

Word Workshop

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Spirit Quickened Word Workshop

Part I True ministry

Walking in the blessings and in the presence of God according to the Old Covenant depended upon man's ability to conform to the keeping of the Commandments of the law. It was a failure formula! No one was able to measure up to the standard set according to the law. Although men desired the things of God, they did not have the will power to perform according to their desires.

Romans 3:23 Romans 7:18

It was replaced with a New Covenant that no longer depended upon man's will power. It instead depends upon "God power" or God's grace.

Ephesians 2:8-10

Grace [Strong's Concordance] the divine influence upon the heart, and its reflection in the life; benefit, favor, gift, joy liberality

In other words, God changes the way that we think **which changes the way we act!** He personally communicates to us through the voice of the Holy Spirit.

Psalms 40:4-8 Hebrews 10:14-15

He writes his laws upon our hearts. It is not the law of the Old Testament Commandments, it is the New Covenant Law of love.

Romans 7:6 John 15:9-12 The only way to access the things of God is through the voice of the Holy Spirit. Spiritual things cannot be understood or accessed through the reasoning's of the natural mind. They have to be quickened by the Holy Spirit.

1 Corinthians 2:9-14 Romans 8:6 John 6:63

The voice of the Holy Spirit can be heard by everyone!

Acts 2:17 John 10:2-3

Hebrews 8:10-11

A lot of what we know Biblically is second hand. It sounds good, but it has not been personally written on our hearts by God. It is "head knowledge" that has come from what we have heard from others. This has resulted in a lot of frustration and the inability to "live out" what we think we know.

1 John 2:26-27

People do not believe that they have the ability to hear God for themselves. The greatest accomplishment a pastor can achieve is to lead people to become confident in the Holy Spirit that resides within them in such a manner that it is the Holy Spirit that they look to rather than to us as pastors. We need to teach people how to abide in Him.

1 Corinthians 3:7 Mirror Word If all we succeeded to do was to attach you to us as individuals, then we have failed you; the one who plants is not more important than the one who waters; it is not about us, it is about you realizing God's work within you!

1 Corinthians 3:10 Mirror Word ... take extra caution to build what grace communicates. (grace alone defines and inspires New Testament ministry.)

Grace-God writing His Words on the hearts of man

2 Corinthians 3:6 Who also hath made us able ministers of the new testament; not of the letter, but of the spirit: for the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life.

The Apostle Paul acknowledged that his ministry was to lead people to the "grace" of God.

Acts 20:24. . . . the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God.

Testify- attest {authenticate; to be proof of; manifest}

He manifested what He had himself experienced. Before we can teach others to rely on the grace of God, we must rely on it for ourselves. Second hand revelations are not the same as hearing it for yourselves.

Acts 20:24 Amp 24 But none of these things move me; neither do I esteem my life dear to myself, if only I may finish my course with joy and the ministry which I have obtained from [which was entrusted to me by] the Lord Jesus, faithfully to attest to the good news (Gospel) of God's grace (His unmerited favor, spiritual blessing, and mercy).

If we don't teach them to "hear for themselves" they will be easily diverted from the truth in our absence. We must commit them to God for "His safekeeping."

Acts 20:28-32 Take heed for yourselves and for the flock over which the Holy Ghost made you an overseer. Wolves will try to enter in and

draw you and them away from the truth. Only hearing from the Holy Ghost can prevent that because they come in with good sounding deceptions that put the focus back on the things of the law that will fail.

Acts 20: 32 And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified.

Commend commit to for the safekeeping, place alongside

Acts 20:32 Amp And now [brethren], I commit you to God [I deposit you in His charge, entrusting you to His protection and care]. And I commend you to the Word of His grace [to the commands and counsels and promises of His unmerited favor]. It is able to build you up and to give you [your rightful] inheritance among all God's set-apart ones (those consecrated, purified, and transformed of soul).

Part II Exercise in hearing

Everyone has to have their own personal revelations from the Holy Spirit. God does not expect us to believe everything by faith. [Let me explain] In the past, there were some things that I was taught to believe. I had the attitude that you never questioned God concerning certain fundamental beliefs. Almost to the extent that if you questioned that principle, then you would be guilty of the sin of unbelief! God wants you to ask questions. He wants to give you answers to those questions because when we have unresolved questions then those doubts leave room for the enemy to cause problems and for us to make assumptions that are not correct. If you have a question about something, if you don't understand something, if something does not make sense to you, ask the Holy Spirit to reveal the answer to you because God wants you to know the answers to your questions. **Isaiah 45:9-11** Revelations are born out of questions asked.

Vengeance is mine

What does that phrase mean to you? Where did you get that idea? Is it based on what the Holy Spirit has revealed to you, or is your idea based on your natural understanding, the letter of the Word or on what you have heard other people say?

Romans 12:2 Mirror Word Do not allow current religious tradition to mold you into its pattern of reasoning. Like an inspired artist, give attention to the detail of God's desire to find expression in you. Become acquainted with perfection. To accommodate yourself to the delight and good pleasure of him will transform your thoughts afresh from within.

Ask the Holy Spirit to establish your thoughts as you go through the scriptures to determine what it means when the Word says "vengeance is mine."

Always read the scriptures with the context of where it was found in mind. Read the whole chapter! There may be things within the chapter that change the whole way that you look at the subject.

Are there other scriptures that you may think of that could add a dimension to the concept? Are there scriptures that contradict this scripture? Sometimes questions come because God appears to be "double minded." It takes a revelation from the Holy Spirit to clarify what seem to be contradictions.

Pay attention to the Hebrew and Greek definitions of words. We have a preconceived idea about what some of the familiar words we use as Christians mean. Sometimes a revelation will come through a word study. We have included some words here that you may encounter in the scriptures concerning this subject. It is very interesting that the Hebrew or Greek definitions of some words have more than one definition and sometimes those definitions are opposites! We tend to apply the negative definition without considering what it could mean if the other or opposite definition were applied.

Definitions: [All definitions are from Strong's Concordance]

Despised to reject, violate

Despite insult; an act showing defiance

Vengeance vindication [a setting free from a charge of wrongdoing]; retribution [payback an injury for an injury]

Recompense to give something to by way of compensation (as for a service rendered for damage incurred) to pay for; to return in kind

Judge to distinguish, that is, decide (mentally or judicially); by implication to try, condemn, punish: - avenge, conclude, condemn, damn, decree, determine, esteem, judge, go to (sue at the) law, ordain, call in question, sentence to, think.

Group discussion time

Group # 1

Romans 12:19 Read the whole chapter. Are there any verses that cause you to think differently about your original interpretation of "vengeance is mine?"

Read verse 19 from the Mirror Word. If you consider the definition of vengeance from Strong's Concordance listed above, could this be a valid interpretation?

Romans 12:19 Mirror Word Do not bother yourselves to get even, dear ones. Do not let anger or irritation distract you; that which we have in common with one another [righteousness] must set the pace. Scripture confirms that the Lord himself is the revealer of righteousness.

John 15:12 If God is instructing us to "do as He does" how does this relate to **Romans 12:17,21?**

Romans 12:19-21 Why do you think feeding your enemy that is hungry and overcoming evil with good will cause coals of fire to be heaped upon his head? What does that mean to you?

Read the following interpretation from the Mirror Word. Again, based on the definitions and the context of the scripture, could this be a valid interpretation?

Romans 12:19-20 Mirror Word Do not bother yourselves to get even, dear ones. Do not let anger or irritation distract you; that which we have in commin with one another [righteousness] must set the pace. Scripture confirms that the Lord himself is the revealer of righteousness. "If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink." These acts of kindness will certainly rid your enemy of the dross in his mind and win him as a friend.

Romans 2:4 Does passing judgment cause men to repent?

1 Corinthians 13:1-3 If we don't understand how much God loves us, we have nothing. Read **1:Corinthinans 13:4-7** and describe God's love.

Group # 2

Hebrews 10:26-31 Read the whole chapter.

What seems to be the theme in verses 1-4?

Hebrews 10:5-10 What is the solution to the problem mentioned in the first 4 verses?

Hebrews 10:9-10 What did Jesus take away and what did He establish?

Hebrews 10:14-17 How long does our perfection last? What is the Holy Ghost a witness to us of?

Hebrews 10:16 Is he writing New Covenant laws, or Old Testament laws on our hearts? **Romans 7:6, John 15:9-12**

Hebrews 10:18 Why is there no more offering for sin?

Hebrews 10:26-29 According to the word list listed above from Strong's Concordance, what does it mean in verse 29 when it says someone has done "despite" unto the Spirit of grace?

Hebrews 10:23 What is the profession of faith that we are told to hold fast to?

Hebrews 10:30-31 "Vengeance belongs to God. He will judge his people. According to **verses 10,14,17** how does God judge us? Referring to the word list from Strong's Concordance, the word vengeance has two opposite meanings. We have typically applied the word retribution to this scripture. In other words, he pays us back "an injury for an injury." Based on the context of this scripture within this chapter, could we apply the opposite definition: vindication [a setting free from a charge of wrong doing?] How would that change the way that we interpret this scripture?

If I were to say "vengeance is mine" according to Old Covenant principles, what would that mean?

If I were to say "vengeance is mine" according to the New Covenant principles displayed in this chapter, what would that mean?

Read the scriptures according to the **Mirror Word** translation. Based on your conclusions, do you think that they portray a correct interpretation?

Hebrews 10:26 To know the truth, as we now do, and still persist in deliberate sinning is to openly discard God's provision in Christ. But unlike the old sacrificial system, no further sacrifice can be offered in the new.27 To despise and reject his gift inevitably brings the self-inflicted judgment of the law of works; this destructive judgment devours lives like stubble in a fire. 28 There was no mercy under Mose's law; two or three witnesses could sentence a suspect to death. [James 2:13 Judgment shows no mercy to those who do not walk in mercy, but {the law of liberty} mercy fears no judgment.(see also 1 John 4:18) 29 With how much closer scrutiny do you suppose someone will be viewed who has trampled the Son of God underfoot and scorned the blood of the covenant by publicly insulting the Spirit of grace. [Preferring the law above the revelation of grace brings you back under judgment of the law without the possibility of further sacrifice. There is no alternative mercy outside of God's grace gift in Christ.] **30** As jews we are familiar with scripture, which says that God is the revealer of righteousness, jealous to restore the order of peace. He is the umpire of his people. **Deuteronomy 32:35-36** 31 It is indeed a fearful thought to deliberately shun the hands that bled for your salvation.

Hebrews 10:35,38-40 Is your confidence in God based on the Old Covenant principles of the law, or on New Covenant principles? **Habakkuk 2:4; 3:17-19**

Often even after reading the scriptures we may not have a clear answer to our questions. We just have to keep everything in our minds and wait for God to speak. The answers don't come through our reasoning. It may come at a moment when we are not even thinking about the things that we have questions about. Suddenly, the Spirit may give a connecting link that ties in the different scriptures.

You can discuss your findings with one another, but do not worry if you see something different than everyone else does and don't let their conclusions divert you from what you heard the Spirit speak to you. Let it be God that forms you opinions, not others.

Sharing insights from scriptures

Part III

Practical applications: Are we promoting a mixed message?

How secure are you in believing that the Holy Spirit will do His part? It will affect the way that you minister to others and it will affect their confidence level in the Holy Spirit's ability and desire to minister to them personally.

How do we handle people when they seem to be walking in a wrong direction? Do we step in and make them sin conscious and try to reason with them, or do we connect them with God and His power?

Example:

We have an acquaintance with a pastor in Colombia who totally agreed with us that everything depends upon Grace-not the keeping of the law. However, he told us that he could not allow us to minister those things to the members of the pastor's association that he was president of. His reasoning was that if the people were led to believe that their relationship with God did not depend upon the keeping of the law, then they would all just go out and "live like the devil." He said that it was a dangerous concept to put before the people. What he was really saying is that he was more confident in his ability to keep the people right with God by keeping them afraid of Him than he was in the Holy Spirit's ability to minister to them.

How do we handle people when we see them not believing things the way that we do? When we see them walking in sin? How do we approach people? Are we more in love with "our message" than we are with the people? Are we ministering a mixed message to people? Are we doing the work of the ministry of the New Covenant, or are we promoting the Old Covenant? Is our focus more on man's ability to prove himself faithful to God or is it on God's faithfulness towards man?

Group discussion time:

- 1. **John 15** In the analogy of the vine and the branches, what is God's part, and what is our part?
- 2. What is the commandment that Jesus tells His disciples to keep?
- 3. **James 2:1-13** What does it mean to you in **verse 1** when it says have not the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory, with respect of persons?
- 4. Are we promoting the Law of Commandments, or are we promoting the Law of Liberty?
- 5. Verses 8-11 tell us that if we keep the whole law of commandments, and yet offend it on one point, we are guilty of the whole law. Read verse 12 and relate it to what you read about the law of commandments. How would we break the law of liberty?
- 6. **Romans 14-15:19** What do we do when people do not agree with our doctrine? If we are not to judge one another, what are we to judge?
- 7. **Romans 14:13** What are some things that we might put in a brother's way?
- 8. **2 Peter 1:3,8-9,12** What do we need to put people in remembrance of?
- 9. **Ephesians 4:22-32** How do we grieve the Holy Spirit?
- 10. **1 Corinthians 2:2-5** What was the only thing that Paul said he needed to know about those that He ministered to?
- 11. Why?

12. **Hebrews 11:6** says that without faith it is impossible to please God. **Romans 10:4** Based on the following definition of faith from Strong's Concordance what is God looking for when it comes to faith?

Faith persuasion, especially persuasion that you can rely on Christ for salvation **[to supply everything you have need of]**; conviction of religious truth.

Believeth to have faith in a person or a thing; to entrust one's spiritual well-being to Christ

- 13. Why do you think that it displeases God when we don't have faith?
- 14. **2 Corinthians 3:3-6** What does it mean in **verse 3** when it says "ye are manifestly declared to be the epistle of Christ ministered by us, written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God?"
- 15. **Verse 6** says He made us "able ministers of the Spirit?" What does an able minister of the Spirit minister?

Time for sharing insights from scriptures

The God Connection Holy Spirit

Romans 8:6 1 Corinthians 2:14 John 6:63

Why is the Word complicated and hard to understand?

Why did God speak to the Pharisees in parables? Why did he blind their eyes to the truth?

Because we were created for relationship! If they could interpret the Word with their natural understanding, there would be no place for relationship. **1 Corinthians 2:5**

John 3:1-5 Unless you are born of water and the Spirit, you cannot see, nor can you enter the kingdom. The water being the letter of the word, and the Holy Spirit being that which interprets the Word you know.

1 Corinthians 15:39-50 The flesh and the Spirit are opposites. They don't operate the same way. You have to be born again with a new way to discern the things of the kingdom because they can't be discerned in the flesh.

Romans 8:2 The law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus set me free from the law of sin and death.

Romans 7:4-6 The law has been terminated. The things of the kingdom are not about the things of the law. We serve in newness of the Spirit.

Romans 7:6 AMP But now we are discharged from the Law and have terminated all intercourse with it, having died to what once restrained and held us captive. So now we serve not under [obedience to] the old code of written regulations, but [under obedience to the promptings] of the Spirit in newness [of life].

Do you know how to recognize the voice of the Spirit?

2 Corinthians 3:14-18 lifts the veil, sets us free and brings liberty, reveals our true identity

John 16:13-15 Makes us God Conscious

Romans 8:16-17 reveals our sonship, joint heirs with Christ

1 Corinthians 2:9-10 reveals things freely given to us

John 14:16-18 comforter [advocate, intercerssor, relieves anxieties] reveals truth

Hebrews 10:14-17 reinforces that we have been perfected forever God is not sin conscious

Romans 5:5 emphasises God's love for us

Romans 14:17 produces a sense of righteousness, peace and joy

Romans 15:13 causes us to abound in hope

Jude 20,21,24 builds up your faith, keeps you in the love of God, presents you faultless before God

1 Corinthians 2:6-8 reveals the mystery Colossians 1:26-27 Ephesians 3:4-5

Mystery-something that can only be understood by divine revelation

2 Thessalonians 2:7-8 exposes the counterfeit, Acts 10:38 heals all that are oppressed of the devil [expose his lies]

Who has the Holy Spirit? Why then do most Christians have a real lack of understanding when it comes to being secure in God's love and knowing who they are and how God sees them?

Acts 13:10

Matthew 7:15 wolf in sheep's clothing

2 Corinthians 11:13-15 angel of light ministers righteousness according to works

2 Thessalonians 2:4 sits in the temple as God. We are the temple

2 Thessalonians 2:10 with all deceivableness of unrighteousness

Romans 10:2-3

Satan flips the roles: He makes us think that God is the accuser and we are the recipients of His judgment.

John 3:17 Jesus did not come to condemn

John 16:7-11

There are two voices out there:

The voice of the Holy Spirit which makes you God conscious
The voice of the conscience which makes you self conscious, sin
conscious

Hebrews 5:12-14 You will never grow up into a mature Christian until you can tell the difference between the voices.

Mark 3:24-29 We blaspheme the Holy Spirit by listening to the voice of condemnation. When we do that, we will never experience liberty.

2 Corinthians 3:6 We are ministers of the Spirit

Ephesians 4:29-30, 31-32, 22-24

Let no corrupt communication come out of your mouth-that which separates one from the source of life

Minister grace to the hearers, put off the old man and put on the new man.

What are you ministering?

1 Corinthians 2:2-4 I determined not to know anything among you but Jesus Christ and Him crucified.

Ministers of the Spirit connect men to the power of God and make them God conscious.