



ROCK CHURCH

ENCOUNTER

Worship · Prayer · Transformation · Freedom

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PREFACE

The **ENCOUNTER** experience is focused on providing biblical truth through teachings, worship, and prayer. It is a time dedicated to bring transformation and freedom as you encounter God the Father, Jesus, and Holy Spirit in a very real and personal way.

God wants to meet you exactly where you are in order to take you where He wants you to be! Our desire is to help you receive a deeper understanding of your Kingdom Identity, identify and accept God's calling on your life, and empower you to fruitfully live the Kingdom Life as a disciple of Christ.

Encounter will draw you into a faithful surrender to God's will! You will go on a personal journey to be empowered to live out your destiny and purpose through the power, gifts and fruit of the Holy Spirit. It is our hope that, as you grow in your intimacy with God, you will experience freedom and transformation in the likeness of Jesus Christ.

Matthew 28:9 - *And as they went to tell His disciples, behold, **Jesus met them**, saying, "Rejoice!" So they came and held Him by the feet and worshiped Him.*

- met (*hupantaó*) **encounter**, I meet, go to meet

Genesis 1:27 - *So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.*

2 Corinthians 5:17 - *Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.*

2 Corinthians 3:17-18 – ¹⁷ *For the Lord is the Spirit, and wherever the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.¹⁸ So all of us who have had that veil removed can see and reflect the glory of the Lord. And the Lord—who is the Spirit—makes us more and more like him as we are changed into his glorious image.*

Rock Church Mission

We are a Do Something Church that empowers everyone to **Know God, Grow in Community and Make a Difference**. It is our vision to Establish Global Pervasive Hope on every street with every person. This means we need an army of "hope bearers" who have been saved, and equipped and sent in the power and fruit of the Holy Spirit!

Matthew 28:18-20 ¹⁸ *And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.*

REFERENCES

Bible scripture taken from the New King James Version ("NKJV"), New International Version ("NIV"), and New Living Translation ("NLT").

Hebrew and Greek word definitions and translations are taken from Strong's Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible and Strong's Bible Concordance. <https://biblehub.com/strongs.htm>

THE KINGDOM LIFE

Objective – to understand the reality of the Kingdom and create a hunger to live the life Jesus died to give us

Mark 1:14-15 – ¹⁴ Now after John was put in prison, Jesus came to Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, ¹⁵ and saying, *“The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel.”*

a. The Announcement

Matthew 1:21 - *And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.”*

What was the message?

- The Voice of **John the Baptist** Matthew 3:1-2
- The Voice of **Jesus** Mark 1:14-15
- The Voice of the **Apostles** Matthew 10:5,7
- The Voice of **Us** Matthew 24:14

b. Kingdom living is:

- A life lived for the **glory of God**.
- A life of **intimate** relationship with God.
- A life **surrendered** to God’s reign and sovereign rule.
- A life lived out through the **power**, the **fruit**, and **gifts** of the Holy Spirit.

Your life is to be lived for the Glory of God

At the outset, let’s make sure to get the big picture clear. **This Encounter is first and foremost about the glory of God.** We want to have a God-centered, God-filled life, in order that God may be more fully glorified. *“You are worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power; for You created all things, and by Your will they exist and were created”* (Revelation 4:11). **Your life is for the glory and pleasure of God.** We are adopted sons and daughters of God by grace through faith, *“according to the good pleasure of His will, to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved... having made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Himself”* (Ephesians 1:5-6, 9).

What does a Surrendered life look like?

- A **Crucified** Life

Galatians 2:19-20 – ¹⁹ For I through the law died to the law that I might live to God. ²⁰ I have been **crucified** with Christ; **it is no longer I who live**, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

- A **Transformed** Life

2 Corinthians 3:18 – *But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being **transformed** into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord. (See also Philippians 3:21; Romans 8:29-30)*

- A **Renewed** Life

2 Corinthians 5:17 – *Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a **new** creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. (See also Colossians 3:10)*

- A **Complete** Life

Colossians 2:9-10 – ⁹*For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily; ¹⁰and you are **complete** in Him, who is the head of all principality and power. (See also Hebrews 10:14; 2 Peter 1:3; Ephesians 1:3)*

- A **Purposeful** Life

Matthew 10:39 – *He who finds his life will lose it, and he who loses his life **for My sake** will find it.*

Ephesians 2:10 – *For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.*

- A **Relational** Life

John 15:7 – *If you **abide** in Me, and My **words** abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you.*

- An **Abundant** Life

John 10:10 – *The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may **have life**, and that they may have it more **abundantly**.*

- A **Powerful** Life

Luke 10:19 – *Behold, I give you the **authority** to trample on serpents and scorpions, and **over all the power** of the enemy, and **nothing** shall by any means hurt you.*

- A **Free** Life

John 8:31-32 – *Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, ‘If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall **know the truth**, and the truth shall make you **free**.’*

- A **Priceless** Life

Matthew 13:44 – *Again, the kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and hid; and for joy over it he goes and **sells all that he has** and buys that field.*

- A **Fruitful** Life

John 15:8 – *By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much **fruit**; so you will be My disciples.*

Galatians 5:22-23 – ²² *But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.*

- **A Warrior's Life**

1 John 3:8 – *He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might **destroy** the works of the devil.*

- **A Supernatural Life**

Luke 4:18-19 – ¹⁸ *The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to **preach** the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to **heal** the brokenhearted, to **proclaim** liberty to the captives and **recovery** of sight to the blind, to set at **liberty** those who are oppressed; ¹⁹ to **proclaim** the acceptable year of the LORD.*

Matthew 10:7-8 – ⁷ *And as you go, preach, saying, 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand. ⁸ **Heal** the sick, **cleanse** the lepers, **raise** the dead, **cast out** demons. Freely you have **received**, freely **give**.*

- A life defined by **Love** and the **Fruit** of the Spirit!

1 John 4:16 - *And we have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and he who **abides in love** abides in God, and God in him.*

Galatians 5:22-23 – ²² *But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.*

c. **Jesus Our Role Model.**

Matthew 6:10 – ***Your kingdom** come. **Your will** be done **on earth** as it is **in heaven**.*

Philippians 2:5-7 – ⁵ *Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, ⁷ but **made Himself** of no reputation, taking **the form of a bondservant**, and coming in the **likeness of men**.*

Acts 2:22 – *Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man attested by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs **which God did through Him** in your midst, as you yourselves also know.*

John 14:12 – *Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and **greater works than these** he will do, because I go to My Father.*

- **Jesus is King.**

Revelation 19:16 - *And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: "King of Kings and Lord of Lords."*

- **Jesus is Risen.**

Revelation 1:18 - *I am He who lives, and was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore. Amen. And I have the keys of Hades and of Death. (Matthew 28:5-6, John 3:13)*

- **Jesus is the only Way.**

John 14:6 - *Jesus told him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me.* (Romans 6:23, Romans 5:8, Romans 10:9, Acts 2:38, Matthew 7:21, John 3:16, John 1:12, John 3:3)

KINGDOM IDENTITY

Objective – to understand our unique identity as image-bearers of God, designed and mandated to bring His presence into a world filled with chaos and despair

Genesis 1:26-27 - ²⁶ “Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” ²⁷ So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

- **God’s Purpose**

- **Destroy** what the devil has produced
 - 1 John 3:8b - **For this purpose** the Son of God was manifested, that He might **destroy** the works of the devil.
 - destroy (*lyo*) - to loose one bound, i.e. to unbind, release from bonds, **set free**
 - Make our place (Earth) look like His place (Heaven)

Matthew 6:10 - *Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.*

- **God’s Design**

Psalm 8:5-6 – ⁵ For You have made him [humanity] a little lower than the **angels** and You have **crowned** him with glory and honor. ⁶ You have made him to have **dominion** over the works of Your hands; You have put **all things** under his feet.

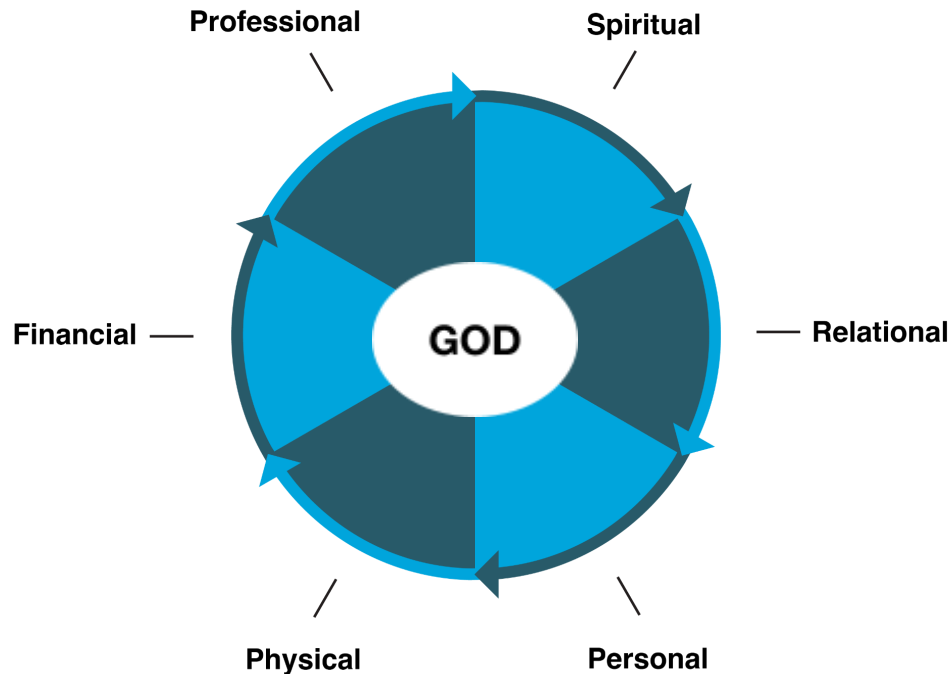
- **God’s Mandate**

Matthew 28:19-20 – ¹⁹ “**Go** therefore and **make disciples** of all the nations, **baptizing them** in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ **teaching them** to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” Amen. (Genesis 1:28)

- **Our Assignment**

2 Corinthians 10:13-16 – ¹³ We, however, will not boast beyond **measure** [metron], but within the limits of the **sphere** [kanon] which God appointed us — a **sphere** [metron] which especially includes you. ¹⁴ For we are not overextending ourselves (as though our **authority** did not extend to you), for it was to you that we came with the gospel of Christ; ¹⁵ not boasting of things beyond **measure** [metron], that is, in other men’s labors, but having hope, that as your faith is increased, we shall be greatly enlarged by you in our **sphere** [kanon], ¹⁶ to preach the gospel in the regions beyond you, and not to boast in another man’s **sphere** [kanon] of accomplishment.

- **Tend** (*abad*) - to serve, to work as an act of worship, **to cultivate or develop**; i.e. be fruitful!
- **Keep** (*shamar*) - to guard, to watch over, **to protect from an enemy**; i.e. subdue!



e. Hearing God

Romans 10:17 – *So then, faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God.*

i. The Enemy's Voice

- You are stupid, worthless, a failure
- His voice strips us of our identity
- His voice strips us of our power
- His voice strips us of our faith

John 8:44 – *“You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is **no truth in him**. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a **liar** and the father of it.*

Proverbs 4:23 – **Keep** thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the **issues** of life.

- keep (*natsar*) - to guard, watch, to preserve, guard from dangers
- issues (*towtsa'ah*) - borders, boundaries

ii. **The Savior's Voice**

- | | |
|---|---|
| ● I am His adopted son/daughter (Ephesians 1:5) | ● I am a king and a priest of the Most High (Rev 1:6) |
| ● I am approved (2 Timothy 2:15) | ● I am an heir to the King (Romans 8:17) |
| ● I am accepted (Acts 10:35) | ● I am a friend of God (John 15:15) |
| ● I am reconciled (2 Corinthians 5:18) | ● I am His beloved (Psalm 127:2) |
| ● I am the apple of His eye (Deuteronomy 32:10) | ● I am blessed (Psalm 112:1) |
| ● I am hidden in Christ (Colossians 3:3) | ● I am the joy set before Him (Hebrews 12:2) |
| ● I am seated with Christ (Ephesians 2:6) | ● I am anointed (2 Corinthians 1:21) |
| ● I am chosen (1 Peter 2:4) | ● I was made in the image of God (Genesis 1:27) |
| ● I am called (Galatians 5:13) | ● I was exquisitely fashioned (Job 10:8) |
| ● I am destined (Romans 8:29) | ● I am a child of God (Deuteronomy 14:1) |
| ● I am sealed (Ephesians 1:13) | ● I am a temple (1 Corinthians 3:16) |
| ● I have been filled (Colossians 2:10) | ● I was crucified with Christ (Galatians 2:20) |
| ● I am His workmanship (Ephesians 2:10) | ● I am redeemed (Galatians 3:13) |
| ● I am a new creation (2 Corinthians 5:17) | ● I am a royal priest (1 Peter 2:10) |
| ● I am the salt of the earth (Matthew 5:13) | ● I am a living stone (1 Peter 2:4) |
| ● I am the light of the world (Matthew 5:14) | ● I am a holy nation (1 Peter 2:9) |
| ● I am the head, not the tail (Deuteronomy 28:13) | ● I am an heir (Romans 8:17) |
| ● I am above, not beneath (Deuteronomy 28:13) | ● I am a branch (John 15:5) |
| ● I am more than a conqueror (Romans 8:37) | ● I am His disciple (John 8:31) |
| ● I am an overcomer (1 John 5:4) | ● I am His body (Romans 12:5) |
| ● I am free (Luke 4:18) | ● I am a child of the Great I AM (Romans 8:16-17) |

We all need to be reminded to hold fast to the Word of God in growing our faith and true identity.

KINGDOM HEALTH AND HEALING

Objective – to understand the foundational theology of divine healing, including how to receive it, and minister it to others

a. Isaiah 53 – Physical and Spiritual Healing of the Cross Prophesied:

Isaiah 53:4-5 - ⁴*Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; Yet we esteemed Him stricken, Smitten by God, and afflicted.* ⁵ But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed.

- has borne (*nasa*) - to lift, bear up, carry, take
 - *has* = **past tense!**
- grief (*choliy*) - sickness; disease
 - Every other use of '*choliy*' in Scripture is translated **sickness, disease, or injury.**
- stripes (*chabbuwrah*) - bruise, stripe, wound, blow
- are healed (*raphe*) - to heal, make healthful
 - *are* = **present tense!**
- **Healing in the Atonement** (New Testament quoting from Isaiah 53)

■ Spiritual Healing

1 Peter 2:24-25 – ²⁴*who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness--by whose **stripes** you were healed.* ²⁵*For you were like sheep going astray, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.*

■ Physical Healing

Matthew 8:16-17 – ¹⁶*When evening had come, they brought to Him many who were demon-possessed. And He cast out the spirits with a word, and **healed all** who were sick,* ¹⁷*that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by **Isaiah** the prophet, saying: “He Himself **took** our **infirmities** and **bore** our sicknesses.*

● His Purpose

Acts 10:38 - *How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and **healing all** who were **oppressed** by the devil, for God was with Him.*

Based on the Biblical record, Jesus **healed all** who came to Him; for it is God's perfect will.

1 John 3:8 – *He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might **destroy the works of the devil.***

Isaiah 61:1 - *The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon Me, Because the LORD has anointed Me To preach good tidings to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives. And the opening of the prison to those who are bound.*

b. Kingdom Health

- Old Testament (Hebrew)

Rapha - refers to God as the healer. “Heal” “healed is. used more than 70 times.

- New Testament (Greek)

Therapeuo - “cured” “heal” “healed”. Used more than 40 times.

laomai - “perform healing” “healed”. Used about 27 times.

Sozo - stressed salvation, “to save”. Used about 109 times.

- “Be Made Whole” = *Sozō*
 - *Definition* - deliver or protect: heal, preserve, save, do well, **be made whole**.
 - *Sozō* refers to complete healing: physically (body), mentally (soul), spiritually (spirit)

Matthew 1:21 – *And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name JESUS, for He will **save** [sozo] His people from their sins.*

Matthew 9:21 – *For she said to herself, “If only I may touch His garment, I shall be made **well** [sozo].”*

Mark 3:4 – *Then He said to them, “Is it lawful on the Sabbath to do good or to do evil, to **save** [sozo] life or to kill?” But they kept silent.*

Mark 5:23 – *and begged Him earnestly, saying, “My little daughter lies at the point of death. Come and lay Your hands on her, that she may be **healed** [sozo], and she will live.”*

c. Healing Promises in Scripture

- Old Testament

Exodus 23:20-22; 25-26 – ²⁰ *Behold, I send an Angel before you to keep you in the way and to bring you into the place which I have prepared.* ²¹ *Beware of Him and obey His voice; do not provoke Him, for He will not pardon your transgressions; for My name is in Him.* ²² *But **if you indeed obey His voice and do all that I speak**, then I will be an enemy to your enemies and an adversary to your adversaries . . .* ²⁵ *So you shall serve the LORD your God, and He will bless your bread and your water. And **I will take sickness away** from the midst of you.* ²⁶ *No one shall suffer miscarriage or be barren in your land; I will fulfill the number of your days.*

Psalms 103:2-3 (NLT) – ² *Let all that I am praise the LORD; may I never forget the good things He does for me.* ³ *He forgives all my sins and heals all my diseases.*

- It is not God’s will for Christians to be sick, any more than it is His will for Christians to be sinful. As believers, we should seek healing with the same passion we have to avoid sin.

- New Testament

James 5:14-15 – ¹⁴ *Is **anyone** among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord.* ¹⁵ *And the prayer of faith will **save** [sozo] the sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven.*

d. Our Healing Mandate

Matthew 10:8 – **Heal** the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons. Freely you have received, freely give.

- Jesus did not say “**pray**” for the sick - He said, “**Heal** the sick.”
 - The disciples never prayed petitionary prayers for healing; they always **commanded** in prayer.
 - The commands were not directed toward God, but rather toward peoples’ conditions.
 - There is a time to wait on God (petitionary), and there is a time to speak on His behalf (command).
 - The body is for the Lord; therefore, we should not tolerate sickness any more than we tolerate sin.
- **Understand** and **believe** your **authority** in God.

John 14:12 - “Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater *works* than these he will do, because I go to My Father.”
(Luke 9:1, Luke 10:19, Mark 16:17-18)

- Let us Declare War on every form of sickness and disease
- Let us declare war on every scheme of the enemy
- Let us take Authority over every form of demonic power, because our authority is greater than the enemy (1 John 4:4)
- Let us glorify God in believing His promises and obeying His Word
- Mathew 5:16 - Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

e. Simple Steps for Healing Ministry

- If applicable, try and understand what the person is experiencing (sickness, disease, pain, affliction, etc. This is not required, but creates a level of compassion for the person.
- Ask the individual if it is okay for you to lay hands on them. This could mean an actual place of injury (knee, shoulder, etc.). Always use discretion. It could simply be holding their hand or placing a hand on their shoulder.
- There is no record of Jesus, nor His disciples, petitioning for healing; they used commands. Always speak to the condition/issue using simple commands— “*Knee be healed in Jesus name.*” We do not need to ask for something that has already been promised.
- Be straightforward and brief. Speak to the situation. Then ask how they are feeling (if appropriate).
- There is no given timeline for healings. Jesus saw immediate results; so that of course is our goal. But never be discouraged if you don’t see immediate results. It may take multiple commands to see a breakthrough. Press in and don’t quit!
- No matter the outcome of the ministry time, the person receiving ministry should be reassured of God’s love. No one should be made to feel inferior (minister or recipient) or that something is wrong with them, should they not experience the immediate healing they are seeking.
- *Always listen and let the Holy Spirit lead.* It’s not a formula. It’s a relationship with the Living God.

KINGDOM BAPTISMS

Objective – to be equipped and empowered by the Holy Spirit with understanding of all three Kingdom baptisms

a. The Holy Spirit is a Person, with a mind, will and emotions.

- He is your **Helper**

John 14:16-17 – ¹⁶And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another **Helper**, that He may abide with you forever— ¹⁷the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you.”

- He is your **Friend**
 - o He is kind and compassionate
 - o He convicts, convinces, and comforts
 - o He is always with you
- He is your **God**.
 - o He is the third Person of the Trinity
 - o He is EQUAL with the Father and the Son
 - o He enjoys all the DIVINE attributes of the Father and Son

■ Other Names of the Holy Spirit

- **Spirit of Adoption (Romans 8:15)**
- **Spirit of Intercession (Romans 8:26)**
- **Spirit of Wisdom and Understanding (Isaiah 11:2)**
- **Spirit of Life (Romans 8:2; John 6:63; 2 Corinthians 3:6)**
- **Spirit of the Living God (2 Corinthians 3:3)**
- **Spirit of Lord Jehovah (Isaiah 61:1-3)**
- **Spirit of Christ and the Spirit of God (Romans 8:9)**
- **Spirit of His Son (Galatians 4:6)**
- **Spirit of Promise (Acts 1:4-5)**
- **Spirit of Grace (Hebrews 10:29)**
- **Spirit of Supplication (Zechariah 12:10)**
- **Eternal Spirit (Hebrews 9:14)**

b. The Baptisms in Scripture (baptizo)

■ What is Baptism?

- o **Physically** - Immersion, submersion, to make whelmed
- o **Spiritually** - An intentional act of identification; an **agreement**

■ Why is Baptism Important?

Hebrews 6:1-2 – ¹Therefore, leaving the discussion of the elementary principles of Christ, let us go on to **perfection**, not laying again the **foundation** of repentance from dead works and of faith toward

God,² of the doctrine of **baptisms**, of laying on of hands, of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment. And this we will do if God permits.

- o “Baptisms” is plural
- o Baptisms are elementary principles (doctrines)
- o Perfection (*teleioteš*) – completeness, spiritual maturity
- o Foundation (*themelios*) - beginnings, first principles
- o Spiritual maturity has foundations and principles that are to be obeyed

■ **Baptized** (immersed) into the **Body of Christ**

At salvation, we agree with the Father that we are sinners, that our sin requires the payment of blood, that the shed blood of Jesus Christ satisfies His righteous requirement for the penalty for sin, and that we confess this unto salvation. This is when we receive the authority [**exousía**] of a child of God (John 1:12).

Hebrews 9:22 – *And according to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and without **shedding of blood** there is no remission.*

Romans 3:23-25 – ²³for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God set forth as a **propitiation by His blood**, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed.

Romans 10:9-10 – ⁹that if you **confess** with your mouth the Lord Jesus and **believe** in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

1 Corinthians 12:12-14 – ¹²For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ. ¹³For by one Spirit we were all **baptized into one body**—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—and have all been made to drink into one Spirit. ¹⁴For in fact the body is not one member but many.

■ **Baptized in Water**

Matthew 28:19 – *Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.*

At water baptism, we identify with the Son, and **we publicly agree** and profess that we are now members of His Church - the Body of Christ.

Romans 6:4 – *Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.*

God's word reveals a symbolic parallel between New Covenant believers and the Israelites, whom Moses delivered from Egyptian captivity into freedom.

1 Corinthians 10:2 (NIV) – *They were all baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea.*

- **Baptized with the Holy Spirit**

At Holy Spirit baptism, we identify with and acknowledge (**agree**) we need the Holy Spirit's presence and power to accomplish the will of God for our lives.

All four Gospels include:

- The Death of Christ
- The Resurrection of Christ
- Feeding of the 5000
- **The Baptism with the Holy Spirit**

Matthew 3:11 – *I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will **baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.*** (Also see Mark 1:8, Luke 3:16, John 1:33)

***Even Jesus needed to be empowered by the Holy Spirit:**

Luke 3:21-22a – ²¹ *When all the people were baptized, it came to pass that Jesus also was baptized; and **while He prayed**, the heaven was opened. ²³ And **the Holy Spirit descended** in bodily form like a dove upon Him.*

- At the different baptisms, we identify with either the Father, the Son, or the Holy Spirit
- The three baptisms bear witness to the supernatural relationship with God
- The three baptisms are, in essence, **agreements**.

***Jesus commanded His disciples to wait for this Baptism:**

Acts 1:4-5, 8 – ⁴ *And being assembled together with them, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, "Which," He said, "you have heard from Me; ⁵ for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be **baptized with the Holy Spirit** not many days from now." . . . ⁸ "But **you shall receive power** when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and **you shall be witnesses** to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."*

- Who is the Promise? – Holy Spirit
- What is the Promise? – Baptism with the Holy Spirit
- What is the Evidence? – Power to be a witness

Acts 2:1-4 – ¹ *When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. ² And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. ³ Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. ⁴ And they were all **filled with the Holy Spirit** and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.*

- It should be noted that in Acts 1:5 the promise was to be **baptized** with the Holy Spirit. In Acts 2:4, the fulfillment of this promise was that they were **filled** with the Holy Spirit. **Sometimes these words are used interchangeably for the same experience** (see also Ephesians 5:18).

Acts 2:37-39 – ³⁷ Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Men and brethren, what shall we do?” ³⁸ Then Peter said to them, “Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ For the promise is to you and to your children, **and to all** who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call.

- Who is the Promise for? **Everyone** in Christ - all who are afar off!

Acts 19:1-6 – ¹ And it happened, while Apollos was at Corinth, that Paul, having passed through the upper regions, came to Ephesus. And finding some disciples ² He said to them, “**Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?**” So they said to Him, “We have not so much as heard whether there is a Holy Spirit.” ³ And he said to them, “Into what then were you baptized?” So they said, “Into John’s baptism.” ⁴ Then Paul said, “John indeed baptized with a baptism of repentance, saying to the people that they should believe on Him who would come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus.” ⁵ When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. ⁶ And when Paul had laid hands on them, **the Holy Spirit came upon them**, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied.

- Paul asked the question “Did you receive the Holy Spirit?”
- Note this is separate from the first & second baptisms

c. Evidence of Holy Spirit Baptism

- Demonstration of **Power** (*dýnamis*) – supernatural/miraculous ability

Luke 24:49 – Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are **endued with power** from on high.

- Note: This is not to be confused with the Fruit of the Spirit. This is power for service. The fruit is actually grown through a process of continually yielding and surrendering to the Holy Spirit and the word (Sanctification).

Luke 9:23 (NIV) - Then He [Jesus] said to them all: “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me.”

Galatians 5:24 – And those who are Christ’s have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

Luke 4:18-19 – ¹⁸ The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me, because **He has anointed Me** to preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed; ¹⁹ to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord.

Every Christian needs the **power, love, gifts, and fruit** of the Holy Spirit to accomplish the work to which He’s called us. It is an act of the will of every believer to invite Him, and we receive Him by faith.

Luke 11:10-13 - ¹⁰ For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. ¹¹ If a son asks for bread from any father among you, will he give him a stone? ¹² Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent instead of a fish? Or if he asks for an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? ¹³ If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father **give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!**

d. Gifts of the Holy Spirit

- To edify (glorify) **Jesus**.
- To edify (build up and unify) the **Body of Believers**.

1 Corinthians 12:4-11 – ⁴ *There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit.* ⁵ *There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord.* ⁶ *And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all.* ⁷ *But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all:* ⁸ *for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit,* ⁹ *to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit,* ¹⁰ *to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another different kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues.* ¹¹ *But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.*

- The Holy Spirit gives these as He wills when you need it
- When you have the Spirit, you have the Source of ALL the gifts
- Everyone can exercise these gifts as determined by the Holy Spirit when needed

e. What about the Gift of Tongues?

There are different views on the number of “tongues” or languages, but these are the two main categories:

- Unknown **Natural** Language

Acts 2:4-8 – ⁴ *And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.* ⁵ *And there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men, from every nation under heaven.* ⁶ *And when this sound occurred, the multitude came together, and were confused, because everyone heard them speak in his own language.* ⁷ *Then they were all amazed and marveled, saying to one another, “Look, are not all these who speak Galileans?”* ⁸ *And how is it that we hear, each in our own language in which we were born?*

- E.g. Spanish, Russian, Italian, Greek, etc.
- Purpose – to reach different people groups with the Gospel
 - *It is to be noted here that this category of tongues is one of the gifts of the Holy Spirit. But isn't always imparted when a person is baptized with the Holy Spirit (see FAQs in the Appendix).*

- Unknown **Spiritual** Language

1 Corinthians 14:1-5 – ¹ *Pursue love, and desire spiritual gifts, but especially that you may prophesy.* ² *For he who **speaks in a tongue** does not speak to men but to God, for no one understands him; however, **in the spirit he speaks mysteries**.* ³ *But he who prophesies speaks edification and exhortation and comfort to men.* ⁴ *He who speaks in a tongue edifies himself, but he who prophesies edifies the church.* ⁵ *I wish you all spoke with tongues, but even more that you prophesied; for he who prophesies is greater than he who speaks with tongues, unless indeed he interprets, that the church may receive edification.*

1 Corinthians 14:14-15 – ¹⁴**For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my understanding is unfruitful.** ¹⁵**What is the conclusion then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will also pray with the understanding. I will sing with the spirit, and I will also sing with the understanding.**

Romans 8:26-28 (NIV) - ²⁶*In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us through wordless groans.* ²⁷*And He who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God.* ²⁸*And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.*

- o Purpose
 - o to **edify** the believer (personal) or the corporate body (with interpretation)
 - o for the Holy Spirit to pray **the will of God** through the believer

f. How do I Receive the Gifts?

Luke 11:13 – *If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who **ask Him!***

- **Desire** (1 Corinthians 14:1)
- **Ask** (Luke 11:9-10, James 4:2)
- **Believe** (2 Corinthians 5:7; James 1:17)
- **Receive** (Mark 11:24)

STRONGHOLDS AND AGREEMENTS

Objective – to understand the development of strongholds and agreements in the lives of a believer, and how to break them and live a life of truth

a. The Power of Agreement

i. What is an Agreement?

- The state of being in one **accord**
- An **expression of assent** by two or more parties to the same object
- The phraseology, written or oral, of an exchange of **promises**

Matthew 18:19 – *Again I say to you that if two of you **agree** on earth concerning anything that they ask, it will be done for them by My Father in heaven.*

- agree (*symphōneō*) - to be in accord, **to harmonize**

Numbers 30:2 – *If a man makes a vow to the LORD, or swears an oath to bind himself by some **agreement**, he shall not break his word; he shall do according to all that proceeds out of his mouth.*

- agreement (*'ecar*) - **bond**; binding obligation

ii. How do we make an agreement?

- **Explicitly** – via spoken or written words
- **Implicitly** – via unspoken words

iii. With whom do we make agreements?

- With **self or others** (spoken words explicitly)

Matthew 18:19 – *Again I say to you that if two of you **agree** on earth concerning anything that they ask, it will be done for them by My Father in heaven.*

- With **God** (spoken words explicitly)

2 Chronicles 30:23, 27 – ²³*Then the whole assembly agreed to keep the feast another seven days, and they kept it another seven days with gladness. ...²⁷Then the priests, the Levites, arose and blessed the people, and their voice was heard; and their prayer came up to His holy dwelling place, to heaven.*

- With **Satan** (unspoken words implicitly)

Acts 5:2-3, 9 – ² *And he kept back part of the proceeds, his wife **also being aware of it**, and brought a certain part and laid it at the apostles' feet. ³ But Peter said, 'Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and keep back part of the price of the land for yourself?' ... ⁹ Then Peter said to her, 'How is it that **you have agreed** together to test the Spirit of the Lord? Look, the feet of those who have buried your husband are at the door, and they will carry you out.'*

- With the **World** (explicitly and implicitly)

Romans 12:2 – *And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.*

iv. The Significance of Agreements

Proverbs 18:20-21 – *A man's stomach shall be satisfied from the fruit of his mouth; from the produce of his lips he shall be filled. ²¹ **Death and life** are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit.*

- **Death** – agreements with the devil
- **Life** – agreements with God

Note the sequence of the words, “death” and “life” in the preceding verse. Though we almost always say “life and death,” the order of the words in the verse implies that our default speech is “death.” We should be encouraged to make a conscious effort to change our speech to that of *life-giving* words.

2 Corinthians 6:14-16 – ¹⁴ *Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness? ¹⁵ And what **accord** has Christ with Belial? Or what part has a believer with an unbeliever? ¹⁶ And what **agreement** has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: 'I will dwell in them and walk among them. I will be their God, and they shall be My people.'*

- Agreeing with the Devil brings **lawlessness** (sin brings death)
- Agreeing with God brings **blessings**.

v. Recognizing Agreements

Amos 3:3 - *Can two walk together, unless they are **agreed**?*

- Your daily walk reveals **who** and **what** you are in agreement with

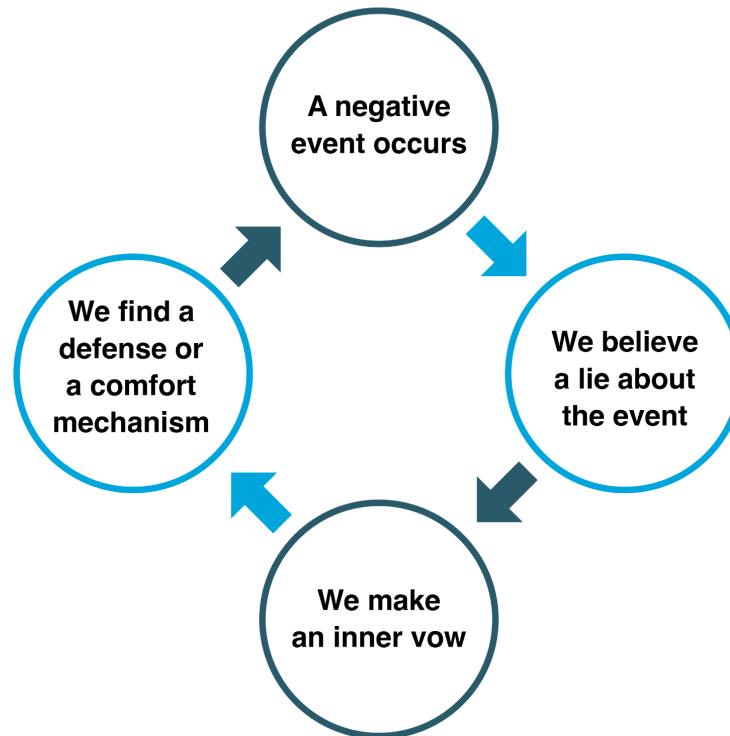
2 Corinthians 10:4-5 – ⁴ *For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds,⁵ casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ.*

- When under God's authority, and a word is spoken over you, you either agree or disagree
- The enemy's word, when agreed upon, **suppresses** the power of God's word spoken over you

- When we believe (agree with) a lie, we are in **bondage** to the lie
- When we believe (agree with) a lie, we **empower** the liar
- Common examples of making agreements **unknowingly**
 - “She’s just shy!”
 - “I am just weak”
 - “I’m not very organized!”
 - “I can’t get up early to pray!”
 - “I’m a failure!”
 - “I’m not gifted to share my faith.”
 - “My life is hopeless.”

b. The Development of a Stronghold

Now that we understand agreements, let’s examine the process or chain of events that commonly occur when we make an agreement with the enemy, and how that often results in a stronghold.



- i. We experience a **negative** event.
 - An offense or trauma
 - We suffer **real** or **imagined** hurt
- ii. We believe a **lie** about the event
 - We assign a meaning as a result of the pain, shame, anger, or sarcasm
 - We believe the enemy's lie about God, ourselves, or others
 - We agree with the lie and **partner with the liar**
- iii. We make an inner **vow** (commitment)
 - We make a vow or pronounce a personal principle
- iv. We find a **defense** mechanism to ease the pain and/or protect ourselves
 - We medicate the pain, or
 - We avoid relationships, or
 - We judge the offender (Incompetent! Loser!) and the offense, or
 - We blame others, or
 - We stay in a job that underutilizes our talent, or
 - We build walls that inhibit receiving and giving love, or
 - We live in denial (the negative event wasn't so bad!), or
 - We suppress the emotions, or
 - We become a control freak, or
 - We become "gifted" at sarcasm, or
 - We lose ourselves in escaping activities (social media, shopping, porn, etc.)
- v. Our defense mechanism **reinforces** the pattern
 - Others react to the defense mechanism and the pattern is repeated
 - As patterns repeat, they become habitual and in-grained
 - As patterns repeat, they become self-fulfilling

c. Examples

- We experience a negative event
 - o We are falsely accused, or
 - o We are not included in some group or activity
- We believe a lie about the event
 - o We believe the person can't be trusted, or
 - o We believe we aren't respected and valued by this person
- We make a judgment and an inner vow
 - o People are seen as untrustworthy, so we vow not to trust anybody, or
 - o People don't value me, so I vow to vigilantly watch for every perceived attack and launch into anger mode
- We find a defense mechanism to ease the pain
 - o We isolate ourselves and self-medicate, or
 - o We seek to control the people around us

- Result
 - We suffer the lack of relational intimacy and no one trusts us because we don't allow anyone to get close, or
 - People avoid us because of our propensity to attack and/or get angry

d. The Solution

i. **Renew** your mind.

Romans 12:1-2 – ¹*I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.* ²*And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the **renewing of your mind**, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.*

- When we think a certain way about ourselves and the world around us based on lies, unhealthy patterns of living are created.

ii. Run to the **Source of Truth**.

John 8:32 - *And you shall know the truth, and the **truth** shall **make** you **free**.*

iii. **Expose** the lie.

2 Corinthians 10:4-6 – ⁴*For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for **pulling down strongholds**,* ⁵***casting down arguments** and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ, and being ready to punish all disobedience when your obedience is fulfilled.*

iv. Ask the Holy Spirit to **reveal** the lie.

John 16:13 – *However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, **He will guide you** into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come.*

v. **Renounce** the lie and the need to defend yourself.

Isaiah 53:7 - *He was oppressed and He was afflicted, Yet **He opened not His mouth**; He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is **silent**, So He opened not His mouth.*

vi. **Embrace** the Truth.

Ephesians 6:14 - *Stand therefore, having girded your waist with **truth**, having put on the breastplate of righteousness.*

FORGIVENESS

Objective – to explain what forgiveness is and how vital it is to get and remain free

a. Bondage of Unforgiveness

Matthew 6:14-15 – ¹⁴For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. ¹⁵But **if you do not forgive men** their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

- Unforgiveness shackles me to my offender
- Unforgiveness invites attacks from the enemy
- Unforgiveness works destruction in every area of life

Matthew 18:21-22 – ²¹Then Peter came to Him and said, “Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? Up to seven times?” ²²Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven.

b. Truths about Forgiveness

- Forgiving is not forgetting
- Forgiving does not release the offender from responsibility
- Forgiving is not pretending it never happened
- Forgiving does not mean it did not matter
- Forgiving does mean that I release any desire for revenge, repayment, or punishment
- Forgiving means that Christ will give me strength to live with the consequences of the offender’s actions
- Forgiveness doesn’t always result in total restoration. Some relationships may not get back to where they once were.
- Forgiving others flows from the forgiveness I have received in Christ. Forgiveness flows from our *forgiven-ness*.
- Forgiving means that I recognize my own weakness and sinfulness
- Forgiving happens because of the blood of Christ shed for me

c. Wounds that Require Forgiveness

- Wounds that are personal
- Wounds that are unfair and unjust
- Wounds that trigger deep emotional pain

d. Process of Forgiveness

- Stage One: **Hurt** – we acknowledge the pain
- Stage Two: **Hate** – anger at the event is OK; hatred at the offender is **self-destructive**
- Stage Three: **Heal** – we receive healing in our soul from God (not the offender!)
To fully restore broken relationship:
- Stage Four: **Come together** – mutual repentance & reconciliation

e. Freedom through Forgiveness

- Forgiveness **closes** a door to the enemy

1 Peter 5:8 - *Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.*

- Forgiveness **connects** me to the gracious heart of God; it's an act of faith; it's grace in action

Luke 23:34 - *Then Jesus said, 'Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do.' And they divided His garments and cast lots.*

- When I release my offender, I **liberate** myself

Ephesians 4:32 - *And be kind to one another, **tenderhearted**, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you.*

- tenderhearted (*eusplagchnos*) – compassionate, sympathetic

f. Bottom Line

- The first person to apologize is the **bravest**
- The first person to forgive is the **strongest**
- The first person to release is the **happiest**

Representational Forgiveness or Substitutional Forgiveness is a process whereby an individual represents or substitutes for another who has committed some offense. The representative or substitute expresses repentance for committing an offense, apologizes for the offense, and seeks forgiveness. This process isn't done for the benefit of the offender (perpetrator), but rather to benefit the victim. It is similar to intercessory prayer in that one stands and intercedes on behalf of another.

CLEANSING WATER

Objective – to experience a symbolic soul-cleansing and renewal

This ministry exercise of cleansing water is highly symbolic, yet therapeutic for those who, by faith, invite the Holy Spirit to refresh and renew them.

a. Symbolism

- Water is a symbol of the cleansing work of the Holy Spirit. We use it as a visible symbol of the inner work of the Holy Spirit.
- Water is a reminder of water baptism of believers. Baptism is a dividing mark between the old and new life in the believer that he/she has died to self and has been resurrected in Christ.
- The measure of salt in the water is a reminder that we are to be salt and light to a dark and lost world.

b. Truth

Ephesians 5:26-27 – ²⁶ that He might sanctify and **cleanse** her with the **washing of water** by the word,²⁷ that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be **holy and without blemish**.

THE DAILY KINGDOM WALK

Objective – to be empowered to live the Kingdom Life in our daily life

John 15:5, 7-8 – I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing... If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you. By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.

a. Hearing God Daily

- **Expect** to hear God daily
- All believers are invited to **hear** God's voice.

John 10:3-5 – ³To him the doorkeeper opens, and **the sheep hear his voice**; and he calls his own sheep by name and **leads them** out. ⁴And when he brings out his own sheep, he goes before them; and the sheep **follow him**, for they **know his voice**. ⁵Yet they will by no means follow a stranger, but will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers.

John 10:27 – My sheep **hear My voice**, I know them and they follow Me.

Revelation 3:20 – Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone **hears My voice** and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me.

Proverbs 4:20 – My son, give **attention** to my words; **incline your ear** to my sayings.

Matthew 4:4 – But He answered and said, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that **proceeds** from the mouth of God.'"

- proceeds – present tense!
- A daily word from God is our daily bread.

Romans 10:17 - So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the **word** of God.

- word (*rhema*) – that which is or has been uttered by the living voice, thing spoken, word

b. Biblical Ways to Hear God:

- Through the **Word of God**

2 Timothy 3:16 – All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness.

- Through His **Still, Small Voice**.

1 Kings 19:12 – and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a still small voice.

Luke 12:12 – For at that time the Holy Spirit will teach you what you should say.

- Through **Visions**

Acts 10:9-11 – ⁹ *The next day, as they went on their journey and drew near the city, Peter went up on the housetop to pray, about the sixth hour. ¹⁰ Then he became very hungry and wanted to eat; but while they made ready, he fell into a **trance** ¹¹ and **saw** heaven opened and an object like a great sheet bound at the four corners, descending to him and let down to the earth.*

- Through the **Audible Voice** of God

Acts 9:4 – *Then he fell to the ground, and heard a **voice** saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?"*

Luke 9:35 – *Then a **voice** came out of the cloud, saying, "This is My Son, My Chosen One; listen to Him!" And when the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent, and reported to no one in those days any of the things which they had seen.*

- Through **Dreams**

Matthew 1:20-21 – ²⁰ *But while he thought about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him **in a dream**, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. ²¹ "And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins."*

Job 33:14-16 – ¹⁴ *For God may speak in one way, or in another, yet man does not perceive it. ¹⁵ **In a dream**, in a vision of the night, when deep sleep falls upon men, while slumbering on their beds, ¹⁶ then He opens the ears of men, and seals their instruction.*

- Through **Angels**

Luke 1:11-14 – ¹¹ *Then **an angel** of the Lord appeared to him, standing on the right side of the altar of incense. ¹² And when Zacharias saw him, he was troubled, and fear fell upon him. ¹³ But the **angel said** to him, "Do not be afraid, Zacharias, for your prayer is heard; and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John. ¹⁴ And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth.*

- By **Impressions**

Mark 2:8 – *But immediately, when Jesus **perceived in His spirit** that they reasoned thus within themselves, He said to them, "Why do you reason about these things in your hearts?"*

- Through **Mental Pictures** (images)

Jeremiah 1:11-12 – ¹¹ *Moreover the word of the LORD came to me, saying, "Jeremiah, what do **you see**?" And I said, "**I see** a branch of an almond tree." ¹² Then the LORD said to me, "You have seen well, for I am ready to perform My word."*

c. Daily Pursuit of God

It should be our passion to seek God daily as He will create a hunger for more of Him and His kingdom. When we seek Him, we experience more of His fullness, which grows even more passion for Him.

Deuteronomy 4:29 – *But from there you will seek the LORD your God, and you will find Him if you seek Him with all your heart and with all your soul.*

Jeremiah 29:11, 13 – ¹¹ *For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope . . .* ¹³ *And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart.*

Matthew 5:6 - *Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled.*

- Seek to be Filled **moment-by-moment**

d. Daily Obedience

It brings God delight when we are living in obedience to His voice. This is what it means for God to not only be your Savior but for Him to also be your Lord. God is both Lord and Savior and we need to be surrendered to all that God is. As such, we need to surrender our lives daily as we listen to His voice and obey His instructions.

Psalms 127:1 – *Unless the Lord builds the house, they labor in vain who build it; unless the Lord guards the city, the watchman stays awake in vain.*

- We need to **trust** in the Lord to do the work; more than on our efforts.

1 Samuel 15:22 – *So Samuel said: “Has the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to heed than the fat of rams.*

i. Obeying God's voice will create **Blessings**

Exodus 19:5-6 – ⁵ *Now therefore, if you will indeed **obey My voice** and keep My covenant, **then you shall be a special treasure to Me** above all people; for all the earth is Mine.*

⁶ *And you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.’ These are the words which you shall **speak to the children** of Israel.*

Jeremiah 7:22-23 – ²² *For I did not speak to your fathers, or command them in the day that I brought them out of the land of Egypt, concerning burnt offerings or sacrifices.*

²³ *But this is what I commanded them, saying, “Obey My voice, and I will be your God, and you shall be My people. And walk in all the ways that I have commanded you, **that it may be well** with you.*

ii. Obeying God's voice means our lives will look like **Jesus' life**.

We will see the gifts and fruit of the Spirit manifested as we live in **communion** with the Holy Spirit.

John 14:12 – *Most assuredly, I say to you, he who **believes** in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father.*

- We will pursue miraculous **breakthroughs**.

- We will heal the sick, cast our demons, raise the dead and make disciples.
- We will learn to pray in the Spirit **continuously**.
- Most of what we need in life is brought to us, but most of what we want in life we have to go get. It is not enough to know God exists or that He can perform the miracle that we need; the devil believes those things. Faith requires action and lives out of the revelation of God's nature as a **Rewarder** of those who diligently seek Him.

Hebrews 11:6 – *But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.*

iii. Obeying God's voice brings Kingdom **Assignments**.

Acts 9:10-11 – ¹⁰ *Now there was a certain disciple at Damascus named Ananias; and to him the Lord said in a vision, 'Ananias.' And he said, 'Here I am, Lord.'* ¹¹ *So the Lord said to him, 'Arise and go to the street called Straight, and inquire at the house of Judas for one called Saul of Tarsus, for behold, he is praying.'*

e. **Daily Surrender**

To live a surrendered life means that we trust in the goodness of God knowing with assurance that He will direct you moment-by-moment.

i. Surrender your **Ways**

Isaiah 55:9 – *For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts*

ii. Surrender your **Will**

Proverbs 3:5-6 – *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.*

- There is a tendency to be led by reason in opposition to faith. We need to grow in our trust that God is involved in our lives in every moment and every aspect.

iii. Surrender Your **Wants**

Psalms 37:4 – *Delight yourself also in the LORD, And He shall give you the desires of your heart.*

Matthew 6:33 – *But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.*

Psalms 84:11 – *For the Lord God is a sun and shield; the Lord will give grace and glory; no good thing will He withhold from those who walk uprightly*

- As we surrender to the Lord, He will fulfill the desires of our heart. His desires will be placed in our heart. His desires become our desires.

iv. Surrender Your **Wounds**

Matthew 6:9-10 – *In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.*

- Jesus wants to do much more than simply save you for heaven! His plan is for the Kingdom of God to be manifested here and now and that we experience the surrendered life now.

Romans 10:9 – *that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be **saved**.*

(As taught previously: Saved (sōzo) - rescue, deliver, heal, restore, make whole)

- Saved Spiritually – live free from the bondage of sin
- Saved Soulfully – live free from oppression and all demonic influences
- Saved Physically – live in divine health

COMMUNION

Objective – to experience communion together as believers in Jesus Christ

The Last Supper - Communion

Luke 22:19-20 – ¹⁹ *And He took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, ‘This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me.’* ²⁰ *Likewise He also took the cup after supper, saying, ‘This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you.’*

1 Corinthians 11:26 – *For **as often** as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you **proclaim** the Lord’s death till He comes.*

- Communion is a **proclamation**.
- Communion is an act of **agreement**.
- Communion is a **time of receiving and remembering the atoning work of Jesus**.
- Communion is a **sacrament**; it’s **sacred**.
- Celebrating in an unworthy manner brings **consequences**.

1 Corinthians 11:27-29 – ²⁷ *Therefore whoever eats this bread or drinks this cup of the Lord in an **unworthy manner** will be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord.* ²⁸ *But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup.* ²⁹ *For he who eats and drinks in an **unworthy manner** eats and drinks **judgment** to himself, not discerning the Lord’s body.*

PARTAKE IN COMMUNION

TESTIMONY

Objective – to share your personal ENCOUNTER experience and Testimony with others

As a believer in Jesus Christ you have a personal Testimony.

- Testimony (*mar-too-ree'-ah*) - witness, evidence, testimony, reputation

Revelation 12:11 - *And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the **word of their testimony**, and they did not love their lives to the death.*

1 John 5:11 - *And this is the **testimony**: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son.*

Luke 8:39 - *Return to your own house, and tell what great things God has done for you.” And he went his way and proclaimed throughout the whole city what great things Jesus had done for him.*

The **ENCOUNTER** experience is focused on providing biblical truth through teachings, worship, and prayer. It is a time dedicated to bring transformation and freedom as you encounter God the Father, Jesus, and Holy Spirit in a very real and personal way.

Our prayer is that you were able to receive a deeper understanding of your Kingdom Identity, to accept God's calling on your life as a Kingdom Warrior, and feel empowered to fruitfully live the Kingdom Life as a disciple of Christ.

We hope that God met you exactly where you were in order to take you where He wants you to be!

SHARE YOUR PERSONAL ENCOUNTER EXPERIENCE AND TESTIMONY.

Upload a video or email to: encounter@sdrock.com

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND NEXT STEPS

Kingdom Life Resources

<https://www.sdrock.com/ministries/kingdomlife/klresources>

LIFE Class

For those who haven't completed the LIFE Class at the Rock Church, be encouraged that this is your next step for getting involved at the Rock Church.

www.sdrock.com/life/class/

JOIN a Group

God created us to have meaningful relationships. Groups are where you will connect with others to live life together and experience growth, discipleship and transformation.

www.sdrock.com/groups

Healing Ministry

The Healing Ministry provides the opportunity for you to receive from the Lord in areas of healing, freedom, and encouragement through weekly ministry nights.

<https://www.sdrock.com/ministries/kingdomlife/klresources>

Rock Church World Missions

Start living your life with purpose and make an impact on the world around you. Join the Community, get equipped and discover Your Mission.

<https://rockworldmissions.com/>

Frequently Asked Questions

[FAQs Regarding the Role of the Holy Spirit in the Church](#)