

NEW CHRISTIAN BASICS – Part Five: GROUP PRAYER and HOLY SPIRIT BAPTISM

GROUP or CORPORATE PRAYER



Matt.18:19- 20 - Again I say unto you, That if two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of My Father which is in heaven. For where two or three are gathered together in My name, there am I in the midst of them.

Mark 2:1-5 – And again He entered into Capernaum after some days; and it was noised (reported) that He was in the house. And straightway many were gathered together, insomuch that there was no room to receive them, no, not so much as about the door: and He preached the Word unto them. And they come unto Him, bringing one sick of the palsy, which was borne of four. And when they could not come nigh unto Him for the press (crowd), they uncovered the roof where He was: and when they had broken it up, they let down the bed wherein the sick of the palsy lay. When Jesus saw THEIR faith, He said unto the sick of the palsy, son, thy sins be forgiven thee.

This guy was so sick he could not walk, but his friends just knew if they could get him to Jesus he could get healed. This is like having friends pray with you about something. Prayer is faith in action. Jesus saw the faith of the friends of the man and healed him because of that. When everyone prays together, first of all there is power in numbers, and second of all a prayer may be answered because of

someone else's faith. God may have given someone the gift of faith and they joined their gift to your faith and so God moves.

Someone may have the gift of healing and so when they come into agreement praying over someone the person gets healed. God wants the body to work together. We are not lone rangers.

II Samuel 10:9-14 – When Joab saw that the front of the battle was against him before and behind, he chose of all the choice men of Israel, and put them in array against the Syrians: And the rest of the people he delivered into the hand of Abishai his brother, that he might put them in array against the children of Ammon. And he said, If the Syrians be too strong for me, then thou shalt help me: but if the children of Ammon be too strong for thee, then I will come and help thee. Be of good courage, and let us play the men for our people, and for the cities of our God: and the LORD do that which seemeth Him good (according to His will). And Joab drew nigh, and the people that were with him, unto the battle against the Syrians: and they fled before him. And when the children of Ammon saw that the Syrians were fled, then fled they also before Abishai, and entered into the city. So Joab returned from the children of Ammon, and came to Jerusalem.



This is a picture of how Christians help each other to fight battles today. We fight in the spirit realm. (Eph. 6:12)

There is power in numbers, we are stronger together.

Deut.32:30 – How should one chase a thousand, and two put ten thousand to flight, except their rock (god) had sold them, and the LORD had shut them up?

This is speaking of the Israelites being able by one person to chase off so many enemies and even more when there were two of them together. They were only able to do this because the other people's god had forsaken them. And because the LORD fights for us.

When seeking or asking others to pray with you, I offer the following caution, be sure that the person who you are asking to pray for you is actually an active Christian with a true and pure heart for God. If you ask a sinner to pray with or for you, that prayer will go nowhere. If it is a fake Christian, that prayer will go nowhere. Many in the churches are playing Christian and they are not even saved and so their prayers will not help you. Witches and masons, the adversary sit in churches and put on airs to infiltrate and take down God's work if they can.

Just recently I noticed a post on facebook asking for prayer. I looked on this person's page and there were posts with strong curse words and nothing lifting up the name of Jesus Christ. I looked at the friends who said they would pray. I saw people who I know to be witches saying "prayers", I saw those with rebellious spirits posting that they were praying. It looks good to the world and they say and do the same things that Christians do but in the end they are not reaching God at all. Be careful of who you "yoke" to. The Bible says not to be unequally yoked with unbelievers. That goes for friendships as well as marriages.



L: anointing and praying over the people R: Pastor Erustus laying hands on and praying over a young man

James 5:14-15 - Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord: And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him.

Luke 10:1 – Jesus sent out the 70 disciples in pairs of two. Not alone, but in pairs.

BAPTISM INTO THE HOLY SPIRIT

Kennedy shared that what it means to her to be baptized into Holy Spirit is so we can minister to others because we might not know their language. This is true, He can cause you to be able to minister to someone in a different language even if you don't know their language. Holy Spirit also gives us boldness and empowers us to be able to witness to others.

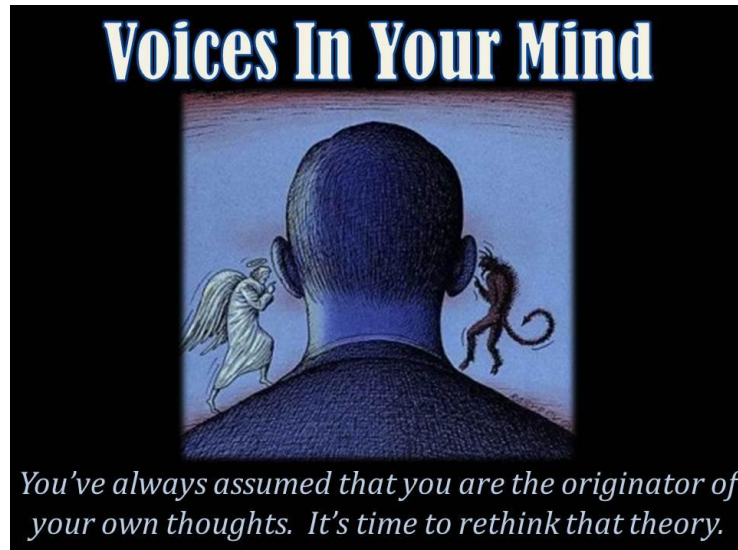
Matt.3:11 - I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but He that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: He shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and *with* fire:

John 3:5 - Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and *of* the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

Luke 24:49 - And, behold, I send the promise of My Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.

You will not be an effective Christian until you are baptized into the Holy Spirit. There are two baptisms a Christian will need. Usually the first is to be baptized in water after salvation and then you need to seek the baptism into the Holy Spirit so you can be endued with power from on High. Jesus is the One who will do this baptism. Once you are baptized into the Holy Spirit then you will begin to receive the gifts that He has for you to be used for God's Kingdom.

As a Christian you should want all the fruit of the Holy Spirit, every gift He has for you, all anointing, anything God has for you, you should desire and seek it so that you can have Him flowing in and through you powerfully for His glory.



Last week we talked about spiritual warfare. Just like this picture, you should be feeling conviction when you do bad things or think about doing them. You need to pray for Godly discernment to know what voices are speaking to you. If it is mean and evil things you don't have to give it a second thought it is satan or your flesh either way it isn't God.

2 Cor.10:5 - Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;

If it is a mean, nasty, wrong thought don't act on it. Study the Word of God and grow in faith, get stronger by drawing closer to Jesus and refuse to act on those wrong thoughts. You can even say, the Bible says this or that to counter that thought. You can speak directly to satan in Jesus' name and say that's not true because of whatever scripture that addresses the truth about the thought etc. You can say things like I don't lust after women anymore because I have a new nature etc. Begin to recognize new age lingo, false teachings and arguments that go against God's Word and don't engage in them or give Scripture to disprove them. But we should never argue with others, it isn't Godly and it isn't worth it.

They think to themselves, look at them arguing. They don't care if you are right or wrong, they just see you arguing and think you are a hypocrite.



Another example.



You always have a choice of who to listen to.

CLOSING



1 John 4:1 - Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.

PRAYER

Strength: Patty (being persecuted for speaking truth)

THE BAPTISM of the HOLY SPIRIT - Part One

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CA69-gDYkGY>

Church Website: The Baptism of the Holy Spirit – Part One

<http://www.threeheartchurch.org/index.php/sermons/sermon/449-baptism-of-the-holy-spirit-part-one>