**2015 HEALING CONVENTION**

**SEMINAR BY PASTOR (MRS.) MARY ELIAS**

**TOPIC: HOW TO RECEIVE THE SPIRIT OF SONSHIP**

**TEXT: ROMANS CHAPTER 8:1-**

First and foremost, what is Sonship? The mutual understanding between son and the father guarantees him the right to sonship.

What is the spirit of sonship? The Spirit of sonship is a season of grace which brings about the spiritual maturity of the believer, the revival of Apostolic Christianity, and ultimately, the maturity of the church in preparation for the coming of Christ.

God predestined us for sonship to bear the family likeness. “God predestined us for sonship”. Our destiny from before the creation of the world was to become the children of God.

“As long as the heir is a child, he does not differ at all from a slave although he is the owner of everything, but he is under guardians and managers until the set date by the father. So also we, while we were children, were held in bondage under the elemental things of the world. But when the fullness of the time came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, so that He might redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons. Because you are sons, God has sent forth the spirit of His son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” therefore, you are no longer a slave, but a son; the heir apparent; and if a son, then an heir through God.

The content here is how to “receive the spirit of sonship”, receiving the spirit of sonship is through placing our faith in Jesus Christ and His finished work on the cross for our sins. When we place our trust in Jesus and the sacrifice that He made, we are free from living in fear of being under the judgment of God. We do not have to worry about being under His wrath if we sin not. The opposite of the spirit of sonship is also mentioned in the verse. It is the spirit that makes us a slave again to fear. If you read the beginning of Romans 8, you will see that the spirit that makes us a slave to fear is the whole of the law due to the fact that our bodies are so prone to sin (I know my body is certainly prone to sin). So basically, before Jesus, the only way that we were able to live without fearing the judgment and wrath of God was by following God’s laws completely. We are just too sinful and that is why Jesus came so that through His perfect fulfillment of the law, as we place our trust in Him.

God can see us as righteous …as if we too have fulfilled the law. Therefore, through putting our faith in Jesus, we are given the spirit of sonship. We are no longer bound by the law. We are set free by His grace. Our relationship immediately moves from fear to freedom.