.

When we surrender before God, He strengthens us to endure difficult situations. Jesus said so in Matthew 11:28 when He said *Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.*

In His presence we rest, but sometimes we look for another sources believing that we can escape or solve things with our own strength. Later, when we become aware of the mistake we made our life is in worse shape than before.

Jesus is the only one that can make us live a victorious life in the midst of trials. Just God can give that supernatural strength we need in difficult situations, and only Jesus can give us the wisdom to handle them in a good way.

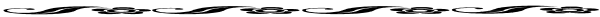
Nowadays the world is looking for answers and using every source that finds on the way without getting any results. Sadly, sometimes most of us who claim to know God look for the same ways the world use to handle our situations forgetting what God says in the bible. He says we should come to Him if we are weary or burdened because He will give us rest. God also says

He is our refuge and strength and our ever-present help in trouble.


Is true that sometimes God uses people to help us and speak to us, but we should always come to Him first in prayer. If it is necessary something else He will provide it or show it to us when we are not aware of it.

PRAYER AND OBEDIENCE

The bible says in Matthew 7:7 that if we ask we shall receive, if we seek we will find, and if we knock the door, it will be open. We have to remember our prayer will only have good results if we live in obedience.



***And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and those things that are pleasing in his sight.
(1 John 3:22 KJV)***



God promise to bless us but that is only possible when we live in obedience and do things as He says. Many times, we fail because of our flesh but if we come to Him recognizing our weakness and need of help, God will help us to live a life that pleases Him.

Many places of worship preach a message that promises answers to our prayers without looking at the way we live, but God says the opposite. He is a merciful God, but it comes a time when we have to face the consequences of our disobedience.

The life of the people of Israel described in the Old Testament is an example. God took them out of Egypt through miracles and wonders, but besides that, the people remained in idolatry and having a sinful life.


Because of that, God did not allow the generation that came out of Egypt to see the promise land. The promise land is that victorious life God has for every person who decide to live in obedience. (Numbers 14:20-23)

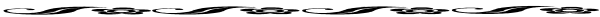
We are the ones that close the doors to get into the promise land God has for us, because of our desires to do our own will or please those around us instead of living an obedient life before God.

PRAYER AND RESENTMENT

If we have resentments in our heart, God is not pleased with our offerings (prayer, praise, worship). The bible says in Matthew 5:23 that before drawing close to God

in prayer is necessary to remove every feeling of resentment from our heart. Only when we forgive God is going hear our prayers the way we want to.


Therefore if thou bring thy gift to the altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath ought against thee; leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way; first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift.
(Matthew 5:23-24 KJV)




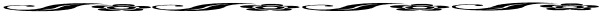
When our heart full of resentment and bitterness, God does hear our prayers the same way. He asks us to forgive before coming before Him.

Is true that sometimes is not easy to do that, but God knows our heart and how we feel about it. If God sees we want to do it, He will give us the strength we need to make it happen. In addition, our heart will receive healing and deliverance, and we will see the answer of our prayers in His time and according to His will.

THE RIGHTEOUS AND PRAYER

In the book of James 5:16b the bible says that the prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective. A righteous person for God is not a perfect one but that pleases and obeys Him.

When the bible says the prayer of the righteous is powerful, means that God hear his prayer because of his obedience. Besides, the righteous usually pray according to the will of God because has a close relationship with Him and can discern His heart.


***The righteous cry, and the Lord
heareth, and delivereth them out of all
their troubles
(Psalm 34:17 KJV)***


The righteous knows that prayer is not only a way to ask things from God, but also to develop intimacy with Him. That is why he always gives priority to that time with God rather than other things.

The righteous also knows that God not always answer our prayers as we want to, because sometimes we ask

for wrong things. He also knows that God has a time to answer and that is why the righteous live in peace because recognizes that each day has enough trouble of its own.

PRAYER AND SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE

When we talk about spiritual guidance, we are talking about what we need to walk according to the will of God.

In order to know what God wants from us on a time and situation is necessary to have a prayer life. Only when we have a prayer life we will have a good communication with God and we will be open to hear his voice.

The bible says that David used to ask God before doing anything and because of that, he always had the victory in every battle. (1 Samuel 23:2; 2 Samuel 5:19, 23) He used to come before God to receive the wisdom and instructions to do things and then he obeyed.

We have to remember the bible says that our struggle is not against flesh and blood (Ephesians 6:12) which means that the only way we receive the strategies to have the victory in our daily living is through God.

God is the only one who knows all that happens not only in the spiritual but also in the physical realm.

Sometimes we do not see doors open on the things we do because we do not ask God before. If we have surrendered our lives to Him, we should first come to God before doing something. Therefore, if we do not see the results we want in what we do is because we are moving out of the will or time of God.

There is a clear sign that shows up when we move in the will of God, that is peace. Jesus said *peace I live with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.* This peace does not depend on the circumstances around us but the faith and trust we have in God.

This means that if there is confusion or distress on something we want to do, is better to stop until we feel peace to hear what God wants to say about it. We will not hear the voice of God clearly, if we are not in peace.

We have to remember God will never ask us to do something that is against His word. We always have to come before Him with thanksgivings even for those

things we have not received. He works for our own good even when we do not understand it.

There will be times when we will not understand what God is doing until the end of time and we see the results of it.

PRAYER AND THE GLORY OF GOD

One of the signs of God's presence and power in the life of the disciples was the courage they had to speak the Word and do everything He asked them. All this because of the prayer life they had.

The bible says in Acts 4:31 that when the disciples prayed the place they were was shaken and all people filled with the Holy Spirit. If we do not see the glory and power of God the way we want, is because of our lack in prayer life. Besides, we have to pray with a humble and surrender heart.

God wants to show His glory like never before but for that, we need to have a close relationship with Him.

The time has come to stand in the gap on behalf of the world because that is the only way we will see the power

and glory of God. People will receive salvation and restoration.

PRAYER AND SPIRITUAL AUTHORITY

In order to have spiritual authority is necessary to have a prayer life. Only when we do that we will receive what we need to overcome the darkness around us.

Jesus himself was an example in prayer.

He always took time to be alone with the Father because He knew it was necessary to show God's power through His life.

The world does not know God and His power because even we do not know Him. Sometimes we do not spend enough time alone with Him.

This does not mean we have to be the whole day in prayer before God, but that we have to be faithful in that time alone with Him.

Many of us believe that to have a relationship with God is to go to church, and that is part of it, but we have this when we spend time alone with Him. If we do this with the other things, we will see the victory in all we do according to His will. (Matthew 6:6)

PRAYER AND TRANSFORMATION

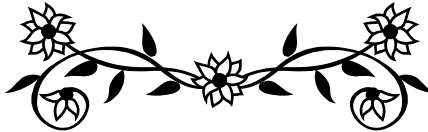
The face of Moses shined due to the presence of God within Him. This because of the relationship he had with God. (Exodus 34:29)

Today God wants to shine through us the same way He did through Moses in that time, because that way the world will see Him in us. That is only possible when we have a close relationship with God through a prayer life.

The only way our life is transformed is spending time with God, because is when we are in His presence that He deals with us about the things we need to change. Is in His presence our hearts receive healing and restoration from all the things we lived in the past.

If we were able to have the prayer life God wants from us, we will see many lives transformed among the body of Christ.

FAITH



“For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith”
(1 John 5:4 KJV)

FAITH

Faith is to believe God will accomplish the promises that are in the bible. However, we have to remember the need to live in obedience and have a close relationship with God.

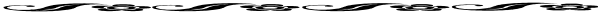
God is so great and mighty that we will not be able to see Him with our limited human eyes. The only eyes that can see Him are the eyes of faith.

FAITH AND SALVATION

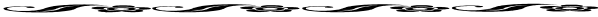
It is necessary to have a certain degree of faith to receive salvation, because we have to believe in God and the sacrifice made by Jesus to accept it. However, we do not develop this kind of faith with our own strength. God himself puts it in our hearts so we can confess Him as Lord and Savior for our lives.

Since we confess Jesus as Savior of our souls, we act in faith. When we declare that, we are saying that God removed our sins, and we begin a new life in Christ.

It is by faith we understand that is no necessary to fulfill the law, because we receive salvation by grace.



That if thou shalt confess with with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation
(Romans 10:9-10 KJV)



FAITH AND OUR SPIRITUAL WALK

The bible says in Hebrews 11:6 that without faith is impossible to please God, because faith is necessary even to believe in His existence.

Faith also is very important to live a victorious life, because without it we will not be able to believe what God says in His word.

It is by faith we overcome the different situations we face in our walk with God. When we have faith, we remain steadfast in the worse circumstances.

It was faith that made Peter walk over the troubled sea, because he believed that Jesus had the power to hold Him from sinking. When we have faith and believe that God can guard us, we will be a witness for all the people around us.

Real faith is not the one that believes in natural things but in supernatural. When the world says is not possible God begins to work in His power and magnificence.

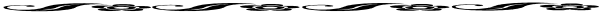
Our faith depends on our focus. The bible says on Hebrews 12 that is in Jesus we have to be focus, because when we that we will see the situations differently than the world.

When we look at the things around us with our human eyes, our faith weakens. If we see them as God does, we will realize the mighty power He has to change them or help us deal with them.

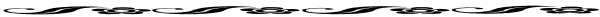
God does not promise a life without tribulations but a victorious one in Him, but that is only possible when we trust God will do everything He promises in every situation according to His word.

The bible says in 2 Timothy 2:13 that even if we are faithless God will remain faithful because He cannot disown himself. This means that even when we fail His promises still in effect.

We have to know that God still the same yesterday, today and forever, and that if heaven and earth passed away His word will not. His promises still in effect all the time and we have to believe and trust even when we do not see the answer of prayers immediately.



***For therein is the righteousness of God
revealed from faith to faith: as it is
written, The just shall
live by faith.
(Romans 1:17 KJV)***



FAITH AND WORKS

True faith demands works, but not those that glorify ourselves, but show God's presence in our lives.

The works of faith are the attitudes we have on the situations we face in our lives, which will testify about Jesus to those around us. It is through these works we

will show a powerful and mighty God, for whom nothing is impossible or a small God with limitations like ours.

*Even so faith, if it hath not Works, is
dead, being alone.
(James 2:17 KJV)*

God still the same because His word says so; what sometimes happens is that we do not believe what He says because there are times God does work when we expect.

God never forgets or fail, but is necessary to understand His will is not ours neither His time.

There is an example when Lazarus sisters went to look for Jesus because he (Lazarus) was sick. He did not go to them immediately. It was not the time of God. He went when Lazarus had four days later death, but this happened because God wanted to show His glory in this situation. (John 11:41)

When we understand and have enough faith to believe nothing is impossible for God, we will see the works of faith manifested in our lives and those around us.

FAITH AND SPIRITUAL WARFARE

The bible says in Ephesians 6:12 that our struggle is not against flesh and blood and this fight can only be won by faith.

According to Ephesians 6:16 faith is like a shield protecting us from the flaming arrows of the enemy that want to destroy our lives and take us away from God. When we have faith, we say we believe in God no matter what.

Jesus said that if our faith were like a small mustard seed we could even move the mountains (Matthew 17:20), but sometimes the influences around make us doubt about God.

The world looks for quick answers and solutions. God sometimes delays and that make us take wrong paths to obtain the answer we need instead of waiting on Him.

The bible says our faith is the victory that overcomes the world, and the reason we go to wrong places looking for an answer is our lack of faith and knowledge of God.

*For whatsoever is born of God
overcometh the world: and this is the
victory that overcometh
the world, even our faith
(1 John 5:4)*

If we really know God, we will not doubt about Him working in our lives. We have to remember, God does not work according to our desires but His will that is always for our good and His glory.

FAITH AND PROMISES

Faith is what determines where we go in our life, because if we do not believe in God we will not believe in His promises. We will be going from one place to the other without knowing what to do, because without faith we feel insecure.

*A double minded man is unstable in
all his ways.
(James 1:8 KJV)*

We have to remember the bible says in Numbers 23:19
God is not a man, that He should lie, nor a son of man,

that he should change his mind. Even if we are unfaithful, He remains faithful because He cannot deny himself. Faithfulness is part of His personality. (2 Timothy 2:13)

Once Jesus found a blind man begging Him mercy for his condition, and Jesus told him that depending on his faith he could make a miracle. The blind man said he believed, and Jesus said he was going to receive according to His faith. The blind man receives his sight not only because he believed Jesus had authority but also because he had faith.

Sometimes we do not see God's glory in our lives because we do not have enough faith and begin to do things in our own strength. This happens because we do not want to wait on God's time to see the miracle in our lives.

THE PRICE OF FAITH

In order to see the works of faith we have to be willing to face any situation that comes with it. The bible speaks about three young hebrews that confronted a difficult situation before an authoritarian king. He was asking them to do something that was against the word of God

but they preferred to pay the price of obedience. They knew God could rescue them but if not they would still believing Him. (Daniel 3:14-17).

We have to be willing to pay the price of faith by waiting on God or facing with braveness any difficult situation that comes to our life.

An example of a victorious life was Job, who besides the trials God allowed in his life remained steadfast until the end without having any doubt. (Job 2:1-6)

In our walk of faith, we will find many people that will not understand the way we live, but the most important thing is to remain believing God no matter what.

***For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry. Behold, his soul which is lifted up is not upright in him: but the just shall live by his faith.
(Habakkuk 2:3-4 KJV)***

Faith is part of the testimony of God's existence. The world does not have faith because they do not know God. However, those of us who know Him have to show

the world God's faithfulness, and that is only possible when we believe Him.

CONFIDENCE



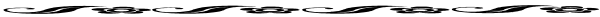
“You will keep in perfect peace him whose mind is
steadfast, because he trusts in you..”
(Isaiah 26:3 NIV)

CONFIDENCE

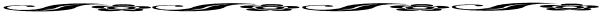
CONFIDENCE IN GOD

Confidence and faith go together, because they depend on each other. Faith is something supernatural that only God can give us, but confidence is a personal decision of trusting what God have said.

The bible says on psalm 118:8 that is better to trust God than men, but this does not mean we should live in fear of people.



***This is what the Sovereign LORD, the Holy One of Israel, says: "In repentance and rest is your salvation, in quietness and trust is your strength, but you would have none of it.
(Isaiah 30:15 NIV)***

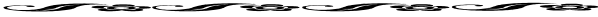


We have to understand that even those we trust can fail, because they are human like us. Only God, our creator is perfect, He never make a mistake, what happens is that sometimes we do not understand His purpose for our lives and doubt about the way He deals with us.

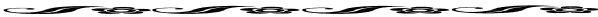
Psalm 125:1 says we will remain steadfast if we trust God, and that happens when we lay things on Him and believe nothing is impossible for God.

CONFIDENCE AND PEACE

We have to understand we cannot control our lives with our own strength. God will always take us to the victory. This does not mean we will not have tribulations but that He will give us the peace that comes with confidence.

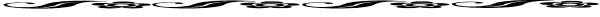


***You will keep in perfect peace
him whose mind is steadfast,
because he trusts in you.
(Isaiah 26:3 NIV)***

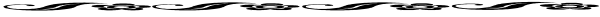


The world lives in fear because of the situations around them, but we who trust God must show them that is possible to live in peace in the middle of them.

We have to show the world we live in peace because we know that *the earth is the Lord's and everything in it, the world and all who live in it.* This means He is under control of everything that happens on it.



***The fear of man bringeth a snare:
but whoso putteth his trust in the
LORD shall be safe.
(Proverbs 29:25 KJV)***



When we trust God, not only His name is glorified but also the people watching will exalt us. This happens because they realize that everything we face is according to the will of God, even if they are difficult situations. Everything will depend on our attitude towards them.

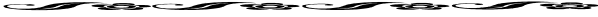
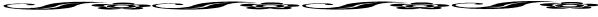
When we trust, we let God do what He wants in His time and we do not try to rush. When we do not do things our way we see the glory of God in our lives.

Psalm 25:3 says that if we trust God we will not be confused because we will wait on His time to see what we wait.

We have to know that never is too late for God, and that He always arrive in the perfect time. Stillness shows our confidence in God, because when we remain still we are saying we believe God even when things are not as we

expect. This is an opportunity to know God in a different way.

True patience is not the one that waits with an incorrect attitude, but the one that wait with meekness and stillness.


***Be still, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations, I
will be exalted in the earth.
(Psalm 46:10)***


WHAT HAPPENS WHEN WE WANT TO HELP GOD

God gave Abraham a promise, but He did not tell him the time of fulfillment. (Genesis 15:1-5). Time was passing and nothing was happening, so Abraham listened to Sarah's lack of confidence and had a son with her slave Agar. That became an example of what happen in our lives when we want to help God.

God promised him a son in spite of Sarah sterility but when Abraham told this to Sarah, she did not believe it and asked Abraham to have it with her slave Agar. (Genesis 16:2) This act brought Ishmael who was not

the promised son God told Abraham, who later became an obstacle for the people of Israel.

That is why we have to trust God even when things look impossible, and we see all doors closed. In His time, God will fulfill His promise. Meanwhile, just rejoice and delight in His presence letting Him transform our lives during the process of waiting.

His main goal in delaying is to develop our faith, so that we do not trust by sight but by faith. He does not want us to believe by manifestations because we could be deceived.

***Then Jesus told him, because you have
seen me, you have believed; blessed
are those who have not
seen and yet have believed.
(John 20:29 NIV)***

THE WORD



“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.”

(Colossians 3:16 KJV)

THE WORD

THE SPIRITUAL FOOD

The Word of God is the most important tool to live a victorious life in God. It is through the Word we know God's thoughts and person, and all His promises. It is also how we know the way God wants us to live.

*As newborn babes, desire the sincere
milk of the word, that ye may grow
thereby:
(1 Peter 2:2 KJV)*

The bible is our spiritual food because when we read it we fed our spirit and we receive the teachings we need to live the victorious life God wants us to live.

Is the tool that with the help of the Holy Spirit makes us grow spiritually, because helps us identify the false things from the true ones. It also shows us God thoughts about everything, and when we live according to what it says, we can reach the victorious life in God.

In Hosea 4:6 God said that destruction came to His people because of the lack of knowledge, and today most of us are walking wrong paths because we do not examine the truth that is in the scriptures.

We should read the bible daily, because each day God has something new to show us. It does not matter how many times we read it, God will always bring a new revelation about what we read. God is an endless God so is His word.

THE SWORD OF THE SPIRIT


The bible is the sword of the Spirit because penetrates inside of us dividing soul and spirit, giving us conviction of sin and enlightening our understanding. Is the only way we can know if we are walking in the correct direction.

For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.
(Hebrews 4:12 KJV)

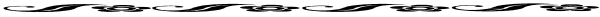
It is also important to obtain the victory in our spiritual battle, because the enemy cannot resist the power and authority that is on the Word when is declared with faith.

THE WORD AND ITS MODIFICATION

We cannot modify the word of God according to our desires and convenience, because if we do that we carry condemnation to our lives. We have to remember that the bible is not a simple book, but one inspired by God. He gave it to us to have a spiritual guide for our life.



And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.
(Revelation 22:19 KJV)



DOERS OF THE WORD OF GOD

God called us to be not only listeners of the Word but doers, because if we do it like that we will live a victorious life and be a testimony for those around us.

But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.

(James 1:22 KJV)

Sometimes we think we can deceit God not obeying what He says in the bible. When we do that, we lose the blessings that come with obedience.

Only when we are doers of the Word we will see the fulfillment of all the promises that are in the bible. God himself consider obedience as mandatory to have a blessed life.

If you fully obey the LORD your God and carefully follow all his commands I give you today, the LORD your God will set you high above all the nations on earth.

(Deuteronomy 28:1 NIV)

SPIRITUAL GUIDE

The bible is our spiritual guide because it has the desires of the heart of God for our lives.

*Your word is a lamp to my feet and a
light for my path.
(Psalm 119:105 NIV)*

It is necessary to confirm everything with the bible. If something is not in agreement with the Word does not come from God. He never does anything that is against His word.

Nowadays, many deceivers are walking according to their own desires and not the Word of God. They deceive people making them believe they can satisfy their flesh when God says in the bible that His main goal is our spiritual growth.

*Because the carnal mind is enmity
against God: for it is not subject to the
law of God, neither indeed can be. So
then they that are in the flesh cannot
please God.
(Romans 8:7-8 KJV)*

God never pretend to please our flesh but the spirit, because the desires of the flesh are contrary to the

desires of the Spirit. Only when we walk in the Spirit we please God.

*FELLOWSHIP WITH
OTHER BELIEVERS
(Meeting Together)*



“But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.” (1 John 1:7 KJV)

FELLOWSHIP WITH OTHER BELIEVERS (Meeting Together)

THE BODY OF CHRIST

When we accept Jesus as Lord and Savior, we join what we call the body of Christ.


*Now you are the body of Christ,
and each one of you is a part of it.
(1 Corinthians 12:27 NIV)*

As a body, we understand that we all have a different function so we do not need to feel jealous of others.

*And whether one member suffer, all
the members suffer with it; or one
member be honoured, all the members
rejoice with it.
(1 Corinthians 12:26 KJV)*

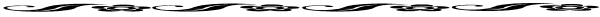
We should also know that as all parts of the human body work together so do us.


We need to have fellowship helping, encouraging and rebuking each other in love. Our purpose is not to destroy but to edify, encouraging those wounded or in need of restoration. Jesus did not come to bring condemnation but salvation. (John 3:17)


But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.
(1 John 1:7 KJV)

We should meet not only to pray, but also to praise God and share what He does for us.

Our testimonies and experience help others to continue forward in their walk with God and also help them grow in faith.


And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.
(Acts 2:42 KJV)



OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHERS

We have to know it is better to have fellowship with people that want to be spiritually mature or they will become an obstacle for our spiritual life. This does not mean we have to reject those who are not like this but that we have to be careful with who we meet. If they do not walk in obedience, they can make us do the same and separate us from God. The bible says in Amos 3:3 that two people do not walk together unless they agree.

And if any man obey not our word by this epistle, note that man, and have no company with him, that he may be ashamed. Yet count him not as an enemy, but admonish him as a brother.
(2 Thessalonians 3:14-15 KJV)

Jesus said if we remain close to Him, we would bear fruit because He is the Vine that has eternal life. Only those who want to be close to the Vine will be a blessing for our lives. Therefore, our desire has to be to get closer to the Vine (Jesus) so He is glorified.

TESTIMONY OF LOVE

Our fellowship with other believers shows the love we have for each other and our desire to be a part of the body of Christ.

When we have fellowship with our brethren, we can share all the things about our new life in Christ and edify each other.

God wants us to love each other in His love; because that is the only way we testify about His presence in our lives. He says in 1 John 1:7 that *if we walk in the light as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another.*

It is necessary not only speak about love but also to show it through our attitudes and actions towards others.

Sometimes this means to give up something we know our brother or sister needs, also to call them or visit them because they are having a hard time in their life. Also hugging them and giving a hand shaking.

There are many ways to show love, but the best is when we are a good testimony that edifies those around us.

*No one has ever seen God; but if we
love one another, God lives in us and
his love is made complete in us
(1 John 4:12 NIV)*

CONCLUSION

Many of us think that is impossible to live a victorious life in God but that is not true, what happens is that is necessary to obey what is written in the bible.

We have to understand we live in a world full influences coming from darkness. Our flesh always wants to rebel against the Holy Spirit. The most important thing is never look back, remember where God rescued from and the promises He has.

Our life in God will never be the same to those who live in darkness, because He will always be taking care of us. What we should not forget is that in the world we will face trials and tribulations but if we trust God have faith and remain close to Him we will have the victory.

A true soldier is not the one that is never hurt in the battle but one who keep going forward in spite of the wounds in order to reach the final target.