

CHAPTER 4

The Place of Fellowship and Communion

Love! The four letter word that if comprehended by the believer, will keep us in the secret place of fellowship. The Holy Spirit is a personality and he is longing for our time in all dimension. We can sing from Jerusalem to Jericho that we love the Lord but if we don't develop the habit of spending time with him, our song of love is nothingless useless. Besides obedience to God's commandment, another indices of our love for God is fellowship. Many times we are saying to God, I love you. And God is responding to us, if you truly love me you will spend time with me. There is no two ways about that. Our love for God will draw us into the secret place of fellowship.

One feature that has become identified with the life of Abraham is that he was regarded as the friend of God. If I may ask you why Abraham is regarded as a friend of God I know that you may say Abraham had such a solid life of obedience. If that is your answer, then you are partly right. There is something that Abraham did that drew him closer to the heart of God. We will see that in the Scriptures.

Genesis 19: 27

And Abraham gat up early in the morning to the place where he stood before the Lord:

The Scripture under reference contains another secret of the life of Abraham that built a solid friendship between him and God. Abraham had a commitment to wake up early in the morning to spend time with God. He was such a man that was addicted to the life of fellowship. The Bible says he got up early in the morning to the place where he stood before the Lord. Fellowshiping with God was a customary practice for Abraham. For him, he had an appointment with God to meet with him early in the morning. Let's say, around 4 AM. It was a life of personal devotion to Abraham and nothing

will break that commitment to fellowship that he has with God. The love Abraham has for God pulled him to the place of communion and fellowship. No matter how much you love God, if you don't spend time with him your love remains a mouth profession. And the Bible encourages us not to love in words of mouth alone but in words and in deeds. Deeds in the circumstances mean that after telling God that we love him, we are able to devote time with him in fellowship.

Scriptural Example of Men of Fellowship

We will look at some examples of men in Scripture who developed friendship with God through fellowship.

The Life of Jesus

There is no better example to look at in terms of fellowship than the life of Jesus. In his day, Jesus was one of the busiest men because of the responsibility he was carrying on his shoulders – the salvation of men. He was preaching in every part of Israel. When it was time for him to rest for the night, his disciples would come with their questions. They will ask him concerning the things he preached about when the people were present.

Mark 10:10

And in the house his disciples asked him again of the same matter.

Luke 8:9

And his disciples asked him, saying, What might this parable be?

As busy as Jesus was in his day, there was something he never neglected - fellowship and communion. If he was busy and never neglected the place of fellowship and communion, then we have no excuse at all. You can't be too busy to pray. You can't be too busy to spend time with God it is an error. If you don't have time for fellowship then you don't have time to build friendship with the Holy Spirit. How can you even build friendship with him

when you don't know him? I have given this example before, for our purpose, I am giving it again. When two people go for their first date, they devote that time to asking general questions. What they are trying to do at that time is to know one another. The discussions may be graced by superficiality. But on the second and third dates, the conversation begins to take a different dimension. They begin to know one another and understand facial expressions. As they go deeper in their relationship, a time will come that if one smiled, it will be a form of communication. When another contorted his face, the other party knows that the person is sad. That knowledge did not come in one day. It only came as the two people devoted the time to knowing one another. That is how it is with the Holy Spirit too. It is when you spend time with God that you know him. One of the things that led to the death of the sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas was because they did not know the Lord and that absence of knowledge led them to live a life of sin and iniquity. The Bible says the sons of Eli were sons of Belial they knew not the Lord.

1 Samuel 2:12

Now the sons of Eli were sons of Belial; they knew not the Lord.

We can know the Lord when we spend time with him in fellowship and communion. As mighty as Jesus was when he ministered on the face of the earth, he had to depend on the Holy Spirit. Even though he was the Son of God, the extent of what he could do was limited by been a human being. That is why spirit-living was the only way for him to achieve his goals on earth. Jesus was busy but he did not allow the altar of his fellowship to dry out. He kept the fire burning continually.

Leviticus 6:12

And the fire upon the altar shall be burning in it; it shall not be put out: and the priest shall burn wood on it every morning, and lay the burnt offering in order upon it; and he shall burn thereon the fat of the peace offerings.

Beloved, the strength of our friendship with God is determined by the level of our fellowship with him. Jesus knew that well that was the reason why he withdrew to a quiet place to pray after preaching the gospel to men of his day and spending some time to mentor his disciples.

Mark 6:46

And when he had sent them away, he departed into a mountain to pray.

Luke 6:12

And it came to pass in those days, that he went out into a mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God.

It is my opinion and that opinion is backed by Scripture that the reason why Jesus took his disciples to the mountain to pray with them is to teach them the way of building a solid friendship with the Holy Ghost.

Luke 9: 28

And it came to pass about an eight days after these sayings, he took Peter and John and James, and went up into a mountain to pray.

And when Jesus has ended his ministry, the disciples demonstrated this lifestyle of fellowship and communion.

The Life of Peter

Peter was one of the apostles that Jesus took to the mountain on the day of transfiguration to pray. He saw the way his master, Jesus spent time with God in fellowship. So Peter the apostle learnt that.

Acts 11:5

I was in the city of Joppa praying: and in a trance I saw a vision, A certain vessel descend, as it had been a great sheet, let down from heaven by four corners; and it came even to me:

Acts 10:9

On the morrow, as they went on their journey, and drew nigh unto the city, Peter went up upon the housetop to pray about the sixth hour:

Some of the greatest demonstration of the power of God that happened in the life of Peter are attributable to his friendship with the Holy Spirit. By the time you have developed friendship with the Holy Spirit, his power in your life cannot be hindered by anything. But how selfish sometimes we are! Always seeking the power of the Holy Spirit without developing a friendship with him. The flow of the power of the Holy Spirit is natural when it is coming from the perspective of friendship. Although the example I am about to give using a Scripture does not relate to prayer, it however shows that if we can make God happy, he will give us beyond what we expected. Solomon offered a thousand burnt offering to the Lord and it was so pleasing to God that the Lord asked him what does he wants. I believe that offering came from the heart of love.

2 Kings 3:3

And Solomon loved the Lord, walking in the statutes of David his father: only he sacrificed and burnt incense in high places.

The Life of Moses

From this Old Testament patriarch, the life of fellowship was brought to bear. And as he spent time with God, the Lord continued to show him deeper things about himself. This was at the time when the Holy Spirit has not yet been given and the ministry of Jesus hadn't commenced. Yet this man called Moses understood that without fellowship, friendship with God is impossible. During the course of the journey through the wilderness, Miriam and Aaron spoke against Moses because of the Ethiopian woman which he had married.

Numbers 12:1-2

And Miriam and Aaron spake against Moses because of the Ethiopian woman whom he had married: for he had married an Ethiopian woman.

2 And they said, Hath the Lord indeed spoken only by Moses? hath he not spoken also by us? And the Lord heard it.

The moment Aaron and Miriam said that, it provoked a reaction from the Lord. The Lord had to defend his friend, Moses.

Numbers 12:5-9

5 And the Lord came down in the pillar of the cloud, and stood in the door of the tabernacle, and called Aaron and Miriam: and they both came forth.

6 And he said, Hear now my words: If there be a prophet among you, I the Lord will make myself known unto him in a vision, and will speak unto him in a dream.

7 My servant Moses is not so, who is faithful in all mine house.

8 With him will I speak mouth to mouth, even apparently, and not in dark speeches; and the similitude of the Lord shall he behold: wherefore then were ye not afraid to speak against my servant Moses?

9 And the anger of the Lord was kindled against them; and he departed.

Your fellowship with the Holy Spirit besides building a friendship with the Lord, provoke his anger and defence.

Numbers 12:10-15

10 And the cloud departed from off the tabernacle; and, behold, Miriam became leprous, white as snow: and Aaron looked upon Miriam, and, behold, she was leprous.

11 And Aaron said unto Moses, Alas, my lord, I beseech thee, lay not the sin upon us, wherein we have done foolishly, and wherein we have sinned.

12 Let her not be as one dead, of whom the flesh is half consumed when he cometh out of his mother's womb.

13 And Moses cried unto the Lord, saying, Heal her now, O God, I beseech thee.

14 And the Lord said unto Moses, If her father had but spit in her face, should she not be ashamed seven days? let her be shut out from the camp seven days, and after that let her be received in again.

15 And Miriam was shut out from the camp seven days: and the people journeyed not till Miriam was brought in again.

The problem many believers have is that they look at the Holy Spirit as the third God. So they do not give him the due honor that he deserves. Many people have the notion that it is God the father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit that means the Trinity. That is in all ramification true. However, that is not done with revelation and understanding. The fact that the Holy Spirit is mentioned as the third person of the Trinity does not make him less God. In my opinion, and as Benny Hinn has said, the Holy Spirit is equal in force with God the Father and God the Son. There was a time that God the Father was the one performing his ministry on the face of the earth. He interacted directly with men and visited them in different dimensions. Moses saw him on the mountain and even the elders of Israel.

Exodus 24:10

And they saw the God of Israel: and there was under his feet as it were a paved work of a sapphire stone, and as it were the body of heaven in his clearness.

Exodus 33:18-23

18 And he said, I beseech thee, shew me thy glory.

19 And he said, I will make all my goodness pass before thee, and I will proclaim the name of the Lord before thee; and will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will shew mercy on whom I will shew mercy.

20 And he said, Thou canst not see my face: for there shall no man see me, and live.

21 And the Lord said, Behold, there is a place by me, and thou shalt stand upon a rock:

22 And it shall come to pass, while my glory passeth by, that I will put thee in a clift of the rock, and will cover thee with my hand while I pass by:

23 And I will take away mine hand, and thou shalt see my back parts: but my face shall not be seen.

Elijah also had an encounter with the same God the Father.

1 Kings 19:11-12

11 And he said, Go forth, and stand upon the mount before the Lord. And, behold, the Lord passed by, and a great and strong wind rent the mountains, and brake in pieces the rocks before the Lord; but the Lord was not in the wind: and after the wind an earthquake; but the Lord was not in the earthquake:

12 And after the earthquake a fire; but the Lord was not in the fire: and after the fire a still small voice.

After the Father finished his ministry on the face of the earth, it was the turn of the Son to minister to men. Jesus was born as a man and later died on the cross of cavalry and completed his ministry on the earth. On the cross of cavalry, his last words, it is finished, signifying that his ministry on the face of the earth has been successfully concluded.

John 19:30

When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, It is finished: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost.

Even Jesus when he was ministering on the earth pointed the disciples to the Holy Spirit that is to come. He even said that if I do not go away, the comforter would not come.

John 16:7

Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you.

The Holy Ghost is the one ministering on the face of the earth at the moment. And he is the person that we need to develop a friendship with. The Holy Spirit is the intermediary between us and God right now.

Hebrews 1:1-3

*God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets,
2 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;*

Jesus is speaking to us through the Holy Spirit. And that is why it is difficult for you to hear the voice of Jesus from the cloud speaking to you directly. But you hear his voice through the Holy Spirit in your inner ear.

The more we spend time with the Holy Spirit who is currently ministering on the earth, the more we develop a friendship with him. And friendship with the Holy Spirit will make his power tremendously available to us. The key to this friendship is fellowship. We need to know the Holy Spirit in order to be able to harness his power in our lives.

In the Life of Paul the Apostle

Paul the apostle was a man who dedicated his life to the cause of fighting the gospel of Jesus Christ. Dissatisfied with what the apostles were doing at that time, he took letters from the high priest in order to further the cause of persecution of the church. On his way to Damascus, he was arrested by God. He was later baptised in the Holy Ghost in the book of Acts 9:17. Paul the Apostle developed a very close bond with the Holy Spirit through constant communion. Paul the apostle told the Corinthians church that he prays in tongues more than all of them.

1 Corinthians 14:18

I thank my God, I speak with tongues more than ye all:

For Paul the apostle fellowshiping with the Lord was a lifestyle. He was spending time with God praying in tongues that all the people in the Corinthian church could not pray as much as he did.

Beloved, those who will understand the ways of the Lord and also develop a friendship with him are those who have mastered the life of fellowship. It is at the place of fellowship that you can really know the Lord.

CHAPTER 5

Destroy your walls

The Holy Spirit is a very gentle personality and he reflects that aspect of him in almost everything he does with man. He does not push or forces anybody to do what he does not want to do. In the same manner, it is the room that you have allocated to the Holy Spirit that he will use to work in your life. He does not struggle, and he does not fight for space. If you want him to take a room in your heart, he will take that only and no more. Also, if you want him to take the whole of your heart he will do so. The workings of the Holy Spirit in the life of a believer is limited to the space that a child of God gives him. The devil is known for his tricky ability to push man to do what he does not want to do. Conversely, the Holy Spirit is not so. I call him the perfect gentleman that will not do anything that violates the free will of man.

Therefore, every wall which you have built over the years must be destroyed. The walls can be in varied forms. Others may be due to our own past experiences, betrayal from friends, betrayal from people we have trusted, even from false brethren. While these experiences may be bottled up in your heart, they may constitute hindrances to enjoying a very good friendship with the Holy Spirit. When people have hurt and crushed us, there is a need for us to go to God to heal our wounds. It is a normal nature of every human being when we are hurt to recline inside. And then we begin to walk by that experience and make it a part of our lives.

When there are high standing walls in our lives, they must be brought down before the Holy Spirit can freely interact with us and for our friendship to grow. Recently, I moved from the house where I was staying to another apartment. In the previous apartment where I was, I enjoyed unhindered mobile phone network. But the moment I stepped into my new house, everything changed. My data network was the most hit. The network flips on and off because of the high concrete building that I am living in. So I did a research on the Internet and discovered that concrete walls prevent cellular phone network from being effective. Signals may not be able to pass directly through the concrete walls to a cell phone. Before I could get a good

network, I had to step outside before my network becomes normal. Even when people call me on the mobile phone, their voices sounded muffled. These concrete walls have become a stumbling block to the free flow of network into my phone.

The example under reference applies to the spiritual as well. If there are high walls which we have developed, our friendship with the Holy Spirit will be hindered. That closeness will certainly be destroyed by those high walls. There are personal high walls that we have built that we may not even know. And no amount of searching can reveal to us those walls. If you do not know those walls that may be hindering you from developing a friendship with the Holy Spirit, I will ask you at this point to put this book down and pray,

Lord, please show me the walls that I have built which is stopping me from enjoying a good friendship with the Holy Spirit so that I may destroy those walls right now in Jesus name, Amen.

The wall of Sin

Adam and Eve enjoyed such a splendid friendship with God. God left his throne and his glory in heaven to come in fellowship with them in the cool of the evening. The presence of angels in heaven didn't satisfy the Father. But he was drawn by Adam and Eve and their friendship continued as long as no barrier was present.

Genesis 3:8

And they heard the voice of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God amongst the trees of the garden.

As solid as their friendship was, it ended when Adam and Eve decided to build a wall. God had commanded Adam and Eve to eat of every tree in the garden, but the tree that is in the center of the garden they are to stay away from it. This commandment was insufficient to Adam and Eve who decided to give heed to the counsel of the devil. The devil came with subtlety and

deceived Eve to eat of the fruit of the garden which God has commanded them not to eat. The moment Adam and Eve decided to violate God's command and join forces with the devil, the friendship that God has with Adam and Eve was destroyed. If you look beyond Genesis chapter 3 verse eight, there was nowhere in Scripture where God visited Adam and Eve in the cool of the evening any more. For God, Adam and Eve had built a very high wall of disobedience that stopped the friendship. If not that Jesus came to die on the cross of Cavalry, the penal consequences would have extended to our generation thereafter. But we bless God for the obedience of the second Adam, Jesus Christ.

Beloved, if sin is in your life it is the number one blockage for building a friendship with the Holy Spirit. Maybe you haven't done this before, but I want you to pay attention to the name ***Holy and Spirit***. The Holy Ghost is a spirit and he is also holy. For us to be able to interact freely with him and build a friendship, we need to walk in purity.

Romans 1:4

And declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead:

The Bible specifically called the spirit that resurrected Jesus from the grave as the spirit of holiness. How do we know that it is a Holy Spirit that resurrected Jesus from the grave? Well, we have to resort back to Scripture to be able to discover that.

Romans 8:11

But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.

The Bible says if the spirit of him that raised Jesus from the dead dwells in us, he will quicken our mortal bodies.

So from the two Scriptures which we have seen, the Holy Spirit is the spirit of holiness. If we want to build a friendship with him, we have to walk in

purity and holiness. It is a common fact that light and darkness cannot work together. Like will always attract like. Eagles don't make friends with vultures. Lions do not make friends with hyenas. The principle is simple: Eagles will make friends with eagles and hyenas will make friends with hyenas.

Amos 3:3

Can two walk together, except they be agreed?

The Bible says two people cannot walk together unless they are in agreement. If you want to have a walk with the Holy Spirit, you must be in agreement with him by participating fully in his nature – holiness and purity.

The Bible says something interesting in the book of Psalms 66:18

If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me:

And we have earlier said that the Holy Spirit is God. So if we honour sin and walk in its path, the Holy Spirit will not hear us. And if he will not hear us, then it is impossible for him to build a friendship with us. Beloved, sin is a very tall wall of barrier that hinders friendship with the Holy Ghost. If you want friendship, then you will have to destroy it.

Interestingly, the life of purity and holiness is not something that we struggle to live. It is part of the nature of the spirit of God that lives inside of us. That is why the Bible says it is not by power, not by might but by the spirit says the Lord. If it is by power, then no one will be able to meet the high standards of God. In recognizing that we can of ourselves do nothing, the Bible says in the book of Romans 8:2 that:

So the law of the spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set us free from the law of sin and of death. When we give our lives to Christ and decided to work with him, the Holy Spirit writes a new law in our hearts that is the law of righteousness. That is why the drunkard will no longer feel comfortable drinking. The fornicator will no longer enjoy the life of fornication because the Holy Ghost has couch a new law in his heart.

Hebrews 8:10-11

10 For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people:

11 And they shall not teach every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for all shall know me, from the least to the greatest.

The Holy Spirit empowers us to live a life of holiness and righteousness. If he does not empower us, God will be unjust to require us to do something he hasn't given us the capacity to do. Even though God gives us the privilege to live a life of righteousness due to the empowerment of the Holy Spirit, he will not violate our will and force us to do same. The Holy Spirit will supply the grace but it is your choice and decision to use it or not. A man who wants to live a life of righteousness can fully depend on the Holy Spirit for empowerment. And when the Holy Spirit empowers you to live a life of righteousness, the wall of sin cannot stand.

However, there are times you may be struggling with certain sins in your life which you do not desire. If it is not a willful sin, God will give you the grace to overcome it. All you need to do is to cry to God for help for his grace is ever available to empower you.

CHAPTER 6

Carrying the Consciousness of another

I love giving examples in all my writings because I believe that examples facilitate the transmission of principles. I learnt that fact from my spiritual father, Dr Pastor Paul Enenche. Therefore, I will begin this chapter by giving you an example. A woman can do whatever she likes when she is not pregnant. Nobody will even caution her otherwise. However, when she takes in and becomes pregnant, a new regime of do's and don'ts become the order of the day. From the first day she reported for antenatal care, the gynecologist will tell her certain things that she shouldn't be doing in order to have a problem-free birth. As long as she adheres to the counsel of her gynecologist, everything will be fine. There are times that she may not feel like eating but she has to for the health of her baby. There are also food she must completely avoid to have a safe delivery.

At this juncture, the woman baptizes herself with caution that she is carrying another person – the new baby to be born. She becomes very careful with her actions in order not to pose a problem to the baby that she is carrying. The woman is not just doing it for herself alone but for us – herself and the baby. The consciousness of being pregnant alone will begin to regulate her actions what she can do, food she needs to eat, and drinks to be avoided, et cetera. But after nine months, when the baby is eventually born she regains back her freedom. Even that freedom is still somewhat limited because she may be breastfeeding the baby and there are things she must still do.

If you have followed my example closely, you will understand that I am trying to communicate a vital principle for a life in the spirit and friendship with the Holy Ghost. From the day you are baptised with the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues or from the day you got saved and had the spirit of God living inside of you, you are no longer the one person that we used to know. You are caring another person right inside of you. The person you are now carrying is the Holy Ghost, the third person of the Trinity, the personality whose power also created the earth.

Knowing that you carried the third person of the Trinity, you have to be cautious with the way you do things subsequently. Before the Holy Spirit comes into your life, there are things you could do and just feel free doing so. You weren't careful as to how the Holy Spirit feels over actions that you took in the past. But now, a need for caution begins to guide you. And when you do things that are wrong, you get convicted by the Holy Spirit.

You may need to be careful not to grieve him. There are certain places you may not be able to go any longer for instance, going to a club. There are things which may look innocuous to you, nevertheless the Holy Spirit may stop you from doing those things as it may hinder his friendship with you. Please don't get me wrong. I am by no means trying to lay down rules and regulation for you to follow neither am I trying to tell you that the Holy Spirit will cage your life. He will not do so. And I have come to recognize that there is freedom in righteousness.

However, living without the consciousness of the Holy Spirit in view has hindered so many people from building a friendship with him. They act according to the sense of impulse. Do whatever pleases them and do not care a single thought about what the Holy Spirit feels when they do certain things. When this realization came into my life some few years back, that I carry another person on the inside of me and my actions or inactions can grieve him, I became careful.

One day I was discussing with a believer friend of mine who was telling me how he deleted phone numbers from his phone. The moment the person offended him, he quickly deleted the phone number even before the Holy Spirit can say anything to him to the contrary. Later on, I began to think deeply over what this believer friend of mine said. As I thought on, I heard the Holy Ghost said, "That is why he can never grow!"

It is even that realization that should make us to care more for the personality of the spirit of God. Do you know that it is the same power that created the heaven and earth that is in us? Do you also realize that the creative power of God couldn't have been unleashed until the Holy Spirit hover over the formless and void earth (Genesis 1:1)? Beloved, the same

power that created the angels of heaven now abides in us. It is called the Holy Spirit, the third person of the Trinity. We should regard this as a privilege that God has given to mortal men. And if God decides to give us this opportunity and privilege to have a friendship with the Holy Spirit, then we should be glad.

When you carry the consciousness of the fact that the Holy Spirit is living inside of you and that your actions can grieve him, you will be more careful. And the more careful you become in understanding that your actions can grieve the Holy Spirit, the better you are able to develop a friendship with him. It is this lack of consciousness that some believers have failed to carry that has cost them the opportunity of building a friendship with one of the personalities of the Godhead – the Holy Spirit. People like Abraham, David, Moses, and so many other Patriarchs of the Bible were able to develop a friendship with God the Father who was ministering on the face of the earth and lived exceptional lives. When Jesus was ministering on the earth, his disciples developed a very solid friendship with him that even when he left them a visible mark of the friendship was hovering over their lives that people from afar recognized that they had been with Jesus (Acts 4:13).

We too can live in such a manner that everyone who comes to the ambience where we are, can sense the presence and enduring friendship with the Holy Ghost!

Friends, the privilege of walking with the Holy Spirit is a great one if only we can take it beyond the constant mentioning of his name in our ears into a concrete friendship.

CHAPTER 7

Holy Reverence

Perhaps one of the reasons why we do what we do, evidences the kind of reverence we have for the God that lives inside of us. After Solomon had lived his life doing what pleases him, he came back to give us an advice and he reduced the whole duty of man into two – to fear the Lord and shun evil. Reverence for God is a deep fear and honor for him. Is a kind of honor that comes not from the fear of evil or the punishment that will be carried out on you if you don't carry out his commandments, but a fear that comes out of love and honor for the king that he is?

Maybe the reason why the believer doesn't regard the presence of the Holy Spirit living inside of him is because he does not regard the Holy Spirit as God. We have stated earlier that the Holy Spirit is God and that his placement as the third person of the Trinity, does not curtail the manifestation of his power. Every miracle you see on the face of the earth today, all healings, and all demonstrations of the power of God that men do is coming from the Holy Spirit. And when we build a friendship with him that same power can be made manifest in our lives. The disciples were just ordinary men but when the power of the Holy Spirit came upon them and he began to live in the inside of them, a new dimension of spirit life was set afoot.

When our reverence comes from love, it endears us to the Holy Spirit. Let your fear for God not be planted in what he will do to you if you fail to carry out his commandments, let it be rooted in love. When you plant seeds of love in obedience to the will of God for your life, it enhances your friendship with the Holy Spirit. Even when our obedience is done in fear, God does not regard it. It must be done in love.

Friends, the place of reverence for God must be cherished if we want to enjoy a friendship with the Holy Spirit. When God sent Jesus to come and die for us, he had to impart his Son with the same spirit of reverence.

Isaiah 11:1-5

And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots:

2 And the spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord;

3 And shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the Lord: and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears:

The Bible says the spirit of the fear of the Lord will be upon him. One of the reasons why we need to develop holy reverence for God is because the Holy Spirit is a gentle personality and when he's grieved, he does not struggle or fight with man. He leaves quietly.

Even though Samson was not baptised with the Holy Ghost with the evidence of speaking in tongues, the great power he wielded and tormented the enemies of the Lord was from the Holy Spirit.

Judges 13:25

And the Spirit of the LORD began to move him at times in the camp of Dan between Zorah and Eshtaol.

When he decided to do what does not please God, the Spirit of the Lord had left Samson without his notice. He was saying that I will go as at other times. How sad! The Holy Spirit had left him. Friends, we will do ourselves a great displeasure if we ignore the promptings of the Holy Spirit in our lives. That is an indication of lack of reverence. A reverential believer will enjoy a solid friendship with the spirit of God. And the believer who disregards God's counsel that comes through the Holy Spirit will not enjoy friendship with the Holy Spirit.

As you apply the principles and teachings you have learned in this book, what I am awaiting is your testimony of how the Holy Spirit became your

friend after duly observing what you have been taught in this book. God bless you and I await your testimonies.

Set it Right

If you are reading this book and you are not saved, pray this prayer after me:

Lord Jesus, I come before you today. I give you my heart. I give you my all. Come into my life. Become my Lord and saviour. Deliver me from the power of sin. Help me to live for you forever, in Jesus name.

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