

Continue On To Open Book

Learning How to Hear
and Obey
God's Voice

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Table of Contents

Chapter	Page
Introduction	7
It Isn't As Hard As It Seems	15
Gathering the Tools	20
Hearing God's Voice	25
Obedience	30
Love Is the Key	36
Another Key-Yielding	43
Closing	47

Introduction

I want to talk with you just a bit about why it is so important be able to hear and obey God's voice. To be blessed we have to obey Him. Just as Psalms 23 promises, God can lead us into green pastures and by still waters if we will hear his voice and follow him. He can also provide protection if we will hear his voice and go where he says and if we refuse to go to the places that he says not to go. Think about the times when you were in the right place at just the right time and you received a blessing because you heard God's voice and obeyed. Maybe there was a time when you knew God saved your life because you were in the right place at the right time to avoid a catastrophe. To illustrate this I want to give you some examples of how listening to and obeying God led me to blessings, or kept away from harm.

I think of one time particularly that God saved my life. We had gone to Russia and Romania not long after the revolution to help start Christian schools. There was still a part of Russia that was trying to be free and there was a war going on in that part of the country. There was a lot of strife happening and terrorists were doing their thing. Part of our team wanted to travel across country by van. God spoke to me and told me not to do that. It worked out that we had to travel by train. When we arrived at our destination, we found out that there had been, what I call, terrorists who were shooting and killing people as they passed on the highway we would have traveled on had we

not taken the train. I had confirmation of how God had protected us when I got home.

My grandmother was a prayer warrior. She asked me what happened on a day that she had circled on her calendar. She told me that the Lord had told her our lives were in danger on that day and He had told her to pray. I looked on my itinerary to see what we were doing on that day, and it was the day that we had traveled across country. I was very thankful that I had heard and obeyed God's voice and that my grandmother had done the same.

There was a time on my trip that because we heard and obeyed God's voice He led us to a great blessing. You see God may have great things ahead of you, but if you don't go where He leads you, you won't find those blessings. This was one time I was very glad we listened and obeyed. While we were in the Ukraine, God put in our heart to find a professor that we had heard about who had operated a Christian newspaper under communism. We didn't know the professor's name, and we didn't know where he taught, we only knew what he had done. It was impossible to find him without knowing his name.

We went to a baptizing. There were hundreds of people there along the river. Our interpreter wasn't with us, so we walked along searching for some one to interpret for us. We heard a young man who was interpreting for a group. We joined them. After the baptism, we felt led to ask him about the professor we had been looking for. When we did, the young man got a strange look on his face and gasped out, "I do know who he is. That is my Dad." The result of that meeting was that we got to meet that professor, and he invited us back the next year for a meeting at the college where he taught. We met with

hundreds of public school teachers in a week long seminar to teach them how to put Christ in the classroom in place of communism. We knew then why it was so important to contact that professor. Even though it looked impossible, we kept looking until we found him. There is an important lesson in that. Even if it seems impossible to do the thing that God is leading you to do, if you try and if you refuse to give up, He will open the door, even if it takes a miracle to do it.

There is one instance that I can say that if I hadn't heard and obeyed God's voice, I would have been killed. I can actually say that God used my floor mats to save my life. I had washed my car and had laid my floor mats out in my yard to dry. I was getting ready to go somewhere, and God told me that I needed to stop and get my floor mats in. I stood there a minute discussing with myself why God would tell me to do that. I am glad that I didn't talk myself out of thinking that it was God because of what happened.

I got in my car and started to pull out, but the feeling got really strong that I needed to get my floor mats in. I stopped the car, and got out and was standing there with my floor mats in my hand when there was a loud bang that shook the ground. I lived on a narrow road and there was a curve just above my house where the road narrowed to the point that only one car could go around the curve at a time. A vehicle came speeding down my road and crashed into a tree in my neighbor's yard. He hit the tree in my neighbor's yard so hard that the motor had been pushed back on him and was pinning him in the vehicle. I knew that if I hadn't obeyed God, I would have been killed. I have thought later about how God had me timed just exactly. If I had left any sooner, I would have been in danger. He knew that I would

hesitate, and that I would get in the car, and get back out. He knew my weakness and timed me exactly. He knows us and knows how to lead us if we just follow.

I can think of another time when God led me to a much needed blessing. Covid had just hit along with all the problems it created when my freezer went out. I tried to order one from Lowes, but they told me that there were only 200 freezers in the main warehouse and had orders for thousands of them because all our freezers were made in China and those imports had stopped. I looked at some other places, couldn't find any, and almost gave up. Then I prayed (isn't that how we often do). The Lord led me to call Home Depot. They had one, and they would deliver.

Now when you order something often a company will call the day before your order is to be delivered to confirm the address, etc. If you don't receive that call, they won't deliver it and you will miss your order. A week before my order was due to be delivered, God led me to call and verify that they had my correct number. Even though I knew I had given them the correct number, I listened and obeyed. I was glad I had. They had a wrong number. When the lady who answered talked to me, she went to verify information about my order. When she came back, she told me she had good and bad news. The bad news was that this freezer was completely out of stock and they weren't expecting any more. The good news was that I had gotten the last one they had. If I hadn't obeyed God and called to order it when I did, and if I hadn't listened and called to confirm the number, I wouldn't have gotten my freezer.

I can remember a time when I was very glad that I obeyed God because my obedience saved a friend's life. I had been helping clean the church I had grown up in. I found a friend's Bible there. He had left it many years ago when he was a kid. I knew he hadn't been in church since then. I felt the Lord leading me to take it to him. I did. When he opened the door, he started crying. He said, "I have given up on life. I have decided to kill myself tonight and I have what I need to do it with." I was able to lead him to the Lord.

The door was opened to do that because when he saw the Bible and heard my story, he knew the Lord had reached out to him. When he came to the Lord, he had hope and no longer wanted to die. The last news I had of him is that he is still alive and was still serving God.

You see, if you really want to make a difference in people's lives, the only way that you can do it is to be there when they need you with just the right words and actions that will pull them up and lead them to the Lord. He has to be your partner and you have to follow Him if you want to make a difference for real. You can turn your world upside down for God and make it to be right side up if you just learn to listen and obey His voice.

You know, I have given some big examples of why it is important to listen and obey. The biggest reason, though, is that when you listen and obey you have help with the small every day decisions that you have to make. I may be a little simple minded, but I have to rely on God for every decision that I make. Every day we have to make little choices like: what do I need to do about this, or where do I need to go today, or how do I handle this situation. When

we rely on God to help us with all these things, then our lives go so much better. When we yield and let Him lead us in what to do about the every day situations we face, then we don't have near as much turmoil and strife going on. We can walk in peace when we walk with Him.

This last reason we need to hear God's voice is to be able to fellowship with Him. I talk to Him throughout the day, fellowshiping with Him, loving Him, hearing Him talk about His love for me. We have an ongoing conversation going on. I guess you could say that most days I talk to Him more than I talk to anyone else, and He talks to me. With that going on, what the devil has to say to me is just drowned out by God's voice. When the devil tells me I am nothing and nobody, I hear God's voice telling me of His love for me. I hear Him reminding me of His Word that tells me I am precious in His sight. When the devil tells me I can't do anything right, I hear God's voice telling me I did good. When the devil tells me that I have neglected to do what I needed to do, I hear God's voice telling me that I did exactly what was needed. Just as important is that I hear His voice telling me if I did something wrong, and how to fix it. He tells me if I neglected doing something and I can do it. Part of His love is telling us when we fall short and helping us to get it fixed. If we can't hear God's voice then we miss out on a great blessing.

Another everyday thing that we need to be able to do is to know the truth. In this crazy mixed up world, the truth is a precious thing. When we hear the news media about what is going on, we don't get the truth. When we listen to a lot of things on Facebook or Youtube, we don't get the truth. What is real? What is true? There are a lot of voices out there. Some would lead you to believe that there is no

hope. Some would lead you to believe that the Lord is coming back today. If you follow the wrong voices, you can find yourself like Gilligan's crew, shipwrecked on a desert island, or worse, you can follow the wrong voices and that can lead you to defeat, and giving up on following God.

Every time I hear something I don't go to google to fact check it but I go to God. I have found Him to be the most reliable source of information. I also go to His Word, because a lot of what is going on is written there. I have found that He knows what is going on even behind closed doors where no one is present except for those who are doing their dirty little deeds to destroy our country. He knows what is going on not only today, but what went on yesterday, and most important He knows what is going to happen tomorrow. I haven't been really dismayed by what was going on because I knew He would lead me through it all. With His voice to lead me and His outstretched hand lifting me up over the waves of the storm, I have not been afraid.

You can see with all these illustrations that it is important to listen to God's voice and obey Him. I have learned how to do this. Part of what made me able to do this is the many times that I failed to do it and the price I paid. I learned the hard way. That is why I am writing this book. I want to help you to be able to do this and avoid the hard times that I went through learning it. You see, it is more important to listen to God and obey Him now more than ever. We are going through some dangerous times, and He can lead us out of danger if we listen and obey. Also, time is running out. We need to be about our Father's business now more than ever. There is a world out there that is

giving up hope. They are desperately seeking something to hold on to. The world is poised on the edge of the greatest revival and move of God that the world has ever seen, then we will be out of here in the rapture. I don't know about you, but I want to be smack in the middle of it all, not hanging around on the outside of it. Also, I want to be ready when the Lord splits the eastern skies, and you will only experience the rapture if you are ready. The only way to be ready is to be obedient.

Most importantly, we are steadfastly losing our freedom. If we don't make a stand and make a difference, we can lose it all. I believe that it will be the Christians who will turn the tide. I don't know about you, but I want to stand up for my freedom, for my right to go to church, for my right to have a Bible, for my right to be able to speak God's Word instead of the things that the government tells me I can say, for my right to be an American and proud of my heritage, for my right to give my children sound education, and so many more things. I want to stand up and know that my stand is changing things. The only way to do that is to listen to God leading you and obey Him.

So if you are ready to listen to God's voice and obey, then keep reading. I believe that this book will open up a door of great blessings in your life. How do I know? Because I know how being a hearer and doer has blessed me.

Chapter 1.

It Isn't As Hard As It Seems

Sometimes if we aren't careful, all of the things of God that we need to do will start to seem so hard that we give up before we get started. I think that is because we have an enemy that tries to convince us of that. He wants to make it seem like everything in God that we can get, those things that will help us to be victorious, are basically unobtainable. He wants us to think that it is not available to the common person. The truth is that God makes all of His gifts available because He knows that we are all common people, people who need those gifts to be able to have victory. That is why He makes them available to us.

He knows what we need. So if you feel like you are weak, not special enough, not spiritual enough, not able at all to do what God wants you to do, then this is a major heads up. You are the one that He has sent those gifts to. He knows we can't do it on our own. That is why He gives us all the amazing gifts and tools to use. In the chapter coming up, we'll talk about those gifts and tools. In this chapter, let's talk about how the weak can become strong.

One of my favorite passages in the Bible talks about the kind of people that God wants to use. I have a Thompson Chain Study Bible. It is my favorite study Bible because it indexes a lot of spiritually sound information, it only uses Bible verses. It adds no added comments. It is just verses that are linked together in study topics. Also, it is from a Holy Ghost filled perspective and talks about the Baptism

of the Spirit and speaking in tongues. One of the topics in the study section is called God's Tool Chest. It lists this scripture in 1 Corinthians 1:26-29 which tells us the types of people that God wants to use.

See if any of these fit you. Here is the list of the qualities He is looking for: the foolish, the weak, the base, and the despised. Wow. That wasn't what you expected was it. Here is the scripture so you can take His Word for it instead of mine. "For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called: But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, *yea*, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are: That no flesh should glory in his presence."

Let me give you an illustration of this that the Lord showed me many years ago. I was singing for church at the time, and I felt like I couldn't do very well at that. God showed me a polished, professional singer who was hitting all the notes perfectly. He was all full of himself and what he could do. Then He showed me a little lady who couldn't carry a tune in a bucket, but when she got up to sing she prayed and asked the Lord to help her and to anoint her. She said, "Lord I am weak and I can't do this on my own. I want to be used for your glory to touch someone for you." And she got up and sang with all her heart. God anointed her with His Holy Ghost and she brought the house down so to speak. People were healed and saved and delivered through her singing. Which one was the better singer?

God can use us to do supernatural things if we stop concentrating on what we can or cannot do in the natural. What we can or cannot do has nothing to do with what God can use us to do through His Spirit that is working in and through us. Here is a key found in Galatians 2:20, "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me." We can't even live this thing on our own. We can't do a thing for God on our own that really makes a lasting impression on people's lives. But because He lives in us, through His Spirit we can do everything that He did and more.

If you don't believe it, here it is in His own Words. John 14:12-14 says so, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father. And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it." Then He goes on in verse 16 to tell us why can do those things and more. "And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you." How can we do these things He did? Because of the Spirit of God inside us that does those things.

I just want to add a little note here. I have worked on a lot of things that I have been doing for many years (close to 30 for most things I am doing). I can say that in the every day look at things, I couldn't see that I was doing anything

spectacular. Most times I felt like I wasn't doing enough and what I was doing wasn't working. I mainly blindly followed the Lord doing each day what I could do and relying on Him to guide me and use me. Now when I look at how it's grown, I am amazed.

The other day someone told me that they felt like they weren't doing much when compared to what I was doing. All I could think of was all those years that I thought that I wasn't doing anything important. But I was working on a building, working on an ongoing project and I could only see what I was doing at the time, not what was coming. When I felt totally discouraged and almost gave up, God would give me little glimpses of what was coming ahead and it would get me back going. Now I am living in the glimpses that He gave me that were coming in the future. Now I can look back and see that God was doing something amazing.

What is even more amazing, He is still giving me even greater glimpses of what it is coming ahead. That is how amazing He is. We will always have something greater to look forward to. Remember this when you say to yourself that you are not doing much. If you are obeying God, then remember that is a great thing, and one day you will see the whole picture and be amazed. Just be sure to obey Him in what seems like the small things, because those small things are building blocks that will come together to be something amazing that He has done in and through you.

Well now, after looking at all of this in this light, answer these questions. If you are God's child and you repent of your sin and receive His forgiveness, are you worthy enough to be used by God? Are you worthy of His

speaking to you and leading you? Are you worthy of this? Can God lead you and use you to do miraculous things? Does He want to do that? Are you able to have a real relationship with God or are you “perfect” enough to do that? (Remember He sent His Son to die so that you can do this.)

I want to close this chapter up with this thought. Can you depend on God to do this work in and through you? Here is the answer to that one. Know that He will finish in you the work that He started. Philippians 1:6 tells us, “Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ.” We just have to be sure that we don’t make it any harder than it is because that is what the devil does to discourage us. Just know that if you seek you will find, and if you make yourself available to God and yield to Him, He will do that work in and through you. Matthew 9:7-8, “Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.”

Chapter 2. **Gathering the Tools**

There are some things that will help you to be able to hear God's voice. I compare them to tools that you gather. Here is the list:

1. Hearing God's voice starts with salvation. I hear people all the time say that God told them this or that. I will ask them if they have been saved, if they possess salvation, and they don't even understand what I am talking about. I tune them out and I don't listen to what they are saying that God told them because I know that unless they are saved, they don't really know God and have a real relationship with Him. They aren't hearing God's voice. Either they are making it up or what they are really hearing is the devil's voice, and they think it is God's. That is such a dangerous place to live.

Everything that God has for His people is conditional to their accepting His Son, Jesus, as their Savior. John 14:6 says, "Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." We can only be saved if we accept that Jesus is God's Son and we repent of our sins, and seek His forgiveness. Then we ask Him into our heart, and through His Spirit He comes to live in us. Romans 10:9-10 tells us how to be saved, "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made

unto salvation. For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed.” That is the beginning of our relationship with God. That is where it all starts. When He comes into our heart, then we can hear His voice inside.

2. Get a real and right relationship with God. James 4:8 says, “Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you.....” God loves us so much that He sent His Son to die for us. If you seek Him and desire to draw close to Him, then He will do that. Matthew 7:7, “Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.” He desires to walk with you, and if you seek Him, you will find Him. God wants to be up close and personal with us. That is the most amazing thing to me. He created it all. He is over it all. But He wants to fellowship with each of us as individuals. He loves the whole world, and He walks with each one of us. Isn’t that amazing. He loves you and wants to walk and talk with you.

3. Get out of sin. Sin separates you from God. Premeditated sin that you choose over God will separate you from God. Isaiah 59:2 says, “But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid *his* face from you, that he will not hear.” If you willfully choose to continue to do things that God has convicted you of doing, then that sin will separate you from God. When you feel God’s conviction, it is important that without delay you repent of that sin, and that you ask forgiveness. Then know that God will forgive you and you need accept His forgiveness. Then you need to forgive yourself as well. Then you need to overcome that area with His help.

4. Fall in love with God, and let Him love you. John 17:20-23 tells us how much God and Jesus love us. This is part of the prayer that Jesus prayed before He was crucified. “Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me. And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one: I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me.” God sent His Son to die so that you could be one with Him even as Jesus is one with Him. He wants to love you that much. Seek His love and you will be awed at how amazing it is.

5. Yield to God. Good relationships are not one-sided, especially a relationship with God. To follow Him, to listen and obey Him, you have to yield to His will. This comes when through experience, you realize clearly that He knows what He is doing, and you don’t. He knows where you need to go, and you certainly do not. Every day He knows what you should do, and even though many times you think you know what is best, the longer you walk with Him, the clearer you see that you really don’t know. In Isaiah 55:9-10, God Himself makes the statement, “For my thoughts *are* not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.” When we realize this, it is much easier to yield to Him.

6. Learn to trust Him. Isaiah 41:10 says, “Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God:

I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.” We can trust Him. Sometimes we have to grow in our trust just like we do in any relationship. As we grow in our relationship with God, we will realize that we can trust Him. That will help us to yield and be willing to obey.

7. Be willing to walk in the Spirit and not in the flesh. God’s things are spiritual, not flesh centered. Most of the things in the world are flesh centered. If we spend all of our time being involved in flesh things instead of spiritual things, then we will miss out on the things that God is doing around you and in you. We have to look through spiritual eyes to see His things. How do we do that? When we yield to His Spirit and let His Spirit rule in our heart and mind and lives, then we walk in the Spirit instead of the flesh. To hear His voice is a Spiritual thing. He gives us what we need to obey Him in our Spirit.

8. Ask God for the Baptism of the Holy Ghost. It is the filling up of God’s Spirit. It is a gift that God gives us to empower us, to make us prayer warriors binding up the spirits of the devil that try to control. It is a gift that will make us bold enough to be able to stand up and make a difference. Acts 2:38-39 says, “Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.” Acts 4:31 says, “And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness.”

In many scriptures in the book of Acts, it was mentioned that the Baptism of the Holy Ghost enabled people to pray in tongues. We will talk about this more coming up, but it is a powerful prayer. It is a prayer that the Holy Ghost Himself prays in His language using your voice. It is a prayer that will move mountains, back up the devil, and cut lose those things that are bound up. If you want to learn more about the Baptism of the Holy Ghost, I have written a book titled *The Story of Acts and the Baptism of the Holy Ghost*. You can download this book free on my website at www.freechristianonlinebooks.com and on amazon.com.

9. Soak in God's Word. Read it, study it, live it. Make time for it. It can change you, your heart, your mind, and your life. It is definitely one of the main tools to help you be able to listen to the God's voice and obey. Isaiah 55:11 talks about how powerful God's Word is. "So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it."

10. If you have any trouble doing any of these things that I have talked about, know that God will help you do them. He works in you from the inside out, even when you don't realize that He is doing that work in you. He wants you to succeed in Him. He wants you to have victory in your life. He wants the best for you. Why did Jesus come? Here are His own words to answer that. John 10:10 says, "The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly." If you desire it and seek it, He will partner with you and do it in and through you.

Chapter 3. **Hearing God's Voice**

John 10:1-4 tells us in Jesus' Words, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber. But He that entereth in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him the porter openeth; and the sheep hear his voice: and he calleth his own sheep by name, and leadeth them out. And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him: for they know his voice."

To me, this scripture illustrates the personal relationship that Jesus has with His sheep. He laid down His life to be able to have that personal relationship with each one of us. You can know that He wants to speak to your heart. He wants to lead you by still waters. He wants to use you to reach out to others. Most of all He wants to fellowship with you. John 14:23 says, "Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him."

He has to be able to speak to you to do all of these things. (Here is just an added note to encourage you. God wants to fellowship with you. You can see it when you read of His future plans. Revelations 21:3-4 tells us what is coming ahead. "And I heard a loud voice from the throne, saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is among men, and He will dwell among them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself will be among them and He will wipe away every

tear from their eyes; and there will no longer be any death; there will no longer be any mourning, or crying, or pain; the first things have passed away.”)

How does He speak to us? I have known people that had God speak out loud to them. I have never had that experience. I think that I am glad of that. There are many other ways that God speaks to us.

1. The most important way that He speaks to us is through His Word. That is a key thing. Matter of fact, if you feel that God is speaking something to your heart and it is something that isn't in the Word of God, then you know it isn't God who is speaking to you. For example, I know a pastor who had a lady come up to him and told him that God told her that they were to be married. How did the pastor know this wasn't God's voice? He was already married. It was contrary to God's Word so he knew that it wasn't God who was speaking through her.

Sometimes I will be reading my Bible and it is like a certain part of it will light up and impact me in a great way. I know that God is using that scripture to speak something to me that I need to hear. Sometimes I will just open my Bible and a verse will jump off of the page into my heart. Sometimes it happens in this way. Maybe I am discouraged and an encouraging scripture will come up in my spirit and I know God has sent His Word to encourage me. God speaks to us mainly through His Word.

2. God speaks to us through other people. I have had people to tell me something that came from the Lord. I knew that it was something no one else would know unless God had told them. God can especially use little children. I

have had kids come up to me and say the most profound things, and I knew it had to be God that was using them. We have to be careful and have discernment. In other words we have to be able to know who is speaking to us letting God's Spirit use them, and who is speaking to us letting the devil's spirit use them.

3. One important way that He speaks to us is as a still, small voice in our spirit. I guess you could say that we hear Him in our heart. When I think of this, I think of the scripture in 1 Kings 19: 9-12. In this scripture Elijah was going through a really hard time and He desperately needed to hear from God. He was on a mountain. There was strong wind that broke the rocks and an earthquake, and a fire. All were really big noisy things. Then the Lord spoke to him in a still small voice. "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: And after the earthquake a fire; but the LORD was not in the fire: and after the fire a still small voice."

God doesn't always speak out in a big booming voice in our spirit. Sometime it is just a faint little impression. We may not even be aware in the natural that He has told us something. But our spiritual antenna will pick it up. The important thing is that we are conditioned to hear and obey. We do that by making ourselves available, by obeying. Also, God works in us to help us to do this if this is the desire of our hearts.

One key to hearing and obeying God's voice is to be able to sort out all the voices that are inside our head and heart.

One voice is our own voice, our own opinions and thoughts. Another voice is the voice of the devil. I don't mean to imply that we are demon possessed and have God's spirit inside of us. The Bible says that this can't be, because if we are saved, we have God's Spirit and the devil and God's Spirit can't inhabit the same place. The devil can't be in us, but he can talk to our heads. His is the voice that is telling you that you are nothing. That you can't ever be used by God. That you haven't ever done anything for God that meant anything. That you are defeated before you get started. He will also bring up every mistake that we have ever made in our lifetime and beat us over the head with them all. He also can tell you things that are not what God wants you to do to lead you in the wrong direction. He does this to keep you from doing the key thing that God wants you to do.

So with all those voices going on in your head, heart, and spirit, then how do you know which one is God's? When I was first starting to learn to hear God's voice, He showed me this picture in my mind that really helped me. We had an upstairs in our house. He showed me someone coming in downstairs, and I was upstairs. It was someone who was new to me, so when I first heard their voice, I didn't know who they were. Then they kept coming in and the more I heard their voice, the easier it got to recognize it. Hearing God's voice is the same way. The longer you know Him and the more you practice hearing Him, the easier it will be to know His voice. It will stand out to you. Just keep listening. Just keep desiring to hear Him.

I want to give you a heads up though. There were many times when I first started out on this journey when I thought it was the voice of God and it turned out not to be.

Even now that will happen, but not as often as before. Why? The devil is tricky and he knows how to push your buttons better than anyone to get you headed in a wrong direction. For example, I would hear a voice telling me to go to a certain place that someone would come that I was supposed to witness to. I would go there, and no one would show. When things like that would happen, I would get a defeated feeling and think to myself why am I trying to do this, I will never get the hang of this. Then I would come to myself and realize that the devil had just set me up to discourage me. The whole thing had been the devil trying to stop me from learning to hear God's voice. When we start learning to hear God's voice, the devil gets shook up because he knows what is coming. We are going to stomp his kingdom.

The devil will set you up if he can. For example, he will lead you into a situation where you can only fail, and beat you up because you failed. He is tricky that way. When he does this, realizing what happened will help you to be able to overcome him. God will show you. When you can see what the devil is doing, that is called discernment. God will help you discern what is happening. Then when you realize what he's done, run to God. Don't shrink away from Him in defeat. He loves you and will forgive you, and every mistake that you make will teach you and make you stronger and less vulnerable to satan's tricks.

The next step after hearing God's voice is obeying God's Word. We'll talk about that in the next chapter coming up.

Chapter 4

Obedience

I am reminded of two little choruses that we used to sing when we were in Sunday school. One has these lyrics. “Obedience is the very best way to show that you believe. Doing exactly what the Lord commands. Doing it happily. Action is the key do it obediently. And joy you will receive. Obedience is the very best way to show that you believe.” The way that we show our love to the Lord is by obeying Him. Where do I get this idea? John 14:23 is Jesus talking. “Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.” James 1:22 says, “ But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.” Matthew 7:21 says, “ Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.”

So we see how important it is to hear and obey God’s Word. In the introduction, I gave you some examples of how listening and doing what God said kept me alive and had me be in the right place at the right time to get a blessing. We talked about how it is important to get God’s guidance with the every day decisions that we have to make. So we already see how important it is to do what God speaks in your heart to do and to not delay at doing it.

I have learned the dangers of procrastinating, putting off doing what God told me to do. For example, do you remember the illustration I gave about how God spoke to me to get my floor mats. What if I had put that off for an

hour or two because how important could that be to do it right then. If you remember the account I told, if I had put it off that long, I would have been killed. When God tells you to do something, don't put it off. Treat it as the most important thing that you have to do, and don't delay. I can remember a time when God led me to witness to a neighbor. I let that intimidate me and put off doing so. In the meantime, he had a major heart attack and nearly died. You talk about doing some serious praying, I did. I knew that since I had disobeyed God, if he died, I would have his blood on my hands. It would be partly my fault that he went to hell.

I was very relieved when he recovered and came home. The day he came home, I went to see him. He told me that he had gotten saved when he was in the hospital. He had been more or less a soldier for hire. He told me had never gotten afraid of anything. But when he faced death and he was afraid for the first time, he came face to face with his need for God. God had answered my prayer. We can't put off the things that God tells us to do.

Here is another little chorus that is really short but has a big message. "I may never march in the infantry, Ride in the cavalry, Shoot the artillery. I may never fly over the enemy. But I'm in the Lord's army!" We are a part of God's army. Every one of us has something to do for God. Your part of the world will be very affected by your obedience to God. You have people to reach for God that no one else will be able to reach.

God will give you gifts and talents to use for Him. It may be the gift of compassion, or the gift of boldness to make a stand at a time when it is unpopular to make a stand. I

often think of this. We are all dismayed over what is going on in the world around us. Do you know why we are losing our freedom? This thing has been happening for a long time, but very few people did anything about it. We are losing our freedom because too few people put a priority on hearing God's voice and obeying Him. If we had heard the voice of God as a body of Christ and stood up when they tried to take prayer out of schools we would still have prayer in the schools. If we had stood up and obeyed God when they made abortion legal, they would have never have gotten that passed. God isn't a sissy. He will make His people bold. If you want to keep your freedom, now is the time to get filled up with God's Spirit and make a stand and do what He leads you to do.

Also, I think that for years we have relied on our pastors to do everything. We relied on them to study our Bible for us. We relied on them to do visitation and outreach. We relied on them to do our witnessing. We never stopped to think that it is the sheep that beget other sheep. It isn't the shepherds job to do that. It is way past time for each of us to bet busy obeying God. We don't have much time to waste.

Everywhere I go, I hear that people say they are waiting on the last day outpouring of God's Spirit. Everywhere I go I hear God's people waiting on a powerful last day revival. It isn't enough that we are waiting on these things, but we need to fill up with God's Spirit and obey Him and let Him use you to get things started where you are, where you live. God can use you in an amazingly powerful way if you just make yourself available and obey. It is time. Will you be sitting down wishing you had done more when the Lord comes back, or will you hear Him say the words

found in Matthew 25:23, “ Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.”

Be mindful that if God tells you to do something, then you will be able to do it even if you don't have the ability to do it in the natural. God specializes in helping us to do supernatural things. Let me give an illustration of that. I remember when God told me to help start our Christian school. I couldn't do it. I knew that I didn't have what it took to do it. I was honest about that. I told God that I couldn't do that. I will never forget His answer and when you hear it you will know why I won't forget it. He answered me by saying, “I created the heavens and the earth. How dare you tell me that you can't do the thing that I have ordained and appointed you to do.” So I shut up and did what I told me to do. I was able to do it, and have done it faithfully for over 30 years. The school still stands. When I think of how it is still standing, I remember what God can do through us when He appoints and anoints us. Just be willing, and give it your all, and He will use you and enable you to do what He has for you to do.

Philippians 4:13 says it well, “I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.” Here are some more verses to remember. Paul said in Colossians 1:27-29, “To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory: Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus: Whereunto I also labour, striving according to his working, which worketh in me mightily. Colossians 3:23-24 says, “And whatsoever ye

do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men; Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ” Galatians 6:9-10 says, “ And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all *men*, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.”

One thing we have to remember when we are obeying the Lord, we have to do what He tells us to do then give the results of our labor to Him. There have been many, many, many times that I have not seen the results of my labor. I have learned to do what He tells me then give the results of it all to His hands. When I plant seeds in my garden, I will eventually see my seeds come up. But when we plant the seeds God tells us to sow, we may not see those seeds come up, even though they do.

Let me give you an illustration. I witness to a lot of people. I may not see the fruit of the seeds I sow, because they may come up when I sow them, or they may come up years later. That person may not be a part of my life when the seeds I planted come up. I have to give the harvest to the Lord, and not be discouraged just because I may not see the results of what I did.

In this scripture, Paul illustrates this. Corinthians 3:5-8 says, “Who then is Paul, and who is Apollos, but ministers by whom ye believed, even as the Lord gave to every man? I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase. So then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase. Now he that planteth and he that watereth are one: and every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labour.” We have to obey God, but we have to realize that He is the one

that will complete every work we started. We have to know in our hearts that when we plant seeds, those seeds are going to come up. Here is also something that we have seen through the years. Our church's visitation program would witness in a certain area. We might not have had people to respond in that area we visited, but God would bless our labor by sending people from another area. God will bless and honor your labor, and your obedience.

Here is my prayer and it was a prayer that Jesus spoke found in Matthew 9:36-38, "But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd. Then saith he unto his disciples, The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few. Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth laborers into his harvest."

Have the Lord's compassion on those around you who are dying without hope. Those who are in desperation and who are wandering around in this crazy mixed up world in darkness. You have the light that they need. Reach out to them with the light that is in you. That light is Christ in you. Reach out to them through the power of His Spirit and change their world. Listen and obey.

To close this chapter, I want to say this prayer for you found in Hebrews 13:20-21, "Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Chapter 5. Love Is the Key

There is an important key to be able to unlock obedience. It also unlocks your ability to hear God's voice. That key is a number one key to unlock being able to do supernatural things for God. It is a number one key to unlock the gifts of the Spirit. 1 Corinthians 16:14 says, "Let all your things be done with charity (with love)." Here is a good illustration of this that the Lord gave me nearly a year ago. To me it illustrates the motive that we need to have for all we do, as well as the qualities that God anoints and can use. I have put it below:

My messengers will carry this tide of my anointing that will sweep the world. Many have been tending the seed getting it ready for the last day's harvest. Humbly, quietly working in their part of the world. The veil is getting ready to be pulled back. A huge wave of God's anointing covering the world. Elijah's last day anointing. God is giving us a window of time for this. Jesus said in John 14:12, " Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father."

There are people who are chosen to carry a part of this last day anointing. You will know them by a great love for them, and by their great love for others and love of God and God's things. Some quiet voices, some loud voices but one as powerful a voice as the other. All ages. Some very young and some very old. I am reminded of Simeon and Anna who God let live until they could see God's promise fulfilled.

They will have powerful prayers and anointing. It won't be evident to all, many of them will be in a quiet way. They will submit to God and have a huge respect and love for one another, and act as one in unity. They will be marked with scars of things they've been through where the enemy has tried to destroy them emotionally, mentally, and physically even trying to take their life. They will have a great respect for God's Word and for the truth. They will be childlike. They will know the truth. They won't be perfect but honest.

I have talked to several people who I believe will be key people in this last day revival. Every one of them has told me that God has been working on growing them in the area of love and compassion. Now let me clarify this. There is a fake love that the church has had for a long time. It is characterize by people saying, "Oh everyone needs to love and accept everyone else no matter what their life style is, no matter what they are doing." A more truthful way of saying that (and by doing this you will see this isn't love at all). "We love everyone. Come be at church with us. We will look at you in the middle of the despair that your lifestyle has brought you, in the middle of the mess this has created in your life, and we will accept you and do nothing to help you. We won't be bothered with trying to help you to find God's love for real and the deliverance that you can find through His love, His power, through His Spirit and His Word.

We won't bother to seek God's truth and righteousness so that His anointing is in our midst so that you can be saved. We will do nothing to help you be set free because we love you. We won't allow God's conviction to show you that what you are doing is wrong. We won't allow you to have

to repent because we don't want to make you feel sad. We won't worry about the fact that if you never find the joy of forgiveness and the power to change you will spend eternity in hell. We won't bother you with all that." Isn't that really what the world's cheap love says. Praise God, He doesn't do that way. His people don't do it that way either. Godly love demands much more than that.

So what is God's love like. Let's look at it at creation. Genesis 1:26 says, "And God said, Let us make man in our image..." Who was the "we" in this verse? Lets go to John 1:1-5 and 9-13 to answer that. "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not. *That* was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God."

Jesus was there at creation. He was part of the "we". God sees all things through time. When He created the world and man, He knew that sending Jesus to die was part of the price that would have to be paid for that creation. Still He made us. That is the kind of love that He has. We don't deserve that love. We can't earn it. But still He loves us. That is a huge, amazing love. So what we do works in the

framework of that great love. Every interaction that we have with our brothers and sisters in God's family need to reflect that great love. Every interaction we have with those we are witnessing to and working with that are outside of the body needs to reflect that love as well. Every time we reach out it needs to be with that precious love that He has for them.

I believe that is why love is the key to unlock the gifts of God. 1 Corinthians 12:4-26 talks about these gifts. "Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all. But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal. For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues: But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will."

These are the gifts that God uses in His body and they work outside of His body. By that I mean they will operate when you go outside of the church to minister. God will give you gifts and talents to use in His body. The key to unlocking them is God's love for His body and His love for those outside of your church door.

The body of Christ is precious. I want to remind you that the body of Christ is not just your local church. We have to see the bride of Christ as it is. The body of Christ is

way bigger than your local church and we need to change our focus to reflect that. This passage in 1 Corinthians continues to give us a picture of the body of Christ. You can see that the love of God is the glue that holds this body together worldwide. The guidance of God's Spirit enables it to work as one unit, one body, one army. That is what is so amazing. " For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ. For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether *we be* Jews or Gentiles, whether be be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit. For the body is not one member, but many. If the foot shall say, Because I am not the hand, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? And if the ear shall say, Because I am not the eye, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? If the whole body were an eye, where were the hearing? If the whole *were* hearing, where *were* the smelling? But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him. And if they were all one member, where were the body? But now are they many members, yet but one body. And the eye cannot say unto the hand, I have no need of thee: nor again the head to the feet, I have no need of you. Nay, much more those members of the body, which seem to be more feeble, are necessary: And those members of the body, which we think to be less honourable, upon these we bestow more abundant honour; and our uncomely parts have more abundant comeliness. For our comely parts have no need: but God hath tempered the body together, having given more abundant honour to that part which lacked: That there should be no schism in the body; but that the members should have the same care one for another. And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honoured, all

the members rejoice with it.” That is a picture of God’s love operating in His bride, His body, the church.

1 Corinthians 14 talks more about this love. When you read this passage keep in mind that charity means love. “Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed *the poor*, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing.

Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil; Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth; Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things. Charity never faileth: but whether there be prophecies, they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away. For we know in part, and we prophesy in part. But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away. When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things. For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known. And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity.”

As I mentioned before, we are not to stay stuck in our church. It is so wrong when we fail to reach out to those who are outside the doors. This parable that Jesus told

bears this out. It is found in Luke 14:16-23 “Then said he unto him, A certain man made a great supper, and bade many: And sent his servant at supper time to say to them that were bidden, Come; for all things are now ready. And they all with one content began to make excuse. The first said unto him, I have bought a piece of ground, and I must needs go and see it: I pray thee have me excused. And another said, I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to prove them: I pray thee have me excused. And another said, I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come. So that servant came, and shewed his lord these things. Then the master of the house being angry said to his servant, Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in hither the poor, and the maimed, and the halt, and the blind. And the servant said, Lord, it is done as thou hast commanded, and yet there is room. And the lord said unto the servant, Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled.”

If there has ever been a time when we need to take this parable to heart, it is now. There are people who are giving up in despair because they see no hope, no light, and no love. They need a Savior. You can introduce them to Him. Let God use you to give light in the middle of this darkness, and hope in the middle of this crazy mixed up world. We are praying for a revival. Do more than just pray. Listen to the voice of God and obey Him. Be His hands extended to this lost and dying world. Be His love extended to them. We don't have much time to work. We know that He is coming soon. Be about God's business. Don't neglect the things that are most important because you don't have time for them.

Chapter 6.

Another Key-Yielding

When I was a kid, I was so hard headed. I remember my mom telling me that if there was no one to argue with, I would go out and argue with a fence post. She was right sad to say. I was definitely not a person who yielded. I had such a rebellious spirit that often when someone told me to do something I would do the opposite and not even know why. When I was in my mid twenties, I met Bishop Goad and started traveling in his tent crusades. I can honestly say that God used Bishop Goad to break that old rebellious spirit off of me. If he hadn't, I really don't know if I would still be alive. I am saying this to say that I know the pain of being hard headed, and how important it is to yield to God.

When I got delivered, I actually was afraid not to yield, because I knew where that had taken me. I had paid a huge price from not yielding. If we don't yield to God, if we want our own way above all, if we aren't willing to give in, then we will never be obedient. If we aren't, then we will just be a shadow of what we can be when we yield and obey God. If we don't yield, then we will never be able to do the supernatural things that God wants to use His children to do in these last days.

One of the things that helped me to be able to yield the most was knowing God's precious love for me. I had been saved when I was middle school age, but I left serving God. When I went to college, I experienced it all, most of it bad. All of that left me with a lot of scars, and those scars made my rebellion worse. I didn't trust anybody enough to submit to them, and there was a lot of sin that had separated me from God. I can remember how God broke

through that. He showed me His hands and the scars that were there from the nails. They were so real that I could almost see them with my eyes. I will never forget what He told me. "I did this for you." I knew that He died for the whole world, but I had never got a grip on the knowledge that He did it for me. If you had been the only one, Christ would have died for you. Not for your good things about you, but for your mistakes, your failures, and your sin. You didn't deserve it, but still He died.

When I really got hold of that, I began to be able to yield. Still there are some times when I get hard headed. The other day I was having a conversation with the Lord. I told Him, "I have finally got it. This thing that you have been trying to put in me, I have finally got it. It has taken over 30 years, but I have got it." Sad to say, that is a true story. But as a whole, I have learned to yield. God has really helped me with that.

When you yield to God and that becomes a part of who you are, then He can lead you to do something and you may not even realize that you have listened and obeyed. At our Christian school, I have a presentation that I go over with kids about how science can prove the Bible right. (Just an added little note in here. One thing illustrating this is that when scientists analyze our bodies they find 28 base and trace elements that are found in dirt. Scientists actually prove creation.) I was going over this presentation with a student and her mother. I don't even know what I said, but God used what I said in a mighty way. The next time I saw the girl's mother, she told me that I had led her to the Lord and she had gotten saved a few days later because of what I had said. I still have no idea what it was. It didn't really matter whether or not I knew what I was doing, but it

mattered that God knew. I can say that most of the things I do, I don't find out how God used them until later. I am sure that there are many things I do that I never see how they turn out, and never know how my yielding to God was used by Him. When we yield and obey His leading, it really doesn't matter if we know the end results. They happen all the same.

So if you have trouble yielding, ask God to help you. He can prune you. He can cut out the parts that need to go. We are a work in progress. There is a little song we sing with the kids, "Jesus on the inside, working on the outside, bringing forth a change in my life." God will work on the inside of us if we yield to Him. John 15:1-2 says, "'I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman. Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit.'" I was talking to a girl and she said, "I feel like a stump." I asked what in the world she meant by that. She answered, "God has been pruning me. I feel like He has cut off so much stuff that I feel like all I have left is the stump."

I have been through times like that. It felt like I was literally on the chopping block and God was using things that were happening in my life to chop out all the bad. Pruning hurts. Pruning doesn't come from the good times. Pruning comes when we go through the fire and all the bad stuff is burned out of us. Malachi 3:3 says, "And he shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver: and he shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the LORD an offering in righteousness." He can deliver you from rebellion and stubbornness and dig

those out and burn those right out of you. How do I
know? Because I know what He did for me.

Closing

I want to close by reminding you that if you have read things in this book that have made you hungry for more, then let God know how you feel. Let Him know that you want more, that you want to possess more and to do more. Seek Him. Remember this scripture. Philippians 1:6 tells us, "Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ."

John 15:1-5 tells us how to have fruit. It tells you how to let God use you so that you make a difference. We talked in the last chapter about part of this scripture, but I want to go on to add more. "I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman. Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit. Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you. Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me. I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing." Yield to Him and let Him abide in you. Abide in Him. Abide means to live. Yield and listen and hear and obey. He will use you to do great and mighty things. In other words, abide in Him.

Also, be sure to remember that if you seek you will find, and if you make yourself available to God and yield to Him, He will do that work in and through you. Matthew 9:7-8, "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to

him that knocketh it shall be opened.” Seek and you will find. Seek after hearing God’s voice and becoming more obedient. Grab hold onto all that God has for you and go out and change your world.