

Jesse Rich Ministries

October '05 Newsletter

“Called to reach the World with the Word of Faith”

Praying to God in Jesus' Name

And in that day ye shall ask me nothing. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you.
John 16:23

Dear Friend and Partner,

One of the drastic differences between the Old Testament and New Testament is that in the New Covenant, we are taught to pray to God in Jesus' Name. In the Old Covenant, people prayed to God, but they never prayed to God in Jesus' Name, or in any other name.

And in that day ye shall ask me nothing. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you. Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full. John 16:23, 24

The Living Bible says, **At that time you won't need to ask me for anything, for you can go directly to the Father and ask Him, and He will give you what you ask for because you use my name. You haven't tried this before, [but begin now]. Ask, using my name, and you will receive and your cup of joy will overflow.**

False Teaching and Doctrines from Religion

Religion has led us to believe that it doesn't make any difference how you pray, just as long as you're sincere when you pray. It has taught us to believe that it doesn't matter what name you pray in, or to whom you pray, such as praying to saints or to Mary. But praying to Mary, or saints has never been scriptural.

Please understand this: my purpose in addressing these prayer issues is not to offend anyone who is praying, whether you're praying to God, or to Jesus, or to the Holy Spirit, or to Mary, or any other saint.

It is not my purpose to put down or denigrate the way you are praying, or your custom of praying. Nor am I saying that God hasn't answered your prayers, or hasn't done miracles for you. I'm sure you could tell me, "Brother Rich, I prayed to Mary, and God did a miracle for me," or, "I prayed to Jesus," or "I prayed to this saint and God did this for me." I believe you, and I can relate to it. I've prayed some of the same ways.

We both know that God is merciful, patient, tolerant and understanding, but He's attempting to show us through His Word how He wants us to pray. This does not take away any respect or honor from Mary, the mother of Jesus, who was chosen by God to bring Jesus Christ (*Elohim, God with us*) into the world through the virgin birth. *But we must do our best, as believers, to stick as close as we can to the Word of God.*

I'm the first one to admit it's not easy to change one's customs, beliefs, or religious practices. Thank God for all the churches, denominations, ministers, and priests that believe in the shed blood of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins and that salvation is exclusively through Jesus Christ, **and Him only.**

That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life. For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him. John 3:15-18,36

And brought them out, and said, **Sirs, what must I do to be saved? And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.** Acts 16: 30,31

That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. Romans 10:9,10,13

For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; 1 Timothy 2:5

Follow the New Covenant Way of Praying

We do have a New Covenant and a new way of doing things. And, **the New Covenant way of praying is approaching and addressing God, our Father, in Jesus' Name.**

As long as we make changes in line with God's Word, we prove to ourselves and to God that we humbly esteem His written Word above our religious teachings, customs and cultures. None of us likes to be wrong, or to be proven wrong, but if we are going to grow spiritually, and we want to please God more than anyone else, we must adhere to His written Word and respect His Word and honor His Word.

Make it a point that when you read God's Word, especially when you're reading the epistle letters, note **what God is saying**. For in those letters, He's talking to you, and all of us in the body of Christ.

It is erroneous thinking and a damnable heresy when people make statements such as, "*They're the Pauline epistles. That's just what Paul said*" or, "*It's just what John said in his epistles,*" or "*...what Peter said in his.*" If these were simply man's letters, *they wouldn't be the inspired Word of God*. But **they are** the inspired Word of God, and we are instructed not to add to them or take away from them. We are to believe them and obey them. God will confirm His Word if you will just have the childlike faith to accept what is written in God's epistles.

All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: 2 Timothy 3:16

Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. 2 Peter 1:4

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

And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen. Mark 16:20

Whenever you hear a minister, pastor, priest, or any religious leader and/or someone that religiously influences you, *including myself*, examine what they are saying in line with the written Word of God.

To illustrate this point, let's say you came to one of my services and I was teaching that in order for a person to please God and be forgiven by God of their sins, you must sacrifice an animal unto Him, whether it be a sheep, or a bullock. Then, I read scripture where they did this in the Old Testament. The first thing you want to do, even though I gave you chapter and verse from God's Word, is to ask yourself, "*Was this practiced and performed in the New Covenant by what we call the "early church?"*"

Anything that is taught or preached
must be examined
in the light of our New Covenant.

All the Bible is God's Word, from Genesis to Revelation. God is the same today as He has always been. He never changes. But one day upon this earth, everything did change, except God. This is when He offered Jesus Christ up on the cross. Apparently Satan did not realize the impact that Jesus' death would have on his kingdom or on his eternal existence, because the power of God, by the Holy Spirit, resurrected Jesus from the dead, Who would never die again!

Which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. 1 Corinthians 2:8

Through Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection, we have a New Covenant purchased by God for us which was paid in full with the blood of Jesus.

In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins: Colossians 1:14

Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us. For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh: How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? Hebrews 9:12-14

For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins. Hebrews 10:4

Then verily the first covenant had also ordinances of divine service, and a worldly sanctuary. For there was a tabernacle made; the first, wherein was the candlestick, and the table, and the shewbread; which is called the sanctuary. And after the second veil, the tabernacle which is called the Holiest of all;

Which had the golden censer, and the ark of the covenant overlaid round about with gold, wherein was the golden pot that had manna, and Aaron's rod that budded, and the tables of the covenant; And over it the cherubims of glory shadowing the mercyseat; of which we cannot now speak particularly. Now when these things were thus ordained, the priests went always into the first tabernacle, accomplishing the service of God. But into the second went the high priest alone once every year, not without blood, which he offered for himself, and for the errors of the people:

The Holy Ghost this signifying, that the way into the holiest of all was not yet made manifest, while as the first tabernacle was yet standing: Which was a figure for the time then present, in which were offered both gifts and sacrifices, that could not make him that did the service perfect, as pertaining to the conscience; Which stood only in meats and drinks, and divers washings, and carnal ordinances, imposed on them until the time of reformation. But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building;

Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us. For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh: How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? Hebrews 8:6-14

We no longer sacrifice animals. It was in and through the New Covenant and what Jesus did for us when He went to the cross to die in obedience to God by offering up His life, that God exalted the Name of Jesus above every other name, as we read in Philippians 2:6-11: **Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.**

Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

So when we go to God in Jesus' Name, we are going in the highest, most majestic and powerful Name that has ever been, and ever will be.

Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high; Hebrews 1:3

To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen. Jude 25

This is another reason why we pray to God in Jesus' Name. For when they questioned Peter in Acts 3:1-16 and Acts 4:1-33, notice what Acts 3:16 **(And his name through faith in his name hath made this man strong, whom ye see and know: yea, the faith which is by him hath given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all)** and Acts 4:12 said – **Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.** They said that the man was healed through faith in the Name of Jesus. And, our very salvation is in the Name of Jesus.

Do All in the Name of Jesus

And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him. Colossians 3:17

And he is before all things, and by him all things consist. Colossians 1:17

For God said whatsoever you do in word or in deed, do in Jesus' Name. Well, praying is a deed, and giving thanks to God is praying, and we're told when we do these to do them in the Name of Jesus.

You never need another name, once you've got the Name of Jesus. Why approach God in another name and, may I say, a *lesser name* – for every name and every saint is lesser than the Name of Jesus! So, if one would not want to change from praying to God in another name to praying to God in Jesus' Name because of religious upbringing, why not change for *power's sake*? All the power God has, has been invested in that Name — *the Name of Jesus!* **And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.** Matthew 28:18

It's like Peter said, it wasn't his power (*referring to himself*), or his holiness (*referring to himself*), or the apostle John's power, or the apostle John's holiness that healed the man – *it was faith in the Name of Jesus.*

For he hath put all things under his feet. But when he saith all things are put under him, it is manifest that he is excepted, which did put all things under him. 1 Corinthians 15:27

That in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in him: Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come: Ephesians 1:10, 21

Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; Philipians 2:9,10

Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds; Hebrews 1:2

Thou hast put all things in subjection under his feet. For in that he put all in subjection under him, he left nothing that is not put under him. But now we see not yet all things put under him. Hebrews 2:8

Who is gone into heaven, and is on the right hand of God; angels and authorities and powers being made subject unto him. 1 Peter 3:22

It's not a person's spiritual title or position that gets them the results. It is faith in the Name of Jesus that brings the power on the scene.

Anyone who's in any spiritual leadership at all, who is right with God and walking in line with God's Word will immediately and always give all the credit and all the glory and all the honor to the Father God in Jesus' Name.

So, if you are praying to God for something, or exercising your spiritual authority over Satan and his circumstances, use the Name of Jesus, the Name that's above every name. In praying to God for something, we're asking God in Jesus' Name for what we're requesting. So, the "How- to" of prayer is to pray to God in Jesus' Name. *The key to prayer is the Name of Jesus.* That is how we pray. And, the key to spiritual authority when dealing with Satan, removing mountains, binding the devil and casting evil spirits out of someone is that you do it in the Name of Jesus.

And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.

So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God. And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen. Mark 16:17-20

And the seventy returned again with joy, saying, Lord, even the devils are subject unto us through thy name. And he said unto them, I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven. Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you. Notwithstanding in this rejoice not, that the spirits are subject unto you; but rather rejoice, because your names are written in heaven. Luke 10:17-20

Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father. And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it. John 14:12-14

This is what Paul did in Acts 16:18: **And this did she many days. But Paul, being grieved, turned and said to the spirit, I command thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her. And he came out the same hour.**

For instance, we have Mark 11:23, 24: **For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith. Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.**

Verse 23 has to do with your taking charge over something that is a problem and you speak to it and tell it what you want to be done in Jesus' Name.

You can read what Jesus did in Mark 4:35-41: **And the same day, when the even was come, he saith unto them, Let us pass over unto the other side. And when they had sent away the multitude, they took him even as he was in the ship. And there were also with him other little ships.**

And there arose a great storm of wind, and the waves beat into the ship, so that it was now full. And he was in the hinder part of the ship, asleep on a pillow: and they awake him, and say unto him, Master, carest thou not that we perish?

And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm. And he said unto them, Why are ye so fearful? how is it that ye have no faith? And they feared exceedingly, and said one to another, What manner of man is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?

A good illustration of putting Mark 11:23 into action is in the scriptures you just read, where Jesus exercised authority over the wind and the sea and took authority over the storm. Jesus did not pray about it. He didn't say, "God knows what's best, and His will be done." He'd already said before they started sailing, "Let us pass over unto the other side." The circumstances did not change what Jesus believed.

Your Desires and Wishes

Verse 24 of Mark 11 has to do with your desires, and primarily something for you, personally. For instance, you may desire a promotion on your job, some new clothing, a new apartment, or a house. Ask God for it, believe you received it and do it in Jesus' Name. Pray like this: "God, You said in Mark 11:24, **Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them, and I desire this promotion and I believe I receive it now, in Jesus' Name.**"

A Note of Caution:

If you run out and tell your friends that you prayed and asked God for this promotion, you run the risk of them giving you their religious opinions. Now, you're already going to have the devil telling you you're not going to get the job, so you're going to have a full-time job just dealing with Satan.

If you start telling your religious friends what you're believing God for, you're going to run into some snags. Somebody's going to tell you it may not be God's will for you to get that promotion, and God may not want you to have it, for some reason, and on and on ...

Before I went into the ministry, I got a hold of the faith message. It's what critics called the "Name-it-and-claim-it," or "Blab-it-and-grab-it" message. I prayed for a job for which I was underqualified. I really didn't know that until after I got the job. If I had known how difficult it was going to be, I may not have asked God for it. But anyway, I stepped out in faith. I claimed it in Jesus' Name, and based my prayer on Mark 11:23, 24.

They weren't hiring anyone, and they didn't need anyone, and even if they did, *they definitely didn't want me*. They made sure to make me aware of this, and continued to reinforce it.

Periodically, after I prayed and believed God I had the job, I had this inward witness to stop by and visit the manager. *Boy, I did not want to do that!* Imagine this now: I was having to go visit people that didn't even like me, and had no intentions of ever hiring me! I was battling with my mind and flesh, *big time!* My flesh was so embarrassed and intimidated to go in, but my spirit man had the witness to keep dropping by. Maybe this falls in the category of "knock and it shall be opened."

But I want you to know it was very difficult for me to keep stopping by whenever I got the leading in my heart, but I knew in my heart I had to follow the leading of the Holy Spirit. It didn't make any sense to me, and I wanted to put it off. I wanted to just pray and have God do the rest, (*and sometimes, that is the case*). But in this instance, I had to do the visiting.

My mind was telling me, "Don't go, don't stop by. They don't like you. They don't want to hire you." But my heart was saying, "You have to stop by today. Do it now."

Then one day, they called me and they had decided to hire me. I had that job until I went off to Bible school, but I kept it as a private faith project. I wasn't going to tell anybody - and as far as I recall, I didn't. I knew if I expressed any interest in that job at all, I would just be stirring up doubt and unbelief from all the comments I would be getting from my Christian friends.

That job was incredible and it paid a lot of money, but it was so difficult to keep it that I had to stay in prayer and fasting every day. God had given me a miracle, and the devil wanted it *bad*. With the money I made in that job, I helped pay a Word of faith preacher's radio bill. I'm sure it didn't make Satan too thrilled for me to do that!

You can do what you want to, but I learned early in my Christian life to keep my faith projects private and not share them with anyone, unless the Lord would lead me to. Anyway, I used Mark 11:23, 24. I prayed the prayer of faith and every day, I said, "*That job is mine, in Jesus' Name.*" Thank God for Mark 11:23, 24 and the Name of Jesus!

Old Covenant VS. New Covenant Prayer

When I was a little boy, sometimes when I'd go to bed at night, I would pray, "*Now I lay me down to sleep, I pray the Lord my soul to keep, but if I die before I wake, I pray the Lord my soul to take.*"

Well, that's kind of cute for a four- or five-year-old, but as I grew up, I stopped praying that nursery rhyme prayer. When I attended church, they would pray what they called "*The Lord's Prayer.*" We find it in Matthew 6:9-13:

**Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come.
Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, for ever. Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer is not a New Covenant prayer for today. It was a model for prayer in the gospels, but the reason we don't pray that prayer today is that it's outdated. It's not for the believer today for two reasons.

#1: The kingdom has already come, and for the believer, the kingdom abides within you. You're in the kingdom and the kingdom is in you. **Neither shall they say, Lo here! or, lo there! for, behold, the kingdom of God is within you.** Luke 17:21

Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: Colossians 1:13

Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world. 1 John 4:4

#2: The second and most important point is that this prayer is not prayed in Jesus' Name. The number-one New Covenant rule about any kind of praying is that you pray to God in Jesus' Name. **And in that day ye shall ask me nothing. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you.** John 16:23

Praying Scripturally

Prayer is not to be used as a ritual. It's to be used to approach the Father God to petition something from Him, or to fellowship with Him. **Don't recite the same prayer over and over as the heathen do, who think prayers are answered only by repeating them again and again. Remember, your Father knows exactly what you need even before you ask him!** Matthew 6:7,8 TLB

...If ye continue in my Word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free. John 8:31, 32

If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you. John 15:7

...yet ye have not, because ye ask not. Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss... James 4:2,3

Whether you are interceding for others, or praying and agreeing with someone for something, or praying the prayer of faith for yourself, or seeking God and waiting on God for direction in prayer, each of these prayers is to be prayed to God in the Name of Jesus. This is what the Word teaches us to do. To pray any other way would be praying unscripturally. We do not add to the Word of God, nor do we take away from it. You just do the Word: **But be ye doers of the Word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.** James 1:22

Praying the Word from Ephesians for Others

If you want to pray scripturally from the Bible, pray the following prayers from Ephesians 1:15-23 and 3:14-21:

¹⁵Wherefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus, and love unto all the saints, ¹⁶Cease not to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers;

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

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

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

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

²¹Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come:

²²And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, ²³Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all. Ephesians 1:15-23

¹⁴For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁵Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named,

¹⁶That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man;

¹⁷That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, ¹⁸May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height;

¹⁹And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God. ²⁰Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us,

²¹Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.

Ephesians 3:14-21

Your Prayer Example is in the New Covenant

All through the *New Covenant*, (which began after Jesus died, was resurrected from the dead and lifted on high, and seated at the right hand of God the Father) you'll notice that any time people prayed, in every incident in which the scriptures elaborate about what and how they prayed, they prayed to God, and never to anyone else.

Nowhere in the epistle letters did anyone ever pray in any other name than in Jesus' Name. They never prayed to the Holy Spirit, they never prayed to Jesus, they never prayed to Peter, Paul, Mary, or any other saint. They prayed to God in the Name of Jesus. Reading through the book of Acts, any time they prayed, they prayed to God. If it elaborates, you read they prayed to God in Jesus' Name.

²⁴And when they heard that, they lifted up their voice to God with one accord, and said, Lord, thou art God, which hast made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all that in them is: ²⁵Who by the mouth of thy servant David hast said, Why did the heathen rage, and the people imagine vain things?

²⁶The kings of the earth stood up, and the rulers were gathered together against the Lord, and against his Christ.

²⁷For of a truth against thy holy child Jesus, whom thou hast anointed, both Herod, and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles, and the people of Israel, were gathered together,

²⁸For to do whatsoever thy hand and thy counsel determined before to be done.

²⁹And now, Lord, behold their threatenings: and grant unto thy servants, that with all boldness they may speak thy Word, ³⁰By stretching forth thine hand to heal; and that signs and wonders may be done by the name of thy holy child Jesus.

³¹And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the Word of God with boldness. Acts 4: 24-31

First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for you all, that your faith is spoken of throughout the whole world. Romans 1: 8

I thank my God always on your behalf, for the grace of God which is given you by Jesus Christ; 1 Corinthians 1: 4

Cease not to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers; ¹⁷That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him: Ephesians 1: 16, 17

I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, Always in every prayer of mine for you all making request with joy, Philippians 1: 3, 4

Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. Philippians 4:6

We give thanks to God and the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you, 1 Thessalonians 1: 2, 3

We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers; Remembering without ceasing your work of faith, and labour of love, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ, in the sight of God and our Father; Col. 1:2, 3

For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; 1 Timothy 2: 5

I thank my God, making mention of thee always in my prayers, Philemon 1: 4

By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name. Hebrews 13: 15

What if Jesus asks You?

It's difficult for some people to change the way they pray if they have made a practice of praying a certain way all or most of their life. They assume that because they've always done it a certain way, and/or got results praying that way, they shouldn't change.

Other people don't change because of religious pride and arrogance. They have the idea that what they think and believe is superior to the written Word of God, or just good enough. They are arrogant, whether they realize it or not.

These people say, *"I've gotten by this way and nothing bad has happened, so why change it now?"* But what if the Lord Jesus asks you, ***"Why didn't you go with My Word when I gave it to you?"*** What are you going to tell Him? Don't you believe that someday you'll stand before God and give an account for what you did with His Word and the knowledge that He gave you?

Soon, all of us, *and some, sooner than others,* will stand before the Lord individually and give an account. The books will be opened, and we will have a spiritual audit. When that happens, the religious comments will not fly. Just because we got by a certain way for so long does not mean we will always get by with that. Sooner or later, we will give an account to God in this lifetime and on that judgment day. So why are you so confident that there will

be no issues the Lord will bring up? Jesus said in Matthew 7:24-27, **Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock.**

And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it.

Matthew, Chapter 25:

¹Then shall the kingdom of heaven be likened unto ten virgins, which took their lamps, and went forth to meet the bridegroom. ²And five of them were wise, and five were foolish. ³They that were foolish took their lamps, and took no oil with them: ⁴But the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps.

⁵While the bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept. ⁶And at midnight there was a cry made, Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him. ⁷Then all those virgins arose, and trimmed their lamps. ⁸And the foolish said unto the wise, Give us of your oil; for our lamps are gone out.

⁹But the wise answered, saying, Not so; lest there be not enough for us and you: but go ye rather to them that sell, and buy for yourselves. ¹⁰And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came; and they that were ready went in with him to the marriage: and the door was shut. ¹¹Afterward came also the other virgins, saying, Lord, Lord, open to us. ¹²But he answered and said, Verily I say unto you, I know you not. ¹³Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh.

¹⁴For the kingdom of heaven is as a man travelling into a far country, who called his own servants, and delivered unto them his goods. ¹⁵And unto one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one; to every man according to his several ability; and straightway took his journey. ¹⁶Then he that had received the five talents went and traded with the same, and made them other five talents. ¹⁷And likewise he that had received two, he also gained other two.

¹⁸But he that had received one went and digged in the earth, and hid his lord's money. ¹⁹After a long time the lord of those servants cometh, and reckoneth with them. ²⁰And so he that had received five talents came and brought other five talents, saying, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me five

talents: behold, I have gained beside them five talents more. ²¹ His lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.

²² He also that had received two talents came and said, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me two talents: behold, I have gained two other talents beside them. ²³ His lord said unto him, Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.

²⁴ Then he which had received the one talent came and said, Lord, I knew thee that thou art an hard man, reaping where thou hast not sown, and gathering where thou hast not strawed:

²⁵ And I was afraid, and went and hid thy talent in the earth: lo, there thou hast that is thine. ²⁶ His lord answered and said unto him, Thou wicked and slothful servant, thou knewest that I reap where I sowed not, and gather where I have not strawed: ²⁷ Thou oughtest therefore to have put my money to the exchangers, and then at my coming I should have received mine own with usury. ²⁸ Take therefore the talent from him, and give it unto him which hath ten talents.

²⁹ For unto every one that hath shall be given, and he shall have abundance: but from him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath. ³⁰ And cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

³¹ When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: ³² And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats: ³³ And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left. ³⁴ Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:

³⁵ For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: ³⁶ Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me. ³⁷ Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink?

³⁸ When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee? ³⁹ Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee? ⁴⁰ And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.

⁴¹ Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels: ⁴² For I was an hungred, and ye gave me no

meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me no drink: ⁴³ I was a stranger, and ye took me not in: naked, and ye clothed me not: sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not.

⁴⁴ Then shall they also answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto thee? ⁴⁵ Then shall he answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me. ⁴⁶ And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.

And, when you hear the Word and you don't conform to it, you are rebellious. That rebelliousness will grow into other areas of your life and it will cause you to walk in darkness and not in the light of God's Word. **The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple.** Psalm 119:130

Some people become very indignant when you give them the Word of God. They think the way they believe is right, and because their church doesn't teach praying to God in Jesus' Name, they don't feel it's that big a deal. They have the attitude that if it's not taught in '*my church*,' I must not need to know it.

Hunger After the Word

You don't follow your church. You follow God's Word. I assumed I was a Christian when I went to church for 20-some years, but they never taught at my church that you must be born-again, (*John 3:5-7*) much less that when you pray, you pray to God in Jesus' Name. It was after I got saved and filled with the Holy Spirit that I became hungry for God's Word.

But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every Word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God. Matthew 4:4

As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the Word, that ye may grow thereby: 1 Peter 2:2

Through that hunger for God's Word and a desire to be taught God's Word, I found out a lot of things that I'd been taught and believed were unscriptural, or at best, maybe Old Testament. Examples of Old Testament teachings and religious practices and rituals range from things like lighting candles and burning incense in order to get God's attention, to believing that you're too unworthy to pray and ask God for something.

Thoughts and practices like these have got to be stripped from your thinking. The only way these things can be eradicated is

to be taught what God's Word teaches concerning prayer. If a person will be open to God's Word, and is taught the unadulterated Word of God and an uncompromising message, it will help renew the person's mind to God's Word.

When you bring the Word to someone who's religious, especially if they're a Catholic or Protestant, (*someone you'd think would believe the Bible, or even want to hear it because you think, "Hey, we're worshiping the same God, aren't we?"*) they get angry, don't want to hear it and spout off the most unbiblical nonsense you ever heard!

If you find one of these longtime Catholics or Protestants, they're usually real tough to reach with the Word of God. You have to realize that when you are witnessing, some people just don't want to hear it.

But don't let that discourage or deter you from witnessing and sharing the Word! Just keep praying for them that the eyes of their understanding be enlightened (*Ephesians 1:18*) and believe they begin to see they've got religion and not Jesus.

Some people, after they get saved for one reason or another, don't leave the dead church or religion they've grown up in. They lie to themselves and deceive themselves into thinking they're still okay there – they think, '*The people are nice, and I've got friends there*', so they choose to stay and stifle their spiritual growth.

Get Out Now!

If you are going to a church that doesn't teach the new birth and believes God doesn't always heal, and if you hear nothing about being filled with the Holy Spirit, you need to cut your losses. You are going to the wrong church!

You need to be fed on God's Word and begin to grow spiritually to the point that you are closer to Jesus now than you were last year, and you aren't sick or depressed, and you never get in strife, and your bills are paid, and you don't have any down days, and you're living in victory, (*you know – the way Jesus lived in Matthew, Mark, Luke and John*). But if you are not living that way, you'll want to head in that direction.

Remember, Satan is a deceiver and attempts to deceive the very elect (*Matthew 24:24*), and if you don't keep yourself built up in God's Word and pray in the Holy Ghost every day, (*which is praying in tongues - Jude 20*) Satan is going to clip you (*John 10:10*). This is because you are giving him place through your lack of time in God's Word, faith tapes, and prayer. (***Neither give place to the devil Ephesians 4:27***).

Take a Spiritual Checkup

Stop and ask yourself the following questions:

- Have you prayed enough? When was the last time you put in an hour or two praying in the Holy Spirit and seeking God? **But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost,** Jude 20

...**What, could ye not watch with me one hour? Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.** Matthew 26:40,41

- How long has it been since you've listened to 10 or 12 faith tapes in one week? **So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God.** Romans 10:17

- Are you still led by the Holy Spirit? **For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.** Romans 8:14

- Do you still live a convicted life? **And they which heard it, being convicted by their own conscience, went out one by one, beginning at the eldest, even unto the last: John 8:9**
For if our heart condemn us, God is greater than our heart, and knoweth all things. 1 John 3:20

- Do you still have a strong inward witness? ...**He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself:** 1 John 5:10

You see, you may not be as strong as you thought you were!

Being a Doer of the Word of God

When we are born-again, God expects us to gain a knowledge of His Word. Then, as we hear His Word, we are to become doers of His Word.

As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the Word, that ye may grow thereby: 1 Peter 2: 2

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

Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his

house upon a rock:

And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock.

²⁶And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it.

²⁸And it came to pass, when Jesus had ended these sayings, the people were astonished at his doctrine: For he taught them as *one* having authority, and not as the scribes. Matthew 7: 24-29

Praying in the Most Powerful Name

So, in all these examples of praying on page 7 & 8, as well as others in the New Testament, they prayed to God. They never prayed to anyone else, and they never prayed to God in any other name, except the Name of Jesus. So if they didn't pray any other way, why should we, today, pray in any other way, other than how they did in the New Testament?

The reason we follow the example of the early church in praying to God in Jesus' Name is found in Philippians 2: 9-11:

Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of *things* in heaven, and *things* in earth, and *things* under the earth; And *that* every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ *is* Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Jesus' Name is above every name, and it's the Name of Jesus prayed by the believer that gets God's attention. I always had the idea before I got saved, and even for a while after I got saved, that God didn't care how you prayed, just as long as you prayed and were sincere. ***But you can be sincere and sincerely wrong!***

It's not my name that gets God's attention. But, according to the scriptures, it's the Name of Jesus. I always prayed to God, or to Jesus, or to the Holy Spirit, or to heaven, until one day, after I had been saved and born-again for a period of time, a man asked me if I knew how to pray. His question offended me, and before I could even answer, he pulled his Bible out of his coat pocket and read John 16: 23, 24 to me. He proceeded to tell me that he had just recently found out from the Bible that we, as believers, are to pray to God in Jesus' Name.

I waited until after he left, then I got my Bible out and read John 16: 23, 24, and mine said the same thing his said! My flesh and ego didn't want to admit that he was right and I was wrong. Well, my religious ideas were trying to get the best of me, but by love for God and His Word, along with Holy Ghost conviction, rose up in my heart to get my attention to let me know that this was God's Word, and if I was going to get my prayers answered, I would have to change and go with the written Word of God.

At the same time, I started thinking that I got more prayers answered when I was a sinner than what I was seemingly getting right then. And, if I was going to get results, I'd have to go with the Word. It was not easy on the flesh to admit that.

Religious & Intellectual Excuses for Unbelief

There's probably no one more opinionated than someone who's entrenched in religion or intellectualism. They both run close to each other in believing in their own personal beliefs, viewpoints, and opinions more than the Holy Scriptures. Some of the hardest people in the world to reach with the gospel and the power and validity of God's Word are the religious and intellectual people. When you get down to the reason for it, it usually has to do with pride.

They make statements such as,

"Man wrote the Bible,"

"Paul wrote those letters,"

"That's what Paul said,"

"There are many interpretations of the Bible,"

"It's a historical book, and you have to interpret it in the light of those times and customs,"

"It was for those people then,"

"I don't believe all of it,"

"You can't just go by one book."

These are just some of the comments that people make today, and have probably always made them.

Examples of People Who Believed the Word

But let me tell you some of the people who believed the

authenticity of God's written Word. The world's greatest leader was probably Moses, and he believed in the infallible Word of God. He gave up the wealth of Egypt to follow the Word of God, and Moses' name is still with us today. Just ask any Jewish person about him!

And then, there was Abraham – he and his wife, when they were almost 100 years old, believed God for a miracle baby... And if you don't think that is difficult, you try it when you're 100!

Then, there was King David, who, when he was a teenager, killed a lion, a bear, and a Philistine! Oh, and did I mention that all he had was a Covenant? Think about that when you visit the Bronx Zoo and see the lion and the bear!

One of the greatest soldiers we ever had was Samson, who killed 1,000 men with the jawbone of an ass and God's anointing.

And then, there was the richest man that ever lived: Solomon. He would make Bill Gates and Donald Trump look homeless. Did I mention that he meditated on the Word of God day and night?

Then there was Elijah, who was a man just like you and I, subject to like passions, and he not only raised the dead through his prayer life, he could stop rain and start it through prayer – without any candles or beads!

Then, there's Rahab the harlot, who believed that God would protect her family if she would protect God's people.

And there was Peter, whose very shadow passed over people and they got healed, all because he was anointed.

And then Paul, who no matter what you did to him – you could shipwreck him, leave him out in the middle of the ocean, stone him to death, and he would still show up to do his next meeting!

All these people not only risked their lives and reputations on the infallible Word of God, they never referred to any other book – only God's Book – and they died, believing God for a better resurrection (Hebrews 11:35).

So, let's summarize: What do we have here, in this faith's Hall of fame? We've got the world's greatest leaders, the richest, wealthiest and healthiest people (*Moses was 120 and just as strong as young men – plus, his eye was not dim - Deut. 34:7*). These are all people, who believed God's Word for what it is: **His Word**.

Jesus, the Word of God

And to top off the list, we have Jesus, who is King of kings and Lord of lords!

He is the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End.

He is our Good and Great Shepherd.

He's our Physician.

He's more than enough.

He's our sea-walker, our blind-eye opener,

He turned the water into wine and fed 5,000 with a little boy's lunch.

He's the forgiveness of our sins: **...Neither do I condemn thee - go and sin no more** (Jn. 8:11).

He's a Friend to the sinner, a Savior to us all.

He sticks closer than a brother,

He never leaves you nor forsakes you,

He intercedes for you,

He took your sins, so you could be a child God,

He's your Deliverer,

He got Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego out of the fiery furnace, and Daniel out of the lions' den, and He made Aaron's rod bud and He cured Naaman's leprosy.

He said, **he that hath seen me hath seen the Father** (Jn 14:8).

But most of all, He pleased His Father and obeyed Him explicitly, and said, **the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life** (Jn 6:63). Jesus also said, **heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away** (Mt.24:35).

For God said He exalted His Word above His Name(Ps. 138:2) and we have people who call themselves Christians who have exalted their opinion above God's Word! We pray for these people night and day, that their eyes be opened up to see they've gone astray, for you can't believe God and not believe His Word, because, according to His Word, they're both the same, they're both One. Amen?

So, the sooner we make the change, the sooner we'll pray scripturally. I want to encourage you to read the scriptures and mark them in your Bible, and begin to meditate on them to get them inside your spirit and renew your mind to God's Word. Because, the whole idea of prayer is to bear fruits and receive answers, that your joy may be full. The next 2 pages have a prayer card entitled, **Choosing to Believe God's Word**. It also contains scriptures on the Word. Read them daily and pray the prayer to renew your mind to God's Word.

Your partner in faith,

Choosing to Believe God's Word

The integrity of God's Word

Reading these verses daily out loud will help build up your faith and renew your mind to God's Word. It will also help you become more "Word of God conscious" to the point that when you hear anything taught, the first thing you think is, "What does the Word say about this?"

Judge everything in line with the written Word of God!

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

He sent **his word**, and healed them, and delivered *them* from their destructions. **Psalms 107:20**

My son, attend to **my words**; incline thine ear unto my sayings. Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart. For they *are* life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh. **Proverbs 4:20-22**

So shall **my word** be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper *in the thing* whereto I sent it. **Is.55:11**

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

The centurion answered and said, Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldst come under my roof: but speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed. When the even was come, they brought unto him many that were possessed with devils: and he cast out the spirits with **his word**, and healed all that were sick: **Matt.8:8,16**

Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my **words** shall not pass away. **Matthew 24:35**

And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with *them*, and confirming the **word** with signs following. Amen. **Mark 16:20**

And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy **word**... **Luke 1:38**

Now it came to pass, as they went, that he entered into a certain village: and a certain woman named Martha received him into her house. And she had a sister called Mary, which also sat at Jesus' feet, and heard **his word**. But Martha was cumbered

about much serving, and came to him, and said, Lord, dost thou not care that my sister hath left me to serve alone? bid her therefore that she help me. And Jesus answered and said unto her, Martha, Martha, thou art careful and troubled about many things: But one thing is needful: and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her. **Luke 10:38-42**

In the beginning was the **Word**, and the **Word** was with God, and the **Word** was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men. **John 1:1-4**

It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the **words** that I speak unto you, *they* are spirit, and *they* are life. **John 6:63**

Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my **word**, *then* are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free. **John 8:31,32**

Now ye are clean through the **word** which I have spoken unto you If ye abide in me, and my **words** abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you. **John 15:3,7**

Sanctify them through thy truth: thy **word** is truth. **John 17:17**

But what saith it? The **word** is nigh thee, *even* in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the **word** of faith, which we preach; So then faith *cometh* by hearing, and hearing by the **word of God**. **Romans 10:8,17**

This *is* the third *time* I am coming to you. In the mouth of two or three witnesses shall every **word** be established. **2 Corinthians 13:1**

And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the **word of God**: **Ephesians 6:17**

For every creature of God *is* good, and nothing to be refused, if it be received with thanksgiving: For it is sanctified by the **word of God** and prayer. **1 Timothy 4:4, 5**

Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the **word of truth**. **2 Timothy 2:15**

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

Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by

the **word of God**, which liveth and abideth for ever. **1 Peter 1:23**

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

For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the **Word**, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one. **1 John 5:7**

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

My Confession of Faith Based on God's Written Word

God, I thank You for Your written Word because it never fails,¹ it never returns void,² and it is alive, quick, and more powerful than any two-edged sword.³ I thank You that You have exalted Your Word above Your Name,⁴ and that You confirm Your Word in my life with signs following.⁵ You hasten Your Word to perform it in my life.⁶ Your Word abides in my heart that I'll not sin against You.⁷ You sent Your Word and healed me and delivered me from all destructions.⁸ The entrance of Your Word brings light⁹ and dispels the darkness, which is from Satan and his kingdom.

I meditate upon Your Word day and night. Therefore, I'm always speaking Your Word to mountains, circumstances and situations in my life.¹⁰ I don't let the Word depart from my mouth, so I prosper in all that I do, and I have good success.¹¹ I believe Your Word above everything else that my five physical senses tell me. I am not only a hearer of the Word; I'm a doer also.¹² I always act upon Your Word because it is true.¹³

When circumstances arise in my life, I always ask myself, "**What does the Word say about this?**" I make sure that every voice that comes to me, or any seemingly supernatural experience, such as prophecies, visions, dreams, angelic appearances, or religious teachings, line up with the written Word of God.¹⁴ And, if any of these contradict the New Testament, I reject them in Jesus' Name, no matter how spectacular they may seem, sound, or appear. I avoid all extreme teachings and manifestations that aren't sound New Testament biblical doctrine.¹⁵

I thank You that You always reveal Your will to me through revelation knowledge of Your Word. I'm going to continue renewing my mind to Your Word by hearing the Word of God and speaking the Word of God out of my mouth.¹⁶ You said in John 8:31, **IF YE CONTINUE IN MY WORD, then are ye my disciples indeed;**

God, with the help of the Holy Spirit, Who is the Teacher of the church,¹⁷ I set my will in motion by choosing never to depart from Your Word.¹⁸ According to Philippians 4:8, I will judge every voice, thought or feeling that comes to my mind or emotions by asking myself if what I'm thinking, feeling or seeing is true, honest, just, pure, lovely, of good report, or any virtue or praise. I'm going to reject and rebuke anything that is contrary to Your Word, in Jesus' Name, according to 2 Corinthians 10:4&5.

God, I don't want to be deceived in any area of my life.¹⁹ Through Your Word, I can distinguish the difference between Satan's voice and the voice of the Holy Spirit. I want all of the instructions and directions that I act upon to be in line with the Word of God. I don't want anything that I'm believing or doing to contradict the New Testament, which is my covenant with You, God, through Jesus Christ.²⁰

I will search the scriptures daily²¹ to keep my mind renewed with the Word of God, to have my faith fed on the Word of God and to make sure that I'm not getting off on anything that would take me away from You.

I refuse to let any corrupt communication proceed out of my mouth,²² for I choose to speak the Word only.²³ I choose not only to hear the Word, but to do the Word. I want all of my prayers to be answered, so I constantly speak the Word, meditate on the Word, and I keep the Word of God abiding in my heart, for Jesus said in John 15:7, **If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.**

God, I believe Your Word above everything else, because Your Word prevails in my life, and I always put Your Word first.²⁴ So, my confession of faith is, *"I am what Your Word says I am, I have what Your Word says I have, and I can do what Your Word says I can do. Be it unto me according to Your Word."*²⁵ Because of Your written Word, the Name of Jesus and the power of the Holy Spirit in my life, I'm ruling and reigning in this life in Christ Jesus.²⁶ **Thank You , Father God, for Your Holy written Word and the Name of Jesus!**

Referenced Scriptures:

¹ 1 Pet.1:23-25, Josh. 23:14	⁹ Psalm 119:130 ¹⁰ Joshua 1:8, Mark 11:23	¹⁷ John 14:26 ¹⁸ John 8:31 ¹⁹ James 1:22
² Isaiah 55:11		

³ Hebrews 4:12 ⁴ Psalm 138:2	¹¹ Joshua 1:8 ¹² James 1:22	²⁰ Hebrews 8:13 ²¹ Acts 17:11 ²² Ephesians 4:29
⁵ Mark 16:20 ⁶ Jeremiah 1:12	¹³ John 17:17 ¹⁴ 2 Cor. 13:1 & 1 John 5:6-8	²³ Matthew 8:8 ²⁴ Proverbs 4:20
⁷ Psalm 119:11 ⁸ Psalm 107:20	¹⁵ Hebrews 8:6 ¹⁶ Romans 10:17 & 12:2	²⁵ Luke 1:38 ²⁶ Phil. 2:9-11, Romans 5:17

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