

Walking with God

The fading element of truth in God's Kingdom living.

Mal: 2:6: *"He [Levi] walked with Me in peace and equity."*

Pastor Brian.B.Nkolongwane

Pastor Brian.B.Nkolongwane

Walking with God

The fading element of truth in God's
Kingdom living.

Mal: 2:6: *“He [Levi] walked with Me in peace
and equity.”*

Pastor Brian B. Nkolongwane



Copyright © 2012-Brian B Nkolongwane

All rights reserved. This book is protected by the copyright laws of South Africa. No reproduction without permission. This book may not be copied or reprinted for commercial gain or profit. The use of short quotations or occasional page copying for personal or group study is permitted and encouraged. Permission will be granted upon request from the author.

The right of Brian B. Nkolongwane to be identified as the author of this work has been asserted by him in accordance with The Copyright Act No. 98 of 1978.

All scriptures quotations are from King James Version of 1611.

The American Standard Version of 1901.

Holy Bible, New Living Translation, Copyright © 1996, 2004 by Tyndale Charitable Trust. All rights reserved.

The Amplified Bible Copyright © 1954, 1958, 1962, 1964, 1965, 1987 by The Lockman Foundation.

All Correspondence should be email at: walkwithgodo7@gmail.com.
www.feedyourfaith.webs.com or www.gracecfc.weebly.com

Contents

- .Preface.5*
- .Introduction.6*
- .Who is God? Chap: 1:9*
- .What it means to walk with God? Chap: 2:13*
- .How do we walk with God? Chap: 3:24*
- .God made covenant with us. Chap: 4:28*
- .Walk in fear of God and awe of His name. Chap: 5:36*
- .Observing and Keeping God's word. Chap: 6:58*
- .We walked with God in peace and equity. Chap: 7:67*
- .God's ultimate purpose to walk with us. Chap: 8: ...77*
- .How can you walk with God when it seem like He is not
there. Chap: 9: ...81*
- .How can we develop a close walk with God? Chap: 10: .89*
- .Prayer for salvation.112*

Preface

Walking with God – *The fading element of truth in God’s Kingdom living*. This book is about revealing and emphasizing the important of walking with God on our daily lives in His Kingdom. This element is vanishing in our Christian walk even though we do not realize it; and it is slowly slipping away, and replaced by today’s Christian superficial and artificial living. Most of us have the form but not the real experience. We will explore this element by looking back at the patriarchs of faith. We will examine their relationship with God and what make them differ from us, and we will find out about the important of this element and what are the benefits that we have been missing in our Christian walk. By looking at these factors, this book will challenge your faith, and make you take inventory of your relationship with God, develop you to have a productive relationship with God which will result in the manifestation of God’s favor in your life, that will be witness by everyone around you, and will make you live effectively in God’s Kingdom.

Introduction.

I was listening to Dr Leroy Thompson sermon one day when He made a statement that stuck with me ever since that day. He said there are Christians who walk without the accreditation or credentials of revelation and manifestation. By the way, He was teaching on the subject of faith. When I heard this statement, it connects with something I have been concerned for quite a while about, when it comes into our walk with God. Almost most Christians can claim they are walking with God on daily basis. This term is being used to describe our relationship with God. However, how many of us, who claim that, are really experiencing the full benefit of walking with God. Is one thing to claim something but is another to show the evidence of what you claim.

We begin our journey with God through accepting the gospel about Jesus Christ. The gospel that was introduced in the world through the balance of the Word of God and His Deed or the Manifestation of His Power.

When Jesus starts His ministry, He was full of the power of the Spirit. The evidence of what He preached witnessed by people through signs and wonders that followed His ministry on earth. The gospel does not come with words only, but it also comes with the power of God. After all, the gospel is power of God.

Rom: 1:16: *For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.*

You cannot take power out of the gospel, because the gospel is power of God unto salvation. Therefore, if we

began our walk with God through the word of God and power of God, that means the rest of our journey with God **must, have to, and obliged to** be accompanied by the balance of revealed word and the manifestation of God's power.

Rom: 15:18: *For I will not dare to speak of any of those things, which Christ hath not wrought by me, to make the Gentiles obedient, by word and deed,*

Rom: 15:19: *Through mighty signs and wonders, by the power of the Spirit of God; so that from Jerusalem, and round about unto Illyricum, I have fully preached the gospel of Christ.*

Our Christian living with God must have the accreditation of revelation and manifestation. This is requisite if you are walking with God. I am not talking about the ministry only but in your personal life, you should have this accreditation. Accreditation means official approval, official recognition, and endorsement. That simply means, when God walk with man He endorse His relationship with him. Your walk with Him is official approved and official recognized by heaven. That means the angels have no choice but to follow you around and be at your service.

Psalms 90:17: *“And may the Lord our God show us His approval and make our efforts successful. Yes, make our efforts successful!”*

Another factor we need to understand about this element is that, any revelation from God must produce the manifestation of the Holy Spirit power. The Holy Spirit must back up or confirm any revelation that you have. If it can't be confirmed it can't be proven.

This is very crucial in our walk with God, especial when it comes to witnessing about Jesus. You cannot preach something you can't prove whether it is working or not.

That is why we are going to explore this subject on this book. We will look at patriarchs of faith like Abraham and others, to observe how they walked with God and what we can learn from their encounter with God.

Chapter 1

Who is God?

Jer: 9:24: *“But let him that glorieth glory in this, that he understandeth and knoweth me, that I am the LORD which exercise lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness, in the earth: for in these things I delight, saith the LORD”.*

Walking with God requires us to know who is God, since we cannot walk with God we do not know. In Jeremiah God said, he who boast, let him boast in this fact alone, that, they understand and know who God is. Then God begin to describe His moral attributes which are lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness, and He carry on to say He doesn't just demonstrates this attributes but He delight in them. This shows how vital it is even to God, to walk with someone who knows Him.

When we got saved, we are introduced to Jesus the Son of God who came to introduce His Father and Holy Spirit to us. We begin to understand and learn more about God through our journey with Him with the help of the Holy Spirit. Although God is always there, we needed official introduction to begin our journey with Him. That is why we need to know who is God?

Hebrew word for God is '**Elohim**'. This word literally means Deity, Divinity, and Divine Being. What we can know from the bible about who God is, we learned it from His attributes are shown in His word. Attributes are those qualities, characteristics, and traits that belong to God alone. The two main factions that define the attributes of God are Indispensable and moral.

- ✚ **Indispensable Attributes:** These attribute make God who He is.
- **God is eternal:** which signifies that He has no beginning or ending. God is the Alpha and the Omega, and The King Eternal. [Deut: 33:27, Rev: 1:8, and 1Tm:1:17.]
 - **God is Omnipotent:** This means that God is All Powerful and Sovereignty. He is Almighty God, All things are possible with Him, and He is the Lord God omnipotent reigneth. [Gen: 35:11, Matt: 28:18, Luke: 1:37, and Rev: 19:6.]
 - **God is Omniscient:** This means God is All Knowing. God have absolute knowledge, absolute wisdom, and absolute understanding. [Job: 21:22, Luke: 16:15, and 1Cor: 2:11.]
 - **God is Omnipresent:** This means God is All-Present. God is unlimited by space, cosmos, or time. [Psalms: 68:8, and Psalms: 139:7.]
 - **God is Immutable:** This means God do not change. There is no shadow of turning in Him. [Mal: 3:6, Num: 23:19, and James: 1:17.]
 - **God is self-Existent:** God exists in and from Himself. God owes His own existence to Himself. God does not depend on any other to sustain Him. God is the source of all life and His life is underived, original, inexhaustible, infinite, inestimable, and cosmic. [John: 1:1-4, and Psalms: 36:9.]

✚ **Moral Attributes:** These attributes are God characteristics that He reveals in relation to man.

- **God's Righteousness:** This means God is just, upright, holy, and blameless. [Psalms: 7:17, Psalms: 71:19, and Rom: 1:17.]

- **God's Love:** This means God is love. Here God is showing us His love, goodness, compassion, grace, and His kindness. [1John: 4:8, 16, Psalms: 27:13, 1Cor: 15:10, Lam: 3:22 and Exod: 34:6.]

- **God's Faithfulness:** This means God is trustworthy, dependable, reliable, responsible, constant and truthful. [Psalms: 36:5, Psalms: 119:90 Lam: 3:23.]

What I have just described here is a small portion of who God is. I do not think there would ever be enough words or expressions to portray who God is. Every encounter with God is unique to each generation yet He remains the same yesterday, today and forever. Every experience with God exposes or depicts different distinctiveness of His divine nature to us. You cannot walk with God and be unable to find your own way to describe your personal experience with Him.

- Abraham walked with God and knew Him in Genesis as the Creator, Almighty God, Jehovah-Jireh, and God his shield. [Gen: 1:2, Ge:15:1, Gen: 17:1, Ge:22:14: and Col: 1:16.]

- Moses walked with God and knew Him in Exodus as the 'I AM THAT I AM', Deliverer, Jehovah and Passover Lamb. [Exod: 3: Exod: 6:1-8 and 1Cor:7.]

- Those who walked with God in Leviticus knew Him as the Holy High Priest. [Lev: Lev: 7:35, and Heb:9:11:]
- Those who walked with God in Numbers knew Him as the serpent of Brass and the Smitten Rock. [Num: 21:7-9, Num: 20:8-13, John: 3:14, and 1Cor: 10:4.]
- Those who walked with God in Deuteronomy knew Him as the Rock and the One Who Gives Ability to Produce Wealth. [Deut: 8:18, and Deut: 32:4, 18, 31.]
- Joshua walked with God and knew Him as the Captain of our Salvation. [Josh: 5:13-15, and Heb: 2:10.]
- Judges walked with God and they knew Him as the Righteous Judge. [Judges: 2:18, and 2Tim: 4:8.]
- Ruth walked with God and knew Him as the Lord of Harvest and Kinsman Redeemer. [Ruth: 2:14-17, Ruth: 4:1-12, Luke: 10:2, and Psalms: 78:35:]
- Hannah walked with Him and knew Him as God who answers prayers and the God of knowledge. [1Sam: 2:3, and 1Sam: 1:20]
- Ezra walked with God and knew Him as the Scribe and Restorer. [Ezra: 7:6-12, and Ezra: 6:-7]
- Esther walked with God and knew Him as the Lord Who Favours her. [Esther: 2:15-17]
- David walked with God and knew Him as the Good Shepherd. [Psalms: 23]

We can go on and on, about the Patriarchs of faith who walked with God and we won't finish them all. Some they knew God as the Rewarder of Faith, Burden bearer, Shekinah Glory, Our Salvation, Son of God, Anointed One, Preacher, Apostle, Prophet.

The Word, Head of the Church, Provider, Resurrection, My righteousness, My Joy, My Peace, My Sanctifier, My Justifier, My Advocate.

The One Who Fight My Battles, Great Teacher, Savior, Chief Cornerstone, The Truth, The Soon Coming King, and The Lamb of God.

All these names came from different individuals who walked with the same God in distinct times, dispensations, cultures, and even situations. They all encounter different characteristics of who God is in their personal walk with Him. Therefore as you begin your close walk with God, you will know Him in a way you never been taught of about Him before. You will have your own personal description of His divine nature and qualities.

I believe walking with God is a special, unique, exceptional and intimate communion with Him, resulting in visible manifestation of His power or favor in your life that is witnesses by other people rather than yourself.

Chapter 2

What it means to walk with God?

Gen: 5:24: *“And Enoch walked with God: and he was not; for God took him.”*

Walking with God is a common term used a lot among God’s people today as we have stated. However, do we really understand it? What do we mean when we say we are walking with God? Some may think it means to be too spiritual, praying, speaking in tongues, praising and worship, and attending church all the time. Some think it is witnessing and preaching all the time. Nevertheless, doing all these things does it means we are really walking with God in a true sense of this term. If that is true what are the evidence of that?

I believe in practicing all that I mentioned above, but then after doing all this, if you still live a life that does not show visible evidences of God’s favor working in your life, it means there is something missing. I believe that, when you are walking with God, your life should have the accreditation of revelation and manifestation. This means what you say, believes, or stands for, must have visible reflection in your own personal life. It does not make sense to claim you are in relationship with God and still live a life that is not reflecting the advantage or benefits of that.

There is nothing that is so frustrating than seeing other people who do not have the kind of relationship you claim you have with God, becoming more progressive before you, and prospering in whatever they do, more

than you do. They don't pray three hours like you, or seek God early in the morning, speaking in tongues more than anyone, neither they fast, nor hate sin, they don't even meditating on the word day and night, and confessing it in any given moment you get, but it seems like everything is going well with them. And you wonder why things are not working out with you as they suppose to be.

To walk with God must cause all things to fall in place in your life. Situations like lack, insufficient, struggle with sickness, unsuccessful in ministry, business or your career, disfunction in your family, and a lot more other struggles we are dealing with, they bring questions on our relationship with God.

And on the other hand facing these struggles doesn't mean there is something wrong if this is the testing of your faith and God is just stretching your faith in order to take you into another level in your walk with Him. In this particular case your struggle is making sense. Because the favour of God, His sufficient grace and His presence is giving you the assurance that will give you the peace of mind and knowledge that God is in control of your situation and you can see the horizon.

But if you are wondering, confused and frustrated, than there is definitely something wrong with your relationship with God.

In this book, I would like to explore with you some important elements of truth that will address questions you have, even though you never ask about them out loud, but you think about them in your heart. Like, does God really hear me when I pray? If He does why I do not see any change in my situation? Does He care about me? If He does, where He is? You have done it all the word tells you to do. You pray, stand on the word; confess the word, waited on God, acted on your faith, but things still

seems the same. You have been preaching faithfully for years, doing God's work devotedly. However, secretly you wonder why your family is struggling, why they are paying the price for your calling.

You have been sowing in the kingdom faithfully but you are barely surviving. Where is God's approval in your life? You are in the moment of giving up. You even think sinners are living better than you are. And you are about to give up on your faith.

This book is about challenging your faith, challenging you to take inventory of your life, stirring up your desire to develop your relationship with God, provoking or inflaming your need to seek God and His best for you, and will help you to develop an intimacy relationship with the Father which will produce God's accreditation of revelation and manifestation that will be God's approval on your life, ministry, business, career, and family.

Let us now define what it means to walk with God. God's relationship with Abraham gives us a perfect definition on what it means to walk with God.

Gen: 21:22: *And it came to pass at that time, that Abimelech and Phichol the chief captain of his host spoke unto Abraham, saying, God is with thee in all that thou doest:*

Gen: 21:23: *Now therefore swear unto me here by God that thou wilt not deal falsely with me, or with my son, or with my son's son: but according to the kindness that I have done unto thee, thou shall do unto me, and to the land wherein thou hast sojourned."*

Here we see Abraham walked with God to a point where it was evident to the people around him. Abimelech the king of Gerar, after observing God's favor on the Abraham's life, he decided to make a covenant him. In

Abraham's life, you can see that the evidence that shows he walked with God was reflecting in everything that he does.

This means walking with God is far more than what you do for Him in your personal life, or in the Church. It is not even something that you can claim when you are among people. Walking with God results in the supernatural evidence of God's favor manifesting in your own personal life, that can be witnessed by other people rather than yourself. Results of walking with God should reflect supernatural acts of God in your life that go beyond human comprehension.

The reason I am saying that, it is because when you think about God, His presence, and His power, you cannot help it but to think supernatural, because that is how He introduced Himself to us in His word. When you look at the way God created the earth, animals and human beings, you can see the supernatural acts of God.

There is no scientist that can explain how you can create something visible by just speaking the word only.

Heb: 11:3: *Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.*

Therefore if you are walking with God, it means wherever you are and whatever you do, you'll leave the evidence of God's supernatural acts for people to see that God is with you.

I know what I have just described here so far is a challenge for most of God's people. However, I believe everyone not only believers, but also even sinners; they have the desire of something that is beyond natural. I believe that, we all wish we could have power to control every situation we are challenged with in our lives.

Someone who is dying of terminal disease right now

wishes he/she could have supernatural power to be healed from that sickness. Someone who is facing financial struggles, lost love one, going through divorce, or done something wrong they wish they should not do, wishes they can get divine aid to change their situation. Supernatural is the only thing that can grab any person attention.

However, since supernatural is not a norm to us, we are not expecting it. Even believers, after all that they can read about God in His word, they are not expecting to see supernatural intervention in their lives.

I believe the reason they are not expecting it, is because of failing to believe God and stand on what they believe until it happen. Failing to believe God causes people to live a natural life with supernatural God, without benefiting from Him. When you are living in that state you cannot say you are truly benefiting walking with God. Because walking with God is always accompanied by His supernatural acts that are visible to people around you.

What I have just described here can be challenged by those who believe that times of supernatural acts of God are over. They believe it was necessary for God to do those things in the beginning, to introduce Himself to the people but after we got the word and have Jesus living within us, we no longer needs supernatural intervention of God in our lives.

Some since they have discovered that God have given us the ability the produce wealth, they concluded that for us to prosper with need to look only to ourselves and in inform God about what we want to achieve and do it without seeking God's favor, guidance or help.

They see the unbelievers making it in life without God and assume we can make it too in life without God's anointing as the ungodly do. They believe all you need is intellect only to rely on, not God's presence to get by in life. They believe secular ways and systems are God's

hidden ways of doing things. Moreover, there are those who have failed in trusting God to get results, which are now discouraging those who still putting their trust in God for provision.

It is amazing that every time when people fail in applying God's word in their lives and fail in standing in faith, they turn around and criticize those who are getting result by using their faith. Your failure in faith is not everyone's failure. I believe no one have a right to criticize someone who has achieved some things they never achieve themselves.

If Benny Hinn believe and teach healing, or Kenneth Copeland believe and teach faith or Creflo Dollar believe and teach prosperity, I have no right to criticize them until I have walk in their shoes, do and achieve what they achieved. The fact is that, what they believe and teach is working for them it means it is a real deal. On the other hand, what are you doing, and what is working for you so we can see and believe you too?

If you have no God's accreditation of revelation and manifestation in your life, what you believe and teach is not accredited, endorsed, authorized, and approved by God in Heaven. It is not legitimate and it must not be accepted by people. Never force untested revelations to people.

When God reveal something to you, test it first or search it thoroughly against God's word, secondly test it in your own life, because if it can work for you it can work for someone else, and thirdly seek guidance of the Elders in Faith, especial those who are living with God's approval in their lives before you can preach or share it to everyone else.

Walking with God is all about living life that has God's approval on you, that result in the visible supernatural manifestation of His favor working in your life, that can be witness by other people rather than yourself.

Let us look at the following example to explore this element of truth further:

Abraham walked with God, and God's presence and favor manifested wherever He went. Abraham began his journey with God when He called him to go to the land of Canaan. When He arrived there, God appeared unto him. We do not hear much about how God called Abraham, whether He sent angel or spoke to him through a vision in their first encounter. However, when He arrived where God intended for him to be, God appeared to him, and that second encounter was so significant in such a way that Abraham built an altar unto the LORD, who appeared unto him. There many encounters like this that Abraham had with God afterwards, including dining two angels who visited Him.

Gen: 12:7: *And the LORD appeared unto Abram, and said, unto thy seed will I give this land: and there builded he an altar unto the LORD, who appeared unto him.*

Gen: 12:8: *And he removed from thence unto a mountain on the east of Bethel, and pitched his tent, having Bethel on the west, and Hai on the east: and there he builded an altar unto the LORD, and called upon the name of the LORD.*

After that, we read that God fought with two different kings who were trying to take Abraham's wife to be theirs. Moreover, God used those two kings to blessed Abraham.

Gen: 12:15: *The princes also of Pharaoh saw her, and commended her before Pharaoh: and the woman was taken into Pharaoh's house.*

Gen: 12:16: *And he entreated Abram well for her sake: and he had sheep, and oxen, and he asses, and menservants, and maidservants, and she asses, and camels.*

Gen: 12:17: *And the LORD plagued Pharaoh and his house with great plagues because of Sarai Abram's wife.*

After Egypt, Abram became every rich. The blessing of the Lord now was beginning to manifest in His life.

Gen: 13:2: *And Abram was very rich in cattle, in silver, and in gold.*

When you look Abraham's scenario in Egypt, it seems like God set Pharaoh's up to bless Abram. The reason I think that, is because we didn't hear God rebuke Abraham for lying. Although saying that Sarai was his sister was not entirely a lie, because she was indeed his sister, they share the same father but different mothers. However, I do not believe that God endorse deception. As to why God allow this, we will never know, until we get in heaven. This does not mean now you can use this story to lie and deceive people. Liars shall have their part in the lake. [Rev: 21:8]

Gen: 20:10: *And Abimelech said unto Abraham, What sawest thou, that thou hast done this thing?*

Gen: 20:11: *And Abraham said, Because I thought, Surely the fear of God is not in this place; and they will slay me for my wife's sake.*

Gen: 20:12: *And yet indeed she is my sister; she is the daughter of my father, but not the daughter of my mother; and she became my wife.*

Here we see God doing the same thing to Abimelech the king of Gerar He did to Pharaoh. Abraham again came out of the same scenario with a blessing.

Gen: 20:14: *And Abimelech took sheep, and oxen, and menservants, and women servants, and gave them unto Abraham, and restored him Sarah his wife.*

The reason I have so much interest in Abraham's life is that, the bible says he is our father of faith and we are his seed. Secondly he was an ordinary man, and capable of making mistakes. However, that did not prevent God from walking with him. Thirdly, he was not in the

ministry, God manifested His power in Abraham's personal life. That means God can walk with anyone regardless of whether you are in the ministry or not.

I want to emphasize this point more, because of the perception many Christians have; who believe that God only manifest His full power in your life if you are a minister. This perception makes more Christians think that God only move in the church. They do not think that God wants to move in the same way in their homes, their businesses, and every part of their lives. I strongly believe that the essence of the ministry manifests more outside of the church walls. I believe if we can all carry God presence everywhere we go, God can shake the world 24/7, not only at church meetings. Abraham is the good example of this; even though God's full promise to him was not fulfilled in His lifetime. He did not live to see all the families of the earth being blessed through him. That promise was for the future generations, which was impossible for him live to see them.

Even though he died without see all the families of the earth being blessed, with salvation, God did shook the world around him, in his time to the point it was well known that God is with him. He did not conduct any crusades revivals, he just walked with God and everyone was touched by the manifestation of God's favor in Abraham's life; to the point where God is still known even today as God of Abraham. God of Abraham is the name that defines Abraham relationship with God. That relationship is still affecting the world even today. You cannot thoroughly preach the gospel or teach about God, blessing and faith without mentioning Abraham.

The bible says Abraham is our father of faith and we are his seed through Jesus Christ, which means our walk with God, should produce the same benefits he enjoyed with God. Our experience with God might not be the same as Abraham's, but our walk with God should be productive as his, since we are his seed.

Rom: 4:16: *Therefore, it is of faith that it might be by grace; to the end the promise might be sure to all the seed; not to that only which is of the law, but to that also which is of the faith of Abraham; who is the father of us all.*

Gal: 3:29: *And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.*

Therefore, walking with God is a special, unique, exceptional and intimate communion with Him, resulting in visible manifestation of His power or favor in your life that is witnessed by other people rather than yourself.

Chapter 3

How can we walk with God?

To answer this question let look at the following important components, which we will discuss from this chapter to the rest of this book. 80% of what we will learn about how to walk with God is based on **Malachi: 2:4-6**. However, for now let us start by looking at this primary element.

❖ God chose to walk with us.

God's intentions, purposes, and desires is to walk with man from the beginning:

Eph: 1:4: *According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:*

Eph: 1:5: *Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will.*

God has chosen us before the foundation of the world to be holy and consecrated, and He predestined us to be adopted into His family as children. He did that according to His good pleasure of His will. It pleases God as the Father to have and be with us as His children. That means the desire to walk with Him is not just unreal fantasy. It is His will for us.

When you read the word of God, you will find scriptures like:

2Cor: 13:14: *The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with you all. Amen.*

1John: 1:3: *That which we have seen and heard declares unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ.*

1John: 2:27: *But the anointing which ye have received of him abides in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teaches you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him.*

John: 17:21: *That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.*

Walking with God draws people into Jesus, because when people witness His favor on your life they will not resist who you walk with any more.

Acts: 17:28: *For in him we live, and move, and have our being; as certain also of your own poets have said, for we are also his offspring.*

John: 14:23: *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: 15:5: *I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abides in me, and I in him, the same bring forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.*

When you walk with God, your life becomes fruitful.

Deut: 23:14: *For the LORD thy God walk in the midst of thy camp, to deliver thee, and to give up your enemies before thee; therefore shall thy camp be holy: that he see no unclean thing in thee, and turn away from thee.*

Levi: 26:12: *And I will walk among you, and will be your God, and ye shall be my people.*

2Cor: 6:16: *And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.*

By reading through these scriptures, you can realize that God's will and desires is to walk and abides with us. God's will is not to sit in heaven and watch you here on earth from His throne dealing with life challenges on your own. He wants to be part of everything activities in our lives. After all God is our Father and not just our Father but our Righteous Father who take pleasure in helping us with our daily challenges.

Matt: 7:11: *If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?*

Heb: 13:6: *So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.*

Isa: 41:10: *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.

Isa: 41:13: *For I the LORD thy God will hold thy right hand, saying unto thee, Fear not; I will help thee.*

Isa: 48:17: *Thus said the LORD, thy Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel; I am the LORD thy God which teaches thee to profit, which lead thee by the way that thou should go.*

For us to walk with God we need to establish primarily that, it is God's perfect will to walk with us. This is what He desires, purposed and takes pleasure to do; it is not just a fantasy but it is a reality. If this is His will for us, that means walking with God is for you and me, not just few elects. I do not need to be a powerful preacher or a prayer warrior to walk with Him. All I need is to accept this as the truth, believe and practice it in my life until it becomes a reality not only to me but also to those around me.

Chapter 4

God made covenant with us.

Now let us look at **Mal:2:4-6** to explore other important components from how God walked with Levi. Levi was one of the twelve tribes of Israel and was chosen by God to serve Him in the temple.

Mal: 2:4: *And ye shall know that I have sent this commandment unto you, that my covenant might be with Levi, said the LORD of hosts.*

Mal: 2:5: *My covenant was with him of life and peace; and I gave them to him for the fear wherewith he feared me, and was awe of my name.*

Mal: 2:6: *The law of truth was in his mouth, and iniquity was not found in his lips: he walked with me in peace and equity, and did turn many away from iniquity.*

Here I have highlighted further important components we must learn, that characterize Levi relationship with God.

❖ *God made a covenant with them.*

Deut: 10:8: *At that time the LORD separated the tribe of Levi, to bear the ark of the covenant of the LORD, to stand before the LORD to minister unto him, and to bless in his name, unto this day.*

Deut: 10:9: *Wherefore Levi hath neither part nor inheritance with his brethren; the LORD is his inheritance, according as the LORD thy God promised him.*

God's covenant with Levi stated that they have: *to stand before the LORD to minister unto him, and to bless in his name, unto this day.* In return, the LORD was going to be their inheritance.

This means as they were not given the portion of land

like all tribes of Israel, God was their portion and their field where they plow or work into; if they need food they have to plow or work in God, they plow in His tabernacle, through their ministry before God. That is why God was responsible for their needs.

The biggest problem with some of our ministers today is that they have not learned to trust God to take care of their needs. That is why to demand money from the God's people to take care of their needs or ministry needs is very common these days. Some they do this to the extend where they manipulate God's people to get their needs met. They do not understand God's ways and learn to trust Jesus they preach enough, to provide for them. How can you preach God's goodness to the people but you don't trust the same God to show His goodness to you?

Since He is God, He can use anything including people to provide. This does not mean the Church does not have to pay tithes and offerings because that is what God commanded all of us to do including ministers. Lack in understanding the ways of God causes ministers or any other child of God to live in a surviving state rather than experiencing God's fullness of blessing in their lives.

As we read that God's covenant with Levi was to stand before the LORD to minister unto him, and to bless in his name, unto this day. And the LORD was going to be their inheritance.

Another important element to walk with God start with understanding and honoring God's covenant with us. We need to know that God is the God of covenant. If He wants to do a serious business with a man, He will enter into a covenant with that person. He did that with Abraham.

Gen: 15:18: *In the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates:*

Covenant is a contract or agreement between two parties. In the Old Testament the Hebrew word for covenant is berith. **Berith** is derived from a root word which means "to cut," and hence a covenant is a "cutting," with reference to the cutting or dividing of animals into two parts, and the contracting parties passing between them, in making a covenant (Gen. 15; Jer. 34:18,19).

When God make a covenant with man, He enters into a contract with that person. And in that contract there are stipulations which consist of agreements and promises that will be between God and that man.

Gen: 17:2: *And I will make my covenant between me and thee, and will multiply thee exceedingly.*

Gen: 17:3: *And Abram fell on his face: and God talked with him, saying,*

Gen: 17:4: *As for me, behold, my covenant is with thee, and thou shall be a father of many nations.*

Gen: 17:5: *Neither shall thy name any more be called Abram, but thy name shall be Abraham; for a father of many nations have I made thee.*

Gen: 17:6: *And I will make thee exceeding fruitful, and I will make nations of thee, and kings shall come out of thee.*

Gen: 17:7: *And I will establish my covenant between me and thee and thy seed after thee in their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be a God unto thee, and to thy seed after thee.*

Gen: 17:8: *And I will give unto thee and to thy seed after thee, the land wherein thou art a stranger, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession; and I will be their God.*

Gen: 17:9: *And God said unto Abraham, Thou shall keep my covenant therefore, thou, and thy seed after thee in their generations.*

Here we see the promises God made with Abraham when they entered into a covenant. Moreover, what God expect in return was that Abraham and his seed will honor or keep the covenant He made with Him. God wanted Abraham and his seed to belong Him only.

Every covenant needs the blood sacrifice to be sealed. Without the blood a covenant is invalid.

Gen: 15:9: *And he said unto him, Take me an heifer of three years old, and a she goat of three years old, and a ram of three years old, and a turtledove, and a young pigeon.*

Gen: 15:10: *And he took unto him all these, and divided them in the midst, and laid each piece one against another: but the birds divided he not.*

Gen: 15:17: *And it came to pass, that, when the sun went down, and it was dark, behold a smoking furnace, and a burning lamp that passed between those pieces.*

Gen: 15:18: *In the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates:*

Slaughtering animals and sprinkling of the blood was necessary to seal every covenant God made with man.

At the giving of the law (Ex. 24:8) the blood of the sacrifices was sprinkled on the people as well as on the altar, and therefore the people were consecrated to God, and entered into covenant with him, hence the blood of the covenant. (Matt. 26:28; Heb. 9:19, 20; 10:29; 13:20).

Heb: 9:18: *Whereupon neither the first covenant was dedicated without blood.*

Heb: 9:19: *For when Moses had spoken every precept to all the people according to the law, he took the blood of calves and of goats, with water, and scarlet wool, and hyssop, and sprinkled both the book, and all the people,*

Heb: 9:20: *Saying, This is the blood of the covenant which God hath enjoined unto you.*

When you look at the covenant God made with Abraham you will realize that it contain a purpose that goes beyond Abraham's life.

Everything that God created is His. However, in the beginning He gave a man the power to rule over the earth. Since He gave man the power, He cannot violate man's right over the earth. Therefore, after the fall of Adam, God initiated the plan to rescue man from sin. In order for that plan to be executed successful, God needed to find a way back to man without violating man's right.

Therefore, God made a covenant with Abraham. The covenant God made with Abraham was more than just blessing him with a child, he needed. But it was the initiation of His plan for our salvation. That is why in that covenant there was a stipulation that says, "*All the nations of the earth will be blessed through you.*"

Gen: 12:3: *And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that cursed thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.*

God fulfilled this promise stipulated in that covenant when Jesus came on earth.

Gal: 3:8: *And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith, preached before the gospel unto Abraham, saying, in thee shall all nations be blessed.*

Gal: 3:9: *So that, all who put their faith in Christ are blessed with faithful Abraham. [emphasis added]*

Acts: 3:25: *Ye are the children of the prophets, and of the covenant which God made with our fathers, saying unto Abraham, And in thy seed shall all the kindred's of the earth be blessed.*

Acts: 3:26: *Unto you first God, having raised up his Son Jesus, sent him to bless you, in turning away every one of you from his iniquities.*

When we accept Jesus as our Lord and savior, we are automatically entered into a new covenant that God made with us *[in faith that we will believe in His Son, we will become His people, and God will become our God]*.

I am saying that, God made this covenant in faith, because we were not there when it was made. Nevertheless, God who foresees what will happen in the future, made a covenant with us in Jesus. He believed that we would be saved.

God initiated His plan to save us through the covenant He made with Abraham. We are the same seed God promised to bless through Abraham our father of faith.

God's plan was completed in Christ Jesus, who became a man and takes our position before God on our behalf.

Eph: 1:3: *Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ:*

Eph: 1:4: *According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:*

Eph: 1:5: *Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will.*

This means God predestined our salvation and our place in our covenant with Him before we were born. So let this be registered into you: You are in covenant or contract with God. And the bible is the copy of that contract. All you have to do in order to walk with God effectively is to study the contract thoroughly and carefully.

Psalms: 103:17: *But the mercy of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him, and his righteousness unto children's children;*

Psalms: 103:18: *To such as keep his covenant, and to those that remember his commandments to do them.*

Without understanding, the stipulations stated in the contract, you would not benefit from your covenant with Him. God will never move until you act on the stipulations of this contract. Our covenant is the only factor that moves God. This is very essential to our walk with God. We walk with God because we are in a covenant or contract with Him. He is our God and we are His people. We bound, constrained, obliged, and compelled by our covenant with Him to walk together.

Chapter 5

Walk in fear of God and awe of His name.

Mal: 2:5: *My covenant was with him of life and peace; and I gave them to him for the fear wherewith he feared me, and was awe of my name.* [Emphasis added]

❖ *They fear God and they were awe of His name.*

God, on His part of the covenant promised to give them life and peace and Levi's part was to fear Him and be awe of His name.

The term fear of God in the Old Testament used as a designation of true piety (Prov. 1:7; Job 28:28; Ps. 19:9). It is a fear conjoined with love and hope, and is therefore not a slavish dread, but rather filial reverence. God is called "the Fear of Isaac" (Gen. 31:42, 53), or the God whom Isaac feared. A holy fear is enjoined also in the New Testament as a preventive of carelessness in our walk with God, and as an incentive to penitence or repentance (Matt. 10:28; 2Cor. 5:11; 7:1; Phil. 2:12; Eph. 5:21).

Heb: 12:28: *Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear.*

Fear of God is one of the important keys in walking Him. You cannot walk with God you do not fear. If you do not fear God, you will not obey Him. Obedience is very important element in developing a close relationship with God. Moreover, obedience is a true test of our commitment, our fear of God and our love for Him.

It is easy to say we are fully committed and we fear God, after all, that is what everyone likes to think. However, are we fully obeying and fear Him in every area of our lives?

Experience has taught me that there is a thin line between obedience and disobedience, and between holiness and sin. We are capable of disobeying God and sinning against His will in many ways without realizing it.

1John: 1:8: *If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.*

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

1John: 3:2: *Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.*

1John: 3:3: *And every man that hath this hope in him purified himself, even as he is pure.*

Here Apostle John is teaching us how to have and maintain penitence attitude. Dealing with sin in our lives must be like taking a shower or bath every morning or evening. Repenting is the foundation of our walk with God. It should not be something that was only necessary when we got saved. Some Christians they repented only once in their lives. Penitence is the foundation of our Christian faith. It is the attitude of someone who fears and loves God.

Psalms: 130:4: *But there is forgiveness with thee, that thou may be feared.*

When we repent God forgives us, and He do that so He can be feared. Hence penitence is an attitude that shows how much we fear God.

You need to know that repentance has nothing to do with who you are, or your position, and how big or small your sins are. It has everything to do with how much you love God. When you love God enough you repent on the spot when you realize you acted against God's will and

you repent without any excuses. When you make excuses or try to justify your wrong actions, you are not taking responsibility for what you have done. Penitence without excuses causes God to forgive you without hesitations. And when God forgives you on the spot, that is a done deal because you have repented on the spot. No one will have a right to judge you on something that God have dealt with already.

Rom: 8:33: *Who shall lay anything to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justified.*

Isa: 43:25: *I, even I, am he that blotted out thy transgressions for mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins.*

Repenting every time we feel we have acted against God's will; develop the fear and love of God in our lives. Our conscious becomes sensitive to the voice of the Holy Spirit that is correcting us and teaching us how to be upright.

To be upright is not something that comes automatically but is something that the Holy Ghost teaches and develops in us through His grace that is working in our lives.

Tit: 2:11: *For the grace of God that brings salvation hath appeared to all men,*

Tit: 2:12: *Teaching us to, denying or say no to ungodliness and worldly lusts, and to live soberly, to be upright, and godly, in this present world. [Emphasis added]*

Most people think sinning is when you do the obvious or big sins. Like: murder, drunkenness, adultery, fornication, and stealing. We never consider as a serious sins to slander, mummy, manipulate, deceitful, not keeping your word, having no remorse, negligent, conspire, un-forgiveness, envy, pride, jealousy, resentment, covetousness, hatred, grudges, and a lot more. We never thought that these sins are as bad as what we call big sins and they can cost us heaven.

I prefer someone who has done obvious sins because if the sin is big and obvious than the need to repent comes easy. If the sin is obvious than repentance becomes obvious, and if the sin is big than the need to be forgiven and cleanse becomes big. On the other hand, someone who is committing so called small sins like slandering; never feel any need to seek forgiveness, especially when that behavior has become a habit. We all know what the bible says about obvious and big sins, but what it says about small sins.

Rom: 1:28: *And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient;*

Rom: 1:29: *Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate or arguments, deceit, malignity or slander; whisperers,*

Rom: 1:30: *Backbiters, haters of God, despiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents,*

Rom: 1:31: *Without understanding, covenant-breakers, without natural affection, implacable or merciless, unmerciful:*

Rom: 1:32: *Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them.*

Here I have just underlined some of these so-called small sins. Some people never thought these were serious enough for God to say those who do this they are worthy of death. If that is the case, what is the different than between a murderer and a slanderer, haters of God and merciless, or fornicators and boasters, before God they are all the same.

As I said, I prefer to deal with someone who committed obvious sins than non-obvious sins. Again, if sin is obvious the need to repent will always be obvious.

Matt: 21:28: *But what think ye? A certain man had two sons; and he came to the first, and said, Son, go work today in my vineyard.*

Matt: 21:29: *He answered and said I will not: but afterward he repented, and went.*

Matt: 21:30: *And he came to the second, and said likewise. And he answered and said, I go, sir: and went not.*

Matt: 21:31: *Whether of them twain did the will of his father? They say unto him, the first. Jesus said unto them, Verily I say unto you, that the publicans and the harlots go into the kingdom of God before you.*

Let us look at the sinful woman who anointed Jesus with alabaster ointment.

Luke: 7:37: *And, behold, a woman in the city, which was a sinner, when she knew that Jesus sat at meat in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster box of ointment,*

Luke: 7:38: *And stood at his feet behind him weeping, and began to wash his feet with tears, and did wipe them with the hairs of her head, and kissed his feet, and anointed them with the ointment.*

Luke: 7:39: *Now when the Pharisee which had bidden him saw it, he spoke within himself, saying, This man, if he were a prophet, would have known who and what manner of woman this is that touched him: for she is a sinner.*

Luke: 7:40: *And Jesus answering said unto him, Simon, I have somewhat to say unto thee. And he said, Master, say on.*

Luke: 7:41: *There was a certain creditor which had two debtors: the one owed five hundred pence, and the other fifty.*

Luke: 7:42: *And when they had nothing to pay, he frankly forgave them both. Tell me therefore, which of them will love him most?*

Luke: 7:43: *Simon answered and said, I suppose that he, to whom he forgave most. And he said unto him, Thou hast rightly judged.*

Luke: 7:44: *And he turned to the woman, and said unto*

Simon, Sees thou this woman? I entered into your house; thou gave me no water for my feet: but she hath washed my feet with tears, and wiped them with the hairs of her head.

Luke: 7:45: *Thou gave me no kiss: but this woman since the time I came in hath not ceased to kiss my feet.*

Luke: 7:46: *My head with oil thou didst not anoint: but this woman hath anointed my feet with ointment.*

Luke: 7:47: *Wherefore I say unto thee, her sins, which are many, are forgiven; for she loved much: but to who little is forgiven, the same love little.*

Luke: 7:48: *And he said unto her, Thy sins are forgiven.*

Luke: 7:49: *And they that sat at meat with him began to say within themselves, who is this that forgive sins also?*

Luke: 7:50: *And he said to the woman, Thy faith hath saved thee; go in peace.*

Here we see a woman who is a sinner and she knew she was a sinner. The bible says she has many sins. Therefore, that means she has many obvious sins. The good thing about people who have done obvious sins is that, you do not have to remind them of their sins and tell them how sinful there are because they already know that. No one knows how terrible sin is than the sinner.

I have seen many preachers speaking about sin and describe it as if they know precisely what they are talking about, while some of them have no experience of what they are talking about. Some they are just projecting what they themselves would have done without realizing it, if they were given the opportunity to sin. Description of sin would never bring sinners into repentance, because you are just telling them about something they know better about than you.

However, sharing Jesus love, mercy, grace, goodness of God and His kindness bring people to repentance.

Rom: 2:4: *Or despised thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God lead thee to repentance?*

We need to understand that, it is the love of God that brings people to change their lives; true repentance comes as the result of experiencing unconditional love of God.

You know, it is easy to say you love someone if you do not know whom you love. Your love for that person would be base upon superficial knowledge you have of that person, because you do not have the real facts yet about whom you love. After a while staying with that person you realize the depth of that person's issues. Then you realize you do not have enough love to continue to love that person. The reason that causes you to have a problem with that person is that, you have not learned to love someone until he/she is lovable.

That is what God did to all of us. He loved us despite of our mess until we change. What I am trying to say here is that, Jesus loves us regardless of the mess we come to Him with. God's purpose is to conform us into the image of His Son. Therefore, even though when we were evil, He out good our evil with His goodness. We need to know that God is not dominated by the need to make us holy or need to judge us when we sin. He is dominated by His goodness and His mercies. He does not deal with us according to our sins, but according to His goodness.

Psalms: 86:5: *For thou, Lord, art good, and ready to forgive; and plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon thee.*

Rom: 5:20: *Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound:*

Therefore, no matter how much evil you have or keep throwing at Him, God have enough goodness to deal with your evil. God goodness is leading into repentance. Another factor here is that, there is no way you can come to God and you are not forced to look at yourself, no matter who you are. The true presence of God will always prove that there is no good in you at all. It always exposes your unrighteousness.

Isa: 6:1: *In the year that king Uzziah died I saw also the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and his train filled the temple.*

Isa: 6:2: *Above it stood the seraphims: each one had six wings; with twain he covered his face, and with twain he covered his feet, and with twain he did fly.*

Isa: 6:3: *And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory.*

Isa: 6:4: *And the posts of the door moved at the voice of him that cried, and the house was filled with smoke.*

Isa: 6:5: *Then said I, Woe is me! for I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips: for mine eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts.*

Therefore, when we bring people to Jesus, we are bringing them to the one who is able of deal with their sins. Jesus will deal with everyone's sin without rejecting that person.

It is a myth that some church people thinks that God is angry with sinners. It is truth that God is not happy when people sin but He does not hate sinners. He hates sin. Jesus loves sinners, to a point He sat down and had a meal with them.

When this woman enters the room where Jesus was, Simon begins to slander her within himself. I believe that is common in our churches today. This is very confusing

because Jesus made it clear, that He came for the unrighteous, not for the righteous. So if sinners come to Jesus, why it is always a big deal to some, not all, but some church people? Some will say we do not have problem with someone who come to the Lord for the first time, but with have a problem with backsliders. I believe it does not matter when a person committed sin. Sin is a sin; God is always ready to forgive whenever we repent.

Psalms: 86:5: *For thou, Lord, art good, and ready to forgive; and plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon thee.*

As to why the some church people do not understand that, is a mystery. I believe this is a serious problem and needs to be addressed, if we are serious about walking with God who is loving and forgiving everyone regardless of what they have done.

When this woman arrived where Jesus sat, she poured out her soul to Him. She knew she was unworthy, so she had nothing to loss. She was already being judged, besides what more could be done on her. She wept at Jesus feet, since He was the only one in that room who can understand what she was feeling. She knows that Jesus was the only hope she had, if she was to be rescued from her sins.

You need to understand that, we repent only to the one who can forgive our sins not to the people, who can only judge, slander and complain about our sins. You can repent to people if only you have done something offensive to them, but for sins against God's will for us, we repent to Him. We can confess to each other if it is necessary as the bible said, but always go to God for the forgiveness of your sins, and settle that issue with Him. Remember Jesus is your advocate.

1John: 1:9: *If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to*

forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1John: 2:1: *My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.*

Therefore, this woman cried on Jesus feet, and wiped His feet with her hair, and pour alabaster oil on Jesus feet. When you are in that state you do not care, who says what or who is judging you; you just care only about what Jesus think and what He thinks is all that matters to you.

The truth is, if you really want to turn your life around, sometimes you must shut out of your life, people who don't see you changing and coming out of sin, people who condemn and judge you while they can't even provide salvation for you, they won't die to save you, they don't have power to deliver you from your sins, and they don't even have heaven. They are sinners themselves who are saved by grace not by their good behavior. Therefore, do not let anyone to rob you of your right to be forgiven by God. Change your companion, neighborhoods, or friends if you have to, as long you find Jesus at the end. Your salvation is more importance than any admires. Besides, you need Jesus after all.

When Jesus saw how much she needs Him; He turn to the self-righteous Simon and start dealing with him before dealing with the women.

Luke: 7:40: *And Jesus answering said unto him, Simon, I have somewhat to say unto thee. And he said, Master, say on.*

Luke: 7:41: *There was a certain creditor which had two debtors: the one owed five hundred pence, and the other fifty.*

Luke: 7:42: *And when they had nothing to pay, he frankly forgave them both. Tell me therefore, which of them will love him most?*

Luke: 7:43: *Simon answered and said, I suppose that he, to whom he forgave most. And he said unto him, Thou hast rightly judged.*

What Jesus was trying to teach Simon here, was that you could not put measures on God's forgiveness. God can forgive anyone, any sin, and it does not matter whether it is big or small. And Jesus also wanted to let Simon know that, when it's comes to forgiveness or dealing with sinners, he [Simon] or anyone who thinks like him have no say in a matter and their opinion does not matter. Only His opinion matters, since ***He [Jesus] is the only one who is capable of the dealing with sin.***

Matt: 9:2: *And, behold, they brought to him a man sick of the palsy, lying on a bed: and Jesus seeing their faith said unto the sick of the palsy; Son, be of good cheer; thy sins be forgiven thee.*

Matt: 9:3: *And, behold, certain of the scribes said within themselves, This man blasphemed.*

Matt: 9:4: *And Jesus knowing their thoughts said, wherefore think you evil in your hearts?*

Matt: 9:5: *For whether is easier, to say, Thy sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Arise, and walk?*

Matt: 9:6: *But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins, (then said he to the sick of the palsy,) Arise, take up thy bed, and go unto your house.*

Matt: 9:7: *And he arose, and departed to his house.*

Moreover, Jesus begins to illustrate the parable he told Simon. He explains why Simon had a problem with this woman. He said if you were forgiven little you love little, but if you were forgiven more, you love even more. Who do we love when we are forgiven? **God!** For more He done for us makes us love Him even more. What Jesus reveled here is that, not only righteous are capable of loving God but sinners too.

Luke: 7:44: *And he turned to the woman, and said unto*

Simon, Sees thou this woman? I entered into your house; thou gave me no water for my feet: but she hath washed my feet with tears, and wiped them with the hairs of her head.

Luke: 7:45: *Thou gave me no kiss: but this woman since the time I came in hath not ceased to kiss my feet.*

Luke: 7:46: *My head with oil thou didst not anoint: but this woman hath anointed my feet with ointment.*

Luke: 7:47: *Wherefore I say unto thee, her sins, which are many, are forgiven; for she loved much: but to who little is forgiven, the same love little.*

In the moment of repentance, that is where we express our true love for God. The moment of repentance is intimacy moment between God and the person who repents. As she was crying and washing Jesus feet with her tears, kissing Jesus feet, and anointing His feet with expensive oil. That was the acts of worship and adoration. It was communication of love between Father and His daughter. No one can understand how special that moment is to God. That is why the bible says it an honor for God to forgive sins.

I am not saying we should sin deliberately so we can have a moment of intimacy with God. However, what I am saying is that if we sin, we must not be ashamed to go to our Father and ask His forgiveness. God is always ready to take our sins way.

Psalms: 86:5: *For thou, Lord, art good, and ready to forgive; and plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon thee.*

The bible says after Jesus educated Simon about forgiveness, He turned to the woman and said,

Luke: 7:48: *And he said unto her, Thy sins are forgiven.*

Luke: 7:50: *And he said to the woman, Thy faith hath saved thee; go in peace.*

Keep in mind that, we repent because we fear God. We fear and obey God because we love Him. This is crucial in our walk with God.

If the love of God is made perfect in our heart, we will love sinners and those who have fallen from grace. Jesus was able to deal with this woman's sins even though Simon had a problem with her, He was able to deal with adulterous woman who was caught in the act of adultery even though she broke the law of Moses and her accusers wanted to stone her, He was able to deal with Peter's denial before he even knew he was going to deny Jesus three times, and He is able to deal with our sins, because He loves us and He loves the Father.

You cannot stand a sinner if you do not know God's love. If you love God, and you fear Him you'll love everyone. Levi loved God and he feared Him. If you fear God, you will agree with Him in everything He says and does. To walk with God you need to learn and embrace this component.

Levi was also awe of God's name. The word awe means to: wonder, admire, respect, amazement, wonderment and astonishment

Mal: 2:5: My covenant was with him of life and peace; and I gave them to him for the fear wherewith he feared me, and was awe of my name.

This is another important element in our relationship with God. You cannot walk with God who does not impress you. If God's presence does not make an impact on you anymore, than you have a problem. When people get used to God ways, it becomes a norm for them to lose their sense of awe. When you lose that sense, the manifestation of God's power in your life begins to fade away.

Bible makes it clear that God desires praise and worship.

The reason why He manifests His power to us, is for us to be awe of His name and His presence so we can worship Him. Therefore, when we lose our sense of awe, we lose our true sense of worship. That is the reason why you find many spectators during worship service in our churches.

It becomes normal these days for some Christians to attend a service just to watch those who participate in worship. They do not even feel guilt that, their fellow brethren are weeping in God's presence and immersed in worship, and they will look around as if they are in a football match, with an attitude that says this is not for me. Some they will act important, sophisticated and want to be acknowledged, because that is the only reason why they went into the church in first place. They are there to impress others with their status, hairstyle, new dresses or shining suits.

Some they even make lame excuses that they want to look good for God. Believe me I do not have problems with dressing to kill when you go into house of God [*at least that is what they say*]. I believe in having confidence, feeling and looking good and looking your best at all times. My problem start when what you wear and what people think when they see you become more important than giving God your full attention in worship. You become wary of yourself because you do not want to mess up the way you look during worship.

However, let me bust your bubbles a little; attending church service is not like attending a fashion show. When you decide to look good, do it for yourself not for other people. Moreover, let us stop fooling ourselves, God is not impress by what we wear but by what our heart offers Him.

Matt: 15:8: *This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is*

far from me.

If it was true that God is impressed with how you look, He would not pay attention into our prayers and worship early in the morning when we wake up. I believe there are very few people if any, who start by taking a shower before they pray when they wake up; because most of us who think about God as soon as we open our eyes, we think about shower after we come from His presence.

They are few people who look good when they wake up, and even if they look good, they will still need to take a bath before they start their day for obvious and well-known reasons. My point is this, if the Holy Ghost is able to come and have fellowship with us regardless of how we look and smell when we wake up in the morning, that means how we look is less important to God, for us to put more emphasis in the way we look when we go to the church. Therefore, do look your best when you go to worship God, but make sure that, you do it for yourself not to impress God or other believers. Because the truth of the matter is that, the reason we are all gathering in God's presence is to give only God our attention not those who dress to kill.

Beside I think it is crazy to model around the church service trying to show off, while no one is interested. If you want to be appreciated with how you look I believe every country in the world has special events that are organized for that purpose. In South Africa, we have many public events throughout the year, like Durban July [Horse Race] and many more. There you will impress many people and the media can even award you with the front-page picture for the whole country to see you.

When we come into God's presence, we come with one attitude to admire Him. And to tell Him how good He is, how beautiful and wonderful is His name, and how impressed and amazed we are, of His goodness to us. You cannot worship God if you are selfish and self-centered or

self absorb. You cannot be impressed and awe with what He does if you are looking to impress others yourself.

Another important thing about this element is that, when you develop this sense of being awe by God's name, it becomes easy to acknowledge Him in all that you do.

Proverb: 3:6: *In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.*

Acknowledging God means *to be mindful of Him*. We must learn to recognize Him in everything He does. I believe that we can be more sensitive of His presence in our lives, if we learn to acknowledge every act of God in our lives and be quickly to admit that, it is God who does every good deed that we see in our lives. It does not matter how big or small it is, we need to acknowledge Him.

I believe strongly that the days of miracles are not over. The same power and anointing of the Holy Spirit that was with the patriarchs of faith, prophet and the apostle we read about in the bible and in church history is still available in our days. The problem is that God's people got blind. We say those days are over and gone, but that is not true, we just got blind. The bible says Jesus is a same Yesterday, Today, and forever, and His word does not change or fail. So why we do not see God's power always in our lives? The answer is simple, the church got blind, and we see no problem with powerless God in our lives and we even try to justify it.

It is amazing that we always find excuses to justify our lack of faith. I am certain that God's power is still very much available, if only God can open our eyes to see how much of His power that is at our disposal.

Elisha prayed for his servant to see.

2Kings: 6:15: *And when the servant of the man of God was risen early, and gone forth, behold, an host compassed the city both with horses and chariots. And his servant said unto him, Alas, my master! how shall we do?*

2Kings: 6:16: *And he answered, Fear not: for they that be with us are more than they that be with them.*

2Kings: 6:17: *And Elisha prayed, and said, LORD, I pray thee, open his eyes, that he may see. And the LORD opened the eyes of the young man; and he saw: and, behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha.*

Paul prayed for the church to see.

Eph: 1:16: *Cease not to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers;*

Eph: 1:17: *That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him:*

Eph: 1:18: *The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints,*

Eph: 1:19: *And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power,*

Eph: 1:20: *Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places,*

Therefore, Levi walked with God with strong sense of awe of His name and what He does. Walking with God was more real to him, than walking with natural man.

How we know that, is because of the difficult test that God gave him.

Deut: 33:8: *And of Levi he said, Let thy Thummim and thy Urim be with thy holy one, whom thou didst prove at Massah, and with whom thou didst strive at the waters of*

Meribah;

Deut: 33:9: *Who said unto his father and to his mother, I have not seen him; neither did he acknowledge his brethren, nor knew his own children: for they have observed thy word, and kept thy covenant.*

Exod: 32:26: *Then Moses stood in the gate of the camp, and said, Who is on the LORD's side? let him come unto me. And all the sons of Levi gathered themselves together unto him.*

Exod: 32:27: *And he said unto them, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, Put every man his sword by his side, and go in and out from gate to gate throughout the camp, and slay every man his brother, and every man his companion, and every man his neighbour.*

Exod: 32:28: *And the children of Levi did according to the word of Moses: and there fell of the people that day about three thousand men.*

I believe in obeying our parents and that is God's command to us, so we can live long and I condemn disobedience against our parents for any reason. In this case, God did something that can be understood by Him as God alone. I can try to explain it by saying that, God did this because He claimed Levi from birth as His alone; therefore their parents and families have no claim on them. That is why they killed their families to show their commitment to God. There is no answer that can satisfy our comprehension, so I'm not going to try to explain this scenario any further.

However, one thing that I believe about God is that, He never wrong. He is always right. Even though sometimes we do not understand why and how He does things, Our Righteous God is Always Right. Levi understood that very well and their walk with God was more real to him than walking with any natural man. That is why it was possible for them to do to their families what God commanded them to do.

That is the same conviction of God presence in our lives that we need in order to walk with Him effectively. Walking with God in awe of His name will increase your sensitivity of His presence in your live. Walking with God will be more real to you than walking with any human being.

Chapter 6

Observing and Keeping God's word.

Mal: 2:6: *The law of truth was in his mouth, and iniquity was not found in his lips: he walked with me in peace and equity, and did turn many away from iniquity.*

❖ *The word of truth was in their mouth.*

The law of truth is the word of God. Levi kept God's word. The word of God is the foundation of our faith and basis of our walk with God. God put all that we need to know about Him in His word. The word of God is affluent and complete. It is tested and proven.

Psalms: 12:6: *The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times.*

Psalms: 33:4: *For the word of the LORD is right; and all his works are done in truth.*

Psalms: 138:2: *I will worship toward thy holy temple, and praise thy name for thy loving-kindness and for thy truth: for thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name.*

God's word is real and absolute. God trust and honor His word. When God give us His word, He gives us something that He trusts and guarantees to work.

Isa: 55:10: *For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater:*

Isa: 55:11: *So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall*

accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

God's word consists of three main components: laws, ordinances, and commandments. Other components like judgments, statutes, psalms, proverbs, prophecies, testimonies and precepts all fall under the main three. Let's look and define these main three components.

- **Laws:** this part of God's word has everything to do with how we relate to God and how He governs and rule in His Kingdom. Law reveal how God deal with man. It is given to help us to relate appropriately to God.

Matt: 22:36: *Master, which is the great commandment in the law?*

Matt: 22:37: *Jesus said unto him, Thou shall love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with thy entire mind.*

Matt: 22:38: *This is the first and great commandment.*

Matt: 22:39: *And the second is like unto it, Thou shall love thy neighbor as thyself.*

M't:22:40: *On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.*

Jesus said the greatest and first commandment in the law is to love the Lord thy God with all your heart, soul, and mind. Loving God is a law in God's kingdom. You cannot walk with God without keeping that command. ***Loving God means to esteem Him in a highest regard, to adore, worship, and be devoted to Him with all your heart. This should be exciting law to keep.*** When you love God, everything He says and does matters to you. You become

fascinated, enthralled, awestruck, rapt, captivated, and mesmerized with Him. This kind of attitude attracts God. So when you love God in that level, it will not be a big

deal to love you neighbor as yourself and to keep every instructions He commanding us to keep.

The law was given for our benefit. It is profitable for us to study and keep His law. We cannot access and enjoy all the benefits of walking with God if we do not know, understand and honoring what His law contains for us.

Josh: 1:8: *This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shall meditate therein day and night, that thou may observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shall make thy way prosperous, and then thou shall have good success.*

Ezra: 7:10: *For Ezra had prepared his heart to seek the law of the LORD, and to do it, and to teach in Israel statutes and judgments.*

Neh: 8:8: *So they read in the book in the law of God distinctly, and gave the sense, and caused them to understand the reading.*

Isa: 42:21: *The LORD is well pleased for his righteousness' sake; he will magnify the law, and make it honorable.*

- **Ordinances:** This part has all to do with the order of worship, service and our approach to God. In the Old Testament they have many customs, rituals, ceremonies, and feasts Israelites were commanded to keep by God, of which we are no longer keeping them today because Jesus came with the perfect way to worship and to approach God.
However, the attitude of worship and our approach to God is still the same.

2Chl: 2:4: *Behold, I build a house to the name of the LORD my God, to dedicate it to him, and to burn before him sweet incense, and for the continual showbread, and for the burnt offerings morning and evening, on the Sabbaths, and on the new moons, and on the solemn feasts of the LORD our God. This is an ordinance forever to Israel.*

We no longer keep all these ordinances God gave Israel but our approach to God is still the same. What we do now is prayer, worship, praise, study God's word, fasting, and conducting regular prayer and worship services. The bible says we also have to present our bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. This is our order of worship.

Let us look at David and see how his attitude was towards God ordinances.

Psalms: 119:20: *My soul is crushed with longing after your ordinances at all times.*

Other versions say my soul is breaking or overwhelm with a desire of your ordinances. David soul here is not crushed because something bad happen to Him, but this is a phrase he uses to express how much he was longing, yearning, and craving to worship and minister to God. We need to develop a hunger for God's presence and to be in our Fathers business, if we are going to walk with God effectively.

Psalms: 63:1: *O God, thou art my God; early will I seek thee: my soul thirst for thee, my flesh long for thee in a dry and thirsty land, where no water is;*

What we see here is that David sought God early in the morning. That is what we all must do if we are going to walk with God. You cannot walk with God you do not seek every morning before you start your day.

Even Jesus did seek God every morning, while He was here on earth. Praying and communicating with God daily is the important part of developing a close walk with Him.

Psalms: 5:3: *My voice shall thou hear in the morning, O LORD; in the morning will I direct my prayer unto thee, and will look up.*

Psalms: 143:8: *Cause me to hear thy loving-kindness in*

the morning; for in thee do I trust: cause me to know the way wherein I should walk; for I lift up my soul unto thee.

Other versions say, “Let me hear of your unfailing love each morning.” In other words what David says is that; ‘before I start, my day let me have love fellowship with you, where I will hear you communicating your love to me before I face what this day stored for me.’ You know how much confidence in God you will have during your day if you start your day like this. You will have the assurance of your Father’s love. Moreover, you will be contemplating about that love all day long. You will be in a state where you are not afraid or troubled by anything.

Another thing David says here is that, God will cause him to know how He should walk. Most of the times we just wake up every morning and carry on with our plans without enquiring to God what He have on His agenda for us today. Then, when things are not going according to our plans, we cry to Him. What David teaches us here is that, you must seek God’s agenda above yours before you start your day.

Jesus practices this during His ministry on earth. He used to pray in the morning and begins His ministry in that day with fresh agenda from God. Than when they ask Him about what He teaches and do, He will just say what I do, is what I saw my Father doing. In other words, He says I am fulfilling my Fathers agenda.

John: 5:19: *Then answered Jesus and said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, The Son can do nothing of himself; but what he seeth the Father do: for what things soever he doeth, these also doeth the Son likewise.*

Proverb: 4:7: *Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding.*

Prayer is one of the important ordinances or orders of worship, that enable us to access God’s wisdom and understanding we need to walk with Him effectively.

- **Commandment:** This has everything to do with how we live and how to relate to each other. God put more emphasis on how we conduct our affairs and how we deal with our personal issues. Commandments were given for our benefit, and it is our responsibility to observe and keep them.

Deut: 11:22: *For if ye shall diligently keep all these commandments which I command you, to do them, to love the LORD your God, to walk in all his ways, and to cleave unto him;*

Deut: 6:2: *That thou mightest fear the LORD thy God, to keep all his statutes and his commandments, which I command thee, thou, and thy son, and thy son's son, all the days of thy life; and that thy days may be prolonged.*

Deut: 6:5: *And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.*

Deut: 6:6: *And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart:*

Deut: 6:7: *And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.*

Keeping God's commandments is a full time responsibility that God gave us. It is not something that we do when we feel like it, but it is something that we need to keep, embrace, teach and remind ourselves of, all the time. And keeping His commandments is the way of showing how much we love Him.

David said, he delights in the commandments, which he has loved. That means David studied God's word with passion, and was enchanted with discovering what God is commanding him to do.

Psalms: 119:47: *And I will delight myself in thy commandments, which I have loved.*

Seeking God is not through prayer only but we seek Him through studying and searching scriptures. You will learn more about how to walk with God from His word.

Job: 23:12: *Neither have I gone back from the commandment of his lips; I have esteemed the words of his mouth more than my necessary food.*

2Chl: 31:20: *And thus did Hezekiah throughout all Judah, and wrought that which was good and right and truth before the LORD his God.*

2Chl: 31:21: *And in every work that he began in the service of the house of God, and in the law, and in the commandments, to seek his God, he did it with all his heart, and prospered.*

Psalms: 119:32: *I will run the way of thy commandments, when thou shalt enlarge my heart.*

David says here he will pursue God's commandments for God will enlarge his heart. Another version says he will pursue God's commandments for God has expanded his understanding. When you seek God in His word, He always broadens your heart and your understanding to take or acquire more of His word.

Therefore, as we keep the law of truth in our mouths, iniquity will not be found in our lips. The bible says out of the abundance of our heart our mouth speaks.

Luke: 6:45: *A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil: for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh.*

You only speak what you have been feeding your heart. Moreover, Jesus said what comes out your mouth defiles you.

Matt: 15:17: *Do not ye yet understand, that whatsoever entereth in at the mouth goeth into the belly, and is cast out into the draught?*

Matt: 15:18: *But those things which proceed out of the mouth come forth from the heart; and they defile the man.*

David says I keep your word in my heart so I will not sin against you. That means the more word we keep and observe in our lives, the more chances for us to avoid speaking evil out of our mouths.

Psalms: 119:11: *Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.*

Walking with God requires us to observe to do His word and keep it in our heart always. This will develop our relationship with Him, and make us prosper in all that we do.

Josh: 1:8: *This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.*

Psalms: 1:2: *But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.*

Psalms: 1:3: *And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.*

Chapter 7

We walked with God in peace and equity.

Mal: 2:6: *The law of truth was in his mouth, and iniquity was not found in his lips: he walked with me in peace and equity, and did turn many away from iniquity*

❖ *They walked with God in peace and equity.*

Levi walks with God in peace and equity. Walking in peace and equity or uprightly are another important components in our walk with God. First, we must know and understand that our God is a God of peace.

Rom: 15:33: *Now the God of peace be with you all. Amen.*

Other words that define the word peace are calmness, quietness, or tranquility, concord, amity, freedom from strife, or shalom.

Phil: 4:7: *And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.*

The word keep' here means to guard and to control. That means God's peace will guard and control our hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. God's peace would never allow anything to influence your heart and mind. Therefore, when peace reigns, it shut down everything that might undermine God's word in your life.

Let us define further the five words we underlined above to get more understanding on this word' peace.

- **Calmness:** This word means serenity, composure, contentment, self-control and moderation.

The peace of God brings serenity in your mind and your heart even in difficult situations. You are able to think rationally when everything and

everyone go crazy around you. This means you stay calm and composed in the mist of chaotic and frenzy situation. Peace of God develops the sense of contentment within us in a disgruntlement circumstances.

Phlp: 4:7: *And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.*

Col: 3:15: *And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also ye are called in one body; and be you, thankful.*

2Th: 3:16: *Now the Lord of peace himself gives you peace always by all means. The Lord be with you all.*

Psalms: 119:165: *Great peace have they which love thy law: and nothing shall offend them.*

Isa: 26:3: *Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusts in thee.*

- **Concord:** This word means agreement, conformity, union, and consensus, synchronization, which means bringing together or harmonization.

God's peace is able to unit disengage states of affairs, people, nations, and federation into agreement and consensus. It will cause everything and everyone to work together in agreement for your good. Moreover, it will continue to manage or harmonize that state of agreement.

Eph: 4:3: *Endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.*

Josh: 22:27: *But that it may be a witness between us, and you, and our generations after us, that we might do the service of the LORD before him with our burnt offerings, and with our sacrifices, and with our peace offerings; that your children may not say to our children in time to come, Ye have no part in the LORD.*

- **Amity:** This word means friendship, good relations, companionship, closeness, proximity, acquaintance, comradeship, and camaraderie which means solidarity and company.

God's peace it also means, walking in friendship. When you walk with God in peace, it means you are walking with Him as your companionship in proximity. Holy Spirit becomes your comrade, the one you fight one course with you. You walk with Him in solidarity and in cohesion or unity.

Rom: 5:1: *Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:*

Exod: 14:14: *The LORD shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace.*

Exod: 33:11: *And the LORD spoke unto Moses face to face, as a man speak unto his friend. And he turned again into the camp: but his servant Joshua, the son of Nun, a young man, departed not out of the tabernacle.*

Phlp: 4:9: *Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you.*

Jam: 2:23: *And the scripture was fulfilled which said, Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness: and he was called the Friend of God.*

- **Freedom from strife:** This means end of war, settlement, ceasefire, truce, cessation of hostilities, and respite which means a breathing space and relief.

This means when you walk with God of peace He will first rub His peace on you, and then infuse His peace around you, which will end any strife in your life. God's peace can settle any issue in your life. In whatever battle you have right now, God

through His peace will bring you out of it,
unharméd and give you respite or relief.

Proverb: 16:7: *When a man's ways please the LORD, he maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him.*

2Chl: 17:9: *And they taught in Judah, and had the book of the law of the LORD with them, and went about throughout all the cities of Judah, and taught the people.*

2Chl: 17:10: *And the fear of the LORD fell upon all the kingdoms of the lands that were round about Judah, so that they made no war against Jehoshaphat.*

2Chl: 17:11: *Also some of the Philistines brought Jehoshaphat presents, and tribute silver; and the Arabians brought him flocks, seven thousand and seven hundred rams, and seven thousand and seven hundred he goats.*

Lev: 26:6: *And I will give peace in the land, and ye shall lie down, and none shall make you afraid: and I will rid evil beasts out of the land, neither shall the sword go through your land.*

- **Shalom:** The word peace is translated from the Hebrew word shalom. This word carries various meanings with it. It means completeness, entirety, wholeness, fullness, richness, prosperity, affluence, material comfort, and wealth.

When you walk with Jehovah Shalom, the Lord of Peace, he will make you complete and whole. That means, there will be nothing missing or lacking in your life. God's peace brings abundance with it. When God's peace affects your life, great affluence will reflect on every aspect of your life.

Isa: 32:17: *And the work of righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of righteousness quietness and assurance forever.*

Isa: 32:18: *And my people shall dwell in a peaceable habitation, and in sure dwellings, and in quiet resting places;*

Lam: 3:17: *And thou hast removed my soul far off from peace: I forgot prosperity.*

Jer: 33:6: *Behold, I will bring it health and cure, and I will cure them, and will reveal unto them the abundance of peace and truth.*

Ezek: 34:25: *And I will make with them a covenant of peace, and will cause the evil beasts to cease out of the land: and they shall dwell safely in the wilderness, and sleep in the woods.*

Ezek: 34:26: *And I will make them and the places round about my hill a blessing; and I will cause the shower to come down in his season; there shall be showers of blessing.*

Ezek: 34:27: *And the tree of the field shall yield her fruit, and the earth shall yield her increase, and they shall be safe in their land, and shall know that I am the LORD, when I have broken the bands of their yoke, and delivered them out of the hand of those that served themselves of them.*

Psalms: 37:37: *Mark the perfect man, and behold the upright: for there is future for the man of peace.* [Emphasis added]

Levi walk with God not only in peace but also ***in equity or uprightly***.

The word equity means impartiality. To be impartial means to be objective, open-minded, without prejudice, and be fair. Uprightness comes from the word righteousness which means to be in right standing with God.

Mal: 2:6: *The law of truth was in his mouth, and iniquity was not found in his lips: **he walked with me in peace and equity**, and did turn many away from iniquity.*

You cannot walk with God if you are not uprightly when you deal with people. You cannot expect God to be fair with you if you are unfair with others. God knows that we are not perfect and we are capable of making mistakes, but still He expect us to meet the standard of uprightness he set for us, to enable us to walk with Him.

Therefore, if you are critical, faultfinding, fussy, unfair, iniquitous, hypercritical, judgmental, and unsympathetic in all your affairs with people, you cannot walk with God effectively.

1Chl: 29:17: *I know also, my God, that thou test the heart, and hast pleasure in uprightness. As for me, in the uprightness of mine heart I have willingly offered all these things: and now have I seen with joy thy people, which are present here, to offer willingly unto thee.*

David says here God test the heart, and take pleasure in uprightness. As you walk with Him, He will test you to see what is in your heart.

Psalms: 139:23: *Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts:*

Sometimes God will arrange challenging situations in your life to see how you will respond. The true test of uprightness comes when God allow people to turn against you. How you react on that proves how upright you are.

When David had his men turned against him, when their enemies kidnapped their wives and children, the bible says he turned to God to strengthen himself.

1Sam: 30:3: *So David and his men came to the city, and, behold, it was burned with fire; and their wives, and their sons, and their daughters, were taken captives.*

1Sam: 30:4: *Then David and the people that were with him lifted up their voice and wept, until they had no more power to weep.*

1Sam: 30:5: *And David's two wives were taken captives, Ahinoam the Jezreelitess, and Abigail the wife of Nabal the Carmelite.*

1Sam: 30:6: *And David was greatly distressed; for the people spake of stoning him, because the soul of all the people was grieved, every man for his sons and for his daughters: but David encouraged himself in the LORD his God.*

Another test came when Saul tries to kill David, and after everything Saul tried and failed, God delivered him to David. David had an opportunity to kill Saul. However, he didn't, even though God's presence had left Saul. He said I would not touch God's anointed one. That was the test of uprightness.

1Sam: 26:7: *So David and Abishai came to the people by night: and, behold, Saul lay sleeping within the trench, and his spear stuck in the ground at his bolster: but Abner and the people lay round about him.*

1Sam: 26:8: *Then said Abishai to David, God hath delivered thine enemy into thine hand this day: now therefore let me smite him, I pray thee, with the spear even to the earth at once, and I will not smite him the second time.*

1Sam: 26:9: *And David said to Abishai, Destroy him not: for who can stretch forth his hand against the LORD's anointed, and be guiltless?*

1Sam: 26:10: *David said furthermore, As the LORD liveth, the LORD shall smite him; or his day shall come to die; or he shall descend into battle, and perish.*

1Sam: 26:11: *The LORD forbid that I should stretch forth mine hand against the LORD's anointed:*

How many people who will not think twice to destroy the lives of those they have direct or in direct issues with them. This is very common in the Church these days. David says *who can stretch forth his hand against the Lord's anointed and be guiltless.* Today some people carry on with their lives as if they done nothing wrong. They can stand and worship without any remorse of what they have done to others. Saul sinned against God. What He did to David was wrong. However, David since he was upright in his heart he said *'I should not stretch forth mine hand against the LORD's anointed.'* Only those who are upright in heart can do that.

God take pleasure in uprightness. Uprightness is one of the important qualities we need to develop in order to walk with God.

Psalms: 15:1: *LORD, who shall abide in thy tabernacle? Who shall dwell in thy holy hill?*

Psalms: 15:2: *He that walk uprightly, and work righteousness, and speak the truth in his heart.*

Psalms: 15:3: *He that backbites not with his tongue or doeth evil to his neighbor, nor takes up a reproach against his neighbor.*

Psalms: 37:18: *The LORD knows the days of the upright: and their inheritance shall be forever.*

Psalms: 37:37: *Mark the perfect man, and behold the upright: for the end of that man is peace.*

Psalms: 112:2: *His seed shall be mighty upon earth: the generation of the upright shall be blessed.*

Psalms: 112:4: *Unto the upright there arises light in the darkness: he is gracious, and full of compassion, and righteous.*

Psalms: 140:13: *Surely the righteous shall give thanks unto thy name: the upright shall dwell in thy presence.*

Chapter 8

God's ultimate purpose to walk with us.

Mal: 2:6: *The law of truth was in his mouth, and iniquity was not found in his lips: **he walked with me** in peace and equity, and did turn many away from iniquity.*

❖ *They turn many away from iniquity.*

Levi in his walk with God, he turns many away from iniquity. There is nothing that God does without a purpose. And His purpose is always involving salvation. If God saves you, delivers you, heals you, anoints you, calls you, bestows gifts, potential or special abilities on you, and even blessing you, He does that with one main purpose in His mind, to save somebody through you.

2Tim: 1:9: *Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began,*

Gal: 3:8: *And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith, preached before the gospel unto Abraham, saying, In thee shall all nations be blessed.*

I believe that God calls everyone. His purpose is to touch other people's lives with every opportunity He has given us. There is no one in God's kingdom that is living for him/her self. Your life in God's kingdom is not only about you. Therefore, selfishness is against God's kingdom

culture. When you walk with God be prepared that your life will be use by God to touch others, one way or other. We need to know that, we are here on earth as kingdom representatives. We are here to affect and influence the world with kingdom culture and lifestyle. We are here to bring everyone into the knowledge of truth, which is Jesus Christ our Saviour.

1Tim: 2:3: *For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour;*

1Tim: 2:4: *Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.*

Well this does not means that everyone should be pastors, evangelists, prophets, teachers of the word, or apostles. Wherever you are and in whatever occupation you are involved in, God put you there for a purpose. Your purpose is to represent God's kingdom and through your life, your potential, your education, your skill, and your hard work, you should make an impact in everyone around you. Excel in every work you do, not just to impress your bosses or anyone around you, but to create opportunities for God to touch those around you. Why Paul said these words: *serve your masters as you are serving the Lord.*

Eph: 6:5: *Servants, be obedient to them that are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in singleness of your heart, as unto Christ;*

Paul was teaching us that, in our workplace we are representing Jesus. That means your standard of work should be outclass and stand out, because you are there

not just to working for a living but also to serve your Master Jesus.

Many people think God walk with a person only in the ministry, and if you are not in the ministry, God will not walk with you. The truth is, you do not have to be in the ministry to walk with God.

Maybe you can give me an answer to this question: What was Abraham's ministry? We all know that he walked with God to the point where God was and is still know and called God of Abraham. However, what was his ministry? The bible said in one instance that God refers to him as a prophet. However, he was not a typical prophet like Jeremiah, Isaiah and others. Nevertheless, God walked with him. This is the classical example shows that God can walk with anyone whether they are in the ministry according to our general understanding or not. Whether you are in the co-operate world or whatever field you are involve in, God have plans to walk with you in whatever you do. His purpose of salvation can be fulfilled through you in whatsoever occupation you are involved in.

When people see that there is something special about you, they will wonder what it is. Some they will even notice, before you can tell them anything, that your God is walking with you. When they begin to ask and wonder about you, that will be your opportunity to share how good is your Lord is, and invite them to come taste how good Jesus is.

Psalms: 34:8: *O taste and see that the LORD is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him.*

God want your life to be a blessing to others. He will bless you to bless others. By walking with you, God want you to be His connection to the dying world. There are a lot of people He wants to reach, save, deliver, heal, help and bless, that He cannot be able to reach without you. You are His link to those people. Just make a decision today to live a meaningful, significant, noteworthy and remarkable life with God, and you will know that your life or walk with Him is meaningful when it touches and bring others to Jesus Christ. This is God's ultimate purpose to walk with us.

Chapter 9

How can you walk with God when it seem like He is not there.

1Peter: 1:7: *That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:*

1Peter: 1:8: *Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory:*

2Cor: 5:7: *For we walk by faith, not by sight:*

The first thing that we need to establish here is that, God is always with us, whether we feel, see Him or not, He is always with us through the Holy Spirit.

John: 14:16: *And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever;*

John: 14:17: *Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.*

God is with us forever, as long as we keep our faith in Jesus; He will always be with us. God is with us whether we see Him or not. He is there, and it is impossible for us to be without Him.

Acts: 17:28: *For in him we live, and move, and have our being; as certain also of your own poets have said, for we are also his offspring.*

Another thing I have learned from my walk with God is that, there is nothing you do spiritually that is in vain, ineffective, unproductive, or futile. No prayer that you have prayed God didn't heard, no worship that you gave Him, He didn't received, no act that you took prompting

by your faith even though nothing came out of it, He didn't accredited you with, no word you stood on, applied in your life, and confess that didn't make an impact, and no seed you have sown that is not growing. Whatever you do because of Him, God noted. Soon or later, you will reap the result of faith. There is no wasted effort in God.

Deut: 32:45: *And Moses made an end of speaking all these words to all Israel:*

Deut: 32:46: *And he said unto them, Set your hearts unto all the words which I testify among you this day, which ye shall command your children to observe to do, all the words of this law.*

Deut: 32:47: *For it is not a vain thing for you; because it is your life: and through this thing ye shall prolong your days in the land, whither ye go over Jordan to possess it.*

1Cor: 15:58: *Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.*

Your faith in God is not in vain. When it seems like God is not there; that is when you are really walking with Him by faith. Keep on walking with God until you and people around you see the results.

Another thing you need know about walking with God by faith is that, faith is our only connection and link to God. Without faith, it is impracticable to walk with God. We come to God and seek Him through faith.

Heb: 11:6: *But without faith it is impossible to please him: for him that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.*

Our faith is the substance, essence, foundation, and the groundwork of things hoped, [*expect, anticipated, or look forward to*] for, the evidence, proof, confirmation, and

testimony of things not seen. Heb: 11:1. Faith is the foundation where we build our relationship and begin our journey with God.

First of all, our walk with God begins with accepting Jesus as our Lord and Savior. Jesus died and overcame sin and death, to save us from being condemn by God because of our sins. Through His grace, He forgives us and washes our sins with His blood. This is the first move you have to make to start your walk with God. Then after that, you begin to build your relationship through spending time in His presence praying, worship and studying His word.

What I like you to know is that every step of faith you took from the day you came to Christ until now, God have accredited it to you for righteousness.

Gen: 15:6: *And he believed in the LORD; and he counted it to him for righteousness.*

Rom: 4:3: *For what saith the scripture? Abraham believed God and it was counted unto him for righteousness.*

Rom: 4:5: *But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness.*

The bible says Abraham believed God and God counted or accredited to him for righteousness. Every act of faith, God counted it to you for righteousness. So walking with God in faith is always accredited even if it seems like God is not with you.

Sometimes God can let you go through your journey with Him without revealing Himself in your life. You will pray and it will seem like He is not hearing you. Sometimes you will wonder where God is. These times do come, but the important thing to know is that God allow them because He is testing you to see what is in your heart.

Deut: 8:2: *And thou shalt remember all the way which the*

LORD thy God led thee these forty years in the wilderness, to humble thee, and to prove thee, to know what was in thine heart, whether thou wouldest keep his commandments, or no.

2Chr: 32:30: *This same Hezekiah also stopped the upper watercourse of Gihon, and brought it straight down to the west side of the city of David. And Hezekiah prospered in all his works.*

2Ch:32:31: Howbeit in the business of the ambassadors of the princes of Babylon, who sent unto him to enquire of the wonder that was done in the land, God left or withdrew from him, to try him that he might know all that was in his heart. [emphasis added]

From time to time God can try or test us to see what is in our heart. Here we see God withdrew His presence from King Hezekiah to test him. These are times where most people fail. The reason is being, the test of our faith can reveal the true intentions of our heart.

The testing of your faith will reveal why you love God. It reveals whether you love Him more than what He can do for you, and will you still worship God even if He didn't answer your request.

There are many things that we are disappointed about, things that we waited on God to receive but we did not. Most of us give up on faith in God during these times. You need to know that God does not have a problem answering every prayer we pray, He have a problem with what is hidden in our heart.

You know, God does not test us because He does not know what is hidden within our heart. He name is All Knowing God; God knows what is concealed within us, before we even know that something is existing deep down our heart. Testing of your faith can reveal attitudes that you never thought you have. God does this because ***He wants you to see what you are capable of.***

Before the test of your faith, you will think and even profess that having Jesus alone, is all that you need in your life. Then God will put that attitude into a test by removing all those things that you value in your life. Then your true attitude begins to surface. It is easy to boast about God in your life, when everything is going well, but it is another story when things are going against you.

Therefore walking with God when it seems like He is not there, requires a certain level of maturity.

Another aspect you need to know about this is that God does not owe anybody. I will explain this point in two ways.

1. Whatever God does, He do it out of His love, not because He owes you anything. When He blesses you, He blesses you because He can and He loves you. God does not respond on blackmailing requests. You cannot manipulate Him to have your way. He is God, He cannot be fooled by anyone, even you.

Sometimes you need to walk with God in contentment of what He gave you, and prove to Him that you are a good steward of every blessing that is in your life, no matter how small it seems. Your good stewardship will qualifies you for more increase than what you have. I am not talking about material blessings only, but even His presence on you. We need also to be good stewards of His anointing on us. We need to be faithful in our prayers, worship and every time we spend with Him. Good stewards will always honour their appointment with God. Remember we are carriers of God's presences. God entrusted us with His glory.

2Cor: 4:7: *But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us.*

Therefore, God out of His love He blesses us and out of our love for Him, we have to manage well every blessing He gave us, including His anointing on us.

2. God does not have outstanding unfulfilled promises. He always keeps His word. Therefore, you need to know that if He promises to be with you, He will keep that promise. So if He testes your faith, it does not mean He had broken He promise to you. If He is taking you through the shadow of death, it does not mean He will not lead you beside still waters and lay you down in green pastures.

Num: 23:19: *God is not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do it? or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?*

God will always keep and honour His word. Therefore God does not owe us anything.

The thing about God is that, you cannot predict what He thinks. As much as He gave us His word to study and learn His ways, He will not tell us sometimes which direction He would take with our lives. It is by these times when you need to trust Him. Moreover, trust God even more when you cannot trace, detect, sense, feel, or perceive Him. That is what brings you into the state of maturity. It is by these times where we benefit a lot from walk with our God.

Rom: 8:28: *And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.*

Walking with God when it seems like He is not there, that is the time to prove to Him how much you love and

appreciate Him. It is the time to strengthen and growing your faith in God. Moreover, it is the time of transition into another dimension of grace and manifestation of God's favor and power in your life. When God withdrew His presence from Jesus when He was on the cross; it seems like it was over, but no, that was transition. After that, Jesus experienced the power of resurrection in three days after His death. There is no test that, God can allows you to have without great reward ahead of you. Therefore, walking with God when you not see Him is not in vain.

Chapter 10

How can we develop a close walk with God?

I do not think there is a specific formula that is guaranteed to work for everyone when it comes to develop our relationship with God. I never have been much believer of some of the styles or techniques of teaching that we are practicing today, like where we are told to follow three steps or seven steps to obtain something from God or follow ten steps to release your faith.

The reason I do not believe in this, is because I never read about any steps in bible that God specifically commanding us to follow to obtain anything from Him. I believe that just one word or verse from the bible when it combines with the revelation of the Holy Spirit and faith, produce power that will change your life.

For example, they are many people who received healing during Jesus ministry by having the revelation of who Jesus is and have faith in Him. Like the woman with the issue of blood. What three steps she followed to obtain that healing? Who taught her those steps? If there are steps, she followed, why they are not mentioned in a clear form for us to know and follow.

What about two blind men who followed Jesus, crying, and saying, 'Thou Son of David, have mercy on us', blind Bartimaeus, Lazarus, and a lot others? What about Abraham, Moses, David, prophets, and kings who walked with God and prosper and got blessed. There are no steps or formulas they followed. They all just have the revelation of who God is and believed in Him only.

Nevertheless, after said all that I do think that, God's word can still work in any form it is presented to us. As long, that word comes with revelation and connects with your faith. They can present it in steps or formula, as long your faith connects into that word it can change your life.

Therefore, I am not going to give you steps or formal on how to develop your walk with God. I believe every experience with God is different to each person. God never walk with every man in the same way. The way God reveled Himself to Abraham and walked with him is not the same as with the way He walked with Moses. David had a different experience with God. Joshua had his own experience with God.

Why do you think God is called, God of Abraham, God of Isaac, and God of Jacob? The reason is that, they have each unique individual encounter with God.

I cannot teach you how your walk with Him would be like. However, I can share with you what God said He desires or require from us, to walk with Him, and the rest is up to you to take His word and apply it in your life and have your own personal experience with Him.

In this last chapter we will summaries what we have already shared from previous chapters. These are not steps or formula but this is the word of God presented to you. I pray that as you read, it will open your eyes, and be a revelation to you.

In order to develop our walk with God, the bible teaches us to:

➤ **Seek God.**

Jer: 29:12: *Then shall ye call upon me, and ye shall go and pray unto me, and I will hearken unto you.*

Jer: 29:13: *And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.*

Psalms: 27:8: *When thou said, Seek ye my face; my heart said unto thee, Thy face, LORD, will I seek.*

I believe this is one of the most important foundations of our faith and our walk with God. Seeking God should be done continual; because you cannot say, you are fully or absolutely found and know Him.

Psalms: 105:4: *Seek the Lord and His strength; seek His face continually.*

God is too deeper and greater than you think. There is still a lot we do not know about Him. Seeking God through fasting and praying one time in the beginning of the year like we most Christian do, is not enough. That 40 days fasting you did ten years ago is not enough to capture all that God is.

Even Moses after 40 days on the mountain with God was not enough. Moses still took God for granted and disobeyed Him, which cost him to enter and possess Canaan. He thought he knew God well, because God used to speak with him face to face as a man speak with his friend, but he did not know God fully enough.

We seek God daily. The reason this is so vital, is because with need His guidance, wisdom, strength, presence, favor, grace, fresh anointing, blessing and His companionship daily.

Psalms: 63:1: *O God, thou art my God; early will I seek thee: my soul thirst for thee, my flesh long for thee in a dry and thirsty land, where no water is;*

I believe we will seek God until Jesus comes back. This is crucial in developing a close walk with God. We must seek Him, rummage around for Him, search and research for Him, and look for Him, in whatever term you can use to define seeking God, just find Him. He said, He will be found by you if you search Him with all your heart. If you cannot seek Him or you are too lazy to seek Him, you will not experience a close and meaningful relationship with Jesus.

Exod: 33:13: *Now therefore, I pray thee, if I have found grace in thy sight, shew me now thy way, that I may know thee, that I may find grace in thy sight: and consider that this nation is thy people.*

Exod: 33:14: *And he said, My presence shall go with thee, and I will give thee rest.*

You need to develop a hunger for God, if you are to walk with Him. To improve relationship with God you need to be hungry for His presence. Your relationship will not just develop automatically. You have to put some effort. What made many great men and women of faith we heard about in history, to have outstanding experience with God, is many times that caused by their hunger for Him. This is important element in developing a close walk with God.

Psalms: 105:4: *Seek the LORD, and his strength: seek his face evermore.*

- **Develop and practice your communication skills with God.**
 - **Develop** means to increase, grow, mature, progress, advance, cultivate, improve, get better, and recuperate something, or build up.

Communicating with God goes beyond prayer. Prayer is a request, supplication, intercession, which include thanksgiving. Prayer is one way.

Psalms: 5:3: *My voice shall thou hear in the morning, O LORD; in the morning will I direct my prayer unto thee, and will look up or wait with expectation.* [Emphasis added]

We pray and wait. While communicating is two ways; God speak and you respond, and you speak and He responds. Communicating with God is a skill that we need to develop until we perfected it. We need to put effort in developing this skill. The reason is that, not all of us are able to see visions, or hear audible voice of God speaking to us. We need to improve our spiritual hearing abilities.

1Sa:3:6: *And the LORD called yet again, Samuel. And Samuel arose and went to Eli, and said, here am I; for thou didst call me. And he answered, I called not, my son; lie down again.*

1Sa:3:7: *Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, neither was the word of the LORD yet revealed unto him.*

1Sa:3:8: *And the LORD called Samuel again the third time. And he arose and went to Eli, and said, here am I; for thou didst call me. And Eli perceived that the LORD had called the child.*

1Sa:3:9: *Therefore Eli said unto Samuel, Go, and lie down: and it shall be, if he calls thee, that thou shall say, Speak, LORD; for thy servant hear. So Samuel went and lay down in his place.*

1Sa:3:10: *And the LORD came, and stood, and called as at other times, Samuel, Samuel. Then Samuel answered, Speak; for thy servant hear.*

For Samuel to be able walk with God it was necessary for him to learn how to hear him. That is why Eli taught him how to respond when God call him.

James: 1:19: *Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath:*

James says, let every man be swift to hear. Hearing is fundamental in communicating with everyone not just God. In order to communicate well, we need to hear very well. You cannot respond on something you did not hear. I believe that, this is one of the reasons Jesus spend most of His time in His ministry teaching His disciples how to hear. You cannot walk with God you cannot hear.

Matt: 11:15: *He that hath ears to hear, let him hear.*

Matt: 13:9: *Who hath ears to hear, let him hear.*

Matt: 13:43: *Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Who hath ears to hear, let him hear.*

Mark: 7:16: *If any man has ears to hear, let him hear.*

Luke: 8:8: *And other fell on good ground, and sprang up, and bear fruit a hundredfold. And when he had said these things, he cried, He that hath ears to hear let him hears.*

Ask Holy Spirit to open your spiritual ear and train your hearing. Holy Spirit is here to us to teach us all things. Ask Him to wake you up and speak to you every morning.

Isa: 50:4: *The Lord GOD hath given me the tongue of the learned, that I should know how to speak a word in season to him that is weary: he wakeneth morning by morning, he wakeneth mine ear to hear as the learned.*

Isa: 50:5: *The Lord GOD hath opened mine ear, and I was not rebellious, neither turned away back.*

Another important element we need to recuperate in order to communicate with God is our communion with Him.

2Cor: 13:14: *The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with you all. Amen.*

To commune with the Holy Spirit is essential in developing an effective communication with Him. The communion with the Holy Ghost is deeper than prayer. That is moment of fellowship with Him. In that moment, you love Him, worship God, and adore Him. In return, He pours out His unlimited presence on you, His love and grace. In that moment, you do not request, plea, or supplicate. You just talk with Him in love and adoration. The more time you spend in communion with Him, develops your communication skills with God.

- **Practice** means to live out, to implement, and to put into effect, to exercise, to put into action, and to instigate.

I believe in the phrase: *practice makes perfect*. It is never enough to hear God. You need to put into practice what you have heard from Him or about Him. Reading this book only, will not develop your relationship with God. However, putting into practice what you have learned will develop your close walk with God.

Implementing what you heard from the Holy Spirit, is a sign that shows you were listening, and is a sign of obedience. And one of the reasons why some people learn or study a lot but never comes into maturity, is because they fail to put into effect what they learn or heard God spoke to them.

James: 1:22: *But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.*

James: 1:23: *For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass:*

James: 1:24: *For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was.*

Some of the things that God will speak to you might sound silly in your mind. However, when you act on those things they produce power or results.

1COR: 1:25: *Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men; and the weakness of God is stronger than men.*

It sounded foolish when God told Moses to strike a rock to get water. It sounded foolish when God told Joshua to tell the priests to carry the ark of covenant and walk before Israelites and cross over the river Jordan. It sounded foolish when God told Israel to march around Jericho seven times, for the wall to fall. It sounded foolish when Jesus made a bold statement when He said He will die and rise again in three days.

Someone said if what you hear from God sounds foolish, it must be Him! Practicing or instigating what He spoke to you, will develop your relationship with God. Moreover, will also show that you are obedient to Him.

1John: 1:6: *If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth:*

You cannot have fellowship with God whether during your private worship in the morning or fellowshiping with Him throughout your day, and still disobeying Him by walking against Holy Ghost guidance. If you walk against His will, you are walking in darkness or ignorance, you are a liar and do not the truth. When you fellowship with God in worship and in communicating with Him, you have to remain in obedience to His will and guidance in your life. That will attest how much you love Him.

- **Communication** means to communiqué, and to consultation.

As I have said, communication is two ways conversation between two parties. We develop our walk with God through communicating with Him. In any relationship, communication is the key to grow and develop it. The more you communicate, the more you understand each other. Is the same as with God, the more you communicate with Him, the more you know Jesus better and the more you understand His ways.

Walking with God is more practical then theory. You can pray and study the word, but that will not make much impact in your life unless you implement and act on what God taught you in His presence and in His word. When you pray, you always ask God for His guidance in your life. You cannot ask God for guidance and then spend your day ignoring Him, and listening to ungodly opinions and counsel. If you need God's guidance, you need to communicate with Him throughout that day concerning the area where you need His guidance in. You will not be praying but communicating with Him. If you do not know what to say, just speak in tongues from time to time to tap into God's wisdom.

Another way to improve communication with God's is by keeping bible with you all the time. When you talk to Him and open His word, you will never go wrong. That is why you always need to have a small bible with you, phone or whatever technological gadget with downloaded bible. Having bible with you will always help you to get accurate respond from God, because your

mind can play tricks with you sometimes. The truth of the matter is that, nearly most of the time when God speaks to us, He uses His word. Therefore keep your bible with you and having a habit of referring to it will develop your communication skills with God.

Let us look at these following scriptures:

Jer: 1:6: *Then said I, Ah, Lord GOD! Behold, I cannot speak: for I am a child.*

Jer: 1:7: *But the LORD said unto me, Say not, I am a child: for thou shalt go to all that I shall send thee, and whatsoever I command thee thou shalt speak.*

Jer: 1:11: *Moreover the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, Jeremiah, what sees thou? And I said, I see a rod of an almond tree.*

Jer: 1:12: *Then said the LORD unto me, Thou hast well seen: for I will hasten my word to perform it.*

Isa: 6:8: *Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me.*

Ezek: 3:22: *And the hand of the LORD was there upon me; and he said unto me, Arise, go forth into the plain, and I will there talk with thee.*

Here we just see how God communicated with His servants to develop a close walk with them and to fulfill His will through them. And as with us, it is very important to talk with our God regularly in order to develop our walk with Him.

➤ **Worship and delight in Him and His word.**

We talked about commune with the Holy Spirit. I cannot over emphasize the important of this point. Communion with the Holy Spirit, Jesus and the Father is a deepest level of worship. Worshiping God in the Church is not

the same as worship in your private place. Worship in the Church is subjected to time set for that worship service. However, worshipping in your own private place, the length of time you spend with God is determined by how much of His presence, love, and grace you can take from Him during your fellowship with Him. You can spend hours worshipping Him. The more you stay in His presence the more you are sensitive to the Holy Spirit. The more time you spend with a person makes you understand that person better.

1John: 1:3: *That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ.*

This level of worship is not about you and your needs, it all God and your love Him. We worship not because of what He can do for us; we worship Him because He is God and He is worth to receive the honor.

Psalms: 29:2: *Give unto the LORD the glory due unto his name; worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.*

Psalms: 95:6: *O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the LORD our maker.*

Jesus must be the source of your joy. Our delight in God should not come as an alternative and pretence to manipulate God. We approach God with different motives and somehow we fool ourselves by assuming God will never detect when we have wrong motives. God can never be fooled. He is All Knowing God.

Psalms: 44:20: *If we have forgotten the name of our God, or stretched out our hands to a strange god;*

Psalms: 44:21: *Shall not God search this out? For he knows the secrets of the heart.*

We cannot use God as another alternative, when we have failed by our ways of doing things, and still expect the fullness of God in our lives. God must be our one and only option. His ways are the only way of living.

Psalms: 18:30: *As for God, his way is perfect: the word of the LORD is tried: He is a buckler to all those that trust in him.*

Psalms: 37:34: *Wait on the LORD, and keep his way, and he shall exalt thee to inherit the land: when the wicked are cut off, thou shall see it.*

Psalms: 128:1: *Blessed is every one that fear the LORD; that walk in his ways.*

Make Jesus your only option, and delight yourself in Him. The word delight means: take pleasure in, appreciate, revel in, and relish yourself in Christ. We need to be fascinated and mesmerized by our Lord Jesus Christ.

Spend time studying and searching for who Jesus is, and what He has done and what He is doing right now means to you. The bible says Jesus and Holy Spirit intercede for us.

Rom: 8:34: *Who is he that condemn? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is raised again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.*

Heb: 7:22: *By so much was Jesus made a surety of a better testament.*

Heb: 7:23: *And they truly were many priests, because they were not suffered to continue by reason of death:*

Heb: 7:24: *But this man, because he continues ever, hath an unchangeable priesthood.*

Heb: 7:25: *Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that comes unto God by him, seeing he ever live to make intercession for them.*

Rom: 8:26: *Likewise the Spirit also help our infirmities: for*

we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groaning which cannot be uttered.

Rom: 8:27: *And he that searches the hearts know what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God.*

Jesus did not just saved us and let us to face life on our own. He is living to intercede for us before God. He wants to see us making it in life and to achieve the goal of our faith. Therefore, as you make a decision to develop a close walk with God, know that you not the only one who desires that. Jesus is interceding for you to grow in your knowledge of Him. That should give you more reasons to delight yourself in Him.

Psalms: 37:4: *Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.*

It should always be an exciting, exhilarating, awe-inspiring, and overwhelming moment to come before God. You cannot walk with God you are dragging yourself every time you approaching Him. Spending time with God should be a joyful and blissful moment you cannot live without.

Psalms: 95:2: *Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms.*

Psalms: 100:2: *Serve the LORD with gladness: come before his presence with singing.*

Having, keeping, and maintaining this attitude is crucial in our walk with God. This is another true test of your love for Him.

When you love someone, to just thinking about Him bring a smile in your face. You begin to glow or have luminosity because of how you feel about that person. It should be the same as with Jesus. You should glow every

time you think about Him.

There is a song that says,
“When I think about Him, His presence falls.”

As you feel His presence, you begin to sing:

“I feel Jesus – I feel Jesus - I feel Jesus..., in this place. Yes my soul does, burns within me. I feel Jesus, in this place.”

And if that is did not hit the spot than you sing:

“Holy, Holy, Holy, are you Lord – Holy, Holy, Holy are you Lord... The elders and angels bow, they begin to worship you now. Holy, Holy, Holy are you Lord.”

Why you have to do all this? There is no other reason than the fact that You Love and Delight in Jesus.

Moreover, you do not end there; but you carry on and delight in His word. The reason many Christians has less appetite for God’s word, is because they do not enjoy studying it. Anything that you do not enjoy, you won’t do it, even if it is good for you. If you do not delight in God’s word, you have issues. That should worry you. Beside that, your laziness in studying God’s word may be caused by the devil who does not want to see you growing in the knowledge of God. There is also a possibility that you have lost your first love for God. And you need to deal with this problem and revive it.

Rev: 2:1: *Unto the angel of the church of Ephesus write; these things saith he that holdeth the seven stars in his right hand, who walketh in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks;*

Rev: 2:2: *I know thy works, and thy labour, and thy patience, and how thou canst not bear them which are evil: and thou hast tried them which say they are apostles, and are not, and hast found them liars:*

Rev: 2:3: *And hast borne, and hast patience, and for my*

name's sake hast laboured, and hast not fainted.

Rev: 2:4: *Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love.*

Rev: 2:5: *Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent.*

God mean business with us, He doesn't play as far as His will for us is concern. We should take Him serious if are to walk with Him. Revive your first love for Him and delight in His word and do His will. Anything that you do with a joyful heart and out of love is not a burden.

Psalms: 1:2: *But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.*

Psalms: 40:8: *I delight to do thy will, O my God: yea, thy law is within my heart.*

Psalms: 119:16: *I will delight myself in thy statutes: I will not forget thy word.*

➤ **Love God enough to keep His commandments. [statutes and judgments]**

One of the most important lessons I have learned in my walk with God is that, we must obey and keep His commandments because we love Him, not out of obligation. Keep God's commandment is our way of expressing our love for Him and our gratitude to Him. Singing, "How I love you Lord", means nothing if we do not obey Him. Moreover, if we are going to walk with Him, we will start by obeying Him in whatever He is commanding us to do in our lives.

Sometimes God will command you to make some changes in your life, repent in some or every area of your life, and get rid of some bad habits and grudges, resentment, unforgiveness, selfishness, you have to renew attitude, and make sure everything in your life is in

agreement with God's commandments.

Deut: 4:5: *Behold, I have taught you statutes and judgments, even as the LORD my God commanded me, that ye should do so in the land whither ye go to possess it.*

Deut: 4:6: *Keep therefore and do them; for this is your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the nations, which shall hear all these statutes, and say, surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.*

God's commandments are your wisdom and understanding in the sight of other people who do not know your God. You will get respect and your opinion will be valued, regarded and esteemed by those who realized you live according to God's commandments.

Remember we obey God's commandments because we love Him.

Deut: 7:9: *Know therefore that the LORD thy God, he is God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations;*

Deut: 8:6: *Therefore thou shalt keep the commandments of the LORD thy God, to walk in his ways, and to fear him.*

Deut: 11:22: *For if ye shall diligently keep all these commandments which I command you, to do them, to love the LORD your God, to walk in all his ways, and to cleave unto him;*

➤ **Keep believing in supernatural.**

One of the reason we are no longer witness many supernatural works of God in our days, is because we have lost our faith in supernatural acts of God. Moreover, we justify our lack of faith with all these crazy theories, like believing that times of signs and wonders are over. That is the kind of the mindset that causes us to experience less of God's best in our lives. Lack of faith in God's abilities equals to lack of God's glory in our lives. God does not work without manifesting His glory. In

whatever God does, His glory must be revealed for everyone to know that this is the Lord's doing.

John: 2:11: *This is the beginning of miracles did Jesus in Cana of Galilee, and manifested forth his glory; and his disciples believed on him.*

God is the Spirit; we cannot see Him with our naked eye until Jesus comes back. Therefore, the only way we can have the evidence of His existence in our lives, is through the manifestation of His power in our natural realm.

John: 3:2: *The same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him.*

The manifestation of God's of power is the evidence to the unbelievers that God is with you. It is my prayer that God will restore back His glory to the church. We need churches that are full of God's glory. It should be a norm to witness the manifestation of God's power in every church service.

Moreover, God's glory should not end in the church but it should follow you in your own personal life. His glory should manifest in your family, health, business, where you work, and even you finances. Wherever you go, signs and wonders should follow you.

Mark: 16:17: *And these signs shall follow them that believe; in my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;*

Mark: 16:18: *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.*

I do not recall in the bible where God says I will stop displaying my power in a certain time. Until He said that, I will not stop believing in the manifestation of God's

power. And you shouldn't too. Keep believing in the supernatural acts of God, supernatural breakthroughs, supernatural God's interventions, supernatural increase, and supernatural blessings in your life.

Psalms: 63:1: *O God, thou art my God; early will I seek thee: my soul thirsteth for thee, my flesh longeth for thee in a dry and thirsty land, where no water is;*

Psalms: 63:2: *To see thy power and thy glory, so as I have seen thee in the sanctuary.*

David says here, 'I seek thee early in order to see thy power and thy glory', and 'I want to see thy power as I have seen it in the sanctuary'. In other words, he says, 'I don't want to see your power and glory in the church only, but I want to see the same manifestation in my own personal life'. That should be our attitude. We should wake up every morning thirsty for God and the manifestation of God's power and glory in our lives. One of God's names is **God Almighty**.

Gen: 35:11: *And God said unto him, I am God Almighty: be fruitful and multiply; a nation and a company of nations shall be of thee, and kings shall come out of thy loins;*

This means God have all power. I mean ALL POWER. Power is what God is. Mighty is what God is. He is Omnipotent, All-powerful God. He can do anything, any time, and in any situation.

Another name of God that is related to this is **Sovereign God**. This name means Supreme ruler, Self-governing, and Superior. It means our God is above everything. Everything in heaven and earth is subjected and responds to His authority, power, supremacy, preeminence, ascendancy or dominance. He reigns and administrate over all things. Supernatural is in His nature.

It is impossible for God to be natural. Whatever He does is supernatural. He supernaturally created heaven and earth. He supernaturally made and created a man. The

birth of Jesus was supernatural. Jesus ministry on earth was filled with supernatural signs and wonders. God supernaturally raised Jesus from death. Holy Spirit supernaturally filled the disciples in the upper room. Supernatural signs and wonders followed the apostles' ministry.

Even our salvation is supernatural. How can a man by just believing with his/her heart that God raise Jesus from death and confessing with his/her mouth that Jesus is Lord, will move from the kingdom of darkness into the kingdom light in a slit second. This is supernaturally!

Another thing that you should notice here is that, the only way to be saved is through believing in the supernatural resurrection of Jesus. If to get to heaven, require believing in supernatural acts of God, that means we need supernatural presence of God in our lives to sustain us until God's will for us is fulfilled in our lives.

Heb: 2:4: *God also bearing them witness, both with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles, and gifts of the Holy Ghost, according to his own will?*

Keep believing and expecting the supernatural acts of God in your life.

➤ **Commit your ways to Him.**

Do not do anything without informing God. The bible says do not lean on your own understanding. If you want God in every part of your life, involve Him in all your affairs.

Psalms: 37:5: *Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass.*

Proverb: 16:3: *Commit thy works unto the LORD, and thy thoughts shall be established.*

When you commit your ways and your works to God, He will take charge of your affairs and institute your

thoughts. For you to grow in your walk with God, you need to involve Him in all your affairs. Seek His guidance and opinion in every aspect of your life. Don't ignore Him, acknowledge Him wherever you go and in whatever you do.

In conclusion, know that, walking with God is a lifetime experience that you will never trade for anything in this world. I encourage you to pursue a close walk with your God. He is longing and waiting for you to invite and involve Him in your daily life in His Kingdom.

James: 4:8: *Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you.*

2Chr: 15:2: *And he went out to meet Asa, and said unto him, Hear ye me, Asa, and all Judah and Benjamin; the LORD is with you, while ye be with him; and if ye seek him, he will be found of you; but if ye forsake him, he will forsake you.*

Draw nigh to God and He will draw nigh to you. He will be with you, while you are with Him. God wants to walk with you to the point where His favor is manifesting in every area of your life. Walking with God is a special, unique, exceptional and intimate communion with Him, resulting in visible manifestation of His power or favor in your life that is witnessed by other people rather than yourself.

Prayer for salvation.

Walking with God start with accepting Jesus as your Lord and Savior. You need to know that Jesus loves you. He loves you enough to die for you. All the persecution He endure here on earth was to show how much He loves you and to buy you eternal life.

John: 15:13: *Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.*

He laid His life down for you. That happened more than 2000 years ago. However, His love for you is as fresh as if He died yesterday for you. There is no transgression that you have committed, can surpass His grace for you.

Rom: 5:20:... *But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound.*

God loves you. And if you would like to receive Jesus as your Lord and Savior into your life, say this following prayer out loud and mean it from your heart.

Heavenly Father, I come to You, confessing that I am a sinner. Today, I choose to turn away from my sins, and I ask You, to forgive me and cleanse me with your blood, of all unrighteousness. I confess that Jesus, who died to take my sins away, is Lord. And I believe in my heart that God raised Him from death to make me righteous through faith in Him. I call upon the name of Jesus Christ to be my Savior and Lord of my life. Jesus, I commit myself to you, I will follow you, and I ask that you to fill me with your Holy Spirit. I declare that right now I am saved and I am the child of God. I am free from sin, I have the righteousness of

Walk with God.

God in me, and I am ready to begin my walk with God, in Jesus' name. Amen.

If you prayed this prayer to receive Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior, please email us at:
walkwithgodo7@gmail.com. Or **gracecfc@live.com**.

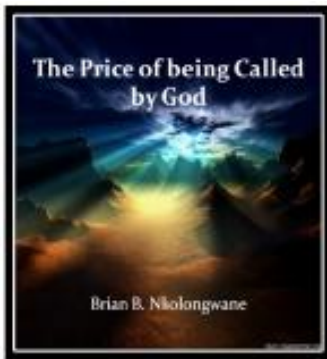
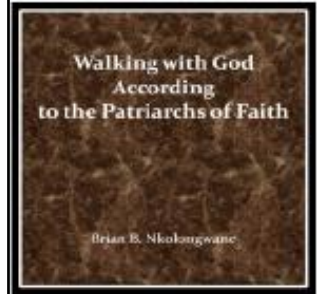
We look forward to hear from you.

Pending Books by Brian B. Nkolongwane

**Walking with God According
to the Patriarchs of Faith**

This book is the continuity of **Walking with God**: The fading element of truth in God's kingdom living.

It contains the biography collection of different Patriarchs of Faith. Those who are in the bible and those we heard about in Church history. We will explore their relationship with God, and learn from their individual experiences. This book will take you back into the core of the gospel and develop your relationship with God even further. Coming Soon.



The Price of being Called by God

We are living in times where the calling and ministry is losing its respect, value and meaning. In this book, we are going to look at what is calling is all about, who is called, and how God prepare us for this sacred field. This book is for everyone whether you are in the ministry or not. It will strengthen your faith and help you to be grounded in your calling and life purpose. It will help you to develop a persistence, fortitude and surmounting attitude. We will look at some desertion elements of truth in the ministry today, and how to restore them back into our lives. Coming Soon.

