

# SEEC Magazine

A QUARTERLY KINGDOM PERSPECTIVE

VOLUME 27

ISSUE 4

OCTOBER-DECEMBER 2023

UNTO US A  
SON IS GIVEN  
Jim Hodges

LISTENING  
CORRECTLY  
Kathy Gabler

THE FATHERLESS  
EPIDEMIC  
Larry Burden

**S**TRENGTHEN  
**E**NCOURAGE  
**E**QUIP  
**C**HURCH  
**M**INISTRIES

1Co 14:3; Eph 4:12

LEARNING TO  
LISTEN CORRECTLY  
Marty Gabler



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## A KINGDOM PERSPECTIVE

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SEEC Magazine is a quarterly publication produced by SEEC Ministries. It is for the purpose of presenting teaching on the subjects of the Kingdom of God, prophecy, five-fold ministry, dreams and visions, and intercession. Though each of these subjects may not be covered in each issue, they will be covered through the course of the year's publications.

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### ON THE COVER:

Eph 2:5 Even when we were dead (slain) by [our own] shortcomings and trespasses, He made us alive together in fellowship and in union with Christ; *[He gave us the very life of Christ Himself, the same new life with which He quickened Him, for]* it is by grace (His favor and mercy which you did not deserve) that you are saved (delivered from judgment and made partakers of Christ's salvation). 6 And He raised us up together with Him and made us sit down together *[giving us joint seating with Him]* in the heavenly sphere *[by virtue of our being]* in Christ Jesus (the Messiah, the Anointed One).

Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness.

Thank you for sowing into SEEC Ministries International.





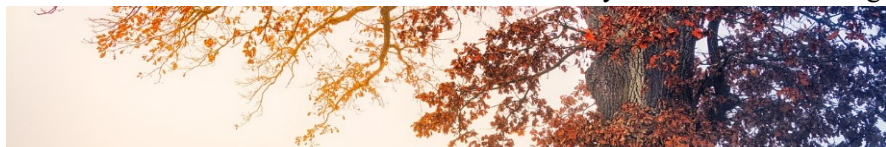
## LISTENING CORRECTLY to HEAR ACCURATELY

### Through our Dreams and Visions

If we think of dreams and visions from God as downloads, then soul dreams whether night dreams or day dreams can be thought of as uploads. Uploads come from our heart-thinking, i.e., feelings or beliefs or misbeliefs or memories, opinions, desires, concerns, suspicions, fears, frustrations, resentments, vows, anger, unforgiveness, wounds, etc. The intent of both, God downloads and soul uploads is **COMMUNICATION**, but communication hinges on understanding which depends on **listening correctly and hearing accurately**.

There are filters we can look through to get to clarity on dreams and visions. In Gen 28, Jacob had a dream and saw stairs stretching between heaven and earth. He watched angels of God going up and down those stairs! Jehovah stood at the top of those stairs and spoke to Jacob promising him protection, provision and continuing generational blessings. When Jacob awoke he realized he was at the door of heaven that night, and it was not a fantastic movie that his imagination produced in a dream. The veil (curtain dividing line) between the natural and the spirit realm was pulled aside that night, and Jacob heard accurately what he needed to hear to help him and his generations get where they were born to go.

In Judges 7, Israel needed to hear accurately to get where they were going. This time it was crucial that Gideon listen correctly to a dream, and it was a dream God sent to a soldier in the enemies' camp. That Midianite soldier dreamed he saw a cake of barley bread come tumbling



into their camp and hit the headquarters tent and flipped it over and it fell. Another soldier Hearing the dream, told him, "That dream is about Gideon, the Israelite commander and it means God is gonna let his army defeat us!"

Now, Jacob's dream was LITERAL and communicated its message plainly. This soldier's dream was SYMBOLIC but it also communicated plainly, to both the Midianites and to Gideon who was spying out their camp. All three of them listened to that dream through the SETTING they were in. The Midianites were encamped in a valley with Gideon's army on the mountain strategically positioned above them and ready to run down on them come daylight!

So it wasn't difficult to interpret that the camp invader would be Gideon. And since none of them were afraid of a loaf of bread, they realized that the rolling barley cake was a symbol. It was a sign that God was supernaturally orchestrating this battle! All three of them listened correctly through the lenses of SYMBOLISM and they got it! As soon as Gideon "got it," he took action. First, he bowed down to praise God and second, he ran back to his camp. Even though it was around midnight, he shouted, "Let's go! The LORD is going to give us victory over the Midianites!"

HEARING ACCURATELY may be a process that unfolds over time. When Gideon first heard the dream, all he heard was "You've Got this!" There was no discussion over the battle plan that told him the attack needed to be in the darkness of night because God's weapons of choice would require that. So his HEARING ACCURATELY had to have continued even as he was running back to camp. (We may need to embrace the gist of a dream and commit to God's intent even before we come to fully understand it.)

Only history would tell how SUPERNATURAL this battle really was because an ordinary cake of barley bread was a really accurate picture of Gideon's insignificant, out-numbered, little army! At one time, Gideon had 32,000 and even then the Midianites had them 4 to 1. However, by the time Gideon actually reached the army of 132,000 Midianites, he only had 300 men, and they were armed with ram's horns and a clay pot with a candle in it! Sounds like HERE COMES A BARLEY LOAF for sure? Notice, there's no evidence that the Midianites knew all these unbelievable details. The reason they panicked and ran and turned on one another was the fear of God who had orchestrated this battle that was so supernatural!

There were other insights in the soldier's dream that the language and wording indicated in this account. A barley loaf doesn't sound like a threat in English, but we must **listen correctly** through the Hebrew mind. The ROOT word for Barley in Hebrew means *fearsome, horribly afraid and a storming whirlwind*. Of course, that puts a whole new light on that barley bread!

HEARING ACCURATELY may be a convincing work over time. By the time Gideon got there, they were convinced that Barley Loaf was a threat of disaster! Beyond that, the word TUMBLE confirmed it because in Hebrew it means, OVERTHROW! So by listening to the dream through filters like SETTING and SYMBOLISM and LANGUAGE, they heard accurately and were convinced that their defeat was incoming! That dream was such a clear matter of fact for Gideon that he just got in gear and went!

I thought of Ananias in the book of Acts when God sent him a vision and told him to go pray for Saul who was blind. God spoke clearly and told him, "Saul has had a vision of you coming to lay hands in healing," but Ananias did not jump into gear like Gideon. The vision was plain and he heard accurately, but he said, "Lord, a lot of people have told me about the terrible things this man has done to your followers in Jerusalem. Now the chief priests have given him the power to come here and arrest anyone who worships in your name." But The Lord said to Ananias again, "Go!"

Since fulfillment of God's will depends on our hearing and follow through, and that depends on clarity and understanding, don't hesitate to ask for His wisdom nor grow weary of asking. He will answer every time . . . liberally. Please be encouraged because I truly believe God intends for us to hear His heart as never before.

(KATHY will be speaking at KINGDOM CONGRESS 2024 which is March 6-8, 2024 at Grace Church Willis. [martygabler.com/kc2024](http://martygabler.com/kc2024). Kathy is a prophet/teacher, intercessor, author and mentor. She leads SEEC Ministries International with her husband Marty. Her books, videos and audio teachings on dreams and Kingdom perspective have had impact throughout the world. Excerpts from her teachings may be viewed on Marty's Facebook page several times a week. Her archived magazine articles are available at [martygabler.com](http://martygabler.com))

# UNTO US A SON IS GIVEN



1Jn 5:10-12, *The one who believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself; the one who does not believe God has made Him a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has given concerning His Son. And the testimony is this, that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life.* I have been so motivated and stirred lately about the revelation of not just sonship but of the Son. That is fundamental, but I just feel like in this hour we have to understand we are not going to see culture change, society transformed, the nations disciplined until we see mature sons come forth in the earth who are increasingly becoming like the only begotten Son of God. There is just something in that. I know there was a movement years ago that taught sons of God and five-fold but then they went out of bounds with some stuff. If the enemy cannot keep us from the truth, he will get us out of bounds.

We sometimes take the issue of Jesus being God's son for granted. I think it needs to be revisited because our faith is the only faith in the world that defines and declares God as Father who has always had a Son. All other religions fail in that. All other ideologies and beliefs and systems do not have a revelation of God as Father nor of His Son; they worship many gods. There are those who worship a cosmic soul in which all of us are absorbed and lose our identity. Everything out there denies the essence of who God is. Our faith says God is Father, has always been Father and, before anything else, He was Father and has always had a Son. Only our faith believes Jesus is the eternal Son through whom you



and I have eternal life.

1. On this foundation, we have stirred the pot and roused the enemy. 1 John 2:22, *Who is the liar but the one who denies that Jesus is the Christ? This is the antichrist, the one who denies the Father and the Son. 23 Whoever denies the Son does not have the Father; the one who confesses the Son has the Father also. 24 As for you, let that abide in you which you heard from the beginning. If what you heard from the beginning abides in you, you also will abide in the Son and in the Father.* Once you declare Jesus' sonship as the one eternal Son of God, the eternal Father and once you declare Jesus is the Christ who has come in the flesh, then you have engaged an issue that has always been at the core of conflict even before the world was made. It started in the heavens. Lucifer, the chief cherub, somehow moved into a place he should not have moved into. A spirit came in there which is antichrist. You cannot proclaim Jesus to any nation or culture as the Son of God and not feel the opposition in the air because there is a spirit working against that revelation of God getting into people's lives. So, the antichrist spirit is first of all a satanic manifestation as the liar. This spirit not only lies, this spirit wants to make God out a liar.

In the garden, when the enemy came, he not only lied to Eve, he wanted her to be persuaded that God was holding out on her. "You could become as God." From the beginning, the devil is a liar. You and I cannot defeat the lie intellectually because the lie is a spirit. The lie is an anointing. Holy Spirit anoints truth-tellers. Antichrist anoints liars. You can see anointed liars on television daily. Most of the media is anointed to lie and propagandize. If you tell a lie often enough people think it is the truth. Every antichrist dictator figure in history, like a Hitler, had a Joseph Goebbels to put out propaganda and just keep bombarding the people. Soon the people begin to think since they are not hearing anything else, it must be true. Truth today is not measured by the accuracy but by how much you say something. When the lie gets institutionalized and the spirit brings forth the structure like Nimrod at Babel, then we have warfare on another level. So, in this hour we need all we can get from God prophetically, strategically and apostolically if we are going to overcome the spirit in the air with the Spirit of truth.

2. The antichrist spirit is a manifestation of Satan as the denier. He denies that Jesus came in the flesh, the incarnation, but it goes deeper than that. The antichrist spirit wants to deny the relationship between God the Father and God the Son. Somehow in Lucifer's brain he got the idea he could get in on that. Lucifer was finite, a created angel. God the Father, God the Son were eternal Spirit. Lucifer became jealous of the Son of

God. That is reflected on earth by Cain and Abel's story. Cain was of the evil one and was jealous of Abel's sacrifice being acceptable to God. Lucifer comes in this antichrist spirit not just to lie, but to deny and to motivationally replace Christ. Antichrist is not just opposed to Christ, he seeks to be the replacement Christ. There is one Christ, one mediator between God and man, one Messiah, one Melchizedekal Man. There is only one that qualifies as He. Then verse 23 tells us basically what John 14:6 says that no one comes to the Father but through the Son. Here he talks about what you do with Jesus the Son determines your connection or disconnection with the Father.

Of all the things Jesus did and said and ministered on earth, what was it that stirred opposition to take Him to Calvary? His claim to sonship is the answer. It was mainly his claim to be more than a prophet, His claim to be THE Son of God having fulfilled all the scriptures of the Old Covenant that pointed to Him. Martin Luther said get in your Bible and then run toward Christ. Jesus started His ministry with a strong affirmation from Father. His voice came out of an open heaven declaring Jesus His beloved Son in whom He was well pleased. He started His ministry on earth with an affirmation, but now His ministry is concluded in the earth as He goes to the cross without affirmation. He was denied and opposed by the religious structure and then He died on the tree feeling Father had forsaken Him. He went from affirmation to terrible soul searching travail and consternation. He did that so we can become sons.

If God does not have a son, He cannot have sons. Islam says Jesus is not the son of God but a prophet. Amazingly, the Koran talks about the virgin birth and they accept Jesus as a prophet, but not as the Son of God. Why would they follow a prophet that makes inaccurate claims? Christ declared himself as the Son of God. While the church confesses and believes in Jesus as the son of God, and through this confession experiences eternal life, we generally lack a revelation of the ongoing importance of the alignment of the Father and the Son in the third heaven where the Son sits at the right hand of Father God.

1. So we have to find out what the alignments are in heaven as a pattern for all ordained governments on the earth. The epicenter of reality in the third heaven is a father/son relational aligned structure. Even Revelation says that God has a throne and so does the Lamb. The Lamb has been assigned all judgment by the Father according to John 5. He is enthroned as King. Psalm 110 and Acts 2:33 tell us that Jesus sat down at the Father's right hand. That structure in heaven is to define all structures that we have here on earth as we pray, "Thy Kingdom come, incrementally, increasingly." The enemy would like to deny all this, but we refuse the lie



and the denial. The alignment in heaven is to be applied to us on a personal level, in self-government. John tells us our fellowship is with the Father and the Son. 1 John, as you obey Him, you abide in the Son and in the Father. We on some level share in the Father/Son relationship. There is deliverance on that level from every failure of human fatherhood. It can be overcome by the grace of your Heavenly Father.

2. That structure in heaven is applied to the family. Fatherlessness is sad in the church and society. Let's pray for the release again of the spirit of Elijah, that apostolic/prophetic spirit that turns both the hearts of the fathers and sons to one another. John the Baptist, of Levi, could not be mentored by the corrupt priesthood of his day, so he was not in the temple with his dad. John came in the anointing of Elijah. John purifies the priesthood. There was a spirit of joining generations in John. Then he introduced Jesus, the one who would reveal the Father. John and Jesus were a double anointing that broke the curse of fatherlessness and the blessing was released.

3. The structure in heaven is applied in church life. The house of God will never be "ecclesia," a governing body, if it is not an "oikos" house of sons and daughters. The first thing God said to Adam and Eve was family, be fruitful and multiply. Then He talked about extending the rule of God. The church is a house of fathers and sons not bureaucrats and religious performers. In John 14, Jesus said He had prepared rooms in Father's house for us. The church is the house of God now. Jesus is not waiting 2000 years to give us a room in Father's house. He is not waiting that long to be with us.

4. The structure in heaven is applied to civil government. All governments should reflect God's government. In Romans 13, we find civil leaders are accountable to God, willingly or not. Civil government is always connected to economics. Our nation is operating in antichrist economics. The philosophy is that you fuel the economy by debt and keep putting it off into the future. You cannot divorce your thinking from who you are. If you extrapolate that philosophy, there are no sons and no future. That is not biblical nor the structure that is in heaven. We need prayer attack teams that strike at economics and all governmental structures to bring them into alignment with God's relational, generational pattern.

### The Right-hand Revelation:

The revelation of the Son of God on the right hand of the Father means a relational connection in the Kingdom of God and the work of the Kingdom. We have to be aligned rightly horizontally with people God

puts in our lives, but also rightly aligned with Father and Son. If the church does not align with heaven, we do not have much to build on. That alignment is how the church reaches its maximal potential and impact. When we see it is relational, it delivers us from competition, insecurity, turf-building and private kingdom enterprise. It sets us free because we are all in the family, all adopted sons aligned with *the* Son and seated with Him in heavenly places. The antichrist is an anti-relational spirit, trying to deny Father and Son relationship. The church must be stewarded relationally.

The revelation of Jesus and the Father's right hand is a guarantee to see the fulfillment of the purposes of God in history because it is a guarantee that more sons are coming. The purpose of God shall prevail through generations on earth. In an old paradigm the younger generation had to wait for the old to die to step into their anointing, but the truth is that relationship is meant to be synergistic and alongside.

The right-hand revelation means history-changing worship and intercession. Heaven is full of both. Hebrews 12:22, Jesus praises the Father in the midst of the ecclesia congregation. Jesus is the worship leader. The worship leader is no longer a fallen angel. Romans 8 tells us Jesus is also the chief intercessor. That alignment between Father and Son which can never be broken means that if we are faithful to enter into heaven's activities of worship and intercession, it will change the earth.

The right-hand revelation means it is a place of authority and assignment. Jesus' alignment with Father was a mechanism for Father's assignment for Jesus. Assignments come with alignments. We should not look for assignments before alignments. In heaven and in earth, Jesus is ruling presently in the midst of His enemies. (Psalm 45) So we are sons that can do that as well. The church is the army of God with spiritual weaponry to extend the authority of God.

The right-hand revelation means the church, according to Heb 12 and Rev 21, becomes the new heavenly Jerusalem, the wife of the Lamb, the city of God. New heavens, new earth, new Jerusalem are from heaven increasingly invading earth. God is building a city that overcomes culturally, civilizationally and universally the city of man that's based on rebellion against God. You are in God's city. Your citizenship is in heaven. The city God is building shows the glory that would have been if Adam had not fallen. What the last Adam builds is better than the original paradise. This city is glorious.

This is the hour to know your identity in Christ. We need to know our identity as His son or daughter and also our alignment with other sons and

daughters. We are not servants, but we are sons that choose to serve. We are not serving out of a servant structure but out of relationship. Neither are we orphans but adopted sons, adopted before creation. Jn 14:18 *I will not leave you orphans. I will come to you.* That is important because in the Jewish tradition an orphan is one whose training is not complete and whose development is hindered. So Jesus was promising that would not be the case with us. We have come to His house where He prepared us a room and by the Holy Spirit. He has come to our earthly house to be with us and train us. The right hand structure is the supreme structure of the universe. It must define everything in us and in the world. [Article reprinted from Vol.16Iss.2]

(Jim Hodges is the founder of the Federation of Ministers and Churches International, a relational, apostolic network of ministers, apostolic teams and local churches across the nation. Having ministered in over 40 nations, Apostle Hodges serves the Body of Christ internationally as a teaching apostle with a passion to see the Body of Christ fully established. Apostle Jim Hodges' new book is *BATTLE FOR EARTH: GLOBALISM VS. NATIONHOOD*. This book and other materials may be found at his website: [jimhodgesministries.com](http://jimhodgesministries.com) or by calling the office 972-283-2262.)

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## **Your Prophetic Word—A Battle Plan for Your Life**

by Dr. Greg Crawford

The Power of Prophecy over a life is seldom accessed or seen as tool of warfare. Your prophetic words are a battle plan for your life. These words must be worked out and strategized over. They must be safeguarded as well. Paul would also warn Timothy that as a good soldier he was not to be entangled with the affairs of this life. The entanglements come to diminish the prophetic words over His life. This prophetic word carried great force and power and worldly affections would reduce its impact. A strong word requires the application of force and resistance to whatever would hinder them from fulfillment.

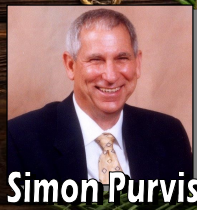
Perhaps if prophetic words were not so flowery but actually carried the sense of true Kingdom destiny, others would engage in them. Perhaps if prophecy were at a higher level, we would have the strategy we are looking for. Make war with your prophecy. Your prophecy is your battle plan given to you by God to fulfill.

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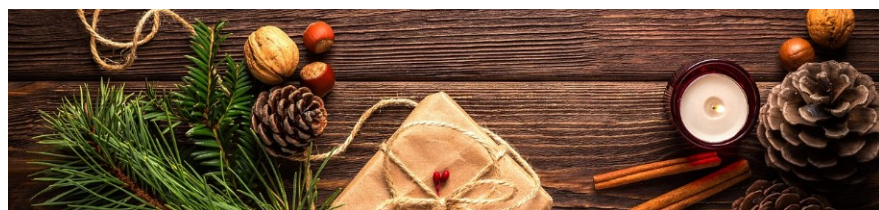


## The Virgin Birth



**Simon Purvis**

At the time of the birth of Jesus, the Roman emperor Caesar Augustus ordered that the first census be taken throughout his empire. Everyone had to travel to his or her hometown to complete the mandatory census. So Joseph and his fiancée Mary left Nazareth, a village in Galilee, and they journeyed to their hometown in Judea to the village of Bethlehem. They were required to register there since they were both direct descendants of David. Mary was nearly ready to give birth when they arrived in Bethlehem. She went into labor and there she gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him in strips of cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was not any room for them in the inn. In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, watching their flocks during the night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. Then the angel said to them, "Stop being afraid! Listen! I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people. Today your Savior, Christ the Lord, was born in the city of David. And this will be a sign for you: You will find a baby wrapped in strips of cloth and lying in a manger." Suddenly a multitude of the Heavenly Army appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and peace on earth to people who enjoy his favor!" God used the government to fulfill his prophecy, and He's going to do it again.





Our forefathers and apostolic Fathers fought for the essentials of the faith. There are essentials that we all believe, and then there are non-essentials that require we give grace to each other. One of the essentials is believing that Jesus was born of a virgin. To the Christian faith that is a must because it was part of the plan of God. In Isaiah, the Lord said, "I will give you a sign. Behold a virgin shall conceive and bear a son and shall call his name Emmanuel or God with us." He was miraculously conceived because only through the virgin birth could He have been all God and all man. The scripture says, "A child is born unto us. A son is given." A child is born was His humanity, a son is given was His divine being. Isaiah 9:6 goes on to say, "And the government is on His shoulder; and His name is called Wonderful, Counselor, The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. There is no end to the increase of His government and of peace on the throne of David, and on His kingdom, to order it, and to sustain it with justice and with righteousness, from now and forever. The zeal of Jehovah of Hosts will do this."

We see more follow-through in Isaiah 11:1 concerning the phrase, "upon the throne of David and over his kingdom." Isaiah said, "A Shoot shall come forth, a rod from the stem of Jesse, a branch shall grow out of his roots and the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him. He will have the Spirit of wisdom and understanding the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of the knowledge and of the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear or the reverence of the Lord. He shall not judge by the sight of his eyes nor decide by the hearing of his ears, but with righteousness. He shall judge the poor and decide with equality for the meek of the earth and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth and with the breath of his lips he shall slay the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt of his loins and faithfulness the belt of his waist." Luke 1:30, "And the angel said to her, don't be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God and behold you will conceive in your womb and bring forth the son and shall call his name Jesus and he will be great and will be called the son of the highest. And the Lord God will give him the throne of his father David."

Through the virgin birth, the dynasty of David was restored. The dynasty of David had fallen when they went into captivity in Babylon, and the line of David had become very weakened. The line of David was cut off from the time of the exile into Babylon and Israel had no king. They don't have a king today because they don't recognize Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ in Acts 15, restored the dynasty of David and became the one that sat on the throne. This was made possible through the virgin birth. Back in Luke 1:33, "And he shall reign over the house of Jacob forever and of his kingdom there will be no end. Then Mary said to the angel, how can this be since I don't know a man? And the angel answered and said to her,

the Holy Spirit will come upon you and the power of the highest will overshadow you.” Jesus was to be the Holy Seed. In Romans 5, the rebellion of Adam and Eve is called the original sin. It was passed down to all of mankind to be born as sinners with a sinful nature. It is very clear that through one man's disobedience we all became sinful.

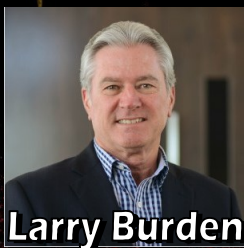
Mary had the original sin like we all did but this didn't come by natural birth, It was supernatural. The seed by which she was to give birth, (the Word of God), was incorruptible seed. It wasn't the seed of the woman nor the seed of man. It was by the power of the seed of the Word of God through the power of the Holy Spirit that she conceived and brought forth a holy child unto the Lord. Jesus Christ was born of a virgin who was overshadowed by the Holy Spirit, and by that Holy Spirit life came to Jesus, not by the power of a man. The power of the Spirit of the living God made Him holy unto the Lord. He could be pure without any taint of sin at all. You and I have a principle element of sin in us, but Jesus Christ was born perfectly Holy unto the Lord without any sin whatsoever. And that could only be done through the virgin birth. Notice, nothing's impossible with God. I think even the virgin birth is to encourage us that what God does and the salvation saving us is a supernatural work. And it's something that man can't do. It takes the power of God to do this. And **our faith is in a supernatural work of God**, not in what man can accomplish.

“And the angel answered and said to her, the Holy Spirit will come upon you and the power of the highest will overshadow you. Therefore also that Holy One, He who is to be born, will be called the Son of God.” Now notice He's called the Son of God, but He's also called the Son of Man. He's all God and yet He's all man. And even right now He's God and yet He's all man. And the two will never mix. There will always be the divine side of Jesus Christ as God, but there will always be His humanity. There's a lot that try to think that one day those two will merge as part of the Godhead. I personally believe the forefathers believed it'll always be all man and all God. This is how you know there's a glorified man sitting on the throne of David in heaven running this universe.

Luke 1:36: “ Now indeed, Elizabeth, your relative has also conceived a son in her old age, and this is now the sixth month for her who was called barren. 37, for with God nothing shall be impossible.” I'm telling you saints, with God, nothing is impossible and the virgin birth shows us that God could overshadow a virgin and bring forth through the Word of God. Luke 1:38.” And Mary said, behold the maid servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.” I think that's one of the things we must learn: Lord, what you said, let it be according to your Word.

(This article was taken from a teaching given by Simon Purvis. He is the lead teacher at the Word of Life Teaching Center in Lufkin, TX. Training is at 10:00am each Sunday. To contact him about speaking engagements or to purchase his 160 page study manual on the Kingdom of God, call Word of Life Teaching Center at 936-639-2000; Email: wol-luf@consolidated.net)

# The Fatherless Epidemic: RESCUING OUR CHILDREN



**Larry Burden**

In my previous article regarding the assault upon our children and families in America, I shared about the critical need for authentic fatherhood to arise in our nation. As the Ekklesia, most of our prayer efforts have primarily been targeting the arena of civil government and the return of our nation to her foundational roots of God's original intent as outlined by our founding fathers. The astounding momentum and success of the Ekklesia Movement is a testimony of faithfulness and perseverance by our Ekklesia leaders and the faithfulness of the Father's heart to see His kingdom and kingship established in America and the nations. The tide is turning!

The heart or spirit of a nation reflects those who lead and occupy it. Proverbs 29:2 says, When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice; but when the wicked bear rule, the people mourn. For decades, wicked civil rulers have been incrementally destroying the future of America by destroying the lives of our children. From abortion and child mutilation to the disintegration of the family, the horror of darkness in our nation has been unprecedented. The good news is that there is also a movement to rescue our fatherless children and to reverse this epidemic. Our children have suffered greatly from the absence of fathers in the home. Studies have shown that children from fatherless homes are more likely to be poor, become involved in sexual promiscuity and substance abuse, drop out of school, and suffer from health and emotional problems.



A recent study of 1,977 children aged 3 and older reported that children living with married biological parents had significantly fewer external and internal behavioral problems than children living with at least one non-biological parent (fathers.com).

Our children have not gone unnoticed by the Father. He has a special place in his heart for them. Jesus specifically addressed His heart for the children in the following scripture: Matthew 19:13-15 (TPT) Then they brought little children to Jesus so that He would lay his hands on them, bless them, and pray for them. But the disciples scolded those who brought the children, saying, “Don’t bother him with this now!” Jesus overheard them and said, “I want little children to come to me, so never interfere with them when they want to come, for heaven’s kingdom realm is composed of beloved ones like these! Listen to this truth: No one will ever enter the kingdom realm of heaven unless he becomes like one of these!” Then He laid his hands on each of them and went on his way.

It is interesting that in the passages preceding this event, Jesus was speaking to the Pharisees about the question of divorce and remarriage. To me, this was Jesus addressing the sanctity of marriage and the integrity of the home that ultimately impacted the little ones the most. No wonder Jesus wanted those children to know they were important to Him and His Father, just as He wants all children to know today.

I recently had a conversation with a friend of mine who has worked in juvenile detention for 13 years. He stated to me emphatically that the one constant in each life of those kids that he works with is the absence of fathers or father figures in the home. He further stated that of those few who did have fathers in the home, those fathers had no capacity or understanding of how to be a father. Their fathers were unable to provide the loving, caring, protective environment that these kids needed because their fathers had never been taught themselves! These kids were the offspring of generations of fatherlessness. Could it be that authentic fathers of the faith need to actively engage in training other fathers HOW to BE a father.

Love continues to be our greatest weapon of warfare to draw the broken ones to His heart. It is the love of the heavenly Father that draws men to repentance and salvation (Romans 2:4), and it is the love of the earthly fathers to bring peace and stability into the home. Love is a powerful force, and a father’s love in the household provides a constant of kindness, patience, understanding and forgiveness, encouragement, and protection. Yes, earthly fathers are far from perfect, but their presence in the home remains a stabilizing force for the entire household. Clearly, the Father’s love is the foundational key that will not only unlock the great end-time harvest of lost souls but also the key to rescue the orphan sons



and daughters and to reverse the curse of the fatherless epidemic. This love is not only being released through authentic fathers but also through authentic fathering ministries that have emerged to rescue our sons and daughters.

I recently happened upon a documentary video entitled, *The Fatherless Epidemic*. This documentary not only outlined the depth of the issues of fatherlessness upon our sons and daughters but also offered solutions to reverse this epidemic in our nation. Through this discovery I also learned about The Alliance for Ending the Fatherless Epidemic, a network of Christ-centered ministries across the nation who are committed to ending the fatherless epidemic through mentorship as well as sharing resources, ideas, best practices; and wisdom to facilitate faster growth and greater efficiency for the sake of bringing glory to God. Alliance for Ending the Fatherless Epidemic is a collaborative alliance between ministries who seek to end fatherlessness. Their goals are to establish a fathering ministry in every county in the United States by January 1, 2029; decrease fatherlessness rates to the 1950's levels (less than 6%); raise-up disciples seven generations deep; reform the American Church by inspiring a culture of prayer and service; and make The ALLIANCE no longer necessary! These goals are accomplished through education, reproducing and multiplying throughout the nation, and creating a culture of spiritual adoption within the local church.

I am reminded of the heart of Jesus when he saw the multitudes as sheep having no shepherd: Matthew 9:35-38 (TPT) "And Jesus walked throughout the region with the joyful message of God's kingdom realm. He taught in their meeting houses and wherever he went he demonstrated God's power by healing every kind of disease and illness. When he saw the vast crowds of people, Jesus' heart was deeply moved with compassion, because they seemed weary and helpless, like wandering sheep without a shepherd. He turned to his disciples and said, 'The harvest is huge and ripe. But there are not enough harvesters to bring it all in. As you go, plead with the Owner of the Harvest to thrust out many more reapers to harvest this grain.'"

What if the crowds were children who have no father? What if you were an answer to the Lord of the Harvest? What if you were the one to reach out and take one of these children under your spiritual wing? What if you were the one to raise up other spiritual fathers and mothers to mentor the orphaned generation in your metron? What would the landscape of your city and region look like then?

We are an answer to the Lord's bidding to reach these generations of children who are traumatized by orphanhood. We are destined to reap the

harvest of their transformation into sons and daughters through authentic fatherhood. We have the heart and Spirit of our Father to be one of the greatest end-time harvesters whose influence on one son or daughter might secure the course of kingdom destiny. We have been born for such a time as this.

(Larry and Kathy Burden are the founders of KingdomLife. This article is an excerpt from Larry's new book *The Orphan Heart*. He is also the author of *Kingdom Life Finding—Life Beyond Church*. In that book you will discover why current church models are failing in America, why your church experience often leaves you empty inside, the true freedom and blessing that is found in the kingdom of God. Contact info: [www.kingdomlife.org](http://www.kingdomlife.org))



I want to talk about where we are and how to prepare for what is coming. About four years ago I had a vision about the U.S. in which I saw the American church (as a whole) represented by large, white, stoic columns. The columns were lifeless, traditional structures. All of a sudden the earth began to rumble and all of the columns fell. I looked away for a second and when I looked back, in the place of the columns were green plants growing and people moving all around them. There was life where there was not before. I believe this intense shaking is upon us now.

Why must we be shaken? The American church as a whole has too much doubt, unbelief, skepticism and rationalism mixed in. Rationalism is - “the principle or habit of accepting reason as the supreme authority in matters of opinion, belief, or conduct and the doctrine that reason alone is a source of knowledge and is independent of experience” (dictionary.com). Rationalism is based on what we can see and what we have been told

from man's wisdom. For example, the current gender and race issues demonically fueled by rationalism say, "We just need to love more." No, we just need to deal with what's in the atmosphere causing such problems! It has become very easy to rationalize away the power of God because it doesn't fit the American ideal of how life should go. For the most part, our nation has been hypnotized into believing a Sunday-morning-feel-good message and some Christian radio throughout the week is all we need. As we all know, that's not working.

We also need to be shaken because the church has embraced materialism, self-care, self-love, self-help and entertainment. Let's talk about the "selves" first. I'm not saying being healthy and smelling good is wrong, nor am I saying you should hate yourself! What I am saying is self-focus is the center of what I just listed and that's the raging drive in our culture. All of this self-comfort is often fueled by the drive to be happy and the problem there is that happiness shouldn't be a goal but a side effect of how we are living. A lot of this pseudo happiness is found in materialism which has crept its way into the Christian scene. The big problem here is that we have had no idea what darkness is behind and attached to so many material things. I recently put on a necklace and heard a small, "Don't wear that." It caught me and I said, "Lord, is that you?" The only way I can describe what came next is a roar out of the center of my being and I could not rip that necklace off fast enough! I did some digging and found dark things intentionally attached to many of that creator's pieces. I ended up throwing a bag of jewelry away.

These days many of the must-have items touted on social media by "influencers" are from very dark origins and meant to enslave and control the purchaser. But rationalism would say, "Don't be dramatic. You watch too many movies." That brings me to the next item, entertainment. Entertainment has become such a priority in our culture that it has made its way into our churches. We like to quote movies and throw the world's songs into our worship sets. We hope those sermons are short because we need to get home for "the game", and we just keep overlooking the demonic that gets more and more obvious in our favorite TV shows. Rationalism: "Oh it's not that bad. Don't be so religious!" I recently saw a video of a man bringing someone to deliverance. In the video you would hear the voice of the young man coming to deliverance, then all of a sudden you could hear the voice of the demon. The man doing deliverance asked the demon where it came from and it told him it came through a song. The young man explained that he only listened to the song because he likes the music, but the demon said, "We can use what is ours." Well, there's no rationalizing that legal technicality!

We have been living in a very toxic bubble here in America. By toxic I mean everything we've already talked about and more, but that toxic bubble has popped and we are about to be exposed to things we don't have a reference for. So it's time to prepare, and here are ways to do that:

1) *Prov. 3:5-8 Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths. Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord and depart from evil. \*It will be health to your flesh, and strength to your bones.* This is the antidote to rationalism which is based in our own understanding. **Take note that not leaning on our own understanding and wisdom brings health** (see v. 8 above)! Get in the word and trust the Holy Spirit to reveal what you need to know.

2) Isaiah 11:1-2 is about Jesus and what He operated in. We need to operate in these like Jesus did, so ask for these daily: *Spirit of the sovereign Lord, wisdom, knowledge, counsel, might, understanding and the fear of the Lord.*

3) Have a handful of go-to Scriptures on hand if you don't already. These may shift with the season you're in.

4) Be aware of doubt, unbelief, skepticism and rationalism in your life. Catch it and counter it with truth in the word as the Holy Spirit leads.

5) Watch out for materialism and self-focus. They are bait to draw you into a fruitless and dark place.

6) Pay attention to your entertainment choices. There is a lot of evil infiltrating the airwaves, and what we allow to entertain us is what we are giving access to our lives and household.

7) Consider fasting ... more.

8) Take time to worship. Get past the song, and worship the One Who is worthy!

9) Watch your confession. What is coming out of your mouth? Is it life or agreement with death?

10) Lastly, Pray. In. Tongues.

It's time to get serious because I believe WE THE CHURCH are about to be shaken to a full-on reset. The veil between the spirit realm and our natural one is getting thinner and thinner, and it's all because His Kingdom is coming to this earth and evil is being driven out. The days ahead are going to be uncomfortable yet phenomenal. It's an adventure each of us was made to walk... together.

(MELISSA will be leading worship and speaking at KINGDOM CONGRESS 2024 which is March 6-8, 2024 at Grace Church Willis. [martygabler.com/kc2024](http://martygabler.com/kc2024))





Joe Bogue

A young man in our church recently gave a testimony about an encounter with the Lord. It was during the SEEC Kingdom Congress and the people had come into this amazing time of engaging with the Lord. The whole congregation had come forward declaring the holiness of the Lord. Although it was an amazing time, he felt disconnected and he cried out to the Lord and asked why he wasn't experiencing the same moment as everyone else. The Lord replied, "I'm delivering you from a spirit of rejection." With that, he felt a hand come over his head and pull something off of him right there in the service. He received an amazing release and a sense that something was different. His perspective was changed. His emotions were more stable. Things didn't worry him like before. His work changed in that there was an ease of writing and working with clients. He was a different person. He followed it up with being baptized. He had been baptized as a child, but something had happened and he wanted to identify with the death burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. He had become a new creation again. He addressed how shame keeps us from dealing with the core issues in our life. We feel like we have to put up a front, be presentable, smile on Sundays so that people will accept us. But the truth is that the enemy uses shame to keep us in a state of being locked down and unable to overcome our past. Guilt says you did something wrong, shame says you are a bad person. The enemy uses shame to con-



trol and limit how we see ourselves and thus how we see the world. The congregation responded so positively to that testimony that we had an altar call. Awesome freedom and release came into the room. God was delivering us of the things that sabotage our lives.

2Samuel 6 tells the story of David bringing the Ark of the Covenant back to Jerusalem. David's desire was that the presence of God be near him in the city. He had a great idea of making a parade and putting the ark on a new cart that they built for the journey. Little did he know they could not carry the Ark like that, so Uzzah steadied the Ark and dropped dead. What a way to mess up a parade. They then put the Ark in Obededom's home. Notice, David didn't give up. Many of us would have been satisfied that God didn't want to move. Don't mess with him. He likes country living. But David asked the right people the right questions and found out that you can only carry the Ark on the shoulders of godly men. He tried again, this time with priests carrying the Ark and sacrifices leading the way, 7 bullocks and 7 rams piled up ahead of the Ark. What a bloody mess it took to bring this box to Jerusalem. Was it worth it? I know many of us would ask that question. Let me say, it's ok to be extravagant with the Lord. So when David got to Jerusalem and nobody died en route, David was ready to celebrate and danced and played before the Ark. David's wife Michal watched from her palace window and despised how David was acting, so undignified. Here we come to our text, 2Sa 6:20-23, *Then David returned to bless his household. And Michal the daughter of Saul came out to meet David, and said, How glorious was the king of Israel to day, who uncovered himself today in the eyes of the handmaids of his servants, as one of the vain fellows shamelessly uncovereth himself! 21 And David said unto Michal, It was before the LORD, which chose me before thy father, and before all his house, to appoint me ruler over the people of the LORD, over Israel: therefore will I play before the LORD. 22 And I will yet be more vile than thus, and will be base in mine own sight: and of the maidservants which thou hast spoken of, of them shall I be had in honour. 23 Therefore Michal the daughter of Saul had no child unto the day of her death.*

Michal was upset that her husband had uncovered himself in front of the people. She would rather him cover his shame and be dignified, than uncover his shame and be undignified. The devil will use this tool at every turn. Shame is about control. Religion and the church are at times too satisfied with people's dignity and proper behavior rather than transparency and freedom. We feel good about ourselves when everything looks good on the outside while our people are dying on the vine. People coming to true freedom may not be the prettiest thing, but it will certainly bring life to the church like nothing else. Michal was barren from that point on. I believe that deliverance will be a marker of awakening and

revival because people are coming into true freedom. Authentic may look a little undignified and might get a little messy, but remember, it's what we have been praying for, awakening and revival.

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Whether it was on a hillside with thousands in attendance or just them walking down the road with Jesus to the next village, the disciples were personally privileged to hear the greatest teacher that ever walked the earth. They had questions, lots of them. However, there was only one thing they ever asked him to teach them. It happened that while Jesus was praying in a certain place, after He had finished, one of His disciples said to Him, "Lord, teach us to pray just as John also taught His disciples," Luke 11:1. Notice that they didn't say "teach us *how* to pray." They had heard Jesus pray. Their desire to learn to pray had more to do with transformation than it did with simply bringing a shopping list to God. C.S. Lewis said, "I pray because I can't help myself. I pray because I'm helpless. It doesn't change God, it changes me." So He said to them, "When you pray, say: Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us day by day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, For we also forgive everyone who is indebted to us. And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us

from the evil one,” Luke 11:2-4.

A couple of months ago I began to seek the Lord for more understanding about what we call “The Lord’s Prayer.” As I set out to dissect it, I heard Holy Spirit say, “In these days of great shaking I’m going to unveil new depths of this prayer to my people.” When I set out to write this I had intended to cover the entire prayer, line by line. However, I haven’t been able to get past the first four words, “Our Father In Heaven.” For a long time I have wondered why Jesus began the prayer with “Our Father” instead of “My Father,” but the Son of God is speaking here as a man to other men, and He is saying “Our Father” because He wants you to know that His Father is your Father too! He wants us to know who we are praying to. He would like us to think of the awesome majesty of this magnificent Creator who spoke the heavens and the earth into existence, and to think of the one who thought us up, envisioned us; formed us (Gen.2:7), and framed us (Psalm 139:13-18).

God the Father, who is love, loves us so much that He sent His Son to bring us into where He, the Son, and Holy Spirit dwell. “The glory which You have given Me I have given to them, that they may be one, just as We are one; I in them and You in Me, that they may be perfected in unity, so that the world may know that You sent Me, and loved them, even as You have loved Me,” John 17:22-23. I firmly believe that everything Jesus taught his followers was with the purpose of bringing them into the place where He lived. That place can be called union with God. Jesus prayed to the Father that: 1) We would experience the same union with Him that He experienced with the Father. 2) That the world would know that the Father has the same love for us that He has for Jesus! Wow! Beginning our prayer with the knowledge that The Father loves us just as much as He loves Jesus immediately activates faith in my heart! This tells me that because of Jesus I have access to everything He has. Our Father, who is in heaven, the One who spoke and the heavens and earth came into being, has given us bold access to Himself. We have the same access to the Father that Jesus has. Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. We have come to know and have believed the love which God has for us. God is love, and the one who abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. By this, love is perfected with us, so that we may have confidence in the day of judgment; because as He is, so also are we in this world, 1 John 4:15-17. Let that sink in for a moment. He’s not saying, “As He *was*, so are we in this world.” He is saying, “As He *is*, so are we in this world.” Let it sink in again. By His grace, through our faith in the Son of God, His righteousness has been transferred to us and we are now seated with Him. Every temptation and attack from satan that you or I have ever faced was designed to keep us from experiencing and living in the reality of the place of union with the Father that Jesus has.

“But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly,” Matthew 6:6. The Greek word for “room” here, or “closet” (KJV) actually means “storehouse.” It can be a metaphor for our innermost being. We have to stop thinking of heaven being some far away place that we’re praying toward and instead see that it is in our innermost being. Many trusted prophetic voices have been saying for a while now that we are coming into a time of great shaking. By the time you read this, things may be more turbulent than they are as I write.

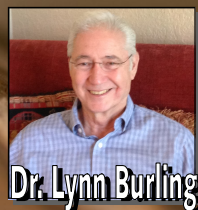
Psalms 91 begins by telling us, “He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.” The secret place is not a physical place. It is the place where I am one with the Most High. In the secret place He shadows me. When I come into the secret place I come under His shade. Here in Southeast Texas, we just came through the hottest summer that I can remember. Weather warnings were posted every day telling us to find shade for protection. In the secret place our Father is the shade we sit under. When I come into the secret place, I come in humility as a little child. I can see things that are hidden from the proud. Here in America, altars have been built to the god of rationalization who sits on a throne called pride. Jesus unleashed His rebuke on some cities where He had taught and performed miracles because they rejected Him and refused to repent because of their own “wise in their own eyes” reasoning (Matthew 11:21-24). Abruptly Jesus broke into prayer: “Thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth. You’ve concealed your ways from sophisticates and know-it-alls, but spelled them out clearly to ordinary people. Yes, Father, that’s the way you like to work,” Matthew 11:25-26. The Father isn’t revealing His ways to those who are proud. In fact, Jesus said you can’t enter the kingdom unless you become like a child (Matt. 18:2-4). I can’t go into the “storehouse” with pride and arrogance. There are unlimited riches for us to lay hold of in the secret place (Eph. 3:16).

Jesus resumed talking to the people, but now tenderly. “The Father has given me all these things to do and say. This is a unique Father-Son operation, coming out of Father and Son intimacies and knowledge. No one knows the Son the way the Father does, nor the Father the way the Son does. But I’m not keeping it to myself; I’m ready to go over it line by line with anyone willing to listen,” Matt. 11:27. He’s not keeping it to himself. Thank God! He invites us to come to Him and take the yoke that He and the Father share so we can walk in step with them. “Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion? Come to me. Get away with me and you’ll recover your life. I’ll show you how to take a real rest. Walk with me and work with me—watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I won’t lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep company with me and you’ll learn to live freely and lightly,” Matthew 11:28-30. Let’s learn to get away with Him so we can learn from Him, work with Him, and watch how He does it. Lord, teach us to pray.

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## SPIRITUAL EXERCISE MORE VALUABLE THAN PHYSICAL EXERCISE



1 Timothy 4:8 (GNT) “Physical exercise has some value, but spiritual exercise is valuable in every way”... is an introduction to what spiritual things are worthy of our pursuits and how profitable and valuable they are. The Amplified says, “Train yourself toward Godliness, piety, keeping yourself spiritually fit.” We’ve all seen body builders who’ve gone overboard with their muscular physiques, and some have gone so far as to be out of proportion for a natural look. It took them months and years and special diets, and who knows what other additives, to achieve their goals. Truth is, what is the eternal value of such endeavors? However, spiritual exercise profits for much more with the added value of achieving His purpose for you and the ministry He’s called you to. Paul received great revelation of the Holy Spirit’s workings in a believer, even to a point of excellence and balance so as to contribute to the Kingdom and become a model of what the Spirit has planned for all His sons and daughters, both now and in the future. “And when He, the Holy Spirit, comes, He will show you things to come, [sounds like future plans to me] and will bring all things to your remembrance,” (things that I told you).

A truly spiritual person is led by the Spirit including, and especially, the Five-Fold. A few examples: *“And the Spirit led them; and the Spirit bade him go; and the Spirit said ‘No, don’t go’; and the Spirit hindered*





*him; and the Spirit stopped him; and the Spirit took him away; and they were filled with the Spirit; and the Spirit said, 'Join yourself to the Chariot'; and the Spirit said, 'Separate unto me Saul and Barnabas.'*" It seems that the Scripture is replete with men and women who knew something of spiritual encounters. Holy Spirit was their guide alongside them. They waited on Spirit instruction and unction. Mark 1:12, "And the Holy Spirit drove him," and Luke 4:14, "and Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit." In the synagogue He took the scrolls and read from Isaiah saying, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me to anoint me." Jesus' followers knew how to operate in the Spirit. Another word for OPERATE is FUNCTION! "If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit" (Gal 5:25 ESV).

Jesus told the woman at the well, "God is Spirit" and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and truth. In 1Cor 14, it tells us exactly what spiritual prayer is. "If any man pray in tongues, it is our spirit that prayeth." I would much rather the Holy Spirit direct my prayers any day, than me. (Our spirit prays with a great sense of exchange). Scripture tells us that we pray mysteries unto God in the Spirit. Praying, in the Spirit means, the Spirit empowers the prayer and carries it to the Father in the name of Jesus. Paul nails this in saying that he speaks in tongues more than anyone (sounds like he found a key). He says (1 Cor 14:6) "How shall I benefit you unless I bring some revelation or knowledge, or prophesy, or teaching? V. 12, So with yourselves, you are eager for manifestations of the Spirit (given to me to give to you). Strive to excel in building up the Church." Your ability to *Build Up* the church is how *Spiritually Fit* you are. I stress that spending time like Paul, praying in the Holy Spirit, is essential for the type of manifestations the Five-Fold must deliver in the anointing to help the Church. I need bodily exercise and it does help, but spiritual exercise profits much more in spiritual matters.

Our personal prayer in the Holy Spirit *builds up* like physical exercise *builds up* in the flesh. The Spirit "stirs" our senses to know what and how to deliver his prophetic words of knowledge and wisdom, healing, or any manifestation of the Spirit. I'm even doing more than quenching "Fiery Darts." My spirit starts overruling my soulish desires. My God-life starts overruling my soul-life. In other words, my five senses get dominated by the power of the Holy Spirit. If I do that, then my understanding is that of the Almighty God, and I've got the mind of Christ. When I pray in the Spirit, I don't know what to pray, but fruitfulness kicks in from His revelation to us to be activated for the right purposes so we do not operate out of the soulish realm. Jesus said, "You are of your father the devil, because you listen to his words. . . But the words I speak to you are Spirit and they are life." Jesus' words do not go for our intellect but rather they go for the heart. The parable of the sower in Luke 8 and Mark 4 says that when the word is sown, it is sown in the heart, "Then cometh the devil and taketh away the word out of their hearts." It takes spiritual exercise to read, listen and discern so that

our spiritual muscle memory can be strengthened. Your spirit is God-life, your soul is your-life, and your body is carrying life. Exercise both, one is the temple and one is His life in you, working his good pleasure.

Let us carefully understand that we do things spiritual through our spirit, as emphasized by His Spirit. When His Spirit is present with our spirit, everything takes on a greater dimension. When Jesus said, “and greater things shall you do,” He knew the additions of the Holy Spirit, the Great Enabler, the Comforter and the one called alongside to help. God designed us for the capacity of the Holy Spirit’s presence in our clay pots. Let us pray in the Holy Spirit that we may speak, teach and prophesy His mysteries, revelations and manifestations of The Spirit.

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In this season, more than ever, Yahweh is moving on His people by His Holy Spirit to enable them to hear correctly, whether it be spoken words in the media, on social platforms, conversations, dreams, visions, prophecy or even impressions within us. We must hear accurately rather than just taking people, experiences and information at face value. Colossians 2:8, The Passion Translation—“Beware that no one distracts you or intimidates you in their attempt to lead you away from Christ’s fullness by pretending to be full of wisdom when they’re filled with endless arguments of human logic. For they operate with humanistic and clouded judgments based on the mindset of this world system, and not the anointed truths of the Anointed One.”



## “Enabled to Listen Correctly to Hear Accurately”

Lk.8:18,Amp—“Be careful therefore how you listen. For to him who has [*spiritual knowledge*] will more be given; and from him who does not have [*spiritual knowledge*], even what he thinks and guesses and supposes that he has will be taken away.” HOLY SPIRIT is teaching God’s people to listen, how to listen to Him – to listen correctly. He will teach us to listen to “news” and rumors with a righteous **GOD-FIRST, BIBLE-FIRST MIND**. (We may need to listen to a bit of news and rumors so we can declare the opposite!)

### SOME EXAMPLES OF CORRECT AND NOT CORRECT—

#### (1.) JESUS TOLD HIS DISCIPLES TO GO TO THE OTHER SIDE OF THE LAKE.

OK disciples, get **ready to listen correctly**. JESUS is going to say something now. Lk.8:22—“**Let** [“to go through”, i.e., go **through WHATEVER** is ahead of us] **us** [all of us; “us” meaning “I am with you in the boat”] **CROSS OVER** [not go part way and then sink and drown] to the **other side** [**reach the goal** that I spoke of] of the lake.” Lk.8:24—“And the disciples came and woke Him, saying, Master, Master, we are perishing! The literal definition of “perish” is—“we are being destroyed!” This was a case of the collective group not listening correctly to what JESUS said but panicking, likely, because of stories they heard people tell about boats and lake tragedies.

It may very well be that we will end up hearing and seeing and saying things completely different than everyone else. **C.S. Lewis**—“When the whole world is running towards a cliff, he who is running in the opposite direction appears to have lost his mind.” **John Kennedy**—“Sometimes the majority just means all the fools are on the same side.” **Martin P Gabler**—“Beware the person who lays aside their convictions, doesn’t consider their foundation but looks around to see if everyone else is believing and going with something (that the media and/or politicians are pushing) before they make up their mind.”

#### (2.) THE LORD GIVES PETER INSTRUCTIONS

Acts 10:13,NASB—“A voice came to him, ‘Get up, Peter, kill and eat!’ 14 But Peter said, ‘By no means, Lord, for I have never eaten anything unholy and unclean. 15 Again a voice came to him a second time, ‘What God has cleansed, no longer consider unholy.’” (Remember, that sheet came down out of heaven and there is nothing unclean in heaven.) He was **not LISTENING correctly, so that he could HEAR accurately, in order to ACT efficiently, effectively and excellently**. He was so bound by his religious system that he allowed it to distort even the voice and vision of the Lord. The Lord was trying to prepare Peter for a Kingdom assignment to go to Cornelius’ house – an opportunity that no other Jew had ever come close to, to impact the entire Gentile world. But his pre-occupation with his legalisms was causing him to completely miss it.

### **(3.) I PROPHESED TO A MAN WHOSE LEGALISTIC PARADIGM WOULD NOT LET HIM HEAR**

The word began with, “The Lord says you have stopped short.....” But because of his religious background, all he could hear was the “stopped short” — a condemning judgment from his background. He had already tuned out anything else that was said because all he could dwell on was that he had stopped short and, to him, that meant he was unworthy of anything else, mainly because he was suspicious that he really had stopped short because of his lifestyle that wasn’t adding up to his legalistic relatives’ expectations. Actually the word went on to say that he had stopped short of the great things God had for him to receive and to accomplish. The reason he had stopped short was because of his sense of unworthiness. He listened out of his paradigm. In this case, he had developed a religious mental framework (a paradigm) that pictured God as a zealous slave-driver of perfection. He could not hear correctly because he still held that condemnation in the forefront of his considerations. Let’s put God’s Word first in our considerations.

### **LISTENING CORRECTLY SO WE CAN THINK WHAT WE HAVE NEVER THOUGHT BEFORE—**

**I BELIEVE THAT THE GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT SHOW US THAT WE CAN THINK THOUGHTS THAT WE HAVE NEVER EVEN THOUGHT BEFORE.** If we listen to what the Spirit is saying/showing, we can greatly edify those the gifts are intended for. I believe those gifts, enablements, graces, are a great, shining encouragement and holy enticement to seek after and **display our Lord’s thoughts and solutions “on earth as in heaven”**. They are present day overlaps between heaven and earth.

Words of knowledge and words of wisdom are never behind the times over the years. One Sunday morning when I was ministering words of knowledge in a worship service, there was a doctor present who knew me. One word of knowledge I had was about a damaged heart. When I finished giving the word of knowledge he asked the pastor if he could say something. When he took the microphone I noticed he was weeping. He said that he was deeply moved by the compassion of Jesus in His display of love and healing. The doctor said that he knew me and knew that I had no medical background, yet I described the heart the way a heart surgeon would have. That could only have happened by the gift of Holy Spirit.

### **LISTENING CORRECTLY**

When listening through the course of a day, we would do well to ask questions like: what is this person, this entity, this narrative wanting me to believe and act on? What does the Word of God say about this? Does the Word address this specifically and if not, what are Jehovah’s laws/principles on this? If we have a biblical worldview, we are much more likely to listen correctly so that we can hear accurately in order to act effectively, efficiently and excellently.

**Our thinking must be greater than the demands and expressions of our mere emotions, our fears and personal experiences.** It must be fueled and founded upon and induced by the unfailing Word of God.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Dates are subject to change. Call before traveling.

Check Marty's FaceBook page for updates or our blog page: [martygabler.com](http://martygabler.com)

PLEASE PRAY FOR US

We have been putting dates on the Calendar after the magazine goes out. Please Check Marty's Facebook page and [martygabler.com](http://martygabler.com) for dates. We also serve on presbyteries, councils and prayer groups during the week that we don't post. Thank you for your prayers and support as we travel.—Marty & Kathy

Oct. 8 \* Houston, TX  
Global Advance Church  
Pastors: Luis y Korey Gomez  
10:00am \* 281-580-8574  
[luis1gomez@hotmail.com](mailto:luis1gomez@hotmail.com)  
Bilingual Service\*Spanish/English  
[www.globaladvancechurch.org](http://www.globaladvancechurch.org)

Oct. 15 \* Brenham, TX  
Cornerstone Christian Center  
Pastor Pat & Bishop Bob Beaty  
979-830-0404 10:00a.m.  
[cornerstonebrenham.org](http://cornerstonebrenham.org)

Oct. 21 0  
Memorial Service

Oct.23 \* Willis, TX  
Grace Church Willis  
FMCI Fall Conference 2023  
7pm Melissa & Grace Team  
leading worship  
You may register at:  
[jimhodesministries.com](http://jimhodesministries.com)  
Registration is not required  
for evening meetings

Oct. 24 \* Willis, TX  
FMCI Fall Conference 2023  
9:00am-12:15 Speakers  
2:00pm-4pm Speakers  
7pm—Dutch Sheets

Oct. 25 \* Willis, TX  
FMCI Fall Conference 2023  
9:00am-12:15 Speakers  
Marty speaking a.m.

2:00pm-4pm Speakers  
7pm—Phillip O'Reilly & Don Crum

Nov.11 \* Houston, TX  
CRF Libres en Cristo  
Pastors Jorge y Lorena Gamboa  
[ficmi.org](http://ficmi.org)  
Facebook: CRF Libres en Cristo

Nov.12 \* Houston, TX  
CRF Libres en Cristo 10:30am  
Pastors Jorge y Lorena Gamboa  
[ficmi.org](http://ficmi.org)

Nov. 23  
Have a Blessed Thanksgiving!

Dec.3 \* Houston, TX  
Global Advance Church  
Pastors: Luis y Korey Gomez  
2:00 \* 281-580-8574  
[luis1gomez@hotmail.com](mailto:luis1gomez@hotmail.com)  
Bilingual Service\*Spanish/English  
[www.globaladvancechurch.org](http://www.globaladvancechurch.org)

Dec.9 \* Iraan, TX  
Iraan Community Church  
Leadership

Dec.10 \* Iraan, TX  
Pastors James & Michelle Kent  
Marty & Kathy 10:30am  
Info: 432-639-2734  
Facebook: Iraan Community Church  
Kingdom Congress 2024  
March 6-8, 2020

Website: [seecministries.org](http://seecministries.org)  
Daily Devotions: [martygabler.com](http://martygabler.com)  
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Facebook: Marty Gabler  
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Matt.11:12

Mk.1:15

# Kingdom Congress 2024

**SEEC Ministries International**  
**17th Annual Kingdom Congress**  
**March 6-8, 2024 \*\*\* NO FEE**

Grace Church Willis, TX just north of Houston

**Be Strengthened Encouraged Equipped for 2024**

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