

*1 tim 4: <sup>8</sup>For bodily exercise profiteth little: but godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come.*

Our spirit can develop to the point where it can actually control the physical. If we could reach the level of Spirit that Jesus walked in, we could command our body, every organ, every cell and it would respond, it would rejuvenate (to restore something to its condition when new, or make it more vigorous, dynamic, and effective).

We are a three part being, spirit, soul and body. Our will is involved with all three. Sometimes there is a strong will in those who are physical, a strong will in those who are soulish, a strong will in those who are spiritual. The will is the common denominator (something held in common). If our spirit is really set on something in God, it will command and direct our soul (everything of the psychic, mental, intellectual level, and drive (the act of controlling) it to a certain thing.

Our soul is the life given to us by the first Adam. Our spirit when born again is the uncreated life of God, which begins to grow and develop as it communes (to experience a deep relationship, to communicate on the same level) with God. When our spirit is communing with God it is being filled with His nature, we are experiencing the thoughts, attitudes and feelings of God to a certain degree.

To walk in the Spirit, our spirit is going to have to predominate over our soul and our body. When we set our heart to study, our spirit determines what we're studying for, and what we're going to retain, and how much we're going to be influenced by it. Our spirit becomes a filter, so that the things that happen to us on a mental, or emotional, or

a physical level are filtered through our spirit for it to determine exactly the meaning of it. But first our soul has to go through a work of the cross and once that's done in it, then everything is brought into subordination to it.

As difficult as it may seem to some, we have to learn the difference between our spirit and our soul. The first thing we must do is believe for a complete dedication to the Lordship of Jesus Christ over our life. This dedication has to be a thing of spirit, and it has to involve the work of the cross in the soul-flesh. Once this takes place, our spirit begins to take more and more control. Our spirit not only dominates us, but it controls everything around us. God is a Spirit, and He is looking for those who will worship Him in spirit and truth, this is talking about our spirit, we have to worship the Lord with our spirit. We have to be aware of our spirit.

Almost all of the religious activity of the world is soulishly generated. God is looking for a people who will break through to this realm of spirit. Religions will reject us, but we are breaking out of the soul limitations that are upon them.

The problem with religion is that they reject some fleshly thing but then develop some new form of soulish reform or rejection. We have to get out of the soul level completely.

We need to learn how to appropriate the Lord's freedom in our spirits. Where the Spirit of the Lord is there is liberty. A walk with God is more than a mental discipline; it is a flow of the Spirit. We have to experience the reality of God in our spirit. It is more than an emotional discipline. A walk in the Spirit is where our total, absolute dedication to the Lord Jesus Christ is going to lift us out of the realm where our flesh

and our soul, dominate and control us. On the soul-level we are continually falling short of God's glory.

We are transformed by the renewal of our mind, but it is not going to happen unless we come into the continual renewal of our spirit. Our spirit must ascend into the heavenly places in Christ, so that our soul is in complete submission to it.

We have to get out of the mechanics of a walk with God. We do not want to be just going through the motions, without meeting the Lord in it. We need to be continually progressing, our revelation must be expanding, and our worship should be rising to new levels.

We don't want to be singing the same songs. We need to sing new songs that will be more the expression of our spirit reaching into God. We need to be progressively moving away from the soulish, and reaching into that which is spirit and truth, and to really experience it. We are moving into a God consciousness and out of self consciousness (the whole self family- all the many self things that we could name).

To move without faith is to be self-conscious. True faith is a belief in what God has provided for us. The faith in what God has provided for us has to be based totally and completely upon a spirit acceptance of it, or else we never really do accept it.

If we just emotionally accept the word God is giving, we'll have to accept it again and again. When we are living on a soul level we have to be convinced over and over again. But when we break through to the realm of spirit, then we get it once and for all. And there is resurgence (a rising or strengthening) of faith that comes forth in every situation, no matter what the verdict of the senses, no matter what the response

of the emotions, the appearance of the circumstances, or even that which is inflicted upon us physically. We bounce right back, our spirit rises up; we confess what God has said.

Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things freely given to us by God. I Corinthians 2:12.

The things our spirit receives are a gift. As our spirit is communing with God, as we read the scripture we are going to see it on a higher level. The word is going to start coming alive to us. As our spirit gets free, our soul will also get free from a lot of the emotional trauma, and agony of the mind and the emotions.

When our spirit is on the throne, it is free. Our spirit needs to dominate everything that we think, feel, everything that happens to us. When our spirit is in ascendancy we walk in a persistent authority.

When our spirit is dedicated to the Lord and God has met it, we have a spirit that is submissive to the Lord. If we persist in individuality instead of oneness of spirit with the Lord, then we still need the work of the cross in our soul, because we are not going to have a walk in the Spirit while we persist in being an individual, retaining the rights to ourselves.

God isn't a soul, He's a Spirit. He never intended for us to be just a soul. Before our spirit was quickened, that is basically what we were. He intends for us to be a spiritual being—a triune being like Himself.

When our spirit is quickened, our soul agrees with God. It is the law of our mind that agrees with the law of God. Our soul is not a rebel against God. Our soul just rebels against what God wants to do to it, He

wants to kill it, so that it can come into a renewal. The soul can be very religious, it says, "I don't need any of this. I'm a good person. It says, "Jesus is my Savior," but it winds up with a religious arrogance that is a part of the soul.

When we break into the realm of the Spirit, we find that things are imparted to our spirit. When we are in the Spirit, to hear it, is to become it. When we walk in it, it becomes a part of us. But in the realm of soul we labor with things.

There's always a residue of self-condemnation when we are on the soul level. Our soul is always trying to be spiritual. There's always that striving. There's always the battle that goes on between self-condemnation, and withdrawal, and periods of aggressiveness in which we are reaching forth into the Lord. We become like a pendulum—something that changes its direction or position regularly. Until we break out of the soul-level; we go from hot to cold, always striving, but never really entering into the rest of the Lord.

*Philippians 3: <sup>9</sup>And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith:*

Then there comes that breakthrough in the spirit, and we are no longer striving to be righteous, but we realize that it has been imparted to our spirit, and it filters down like the rain of heaven, and it saturates our soul and our body, and we realize that we are abiding in a state of sanctification, spirit, soul and body.

When we are focused on our soul (focused on self), we are starting at the wrong end and trying to work up. When we start with

our spirit first, and focus on a dedication of spirit. We activate our spirit and as it is connecting with the Lord, the life of God flows into our soul and we are able to bring it into subjection.

To activate our spirit is to press into the Lord (to reach out, or focus on), until our spirit is communing with the Lord, then our spirit gets free. When our spirits are free, then our spirit can appropriate and it can impart.

Our spirit does not have the limitations that our soul has. We know in our heart what we want to be, but we are powerless to accomplish it, but we keep trying. Our soul says, "Well, I'll try harder." Instead of trying harder, we have to trust Him more, because it comes by faith. This faith is imparted to our spirit. This is one of the mysteries that takes us out of the realm of struggle and puts us into the realm of victory.

We do not want to just read the word or hear the word- then all that is happening is that our soul is acquiring information. We can still miss God because we make it a focus of concentration to try to learn something about God instead of our spirit soaking up and saturating God in the hearing of faith that comes from the anointed word. This is where the change comes, this is the key. It is what our spirit absorbs of God that changes us.

Struggle has to give way to the actual appropriation and walking in the victory of the Lord. He paid the price, He made the provision.

We need to realize that in the spirit we have total authority and control. It is in the prophetic proclamation of our spirit in faith that brings down from heaven the promises of God in an actual fulfillment.

There's a difference in what we do through the soul, and what is done through our spirit. The soul (self) tries to walk by faith and not by sight" and always struggles to ignore what it sees in the natural, and yet it never sees in the spirit what it's trying to believe. But when we get into the realm of the spirit, we see it in the spirit. Faith is the substance of the thing hoped for, the evidence of the thing not seen; but this faith is in our spirit, and becomes a part of our spirit. Everything of God that manifests on the earth happens because men and women of faith proclaimed it, and it happened.

There's something generated in our spirit that says, "Everything God ever said to me makes a lot of sense now, and I believe I can walk in it.

Our spirit has to be ascending unto the Lord; our spirit has to sit on the throne with the Lord. As our spirit is communing with the Lord, it reaches in and inherits and appropriates the provision of the Lord. This is entering into sonship.

Though our outward man is perishing, our inner man is being renewed day by day; this is the life of God flowing into our spirit and our soul, our spirit is growing in the Lord.

Because we are still in a flesh and blood body sometimes we will feel like we can't go on, and then we draw something that's like a second wind. We draw His strength. It's those who wait on the Lord—in their spirit the strength comes.

In order to develop our spirit we have to learn how to make time to wait upon the Lord. If we don't learn how to wait on the Lord, we will never really know the voice of the Lord. Waiting on the Lord is a

focused listening as we become still before Him, in a position of surrender to get His leading for our life.

Just because a person has been baptized in the Spirit and speaks in tongues, does not mean that they have learned the difference between their spirit and soul. If they remain on the soul-level they will not be able to discern the voice of God and end up resisting the moving of God in the earth (through those who are coming into a walk in the Spirit).

We have to learn how to open up our spirit to hear His Word. We can become focused on the wrong thing so that we never reach the realm of spirit that opens our ears to hear the Word that God is speaking.

The preaching and the teachings are important and it lays a foundation; but what we need is the impartation of faith that comes in the awareness of God's Spirit (His presence). What we need to experience is the spiritual reality of the Word.

We need to believe to be a person of spirit, a free spirit, an appropriating spirit, an imparting spirit, a functional spirit, and refuse to be an earthbound soul. We have to learn how to sit down on the throne with Him in our spirit.

There has to be that hearing of faith in our spirit, and then there follows the understanding in our soul. The understanding can expand if our spirit has received it as a revelation. It's a comprehension that is constantly made vital and alive by the Holy Spirit by your continuous application to it. We will grow because we become that Word as we

continually give ourselves to it. This is the key: the diligence with which we give ourselves to that Word.

The Word is not just a thing to be memorized. It's a thing that we unwrap, and it becomes deeper and more spiritual to us. We begin to see more and more. It becomes more and more real to us, until it begins to explode in our heart.

We need to read the word until it becomes alive. It isn't what we learn; it's what we become. We are created by that Word. It isn't how much we read; it's how much comes alive. And this is the key, because His Words are spirit and they are life, and you cannot be a person of spirit apart from that Word. We need to search for the Word that belongs to us today, and then hang onto it.

We don't want to get into a habit of doing things mechanically without the expression of our whole being. What we do needs to be ministering life to us.

Most people are more aware that they have a body than they are of anything else.

We need to understand how to draw on a flow from God, for this is where the authority resides and how it can be ministered.

We need to learn how to put Spirit into words so that they are not sounds and concepts only, but are a life-giving force.

We want the ability to impart—spirit to spirit. Once we learn how, we will start living in the realm where we can bless a person and see a positive change that will last a lifetime. One word can change people. That's why the enemy battles so hard to get us to voice

negativity. James said, “If any man offend not word, the same is a perfect man” (James 3:2)—meaning that words can be a channel for whatever is in us. The mouth speaks forth, activating things in the spirit and in the soul

Our natural mind has never conceived what God really has for us. It is beyond the knowledge of the senses—beyond anything that the faculties of the soul or body can discover. But God begins to reveal those things by the Holy Spirit to our spirit so that we can begin to know and experience the fullness of His life in us.

*1corn2: <sup>12</sup>Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of out of God; that we might know understand, perceive the things that are freely given to show favor, grant, bestow to us of God. <sup>13</sup>Which things also we speak to utter, tell, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth (1- intimate union with 2- instructed by; comparing to joint together fitly, , to interpret, to compare spiritual things that have their origin with God, and which, therefore, are in harmony with His character things with spiritual things that have their origin with God, and which, therefore, are in harmony with His character.*

Spirit words have Spirit and life in them. We need to learn how to speak a Word with Spirit in it. When we speak, we need to draw the Spirit into it.

There are some things we can learn with our soul. But there are some things that we can only learn with our spirit, because our soul will never pick them up. The soulish person can never comprehend the things of God because they are spiritually discerned—only their spirit can tune into those things.

We need to learn how to keep our spirit active, through praying in tongues and worshipping the Lord, so that we can reach up through our spirits to God and learn how to draw upon the Lord, than to try to figure out the things of Spirit with our minds. We can come to the place where we have a reality that is spiritually discerned when our spirit is tuned into God.

There are different levels of understanding. The only faculty capable of direct communication with God is our spirit. God is a Spirit and He seeks those who will worship Him in spirit and in truth. There is no real reliable revelation that does not come through our spirit. The realm of our spirit can commune with God because He is Spirit. The Holy Spirit comes to lead us into all the things that have been prepared for us by God. We will never obtain them any other way.

Everything God is doing in His plan to bring us into His own image is through our spirit. When our spirit is born again it is fathered by God Himself, God quickened our spirit so that it can commune with Him. Until we learn how to move in the realm of spirit, we are really wasting a lot of time trying to understand what the truth is.

*We have received the Spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God. Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Ghost teaches; comparing spiritual things with spiritual*

Unless our spirit has been quickened we are not going to understand the words the Lord gives us to use. It is a new language that we have to learn- to express our experience in the spirit. In a way we are creating our own language by expressing what we are experiencing

in our relationship with God. As we begin to experience these words then we can express our common experience in the realm of the spirit.

The natural (soulish) person is not going to understand what we mean by communion, drawing, appropriating, imparting, being open and being closed, building walls against negative transference. We can bless things and curse things. No one is going to understand what it means for the Spirit of God to come upon them, unless the Spirit of God comes upon them. They are not going to understand what it means to be filled with the Spirit. What it means to be aware of the Presence of God.

When we are aware of God's presence we can feel His love, joy, peace and all the attributes of His nature. Unless we have experienced this, we do not know what eternal life is.

When our spirit becomes alive unto God, we have the potential to enter into the world of the Spirit. As our spirit grows in the Lord, we can no longer fellowship with those who are in the world, if we do not have brothers and sisters in the Lord to relate to, we begin to feel out of place. We never feel alone, because we have the Lord to fellowship with if we have learned how to open up our spirit to Him.

We need to have our spirit open to the Lord and to our brother and sister in the Lord. We impart the Spirit of the Lord to one another with our words and also the laying on of hands. We can open our hands, and then lay them on the hands of the one who is imparting to us and draw, and then the blessing doubles because you are appropriating as well as receiving.

Faith is largely based on will, not reason. A revelation can become very real to us, whether or not we can reason it out. Eventually it becomes very reasonable and we can prove it as we would a scientific formula; but we begin by saying, “This is a revelation from God and I’m going to believe it.”

*We are to love the Lord with all our spirit, soul and body. We will live with Him and serve Him totally in spirit, soul and body. The second commandment is like unto the first: “Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself” (Matthew 22:37–39).*

We are not talking about self-love or soulish love, but loving the work God is doing in our spirit, we are a product of His workmanship created in Christ unto every good work. We’ve got to say, “I love what God has done in me. I’m a miracle. God is leading me and I love it.” If we don’t have a higher esteem of ourselves, by focusing on our spirit—of what God has done in us—we will be worthless when we try to help someone else.

We need to get rid of the self-condemnation. We can neither impart nor appropriate when you are burdened with self-guilt. We need a revelation of what God has done in us and remember the times He has met our heart, and the ways He has led us and blessed us. Humility is not ashamed to receive a blessing. We can be humble and sit on the throne! Jesus has all authority in heaven and on earth, but He washes feet. This is the key to moving in the Spirit.

Our spirit must be filled with the Holy Spirit, so that we can reach through to revelation. Revelation is in the spirit realm, not in the soul realm. It will be clouded and distorted for us until we receive it by the Holy Spirit to our spirit.

We are not going to understand spiritual things until we become a spiritual person reaching up by the Holy Spirit into the Spirit realm. When we are talking about the Spirit realm we are talking about the manifestation of His presence that emits from Him. (We also can experience visions, and out of body experiences as we learn to become aware of the realm God lives in). It is as we become aware of His presence, that then the Holy Spirit can teach us the things that God has prepared for us—things beyond what the natural eye has seen, the ear has heard, and the imagination of the heart has ever perceived .We must be aware that every time God says He has something for us, we must reach out in faith and grab it, even if you do not understand it fully. We are to know the things which are freely given to us by God.

In order for our spirit to appropriate what God wants to deposit in it we need to know two things. First, we have to know how the enemy works. The problem is half solved when we know what is bothering or restraining us. Then there is no confusion over whether it is God or the devil. Second, we have to know what God has freely given us; then it will be easy to appropriate. When there is uncertainty, and we do not know whether or not God wants us to have it, that uncertainty takes away the focus of our faith which must reach out and appropriate it.

Faith grabs onto the provision of God and declares, “It is mine! I am going to have it! No more doubts! No more questions! When God gives me a Word that is what I will immediately walk in!”

*Combining spiritual thoughts with spiritual words.* The words “thoughts” and “words” are not in the original Greek. Actually it says, combining spiritual with spiritual, meaning the things of the spirit world. Paul stresses this thought, “I am not speaking to you in words

taught by human wisdom that try to explain it. I am teaching you with words taught by the Spirit, so that I can bring spiritual things to you with spiritual expression. This you can take hold of and appropriate.”

When we enter into the level where we are receiving revelation in our spirit, to hear a Word from God is to receive it when we hear it, we might not understand all of it, but there was an impartation of the Lord to our spirit when we heard it. The minute our spirit has a witness that it is of God, we have to lay hold of it. We are receiving revelation when our spirit says yes to what we are hearing. We have to get the word into our spirit, which requires a meditating on the truth, and a confession of it, until it becomes a part of us, it becomes something we continually do. To have the word in our spirit means it is something we can activate by our will.

But a natural man does not accept the things of the Spirit of God. When our soul is still in ascendancy we are still on a lower plane and we will find it difficult to really accept the things of God, even when we think we are accepting them. Our reasoning will always be working against it on a subconscious level. There will always be some circumstance that will knock us out.

When we get the word deep in our spirit, then circumstances will just sort of bounce off, they do not move us as they do when we are living on a soul level.

Only our spirit can appraise the things of God. Only when we are moving in God are they a revelation to our spirit. If we are not in the Spirit, if we try to reason them out, there will always be a little doubt in the back of our mind.

To be in the Spirit, means that our spirit is filled with God, we are communing with God. We have to be continually filled with the Spirit, which means at any given time we are being filled or we are being drained.

It is when we learn how to walk in the spirit, where all our activities are in God, that we are maintaining our spiritual condition. When we learn how to worship God in the spirit, we will experience being filled to overflowing.

What we are to focus on is learning how to keep our spirit right with God, so that we can be led by the Spirit. Those who are led by the Spirit are mature. We are filled with the Spirit by being in contact with the Spirit of God, by being exposed to that which is feeding or ministering to our spirit.

When we have hang-ups in the soul life and in the flesh, the only thing that comes through is a conviction, "I must dump what is clinging to me from the lower level. I must repent and get out of the level I am in, and move into this level that the Lord is speaking about."

The body is to be sanctified and made holy because the Spirit of God will dwell in it; it will be His temple. We cannot live an unclean life. Even the body of flesh must be honored as a temple of the Holy Spirit

When we walk with our spirits filled with the Holy Spirit; the Holy Spirit guides and leads us. We need to enter into the domination of our spirit over our flesh life and our soul life.

We do not have to worry about the flesh and the soul life if we can just get into the realm of Spirit. As we wait on God, and are filled

with the Holy Spirit, we will acquire and appropriate what He has for us, we will not fulfill or carry out the desire of the flesh.

It is our flesh that sets its desire against the spirit. Every time we are overwhelmed by the flesh, where the flesh is dominating us, we need to realize that, at that moment we are not in tune with God. When we are in tune with God and walking with Him, we will not have these problems.

God has two sets of rules for dealing with all of His children. Those who walk after the flesh will find that He chastens them. But those who walk after the Spirit have no law over them. We are safe when we are walking in the Spirit, we will not fulfill the lusts of the flesh and carry out its desires.

The whole of our life can be lived in the Holy Spirit. If we can hear His Word, then we can walk in that Word. If we can move in the Spirit to any degree, then every day, in every step we take, we can walk in the Spirit. It is attainable, and it is practical.

When we live in the flesh for a little while, we will be surprised at what comes up.

We need to learn how to open up our heart, and in our spirit tune into the Lord. Then His nature is imparted to us, and we appropriate it. Then we have faith! Then we can have the inflow of God's power and His abilities.

When somebody is aggravating us until we could really get upset, we can tune into the Lord and behold His long-suffering and the gentleness of the Holy Spirit will be coming forth in us. It is a real relief to find that we have shifted gears and let another nature take over.

It is in the realm of appropriation where we lay hold upon Christ's nature. It is just as simple as touching the hem of His garment and having something of His virtue, of His nature, of His holy ability flow into us. This is how it works; it is the law of the Spirit. We sow to the Spirit and obtain His life.

If we sow to the flesh nature, we will experience a corruption, a defilement which we cannot escape. To sow to the flesh is to be partaking of it. All the problems that exist in a church are not the result of hearing the Living Word; they are the result of sowing to the flesh nature.

We cannot just hear the word and let it slip, we have to partake of it, we have to keep drinking of it and eating it. We have to appropriate it so that it becomes a part of us. We have to hear it with our shoes on, ready to walk in it. We have to hear the Word; then walk in the Word. If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit.

Once our spiritual ears and eyes are opened through the inflowing of the Spirit into us, then we have to maintain the flow. We have to move in the flow. It is like a butterfly being carried about by the wind, an eagle that soars by the power of the wind. The word spirit means wind. A walk in the spirit is a flow of the Spirit. We are like a sail boat, if the wind is not blowing, we are not moving. It is a rest and a refreshing, the strengthening of our inner man so that we have God's power to do His will.

Every day we have to look for the Lord to help us walk by the Spirit, and then it will work. It is a steadfast focus reaching out to worship and love the Lord. The Spirit of God responds to our love for Him.

Just like in the natural when we love our help-mate from the heart, they are responding to our love in a certain degree, how much more does God respond to our love for Him. But we have to put our heart into this. God responds to the intensity of our spirit towards Him. Our spirit is identical to His when it is drawing from Him. We have a measure of His spirit in our spirit, and as we learn how to use it, it increases. If we sow to the Spirit, of the Spirit we will reap life everlasting

His promises are to be appropriated. Every promise is like a title deed, declaring: "This is yours." We have received the Spirit of God that we might know the things that are freely given to us by God .Every promise is a deed written out in our name. Everything that God has said is ours. He has given us the key, and it is as simple as putting it in the lock and turning it. But unless our spirit is alive to God, where it connects to God, the key won't work. The lock will not open. Appropriation is our spirit drawing from the Spirit of God. The appropriation of the Spirit of God is what changes us, and it comes instantly in degrees. It is like drinking or eating, it depends upon how much of God's substance we are getting into us.

Spiritual things are attained by the Holy Spirit witnessing to our spirit, "These things are freely given to us by God," and then we have to learn how to lay hold of them and yield to them. We can walk in whatever we truly appropriate the minute it is revealed to our spirit. What we have appropriated from God is ours. Now we have to walk in it in the name of the Lord, this requires aggressiveness in our spirits.

When the word is revealed to us, then we need to get a hold of that Word and say, "This is mine!" Then eat it; meditate on it. Focus on

the Lord and appropriate that Word, because God fills His Word with His Spirit. God so fills His Word that when you take a Word and eat it, something of God Himself fills your very life.

It is impossible not to change when we appropriate the new-nature. We need to lay hold of the Words of God, for they are His nature and His life. We are not hearing empty words; we are hearing Living Words. Jesus said, “My Words are spirit”, we are talking about the realm of spirit.

We are reading words of spirit. These are not words which man teaches, but words which the Holy Spirit teaches, showing us and bringing to us spiritual things. We are loosed by the word, and something is done in our life by the very Word we have read. This is a Living Word that is spirit and life to us. It is the word that frees us; we thank the Lord that we are free! This has to be our confession! We have to say it with authority!

We do not have to walk in the flesh. We can leave that realm right this moment. We can feel our flesh as it rises up in us, but we can also feel our spirit as it rises up in us. Our soul stands in the middle because it is our self. When we chose to let our spirit take ascendancy it displaces our flesh, and the flesh is reduced to inactivity as we are no longer focused on it. We can easily bring our flesh into subjection when it becomes active if we learn how to be continually filled with the Spirit. We have to take authority over our flesh and say no! Evil spirits try to arouse and get into our flesh and we have authority over them.

Our roots reach upward to God, and we bear fruit downward for the whole earth. It is just the reverse of the way a natural tree grows. We are reaching into the Word, into the heavenly places in Christ. And the minute we get hold of the Spirit, the moment we touch God, His Spirit does something electrifying in us and through us. We are not

trying to become something important as a human being. We are nothing in ourselves, but we are His channels the minute we put our roots into His Word and let it flow through us in its miracle power.

We claim this divine connection as an instant change, and we appropriate it from the Lord. We are not going to change, we change the minute faith has come. We go from faith to faith, from strength to strength, from glory to glory. The moment God opens our spiritual eyes to see His Glory we lay hold of it, and as behold Him we are changed that moment. As we keep the revelation of His Glory through the impartation of faith, then we go from glory to glory. We receive faith which comes through hearing and seeing with our spirit, we walk in the revelation through the strength imparted to our spirit, and then it becomes a part of our spirit.

His glory is His nature and ability. And as we walk in the light our spirit has received we are given more light, so we are going from glory to glory even as by the Spirit of the Lord. We are being transformed into His image, but there is an inner warfare until the word becomes a part of our spirit, it is written on our heart so that it can no longer be stolen from us, and we are now an over comer. And to he who overcomes the Lord gives more. We can see this in the message to the churches in the book of Revelation.

The devil will tempt us to fulfill the lusts of the flesh, so we have to learn how to be filled with the Spirit so that we are receiving the pleasures of the Spirit which are greater than the pleasure of sin for a season. At God's right hand there are pleasures for evermore. We have to realize that it is insanity to pursue the lusts of the flesh.

We have to believe that the Lord will restore us to sanity, this is the restoration of our soul so that there is no longer an inner warfare, and now we can forcefully advance the kingdom of God in the earth, which is a whole different kind of warfare. We are the kingdom that grows until it takes over the earth. We are co-laborers and creators with the Lord. The only reason this earth exists is so that God can have sons, once the sons are manifested they will loose creation from futility, and there will be a new heavens and earth.

We will not linger on with self-condemnation because we still remember the defeats of the flesh. We put them all aside. We crucify the flesh and everything that goes with it—even its condemnation. To crucify the flesh is to deliver it over to death. We then reach up into the glorious liberty which belongs to the sons of God by the Word that comes to us through the revelation of the Lord.

As the Lord magnifies our need to us, we could become discouraged, because we see the defeat of the flesh in our lives. But the more we open our hearts to this Word, the more we realize that it is impossible for us to win victory in the flesh. We have to accept it in the Spirit. Our breakthrough is found in hearing by faith. This hearing comes as our spirit is connecting with the Lord. We overcome not in ourselves but by participating in His Spirit.

In the spirit world (or realm of spirit) there is not as much distinction between individuals as there is in the physical world. It is possible for many individuals to participate in one Spirit. This is the whole key of what the Church of Jesus Christ is.

Adam was able to reproduce after his own kind. And so Adam's descendants came forth as living souls. But through the trespasses and

sins of Adam and all of his descendants, there was deadness upon the human spirit. And it has taken the reviving work of what we call the new birth, or regeneration, or quickening, to make the spirit alive.

While the new birth of our spirit leads to the saving of our soul, its initial act is to make alive our spirit to God; so that *“you who were dead in trespasses and sins, you did He make alive.”* This is talking about our spirit.

Once our spirit is alive, then we can surrender every area of our human life (soul) to the Lord ship of Jesus Christ over it (this is the kingdom). This is the salvation of our soul (When our soul no longer acts in independence from the Lord). This comes about by being led by the Spirit, which is a growing into maturity. Through the inflow of His Spirit, which is a hearing of faith and a living by grace through faith, the Lord leads us step by step into a spiritual way of life. We enter into such an intimacy with Him that what we are hearing we are speaking, what we are seeing we are doing, so that it is the Spirit of God living through us.

When we come into Christ, our spirit is made alive to God; and being made alive, we are one in Christ Jesus. We were all made to drink of one Spirit. We participated into one Spirit.

This explains why we can believe in the doctrine of the Triune God and still believe in one God. The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit may be individual personalities, but because they are Spirit, they are one. “God is a Spirit, and they who worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth.” Without that, there can be no oneness in your communion, because God is a Spirit; the Father, the Son, and the Holy

Spirit are one Spirit. Though they are individual Spirits, the individuality is swallowed up in the oneness of their Spirit.

*“Hear, O Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord is one! And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.” Deuteronomy 6:4–5.*

In the realm of spirit we cannot count things by numbers as we can in the natural realm. In the natural realm we would start counting, “One, two, three, and four ...” to determine how many people are in a service. But when we deal with the spirit realm, we ask, “How many spirits are here tonight?” And if the people are all in unity there is just one Spirit. We are One Body of Christ.

Many husbands and wives may be one flesh, but they are certainly not one spirit. The husband has one spirit and the wife has another; and they clash!

What we are concerned about is having a right spirit. To have a right spirit is most important, because in the oneness of the Body, what affects you affects me. What affects any member of the Body affects the others.

We are able to grow as one Body when you are being fed and ministered to, because something of the Spirit is coming to us. God has set certain members in His body as ministry gifts so that we can grow up into Christ. These are spiritual Fathers and mothers in the Lord. Once we reach maturity we are all led by the Same Spirit, then we can start our own family in the Lord. Very few ministries are mature in the Lord, so we have to make sure we are hearing a living word from God, his words impart His Spirit and His life. We do not want to be hearing

the wisdom of man or woman, but the Spirit of God speaking through them. When we are sitting under a living word and we have spiritual ears to hear and are being fed by it, the church seems to grow rapidly.

It is amazing what we can experience, what we can come to understand, and how much our dedication can deepen, in only one year's time. If we are around someone who is really dedicated to the Lord, our dedication will deepen. The things of the Spirit are transferred. This is called making disciples.

If you are around someone who is very prayerful, we will find ourselves gravitating to prayer, because the things of the spirit flow; there is not the distinction that there is in the physical realm. On the physical level, we are separated; there is physical distance between one member of the Body and another. And yet there is no limitation of time and space in the oneness of our spirit.

Churches are on different levels. We have to discern the spiritual level they are on in order to minister effectively there. We can go to one church and battle to bring the Word, and another church can draw the word out of us. Each church is a distinct spiritual body. If one person in a church that has authority there can break through to an anointing in God—a real anointing—the whole church will break through to that. They will come into it in a measure.

Bitterness in only one person's spirit can result in many people within the church being defiled. That is why people have had such a difficult time under the teaching of legalism. How can a legalistic preacher who is beating the people down produce anything else but a bad spirit in people? They are defiled by that legalism and that judgment which comes forth.

In the realm of spirit we are not so much serving Christ as we are living out Christ in obedience to Him. It is a uniting because of our oneness with Him; we are His hands and His feet, His many-member Body. We are the functional part of Christ. The Lord Jesus Christ as an individual is the Head and Lord of the Church, but we are the functional members of the Christ. We are the manifestation of His working. We are His workmanship, walking in the works which He has before ordained that we should walk in.