

Sharing Your Faith & Testimony



S.Alfred Cherubim

Sharing Your Faith

&
Testimony

Pastor S. Alfred Cherubim

*This book is dedicated to glorify God
For His grace and mercies provided for me to serve
Him these 40 long years.*

Redeemer Christ Assembly
Brampton

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INTRODUCTION

Meet Pastor Alfred Cherubim, a Sri Lankan now living in Canada. His life is a testimony to the incredible power of faith as he experienced miraculous encounters with Jesus Christ. These encounters changed his life and inspired a mission to share the message of Jesus with the world.

In the pages ahead, you'll journey through continents and cultures. Through the story of Pastor Cherubim and his family, you'll witness the incredible impact of saving faith and the enduring message of Christ's love. This book isn't just about one man's extraordinary experiences; it's an invitation to explore the timeless truths of the Gospel.

Once we personally meet the Savior, we're never again the same. We cannot keep it quiet. And in today's world, sharing our testimony about Jesus Christ is more important than ever. Testimonies show how faith can transform lives. It's not just storytelling; it's a powerful act. It invites others to witness the life-changing power of Christ, find joy in salvation, and start their own spiritual journeys.

Testify & Glorify

Our Testimony

I was born in Jaffna, Sri Lanka, to Philip Devasagayam Savarimuttu and Mary Ann. I attended St. Patrick's College in Jaffna and later worked as an Agricultural Instructor in the Department of Agriculture. After leaving government service, I joined the National Council of the YMCAs of Sri Lanka as the Director of the Youth Training Centre in Paranthan. In 1981, I became the Associate National General Secretary of the National YMCA in Colombo, Sri Lanka.

While I was serving in Paranthan, my wife became seriously ill and fell into a coma. She spent nearly three months in Jaffna Hospital under the care of a team of three doctors from the Medical Faculty. Despite their best efforts, they were unable to improve her condition, and her health continued to deteriorate. After conducting examinations, the doctors advised me to take her home because no further treatment could help, and they believed she had only two weeks left to live.

Doctors & Medicines Failed

During that period, we brought her home, expecting her to pass away soon. It was during these difficult days that Pastor Santhanapillai from the Church of Prayer in Paranthan came and shared the message of God's love and the miraculous power of Jesus with me.

Although I was a Christian, my understanding of God was distant, not personal. During this time, another

three months passed, but there was no improvement in her health while we kept her at home.

During this time, Evangelist Bro. S. Rajandram from Jesus Lives Ministry in Colombo was conducting a healing crusade in our town. Pastor Santhanapillai suggested bringing him to pray for my wife's healing. Initially, I was reluctant because I wanted only our church members involved due to our traditions and faith rituals. However, I agreed thanks to Pastor Santhanapillai's love and insistence.

Again, I was unwilling to provide them transportation in my car. Instead, I arranged for my official vehicle and driver, as I lacked faith and didn't hold much regard for them or believe in their prayers. My loyalty was more towards the church and its hierarchy than towards God. On that day, these servants of God eventually came to my house on their own. They prayed for my wife with tears and a heavy heart for a few minutes, offered me comfort, and then left.

Jesus Never Fails

What a wonder! Immediately after they left, within just minutes, my wife, who had been unconscious in a coma for nearly six months, miraculously woke up, completely normal, and resumed her usual household tasks on the same day. God answered the fervent prayer of His servant and instantly healed my wife.

Again, I was thrilled by the healing but had no curiosity about the Healer. I didn't even think to call and thank the Evangelist or the Pastor who had prayed for my wife; my heart was hard. However,

Jesus showed His love by performing three more powerful miracles in our family, one after the other.

Six months after my wife's healing, I suffered a heart attack. I underwent treatment, which included dietary restrictions and light work, along with regular check-ups with a cardiologist. About nine months after my wife's recovery, the same evangelist organized another healing crusade in our town. This time, I made the choice to attend one of their meetings to see what was happening there.

The meeting was held in a school hall with more than three hundred attendees. As the evening grew darker, I entered the hall cautiously and positioned myself at the back rows, trying to avoid being noticed because I didn't want my fellow church members to know I was at such an event. I was more concerned about people seeing me than realizing that God was watching over me.

Prophecy and Healing

During the meeting, the evangelist preached about healing from the Word of God. I was more interested in observing what would happen than in his message. After the sermon, he started prophesying, accurately describing the health issues of several people. Eventually, he turned to me and gave a detailed prophecy about my heart attack and even described the clothes I was wearing, making it clear that the message was for me.

He then invited those to whom he had prophesied to come forward for prayers. All seven or eight people

stepped forward, but I held back, feeling shy and not wanting to be in front of such a crowd. Deep down, though, I knew that God had called me through His servant. I now had faith that the same God who had miraculously lifted my wife from her death bed could also heal me.

In my heart, I prayed, "Lord Jesus, I believe you called me. I know you can heal me now. Please forgive me for not coming forward and my unfamiliarity with these types of prayer meetings..." Then the Brother on stage began to pray for all the sick individuals present. At that moment, I felt an electric shock pass through my entire body, a heaviness lift from my chest, and an overwhelming sense of joy and happiness that I had never experienced before in my life. I knew I was instantly healed. What a glorious experience! The power of God touched me like lightning!

People who were healed were asked to go on stage and share their testimonies to praise God. Many of them walked up and began talking about their healing experiences.

Once again, I chose not to step forward and give my testimony to glorify God. Instead, I walked out and went home. I was happy with my healing and didn't feel the need to acknowledge the Healer, Jesus.

Ten lepers came to Jesus, and they were cured of their leprosy. However, only one of them returned to Jesus to give glory to God, while the other nine left after being healed, without returning to give thanks.

Similarly, I was like one of those nine lepers; I received my healing and went away without acknowledging or praising God.

I returned to my regular worldly life, keeping our healing experience a secret, even from the evangelist who prayed for us. What a stony, hard-hearted man I was. My heart had grown hard because I was determined to stick to my traditions and rituals, avoiding outside influences.

During this time, I received a promotion at the YMCA and became the Deputy National General Secretary, working at the Colombo National Office. I was more interested in my position and worldly recognition than on knowing God or growing in my spiritual life.

Another Miracle

Our good Lord did not forsake me despite my unfaithfulness. He had a plan to draw my family closer to Him and performed another miracle. This time, it was my youngest daughter, who was five years old at the time, suffering from severe eczema and sores covering her body from her hips to her toes. There wasn't a single spot on her body without sores. She endured immense pain, had sleepless nights, cried most of the time, and remained restless throughout the day.

Again, we tried the best medications and consulted multiple doctors, even exploring local native treatments. All these failed and nearly three months

passed without any trace of improvement. My daughter missed her schooling and studies during this time. That's when I thought of the evangelist who had prayed for my wife and me and decided to seek his prayers for my daughter's healing.

Since the servant of God lived in Colombo City, where we also resided, I called him and asked him to come and pray for my child. This humble servant of God promptly agreed and arrived at our home within hours. He saw my daughter's condition, comforted us with the Word of God, anointed her with oil, and encouraged us to continue praying for her.

Having witnessed the miraculous power of prayer in both my wife and me, we had faith that Jesus, who had healed us, could also cure our daughter through fervent prayers. So, we stopped her medication and began praying, using oil in the name of Jesus. From the first day, we noticed improvement, and within ten days, she was completely healed.

Praise God! Medicines and doctors failed, but Jesus never did. We were so happy, and as our daughter returned to school, everything seemed fine. However, there was no change in my heart. I remained the same, unfaithful, and only concerned about our healing and well-being. I failed to express gratitude to God for His mighty miracles or to the person who came to our home and prayed earnestly for our healing.

Compassionate God

God, in His great mercy, had compassion on my

family and me. He extended His loving hand to perform His fourth miracle for someone like me, who lacked faith.

This time, my eldest daughter, who was fifteen years old at the time, fell ill with chronic rheumatic paralysis. She had swelling in all her joints from her neck to her feet, rendering her unable to walk. She suffered severe pain and remained bedridden for two and a half months. We sought the best treatment in Colombo City through my YMCA contacts, but despite taking 25 to 30 painkiller tablets daily, her health didn't improve.

Apart from our daughter's physical suffering, as parents, we endured significant mental stress and strain watching our growing child confined to a bed for days with no improvement despite all the medication. At this point, I had no choice but to reach out to the same servant of God who had prayed for me, my wife, and our youngest daughter. I sought his prayers for the healing of our eldest daughter, as all other treatments had failed, and she couldn't bear the rheumatic pains any longer.

On the evening of December 24th (Christmas Eve), I called the same evangelist Brother to come and pray for our daughter. He arrived, prayed with deep devotion, and left. What a marvelous move of God! Shortly after he left, our daughter, who had been bedridden for almost three months, miraculously jumped out of bed and started walking and running as if she had never been sick.

Opened My Heart to Jesus

Oh, we couldn't believe our eyes at first, but it was real! It was at that moment my heart was deeply moved, and with tears, I asked God for forgiveness for my unfaithfulness. I also wanted to learn more about this Healer. On the same night, my wife, children, and I went to the worship place of this servant of God, which was his house at the time. We attended the midnight Christmas service and, for the first time in our lives, shared our testimony of all the miracles that God had performed for us through the prayers of this servant of God.

On December 24th, 1980, at midnight, my wife and I accepted Jesus as our personal Savior.

What a joyful experience it was to come to know our Lord in a personal way! I realized how hard-hearted I had been. However, our good Lord performed four mighty and wonderful miracles in me and my family, which softened my stony heart and allowed me to discover the tender heart of Jesus.

All of this happened within a year, and after these experiences, we committed our lives to Jesus, got baptized, and began attending a church in Colombo. There, we focused ourselves on studying God's Word, spent time in fasting and prayer, joined Vigil night prayer meetings, participated in foot-washing ceremonies, helped with evangelical meetings and crusades, and took part in various ministry activities. During this time, I received a powerful anointing from the Holy Spirit, which gave me wisdom to understand

the Bible and revealed important truths. This strengthened my faith to totally surrender my life to serve Him.

First Sermon on Job

Three glorious years passed as a born-again Christian, growing in faith and favor with God. During this time, Brother Rajandram, the founder of "Jesus Lives Ministry," where my entire family and I attended as regular members, asked me to preach on a specific Sunday. He was leaving for an evangelical mission in India and trusted me as an elder of his church. At first, I hesitated and felt unworthy to stand and preach at his pulpit, where God had used him mightily to perform miracles and preach the Word with authority and power. However, as a humble servant, he reminded me that God can use anyone for His glory if we fully completely submit our lives into His mighty hands. After praying and entrusting me with the responsibility to preach that particular Sunday, he left for India.

Taking on the responsibility to preach, I dedicated several days to fasting and prayer, seeking God's guidance and strength for the task ahead. The Holy Spirit clearly and powerfully directed me to speak from the Book of Job. That entire week, I spent hours on my knees studying Job's life, taking notes, and preparing for my first-ever sermon. It was a significant moment for me, especially since I was preaching in a Spirit-filled church where the miraculous power of God was a common experience for those attending every service.

It was Sunday, July 24th, 1983, the appointed day for my first sermon. On that day, I attended church with my wife and three children. After the worship and sharing time, I stood up to preach for the first time. I spoke about the life of Job and encouraged everyone present to be like him, always thanking God no matter the circumstances, whether in times of gain or loss.

As Job said in 1:21, "Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked shall I return there. The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; Blessed be the name of the Lord" (NASB). I repeated these words and emphasized to the congregation that even if we lose everything in our lives, we must still maintain our trust in God and depend on Him, just as Job did when he said, "Though He slay me, yet will I trust Him." (NKJV) I also added that the same God who blessed Job with twice as much as he had before would also bless us when we completely and fully trust in Him.

Became like Job

I preached about Job on Sunday, and the very next day, Sri Lanka experienced its worst ethnic riots. The conflict between the Sri Lankan Government and the Tamil movement, seeking the rights of the minority Tamils, escalated that day, resulting in the largest riots the country had ever witnessed. Hundreds and thousands of Tamils were killed and tortured. Vehicles, houses, shops, factories, and all possessions belonging to Tamil people living in Sinhalese areas were burnt down. I too became a victim of this riot when our house and all our belongings were burnt to ashes on that fateful day.

On that Monday, the government imposed a curfew throughout the entire country. I had to leave the office, and my children rushed back from school. We were all confined to our home, behind closed doors, not knowing what was happening outside. Our only weapons for protection were PRAYER and the WORD OF GOD. We had our Bibles with us and were reading and meditating. It was around 5:00 pm. My sister's family and my niece's family, who lived in the adjoining annex of our house, joined us to stay together during this calamity. We knelt down and began to pray. I prayed, submitting everyone into God's hands for our safety and protection. Shortly after we finished praying, we heard the sound of breaking glass and people shouting from our neighbor's house. We rushed to one of our washrooms in the bedroom to hide for safety. Within minutes, a mob broke down our doors and entered our house.

There were a total of thirteen of us, including children, hiding in that washroom and praying. The mob that entered our house, numbering about 10-12 people as we could tell from their voices, ransacked our home for nearly two hours. They broke doors, windows, TVs, the fridge, chairs, tables, and more. Eventually, they reached the room where we were hiding. First, they searched that room and attempted to enter the washroom. However, since it was latched from the inside, they couldn't open it. They resorted to smashing that simple door with an iron bar several times, but it remained intact. Alas! What a wonder! This was the moment we witnessed and experienced

the mighty power of God literally protecting us from danger.

God lifted us from Fire

After causing all possible damage to our house and belongings, the mob assumed that there were no people inside and left. After two hours of fearful threats and violence, the house fell into silence. We thought the worst was over. However, we soon saw bombs being thrown from the road, and our sitting hall caught fire. We rushed out of the house through a rear door into the courtyard, not knowing what to do. Behind us, the entire house was now fully engulfed in flames. Our only escape seemed to be over an eleven-foot parapet wall that separated our property from our neighbor's. But it was too high to jump, and the wall was narrow, only about a foot and a half wide and made of plastered brick. The fire was getting closer to us, just a few feet away.

In this crucial moment, when everyone around was shaken and frightened, God granted me an unknown strength and courage. I felt no fear at that particular moment. With the Bible in my hand (which I had taken to the washroom for protection), I struck the parapet wall, declaring, "In the Name of Jesus, I break this wall." Miraculously, the entire wall, just above our hip level, fell onto the other side, allowing us to cross over to our neighbor's property and escape from the burning fire. It was yet another powerful display of God's protection that we saw and experienced right before our eyes.

"For by you I can run against a troop. And by my God I can leap over a wall."-- Psalm 18:29 (ESV)

Throughout that night, we stayed at our loving neighbor's house, who helped us in various ways. However, in the early hours after midnight, the government army and the mob started searching houses one by one, seeking Tamil individuals sheltered by friendly Sinhalese families. If found, they were killed. Fortunately, our neighbor had informed the police of our situation and advised us to return to our burnt house, where we could hide among the debris on our land, avoiding the army and the violent mob.

Miraculous Ladder

In the early hours of the following morning, we wanted to return to our land across the broken wall. This required some climbing because our neighbor's land was lower than ours. We began organizing a way to climb the wall, especially for the women and children. To our surprise, we discovered a brand new bamboo ladder placed near the wall. Our neighbor friend didn't own such a ladder, and it was completely new. Additionally, it was the exact height needed to reach the broken wall. Without any difficulty, we used the ladder to reach our land until the police arrived to escort us to the police station for our safety that early morning.

What a mighty God we serve! He is our provider, and He miraculously provided us with a ladder seemingly out of nowhere. This was yet another powerful

demonstration of our good Lord's protection by supplying our immediate need – a ladder.

On that day, every police station was overwhelmed with affected Tamils, and the government established refugee camps to accommodate them. Like many others, we were taken to one of these refugee camps, which quickly filled up with nearly ten thousand people from the surrounding areas shortly after our arrival.

The Lord Gave, the Lord has Taken

At the camp, the first thing I did was to take my wife and three children aside and kneel down in prayer. I thanked God for all the protection He had provided us and quoted Job 1:21, **"Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked shall I return there. The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; Blessed be the name of the Lord."** (NASB) I also made a promise to God that because He had performed mighty wonders and miracles for me, my wife, and children, I would share our testimonies with tears for His glory wherever I had the opportunity.

We had to stay in the refugee camp for approximately two weeks, where we sat and slept on the floor. We had lost everything we owned in our lives, except for the clothes on our backs and my English Bible that I had taken with me when I rushed to the washroom for protection.

My wife had left her Tamil Bible in the washroom

where we hid while escaping our burning house. She was able to recover her Bible after two and a half months because the washroom was untouched by the fire. We were left with only our Bibles, which we saw as a sign to go and share the Word of God. I began my witness within the camp itself.

Starting my Evangelical Ministry

On Sunday, July 24th, 1983, I preached about Job. The very next day, Monday, July 25th, I experienced a situation similar to Job's. By Tuesday, July 26th, we were in a refugee camp, and it was there that I began my evangelistic ministry following my first Spirit-guided sermon on "JOB."

In 1984, we settled in Jaffna for a while since Colombo wasn't safe, and our children were scared after witnessing our house and belongings being burnt down. However, staying in Jaffna became increasingly challenging due to the ongoing turmoil in the country. Even the Tamil homeland was not secure due to the army's atrocities. Reluctantly, we had no choice but to leave Sri Lanka and seek refuge in India.

The Indian YMCA welcomed us, and I was appointed as a full-fledged Secretary in Hyderabad/Secunderabad YMCA in Andhra Pradesh. While serving the YMCA, I continued my evangelical ministry for the three years we lived there. I visited many villages, testifying about the miracles that God had performed in our lives, and preaching the Word of God. As a result of this effort, twelve people accepted

Jesus as their personal Savior and were baptized. Two of these individuals, who had experienced the miraculous power of God during that time, are now full-time pastors who have established churches in the area, and God is using them mightily. I thank God and praise Him for His mercies.

While in India, God promoted me to become one of the National YMCA Executive Secretaries. Unusually, I was placed in the New Delhi National Office as the head of two departments. This position allowed me to travel officially to various parts of India, where I was able to share my testimony and preach during weekends and off-hours. Normally, as a non-citizen, I wouldn't have held such an executive role in the Indian YMCA movement. However, in His own way, God removed all obstacles, and I was included in the National Cadre of Secretaries, approved by the National Board of the Indian YMCA, making history for His glory. I cannot explain how it all happened, but I only know that "With God, anything is possible."
(Matthew 19:26, NASB)

Starting the Children's Home and Church

In 1990, we returned to Sri Lanka and settled in Trincomalee. There, I established a children's home called "**COME HOME**," which stands for "**C**hildren **O**ut of **M**otherly **E**mbrace – **H**ope **O**ffered with **M**aternal **E**nfold."

This home was created for children who had lost their parents during the riots. We cared for fifty-three boys

aged four to twelve, raising them alongside our own three children. We provided them with education and nurtured them in the fear of God. During this time, I also founded the "Jesus Lives Prayer Fellowship" church, and through this ministry, we reached out to many souls. As a result of our ministry and the children's home, three children from our care have become pastors, serving the Lord in Trincomalee today. What a mighty God we serve! All praise and glory belong to our good Lord, who made all of this possible.

Ministry abroad

In 1996, God opened doors for me to engage in foreign mission work when the German YMCA invited me to share our testimony and preach among the youth of the YMCA there. This invitation came about because some youths who had visited our Children's Home in Sri Lanka were encouraged by their experience during their stay with us in Trincomalee. This opportunity allowed me to visit several other countries during that trip. Thereafter, it became an annual program, and between 1996 and 2001, I visited several countries multiple times, including India, England, Germany, France, Denmark, Norway, Switzerland, Netherlands, Belgium, Canada, America, and Australia. During these visits, I shared our miraculous testimonies, preached the Word of God, and offered encouragement to pastors, believers, and others in Tamil and English churches in these countries.

In 2001, a crucial year brought about many changes in

our lives. My wife and I had plans to visit several countries, as we had obtained the necessary visas. However, our journey began in Canada, where we intended to join our children. Unfortunately, during my usual preaching mission in Canada, I suffered a severe heart attack. This health crisis forced us to remain in Canada for medical treatment, as I was in no condition to travel further.

Redeemer Christ Assembly in
Brampton

The Canadian Government allowed us to stay in Canada due to our circumstances. I didn't choose a relaxed life but remained active in my ministry. Today, I am the Pastor of "Redeemer Christ Assembly" in Brampton, reaching out to people in this city and beyond. By God's grace, we have a TV Ministry, Newspaper Ministry, Booklet publication, and I'm pleased to have released this book, "Sharing Your Faith & Testimony," for the glory of our good Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Testify and Glorify

Dear Brothers! And Sisters!!

I hope and pray that this book, "Sharing Your Faith & Testimony," will encourage and strengthen you to become a tool in God's hands, bringing glory to His Holy name through your life. Every believer is called to do so. Together, let us faithfully witness and

bring many souls into His fold.

"Everyone who is called by My name, Whom I have created for My glory; I have formed him, yes, I have made him." - Isaiah 43:7 (NKJV)

"You are My witnesses," says the LORD,
"And My servant whom I have chosen, That you may know and believe Me, And understand that I am He. Before Me there was no God formed, Nor shall there be after Me. I, even I, am the LORD, And besides Me there is no savior. I have declared and saved, I have proclaimed, And there was no foreign god among you; Therefore you are My witnesses," Says the LORD, "that I am God." – Isaiah 43:10-12 (NKJV)

"This people I have formed for Myself; they shall declare My praise." – Isaiah 43:21 (NKJV)

Therefore, let us pray for the guidance and power of the Holy Spirit to testify of and to glorify our God. May our good Lord guard you, guide you and lead you to serve Him. Glorify HIM, and HIM only!

S. Alfred Cherubim

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CANADA

Sharing our Faith

God has called every believer to share their faith in Him with others who may not know Him, allowing them to come to the knowledge of Him and accept Jesus Christ as their personal Savior through faith, receiving the free gift of salvation that believers already enjoy.

The privilege of sharing Jesus with others is reserved for human beings alone. Among all of God's creation, including animals, birds, fish, and even the angels in Heaven, it's our responsibility to share the Gospel; the choice is ours to make, whether to share or to refuse.

Tell your story. Let others know what your life was like before you found Christ, and the peace and joy you now experience, knowing your sins are forgiven. You're now living according to God's purpose for you and have the hope of everlasting life. Sharing your personal experience and relationship with Jesus Christ, with sincerity and conviction, can be a powerful way to witness to some people.

Sharing our Faith Effectively

"..that the sharing of your faith may become effective by the acknowledgment of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus."
– Philemon 1:6 (NKJV)

These words bring to mind several other verses of Scripture. "Acknowledging every good thing..." indicates that we are to share our faith in the spirit of thanksgiving, giving thanks to the Lord for all

that He has done for us, all that He is doing for us, and all that He will do for us. When we find it difficult to share our faith, we must learn to stand upon God's Word:

"Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."
- 1 Corinthians 15:57 (ESV)

"every good thing in you" brings to mind the wonderfully encouraging words:

"God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind."– 2 Timothy 1:7 (NKJV)

When we effectively share our faith, it's crucial to remember this:

"This is the Lord's doing and it is marvelous in our eyes"– Psalm 118:23 (NKJV)

This must be our testimony:

"Not to us, O Lord, not to us, but to Your Name give glory, because of Your mercy and Your truth"– Psalm 115:1 (NKJV)

If we are to be effective witnesses for Christ, we must learn to "abide in Christ," never forgetting that: "without Him we can do nothing." "Abiding in Christ" (John 15:7) is the way we bear much fruit.

"May the Word of God dwell richly in my heart from

hour to hour, so that all may see I triumph only through His power."

There will be times when we need to share our faith with people going through difficult times. To truly help them, we should pray for our own faith to be strong so we can share the Lord's strength with them.

"May the peace of God my Father rule my heart in everything, that I may be calm to comfort the sick and sorrowful".

Sharing our faith effectively means sharing the love of Jesus. We should pray that His love shines through us as we witness for Him.

"May the love of Jesus fill me, as the waters fill the sea; Him exalting, self abasing, this is victory".

Created to Glorify God

"I will say to the north, Give up; and to the south, keep not back: bring my sons from far and my daughters from the ends of the earth; Even every one that is called by my name: for I have created him for my glory, I have formed him; yea, I have made him."— Isaiah 43: 6-7 (NKJV)

"I, even I, am the LORD; and beside me there is no saviour. I have declared, and

have saved, and I have showed, when
there was no strange god among you:
therefore you are my witnesses, says
the LORD, that I am God.”– Isaiah 43:
11-12 (NKJV)

“This people have I formed for myself;
they shall declare My praise.” – Isaiah
43: 21 (NKJV)

Dear Brother & Sister in Christ!

God created us in His image to glorify His name and
bear witness that He is the only God. Our purpose is
to declare His praise.

“To all that be in Rome, beloved of
God, called to be saints: Grace to you
and peace from God our Father, and
the Lord Jesus Christ. First, I thank my
God through Jesus Christ for you all,
that your faith is spoken of throughout
the whole world.– Romans 1:7-8
(NKJV)

Witness to all the Nations

“And this gospel of the kingdom shall be
preached in all the world for a witness unto all
nations; and then shall the end come.”–
Matthew 24:14 (KJV)

“There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light that all men through him might believe. He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light. That was the true Light, which gives light to every man who comes into the world.”
-John 1:6-9 (NKJV)

“Not to all the people, but to witnesses chosen before by God, even to us, who did eat and drink with him after he rose from the dead. And he commanded us to preach unto the people, and to testify that it is he who was ordained of God to be the Judge of living and dead. To him give all the Prophets witness, that through his name whoever believes in him shall receive remission of sins.”– Acts 10: 41-43 (NKJV)

“But you shall receive power, when the Holy Spirit has come upon you: and **you shall be witnesses to me** both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and to the uttermost part of the earth.”– Acts 1: 8 (NKJV)

Do not hold back Truth

“I am debtor both to the Greeks, and to the

Barbarians; both to the wise, and to the unwise. So, as much as in me is, I am ready, to preach the gospel to you that are at Rome also. For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith." – Romans 1: 14-17 (KJV)

Dear brethren, we have a responsibility to share our faith with others, just as the Apostle Paul wrote to the Romans. If we hold back the truth when God, in His manifold mercies, has revealed Himself to us, we may face His wrath. We have no excuse to withhold the truth.

"For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness; Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them. For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse: Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened." - Romans 1:18-21 (KJV)

"For though I preach the gospel, I have nothing to glory of: for necessity is laid upon me; yea, woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel!" - 1 Corinthians 9:16 (KJV)

"For what does the Scripture say? 'Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.' Now to him who works, the wages are not counted as grace but as debt. But to him who does not work but believes on Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is accounted for righteousness." - Romans 4:3-5 (NKJV)

"Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God." - Romans 5:1-2 (KJV)

What is Faith?

Faith is confidence that someone or something is reliable. Our lives are based on faith. Without it, banks and post offices could not function. Paper money and credit cards (the term "credit" originates from the Latin verb "to believe") would not be accepted.

"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. For by it

the elders obtained a good report. Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear." – Hebrews 11: 1-3 (KJV)

"By faith **Abel** offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaketh." - Hebrews 11:4 (KJV)

"By faith **Enoch** was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God. But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him." - Hebrews 11:5-6 (KJV)

"By faith **Noah**, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith." - Hebrews 11:7 (KJV)

"By faith **Abraham**, when he was called to go

out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went. By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise." - Hebrews 11:8-9 (KJV)

"Through faith also **Sara** herself received strength to conceive seed, and was delivered of a child when she was past age, because she judged him faithful who had promised." - Hebrews 11:11 (KJV)

"By faith **Abraham**, when he was tested, offered up Isaac: and he that had received the promises offered up his only begotten son, Of whom it was said, That in Isaac shall thy seed be called: Accounting that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead." - Hebrews 11:17-19 (KJV)

"By faith **Isaac** blessed Jacob and Esau concerning things to come." - Hebrews 11:20 (NKJV)

"By faith **Jacob**, when he was dying, blessed both the sons of Joseph; and worshiped,

leaning upon the top of his staff." - Hebrews 11:21 (NKJV)

"By faith **Joseph**, when he died, made mention of the departing of the children of Israel; and gave commandment concerning his bones." - Hebrews 11:22 (NKJV)

"By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden for three months by his parents, because they saw that the child was beautiful, and they were not afraid of the king's edict." - Hebrews 11:23 (ESV)

"By faith **Moses**, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter; Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season." - Hebrews 11:24-25 (NKJV)

"By faith the walls of Jericho fell down, after they were compassed about seven days." - Hebrews 11:30 (NKJV)

"By faith the harlot **Rahab** perished not with them that believed not, when she had received the spies with peace." - Hebrews 11:31 (KJV)

Many other Heroes of Faith

Other faith heroes such as "Gideon and Barak and Samson and Jephthah, also of David and Samuel and the prophets: who through faith subdued kingdoms, worked righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, became valiant in battle, turned to flight the armies of the aliens." - Hebrews 11:32-34 (NKJV)

"Women received their dead raised to life again. Others were tortured, not accepting deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. Still others had trial of mockings and scourgings, yes, and of chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, were tempted, were slain with the sword. They wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, tormented— of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, having obtained a good testimony through faith, did not receive the promise." - Hebrews 11:35-39 (NKJV)

"These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, were assured of them, embraced them and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth." - Hebrews 11:13 (NKJV)

"But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him."
- Hebrews 11:6 (KJV)

"Therefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God." - Hebrews 12:1-2 (KJV)

Justification by Faith

"Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the

glory of God." - Romans 5:1-2 (KJV)

"Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified." - Galatians 2:16 (ESV)

Purification by Faith

"So God, who knows the heart, acknowledged them, by giving them the Holy Ghost, just as He did to us; And made no distinction between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith."— Acts 15: 8~9 (NKJV)

Sanctification by Faith

" ..Delivering thee from the people, and from the Gentiles, unto whom now I send thee, To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and

inheritance among those who are sanctified by faith that is in me.”– Acts 26: 17-18 (NKJV)

Why share our Faith?

There are at least seven compelling reasons for sharing our faith in Christ with those who have not experienced new life in Him.

1. Because God has commanded us to do so:

The final words of Jesus before His ascension to heaven, as well as His command to His disciples, are clearly outlined in the Bible.

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

“But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the

end of the earth.” – Acts 1:8 (NKJV)

2. Because it demonstrates our love for God:

Christ said that if we truly loved Him we would keep His commandments: “If you love Me, keep My commandments ..” – John 14:15 (NKJV)

And He said to them, “Go into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature. He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned.” – Mark 16: 15~16 (NKJV)

3. Because all are lost:

“As it is written: ‘There is none righteous, no, not one.’” - Romans 3:10 (NKJV)

“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.” - Romans 3: 23 (NKJV)

4 . Because our sharing is God’s chosen method to convey His message to all people.

He could have used angels, but He didn’t. Only

redeemed sinners can tell lost sinners about Christ.

How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, who bring glad tidings of good things!" But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, "Lord, who has believed our report?" So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." – Romans 10: 14~17 (NKJV)

"Therefore those who were scattered went everywhere preaching the word. Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria and preached Christ to them." – Acts 8: 4~5 (NKJV)

5. Because God desires to save all people:

"Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved." - Acts 4:12 (NKJV)

"The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that all should perish but that any should come to repentance." – 2 Peter 3:9 (NKJV)

"For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of truth." – 1 Timothy 2: 3~4 (NKJV)

6. Because someone once shared his faith with us:

It might have been a faithful Bible teacher, a godly Pastor, or a praying parent. They have every right to hope that we will do for others what they did for us.

"Moreover brethren, I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand, by which also you are saved, if you hold fast that word which I preached to you – unless you believed in vain. For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures,..” - 1

Corinthians 15:1-4n (NKJV)

7. Because Jesus is coming soon:

The Lord will come as a thief in the night.

"For you yourself know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night. For when they say, "Peace and safety!" then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labour pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape." – 1 Thessalonians 5:2-3 (NKJV)

"For as the lightning comes from the east and flashes to the west, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be..."
– Matthew 24: 27 (NKJV)

"But of that day and hour no one knows, no, not even the angels of heaven, but My Father only." – Matthew 24: 36 (NKJV)

What is to be shared?

Before discussing what we should share about our faith, let's remember what we should avoid. We must not confuse the unbelieving world by making them believe that church membership, tithing, offering, or any good works are connected to becoming a Christian.

"For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast." - Ephesians 2:8-9 (NKJV)

"Who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began." - 2 Timothy 1:9 (NKJV)

Actually, we have but one thing to share with the unsaved, and that is the gospel of Christ. According to Paul, it involves the death and resurrection of Christ.

God's word says all are sinners, condemned to hell.

"All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way; And the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all."— Isaiah 53:6 (NKJV)

"But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."— Romans 5:8 (NASB)

"Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned." – Romans 5:12 (NKJV)

"For since by man came death, by Man also came the resurrection of the dead." – 1 Corinthians 15:21 (NKJV)

"And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire." – Revelation 20:15 (NKJV)

There is nothing a lost person can do on his own to save himself.

"But we are all like an unclean thing, And all our righteousness are like filthy rags; We all fade as a leaf, And our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away." – Isaiah 64:6 (NKJV)

"Evil shall slay the wicked, And those who hate the righteous shall be condemned." – Psalm 34:21 (NKJV)

"He has brought on them their own iniquity, And shall cut them off in their own wickedness; The Lord our God shall cut them off." – Psalm 94:23 (NKJV)

**Christ was born, crucified, and
resurrected to save lost people from
their sin.**

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." – John 3:16 (NKJV)

"This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief." – 1 Timothy 1:15 (NKJV)

"But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed." – Isaiah 53:5 (NKJV)

"Who was delivered up because of our offenses, and was raised because of our justification." – Romans 4:25 (NKJV)

"Who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness – by whose stripes you were healed." – 1 Peter 2:24 (NKJV)

To be saved, a sinner must believe

God's word and invite Christ into his heart by faith.

"Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life." – John 5: 24 (NKJV)

"He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God." – John 3: 18 (NKJV)

"So they said, 'Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household.'" – Acts 16:31 (NKJV)

"Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me has everlasting life. I am the bread of life." – John 6: 47-48 (NKJV)

How to share our Faith?

"And they went out and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word through the accompanying signs." – Mark 16: 20

(NKJV)

"God also bearing witness both with signs and wonders, with various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to His own will.'" – Hebrews 2: 4 (NKJV)

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

Rules to share the Faith

In order to share our faith successfully, we must keep the following rules in our mind.

First, we must be clean vessels. God reminds Isaiah the prophet of this,

"Be clean, you who bear the vessels of the Lord. Depart! Depart! Go out from there, Touch no unclean thing; Go out from the midst of her, Be clean, you who bear the vessels of the Lord." – Isaiah 52: 11 (NKJV)

"Speak to Aaron and his sons, that they separate themselves from the holy things of the children of Israel, and that they do

not profane My holy name in those things
which they sanctify to Me: I am the Lord."
– Leviticus 22: 2 (NKJV)

David, the sinner, prays for forgiveness and cleansing.
While God does not demand golden or silver vessels,
He does require clean ones.

"Create in me a clean heart, O God, and
renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not
cast me away from your presence, And do
not take your Holy Spirit from me. Restore
to me the joy of Your salvation, And
uphold me with Your generous Spirit.
Then I will teach transgressors Your ways,
And sinners shall be converted to You." –
Psalm 51: 10-13 (NKJV)

"Now the Lord is the Spirit; and where the
Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty." – 2
Corinthians 3:17 (NKJV)

We must be able to clearly give the simple facts of the
gospel without going into profound theological
concepts. Philip, the evangelist, demonstrated how to
do this when he dealt with a traveler in the desert.

"So the eunuch answered Philip and said,
'I ask you, of whom does the prophet say
this, of himself or of some other man?'

Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning at this Scripture, preached Jesus to him." - Acts 8: 34-35 (NKJV)

"Then He said to them, 'These are the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms concerning Me.' And He opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures. Then He said to them, 'Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day, and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.' And you are witnesses of these things." – Luke 24: 44-48 (NKJV)

We must avoid arguments and stick to the basic issues of man's sin and Christ's blood. Often unbelievers will attempt to sidestep the gospel by asking unrelated questions, such as "Where did Cain get his wife?"

"Then one from the crowd said to Him, 'Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.' But He said to him 'Man, who made Me a judge or an

arbitrator over you?' And He said to them, 'take heed and beware of covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of the things he possesses.'" - Luke 12:13-15 (NKJV)

We must use the Word of God. Paul's tremendous success as an evangelist can be linked directly to his constant use of God's Word.

"Then Paul, as his custom was, went into them, and for three Sabbaths reasoned with them from the Scriptures, explaining and demonstrating that the Christ had to suffer and rise again from the dead, and saying, 'This Jesus whom I preach to you is the Christ.'" - Acts 17: 2~3 (NKJV)

"For he vigorously refuted the Jews publicly, showing from the Scriptures that Jesus is the Christ." - Acts 18:28 (NKJV)

"Remind them of these things, charging them before the Lord not to strive about words to no profit, to the ruin of the hearers. Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." - 2 Timothy 2: 14~15 (NKJV)

"But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus." - 2 Timothy 3:14-15 (ESV)

"All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, and for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work." – 2 Timothy 3: 14-17 (NKJV)

We must depend upon the Spirit of God.

"And they were not able to resist the wisdom and the Spirit by which he spoke."
– Acts 6: 10 (NKJV)

"These things I have spoken to you while being present with you. But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you." – John 14: 25-26 (NKJV)

"But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." – Acts 1:8 (NKJV)

"And when they had set them in the midst, they asked, 'By what power or by what name have you done this?' Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, 'Rulers of the people and elders of Israel:...' – Acts 4:7~8 (NKJV)

When should we share our Faith?

The question of when to share our faith is closely connected to when a sinner should accept Christ. The Bible is clear: God's accepted time is today. The reason for this is simple—a sinner has no assurance that they will live to see tomorrow. Therefore, we are called to witness at any time, all the time, in any place, and everywhere.

The Apostle Paul showed us how this should be done. He witnessed everywhere, including a prison at midnight (Acts 16:25-31), and even on a sinking ship during a dark and stormy day (Acts 27:20-25).

In Acts 8:26-39, we read how an Angel of the Lord

spoke to Philip, saying, "Arise and go toward the south along the road which goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." This is a desert. So Philip arose and went. A man of authority from Ethiopia, returning from Jerusalem after worship, was sitting in his chariot, reading Isaiah, the Prophet. Philip helped him understand the passage he was reading, and beginning at this Scripture, preached Jesus to him. When the eunuch, having believed that Jesus is the Son of God, saw water nearby on the way, he came down from the chariot. Both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and Philip baptized him.

A famous evangelist once ended a revival meeting in Chicago by advising the unbelievers who were present to go home and seriously consider the claims of the gospel. He urged them to return the following night, prepared to make a decision for Christ. However, on that very night, October 8, 1871, the devastating Chicago fire erupted. It ravaged nearly four miles of buildings and claimed 250 lives. The evangelist then vowed never to end a service without giving an immediate invitation to accept Christ.

"Do not boast about tomorrow, For you do not know what a day may bring forth." – Pro. 27: 1 (NKJV)

"Come now, you who say, 'Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a

city, spend a year there, buy and sell, and make a profit;' whereas you do not know what will happen tomorrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour that appears for a little time and then vanishes away.

"Instead you ought to say, 'If the Lord wills, we shall live and do this or that.' But now you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil." – James 4: 13-16 (NKJV)

"And I will say to my soul, 'Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years; take your ease; eat, drink, and be merry.' But God said to him, 'You fool! This night your soul will be required of you; then whose will those things be which you have provided?'" – Luke 12:19-20 (NKJV)

"Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God; but exhort one another daily, while it is called 'TODAY,' lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin." – Hebrews 3:12-13 (NKJV)

"While it is said: 'Today, if you will hear His voice, Do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion.'" – Hebrews 3:15 (NKJV)

"Again He designates a certain day, saying in David, 'TODAY,' after such a long time,

as it has been said: 'Today, if you will hear His voice, Do not harden your hearts.'" – Hebrews 4: 7 (NKJV)

"For He says: 'In an acceptable time I have heard you, And in the day of salvation I have helped you.' Behold, now is the accepted time; behold now is the day of salvation." – 2 Corinthians 6: 2 (NKJV)

Walking in the Spirit

Confession

An important prerequisite to walking in the Spirit is the confession of sin. Sin must be confessed in order to restore fellowship and to continue receiving God's power. Confession means that we agree with God with God about our sin. This involves much more than simply acknowledging the sin. Confession requires an attitude of sorrow for the sin and a willingness to turn from it. It does not mean that we will never commit the same sin again, but it does mean that the attitude of repentance is present.

"This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice truth.

"But if we walk in the light as He is in the

light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.

"If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us." – 1 John 1: 5-10 (NKJV)

Confession should be made at the moment the Christian becomes aware of sin. Additionally, the Scriptures specify two particular times for confession: before the close of the day and before the Lord's Supper is observed. Failure to do this is a special cause for discipline from the Lord.

"Be angry, and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your wrath." - Ephesians 4:26 (NKJV)

"Therefore, whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. A person ought to examine themselves before they eat of the bread and drink from the cup. For those who eat and drink without discerning the body of Christ eat and drink judgment on themselves. That is why many

among you are weak and sick, and a number of you have fallen asleep." - 1 Corinthians 11:27-30 (NIV)

Yielding

Confessing sin alone isn't enough to automatically enable a believer to walk in the Spirit. He must then become a yielded instrument for God's service. This yielding involves offering oneself entirely, both body and mind, because actions are conceived in the mind and are executed through the body. In other words, what the mind conceives, the body carries out. Therefore, a person's entire being must be presented to God's service through a decisive act of the will. Yielding shouldn't be limited to a willingness to perform specific tasks. Rather, the dedicated person does whatever God commands.

"And do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God." – Romans 6:13 (NKJV)

"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service."

- Romans 12:1 (NKJV)

"For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's." - 1 Corinthians 6:20 (NKJV)

Yielding can lead not only to dedication but also to separation.

"And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind..."
- Romans 12:2 (NKJV)

Since the world is resolutely opposed to God, one cannot revel or indulge in its lusts and at the same time do the will of God. Therefore, the concept of separation involves an "unfashionable" demeanor in terms of spirit, thought, values, and actions when measured against the world's standards.

"They have forsaken the right way and gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of Beor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness; but he was rebuked for his iniquity; a dumb donkey speaking with a man's voice restrained the madness of the prophet. These are wells without water, clouds carried by a tempest, to whom the gloom of darkness is reserved forever." - 2 Peter 2:15-17 (NKJV)

"Therefore gird up the loins of your mind,

be sober, and rest your hope fully upon the grace that is to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ; as obedient children, not conforming yourselves to the former lusts, as in your ignorance; but as He who called you is Holy, you also be Holy in all your conduct." - 1 Peter 1:13-15 (NKJV)

Finally, yielding includes transformation of the mind. This work is accomplished through a lifetime of "renewing" the mind. Man's mind has been darkened by sin and must be brought to the place where it thinks as God thinks.

This renewal primarily occurs through prayer to God in all aspects of life and constant meditation on God's word. This transformation is a lifelong process that won't be fully accomplished until we are with Christ. Along life's journey, though, it brings a peace and delight that can only be experienced by embracing the mind of Christ.

"For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be. So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God." - Romans 8:6-8 (NKJV)

"Be anxious for nothing, but in everything

by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus." - Philippians 4:6-7 (NKJV)

Filling

Being filled with the Spirit is being controlled by the Spirit. This is crucial for successfully living the Christian life. Unlike the indwelling of the Spirit, a believer is filled over and over again. Notice the emphasis of present tense--"be filled." We find several biblical examples of Christians who were filled more than once.

Equally important, we observe that filling is not an option. It is a command to be obeyed.

"And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance." - Acts 2:4 (NKJV)

"And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness." - Acts 4:31 (NKJV)

The next important question is, "How can someone be filled with the Spirit?" The prerequisites are simply confessing sin and yielding to God. Confessing sin means agreeing with God about the person's sin, and yielding primarily involves dedicating oneself to God.

As the believer chooses to obey in these areas, he is filled with the Spirit and enabled to manifest Christ-like character. This obedience may be accompanied by prayer.

The certainty of being filled with the Spirit may be confirmed by the believer's faith and life. The believer must, of course, believe God's Word that meeting the conditions will result in that filling. The Spirit-filled individual will exhibit the Christ-like character described in Galatians 5: 22~23 as the fruit of the Spirit. Included in that list are all the vibrant, attractive qualities desired by all Christians. It is delightful that any Christian may possess them and be transformed by the filling of the Spirit.

"And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord." - Ephesians 5:18-19 (NKJV)

"And being assembled together with them, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, 'which,' He said, 'you have heard from Me; for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.'" - Acts 1:4-5 (NKJV)

Beginning the New Life

By nature, mankind is sinful and needs the righteousness of God. We must be separated from sin and set apart to righteousness.

To approach God, we must do so on His terms. We must possess new lives in which our sins have been forgiven and obliterated.

Understanding the necessity for the need of a new life is one thing, but acquiring it is an entirely different matter. When we are "saved," we are described as new creatures (2 Cor. 5:17); we have passed from death to life (John 5:24); we have moved from the domain of darkness to the kingdom of God's Son (Col. 1:13); we have experienced a new birth (John 3:3); and we have been adopted by God (Gal. 4:4~5). These wonderful results of having a new life in Christ are freely available to all who place their trust in Christ for salvation.

Need for the New Life: Holiness of God

You cannot see or hear God without holiness. Holiness is required to come before God. Adam and Eve, when they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. They disobeyed God, lost their holiness, and could not come before the

Holy God.

"For there is not a just man on earth who does good And does not sin." -
Ecclesiastes 7:20 (NKJV)

"And one cried unto another, and said,
Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD of hosts: the
whole earth is full of his glory." – Isaiah
6:3 (KJV)

Way to the New Life: New Life

This is a free gift of God. There is nothing that one can do to earn this gift. If one could earn it, it would not be a gift; it would be wages. The gift of God is eternal life. One receives this gift when he believes in Jesus as his personal Saviour.

"For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." – Romans 6:23 (KJV)

"And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household." – Acts 16:31 (KJV)

Results of the New Life:
Everlasting Life

The new life in Christ is called the "everlasting

(eternal) life." The word "life" stresses the quality of this new personal relationship with God that gives us a fullness of spiritual vitality that we lacked before.

"Most assuredly, I say to you, He who hears My word, and believes in Him who sent Me, has everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death into life." – John 5:24 (NKJV)

"Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature: old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new." – 2 Corinthians 5:17 (NKJV)

The Christian is now a new man as opposed to the old man that he was before he became a Christian. He has become a new creation with a renewed nature, undergoing a spiritual transformation within his inner man when he put their faith in Christ as their Savior.

Assurance of the New Life: Promise of God

Often, Christians may doubt their salvation solely because they don't *feel* saved. They fail to understand that their salvation is based on God's promise rather than their emotional feelings.

"...in hope of eternal life which God, who cannot lie, promised before time began." – Titus 1:2 (NKJV)

The fullness of God, the "Holy Trinity" is totally involved in this promise of our salvation:

The promise and work of the Father– The Father has promised to graciously accept all repenting sinners in Christ.

"Having predestined us to adoption as children by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He has made us accepted in the beloved." - Ephesians 1:5-6 (NKJV)

The promise and work of the Son– The Son has promised eternal and abundant life. Right now, He is praying for us and ministering to us at His Father's right hand.

"The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly." - John 10:10 (NKJV)

The promise of the Holy Spirit—The Holy Spirit has promised to indwell the believer, placing all believers into the body of Christ. He assures us of our union with God Himself.

"And I will pray the Father, and he will give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him: but ye know Him; for he dwells with you, and will be in you." – John 14: 16-17 (NKJV)

Growing in the New Life

Knowing how to grow in the new life is essential.

Word of God – Bible Study

This saying remains ever true: "Sin will keep you from God's Word, and God's Word will keep you from sin." Therefore, the primary and most essential step toward growing in the new life is to read and study the Word of God.

Prayer

The second important factor in Christian growth is prayer. Prayer may be defined as talking with and listening to God. We talk to Him with our lips and heart, and He talks to us through His will and His Word. Prayer involves a two-way conversation.

Spiritual maturity is impossible without a systematic prayer life.

Stewardship

God intended that the Christian life should be dynamic, not static. We should sit under the teaching of the Word of God, understand and apply its meaning and implications, and serve God and our fellow believers. The Spirit of God has given us spiritual gifts, but those gifts are worthless unless they are put to use in the service of God and His church.

"Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them..." – Romans 12:6 (NKJV)

"For you, brethren, have been called to liberty; only do not use liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another." – Galatians 5:13 (NKJV)

Worship

Worship is another essential aspect of spiritual growth. It involves showing honor and respect to God, participating in both private and public worship ceremonies, and joyfully serving the Lord as Christians. Those who, in reverence and service,

submit to the lordship of Christ will experience spiritual growth. Only God Almighty is worthy of worship.

"Give to the LORD the glory due His name; Bring an offering, and come before Him. Oh, worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness." - 1 Chronicles 16:29 (NKJV)

"You are worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power; For You created all things, And by Your will they exist and were created." - Revelation 4:11 (NKJV)

Participation in the Local Church

The ultimate reason for our participation in a local church lies in the direct command of God. Members of the local church hold a responsibility towards one another. They are to spur each other on toward good works and exhort one another to live consistent lives worthy of God. Believers are commanded not to neglect the assembling of themselves together.

"And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching." – Hebrews 10:24-25 (NKJV)

"And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved." – Acts 2:46-47 (NKJV)

Sharing Our Faith

Sharing our faith in Christ with those who have not experienced new life in Him is a command of God. This demonstrates our love for God. Christ said that if we truly loved Him we would keep His commandments.

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

"But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." – Acts 1:8 (NKJV)

Walking in the Spirit

The Bible describes Christian life as “walking in the Spirit” (Galatians 5:16). Walking best represents the step-by-step character of the spiritual life. Living by the Spirit’s power is a moment-by-moment yielding to His will and control.

The evidence that we are walking in the Spirit is simply the display of the fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22~23). Walking in the Spirit involves confessing our sin, yielding to God by obeying the Word of God, and being filled with and controlled by the Spirit.

“And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord;” - Ephesians 5:18-19 (NKJV)

“And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness.” - Acts 4:31 (NKJV)

Problems in the New Life

Just as we have problems in our physical life, we also experience difficulties in our spiritual or new life.

Facing and conquering these challenges leads to growth and inner strength, whether they are physical or spiritual in nature. As we grow in this newfound strength, we bring glory to God by showcasing His faithfulness and the sufficiency of His grace for all our needs.

"My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness." -
2 Corinthians 12:9 (NKJV)

The process of strengthening one's faith is best accomplished by reading and understanding the Word of God (Romans 10:17). The Holy Spirit convicts the willing heart of His power. Growing in God's Word results in the growth of faith. Reading and understanding the Word are like planting seeds of faith in the heart. These seeds will bear the mature fruit of faith.

A Changed Life

Without a doubt, the greatest proof of the new birth is a changed life. The child of God now suddenly loves the following:

- He loves Jesus.

Before conversion, the sinner might hold Christ in high esteem, but after conversion, he loves the Saviour.

"Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God: and every one who loves Him who begot also loves him who is begotten of Him. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep his commandments." – 1 John 5 1-2 (NKJV)

- He loves the Bible.

We should love God's Word as the psalmist King David did. In the Book of Psalms, he expresses his great love for God's Word.

"And I will delight myself in thy commandments, which I have loved. My hands also will I lift up unto thy commandments, which I have loved; and I will meditate in thy statutes." - Psalm 119:47-48 (KJV)

"How sweet are thy words unto my taste! sweeter than honey to my mouth! Through your precepts I get understanding: therefore I hate every false way. Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path." - Psalm 119:103-105 (KJV)

- He loves other Christians.

We should love our Christian brothers and sisters as we are all one in Christ.

"We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love the brethren. He who does not love his brother abides in death. Whosoever hates his brother is a murderer: and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him." - 1 John 3:14-15 (KJV)

- He loves his enemies

We were all created by God in His own image, and God loves everyone. He hates the sin but not the sinner. Therefore, we must show love even to our enemies.

"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you, that you may be sons of your Father in heaven; for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust." – Matthew 5:43-45 (NKJV)

- He loves the souls of all people

Like Paul, we can cry out for the conversion of loved ones.

"Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved." – Romans 10: 1 (NKJV)

"For the love of Christ constrains us..." -
2 Corinthians 5:14 (NKJV)

- He loves the pure life

The Spirit of God enables him to lead a holy and pure life, always desiring to please God in all his actions.

"Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him." – 1 John 2:15 (KJV)

"For whatever is born of God overcomes the world: and this is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. Who is he that overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?" – 1 John 5:4-5 (KJV)

- He loves to talk to God

His relationship with God is so close that he prefers prayer and talking to God over worldly matters.

*"Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns
and spiritual songs, singing and making
melody in your heart to the Lord; Giving thanks
always for all things unto God and the Father in
the name of our Lord Jesus Christ."–
Ephesians 5:19-20 (KJV)*

God Created You

You were created by a loving God. You have great value. God loves you and wants to have a personal relationship with you.

God knew you before you were born – even while you were in your mother's womb. He knew all about your family and your life until now. He wants to give you a brand new start and a new way of living. He can do that when you give him your life.

“You made all the delicate, inner parts of my body and knit me together in my mother's womb. Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex! Your workmanship is marvelous – how well I knew it. You watched me as I was being formed in utter seclusion, as I was woven together in the dark of the womb. You saw me before I was born. Every day of my life was recorded in your book. Every moment was laid out before a single day had passed.”-- Psalm 139:13~16 (NLT)

God Loves You

You can turn your life over to God's control because He loves you and wants the very best for you. In fact, He loves you so much that He gave His Son, Jesus, to die on the cross for you. When you trust God, you are actually trusting the One who created you. When you

turn your life over to Him, you are giving your life to the One who knows you inside and out.

"For God loved the world so much that he gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life." - John 3:16 (NLT)

God wants to have a personal relationship with you

God is not some "force," an unspeaking or unseeing idol, or merely another name for your own self-esteem. Instead, God is a person, your Creator, who created you to be in relationship with Him. He created you in His own image.

"Jesus replied, 'All who love me will do what I say. My Father will love them, and we will come and make our home with each of them. Anyone who doesn't love me will not obey me. And remember, my words are not my own. What I am telling you is from the Father who sent me. I am telling you these things now while I am still with you. But when the Father sends the Advocate as my representative—that is, the Holy Spirit—he will teach you everything and will remind you of everything I have told

you." - John 14:23-25 (NLT)

Sin keeps you from having a personal relationship with God

Your sin keeps you from having a relationship with the Creator, God. God is holy and perfect; people are sinful. The Bible says that "everyone has sinned" (Romans 3:23). We simply cannot help it—we're human. When Adam and Eve sinned way back in the Garden of Eden, sin entered the human race. Sinfulness is now part of our natures.

Because God is holy and perfect, and we are sinners, He cannot have anything to do with us. That is why Jesus came into this world. It's only through Jesus Christ that you can have a personal relationship with God.

"For the sin of this one man, Adam, caused death to rule over many." – Romans 5: 17 (NLT)

"For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard." - Romans 3:23 (NLT)

"Jesus said: 'I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me.'" – John 14:6 (NLT)

Why Jesus Christ?

Jesus died to bear the penalty our sins deserved. In essence, He took our punishment upon Himself so that we need not face punishment. Now, because of Jesus, the way is prepared for us to have a personal relationship with a holy God.

In the Old Testament, people sacrificed animals as a way to show how sorry they were for their sins. God the Father chose to address our sin by sending His perfect son, Jesus, as the final and ultimate sacrifice for all of humanity.

Christ suffered for our sins once and for all, and He, who never sinned, did so to secure the safe return of sinners to God. He endured physical death but was raised to life in the Spirit. (1 Peter 3:18)

You must respond personally by trusting Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. The fact of salvation means nothing unless a person accepts it for themselves. Even if individuals grew up in church, they still need to personally accept Jesus.

Even if someone has lived a terribly sinful life, he is not too bad for God. A person does not have to "clean up his act" before coming to Christ. Jesus died to remove all sin and provide a fresh start. Simply being good is not good enough, yet no one is too far gone to receive forgiveness. God wants all people to come to Him. All people must completely trust in Jesus to be saved.

On your own, you cannot be good enough for a

perfect God. When you recognize that you are indeed a sinner in need of a Savior, simply believe.

"But to all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God." – John 1: 12 (NLT)

"If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by confessing with your mouth that you are saved." – Romans 10: 9~10 (NLT)

"Receiving Christ" involves acknowledging your belief in Him, inviting Him into your life, repenting and turning away from your current way of living, and beginning a NEW LIFE in which you allow God to guide every aspect of your existence. The moment you ask, it's done. Jesus has come in!

Would you like to accept Jesus as your Saviour?

Prayer is just talking to God. He knows what you mean even when you are unable to express yourself in words. You may use your own words or you can repeat this following simple prayer:

Dear God, I know I'm a sinner, and my sins have separated me from you. I thank you for Jesus Christ, who died on the cross in my place.. Lord Jesus, please forgive my sins and come into my life. Take control of my life as I surrender to you completely. Thank you for giving me eternal life. In Jesus' name, Amen.

That's it! You're now a new believer in God's family. May God bless you.

Placed into God's Family

In a general sense, all men and women are the children of God as He is the Creator. However, this relationship is not sufficient to offset the penalty of sin, because all people are sinners separated from God.

"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God." - Romans 3:23 (KJV)

Therefore, for a sinful person to become a child of God, a miraculous transformation must take place. The Bible refers to this change as being "born again". When an individual places his faith in Christ as Saviour, he is born again into a new, spiritual, family relationship with God. He gains God as Father and other Christians as brothers and sisters. Not only are Christians the children of God by spiritual birth; they are adopted as well. One is

no longer in bondage to the master but becomes a free son, possessing all the rights and privileges of sonship.

"For you are all children of God through faith in Christ Jesus." Galatians 3:26 (NLT)

One of these benefits is the right to call God "Abba," an affectionate term meaning "father." This marvelous relationship carries both responsibilities and privileges. Since one bears the family relationship to God, he must also exhibit the family character.

"And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying out, 'Abba, Father!' Therefore you are no longer a slave but a son; and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ." – Galatians 4: 6-7 (NKJV)

"For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear; but you received the Spirit of adoption, by whom we cry, 'Abba, Father.' The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit, that we are children of God." – Romans 8: 15-16 (NKJV)

God the Father of Believers

God is the Father of believers also in the sense that

He gives them new life. This relationship, then, is a family one involving many of the same realities that exist between an earthly father and child; birth of the child; partaking of the father's nature; the father's care of the child; and the father's discipline of the child. Furthermore, this new Father-child relationship carries with it new brothers and sisters.

To obtain God as Father is not a result of one's own merit but a result of Christ's death on the cross. The one who believes in Christ as Saviour enters into the blessed Father-child relationship with God, solely on the grounds of Christ's Sonship. It is the grand privilege and calling of those who know God as Father to graciously invite unbelievers to meet God as Father and not as Judge.

"And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if indeed we suffer with him, that we may also be glorified together." – Romans 8:17 (NIV)

Believers are Empowered by God

A believer who has gained the sonship of God the Father is also empowered by God to serve Him and glorify His holy name. God provides the power to live the Christian life. All Christians are indwelt by the Spirit and thus have His power available in specific instances such as sharing their faith with others, resisting temptation, remaining faithful, and more. It is simply a reliance on the Spirit to receive help.

"But you shall receive power, when the Holy Spirit has come upon you: and you shall be witnesses to me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and to the end of the earth." - Acts 1:8 (NKJV)

"And with great power the apostles gave witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all." – Acts 4:33 (NKJV)

"Do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.–1 Corinthians 6:19-20 (NKJV)

Enemies trying to defeat
Christians

Three powerful enemies are constantly trying to defeat the Christian's testimony and spiritual success:

The World

The Flesh

The Devil

Temptation by the World:

Today the world values those things which are contrary to God's will: "the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life" (1 John 2:16, NKJV).

"And we know that we are of God, and the whole world lies under the sway of the wicked one." - 1 John 5:19 (NKJV)

The temptations for the believer are twofold: the lure of sensual desires and the pride of mastering one's own life. The world's attraction is amplified by Satan, known as the "prince of this world," and it's said that the entire world is under his power.

"Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world." - 1 John 2:15-16 (NKJV)

Some of the tragic effects that the love of the world will produce in the believer's life are:

A turning away from the Lord's work and other believers.

"For Demas has forsaken me, having loved this present world, and has

departed for Thessalonica; Crescens for Galatia, Titus for Dalmatia." - 2 Timothy 4:10 (NKJV)

Alienation from God

"Adulterers and adulteresses, do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God." - James 4:4 (NKJV)

Corrupting sins

"By which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust." - 2 Peter 1:4 (NKJV)

Deception by false teachers

"Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world." - 1 John 4:1 (NKJV)

The solution to overcoming the love of the world is to have a greater love for the Father. Christians who seek to please God daily in everything, strive for spiritual growth through prayer, study of God's Word, and witnessing, need not fall prey to the temptations

of the world.

Temptation by the Flesh:

"The flesh" means something other than the substance of the human body; it refers to the carnal, sinful principle within man that is opposed to God. The actions produced by the flesh are given in detail in Galatians 5:19-21, and among these are all types of sexual immorality, impurity, hatred, anger, false religions, envy, and drunkenness. A person whose life is characterized by these sins cannot be a true Christian and is under the wrath of God.

A Christian possesses a new nature empowered by the Holy Spirit. Since the flesh and the Spirit are in total opposition to each other, the one that the believer allows to dominate him will take charge in his life and produce its own fruit.

"Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be, so then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God." – Romans 8: 7-8 (NKJV)

"Among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others." – Ephesians 2:3 (NKJV)

The solution to the urges of the flesh lies in

recognizing that the power of sin was nullified by Jesus' death on the cross and in living under the control of the Spirit's power. The believer must choose, by an act of their will, to benefit from the Spirit's enablement, which is a moment-by-moment dependence on the power of the Holy Spirit through faith.

"Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts." – Romans 6:11-12 (NKJV)

Temptation by Satan:

Satan stands opposed to all the work of God and promotes defiance among men. His role against Christians is to deceive them, accuse them, devour their testimony for Christ, hinder their work for God, and tempt them to immorality. He is also called "the devil," which means "accuser." He can appear as a hideous dragon or as a beautifully deceptive "angel of light."

"For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ. And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light." - 2 Corinthians 11:13-24 (NKJV)

The terrifying work of Satan in unbelievers is described in Scripture as follows: he blinds their minds; he takes the word of God from their hearts, and he controls them.

“And these are the ones by the wayside, where the word is sown; and when they hear, Satan comes immediately, and takes away the word that was sown in their hearts.” – Mark 4:15 (NKJV)

A Christian must be able to recognize the power and deception of Satan and adhere steadfastly to the faith, openly resisting him and not giving him opportunities for any temptation. The best way to oppose him is to be a growing Christian, spending time studying the Word of God, being at the feet of our Lord in prayer, and having times of fasting. Then, a believer can respond to Satan's temptations with confidence, knowing that nothing can separate them from the love of God.

“Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour: Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world.” - 1 Peter 5: 8~9 (NKJV)

Evangelism

Evangelism is the duty of all Christians. The great

commission at the end of Matthew's gospel is a commission for all who follow Jesus Christ: "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" (Matthew 28:19 NIV)

As Christians, there are four reasons for us to share our faith. The first three are related to our duty:

- 1) Christ commands us to do this.
- 2) The world urgently needs the gospel.
- 3) The fields are already "ripe for harvest." – *John 4:35 (NIV)*
- 4) The fourth reason relates to our own spiritual health. We share our faith because we cannot contain ourselves. This was true of the early church. When the religious authorities ordered the disciples to stop preaching the gospel, Peter's answer described their burning desire:

"For we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard." – Acts 4:20 (NIV)

Evangelism is not a matter of knowing all the answers, nor does it require that we have a sophisticated theological argument. Instead, it is a natural outgrowth of a deep faith that drives

Christians to share their faith. It is something good that we want others to enjoy.

The Rewards of Sharing

What a joy and privilege it is to share in the process of leading one lost person to God, to experience the rejoicing with the angels over a lost sinner found, to have the inner satisfaction of having been used by God, and to share in the deep satisfaction of seeing God's kingdom extended in our patch.

The Blessings of Sharing

There are blessings to us when we share our faith as well. It serves as a purpose for the very reason that God has given us life. If we don't pass on the faith to the next generation, both they and our faith will die with them.

Christ entrusted the Gospel into the hands of regular people, like fishermen and tax collectors—sinners just like us—and saved us.

God has a plan and a purpose for every encounter we have throughout a given day or week. Sharing our faith brings fulfillment.

Nothing feels better than accomplishing something you've been called for, trained for, and equipped for by God.

Satisfaction of Sharing

The satisfaction of a runner completing a marathon or a doctor healing a patient can be likened to the

immense joy we experience when we fulfill God's purpose for sharing our faith.

Sharing our faith helps us to grow in our faith.

There is a saying : ***"If you want to really learn something, teach it to others"***

We grow in our faith when we turn to God in prayer before we witness to others. We also grow as we learn how to handle objections and questions presented to us. We grow as the Holy Spirit encourages us by residing within us and doing the work. Finally, we grow in our confidence as we defend what we believe and why we believe it.

Honor of Sharing

Sharing our faith is an honor that God has reserved for us. There is nothing else in all of creation that has been given this privilege.

But most of all, I think, is the investment we're making in storing up treasures in Heaven. Nothing we do in this world will last for eternity except those things pertaining to faith. The joy we'll realize when we've been used by God to save another precious soul and the eternal thanks we'll receive from those we've helped bring to Christ are immeasurable blessings.

**We are NOT witnesses by compulsion
or by expectation!**

**We will be witnesses as we are
inwardly motivated by our love of
Christ,**

**“The expulsive power of a new
affection!”**

Accept Your Calling

*Jesus, today I accept my calling
not to perfection or performance.
My calling is to faith.
I have been chosen for this generation.
I have a place in the heritage of faith.
I'm going to stop wishing and whining
and start believing and receiving.
What Your Word says is mine.
I won't let others steal my hope.
I won't argue with a Pharisee.
I will believe and therefore speak,
for You, my God, are huge.
Nothing is too hard for You.
Our world needs Your wonders.
Rise up, oh Lord!
Please renew Your works in our day.
I confess the unbelief of my generation
and ask You to begin Your revival of faith
in my own heart.
For You are who You say You are.
You can do what You say You can do.
I am who You say I am.
I can do all things through Christ.
Your Word is alive and active in me.
Satan, hear me clearly:
My Father is Maker of heaven and earth.
You are under my feet, today and the rest
of my days, because*

*I'm believing in God!
And
I will share my Faith.*

***Pastor Alfred Cherubim
Redeemer Christ Assembly
Brampton
Canada.***

Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ!

Let us, as Christians, join hands to be witnesses to the people around us and share our faith to win many souls, establishing the Kingdom of God on earth and preparing the way for the soon coming of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Commission

*Give us a watchword for the hour,
A thrilling word, a word of power;
A battle cry, a flaming breath,
A call to conquest or to death;
A word to rouse the church from rest,
To heed the Master's high behest.
The call is given, ye hosts arise,
The watchword is EVANGELIZE!
To fallen men, a dying race,
Make known the gift of gospel grace.
The world that now in darkness lies,
O Church of Christ, EVANGELIZE!!*

About the Author

Pastor Alfred Cherubim is a Sri Lankan by birth, presently living in Canada. Having had his early education at St. Patrick's College, Jaffna; served in the Department of Agriculture, Government of Sri Lanka as an Agricultural Officer for twelve years.. Later joined the YMCA Movement in Sri Lanka and served as a Professional Secretary and held different positions. Was the pioneer Director of the



YMCA Youth Training Centre in Paranthan, Sri Lanka. Last he served the Sri Lankan YMCA, as the Associate National General Secretary of the National Council of YMCAs of Sri Lanka in Colombo. This was the time that he came to know our good Lord in a personal way having experienced the miraculous power of Jesus in his family.

In 1984, compelled to leave Sri Lanka as a victim of the ethnic riots of 1983, when his house and belongings were burnt to ashes; he with his wife and three children miraculously escaping death. While in India, he initially served the YMCA in Hyderabad and thereafter joined the National YMCA in New Delhi as the head of the Extension and Development & National Rural Reconstruction Departments.

Having dedicated his life for the service of our Lord in 1990, he returned back and started his ministry as a full time Minister in Trincomalee, Sri Lanka. The same year opened an orphanage for the children who lost their parents due to the ethnic problem in the country. Out of the fifty three children he adopted in the children's home; three of them are now Pastors serving in Sri Lanka. The Church in Trincomalee is still active.

He travelled to many countries annually for few years and shared his testimony and preached the word of God mostly in Tamil Churches.

Presently he is settled down in Canada with his family and serving as the Pastor of Redeemer Christ Assembly (Church) in Brampton. By the grace of God he completed twenty five years of evangelical ministry this year. Thank and Praise God.