THE HOLY SPIRIT

THE INTERCESSOR

by Sister Stephen

(This teaching was originally given to a group of intercessors from the Catholic Charismatic Renewal in Philadelphia, PA. USA during October of 1983.)



OPENING PRAYER

+ In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Holy, Almighty Father in Heaven, we give thanks and praise and honor and glory to You today. Thank You for the privilege, Lord, that we can come here in the Mighty Name of Jesus. Father, we dedicate even this time of study as a special prayer of intercession. We lift up to You all of our people and intentions. Lord, we give You permission to reach out through us. Work Your Mighty Miracles in us and through us for the glory of Your Name, the Mighty Name of Jesus. Do everything You would like to do.

Come, Holy Spirit, with Your special grace of revelation. Grant that we might know and love You more. Help us understand more deeply how to work with You in intercession to bring Glory to God.

Almighty Father God, we promise to give You all the praise and honor and glory for all that You have done, all that You are doing, and all that You will do.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be world without end. Amen.



Jesus is The Lord. Let's lift up Jesus in the lives of all our people right now, by a short time of praise and worship. Remember what the Lord promised:

"If I am lifted up, I will draw all men to Myself." (John 12:32) (JB)

Sing "The Lord Reigns" or some other song you know. We join together in the Holy Spirit as an international house of prayer, and proclaim Jesus as Lord across the nations today. Amen.

NIHIL OBSTAT AND IMPRIMATUR:

MOST REVEREND PAUL KENJIRO KORIYAMA BISHOP OF DIOCESE OF KAGOSHIMA, JAPAN JULY 2017

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Credits:

Special THANK YOU TO God – our Father, our Lord Jesus Christ and our Beloved Holy Spirit!

Special THANK YOU TO all FBB Intercessors for their great prayer support

and whose editorial expertise has assisted in writing this small book.

God bless you abundantly! Glory to God!

(Holy Bible Quotations taken from the New Jerusalem Bible and Bible Gateway online translations)



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PROLOGUE

Some years ago, when Sister Stephen visited and talked to me about the work of the **Catholic Charismatic Intercessors of the Fellowship of the Burning Bush**, I responded after listening to her carefully:

"Sister, the intercession is the essence itself of the Church. The Church is Christ, and Christ is The Intercessor yesterday, today, and forever. We do not have another Christ that will reconcile us with the Father but the One Who lives interceding for us in His Own Glorious Existence and Who, from the Father, gives to us His Holy Spirit, the Spirit of New Life. Therefore, to speak of intercession in the Church, is to speak of what His Own Essence as Body of Christ is; even more, as the Christ that the Church is, and that makes Her Lord present in history and in the world." (2 Corinthians 5:18-19; Romans 5:10; Colossians 1:20, 22).

I must confess that in that conversation, I understood more clearly that the intercession prayer is an essential condition, so that the Church will accomplish its mission of salvation of men and women of all nations and of all times. The work of FBB makes reference to this fact, recognized from the beginning in the Church, of the presence and action of the charismas that the Holy Spirit gives to the Church for its own edification so that it will fulfill its mission efficiently. The "Catholic Charismatic Intercessors of the Fellowship of the Burning Bush" make an effort to convert intercession to a permanent prayer, lived in community and in groups interrelated by the bonds of charity, within the unity of the Catholic and Apostolic Church. The charisma of the intercession prayer takes place in the communion of a life of prayer nourished by the Fire of the Love of God.

In my opinion, the work of FBB provides something new to the mystic experience of the Church. In our times, it is one more manifestation of the permanent Pentecost in which the Church is immersed. It is like a strength that renews, a wind, a fire, a shaking that seeks to renew the conscience of the missionary power and sanctifying power of the intercession prayer in the Church.

+ Francisco Maria Aguilera Gonzalez



I. THE HOLY SPIRIT --- THE INTERCESSOR INTRODUCTION

In the training course on "Intercession in the Spirit of Jesus", we have been sharing about what intercession means as the Lord sees it in the Bible. This is a "new intercession" that the Lord Jesus Himself has given us. Hebrews gives us a glimpse this new intercession:

"Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible." (Hebrews 11: 1-3) (NRSVCE)

So from the invisible world, the visible world came to be. Then, we see in this verse about Moses,

"It was by faith that he left Egypt without fear of the king's anger; he held to his purpose like someone who could see the Invisible." (Hebrews 11: 27) (JB)

What can this mean for us in intercession? Intercessors are like Moses who can see into the invisible realm, to see God and what He wants to bring from Heaven into earth. And so they can cling to the real hope and persevere in intercession regardless of what they see in circumstances.

Also in our studies, we have seen how the Lord Jesus Himself is The Most Powerful Intercessor - a work He is even doing right NOW!

"It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who stands at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us?" (Romans 8:34) (NRSVCE)

Because the Lord Jesus is God and He stands in intercession in Heaven, we can say that intercession is a Divine Work - something God Himself is doing right now. So when we are asked to pray for others, it is an awesome privilege! We can actually join with God in what God is doing right now!



Today we want to focus on the Holy Spirit in intercession.

"The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, Who searches the heart, knows what is the Mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the Will of God." (Romans 8.26-27) (NRSVCE)

In this Bible passage, the Lord reminds us that we do not know how to pray. Everybody in the world has the same problem. Nobody knows how to pray right. Did you ever feel like that? Sometimes the situations that we are dealing with or the intentions people ask us to pray for are so huge. How do we pray? We really do NOT know how to pray. Then, the Lord goes on the say that the Holy Spirit will come to help us. And He knows how to pray according to the Will of God. Thank You, God, for the Holy Spirit!

The Holy Spirit knows how to pray. We need to go deeper and find out more about Who the Holy Spirit really is, how He prays, and how He works. If we are invited to work with Him in intercession, then it is good to know how He prays and works, so we can agree and work better with Him. So now we are going to focus on these questions:

How does the Holy Spirit pray?

How does the Holy Spirit work?



II. THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE BIBLE

It is very interesting to look at the Holy Spirit in the Bible. The very first time that we see the Holy Spirit in the Bible is in Genesis. It says that,

"God, (*Elohim*), created the Heavens and the earth." (Genesis 1.1) (JB)

"Elohim" is the plural form of God in Hebrew pointing into the deep reality that the Almighty Eternal God is the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. And all together "Elohim created the Heavens and the earth."

Then Genesis goes on,

"And the depth of the earth was covered in darkness and formless void - without form - in chaos. And the wind from God swept over the face of the waters." (Genesis 1: 2) (NRSVCE) Another translation says, "The Spirit of God hovered, or brooded, over the chaos - over the face of these dark waters." (Genesis 1: 2) (JB)

This image of the Holy Spirit of God, Who is sweeping or hovering or brooding, is an image of active intercession. The very first time we see the Holy Spirit in the Bible, He is manifesting the Glory of God from the invisible world into the created world in an intensive, active position of intercession. His Very Presence creates a new Divine Atmosphere of Glory in the created world. Alleluia!

Then into that living Divine Atmosphere of Glory, created from the Holy Spirit's Presence and powerful intercession, the Sound of Heaven, the Creative Voice of Almighty God breaks forth. The next line in Genesis says,

"And God,(*Elohim*) SAID, 'Let there be light'." (Genesis 1:3) (JB)

And from the Divine, Eternal, Invisible Reality, the Sound of God broke into the visible created world and hit the manifest Glory of God creating a Divine Creative Explosion.

"And there was light." (Genesis 1:3) (JB)

God continued speaking again and again to create and order all creation according to His Eternal Divine Plan. Alleluia!



God not only spoke through the Holy Spirit Glory at the beginning of creation. But He continues even today, every moment, to speak into the deepest depths of everything He has created to sustain and keep it going. Such an amazing Providential Ongoing Care of God for all He has made! (cf. Colossians 1: 16-17)

This is even documented by science. Do you remember studying science in school and how we were taught that the smallest part of every created material is made of atoms that have protons and electrons? Over the years science has found that protons and electrons are not the smallest particles in matter. Actually there are smaller sub-atomic particles they have found. Some are called "quarks". And there are different kinds of quarks. But basically, the quark is an energy wave - like a sound or light or color wave. So we can say that, not only God spoke us into being when he created us and everything else, but His Voice continues to echo in the very deepest place of everything He has made. He continues to speak deep within every part of our very being and of everything He has made - keeping us going - Almighty God speaking from the invisible world into the visible world! Can you hear the Sound of God? As St Paul so truly said,

"It is in Him that we live and move and have our very being." (Acts 17:28) (NRSVCE)

Alleluia!



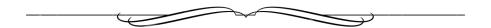
Now, coming back to our study:

So, the very first time that we see the Holy Spirit in the Bible, in the beginning of Genesis at Creation, He is in an intensive, active position of intercession.

Now look at the very last time we see the Holy Spirit, at the end of the Bible in Revelations 22. Here we read,

"The Spirit and the Bride say, 'Come - even so, come Lord Jesus'." (Revelations 22:17 and 20). (NRSVCE))

Again we see the Holy Spirit in strong, active intercession, calling forth God to again manifest His Sovereign, Creative Power and Victory by revealing the Glory of His Son. And this time, the Holy Spirit is not alone. He has a prayer partner. Who is that prayer partner? Who is this "Bride"? It is the Church. We are the "Bride". Here the Holy Spirit and the Bride are crying out in intercession together, "Come, Lord Jesus". Alleluia! Amen!



The Lord Jesus often talks about the Holy Spirit in the Gospels. At the Last Supper, He says

"I am going to send you the Holy Spirit, Who will be with you

- Who will be IN you." (John 14:17) (NRSVCE)

How wonderful!

Here the Lord gives the Holy Spirit a special name. He says,

"I am going to send you another *advocate*." (John 14:15) (NRSVCE)

What does 'advocate' mean? Perhaps we think of somebody who pleads for us as in a court room like a lawyer - or somebody who protects us. Sometimes 'advocate' is translated as counsellor or helper or paraclete.

Actually the word "advocate" was a legal and a military term at the time of Jesus. Remember Ephesians 6 when St Paul talks about the armor of God? He speaks about the helmet of salvation, the breastplate of righteousness, the belt of truth, and the shield of faith. These are like parts of the military armor of the Greeks in His day. You will notice that most of that armor the soldiers wore was in the front of the person. So when

they went into the battle, they were assigned a second soldier to cover and fight at their back. That second soldier that protected their back was called the "advocate".

The Lord Jesus promises to send us another "advocate". In the Holy Spirit we have a Divine Advocate who can speak out and bear testimony on our behalf in the courts of Heaven. We also have a powerful advocate covering our back during the battle in the spiritual war. Isn't that wonderful! And where is the Holy Spirit going to be? From where is He going to be our advocate? Jesus said, He will be living IN us. THE INTERCESSOR will be living in us.! Glory to God! Alleluia!



The Holy Spirit will be living in us. And what will He be doing in us? As Advocate, He will be interceding. Think about this more. The Holy Spirit is GOD! And He will be living in us and interceding in us. So again the Lord reveals to us that intercession is God's work. This time it is the Holy Spirit of God Who is doing this right now.

Do you remember what Jesus promised:

"T truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in Heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them." (Matthew 18: 19-20) (NRSVCE)

Two or three of you agree - think about this. The Lord Jesus is already praying at the Right Hand of God the Father. And now we have the Holy Spirit of God, Who is praying in our hearts. Two or three of you agree... Jesus, Holy Spirit and Me! Put your name in there! Think about what is means if we agree with God when we pray!

"Is anything too wonderful or too hard for God!!!" (Genesis 18:14) (NRSVCE)

Alleluia!



In the Bible, the Holy Spirit works mainly to do two things in and through us.

<u>First</u>: He is like the refiner's fire (Malachi 3:3) transforming us so that we become holy, so that we begin to look like Jesus. St. John says,

"When we get to Heaven, I don't know what we will look like. But I do know that right now we are the children of God and when we get to Heaven, we will see Jesus as He really is because we will be like Him." (1 John 3: 2) (NRSVCE)

Isn't that amazing! The Holy Spirit comes into our hearts so we can be born again as children of God. (Romans 8: 14-17) (NIV) Then He continues working on us to transform us, to change us to be like Jesus. So, when we get to Heaven and knock on the door and Father God opens the door, He will say, "OH, you look like someone I know! (Meaning Jesus) Come right in!" Don't you want the Father to say that to you? Come Holy Spirit, help us! God really wants this for us. That is why He has given us the Holy Spirit. What God is aiming at in all of us is Jesus - Jesus Who is God and man. Alleluia!

God really wants us to be one with Him. Jesus prayed deeply for this at the Last Supper.

"Father, may they be one as You and I are one. May they be one in Us." (John 17: 21) (JB)

So that is one of the main works of the Holy Spirit. He is working to make us holy so that God can live in us - to make us like Jesus so that we can be one with God.

As we think about what is really going on with the Holy Spirit and what He is doing in all of our lives, we need to pray especially for more love - God's kind of Love for one another - especially the kind of love called 'tolerance'. Tolerance means you give people room to grow. Everybody is in God's refining fire. And everyone is in a different place in the spiritual journey. God is dealing with each one in a different area of their lives. Maybe in some situations God is dealing with relationships. In other situations, He is dealing with prayer life or faith. Or He may be dealing

with money. Or work. And God works on all different kinds of levels in these areas of our lives at the same time. Because everyone is being worked on in different levels, we need lots of love.

"Love that covers a multitude of sins - that forgives all things - that does not keep a record of wrongs - that gives people room to grow - that has no limits on its hopes and believes all things - that never comes to an end." (1 Corinthians 13: 4-8) (GNT)

More Divine Love. Come, Holy Spirit, with more Divine Love. Amen.

<u>Second</u>: When the Holy Spirit comes to us, He gives us Divine Power. He wants to work through us in the same way that He works through Jesus, so that we can do what Jesus would do. As Jesus Himself said, so that we can

"do even greater things." (John 14: 12) (JB)

These "greater things" come from the Power of the Holy Spirit working through us. Intercession is an essential way the Holy Spirit does this.

Throughout the Bible, we can find many examples of the Holy Spirit in the position of intercession. And as St. Paul describes Him, He is the One who knows how to pray according to the Will of God, according to the Mind of God. And when He is living in our hearts, this is His primary work: The Advocate - The Intercessor.

I used to be burdened at times as I went among God's People in many nations with some of the things people ask me to pray about. Do you ever feel like that? I just didn't know how to pray for these tremendous situations. Then one day I realized that I don't have to know how to pray. I just need to know Who to go to for help - Who to ask. Since the Holy Spirit is working in everyone's life and He knows how to pray, I can ask Him. He can show us how to deal with all these situations, how to pray. That took a big burden off my shoulders. Now I know Who to go to - to the One Who does know how to pray. Alleluia! Thank you, Jesus!



III. HOW DOES THE HOLY SPIRIT PRAY? HOW DOES THE HOLY SPIRIT WORK?

From both the Old and the New Testament in the Bible, we can learn a lot about the Holy Spirit. And we can find many examples of the Holy Spirit in the intercession. In this study, we are focusing on the Holy Spirit as THE INTERCESSOR.

Several places in the Bible give us a summary of how the Holy Spirit prays - of how the Holy Spirit works.

One of those places is in the Gospels, when the disciples asked Jesus to teach them how to pray. Jesus said,

"When you pray, say this 'Our Father, Who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil." (Matthew 6:9-13; and Luke 11:1-4) (JB)

This is a very powerful prayer that all Christians pray. However, here Jesus is answering the question of "how to pray". So His Words are more than a prayer we can pray. They are also a profound revelation of *HOW* to pray.

Remember one time Jesus said, "I can only do what I see My Father doing" and "I only speak what I hear my Father speaking" (John 5: 19 and 12:49.) Here Jesus reveals to us how He obeyed the Holy Spirit in everything He said, in every place He went, and in everything He did. In fact the "key" to the effectiveness of the Prayer of Jesus and His Ministry is: He obeyed the Holy Spirit in everything. So as a result of His obedience, Jesus experienced Holy Spirit answers to His prayers and Holy Spirit Fruit in His Ministry.

I already mentioned that when Jesus spoke the "Our Father," He was answering a question on "How to pray. Because He obeyed the Holy Spirit in everything, the words of Jesus in the "Our Father" are an amazing and deep revelation about the Holy Spirit - of how the Holy Spirit prays and

works. So we can say that the Our Father is a powerful prayer but it is also an amazing revelation of how the Holy Spirit prays and works.

For example, the "Our Father" starts out with the words: "Our Father." Think of what St. Paul says in Romans,

"You received the Spirit of adoption as sons, enabling us to cry out, 'Abba, Father!" (Romans 8:15) (JB)

The Holy Spirit makes us children of God and thus enables us to cry out, "Abba, Father" even as Jesus does. Jesus started this prayer by calling on God first, "Our Father". He showed us by example the first and most important step of the "new intercession." Jesus put God first, not the problems! Sometime go through the Our Father line by line and look for what it says about the Holy Spirit - how His Prayer and Work are being revealed - and what it says about the "new intercession in the Spirit of Jesus." Such an amazing revelation in this beautiful prayer! Glory to God!



<u>1 CORINTHIANS 12: 1 - 7</u>

I am not going more deeply into the Our Father right now, but I want us to turn to another place in the Bible: 1 Corinthians 12: 1-7. Here is another wonderful summary of how the Holy Spirit prays and how the Holy Spirit works. Let's read this together:

"Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. You know that when you were pagans, you were enticed and led astray to idols that could not speak. Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says 'Let Jesus be cursed!' and no one can say 'Jesus is Lord' except by the Holy Spirit.

"Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone.

"To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good." (1 Corinthians 12: 1-7) (NRSV)

Now we are going to go through these verses line by line to search out more deeply how the Holy Spirit prays and works.



A. JESUS IS LORD

It is very interesting how St Paul starts out 1 Corinthians 12 verse 1. He is trying to clarify to the people in his time about the Holy Spirit so that they can understand Him better.

"Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed." - (I want to clear up a wrong impression - I do not want you to be ignorant.)
(1 Corinthians 12: 1) (JB)

Right from the beginning of Christianity people needed help to understand the Holy Spirit – just as we do today.

Then, he goes on to speak about the first important revelation about the Holy Spirit:

"I want you to understand that on the one hand no one can be speaking under the influence of the Holy Spirit and say 'Curse Jesus', and on the other hand, no one can say, 'Jesus is Lord'," 'unless he is under the influence of the Holy Spirit." (1 Corinthians 12: 3) (JB)

To "say" that Jesus is Lord means more than just speaking these words. It means much more. It means actually living and experiencing the Lordship of Jesus Christ.

What does it mean to you to say: "Jesus is Lord"? He is King. He is Master. He is in charge of everything. He has victory in every human situation and in every spiritual situation.

There is nothing outside of Jesus Christ. NOTHING. Jesus has been everywhere and He has the victory in every situation in Heaven, on earth, and under the earth, in hell. Everywhere! And Jesus has the victory - over life, over sin, over satan, over death, over all creation in Heaven and on earth. Jesus has the absolute victory. He really is the Conqueror and Lord of everything. There is nothing outside of Jesus.

Also, nothing can happen in Heaven or on the earth unless the Lord permits it to happen for a reason, God's reason! Not even the devil can move unless God permits him to move for a reason ... God's reason. This is something that needs to be real and practical in our own experience - that Jesus is really Lord in every part of our lives. And, whatever happens in our lives, we need to learn how to put Jesus first. We need to go to Jesus first and find out what the Lord is doing in this situation. Lord, what are You trying to say to me? What are You trying to teach me? What are You trying to do in my life in this case at this time? Learn how to go to Jesus first.

Some people do not know how to do this. Maybe the first idea they think when they have a problem is: "It's the devil; and I rebuke him in the Name of Jesus." If we understand what it means to say "Jesus is Lord", then Jesus is really in charge of all things, including the devil.

At times God may permit the devil to tempt us or may allow adverse things to happen in our lives for a larger purpose, God's Purpose. If the only thing we do is rebuke the devil when we have a temptation or problem, then we actually miss the Purpose of God. So we need to learn how to go to the Lord FIRST and say "God, what are You trying to say to me? What do You want me to give You, Lord?"

As we do this, perhaps we may understand that maybe the Lord lets the devil bring a temptation into our lives because the Lord is giving us a message: "Excuse Me. You have a little hole in your spiritual wall right there. Come on. Patch it up." Now, if we just rebuke the devil, the hole is still there. And we miss God's message. God has to fill that hole in our spiritual wall so He can continue to build us into a spiritual house where He can live with us. So He may allow the enemy to keep coming back until we get the message.

The Lord will not let us go. If God is working on some point in our lives and we are getting to the point where it is too much and we say "I can't take anymore! Stop!" The Lord is a gentleman. He will back off. He will stop but He is not going to forget it. Pretty soon He will have to come back again.

And we can always tell where God is working in our lives. Just ask, "What is getting us most upset lately?" Right there is what He is working on. So ask Him, "Lord, what do You want me to give You? What are You trying to teach me?" Cooperate with Him.

God is building us into a spiritual house. The Holy Spirit is doing the work in us. He is called the "refiner's fire". He is the One Who shapes living stones so that they fit together into a spiritual house where God can come to live. Now, as I already said, if God is working on the first level of the stones of our house and there is a hole in the wall; and if God is trying to fix that hole but we are fighting Him, He may back off for a while. But He has to come back to that level and deal with whatever it is about before He can put the next level of stones on. He will keep coming back until we get the message.

When we learn how to go to Jesus FIRST and put Him FIRST in every case, the Lord can show us what is really going on in our lives and begin

to heal and lead and guide us through the power of the Holy Spirit. Isn't that wonderful! Then we don't have to keep "going around the mountain again and again" so many times, experiencing the same problems over and over again to learn God's lessons once and twice and three or four times. We can get it right the first time around. We will experience the Holy Spirit's work making Jesus to be our Lord.

I think I am going to make a special sign to remind us that says:

GO TO JESUS FIRST!

This is also important for us to understand for intercession. God is working in everyone the same way He works in us. So when others have problems and need prayer, we need to remember our motto, *GO TO JESUS FIRST!* Ask Him what He is doing and ask the Holy Spirit how He wants us to pray. Then we can work better with God instead of against Him in intercession.

JESUS CHRIST IS THE LORD! ALLELUIA!



Many years ago, around 1970, I was visiting some of the communities and groups where the Holy Spirit had come with the Gift of a New Pentecost. At that time in history, you could look around the world and see that the Holy Spirit had visited somewhere touching every way of life and every form of service possible in Jesus Christ with the Grace of a New Pentecost. There were charismatic priests, charismatic families, charismatic communities, charismatic right-to-life groups, and charismatic ministries to the poor. You name it and somewhere in the world, the Holy Spirit had come and given a whole new life and dimension to these vocations and these ministries with the Grace of Pentecost.

One of these communities had a place called "The Lord's Ranch". They were located right out in the middle of the desert near the border of Mexico and the United States. The Holy Spirit led Fr. Rick Thomas, SJ and the people of his community to make this the ranch where they would raise food for the poor. Now geologically speaking, this land could not

hold water. However, Fr. Rick had three lakes: Peter, James, and John. The Lord did a miracle for them with the lakes.

One day, I was sitting out by one of the lakes praying and thinking about the Holy Spirit and what He was doing. It seemed like everything in that place was just shouting out, "I am the Lord's. I am the Lord's. This is the Lord's Ranch." It was amazing! Alleluia!

I said, "Lord, what is the Holy Spirit doing? Why are You sending Him all over the world like this at this time in history?" I was thinking about all the different groups and communities. The Lord answered and said to me, "The work of the Holy Spirit is to reveal Jesus. What the Holy Spirit is doing today is trying to reveal Jesus in a way that the people of today can understand Him." Isn't that beautiful!

Many of these new communities God created also had a new name. And the Lord showed me that the name He gave these different groups was a clue to help them discover how they are called to reveal Jesus today.

For example, another one of these communities I visited was called: The Children of God's Delight. Now. who is God's delight? Jesus, of course! We are the children of God, sons and daughters of God in the Son of God. And He delights in us. But His Son, Jesus, is really God's delight!

This community was called The Children of God's Delight. They had a very special gift to reveal in their lives what it is like to be a daughter or a son of God in The Son, Jesus Christ. It was interesting to see how all of the main prophesies and all of the formation programs that the Lord gave them over the years for training their people had this same focus — what does it mean to be a son or daughter of God in Jesus Christ. And the grace of that gift just filled the spiritual atmosphere around them. We deeply experienced this grace when we were with them. I thought it was very significant that the Lord gave this gift in a community of families. What a beautiful place to experience the Son-ship of Jesus Christ - in a community of families.

Other groups the Holy Spirit has made have other names. For example: The Word of God, The Good Shepherd, Intercessors of the Father, and Sacred Heart Prayer Group. So many different Names of Jesus. Each new

group is a new creation of the Holy Spirit. Even with our missionary apostolate of intercession God has given us a new name: The Fellowship of the Burning Bush (FBB). And He has also given the different branches of the Fellowship in different countries new branch names. Each new name is a revelation of how He wants us to reveal Jesus among the people of our time, especially in the line of intercession. FBB with its branches is a wonderful new creation of God in the *new intercession*. Alleluia! Glory to God for His amazing ways!

As I mentioned, the Lord showed that the new name He gave these different groups was a clue to help us discover how they are called to reveal Jesus. This is important for us to understand in order for each of us to catch God's purposes and His vision for us in our lives and in our groups. Even each one of us individually can be given a new name by God. Has God given you a new name? Ask Him about this. What is my name in Your kingdom, Lord? What does it mean? This reflects the special way He wants you to reveal Jesus in your life. When we begin to get God's Vision and we get His Focus, then we have something to hope for and aim for, something real to pray for and to grow into for God's Glory.



So the main work of the Holy Spirit is to reveal Jesus. This is important for each of us to understand and experience personally as well as for intercession. When we are praying for others, the Lord Jesus wants to personally visit them in different ways. In the Bible, God actually revealed Himself to different people in many different ways. We can meet Him in all of these ways. And as we pray for others, He may want to come in one of those ways to our people.

For example: maybe someday you are praying about a situation where there is a "Goliath" of a problem. And as you pray, the Lord reminds you of the story of David and Goliath. The Lord is trying to reveal something to you. Not only how to pray but also how He wants to come and visit these people in this situation as the God of David. Who is the God of David in the Bible and in the battle of David and Goliath? As we read this Bible story and open our hearts to receive God's revelation about the God of David, He can give us new revelation for our current situation. We will even be able to meet God in a new way ourselves. Then we will be able to

work with Him in a new way, according to the Grace revealed in His Name. We can declare, "The God of David, the great I AM is here. With Him all things are possible. I come against this "Goliath" in my life in the Name of the Lord of Hosts." As we catch the meaning of God's Name and Who He is in the story of David and Goliath, we can learn how to work with Him better in intercession in our situation and open the way for Him to intervene in that special way.

God can give us revelation when we are praying and reading the Bible and when we are praying for others in intercession. We may be reading the Bible and God may emphasize one part of that Bible passage. Maybe just one line touches our heart. Sometimes people take this one line as a good idea for the day, but it is more than that. Jesus said, "The Scriptures point to Me." (John 5:39-40) (JB) That line that touches our hearts is actually where the Lord is opening up a window into Heaven so we can see the Face of Jesus in a new way. So when a Bible passage touches our hearts, we need to ask the question "Lord, what are You trying to show me about Jesus here? Who are You here in this Bible verse?" As we speak to the Lord about this, He can take you deeper into why He gave us that Bible verse today, into a new revelation of Who He is and how He wants to work today. It is an exciting adventure to live with God and for His revelation to continually come to us.

For us in intercession, we need to remember that God is continually coming in different ways to our people. He can show us how He wants to come to others so we can pray for them from Heaven into the earth. When He gives revelation of Himself, we need to ask Him and catch hold of the special Grace of Revelation of Who He is for those we pray for. This is a wonderful way the Holy Spirit works. This is how He can reveal Jesus now. This is what we can pray for with Him - to welcome Jesus as He wants to come to our people now - so He can work in them as God wills.

However, revelation is NOT intercession. When God gives us revelations, we then need to ask the Lord to show us what the revelations mean and how to pray those revelations in intercession. How can we agree with Him in what He wants to do for our people? Then the Holy Spirit can lead us and Jesus can truly and practically be Lord in us, and through our intercession prayer, in the lives of our people. Alleluia!



B. GOD'S PURPOSE

Let us continue studying about how the Holy Spirit prays and works in 1 Corinthians 12:

"There is a variety of gifts but always the same Spirit; there are all sorts of service to be done, but always to the same Lord; working in all sorts of different ways in different people, it is the same God who is working in all of them. The particular way in which the Spirit is given to each person is for a good purpose." (1 Corinthians 12: 4-7) (NRSVCE)

As we look more deeply at the work of the Holy Spirit here, we will go first to Verse 7:

"The particular way in which the Spirit is given to each person is for the common good." (1 Corinthians 12: 7) (NRSVCE)

Some Bibles translate "for the common good" as "for a good purpose" or "for the good of us all".

Whatever God does is GOOD. And when God does something, He does it for a good reason, a good purpose, His Purpose. Since God is the only One Who is good, as Jesus said in Mark 10:18 and Luke 18:19, the "good purpose" St. Paul speaks of in this Bible verse is actually *God's Purpose*. So the Holy Spirit is given to us for *God's Purpose*.

God has a plan. God has a purpose for everything. His big plan, the big purpose of God we see in Ephesians.

"With all wisdom and understanding, the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, has let us know the mystery of His purpose, the hidden plan He so kindly made in Christ from the beginning to act upon when the times had run their course to the end; that He would bring everything together under Christ, as Head, everything in the Heavens and everything on earth." (Ephesians 1: 9-10) (JB)

This is the big overall plan of God. This is the goal to which God is heading in everything He does. He is heading in this direction with all of

history, with all of creation - to bring everyone and everything together into one under Jesus Christ as Lord and Head. All the kingdoms of Heaven and earth are going in that direction. The Almighty Sovereign God created history and He is in charge of history. And He is continually moving history toward the fulfillment of His Divine Plan.

What will happen after all the kingdoms of Heaven and earth are brought into submission to Jesus Christ as Lord and Head? Another Bible verse says that Jesus will take all of the kingdoms and present them back to God the Father so that God can be all in all. (1 Corinthians 15:28) (JB) This is the big, overall plan of God.

Every one of us is given a part of His plan to accomplish. Maybe we can think of it like this. God has His big plan for everyone and everything. That big plan is like a great big picture made out of many pieces - like a picture puzzle. For each person God creates, He sets aside a special part of His Plan. It is their lifetime job to complete that corner of the Plan (puzzle).

An amazing thing about God is that when He gives each one of us a mission to complete, a part of His Plan, nobody can take our place. Each one of us has his own part to play in fulfilling and actualizing God's plan. God's plan is for everybody. There is a part for everybody. Every person, every group, every meeting, every nation has a part of this Plan of God they are to accomplish in their lifetime. And if we do not accomplish our part of the plan, the amazing thing about God is that nobody is going to do our part for us. If we do not do our part, nobody is going to do it. That is very important for us to think about. Each one of us has an important place in God's Kingdom and God's Plan. There is something He wants each of us to accomplish in His Kingdom. Nobody can take our place. Isn't that awesome!

For us in the work of intercession (and this is true of every ministry), God works the same way with a group as He does with individuals. Whenever we come together for the work He has given us, like when we have an intercession meeting, there is a part of His Plan that the Lord would like us to accomplish in that meeting.

For example, if you think about that big picture puzzle. The Lord might say, "The intercessors are meeting today. This is the corner I want them to

do today." If we are open to what God wants to do and pray during the meeting asking Lord what He wants us to do, how He wants us to pray, who He wants us to pray for, the Lord will begin to give revelation to different people. By revelations, He is passing out the pieces of His puzzle. Maybe one person thinks of a Bible passage. Another thinks of a specific person to pray for. Another receives a vision in their mind. Different gifts are being given from the Holy Spirit in these revelations. Different pieces of the puzzle are being passed out. This is why we need to learn to freely share and report exactly what God gives us in prayer. We need to be good reporters of God's revelations to us, because every piece is needed if we are going to put together the section of the puzzle He gives us TODAY.

Then in an intercession group, God gives the leader of the meeting the special grace of discernment about how all the pieces of God's puzzle can fit together- on how to pray so He can accomplish His plan with our group for that day. And He works different ways through the different people who lead the meetings.



THE HOLY SPIRIT CAN LEAD A MEETING

I remember one time I was in Steubenville, Ohio with the intercessors for priests. I had given them the new intercession training course. And we were having intercession meetings each week to pray for the priests. I was leading the meetings. One day the Lord said to me, "I don't want you to lead the meetings any more. Let them take turns now." They were not sure about doing this and said, "Sister, we do not know how to do this very well." I said, "Well, just go ahead. The Lord said that I am to stop. It's your turn to lead. He will help us." So they started to take their turns.

Then I was gone for a while. When I came back they said, "Oh good! Sister is back. She can lead the meeting." I said, "No. The Lord told me I am not leading the meeting any more. Whose turn is it today?" It was the turn of the newest, youngest member to lead.

So we all started praising and worshipping the Lord and listening to God. In between the young man kept looking over at me. He whispered, "Sister, what am I supposed to do?" I said, "I don't know. The Lord didn't tell me.

It is your turn to lead today. You ask Him." We were going back and forth like this for most of the meeting.

Now these people were all in a charismatic covenant community so they were very open to the Charismatic Gifts of the Spirit. Everyone was receiving all kinds of visions and prophesies and Bible verses from the Holy Spirit as we prayed. And God was revealing very strong messages with gifts of the Word of Knowledge about priests and things they needed prayer for. Everybody shared what the Lord was giving to them. God was passing out pieces of His puzzle. Then the Lord said, "Now bring it all into intercession."

The Lord normally gives the leader of the group a discernment of the timing for intercession and the way to put all the pieces together, how they fit, and how to pray. They may recognize that someone has a special prayer intention and someone else has the prayer that fits the intention. Then the Holy Spirit may direct them to ask that person to pray or ask us all to pray their prayer together for the intention. The Lord can lead us on how to put the pieces together. It is like an orchestra. All of the pieces fit together, each in its own part and timing. It is amazing to watch the Holy Spirit do this.

At this meeting, the young leader kept looking at me. He said, "I don't know how to pray. The Lord is not telling me." I said, "I know the Lord has taught me many ways to pray, but I don't know what to do right now." I really did not know what to do. When the Lord told me not to lead, He also took away the leadership anointing and ability to discern what to do. I really did not know what to do. I said, "You are the leader. You have discernment. You ask the Lord what to pray."

Now we had to wait a long time for him to listen to God and get the discernment on how to pray because he was new, young, and a very traditional Catholic. Finally, after a long, long time he said, "Let's pray the Consecration to the Sacred Heart of Jesus." I probably would not have picked that prayer at that moment because there are some other things Jesus has taught me about praying in tune with all the messages He was giving us. But that was what the Lord told him and he was leading. So we got out the prayer to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and we prayed the consecration. I was amazed! Everything God had said to us was in that

prayer! The Lord just gathered everything up in this one prayer. And as we prayed it, we gave everyone to Jesus in His Sacred Heart. It was amazing! Everything was covered – every intention, every prophecy, every Bible verse. It was all there. Glory to God!



Like I said, it is so wonderful to watch the Holy Spirit work like this. All of us need to learn how to go to God to catch God's vision, to catch God's dreams and His Plan and follow the Holy Spirit in what to do or pray. We can have all kinds of good ideas and things we have learned or studied that we would like to see happen. But what does God see? And what does God want to do? How can we work with Jesus to bring Heaven into the earth? "Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven." This is another point in the "new intercession." Pray for this. Seek the Lord. Ask Him for the grace of revelation. And ask for the graces of wisdom and understanding to find out what God wants to do with His revelations and how to pray.

We need to hear from God. His vision is essential. His leadership is essential. As He reminds us in Proverbs:

"With no vision, the people run in every direction and they die." (Proverbs 29:18) (KJV)

So many times I have gone to people in positions of leadership, whether it is Church leadership or various group leaderships and I ask them, "What is God's vision for you and this group? What has God said to you?" Many times they do not know. They do not have a vision. How are you supposed to lead your people if you do not know where you are going? Even leaders of the Church sometimes answer my question with the practical social programs they have developed. That is not a vision. Programs are a means to an end. What is the end? And we need to get the end from God. It is essential.

One time I met with a Cardinal of a big Archdiocese and asked him this question. He said that "right now all the Bishops of our country are in a special time of seeking God's vision for the Church in our country." He asked us specifically to pray on this point. So I am commending this request to you and your groups. Pray for the grace of revelation for the

shepherds of the Church especially. It is very important for the future of the Church in our countries that we have shepherds who have God's dream and vision. Very important because then they can lead us into the Purposes of God and His Destiny for all of us.

As we pray, God will often tell intercessors His purposes and plans.

"Surely the Lord God will do nothing without revealing His plans (secret counsel) to His servants the prophets." (Amos 3:7). (NRSVCE)

The Lord does speak to His intercessors. When He says things to you about His vision, you need to first pray about it in intercession. And then go to your leadership in your Churches or your groups. Share with them what the Lord said to you in intercession - how you are praying. This can help them discern and confirm God's Will and God's Purposes for the people they serve.

Intercessors are crucial. If leadership could understand the place of intercessors in the Bible, the prophetic position of intercession, it could very much strengthen our groups and strengthen the Church. We could be able to more easily find God's Ways. And then we could become that light to the nations that God has invited, challenged, called, and commanded us to be. This is part of the prophetic dimension of intercession. It is to be able to know how to catch the revelation of God's Vision for the people we are praying for individually, for the groups, the parishes, the Church, and for nations. What can we really hope for? We cannot find hope in our circumstances. We are never going to find hope in our circumstances. Hope is only in Jesus. So, come to Jesus to find out what that hope is? And when He gives us that Vision, that Hope, then our mission is to follow the Holy Spirit in how to pray Heaven into the earth.



DETROIT MISSION

Some years ago, in the 1980's, I was giving the new intercession training courses at the Franciscan School of Evangelization in Detroit, Michigan, USA. People from all denominations, from all over America, and even

from other countries came for those trainings. From that group, the Lord called about 40 of us to make a special ecumenical team – the Detroit Intercessors - for a special prayer mission: to pray for Detroit.

As we prayed together to seek God's Will on what to pray for and how to pray, I said to the Lord. 'Lord, You know that Detroit has a very bad name: "the murder capital of the world". How are we supposed to pray for that? We need to hear from You to have some real hope for this place. What is Your Name for Detroit?" The Lord said to us: "Detroit is a city on fire with love for Jesus, with its light reaching out to the ends of the earth." Isn't that a wonderful name! And a wonderful Hope from Heaven.

The Lord led us to meet once a month for seven months. We would praise and worship the Lord together for about three hours. Then we divided up into seven cars. And we drove the entire freeway around Detroit, each car praying a different way. It took about 1 and ½ hours. We prayed every way you could pray: praising Jesus, praying the Blood of Jesus, calling on the Holy Spirit. We had a prophetic and Word of God car. We had a rosary car and spiritual war car. We prayed in tongues and gave glory to God. We did this every month for seven months. At the end of that time, in September 1987, Pope John Paul II came to visit Detroit for four days. While he was here, there was not one police report in the entire city. He really answered our intercession with an awesome miracle of His Peace in the whole city. Glory to Jesus!

God gave His name to Detroit many years ago. What happened in September 1987 was one step of His Miracle. Since then intercessors have been praying for the fulfillment of God's dream in Detroit. In 2009, The Lord brought us a new Archbishop who is filled with the Holy Spirit. And the Lord has promised that, through this Archbishop, He will realize or action His dream for Detroit NOW. *Now is the time of fulfillment*. As I write this book, I can truly say, it is really happening. Through this Archbishop and those God raised up around him, God is renewing and transforming the entire Archdiocese with a New Pentecost. God is working through him and his vision for everyone to be "missionary disciples", to fulfill His promise of "Detroit as a city on fire with love for Jesus, with its light reaching to out the ends of the earth." Glory to Jesus!



GOD'S VISION FOR A FAMILY

One time, the Lord said to me, "I want you to go visit this family today. Go and stay with them." I did not know what was happening over there, but when I arrived, I found out! This family was living in a condition of tremendous bondage. One of the daughters had gotten into drugs and all the sinful stuff that went with it. She lived there with the family. And the parents were actually captives in their own house. They could not leave the house out of fear that she would hurt herself or steal something to sell for more drugs. They had been living this way for two years and there was nobody for them to talk to. They had no help. They didn't know what to do. The entire family was under the bondage of the enemy inside this house. Tremendous bondage!

When I went to visit them, I walked right into the middle of everything that was going on. I did not know what to do. So I started praying. I got my guitar and started praising the Lord in this house. I began praying things that the Lord had taught me about how to deal with these kinds of situations in terms of spiritual warfare. There were so many different spiritual things we had to deal with. But the Lord showed me two keys to help this family get through this situation.

The *first key* was that these parents together had to dedicate the family to the Lord and open the door spiritually for Jesus to come in and do something. So one day both of them were in the house and I said to them, "Would you please come over here for just a minute and sit down. There is something we need to do right now." They both came over and I said, "The Lord said to me that we need to dedicate this family to God again so He can help you. Please, can you say this prayer with me right now. This is the moment." So I led them in the miracle prayer to dedicate them and everybody in the family and the entire situation to the Lord. They prayed the prayer with me and then they left.

I continued praising the Lord. Next, He said, "Now the door is open. They need something to hope for." (God's Vision) This was the *second key*. The mother was walking down the hall at that moment. So I said, "I need to ask you something. Please sit down here a minute. What do you want God to do? What do you hope for?" She said, "Sister, I don't know." I said, "Let's ask Him." We started to pray in the Holy Spirit and asked the Holy

Spirit for revelation. What can we hope for? The Lord gave her a vision of her daughter on her first communion day all surrounded in the Light of Jesus. I was seeing the same thing, the light all around her! So, I could confirm to her that it was God talking to her, giving her real hope.

I told her, "Now you have something to hope for. So let's ask God how to pray for this." So I just kept praising and praying in all ways the Lord had taught me. He showed me things to pray for, things that had to be forgiven and dealt with, and things to do. Within two days this daughter agreed to go for help for drug rehab! Two days and the Lord made the breakthrough after all those years of bondage. Glory to God!

It has taken a while for this family to come into more of the freedom and blessings and healing of the Lord. However, the daughter has been faithfully working for some years now and is free from the drugs. The Lord continues to do wonderful things for that family. They have had to walk on a journey to come out of hell and into a little bit of Heaven. They are not totally there yet, but they are persevering on the way. However, God has given them His Vision, something He wants them to hope for with their daughter. And God is changing that family. Let's give Him the glory!

No matter what it is, no matter what situation we have, Jesus said, "I am the way." (John 14:6) (JB) He has a plan - He has a way through every situation. And "with God, all things are possible." (Matthew 19:26) (JB)

It is so important to catch God's Vision, His Purposes, when we are in an intercession prayer group. We need God's Vision for individuals, for our groups, for the purpose of the parish, the purpose of the Church, for the purpose of each nation. Jesus is the Lord and Governor of the nations. He gives each people their place. God has plans. God has dreams for all people and their communities and their groups. He alone can give us real hope in every situation. As intercessors learn how to come to God, to seek God, to find Him, and to find out God's purposes and how to pray, then we also are able to work better with Him to bring Heaven into earth. Alleluia! Amen.



GOD'S VISION FOR INDIA

Wherever the Lord leads me, I always ask Him, "Lord, why did You send me here now? What is it that You want to do?" Ephesians says,

"We are God's work of art created in Christ Jesus to walk in the good things that He has prepared for us ahead of time." (Ephesians 2:10) (GNT)

This means that when God created us, He did more than just give us life. He gave us a whole lifetime of good things. How many people know how to ask God what those good things are?

Our Father in Heaven has this huge library in Heaven. In His library He has a book for everybody with their name on it. Every group, every family, every parish, every Diocese, and every nation has a book in His library. In each book, He has written down all of His plans - all those good things – that He has prepared ahead of time for each one. Sometimes when the Lord takes me up into His library, I have noticed that a lot of those books in God's library have never been opened. People just do not know that Our Father has all these wonderful plans for them in a special book with their name in His library. Did you know that you have a book in God's library? And you can ask Him to take you up into His library to see your book. I am inviting you now. Come on up and visit the Father's library sometime. Ask Him to see your book. What is His Will, His plan, His dream for you and your people, your family, your community, your Church, your nation? Come Holy Spirit, help us.

As I said, when I go to different countries or places to serve, I always ask the Father to take me up into His library and reveal to me His Plans, what He wants to do for His People we serve in *this* place. One time when I went to India, I said, "Lord, I really need to know what Your will is. What is Your plan? What is Your vision for this mission? Why are we here? What are we supposed to pray for? I don't know what to do." So I prayed, "Father, I need to see what Your plan for India is."

As I was praying, He took me up to the library. In His library, God has a great big executive table. Around the table there is a chair for the Father, one for Jesus, and a chair for the Holy Spirit. Then He pulls up a little

chair for me. On this day, He went over and got the book called India off the shelf. He opened the book to the first page. Now He only shows us a little at a time, not the whole book at once. That would be too much. One page is more than enough at one time. As He opened the book, I saw the whole map of India on the page alive and blazing on fire. I said, "Lord, what does this mean? Is this a good fire - or a bad fire?" He said, "This is the fire of true worship to the True and Living God." This is the Father's dream for India. Isn't that beautiful! There is a lot of worship going on in India to all kinds of idols and creatures all the time. But the Father wants "TRUE worship to the True and Living God." That is God's dream. That is what God wants us to pray for in intercession.

Once God gives us the vision, we need to ask Him for His interpretation of the vision and for an intercession strategy or plan. How do we pray so that His Vision happens? What does God want the intercessors to do? As we asked the Lord on how to pray for His vision for India, He told us a number of things that He wants us to do to accomplish His plan. One of the things He said is that there are enough intercessors in India so that if they were to unite and focus their prayer, then He could set the whole Church on fire and there would be faith enough for the whole nation.

Another word that the Lord gave is that as He looks across all the nations, He has a purpose for the different nations in His Kingdom. One of His purposes, that is special for India, is the call to be a missionary. He wants India to be the missionary to take the Love of God the Father and of Jesus as Lord to the nations. This is part of God's Will for His People in India. Isn't it marvelous!

Another thing the Lord said we need to do to get that true fire going is to start lighthouses of praise and worship in every parish with the young people. Invite the young people to have a couple of hours of strong praise and worship every week to lift up the Light of Christ. He said, "You lift Me up and I'll bring the people. But you lift Me up!" (John 12:32) To get our young people once a week doing praise and worship! A lighthouse to lift up Jesus in every parish! Are you dreaming with me? Our young people can do this. They love music. They love to worship the Lord. He is not talking about evangelization. He is talking about worship, ministering unto the Lord. And the Lord will bring the people!

I was talking to a Bishop in India one day who works with the young people. I shared with the Bishop all the things the Lord was saying to us for India. Then I said to him "You work with young people. This is what the Lord told me. Have you taught them to be missionaries? With a lighthouse of praise and worship they can be missionaries." He said, "Well, we haven't done that one yet." I said, "Now is the time. You teach them how to be missionaries and we will see if we can get a lighthouse of praise and worship in every parish. Get the young people to be missionaries and watch God work." The Bishop is working on it. Wouldn't that be wonderful for this to happen in each parish!

So this is a special gift God has given to India: to be a missionary to the world, to take the love of God the Father and of Jesus as Lord to the nations. In India, we need to start His plan first at home - to be missionaries at home in India. Isn't this wonderful a wonderful plan! India, are you ready? This is a dream of the Lord. By our intercession, we need to make the bridge between His dream in Heaven and what is showing up on earth. This is a special Holy Spirit mission and work of intercession for India. And we are doing it step by step.



When God gives His visions and His revelations, He gives us something from Heaven to pray for. Then we keep seeking God and asking, how do we pray step by step, until we see it actually happen. We all need to be listening to God together about God's revelations and how to pray - in India, in all other places, and for all people we pray for.

When I start thinking about all the nations where the Holy Spirit is sending me for intercession, I wonder how are we ever going to pray and what are we supposed to do. The Church in the world is so very big. Some days I get down under this huge mountain of all the intercession needs we have to pray for in so many countries. It is such a huge responsibility. I can't even move at all. Then the Lord reminds me, "That's My work. You just follow Me and do what I tell you. That's enough. I will do the rest." Another time the Lord said to me, "I have given the wisdom for the Church in every nation to the people who live in that nation." That message is for India and for each one of you in your own places. You have God's Wisdom for your Church and your people. Each one needs to learn

how to come to God to find out His will and His plan, perhaps on a bigger level than you are used to.

How many prayer groups do we have where the prayer level is the level of petitions? That is a way of praying where we tell God the problem, then we tell God the answer. However, we need to step past that level into looking for what God wants to do, into the *NEW INTERCESSION IN THE SPIRIT OF JESUS*. We can no longer stay inside what we want to see happen, even if we want good things. We have to go past good things to God's things. This is the growing edge for intercessors today, to learn how to get past good things to God's things. Are you ready? Come, Holy Spirit and help us!

I am challenging you to grow because I know what God has given you. He has given you the Holy Spirit! Open up those presents of the Holy Spirit that God has put in your heart. Ask for revelation, wisdom, and words of knowledge. These are prophetic gifts so that you can speak God's word to your nation and your Church. The Church is really "our" Church. We ARE the Church. Each one of us is part of it.

I am talking to you about the work of the Holy Spirit in the new intercession. The Holy Spirit brings revelation. His gifts are given to reveal the purposes of God, to accomplish them, to actualize the dreams of the Lord. By intercession we can work with Him to actualize them - to make them real! - to bring Heaven into earth. That is our work of the new intercession.



SUMMARY

We have been discussing how the Holy Spirit prays - how the Holy Spirit works in 1 Corinthians 12: 1 - 7.

We already talked about verses 1 to 3. The main work of the Holy Spirit is to reveal Jesus. Not only does He influence us to say Jesus is Lord, but He also changes and transforms us so that we can live this proclamation. And in intercession we can work with Him to actualize Jesus as Lord in the lives of those we for whom we pray.

In 1 Corinthians 12: 7, we talked about God's Purpose. The Holy Spirit is given to us to accomplish God's purpose, His plan, His will - so God's Kingdom will be established on earth as it is in Heaven.



The Bible shows us that the Holy Spirit mainly does two things in our lives to reveal Jesus.

First: He is like the refiner's fire transforming us so that we begin to look like Jesus. St. John says,

"When we get to Heaven, I don't know what we will look like. But I do know that right now we are the children of God and when we get to Heaven, we will see Jesus as He really is because we will be like Him." (1 John 3: 2) (JB)

Isn't that amazing! The Holy Spirit is working on us to transform us, to fundamentally change us, so the Glory shining on the Face of Jesus will shine out from us. (cf. 2 Corinthians 3: 7 - 4: 4)

What does God want? What is God aiming for with us? It is in Jesus. Jesus is God and man. God wants us to be like Jesus. And He wants us to be one with Him in Jesus. Jesus prayed for this in John 17. He prayed,

"Father, may they be one as You and I are one. May they be one in Us." (John 17: 21) (JB)

So that is one of the main works of the Holy Spirit. He works to make us holy like Jesus, so that God can live in us; so that we can be one with God.

<u>Second</u>: The Holy Spirit anoints us and gives us Divine Power. He works through us in the same way that He worked through Jesus, so that we can do what Jesus did and, like Jesus Himself said, so that we can do even greater things. (cf. John 14: 16) It is the power of the Holy Spirit working through us.

As you begin to think about what is really going on with the Holy Spirit and how He is working in everyone, I believe we all really need to pray for more love - especially the kind of love called 'tolerance'.

Tolerance means you give people room to grow. Everybody is in God's fire. Everyone is in a different place. God is dealing with them in a different area of their lives. Maybe in some situations God is dealing with relationships. In other situations, He is dealing with money. In another situation, He is dealing with work. And God works on all different kinds of levels in these areas of our lives.

Because He is working in everyone in a different way and on in a different level, we need lots of Love: Love to give people room to grow. Love that covers a multitude of sins. Love that does not keep a record of wrongs and forgives all things. God's kind of Love that never ends. (1 Corinthians 13) Come, Holy Spirit, with more Love. Amen.

Lots of people don't even know that they have the Holy Spirit in their heart or that He is working in their lives. They have been baptized and confirmed and maybe even ordained, but they do not really know the Holy Spirit or how He works, and do not ever talk with Him. Did that ever happen to you? Has the Lord been living in your heart for maybe even forty years and you never talked to Him once? This seems to happen with many people. They didn't know the Holy Spirit was there. Now is the time to meet Him and come to know Him and love Him more. We earnestly need Him and His Love and all of His Divine Gifts. Come Holy Spirit! You are welcome in my heart! You are welcome in this place! Amen!



C. HOLY SPIRIT GIFTS AND MINISTRIES

Let's read now from 1 Corinthians 12:

"Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services (many ministries), but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities (many ways God works), but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone." (1 Corinthians 12: 4 - 6) (NRSV)

The Holy Spirit gives us many kinds of Gifts - the manifold Gifts of the Holy Spirit! Then 1 Corinthians says that there are all sorts of services or ministries to be done, where the same Lord is working through us. There are all sorts of different activities or ways God works in different people. God Himself is doing all this work, activating His Gifts and Ministries in everyone through the Holy Spirit.

First, He speaks about gifts. Then, He speaks about services or ministries. Then, He speaks about many different ways that God works. Let us focus in more deeply on each of these points.

We hear people talk about the Gifts of the Spirit and the Ministries of the Spirit. Sometimes it is not clear what they mean. What does this mean? What is the difference between Gifts and Ministries? Did you ever think about this question?

Gifts are different than Ministries. What we call the "Gifts of the Spirit" are like the hands, the feet, and the voice of the Holy Spirit. And the Holy Spirit is the One working through us by means of these Gifts He gives us. God Himself is working in each one. The Gifts are the various ways the Holy Spirit works through us. We can think of these Gifts as Divine Tools that God gives us, Divine Equipment, Spiritual Weapons that we can use in the spiritual war. They are Divine Gifts because God gives them to us. And God's Gifts are essential for us. Human wisdom and strength and tools are not sufficient for us to do God's work. We really need God's Divine Tools so we can do God's Work in God's Way with God's Strength for God's Glory.

All of us who have the Holy Spirit actually have all of His Gifts. Sometimes people come to me and say, "Sister, I want you to pray for me for the Holy Spirit. I want the gift of healing (Everyone one wants that gift!) and I want the gift of wisdom. But don't give me any of those tongues." I say to them, "You don't understand. The Gift of God is really the Holy Spirit. What we call "Gifts of the Holy Spirit" are actually the Hands and Feet and Voice of the Holy Spirit. When the Holy Spirit comes into your heart, He is not going to leave His prayers back in Heaven." And what we call the "Gift of Tongues" is actually the Holy Spirit praying through us His own prayers. So anyone who has the Holy Spirit already has the gift of tongues and every other gift. It's actually the Holy Spirit Who has the Gifts in us. We just have to learn how to work with Him. We have to learn how to use His Gifts and allow Him to work through us. So anyone who has the Spirit has all the Gifts of the Spirit. Because the Holy Spirit has the Gifts. Alleluia!

Then Paul talks about "Ministries". This term "Ministries" is used by people in many ways. Basically here it means: ways we can serve in the Lord in spiritual ministry. Even though everyone has all the Gifts, not everyone has all the Ministries. Each person is not called by God, or equipped, or able to do every kind of ministry possible in the Lord. However, each person is called by God to serve in some kind of spiritual ministry in the Holy Spirit to others. And everyone needs to grow up into spiritual maturity; and find out from God what ministry He calls us to; and begin to serve God and His People in that spiritual ministry. However, we all need the Holy Spirit and all of His Anointing and Divine Gifts to be able to serve effectively in that ministry to bring forth Holy Spirit Fruit for God's Glory. The Gifts of the Holy Spirit are given to us use in the ministry to which God calls us.

What kinds of ministry are possible for us in the Holy Spirit?

Each of the Gifts of the Spirit can develop into a ministry. For example, all of us can receive the gift of healing from the Holy Spirit and pray for people and they may be healed. However, some people have a very special anointing and authority from God to pray for healing. This special anointing of the Holy Spirit for healing takes the "Gift of healing" into the deeper "Ministry level of healing". A special Anointing from the Holy Spirit brings a new Divine Power and Authority and Wisdom so we can be

more effective in using this Gift in the service of God and His People. You maybe know some people who have a ministry of healing.

The same thing can happen with other gifts of the Holy Spirit. Each Gift can become a ministry. For example, there can be ministries of prophecy or evangelization or deliverance. This is also true for worship and intercession. The anointing of the Holy Spirit empowers God's People to serve others more deeply and effectively like Jesus in these different ministries. We talked about the different levels of ministry, especially in intercession, in the book called "What Is intercession?" Whatever service or ministry we serve, we need all of the Gifts of the Holy Spirit to do that service.

Sometimes the Lord may call people to serve in more than one ministry. For example, worship and intercession will always go along with every other ministry. They are foundational to every ministry in the Holy Spirit. We can study this point more another time. But for right now, I hope this helps you to better see that we really need the Holy Spirit if we are going to be like Jesus. We really need the Holy Spirit if we are going to grow up into spiritual maturity and do what Jesus would do. Come, Holy Spirit. The main questions we all need to pray about on this point are:

How can I grow into deeper spiritual maturity in the Holy Spirit so I serve God and His People in spiritual ministry?

To what spiritual ministry is the Holy Spirit calling me?



In 1 Corinthians 12, St Paul also talks about the "varieties of activities" of the Holy Spirit or the many ways God works. (1 Corinthians 12: 6) Two of these activities or patterns or ways that God works are especially important for us to understand in intercession.

First: God follows Divine Law.

Second: God works according to Divine Strategies.

We will talk more deeply about these later.



1. FIRST GIFT – PRAISE AND WORSHIP

Now turn to again to 1 Corinthians 12. We are reading at verse 4:

"Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit." (NRSVCE)

The Holy Spirit gives us so very many wonderful Gifts. As we think about the many Gifts of the Holy Spirit in the Bible, I want to ask you:

What is the very *First Gift* that the Holy Spirit gives when He comes?

For example, you may remember how when you personally were "baptized in the Spirit" with the Grace of the New Pentecost, you experienced Peace or God's Love or Joy. But what was the *First Gift* He actually gave?

Think about what happened when the Holy Spirit came on the First Pentecost in the Acts of the Apostles in the Bible? What would you say is the *First Gift* the Holy Spirit gave to the Blessed Mother and all the disciples at Pentecost? Remember the mighty wind and the tongues of fire that came down. (Acts 2) Also, when the Holy Spirit came, they all began to speak in other tongues that the Spirit gave them. But what was the *First Gift* He actually gave?

Look at what they were actually saying in tongues? What did the tongues mean?

In Acts chapter 2, the people who were in Jerusalem, from so many different countries and languages said,

"...we hear them preaching in our own language about the Marvels of God." (Acts 2. 11) (JB)

What were they actually doing as they were preaching or proclaiming the marvels - the great things of God? They were praising God!

The *First Gift* the Holy Spirit gave on Pentecost was the *gift of praise and worship*. The way it came was in the form of other languages, other tongues. But the Gift was the Gift of Praise and Worship.

Think of another time in the Bible when the Holy Spirit came. Remember the story of the Visitation. After Jesus was conceived by the Holy Spirit and came into the world, the first thing the Blessed Mother and Jesus did was go to visit Elizabeth. When Mary greeted Elizabeth, St. Luke says that Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. What came out of Elizabeth's mouth?

"Blessed are you and blessed is the fruit of your womb." (Luke 1: 42) (JB)

What was happening here? Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. John the Baptist, in Elizabeth's womb, leapt for joy in the Spirit. Then out of Elizabeth's mouth came words of PRAISE. 'Blessed' is a form of praise. So here again, the *First Gift* the Holy Spirit gave when He came at that time again was the Gift of Praise and Worship. And the Blessed Mother answered with the marvelous song of praise and worship, the Magnificat. (cf.Luke 1:46-55)

I think it is very interesting that the first thing Jesus did when He came into the world was go to a praise meeting. And His Mother took Him! Glory to God!

Some of you who have had a deeper experience with the Holy Spirit in what is called the "baptism of the Holy Spirit" in charismatic groups, think about what actually happened to you. What happened to you after you received this grace in your life?

What happened to me was, I started praising God all the time! It was "Alleluia everything!" I couldn't help it! It was just flowing out spontaneously, like a river. Did this happen to you also? Before that experience, I didn't pray like that, did you? Before, we could thank God and ask Him for things and tell Him we love Him and adore Him. But when the Spirit of God was released in our lives, so too the Gift of Praise and Worship was released. And it was just a Gift from God. Thank you, Holy Spirit!

Sometimes people would say to me, "Sister, don't say so many Alleluias." I tell them, "Oh, I am just practicing for the choir of Heaven! Alleluia is what we are going to be singing in Heaven. Alleluia!!!"

So the gift of praise and worship is the *First Gift* that the Holy Spirit gives when He is released in our lives. Why does God give praise and worship as the *First Gift*? When God does something first, it is very important. He has a reason for doing it first. So why does He give this gift first?



COVENANT OF PRAISE AND WORSHIP

Throughout the Bible, we see that God relates to us by means of covenants. What is a covenant? It is a two-way agreement or contract of some kind. Someone makes a promise to do something and somebody else makes their side of the promise to do their part.

The way God makes agreements, however, is different from the way we make agreements. In the Bible, when God makes an agreement, His agreement goes like this: *IF* you do A, B, C, *THEN* I will do D, E, F. God waits on us to do our part of the covenant first and then He does His part. He will always keep His covenant. But He waits on us to do our part. If we begin to understand some of the covenants and the way God works, then we can step into the multitude of promises of God by keeping our side of the covenant. The Bible is filled with many wonderful covenant promises.

One of these covenants is the covenant of praise. Another is the covenant of worship. They are different, just as praise and worship are different.



2. PRAISE AND WORSHIP

What is the difference between praise and worship?

When we praise God, we proclaim the good things He has done. We are talking *about* God. As we praise God more and more, the stronger we experience the Lord's Presence and the whole spiritual atmosphere changes. Then, as we become immersed in His Presence, we are lifted up by the Holy Spirit into another atmosphere - the spiritual atmosphere of worship that is going on in Heaven, in the throne room of God.

So we may start out in the spirit of praise, declaring the wonderful things of God, thanking Him for how wonderful He is and for all the good things He does. But when we come into the spirit of worship, He is right here with us. We deeply experience His Presence. In this spiritual place of worship, we need to change the way we pray. Because the Lord is right here with us, we change from talking *ABOUT* God in our songs and prayer and talk *TO* Him. So, instead of singing "Oh, I love Jesus", we sing "Oh, I love You, Jesus". When we get into worship, we are talking directly *TO* the Lord; whereas in praise, we are talking *ABOUT* Him.

Some of you may have experienced this change during your prayer times. For example: maybe when you are praying the rosary. You might start praying the rosary with your mind going in sixty directions. You keep praying. After a while, you experience the Lord's Presence right here more deeply. By the time you get to the end of the rosary, you have moved from a spiritual place of praise of God into a spiritual place of worship. He really is here with you and you don't want to leave Him. You could stay with the Lord all day! That is the difference between praise and worship. Maybe you have experienced this, but never talked about it like this before.

Another example, you maybe have this same experience in a prayer meeting. You might come to the meeting all tired after the day's work. And you just want the sit down and rest and get blessed. Then the worship leader very bravely says, "Now everyone stand up and worship the Lord." As you do this, by the end of the meeting, all the tiredness leaves and you feel all brand new. You went from the spiritual place of praise into the spiritual place of worship right into the Glorious Presence of the Lord! And He renewed you in by His Presence. Alleluia!

The Lord once told Ruth Heflin, a dear sister in Christ, who has now gone home to the Lord,

"Praise Me until the Spirit of Worship falls.

Then worship Me until the Glory falls.

Then stand in the Glory."

This is a very powerful invitation from the Lord to come ever more deeply into Him. So many people I have met are only on the first level. They are still learning how to just praise God. But He has so much more for us than we can ask for or imagine. So I invite you. I challenge you to go deeper. If you are used to praying for 15 minutes, pray longer. Maybe even set aside a whole day sometime to just praise and worship and go deep into God's Glory. And see what He will do. Come, Holy Spirit, help us.



COVENANT OF PRAISE

As I already said, God relates to us by means of covenants. In the Bible, he reveals many different kinds of covenants that He has made with us. One of these is the covenant of praise. Another is the covenant of worship. We can find the covenant of praise that God has made with us in Psalm 81 in the Bible. The covenant of worship is in Psalm 149, John 15, and in the whole Book of Revelations.

People interpret Revelation in many ways, but look at what was really happening. John was in worship! The Lord took him up into Heaven. In Heaven John saw Jesus, and he saw many things happening in Heaven and on the earth. He was immersed in the worship of Heaven. And all kinds of things began to happen out of that worship in Heaven and on earth.

The Book of Revelation is a "revelation". I believe it is a revelation of the covenant of worship. As we enter deep into worship, the Holy Spirit will lead us into worship intercession and worship warfare. All of the things that we see happening in the Book of Revelation in Heaven will happen on earth. We will see it! I have seen it! It is amazing to watch God work on earth as He does in Heaven!

There are many things we could speak about in relation to the covenant and praise and the covenant of worship. However, I am only going to give a summary on the covenant of praise here. In another book from the *Intercession in the Spirit of Jesus Training Course*, I have written at great length about the covenant of praise: "Praise in Intercession." Also, we will cover the covenant of worship at another time.

As already mentioned, when we praise the Lord in various ways, we actually create and become surrounded with a new spiritual atmosphere. As we praise the Lord more and more deeply, we start to experience God's Presence more and more strongly. Heaven begins to invade earth. The Holy Spirit immerses us in an even deeper spiritual atmosphere, an atmosphere filled with the very Living Presence of Almighty God Himself - the atmosphere of Heaven. In the praises, the covenant of praise takes effect; and the Lord begins to actualize His Promises from the Bible that He made in the covenant of praise from Heaven into our lives. Then as our prayer grows from praise about God into worship of God, the Holy Spirit takes us even deeper to experience the Lord's awesome Presence in Heaven. As we continue in worship, the covenant of worship takes effect; and the Lord begins to actualize His Promises from the Bible that He made in His covenant of worship from Heaven into our lives. Alleluia!



What is praise?

Psalm 22:3 says this: "Holy One, You make Your Home, in the praises of Israel." Or some translations say, "God, You are enthroned on the praises of Israel." (JB)

In *Isaiah 60:18*, in describing the New Jerusalem, the Lord says: "You will call your walls salvation and your gates praise".(JB)

In Isaiah 61:3, it says that the Lord will give us "a garment of praise for a spirit of heaviness." (JB)

Psalm 148:14, speaks of God, "He is the praise." "He is the praise of all the saints". Jeremiah says the same thing, "Thou art my praise". (Jeremiah 17: 14) (JB)

These Scriptures reveal to us that praise is a spiritual *place* where God can come and dwell - His *Home* with us. Our praise can become a spiritual *throne* for the King of Glory where God Himself can come and reign as King. Praise is also the *gate* or *door* into the new City of God as well as into our hearts. Praise can come as a gift from God in the form of a spiritual garment for His bride. And finally God Himself is the "praise of all the saints".



<u>PSALM 81</u>

In Psalm 81, we have a wonderful description of the covenant of praiseour part of the covenant and the Lord's part of the covenant.

In the beginning of Psalm 81, the Lord spells out ways He would like to be praised. Many of the Psalms reveal to us how God likes to be praised. For example, we are even commanded to sing and shout and dance and rejoice unto the Lord by praises. However, the Bible does not say that we should praise the Lord loudly because we feel like it. We do not praise the Lord quietly because we are quiet people. We praise Him because He is God. And He is worthy! Our focus for praise is the Lord. So for praise, we have to change our focus away from ourselves. When we praise God, we are putting God first. Praise is given to us so that we can minister unto the God Himself in a manner that is worthy of Him. So praise is really the highest form of love, totally unselfish love. We praise the Lord for Who He is or for what He has done, not because we want something back.

The blessings of God's covenants do not depend upon us. They depend on God. For the covenant of praise, God gives us the gifts of praise and worship. They are gifts. To use them requires a decision on our part to put Him first. We all need to search out the ways of praise and worship that please the Lord. We are here to minister to the Lord like the woman who poured oil over Jesus' head. (John 12:3)(JB) People said "Why the waste?" I say "Why not?" Think of how much God has loved us. Why not waste our love and praises on Jesus? Alleluia!



What happens when we praise the Lord? What are some of His covenant promises? Psalm 81 summarizes some of these promises.

1. RELIEVE YOUR BURDENS

Psalm 81:7 - 8 "I relieved their shoulders of the burden; their hands put down the basket. In distress you called and I rescued you." (JB)

2. GOD SPEAKS TO US

Psalm 81: 8 "unseen, I spoke to you in thunder." (JB)

3. PROVE GOD'S FAITHFULNESS

Psalm 81: 8 "At the waters of Meribah, I tested you - "(JB)

4. NO FOREIGN GODS

Psalm 81:10: "Tolerate no foreign god among you; you must not worship an alien god."(JB)

The Lord promises here that He will set us free from a. FALSE GODS b. SIN c. SELF

5. DEFEAT YOUR ENEMIES

Psalm 81: 13 - 15 "If only my people will listen. If Israel would follow my ways (He is speaking here about His way of praise) at one blow, I would defeat their enemies and strike all who attack them. In a moment I would subdue their foes, against their enemies unleash my hand. Those who hate the LORD would tremble, (They will be afraid of you.) and their doom will be sealed forever." (JB)

6. I WOULD FEED YOU

The last promise of Psalm 81: The Lord says that He is not only going to lift our burdens, speak to us, prove His faithfulness, empty us out of our false gods, free us from our sins, and from our very selves, and deliver us from our enemies, but He is also going to fill us. He says,

Psalm 81:16 "I would feed you on pure wheat and fill you with wild honey from the rock." (JB)

He will fill us with His Very Self. Alleluia!

So Psalm 81 is a summary of some of God's Promises, Praise and worship is a spiritual atmosphere that is essential for God to fulfil His Promises.

Also it is essential for victory in spiritual war. As we enter into and keep our part of the covenant of praise, God will do as He has promised. You can find a more detailed study about this in our book called: "Praise in Intercession".



Look at Psalm 100. Maybe you may know this as a song.

"I will enter His gates with thanksgiving. I will enter His courts with praise. I will say, 'This is the day that the Lord has made.' I will rejoice for He has made me glad."

In Psalm 100, the Lord reveals that by praise and thanksgiving we enter the courtyard of the King of Kings. But we are not in the throne room yet. We are in the courtyard. All of these covenant promises and blessings of praise in Psalm 81 can happen to each of us personally, but outside of the throne room and in the courtyard of God. We are not even in the throne room yet as they take effect! Isn't it amazing! As we praise the Lord, He begins to set us free, and fill us with Himself. All of the covenant promises in the covenant of praise will happen to us personally if we praise Him long enough and deep enough. They will happen to us! We will experience it! Then, as we praise the Lord, the Holy Spirit begins to take us deeper from the spiritual atmosphere of praise into the spiritual atmosphere of worship, immersing us in God's Own Holiness. And spiritually we can enter into the very throne room of God, before God Himself.

When we spiritually enter into the throne room, then the covenant of worship starts to work. It is a different covenant. The covenant of praise works in the courtyard. The covenant of worship works in the throne room. The covenant of worship, as I already mentioned, is in Psalm 149, John 15, and in the whole Book of Revelation. You can read that on your own later.



PRAISE IN INTERCESSION

What does the covenant of praise mean for us in intercession?

The wonderful thing about God is that He can work long distance. So when we praise God in intercession, we not only can experience all His covenant promises personally, but He will also actualize them in the lives of people we are praying for.

Let me share a few stories how this can work.

One time The Lord sent me to a city in the USA for three months to pray and do studies in intercession and train intercessors. When I arrived, I met three ladies who asked me to help them pray for their husbands. God told us to meet once a week for three months. We took turns in each house. In each house we mainly praised and worshipped God. Sometimes the Lord showed us certain things to pray in intercession.

Six weeks into the prayer, one of the ladies rushed over to my house early in the morning and said she had to talk to me. I said, "What is God doing now?" She said, "Sister, I have to talk to you. I have to tell you what Brian said to me at breakfast! He said, 'I hate going to work! All they do is get me in trouble!""

Now, Brian was a young man working in the shipyards where he was also buying and selling drugs. Suddenly while we were praising God in his house, Brian comes up with this statement! What happened? By the praise and worship, the Lord came closer to Brian and was shining His Light in Brian's house more brightly to reveal everything. And God opened Brian's eyes to see his situation the way the Lord saw it. Brian didn't like what he saw. He wanted to get out of the situation. Isn't that the first step of repentance. You don't like where you are and you want to get out.

By the end of the three months (God's mission took all three months!), Brian had lost his job and he was thanking God for that gift! Because he was so involved with the Mafia, he and his family had to move out of their house for protection. But, God gave them a home with a Christian family where they could live and get their lives straightened out with Jesus. Isn't

God amazing! That is a wonderful example of God working in a place and also long distance in the covenant of praise in intercession. Glory to Jesus!



Another time, I was invited to give the intercession training course to a religious community. They were a small community of priests and brothers that worked with poor people in an inner city, especially with the black community. The community had a high school there for inner city children. And some of the Brothers taught in that school.

In this religious community, there were a few members who felt called by God to be intercessors praying for their apostolate and their ministry. So they asked me to come and give them the training course on intercession.

At the end of the day, we would all gather for Vespers in the little Chapel. One day, we were praying Vespers and we came to the part for the intercessions. Suddenly, one of the brothers shouted, "I quit! I am not going back to that classroom one more day! I cannot take it anymore!" Everyone just looked at him, shouting in the chapel in the midst of prayers.

The brother was teaching a Grade 10 class. There was no peace and no order. They would never sit down and do their work. There was bad language and fighting all the time. He couldn't do anything with them. They would not obey him. And he was actually the sixth teacher they had in that class in two months. All the others had quit. Now this brother was going to quit. He just kept talking and talking out loudly at the Vespers.

At the same time, I was asking, "Lord, how do we pray on this one? What do you want us to do?" The Lord said to me in my heart, "Praise silences rebellion." These words are from Psalm 8:

"Above the Heavens is Your Majesty chanted by the mouths of children, babes in arms. You set Your Stronghold firm against Your foes to subdue enemies and rebels." (Psalm 8: 2) (JB)

I said, "OK. How do you do that one, Lord? How do we pray?" He said, "Pray in the Love of God." And He started reminding me of all kinds of Bible verses on the Love of God. Like: "Love forgives all things. Love

does not keep a record of wrongdoings." (cf. 1 Corinthians 13: 4-8) So I just started praying out loud each Bible verse that the Lord was giving me one after the other after the other. The Bible verses were all on the Love of God. As I did this, peace started to settle in the room a little bit. So we finished Vespers and we got through that day.

The next afternoon I was walking to the Chapel when someone ran up to me and said, "Sister, you have to hurry up! Come right now! Brother needs to see you immediately in the Chapel. Urgent! Emergency!" I was walking past the priest's office, so I grabbed his hand and said, "Father. You have to come! We have an emergency!" So we went together to the Chapel.

When we walked in the Chapel, the brother ran over to us. He fell on his knees in front of me. He said, "I don't know what you have got, but I want it!" I said, "What are you talking about? Come on now. Get up! What's happening?" He said, "Sister, I don't know what this is all about. But, I went into that classroom today. The WHOLE day long all of the children sat in their desks and did their work. There was not one bad word, no fighting, nothing!" He said, "And then, at the end of the day, I was getting tired and I got upset over something. And one of the children said, 'Hey brother, cool it!' Sister, I don't know what you've got, but I want it!" I said, "It's just the Holy Spirit. Come on and we will pray with you." So Father and I prayed with him for the Holy Spirit. Isn't God wonderful!

Praise is the highest form of love. And praise silences rebellion. It is really true! Glory to God! There was rebellion on all sides. God intervened with the power of His Love as we praised Him declaring His Love through the Bible verses. Isn't that amazing! Alleluia!

Some of you are parents. Some of you have teenagers. These were teenagers in that school. God can even work with teenagers! Remember "praise silences rebellion". Alleluia!!!



Praise and worship are so powerful. Mainly this is because praise and worship personally welcome the Lord Himself into a situation and create a

spiritual place for the Manifest Presence of the Lord Himself. And God really does inhabit the praises of His People. Alleluia!

And praise and worship are also very powerful in intercession. For God not only inhabits the place where we praise Him, but He also works long distance. He can manifest His Presence in the people we pray for by our praise and worship.

For example, are any of you praying for a situation where people need reconciliation - where there is a division of some kind? Praise of the Lord Jesus is very powerful in a situation like that. One translation of Psalm 22: 4 says "God is enthroned on the praises of His People." (CJB) As we praise the Lord in intercession, we are building a spiritual throne for the Lord right between the two people who are in division and need reconciliation. This throne made of praises is where the Lord Jesus can come as King to reign HERE and be what He is called in *Ephesians 2:14*, "the peace between us". (JB) Through praise we can welcome Him into the relationship. We are building a throne for King Jesus between our people. And Jesus Himself comes and makes the bridge of peace and reconciliation between them to work His miracles. Praise God!



3. MORE GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

We have been asking the question, "How does the Holy Spirit pray? How does the Holy Spirit work?" We look again to 1 Corinthians. The Lord says,

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"There are a variety of gifts, but always the same Spirit." (1 Corinthians 12: 4)
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The Holy Spirit gives many Gifts. So far we have looked at the *First Gift* the Holy Spirit gives: the Gift of Praise and Worship. Now let's look at other gifts He gives.

CHARISMATIC GIFTS

A whole group of gifts from the Holy Spirit that are very powerful are listed in 1 Corinthians 12: 8-11. They are called the *Charismatic Gifts*. These gifts are especially released in us when we experience the "baptism in the Holy Spirit. It is wonderful to know about these Gifts. However, as I mention each of these gifts, I want to ask you, have you actually experienced each of these gifts yourself.

<u>First is the gift of words of wisdom.</u> In this Gift, God lets us see the big picture of a situation from His point of view. We really need wisdom to make right judgments and decisions. Have you experienced this Gift? Pray for it. We have the Holy Spirit. We can say to Him, "I need a word of wisdom on this case. How do You see it?"

Second is the gift of the word of knowledge. With this Gift, God can reveal to us you things we did not know about people and situations. How many times do people come to us for counselling or help and we cannot figure out what is really going on with them? They talk around and around and around. The Holy Spirit can help us catch what is really going on - the main point or the root of their situation. We can ask the Holy Spirit "What is at the root of this situation?" The Lord can reveal this to you. Then we can ask Him more clearly, what do You want me to do for them? How do I pray on this point. So then He can lead us in how to minister to them by intercession as Jesus would.

Priests often receive the gifts of wisdom and knowledge in confession. How many times have you gone to confession and Father says something to you that hits the nail on the head? You know that God was talking to you through that priest. Suddenly you have the picture straight in your head. You understand the situation like you never did before. And then you can repent and change and grow better in the Lord.

Some priests understand that the Holy Spirit is working through them. However, they may not call their experiences the word of wisdom or the word of knowledge. They just know that God put words in their mouth that they were not thinking about. They know God does it. The Lord can work through our priests or any of us even when we are not looking. And it really is more important to experience Him working than to be able to give a name to that experience. Come, Holy Spirit! Alleluia!

<u>Third. How many of you have the gift of tongues?</u> This Gift is actually the prayer language of the Holy Spirit. If you have it, then pray for more of His languages, more tongues. If you do not have the gift of tongues and you have the Holy Spirit, ask God to help you receive it. Pray with someone who has this Gift and can help you release this Holy Spirit prayer from inside your spirit.

Every gift from God is like a river from the Throne of God. There are many different river streams from God, from Heaven. If His River never has flowed through you before, then the first time it comes, it might run into all kinds of obstacles - "spiritual stones and sticks" - until the river channel is clear and the river can flow freely.

For example, maybe the first time you try to pray in the gift of tongues, you start thinking of all kinds of questions: "I wonder what that word meant." "I am making this up." "I wonder what other people are going to think of me saying all these crazy words." When that happens, we start looking at what we are saying and not looking at Jesus. As soon as you take your eyes off Jesus and start looking at ourselves, we stop praying. Using God's Gifts are like walking on the water. We have to learn how to focus on Jesus and do our part to work with the Lord, especially in this gift of tongues. It is not magic. In Psalm 81, the Lord says,

"You open your mouth, and I will fill it." (Psalm 81: 10) (NRSVCE)

As we obey the Holy Spirit and open our mouths and begin to speak - to do what He said, soon the river will flow through us in amazing ways. As with all the Gifts, there is something we do and something God. Especially in using the gift of tongues, as we do our part and begin to speak, He will do His part and pray through us as a river of prayer of His Perfect Love.

Also, there are many ways to pray in tongues. Sometimes we sing. When we sing, I often see Holy Spirit send out angels into spiritual battle. Sometimes when we speak in tongues, the prayer is very strong. The power and authority of God breaks through us, releasing a new creation or resurrection miracle of God. The Gift of Tongues is a most powerful way to pray. It's tremendous. Praise God!

Fourth. How many of you have experienced the gift of healing? Did you ever pray for someone and God healed them. Maybe you even felt a special anointing as you prayed.

Fifth. What about miracles? Have you experienced this gift?

<u>Sixth. How many of you have experienced the gift of prophecy?</u> The other day, when we were praying, we asked the Lord to bring to our minds some of the gifts He wanted to give from Heaven for our people. How many of you thought of a gift at that time? Then, you said it out loud. Or have any of you had thoughts or words come to mind as we were praying that you knew this idea was not what you were thinking? But it seemed like a message from God. That is the gift of prophecy working. God puts the idea in our mind and we say it. That is prophecy.

Lots of people think prophesy is fore-telling the future. Biblical prophecy is much more than that. Biblical prophecy is speaking God's words now. Alleluia! Since God is outside of time, a prophecy can apply to now, tomorrow, or 200 years from now. God is not limited by time. And when we speak it out loud, it is God's word we are speaking from Heaven into earth. God wants all of us to be able to recognize how He talks to us so that we can speak the words that Jesus would say in every situation. We also need to discern the revelations that come to us. Ask the Lord, "What do You mean? How are we supposed to pray with these inspirations?" The Holy Spirit will lead us.

Can you hear God? Do you know how God speaks to you? Do you? Some of you do. Some of you are not sure. I am glad you are not sure. If you were absolutely sure, then I would be worried about you. Because I know that when God speaks to us, we are never going to catch the whole story. It is big Almighty God trying to get His message into our little heads. All of it is never going to fit in there at one time. So we need to "doubt" and ask Him what this message means. Ask Him to speak more so we can better understand what He really means. So it is healthy to "doubt" and ask the Lord about revelations that come to us.



With God's revelations, we also need to be open to receive whatever he gives us and also be willing to do whatever He asks of us. One time, I was serving the Lord in a city where we had many intercession groups. Pentecost was coming and the charismatics were going to have a big Mass and celebration. I said, "Lord, how would You like to go to that Mass? You know that I have been ministering to everybody day and night for months. I think it is my turn to get a blessing. So how about we go to the Mass and I am not going to minster to anybody. I am just going to get a blessing." So I thought we had an agreement before we left the house.

At the Mass everybody was praying and worshipping the Lord. Then this little message came into my mind. I said, "Lord, we had a deal. I told you I am going to get blessed this time. Please give this message to somebody else. Let them have a turn." I kept on praying as we went through the Mass. And this little message kept coming into my head. So then I said, "Now Lord, we talked about this. I don't think I should be doing anything today. You can give this message to someone else. I am not going up front to speak." As we were coming up to Holy Communion this little message was still going through my head. So, I said, "Ok Lord, if You really want me to say something, then make the leader get up and give us the opportunity to share the Lord's messages after Communion." After Communion, the leader got up and said, "If anyone has a message from the Lord, would you please come up and share it." I was sitting back in my chair - being difficult. I said, "Lord, if You really want me to do this, let someone else start the first part of the message and stop where my part starts." Someone got up and gave this beautiful prophecy and stopped exactly where mine started. However, I never get up. I couldn't move.

Do you see what happened? I said "no" to God before I even went there. I closed the door to Him. I was not ready or able to obey God because I had said no already. Nobody in that group got up and said what the Lord told me to say. That word was not given. I had to go to Confession and repent to God for rebellion, because I said "no" to God. So we need to have the right attitude toward the Lord' and be willing to receive, and give whatever He gives us for others.



Seventh: the ability to distinguish between spirits ... discernment of spirits. How many of you have experienced the gift of discernment of spirits?

One time I asked this question to the people in an intercession group. I only saw a couple hands go up. So then I said, "Let me ask you this question in another way. Can any of you can think of just one time in your life when you experienced the Presence of Jesus. You knew that you knew Jesus is here? Nobody had to tell you. You knew it was Him. Maybe when you received Holy Communion or sometime when you were praying?" Everyone raised their hands. Then I said, "Thanks be to God, I was worried about you for a minute. What did you think I meant when I first asked you if you experienced the gift of discernment? Did you think of some discernment of evil? The first and most important spiritual discernment is the discernment of the Presence of Jesus. Unless we personally experience the Presence of Jesus, we will never know what is NOT Jesus. He is the measure of all spiritual experience. So you all have the gift of spiritual discernment working. Thanks be to God!" So the first discernment of spirits is the discernment of Jesus.

Maybe some of you have been in some groups where you are told that you have to really discern the inspirations that come to you in the prayer. Is it the world? Is it the flesh? Is it the devil? Is it me? Is it God? And you get so uptight trying to figure this out, that you end up not even listening to God and not saying anything because you don't want to make a mistake. Maybe sometime you tried to say something you thought was from the Lord and you got squelched. When you tried to share, someone said, "That's not from God!" So you got very hurt and decided that you will never ever say anything again. You think, "I am not getting hurt again!"

We do need to discern what we receive in prayer. However, in our intercession groups I want you to know, IT IS OK TO MAKE A MISTAKE. It is all right. Just say something! Try it! We have a book called, "Discernment and Intercession" that can help you understand better how to discern. For right now, I encourage you, "Just say it!" If your message is not from the Lord, we all will know it. The Lord will show us. You are not the one to make the final decision on whether it is God or not. The decision and confirmation usually comes in the group in intercession. Also, when we are in intercession, we discern differently. If you have some kind of revelation and it does NOT fit into what is happening in the meeting, I would say, "That probably IS God talking. So just say it." Don't worry about making a mistake. The Lord will help us sort it out.

We need to trust our experiences of discernment. We do have this gift of discernment from the Holy Spirit. You have to learn what to do with it.

For example: Let's say, someone comes to our house and is sharing something with us. We get all excited! That sounds just like the Lord! We get a witness of "YES, that's great" in our spirit and we are joyful! So that was a discernment of God talking through our friend.

Now let's say we go to visit some people. As we enter the place, we feel very uncomfortable and we just want to leave. This is discernment working. We have to learn to trust our discernment. And we need to ask God what it means and what to do with it. Why am I not feeling good right now? What are You trying to say to me? Do You want me to leave? Or is there some problem here or someone here You want me to pray for? Lord, show me what to do.

The gifts of God work together. When we experience discernment in situations, we need wisdom to understand what it means and counsel from the Lord on what to do about it. The Gifts of the Spirit work together. But we have to ask the Lord so He can guide us.

<u>Eighth: How many of you have experienced the gift of interpretation of tongues?</u> Sometimes God may speak a message in tongues and then He will tell someone the interpretation. It is not a translation, but an interpretation. The interpretation might come as a prophecy, a mental picture, or a vision, or in some other way.

Often when we are interceding by singing or speaking in tongues, the Lord shows me that He is sending angels out or doing other things in the Spirit. That is a form of interpretation of tongues - an understanding of what the Holy Spirit is saying at that time. And we can ask the Lord to show us what He is doing as we pray in the Spirit. We can ask the Lord, "What are You saying? What are You doing, so I can agree with You in this prayer?" God will tell us as we open the door and ask Him.

I have had an amazing experience with this gift as I work with FBB intercessors in different countries. In some places like Mexico and Japan, we have intercessors who do not speak English. And I am not well versed in Spanish or Japanese. However, I can sit and talk for hours with some of our intercessors in these countries about deeper things of the Lord. And we understand each other. It is the most amazing experience of the Holy Spirit working through us by the gift of interpretation of languages. Glory to Jesus!

<u>Ninth: finally, the Gift of Charismatic Faith.</u> With this Gift, we have a deep assurance in our hearts that God is going to do something. We just know that we know everything will be all right. We will talk more about this when we talk about travailing prayer later. Here is a great description of faith for intercessors, especially *charismatic faith*,

"Faith is believing for kites to fly when there's no wind in sight." "Faith is picture it done." (Jesus taught Josiah Cullen) [1]

So these are what we call the *Charismatic Gifts of the Holy Spirit*. These are powerful Gifts that God gives us so we can do what Jesus would do in ministry and in intercession. As I said, it is one thing to know about them. However, I prefer that you experience them and know how to use them. Ask the Lord to help you.

Come Holy Spirit. Open up Your Rivers of every one of Your Gifts that they might flow through each of us from the Throne of God to bring Heaven into earth for our people. Amen.



^[1] https://sidroth.org/television/tv-archives/tahni-cullen/

THE WORD OF GOD

Another Gift from the Holy Spirit is the **WORD OF GOD**.

The "Word of God" most often means for us, the written form of God's Word in the Books of the Holy Bible. However, Jesus Himself is called the "Living Word of God." And also, the "Word of God" can also come to us in personal revelation as one of the Charismatic Gifts of the Holy Spirit, especially through prophetic messages or mental images. (We just spoke about these Gifts.) The prophets in the Holy Bible personally received revelations and messages from God for God's People. "The Word of the Lord" came to me". (cf. Jeremiah 1:4; Ezekiel 18:1) (NRSVCE) We can also receive God's revelations today in the same way through the working of the Holy Spirit.

In the New Testament, there are two different Greek words which are translated as "word". The first, *logos*, refers principally to the total inspired Word of God and to Jesus, who as the Living Word is the full revelation and fulfilment of all God has said. (cf. John 1:1; Luke 8:11; Philippians 2:16; Hebrews 4:12)

"At many moments in the past and by many means, God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets; but in our time, the final days, He has spoken to us in the Person of His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things and through whom He made the ages." (Hebrews, 1: 1-2) (JB)

The second Greek word translated "word" is *rhema*, which refers to the spoken word. *Rhema* literally means an *utterance* (individually, collectively or specifically). (cf. Luke 1:38; 3:2; 5:5; and Acts 11:16.) Some people understand *rhema* as the voice of the Holy Spirit speaking to them at the present moment ^[2] - the *NOW* Word of God. And that *NOW* Word of God can be either from the Bible or from the charismatic gifts of the Holy Spirit In either case. It is a message from the Lord for us *NOW*.



THE HOLY BIBLE

Who wrote the Holy Bible? There are so many books and so many writers. The Holy Spirit is the One Who really inspired all these writers to write all these books in the Holy Bible. He is the Real Author. The Holy Bible is a Gift from the Holy Spirit.

How many of you have ever read the Holy Bible cover to cover? I believe many Christians have read the Holy Bible. As Catholics, we do hear the Word of God from the Holy Bible proclaimed every day at Holy Mass. But how many of us have ever actually read the Holy Bible ourselves? Some people have. That is wonderful. For everyone else now - here is some homework for you, and maybe even for all of you. Read the Holy Bible from cover to cover *in the Holy Spirit*! There is special way to read the Holy Bible in the Holy Spirit, so we can meet God in the Holy Bible. We have a Bible Formation Course in FBB for that very purpose. You can find it online on FBB web site under "resources" in: http://www.fbb.ms.



WORD OF GOD IN INTERCESSION

As I said, as Catholics and intercessors, we really need to read the Holy Bible ourselves. If we are going to be intercessors, we seriously need to sharpen our spiritual sword of the Holy Bible. Jesus promises us,

"the Holy Spirit will remind you of everything I have said to you." (John 14: 26) (JB)

If we have never read the Holy Bible, how will He have something to remind us about? So, you see, we do need to read the Holy Bible.

Intercessors also need to learn how to work with the Holy Spirit and the Holy Bible in intercession. Sometimes in intercession people go to God in prayer and just start to tell Him all the problems. Then they tell Him the answers. This is what I call "defensive praying." We are praying trying to get God to "fix" something. I am sorry to have to tell you today that God doesn't live on that level. He doesn't work on that level! God is not defensive. He is on an entirely different level.

Then there are other people who get very aggressive with God. When they pray they start quoting verses from the Holy Bible at God. They say, "God, You said it right here! You have to do this right now!" I am sorry to have to tell you, but God does not live or work on this level. God is not aggressive. He is on an entirely different level.



As an example of aggressive praying, have you ever been in a group praying with somebody that maybe needs a healing? As you all pray, someone says, "The Holy Bible says that 'by His stripes we are healed!' Just claim it right now!" So the person in need begins claiming it - claiming and claiming and claiming - trying to believe for a miracle. However, nothing happens. It does not work! They do not get healed. Instead, maybe they just feel worse. Maybe they might think, I don't have enough faith. And they end up being hurt instead of healed. Have you ever experienced this?

Why didn't God's Word work? He says Himself in Jeremiah that

"I watch over My Word to be sure that it does what I tell it to do." (Jeremiah 1:12: cf. Isaiah 55: 10-11) (GNT)

If God says this, then why didn't it work? Did you ever wonder about this? I have. But then I thought, maybe that was one of the questions we have to wait and ask God when we get to Heaven?

One day I was praying and the Lord quickened a verse in Ephesians 6 that talks about the armor of God. After St. Paul names different parts of the armor of God, he says that we are

"to receive the Word of God from the Spirit to use as a sword." (Ephesians 6: 17) (JB)

Suddenly the Lord showed me something about how to use the Word of God in our lives and in intercession.

As human beings, from day one, we are taught to follow our needs and not to follow Jesus. When someone is hungry, we feed them. We follow needs

all our lives. We are not taught how to follow Jesus in practical situations. Then, when people come into the charismatic movement or deeper in the Spirit and they meet the Lord, their whole life can change. However, many still keep following the pattern of being led by needs and not the Lord. They keep doing things the same way as before, but now they are doing it in spiritual territory. For example, here is a person who needs healing, so let's put a healing Bible verse on it. They are being led by the need, not the Lord..

I would go back to the people who were praying for that sick person and telling him to claim the Bible verse on healing. I would ask them, "Is this a case where 'Here is a sickness, so put a healing Bible verse on it' or did the Holy Spirit actually tell you to claim that Bible verse?

The Lord said, receive the Word of God from the Spirit to use as a sword. What does that mean? If you are going to claim it, you have to wait until God gives it to you! Or else you have nothing to claim and it will not work. So, ask for and receive the Word of God from the Holy Spirit. Then you can use it as a sword. Then, if God says it, He will do it. Amen.



Now I am going to say something very strong here. I have mostly seen Protestants pray this way of claiming God's Word; although Catholics are picking it up. It seems that the Protestants have made the Bible to be same as God. They presume to think that if "God says it, He automatically does it." On the other hand, it seems that Catholics have made the Church to be the same as God. We really need both, the Church and the Word of God. This is a growing point, a conversion point, for everyone. We all need the Church. We all need the Word of God. And we need to realize that they are both Gifts from the Holy Spirit, Who is God. They are NOT God. They are Gifts from God.

The Holy Spirit made the Church just as He made the Bible. The Holy Spirit keeps the Church going. And He can speak to us and keep inspiring us as we read the Living Word of God in the Holy Bible every day. We all need to be converted and grow in our understanding of God the Holy Spirit and His ways in both His Inspired Word of the Holy Bible and In the Church.

I remember the testimony of a wonderful Pentecostal sister in the Lord who was a missionary in South America. The Lord touched her heart and she decided to become a Catholic. So she started to go through preparation classes with a priest. Now, while Father was giving her teaching to help her understand and become a Catholic, she was trying to get Father to become a Pentecostal. One day she came to their meeting and said, "Father, we have the Holy Spirit!" Father looked her right in the eye and said, "Yes, and we have the whole pie!" Glory to God!



So we have been talking about the fact God is not defensive or aggressive. He lives and works on entirely different level. God is creative. He is always doing something new. When we work with the Holy Spirit in prayer, we need to ask Him how to see situations as He sees them and then how to pray. How can we step into the creative mode of God in intercession? What does it mean to be in God's creative mode? Did you know that when God Our Father looks at us, He does not see problems? Do you know what He sees? He sees Jesus. And when He looks at us and our situations through Jesus, He sees an opportunity for another resurrection miracle! This is what it means to be in creative mode.

So then how can we think when we bump into problems and obstacles? Remember, creative God always wants to do a miracle! He is ready for a new creation miracle! So when we are faced with problems or difficulties, can we learn to first think like this, "Oh, I wonder what miracle You want to do now, Lord? What is the new creation you have in this situation? How can I pray for Your Miracle NOW?" Can we think like this? Can you pray like this and allow God to work? Let Him be God! If we can think and pray like God, it is a totally different world. We can step into Heaven and bring Heaven into the earth. This is so very important for us so we can think like the Lord and work with Him in our lives and in our intercession.

Sometimes the Lord gives us the passages from the Holy Bible when we pray and then He can show us how to use them in intercession. The Word of God, especially in the Holy Bible, is a powerful spiritual weapon for us in intercession. In Ephesians, we just noted that St. Paul calls the Word of God a sword. There are so many examples of what God does when His

Word is declared or executed into various situations by intercession. One powerful example of how He can work through His Word is in Hebrews:

"For the Word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and spirit, of joints and marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart." (Hebrews 4: 12) (NRSVCE)



How can we work with the Holy Bible in intercession? When God gives us a Bible passage, sometimes He just wants us to repeat it, declaring it, and watch Him work to do what He says.

One time the Lord sent me to a religious community. Two of us were there for three weeks of prayer and fasting for the community. The leader of the community had fallen into serious sin. He would say, "Sister, I cannot pray anymore. I can't do anything. I feel like I need to leave. I cannot be of any good to this community anymore." As we prayed for him, the Lord said, "Tell him not to leave. I am going to heal him right here." So we told him this message.

The leader used to give talks to the community once a week. One day we just happened to have intercession on the same day and at the same time as his talk. Just the two of us were praying that day. We went into praise and worship. We were asking the Lord, "Lord, here we are. What do You want us to pray for today? How do You want us to pray?" Both of us thought about this brother at the same time. So we said, "OK Lord, you want us to pray for him. How do we pray?" As we continued to praise God and listen to Him, the Lord gave me the Bible verse of John 11: 43 - the words that Jesus said to Lazarus at that tomb, "Lazarus, come forth!" I said, "OK Lord, what do we do?" How do we pray this? He said, "Say it!" (This is called executing the Word of God.)

So we started just saying the Bible passage. We kept repeating over and over, "Come forth in the Name of Jesus!" As we were praying this over and over, we could feel the Power of God getting stronger and stronger. Then the Lord started giving me mental pictures. In my mind I saw this brother that we were praying for. He was standing all covered with a black, dead skin. As we kept saying "Come forth in the Name of Jesus", I saw

Jesus walk over to him, take hold of that skin and peel it right off. And there was the brother – all full of light. When that happened, there was so much joy that broke through in us. It was a huge spiritual breakthrough! We started dancing all over the room, filled with joy. I couldn't wait to see what God did!

A little later that day, I saw the brother walking across the campus. I went over to him and said, "How are you doing? What is happening?" He said, "Sister, you will not believe this! Right in the middle of my talk with the community, suddenly this love came upon me from God. And it hasn't gone away." God broke through the barriers from Heaven into His heart through the intercession. He is still in that community today. And God has given him great wisdom - healing him right there as He promised. The Word of God is so powerful in intercession! Alleluia!



THE MANTLE OF JESUS

There are three special offices of the Living Word of God, the Lord Jesus, that are important for us to remember here as we talk about the Word of God in intercession. They represent key functions of the *Mantle of Jesus*. In the Holy Bible, the God gives *mantles to* different people, which represent a special anointing, authority, and power in the Holy Spirit for serving God and His People. Jesus talked about the *Mantle* God had given Him,

"When He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up, He went to the synagogue on the Sabbath Day, as was His custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the Prophet Isaiah was given to Him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

'The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me,
because He has anointed Me
to bring good news to the poor.
He has sent Me to proclaim release to the captives
and recovery of sight to the blind,

to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the Year of the Lord's Favor.'

"Then He began to say to them, 'Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." (Luke 4: 16-19, 21) (NRSVCE)

Some years ago, I asked the Lord, "What is the Mantle that You have given us for intercession in FBB?" The Lord answered me that in FBB, He has given us the "Mantle of Jesus". What is the "Mantle of Jesus"? Jesus was Priest, Prophet, and King. In our Baptism, we are anointed to share in His authority and anointing as Priest, Prophet, and King. In FBB intercession, the Holy Spirit has taken the Baptismal Anointing to a deeper level, beyond our Life in Christ, into a professional level of apostolate or service ministry of missionary intercession. This is part of the new intercession in the Spirit of the Jesus He has given us for the Church. As intercessors who share in the Mantle of Jesus, we can exercise the functions of these three official spiritual positions that the Lord Jesus holds in our intercession service to others. Glory to God!

Three functions in the Mantle of Jesus are especially important for intercession in relation to the Word of God.

Blessings - Decrees - Prophetic Intercession

Blessings are an exercise of the authority and anointing given for the Priest in intercession. Decrees are the exercise of the authority and anointing of the King in intercession. And Prophetic Intercession comes forth from the authority and anointing of the Prophet in intercession. In our book called, "The Mantle of Jesus", we look more deeply at each of these official offices of the King of Kings and how we work in them in the new missionary intercession.

For now, I just want to give a summary of two of these spiritual functions because they are closely related to execution of the Mighty Living Word of God, and they are so powerful in intercession:



DECREES

The Holy Bible is filled with the Promises of God. Every one of these promises can be executed from Heaven by Divine Decree.

Decrees are usually spoken by people who have authority in some specific realm of influence. Since Jesus, the King of all kings, has the full authority in Heaven and on earth, He can make Eternal Decrees in every realm and situation. As we work with Him in His Kingly authority in intercession, we also can decree His Eternal Words and make a bridge to bring Heaven into earth for "Thy Kingdom come, Thy Will be done." Decrees from God's Words mark off and set the boundaries of a spiritual territory for God. The Words and Promises of God that we find in the Holy Bible can be released by decree in intercession with amazing effects.

"You will also decree a thing, and it will be established for you; and light will shine on your ways". (Job 22:28) (KJV)

Different Bible studies [3] tell us some important effects of God decrees:

- * A decree implements a judgment in our favor with the authority of a court order. It releases special favor of God on us and others.
- * A decree implements or actions the Will and Purposes of God.

In biblical tradition, decrees are said to be one and the same as the very purposes of God. For this reason, decrees based on Scripture and Biblical truths, rather than our own vision or desires, are a great safety net. We are assured that when we decree God's Word and His promises, we are implementing the very will and purposes of God.

Decrees begin with a statement of purpose, truth or vision, but they are much more than just an announcement. Decrees based on biblical truths cause our circumstances to change such that the Kingdom of Heaven becomes our reality.

see https://www.xpmedia.com/article/10977/four-things-the-power-of-decrees-will-accomplish-in-your-life

* A decree destroys anything purposed against us.

In the Hebrew language, the word *decree* is understood as meaning: to divide, to cut in two, to cut off and to destroy. This means that when we decree prosperity, we are dividing ourselves from lack and poverty. When we decree healing, we are cutting off and destroying sickness. When we decree our divine destiny, we are destroying anything purposed against us. The power in understanding this aspect of a decree is that our decrees not only render judgment in our favor with the authority of a court order, they not only implement the very will and purposes of God, they not only destroy anything purposed against us, but they also impose a harsh judgment against our enemy, which that enemy cannot oppose or escape.

In the Book of Esther, the Holy Bible says that when a king makes a decree and seals it, it cannot be revoked. So it is when the King of kings issues an Eternal Decree from the Courts of Heaven.

God may issue His Decrees for specific situations. Then, God's Decrees, which are really God's Living Word, can be declared by intercessors. By a second decree of implementation, the Holy Spirit mandates the Hosts of Heaven to enforce the decrees of the Lord. This is a way that the Kingdom of God in Heaven can be released and established on the earth as in Heaven. Alleluia!



BLESSINGS

Blessing are another form of God's Living Word. A Priest has the power to give God's Blessing to others in a consecrated way and by this to action God's Words NOW.

"Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, Thus you shall bless the Israelites: You shall say to them, The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you (grant you favor); the Lord lift up His Countenance upon you, and give you peace. So they shall put My Name on the Israelites, and I will bless them.' (Numbers 6: 23 – 27) (NRSVCE)

Blessing is an amazing weapon of light in intercession.

In Genesis, the first thing God did when He created Heaven and earth was declare that what He had made is GOOD. He confirmed that yes, what He had just created does indeed share in and reveal His Own Goodness. Then, beginning with His Creation on the fifth day, He *blesses* that which He has made.

Those words of blessing in each case are very significant. In His words of blessing, God reveals the specific way each person is to overflow the goodness they have received and live it out to manifest His Own Goodness to bring Him Glory. As a sign of His Divine Providence, God releases His multitude of favor through blessings. God's words of blessing actually reveal the heart of the nature of each one He has created. Then His blessing empowers each one very specifically to be all God has made him to be – revealing how each one is to live and give His goodness according to the gift of their nature — to bring forth fruits that will give God glory.

When we give Blessing by intercession, God Himself spiritually opens the doors of Heaven over someone's life or situation. God's atmosphere is released. And so God can reach out from Heaven into the lives and situations, which are blessed, to impart a spiritual ability and empowerment to effect His supernatural benefits and results. He can empower each to be all He has created them to be. You can see how important it is for parents to bless their children and for all to bless their leaders and for those in authority to bless their people. The Lord even commanded us in the New Testament to bless our enemies:

"Never repay one wrong with another, or one abusive word with another; instead, repay with a blessing. That is what you are called to do, so that you inherit a blessing." (1 Peter 3: 9) (JB)

These are some reflections on different forms of the Word of God that are given to us as Gifts from the Holy Spirit for intercession.



THE SACRAMENTS

The Seven Sacraments are God Himself acting in the seven main areas of everyone's life where we totally need God. God Himself applies the Victory of the Blood of Jesus on us through the Sacraments, so they can be very powerful in intercession. Jesus Himself comes to us personally to minster to us in a different way in each sacrament.

The Holy Mass is the highest form of intercession possible for us as Christians. In the Holy Mass, everything that you can do as a Christian and as a Catholic happens. Jesus is really there in the Holy Eucharist, even physically, in His crucified, risen, glorious humanity as God and man. He is there in the priest. He is there in the community as two or three gather in his name. He is there in the Word of God. He is there in the praises and worship of His People. In every way He can be present among us, He is there. And it is all because of the Holy Spirit who brings and reveals Him in all these possible ways. Also, every way that we can pray is there in the Holy Mass. It really is the most high and the most powerful form of intercession possible. Alleluia!

The Holy Spirit has led us in FBB as an international house of prayer to go on pilgrimages of intercession in many countries. In those pilgrimages, we have sponsored special all-night vigils to pray deeply for the healing of the history of the families and the spiritual history of the Church in those places. The most important form of prayer we pray in the vigils is a special mass of the Precious Blood of Jesus for generational healing. That Mass includes powerful prayers of pardon for the sins against the Ten Commandments, as well as special prayers of corporate forgiveness, blessing to replace curses, peace to replace violence, liberation from evil, healing, reconciliation, and rededication of all to the Lord Jesus Christ. God has sovereignly opened up Rivers of Blessings and the Fire of Renewal in places where we have prayed. Glory to Jesus!



<u>The Sacrament of Reconciliation</u> as another Gift from the Holy Spirit is also very powerful in intercession. People do not think about confession this way. Usually we think that we are going to confession to get our own sins forgiven. And this is the main focus. But there is more possible that

God can do in terms of the grace of reconciliation in this sacrament. That grace of reconciliation in the Sacrament we can bring into intercession.

Some years ago, there was a Bishop living in the northwest corner of the United States. When he became Bishop, he sold all of the Bishop's possessions, all of the property, everything! He went to live among the poor in a little house. He would not accept a salary. He lived off his pension, his Social Security. Everyone in the diocese was upset with him because he did this. It was all over the newspapers. There were even priests talking publically against him. One priest was especially very strongly against him.

The Bishop went to confession every day. In that Sacrament he would forgive that priest and intercede through the sacrament for the grace of reconciliation asking God to redeem the whole situation. Within two weeks the priest came to him to ask forgiveness. Alleluia! Later on when the Bishop retired, that priest came to live with him. He took care of the Bishop in his old age like a son to his father. God turned it all around by intercession through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Glory to Jesus!

When we go to confession, we can pray about situations where people have injured us, have done wrong to us. We need to forgive them in the sacrament. There is also a special Grace to resolve all of these situations in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. It is there! You forgive them and you ask forgiveness for your own sins. Then say, "Father, I want to forgive these people who have offended or injured me. I ask God to bless these people. I want to intercede through this sacrament that God will give the grace of reconciliation." You can do that. It's OK. Grace will go out from the sacrament through the intercession, blessing those people. God will work bringing not only forgiveness but also healing. And He promises to remove our sins as far as the east is from the west, and never remember them anymore. (Psalm 103:12; Hebrews 8:12) (NRSVCE) He will help us do the same! O Amazing Grace! Alleluia!



Another Sacrament important for intercession is the Sacrament of Marriage. When people are married in Christ, there is a special grace given from Heaven to reveal the unity of the Holy Trinity on earth.

In the Sacrament of Marriage. as people are married in Christ, when God hears one member of them marriage praying, He does not hear just one person speaking. He hears both of you speaking at the same time. So you can go to God and make a profession of faith for your husband or your wife. You can speak on their behalf to God. God will hear this and give them grace and bless them. You can do it in a group when you are praying with others, but you can also do it when you are praying alone. Just say, "Lord, I am going to speak for him today. Jesus, I love You. I believe in You. I want to follow You." Then watch God work! God has promised,

"For the unbelieving husband is made holy through his wife, and the unbelieving wife is made holy through her husband." (1 Corinthians 7: 14) (NRSVCE)

Alleluia! Some of you know what I am talking about. You have seen the fruits in your own family of this kind of prayer. Alleluia!

Also, those of you who are married in Christ can pray in agreement through your Sacrament for God's Grace to go out to other marriages. And God will pass it on to them. I really encourage you to pray for marriages this way. In our world today there is such great spiritual war against marriage according to God's way and in Christ Jesus. We need to earnestly lift up the Victory and Power of the Blood of Jesus in the spiritual realm and establish God's Kingdom over all the enemy is trying to do to pervert and destroy. So pray out of your Sacrament often in intercession into the many marriage situations, especially in the Body of Christ. The Sacraments are really powerful in intercession. Alleluia!



SACRAMENTALS

Besides the Sacraments of the Church, as Christians we use various sacred objects to remind us of the Lord Our God and to be "Windows of Grace" for us. We call these Sacramentals. There are four main Sacramentals commonly used: Holy Water. Blessed Salt, Blessed Oil, and Blessed Candles. Other kinds of sacred objects may be a crucifix, rosary, St. Benedict medal or cross, statues, other kinds of religious medals and relics.

A Sacramental is a special object blessed by a priest. The blessing he gives says the grace that can come to us as we use that sacred object. For example, with Blessed Salt, the Church blessing says, "Wherever this salt is sprinkled, every unclean spirit must flee." So people are encouraged to sprinkle the salt around in their places as a window of God's protection for them, they can also use it in their cooking. We especially use the Blessed Salt in intercession when we pray the Jericho prayer of procession for protection for our people and places. Because of the priestly blessing and according to the words of the official blessing, that sacred object can be as a window of blessing for those who use it or have it.



CREATION

Creation is a powerful weapon in the hands of intercessors. We see this in the Bible.

In Joshua 10, Joshua was fighting the Amorites. The day was ending and the battle was not finished yet. Joshua turned around and spoke to the sun. He commanded it to stop in the Name of God. He commanded creation to fight on God's side and the sun obeyed. The sun actually stopped for 23 hours and 20 minutes until Joshua won the battle. This miracle really did happen! It has even been verified by astronomy. ^[4] Glory to God! How amazing!



Another miracle of creation happened through intercession in our times. In January of 1988, the intercessors from different nations gathered in Israel for their yearly intercession conference to pray for the peace of Jerusalem and to pray for Israel. This was an international ecumenical intercession event. I was not able to attend the conference in Israel that year. But other intercessors, who did attend, told me what happened.

^{[4] &}lt;a href="http://commandtheraven.com/nasa-proves-the-bible-is-true-the-missing-day/">http://commandtheraven.com/nasa-proves-the-bible-is-true-the-missing-day/

This year was the time of an Intifada, with a lot of violence between the Moslems and Jews in the Holy Land. On the Friday during the week of the conference, the Moslems had decided that when the loudspeakers called the people to prayer, they were also going to call the people to violence. They would all go over into the Old City and kill all the Jews. The intercessors found out the night before, Thursday night. God has His CIA! God has intercessors everywhere. They do often find out what is going on ahead of time because God wants them to pray. One day when we get to Heaven we will see all the miracles that have gone on through hidden intercession for the Church and the nations of the world. Alleluia!

The intercessors found out on Thursday night what was planned for Friday. They took it to the meeting in prayer. They said, "God, what are we supposed to do? How are we supposed to pray?"

The Holy Spirit gave them this Bible passage.

"Have you entered the storehouses of the snow, or have you seen the storehouses of the hail, which I have reserved for the time of trouble, for the day of battle and war?" (Job 38: 22 - 23) (NRSVCE)

They read the Bible passage. Then, they asked the Lord, "God, what does this mean? How are we supposed to pray?" The Lord spoke to them and said, "Pray for a snowstorm to come to Jerusalem."

Now, praying for a snowstorm in Jerusalem at that time was like praying for a snowstorm to come to the beach in a pacific island around the equator. They just don't get snow in Jerusalem then. However, the intercessors obeyed God. They began to pray for a snowstorm to come.

The Israeli army also found out about the plan of the Moslems on the same Thursday. So that night, they stationed about a thousand soldiers for protection around the Old City to be ready for the next day. Meanwhile, the intercessors kept taking the situation back to God.

The next morning they went to their meeting. The sun was shining in the beautiful clear blue sky. But they continued to obey the Holy Spirit by praying for a snowstorm to come to Jerusalem. Do you know what

happened? A snowstorm came to Jerusalem! It was so thick in the air that you could not see your hand in front of your face! Everybody stayed home! And God literally snowed the entire operation under! Glory to God!

Creation became a weapon in the hands of intercessors fighting on the side of God. What Amazing Grace! Alleluia!



Some years ago, during an intercession retreat at a convent in Bombay, we experienced a miracle with creation. As we prayed in that convent, we discerned that the Lord wanted us to pray the Jericho protection around the place. However, it was pouring down rain! So I said, "Lord, if You want us to do this, You need to stop the rain. Please, Father!"

While we were upstairs in the chapel praising the Lord, the rain was pouring down. Then, when it was time for the Jericho prayer, to walk outside around the convent, suddenly not only did the rain stop, but also the sun came out. It began to shine brightly making a path all the way from across the sea in front of the house right up to the house itself. It was raining on the either side of the house, but the sun was shining on top and in the front of the house. So we all went outside and walked around the house seven times praying the Jericho protection prayers. When we finished and the last person stepped back inside the house, the rain came back! Amazing! God used creation as a weapon through intercession to accomplish His Plan. Glory to God!



FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT.

Another group of Gifts given to us by the Holy Spirit we call the *Fruits* of the Spirit. What are the *Fruits* of the Spirit? Galatians lists nine fruits:

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control." (Galatians 5: 22-23) (NRSVCE)

Because the *Fruits of the Spirit* come from God, they are filled with the Light of God's Glory. Wherever the Fruits are manifested, their Light drives out the darkness caused by the enemy through some vice that is the opposite of the Fruit of God. The Fruits truly work as weapons of light.

For intercession, the *Fruits of the Spirit* work in two ways.

First of all, these fruits describe what God desires in the character of an intercessor. The Lord says in James 5 that

"The (earnest, heartfelt) prayer of a righteous man has great power in its effects." (James 5: 16b) (NRSVCE)

A great example of this is the Prophet Elijah. He was a faithful and righteous prophet of God. He decreed, at the command of God, that there would be no rain for three years. A severe famine hit Samaria as punishment for their idolatry. At the test of prophets on Mount Carmel, when God revealed by fire that He alone is God, the people declared their faith again in the God of Israel. Then Elijah prayed again seven times and the rains came. (cf. 1 Kings 17 and 18) Creation became a weapon fighting on God's side in the hand of a great intercessor.

"Elijah was a man of like nature with ourselves and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again and the Heaven gave rain, and the earth brought forth its fruit." (James 5: 17-18) (NRSVCE)

I believe that righteousness and holiness are the main reason the Blessed Mother is such a powerful intercessor. She is "full of Grace." Never was there any sin in her. She is filled with righteousness in Jesus Christ. She is filled with holiness. Therefore her prayer is so very powerful and effective.



In 1986, I had the privilege to go to Medjugorje in Yugoslavia. While I was in Medjugorie, I felt like I really wanted to dedicate the Fellowship of the Burning Bush to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. So one day I went to meet the Parish Priest. I asked him, "Father, Would you mind if I went up

to the room where the Blessed Mother comes, because I want to dedicate our work to the Blessed Mother?" He said, "Sister, that is wonderful! I will take you right up." So he took me upstairs and put me in the front of the room right next to Marija and Ivan, who see the Blessed Mother.

When the Blessed Mother came to these young people, I didn't see her like they did but I knew she was there. So I started talking to her. I said, "Blessed Mother, we would like to dedicate the Fellowship of the Burning Bush to your Immaculate Heart. Would you accept that?" Suddenly I felt like she was standing right next to me, even though I could not see her physically. She put her mantle around me. It was amazing! It was like I was right next to this pillar of gentle yet blazing fire. And the fire began to radiate right into me. Afterwards I remembered that one of the names of the Blessed Mother in the Bible is the "Burning Bush". That name comes up during Advent in the Office of Readings of the Divine Office. Here "burning bush" refers to the Blessed Mother. Just as the bush was on fire and not consumed, she is both virgin and mother. Such a marvelous symbol of the Blessed Mother! To me, this was an amazing confirmation of our name, and charism of the Fire of God's Love, and our apostolate of missionary intercession in the Church: The Fellowship of the Burning Bush. Isn't God awesome!

Then immediately the Lord shifted my thinking. He said, "You are supposed to be an intercessor. You are not here for yourself. You should be praying for the people here. Ask the Blessed Mother how to pray for these people." So I went and talked to Father about it. And he began to share with me the needs of the people in Medjugorie and how much they needed prayer to complete the mission God had given them through the Blessed Mother. I asked him if I could go to the room again that night to tell her directly. He said, "Yes, Sister, you can come again tonight." So He again took me upstairs into the room up in the front near Marija and Ivan.

That night the Blessed Mother came again. Again I did not see her as they see her. But I was talking to her, "Blessed Mother, how do you want us to pray? What do you want us to pray for? And would you accept our commitment to pray for your people here?" She came over and took hold of my hands. As she did this, the Lord gave me a special experience of the presence of the Blessed Mother. It was the most amazing experience! It is not something you can really put in words. What I discerned was someone

who was totally FREE! There was not ever any obstacle to God of any kind in her! Therefore, the Love of Jesus could come to us through her with no change! Amazing! As she was holding on to my hands, she said, "Pray that my people will know Jesus." Doesn't that sound just like her!

Later, the Lord gave me the Bible verse in 1 Corinthians that *our* corruptibility needs to put on incorruptibility. (1Corinthians 15:53) (JB) What He gave me to discern in the Blessed Mother was her incorruptibility! Resurrection fruit of the Holy Spirit's work! Alleluia! Glory to God! That is our challenge and God's desire for all of us.

I go to many places and many people come to me for spiritual direction and guidance. Part of God's call to me is to challenge them to grow in Christ. I challenge you to grow in Christ. However, I also need to grow in Christ? Somebody has to challenge me! That is what the Blessed Mother did! So now God is working on me overtime! Thank you, Lord! Wouldn't you like to be like her, totally free of any obstacle so Jesus' Love could come through you with no change? Come Holy Spirit!



All of the *Fruits of the Spirit* are essential in the character of an intercessor so we can be like Jesus and allow the Rivers of the Holy Spirit to flow through us to others more freely. But Holy Spirit Fruits are also powerful as Divine Weapons in intercession.

Paul says in Philippians, "Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I say rejoice!" (Philippians 4:4) (NRSVCE) In November 2016, during the international FBB pilgrimage to Manila, we deeply experienced using the Weapon of Light called: "Rejoicing in the Lord" in worship and intercession. An amazing result of using this *Fruit of the Holy Spirit* in intercession, was the releasing of a super-abundant flood of God's Goodness on all of us and on all we prayed for, overflowing into Blessing and Mercy. We were deeply immersed in and forever changed by the sovereign working of God as a result of worship and intercession in this *Fruit of the Holy Spirit*. So was the convent we stayed. Glory to God!

Psalm 149 is an example of the covenant of worship. Here we worship God deeply in the Joy of the Lord. Dancing praise in the Joy of the Lord is

powerful in intercession and in spiritual warfare. This Psalm reveals how God empowers us for serious victory in the spiritual war on many levels as we rejoice, dance for Joy in the Lord, and worship Him by high praises in the Spirit. In this spiritual atmosphere, God also gives us kingly authority to execute His Decrees from Heaven into earth. Psalm 149:

- "Praise the LORD! Sing to the LORD a new song, His praise in the assembly of the faithful.
- ² Let Israel be *glad* in its Maker; let the children of Zion *rejoice* in their King.
- ³Let them praise His Name with *dancing*, making melody to Him with tambourine and lyre.
- ⁴ For the LORD takes pleasure in His People; He adorns the humble with victory.
- ⁵ Let the faithful *exult* in glory; let them sing for *joy* on their couches.
- ⁶Let the high praises of God be in their throats and two-edged swords in their hands,
- ⁷ to execute vengeance on the nations and punishment on the peoples,
- ⁸ to bind their kings with fetters and their nobles with chains of iron,
- ⁹ to execute on them the judgment decreed.

This is glory for all His Faithful ones. Praise the LORD! (NRSVCE)

One way we pray the Fruits of the Spirit in intercession is by decree or declarations. The Lord Jesus did this when He calmed the storm at sea. He said, "Peace, Be Still." (Mark 4:39) (NRSVCE) Jesus is Peace in His own Person because He has reconciled God and Man in Himself. (Micah 5:5) (NRSVCE) But His declaration of Peace released the *Fruit of Holy Spirit* into the Storm and it became still.

In intercession sometimes the Holy Spirit leads us to declare the Peace words of Jesus into situations of violence and "storms" of all kinds in the lives of our people. Also, we have prayed God's Peace is into situations where there is division or strife between God's People. As we praise the Lord deeply in those situations, our praises build a spiritual throne between the people who are divided. Here the King can come to reign and be the "Peace between us", as we declare the Holy Spirit Fruit of Peace in Ephesians 2:

"But now in Christ Jesus you who formerly were far off have been brought near by the Blood of Christ. For He Himself is our peace, who made both groups into one and broke down the barrier of the dividing wall, by abolishing in His flesh the enmity, which is the Law of commandments contained in ordinances, so that in Himself He might make the two into one new man, thus establishing peace, and might reconcile them both in one body to God through the cross, by it having put to death the enmity. And He came and preached peace to you who were far away, and peace to those who were near; for through Him we both have our access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints, and are of God's household, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole building, being fitted together, is growing into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit." (Ephesians 2:13–21) (NRSVCE)

So the *Fruits of the Holy Spirit* are essential in the character of an intercessor and they can be powerful Divine Weapons of Light in intercession prayer. Alleluia!



PRAYERS.

The Holy Spirit gives us *Many Prayers*. These prayers are important in intercession as the Divine Equipment we need to bring Heaven into earth.

BIBLE PRAYERS

The Holy Bible is filled with inspired prayers. There is a Psalm for any condition you could ever experience as a human being. It is right there in the Holy Bible from the Holy Spirit!

Then we find powerful prayers in the intercessions of God's Holy People in the whole Bible, like Abraham (Genesis 18: 22 -33), Daniel, (Daniel 9: 3-19) Nehemiah, (Nehemiah 1: 4-11) and Esther (Esther 4: 29 - 48) and St.

Paul (in almost every book of the Bible he wrote.). They all cried out deeply in repentance to God for the sins of the nation and for his Justice, Mercy, and Blessings. Of course, the intercession prayer of the Lord Jesus at the Last Supper is the most powerful of all (John 17). He prayed earnestly for the fullness of God's Glory to be released from Heaven into earth. Then, He lived intercession for all people on the cross. (Isaiah 52 – 53) No words can capture the awesome working of God as He answered these prayers in raising Jesus from the dead up into that very Glory of the Father forever.

We need to pray these God - made prayers for our people and Church and nations! These are the Words of God! We can find them all over the Bible in both the Old Testament and the New Testament. And so this is another good reason for us to read the Bible - to know God's Prayers.

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

The Divine Office, also called The Liturgy of the Hours, is the official intercession prayer of the Church. Most of it is straight from the Holy Bible - Psalms and Readings. Priest and Religious pray this every day. In the Monastic and Contemplative Orders in the Church, they may meet to pray together every three hours, fulfilling God's directive, "Seven times a day I praise you." (Psalm 119:164) NRSVCE) Lay people also sometimes pray the Morning Prayer (Lauds) or the Evening Prayers (Vespers) of the Church.

The Prayers of the Divine Office are so anointed! I remember times when, after working all morning, I would come before the Lord totally wiped out. Then I would sit down for five minutes to pray the Noonday Prayer of the Church, and be totally revived, filled with the Strength of God! Glory to God! It was powerful! A special Anointing of the Holy Spirit is on this prayer!

INSPIRED PRAYERS

Have you heard anyone pray inspired spontaneous prayers? Pentecostals do this regularly. They might start out quoting the Bible, and then they start just praying from the heart. Their prayer is so anointed! It just flows out like a river to God. And they go on and on in a very anointed way.

This is a wonderful way that we can learn to pray too, praying from the heart in the Holy Spirit. It is spontaneous prayer, but it is also inspired prayer flowing like a river from God in the anointing of the Spirit. This is a beautiful gift from God and a weapon in intercession.

LITANIES AND NOVENAS

We have so many litanies and novenas from the Holy Spirit to use in our intercession. Many of them are stored up in the old treasury of prayers from the past history of the Church. They may call on the many Names of Jesus and Mary or lead us to declare the mysteries of Jesus and His victory in the lives of our people. When I think of all these old prayers, I remember the words of Jesus,

"Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of Heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old." (Matthew 13: 52) (NRSVCE)

There are so many prayer treasures God has given us in the Catholic tradition and that were maybe pushed to the side after the Vatican Council. We need to find these treasures again. God gave us these gifts and they are so powerful in prayer.

THE ROSARY

The rosary is very powerful in prayer. Aside from the fact that both the Holy Spirit and the Blessed Mother gave us this prayer, there are two reasons why the rosary is so powerful in itself. First: When we say the Hail Mary, we are making the profession of the heart of our Faith, the Word became Flesh. We say it over and over and over in every Hail Mary. Second, in the Hail Mary, we are praising Jesus – blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. We keep praising Jesus. The rosary is a prayer of praise. That is why the Lord comes closer to us and we become immersed in Him when we are saying the rosary. He fills the praises of His people as we are praising God. Alleluia!

The rosary is also very powerful, because we are calling upon the intercession of the Blessed Mother. "Pray for us, Holy Mother of God,

now and at the our of our death." She is the very great intercessor with her Son, the Lord Jesus Himself and with God the Almighty Father.

BLESSING

We already talked about blessing as a weapon of light under the Word of God section. However, we can mention here that blessing is a form of prayer that has been given to us by the Holy Spirit.



HUMAN EXPERIENCE.

The Holy Spirit can use our human experience as a spiritual weapon fighting on God's side in the in intercession. Let's look at some examples of how He working through us.

TRAVAILING PRAYER

In the New Testament, St. Paul says something very interesting in his letter to the Galatian People.

"My little children, with whom I am again in travail until Christ be formed in you!" (Galatians 4: 19) (NRSVCE)

The word he uses, "travail", is the same word used to describe the labor pains a woman goes through in giving birth to a child. Those of you who are mothers know the experience you go through when you give birth to your children. St. Paul is saying that he actually experienced a similar experience in the Holy Spirit of travail and agony in intercession for Jesus Christ to be born in others. This was the spiritual process of giving birth in Christ for the people of Galatia and is a form of intercession prayer.

Maybe some of you may have experienced this in your own lives. Perhaps you were facing a very difficult and big situation. And when you tried to pray, all you could do was weep. You couldn't even say anything. As you continued to weep before the Lord, after a while maybe the burden lifted and you had peace in your heart. And you just knew that you knew that everything was going to be ok. You don't know how you knew, but you

just knew. What you went through in that situation is the intercession experience we call "travailing prayer".

When we are in travailing prayer, we are the ones who are living it. We are bearing some deep burden. We are the ones who are weeping and crying out to God for ourselves of for someone else. The Holy Spirit is using our human experience, our tears, our pain, our travail, to carry that burden to the Father in Heaven in the prayer of tears. We actually become a weapon in God's hands in that case.

Jesus experienced this in John 11 in the story about Lazarus. When Lazarus was sick, they sent a message to Jesus. But Jesus did not go right away. He said, "This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God." Jesus knew ahead of time from the Holy Spirit. He stayed four more days.

When He finally came to Bethany, Lazarus was already dead and buried for four days in that tomb. Everyone was weeping and crying, "Lord, if you had been here sooner, he would not have died." Jesus said, "Didn't I tell you that if you believe, you will see the power of the glory of God." Then He said, "Take Me to where he is buried." As they were going to the tomb, everybody was weeping and the Bible says, "Jesus was deeply moved in spirit and troubled." And "Jesus wept." (John 11:33 and 35) (JB) What was happening here? Many people made the comment, "Look how much He loved him!" Everyone thought Jesus was weeping and grieving because this was his friend. But that is not what was happening.

Remember how in the Gospel of John, Jesus said, "The Son can only do what He sees the Father doing." (John 5:19) (NRSVCE) So if Jesus was doing what the Father was doing, if Jesus was following the Holy Spirit at the tomb of Lazarus, why was Jesus weeping? What was the Holy Spirit doing with Jesus at the tomb of Lazarus? The Holy Spirit had taken Jesus into travailing prayer. He was deeply moved in the Spirit and he began interceding in travailing tears. That is why He wept. How do we know this? Because Jesus says this in the next Bible verse. He says, "Father, I know You heard my prayer." Jesus got the breakthrough of the travailing intercession prayer.

When we are in travailing prayer we also might get to the point of the breakthrough. We may feel a deep confidence that everything is going to

be OK. This deep confidence is a special gift from the Holy Spirit called *charismatic faith*. Jesus experienced this because He said it. "Father, I know that You heard My prayer."

Now, every gift of the Holy Spirit is to be given away to others. It is not just for ourselves. When we experience this breakthrough of deep confidence of charismatic faith for a specific situation, then we need to give it away. How do we do this? We just say it. We say to the Lord, "Lord, give that person I am praying for this deep confidence that is in my heart, this charismatic faith, so that they can receive Your answer."

Jesus did this. When He experienced the charismatic gift of faith, He spoke out loudly, "Father, I know You heard My prayer." Then He says, "And I say this out loud so all these people will believe." Jesus experienced the breakthrough of charismatic faith and then by His declaration, He gave it away to all the people there. After that, he went to the tomb and said, "Lazarus, come out!" And Lazarus came out! Alleluia! He does the miracle. And the Bible says that "many people believed in Jesus after this." The story of Jesus at the tomb of Lazarus is a powerful teaching on travailing prayer in intercession.

Jesus had another even deeper experience of travailing intercession:

"Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise Him; He hath put Him to grief: when thou shalt make His soul an offering for sin, He shall see His seed, He shall prolong His days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in His hand. He shall see of the *travail of His soul*, and shall be satisfied: by His knowledge shall my Righteous Servant justify many; for He shall bear their iniquities. Therefore will I divide Him a portion with the great, and He shall divide the spoil with the strong; because He hath poured out His soul unto death: and He was numbered with the transgressors; and He bore the sin of many, and *made intercession for the transgressors*." (Isaiah 53: 10-12) (KJV)

On the Cross, He did not just experience tears and burden-bearing weeping in intercession, but Jesus actually lived the agony of travail in His whole being for the justification and salvation of all people. In His travail, we hear Jesus make specific intercession by His seven last words on the

cross, mostly with the Words of the Holy Bible, for all people. And Hebrews reveals that He had *charismatic faith* in His Heart the whole time,

"Let us keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, who leads us in our faith and brings it to perfection: for the sake of the joy which lay ahead of Him, He endured the cross, disregarding the shame of it, and has taken His seat at the right of God's Throne." (Hebrews 12:2) (JB)

The Holy Spirit has a purpose in giving travailing intercession prayer. As He says with St. Paul and with the Lord Jesus - that others maybe born into Christ, or into the salvation of God. I believe this is the most needed prayer in the Church and in the whole world today. How many people still do not know the Lord Jesus. Where are the spiritual fathers and mothers whom God may call to "birth others into Christ" by their intercession? Travailing intercession in the Holy Spirit is urgently needed today, to prepare the way for the work of the new evangelization for people in the church and in every nation of the world.

How many people do you know, who have had some experience of the Lord, are "stuck" on the spiritual journey and not growing into spiritual maturity as God desires. Where are the spiritual fathers and mothers who will pray deep enough with the Holy Spirit to "birth them into a new level in Christ" or into their spiritual destiny? Come, Holy Spirit!

When God calls specific people to pray by travailing intercession, He gives them a special anointing. If you are in a group of people praying and someone begins to weep in travailing prayer, it is very important that you DO NOT TOUCH THEM. Touching them will break the anointing of the Holy Spirit and they will stop praying. However, we need to support them in prayer by praise and worship, praying in tongues, or in some other way the Lord may lead us to pray, until they get the breakthrough. Ask Him how to pray. For those of you that experience this gift of travail, I encourage you to pray in tongues as soon as you can. So the Holy Spirit can pray through the burden into victory.

The grace of be "born into Jesus Christ" or "into a new level in Jesus Christ" is only one step of God working in our lives. Once our people experience one of these steps, our prayer is finished. Then we need to

move on and seek the Lord in how to pray in other steps in their lives. Travailing prayer is a very powerful way the Holy Spirit can use our human experience in intercession.



PROPHETIC PRAYER ACTIONS WITH PROCESSIONS

God told Abraham to walk the length and breadth of the land. He said to Joshua "I will give you every place where you set your foot, as I promised Moses." (Joshua 1:3) (NIV) Praise the Lord! This is an amazing promise from God. The Holy Spirit working in *prophetic prayer actions*.

Sometimes God has us do other kinds of prayer actions. Like Joshua at the second city they were going to take, the city of Ai, God said to Joshua,

"Point your spear in that direction and I will give it to you." (Joshua 8:18) (NRSVCE)

This again was a prophetic prayer action in intercession. The Holy Spirit may lead us in intercession to also do various prophetic prayer actions.

Look at the lives of the prophets in the Bible. How many times God tells the prophets to do some kind of prophetic action that is a message to the people of what God is saying or what He is going to do or on His judgments. (cf. Jeremiah and Ezekiel.) What they said and did was often a sign that God was speaking prophetically through them to the people.

In Romans the Lord talks about us, submitting every member of our body, every part of us to God to become a weapon fighting on God's side.

"In the same way, you must see yourselves as being dead to sin but alive for God in Christ Jesus. That is why you must not allow sin to reign over your mortal bodies and make you obey their desires; or give any parts of your bodies over to sin to be used as instruments of evil. Instead, give yourselves to God, as people brought to life from the dead, and give every part of your bodies to God to be *instruments of uprightness*; and then sin will no longer have any power over you -- you are living not under law, but under grace." (Romans 6: 11-14) (JB)

Alleluia! This is a part of the meaning of religious vows. Everything a religious does because of the vow immediately is an act of worship to God and intercession for God's people. Whatever a religious does has these two meanings always. No matter what we are doing if we are doing something that is good, immediately worship goes up to God and blessings are going out to the Body of Christ. Our whole life becomes an intercession. How amazing! Our whole life gives glory to God. Everything we do says "I love you. I worship you. You are a Holy God." Every action becomes a prophetic prayer action of worship and intercession. Glory to God! What a privilege!

In the story of Joshua at Jericho, Joshua and the children of Israel did this "Jericho prayer" in obedience to God by marching in procession around Jericho city seven times over seven days, and seven times on the seventh day." (Joshua 6: 2-5) (NRSVCE) The Jericho prayer is an intercession of a prophetic prayer action in a procession. By this prayer, as we walking around a people or a place, we declare and claim this person or place as God's territory. The Jericho prayer is part of one of God's Divine Strategies in the Bible. We will talk about this more later.

PROPHETIC ACTIONS WITH BANNERS

Another prophetic prayer action we see in the Bible is processions with banners. I don't know if you have seen groups that do liturgical dance with banners in worship. I have seen this and the banners are really beautiful as well as being prophetically significant in their colors and symbols and in the dance movements. The symbolism of banners lifted up declares God's Victory in the spiritual realm.

I remember the Evangelical (Ecumenical) Sisterhood of Mary, started by Mother Basilea Shlink in 1944 in Darmstadt, Germany, out of the ashes of World War Two.^[5] They are a contemplative, Lutheran, charismatic, and Trinitarian religious order. Their prophetic vocation is basically evangelization and intercession by a "joy-filled life born of true repentance that allows His Kingdom of Love to shine forth."

^[5] https://www.kanaan.org/

God has also called them to "build bridges of reconciliation and to share the love of Jesus with others". They live by Faith and built their community buildings by miracles from total faith on the Lord. And they also now have the Canaan Franciscan Brothers. One way they declare the Victory of the Forgiving Love of Jesus is by "worship in the form of jubilant 'Heaven celebrations'." That includes processions with banners in worship. The banners carry Bible verses and proclamations of faith and the victory of Jesus. They have also written numerous booklets and songs on the Victory and Mercy of Jesus. Their plaques with words of encouragement from the Lord are posted in many countries.

One time, I was in Ireland and it was the Feast of Corpus Christi. In the center of the city the people built this big platform. On the Day of the Feast, all the Churches and the priests and the people came in procession from their parishes to the center of the city. The bishop carried the Blessed Sacrament in a huge monstrance. All the people came to the center platform lifting up the banners representing their parishes and their groups as the Bishop lifted up Jesus as the Lord of the city. It was marvelous!

We have many of these public processions in many countries in honor of Special Christian Feasts. It is a wonderful witness to the Lord. But it is also an intercession prayer action declaring Jesus as the Lord in the Heavenlies and releasing His Victory from Heaven into that place. Alleluia!

In Jeremiah, the Lord talks about <u>lifting up the banners with the trumpets</u> when going into war. In war, when someone lifts up the flag, it is the focus of unity to the army in the battle. It is also the sign of which people control the territory. We have control of this spot because the flag is raised up. The standard of a flag is raised and encourages the warriors into battle.

It says in the Bible "that when the enemy comes in, like a flood God will raise up a standard." (Isaiah 59:19)(KJV) The Holy Spirit comes in like a flood, like a rushing torrent, as He raises up the Standard of God and drives out the enemy. And what is the Standard He raises up? The Cross of Jesus! He is our victory! Alleluia! Jesus promised,

"when I am lifted up from the earth, I shall draw all men to Myself." (John 12:32) (JB)

Lifting up banners then is symbolically lifting up Jesus and His Holy Cross. We declare in the Heavenlies, and not just on the earth, that the Victory of Jesus is established HERE. Alleluia! So spiritually, something powerful goes on when we lift up a banner of the Lord in worship. We may not even be fully aware of what it means or what is happening in the spiritual realm, but the enemy knows what you are saying. He knows how to read these things. You are lifting up the Cross of Jesus. And Jesus has the victory in the Heavenlies and on the earth. Amen.

Isaiah also speaks of how lifting up the banner summons the angels, God's warriors, into the battle. Just by lifting up the banner, the angels are being called forth into the battle in the spiritual realm. (Isaiah 13: 2-3) (NIV)



FASTING

Now let us look at another human experience that is very powerful in the work of intercession *FASTING*. In the Holy Bible, Jesus says WHEN you fast, not IF. Interesting, isn't it. Not if, but when. Fasting is a basic Christian discipline.

When a Christian fasts, it is different from when a non-Christian fasts because when we are fasting, we are in the Lord in the strength of God. We are fasting unto the Lord so it is an act of worship. It is a time to draw closer to Him Whom we know. Alleluia!

For people who do not know Jesus, when they get into fasting, they may be looking for God or trying to lose weight. For us it is different. We are looking to go deeper into the Heart of the One we know and in Whom we believe. So Christian Fasting is a totally different spiritual situation than other kinds of fasting. And by the way, if we fast in the Lord, we are not going to lose weight. Sorry. The Lord carries us in His Strength.

The Lord was trying to tell us one day what fasting means in intercession. He uses the image of the magnifying glass. Have you ever seen young people take a magnifying glass and they try to catch the sunlight and burn a hole in a piece of paper? What is happening there? The light is coming

down all over. The magnifying glass collects all this light and focuses it in on one spot. So the intensity of the focused light starts a fire.

The Lord said to us that the intercessor is like the magnifying glass catching the Light of God - His Blessings, Graces, and Miracles - and focusing them in on one situation. Think about what might happen when lots of people pray for the same thing. Alleluia! Then He said to us that fasting makes the lens more powerful. When we are in fasting, we are even physically dependent upon God for our strength. So we are in a deeper connection with Him and He can work through us more clearly and directly and deeply. We are in total dependence on the Lord. Amen.

Fasting is also a way of humbling ourselves before God, as it says many times in the Bible. Sometimes fasting is really crucial in prayer ministry. In Matthew 17, Jesus meets with a problem the disciples had. They could not deliver that little boy from the devil. It didn't work. Jesus said "some kinds only come out by prayer and fasting." (Matthew 17: 21) (NRSVCE) So fasting is a weapon in intercession and deliverance ministry as well.

It is very interesting to look at the life of Daniel. Daniel fasted every day of his life. He lived a fasted life. Because of that, he had s deep relationship with God, he also had such a tremendous grace of miracle answers in intercession. Because of the intercession of Daniel, God fulfilled His Promise and Prophecy that after 70 years He would return His People back to the Promised Land and rebuild Jerusalem and the Temple. (cf. Jeremiah 20:19; Daniel 9: 1-2) Because of the intercession of Daniel that this liberation came to pass. Also, God prophetically gave Daniel some of the most accurate details of the coming of the Messiah. It is amazing what God said to Daniel about when the Messiah would actually come in history and about his mission.

Daniel's intercession ushered in and opened the way for God to do what He wanted to do to accomplish His purposes with Israel and with the Messiah. Because of his relationship and union with God and his fasted life, he was always in total dependence on God. God took him into Heaven and gave him tremendous revelations. He saw Jesus. He saw God the Father on the throne. Wouldn't you like to go to Heaven, to see Jesus, to see the Father and Jesus on Their Thrones in glory? God is doing this in

our time. He is revealing Heaven and He is revealing His Glory! Alleluia! Thank you. Jesus!

It is very interesting in the book of Jonah what happened to a pagan city that did not believe in God. God told Jonah to go to Nineveh. First of all, to tell a Jew to go over to a pagan city, you don't do this! Not kosher. Jonah was fighting God tooth and nail. How did he end up in the whale? Because he said no to God; "I am not going to that pagan city." But when Jonah did finally go and warn the people of God's impending judgement. These people heard and obeyed God's command of repentance. The king had all the people and even the animals fasting. No food. No water. Because of that, God had mercy on that city. Isn't that interesting! God works through the fasting of this pagan people who were acting in obedience to the command of God. In obedience to the command of God they fasted and repented. And God changed His Mind. Glory to God!

Fasting is part of our human experience. And the Holy Spirit can and does use this as a spiritual weapon in intercession.



HOSTS OF HEAVEN

Hosts of Heaven refers to the armies of spiritual beings in Heavenly places created by God before He created the visible world. They were all created to spiritually reflect God's Beauty and Power and Divine Intelligence and Glory in a myriad of ways in the spiritual world. They serve under the authority of Almighty God, Who is called "Lord of Hosts" (in Hebrew, "Yahweh --Lord God -- Sabaoth".) As their main work is to minister to God and carry out His Divine Will, they also assist the Holy Spirit, the Intercessor, Who prays according to God's Will. Through the Holy Spirit, they can also assist us as powerful partners in the work of intercession to release and actualize God's Kingdom and His Holy Will on earth as it is in Heaven. So I am including them here under the Gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Tradition and teaching in the Catholic Church tells us that there are nine main choirs of *Hosts of Heaven* to be found in the Holy Bible. The Book of Hebrew also says,

"But you are come unto Mount Sion, and unto the city of the living God, the Heavenly Jerusalem, and to an *innumerable company of angels*." (Hebrews 12:22) (KJV),

So there are really myriads of the Hosts of Heaven, too many to even be counted.

For right now, let's look at the traditional nine choirs. Usually they are divided into 3 hierarchies according to their service unto God and all He has created. The highest order, closest to God has as their main purpose to praise, honor, and glorify Him and includes Seraphim, Cherubim, and Thrones. The next order includes Dominions, Virtues, and Powers with the special purpose to care for all God has made in creation. The third order exists to help and guide mankind during our time on earth and includes Principalities, Archangels, and Angels. So every one of the nine choirs of *Hosts of Heaven* has different gifts and responsibilities in relation to God and to His People.

HOSTS OF HEAVEN IN INTERCESSION

The Hosts of Heaven have to be sent by God to carry out their work. They have to be asked or invited to join in intercession. The Holy Spirit can send them into action through different ways we pray. Sometimes during intercession, When the Holy Spirit leads us to sing strongly in the gift of tongues, I see visions of armies of the Hosts of Heaven being sent out in spiritual battle by the Holy Spirit. Sometimes as we repeat, declare, or decree the Word of God in obedience to the Spirit in intercession, I see that Word turn into a wedge-like arrow of Light. That wedge of Light keeps moving ahead, as long as we speak, to push out darkness in a specific situation. The wedge of Light is actually the shape taken by one or more of the Hosts of Heaven as they obey the Word of God and move to put it into action.

Other times, as we sing in strong breakthrough tongues, I have seen the ocean of the Holy Spirit rise up like a powerful tsunami wave, crashing on, and cleaning all the debris off a beach. (Sometimes God talks to us by means of parables.) This means God is clearing away spiritual obstacles so that people can get a new start and a new season. Then I often see members of the Hosts of Heaven come running on to the beach with

wheelbarrows to collect and carry off any remaining debris so the beach is really clean. Alleluia!



For those who are praying in your parish, God given you a special Prayer Partner. God has assigned a member of the choir of the Principalities to that parish to take the prayers of that people to God, to make reparation for the sins of that parish, and to intercede. Every parish has a Principality. So when you are praying in intercession in your parish, invite him to pray with you.

Anyone who is a missionary is assigned an extra spiritual partner from the choir of Dominions who assists the races of the world to bring them into the Purposes of God. Because we are missionaries in the Fellowship of the Burning Bush, each of us has a Dominion assigned to work with us in intercession. Alleluia!

Intercession is so important to God that He has one Archangel specifically assigned to intercession in the Throne Room of Heaven: St. Raphael. In the Book of Tobit, St. Raphael says,

"When you and Sarah were at prayer, it was I who offered your supplications before the Glory of the Lord and who read them; - I am Raphael, one of the seven angels who stand ever ready to enter the Presence of the Glory of the Lord." (Tobit 12: 12 and 15) (JB)

St. Raphael is a great prayer partner for us in intercession. Call upon him!

Archangel St. Michael is in charge of the Armies of Heaven in spiritual war cases. St Michael defend us in battle. When the Lord gives us the Word of God to decree in intercession, we can ask St. Gabriel to work with us to execute this word and plant it in the hearts of those we pray for. Even though he is an Archangel, he was also the Guardian Angel on earth to THE Word of God, Jesus the Lord.

We can call upon the different Hosts of Heaven to work with us in intercession according to the gifts that God has given them. The more we

learn about them and how they work, the better we can work with them in intercession. They are so powerful. They can go places we can't go. We can send them to our people by prayer. Did you ever tell your guardian angel to go to the guardian angel of your son or someone you were praying for? "Go whisper in his ear. Tell him God's message." They will work with us when we send them. They wait and have to be sent.

Sometimes when we get into prayer and the fire of God comes and immerses us, the choir of Heaven in charge of the worship of God joins us, the Seraphim. They are the ones on fire with love for God around his throne, who send the fire of God. Alleluia! St. Francis of Assisi is called the "seraphic father" because he was so on fire with the Love of God and Christ crucified! And it was a seraph from the choir of seraphim who brought the wounds of Jesus to St. Francis.

Whenever we praise God, we step into Heaven. In the praise and worship, we join all of Heaven. We are never alone when we pray. Isn't it wonderful! Alleluia! Lord, open our spiritual eyes so that we can step into Heaven, that we can see and walk with You in Heavenly places, and bring Glory of Your Holy Name. Amen.



In this life we are all faced daily with spiritual war. We need to think of this ongoing situation from God's Perspective. In spiritual war, we are dealing with fallen angels led by Satan or the Devil, who is like a roaring lion.

"Bow down, then, before the power of God now, so that He may raise you up in due time; unload all your burden on to Him, since He is concerned about you. Keep sober and alert, because your enemy the devil is on the prowl like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour. Stand up to him, strong in faith and in the knowledge that it is the same kind of suffering that the community of your brothers throughout the world is undergoing." (1 Peter 5: 6-9) (JB)

Now, the Holy Bible says that one/third of the Hosts of Heaven fell and were cast down to earth because of rebellion against God. That means

there are two/thirds left on God's side. When Jesus won His mighty victory on the cross, He broke the power of sin and death and Satan forever. And He was raised up even above all the Hosts of Heaven to the very Right Hand of God the Father to reign forever. In the Lord Jesus Christ, we also are raised up above all the Hosts of Heaven, right up to God our Father. So no matter what the spiritual war seems like on earth, that is not our position of victory. Our true place to "stand" is in the Lord Jesus. "The battle is the Lord's!" (2 Chronicles 20:15) (JB) And it is from that highest spiritual position in Him that we can intercede with the Holy Spirit and work with all the Hosts of Heaven to bring Heaven's victory into the battles on earth for the Glory of God.



God often speaks to us in stories to help us understand what He is doing in the Spirit as we pray. This tsunami story is a symbol of God working powerfully in deliverance and clearing away obstacles to His Presence and Work in the lives of those we pray for with the help of the Hosts of Heaven.

Many times the message God gives us is a parable. That is why when we pray there are two questions we should always ask God.

First: What do these visions and Bible verses and words that am receiving mean?

Second: How are we supposed to pray with these revelations?

If He speaks to you once, then He can speak to you twice and tell you what He means. Also, we have these amazing computers that we carry around on our shoulders. We are so trained that as soon as there is a little input, we have got to have output. We have it all figured out. We have a response and here it comes. When we are working with God, we have to interrupt this process. Think about this. Here is big God trying to get a message into this little head. The whole thing is never going to fit in there. St. Paul says we just see a little, a glimpse. That is why we have to keep asking Him to speak more to us. When a little input comes, take it back to God. Do not immediately interpret it! Do not immediately act! Take it back to God. with you. When you get into your groups, remember the two questions.

Revelation is not intercession. Some of you have been trying to pray in the way I have been teaching about following the Holy Spirit. And you are seeing wonderful things happen. A whole new world is opening up. Praise God! You are getting more revelation from God as we worship and listen to Him. That is the first step. But revelation is not intercession.

I have seen groups that pray and by the end of the meeting, they get a prophecy. Then they think, "Oh, we made it. Now we can go home." When God speaks, He is just getting ready to START the meeting! God always wants to do what He says. Always! If God gives a message, then there is something He wants to do to activate it in our midst.

So we always have to ask Him, first of all, "Now what does that mean, Lord?" And secondly, "How am I supposed to pray?" if we are in intercession. If we are in some other kind of group, ask Him "What are we supposed to do with this revelation?" Then God will speak more to all in the group. This is how we let the Holy Spirit be the leader.

The Lord is the most marvelous leader of intercession that you could ever have. God can actually lead a meeting. Alleluia! You can always tell when God is leading the meeting because it is never the same. He is always doing something new. He is so creative! He never repeats Himself. He is so amazing! Learn how to follow the leadership of the Holy Spirit!

This is the challenge God is giving us, a new level going deeper in prayer, going deeper in God, going deeper in intercession. You are going to see Heaven coming into the earth in deeper ways that you never imagined were possible before. Alleluia! Glory to God!



4. COUNTERFEIT GIFTS

God is our Father and by His Providential Care, He provides for everyone and everything He has made. Palm 23, "The Lord is my Shepherd" summarizes His care for us. He provides for our existence, identity, purpose in life, provision, healing, guidance, protection, anointing and share in His own mission and glory. These are all basic human needs. By His Death and Resurrection, the Lord Jesus has forgiven us and set us free, giving us a share in His own Divine Life. He has opened the way for us to enter into one with God. So now we can go to our Father and receive all God has for us. And the Holy Spirit administers all of the Father's care from Heaven into earth into all our lives.

Everyone needs this care everywhere in the world. However, not all people know Jesus or God our Father. And so they do not know Who to go to for their care. As a result, the many non-Christian religions of history have been created to meet these basic needs. Every pagan religion has some people and practices and methods and things which act as connections to the spiritual world for healing and protection and guidance and provision and power for people. However, any connections to the spiritual world that do not go through Jesus Christ are subject to become connections to evil spirits and the Devil. And people actually come into spiritual occult bondages as they consult and do spiritual practices where Jesus is not the Lord, even if they do not realize what they are doing.

We call these pagan religious practices: the *counterfeit sacraments and* sacramentals of the Devil. There is a lot to say about this, especially because of the increased interest and use of these counterfeits in our time, especially through the "new age" religions. However, I want to briefly mention here, that the devil has tried to counterfeit all the Gifts of God, including the Sacraments and the Sacramentals, so as to lead us away for God. However, there is one Gift from God that the Devil CANNOT counterfeit: the Peace of Jesus Christ. The Holy Bible says that Jesus "is peace." (Micah 5: 5) (JB) So if we are trying to discern about what is of God and what is not of God with all the various people and practices going around today, here is our measuring stick: the Peace of Jesus. Every Gift from the Holy Spirit of filled with the Presence and the Peace of Jesus.



We have been talking about so very many different Gifts that the Holy Spirit gives. All of these Gifts are from the Holy Spirit of God. They are Divine Equipment, Divine Tools, Divine Weapons that God Himself gives us. We really need all of God's Divine Gifts for intercession, so as to do God's work in God's way with God's power and God's strength for God's Glory. Come, Holy Spirit. Amen!



D. WAYS THE HOLY SPIRIT WORKS

Now we will look at some special ways the Holy Spirit works:

"There are varieties of activities (different ways of working), but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone." (1 Corinthians 12: 6) (NRSVCE)

The Holy Spirit works in many different ways. We are going to talk about two ways that are important for us in intercession.

First: God follows *DIVINE LAW*.

God follows Divine Law. What is Divine Law? Let's take an example. If I hold my Bible up in the air and then let it go, what do you think will happen? Right. It will fall down to the ground. Everybody knows that. Nobody says it will fall up. We all know this as a natural law of gravity.

God also has Divine Laws and Divine Patterns that He follows in living and working with us and the creation that He has made. As we discover what these Divine Laws are (and they are everywhere in the Bible), then we can begin to follow these laws in intercession. Thus, we will be able to work more in accord with God instead of against Him. Divine Law is one of the "ways" of how God the Holy Spirit works.

Second: God works according to **DIVINE STRATEGIES**.

Every story in the Bible is a Divine Strategy. For example, in every difficult situation that Israel got into, God gave them a way through it. He gave them a Divine Strategy. God can also give us strategies in intercession so we can find a way through difficult situations in our lives. And we can draw on all the strategies of God in the Holy Bible.

- "Thus says the Lord:
- 'Stand by the earliest roads, ask the pathways of old,
- "Which is the way to good?" and walk it; thus you will find rest for yourselves." (Jeremiah 6: 16) (NAB)



1. DIVINE LAW

Let us take a look first of all at some examples of **Divine Law**.

In the Gospel of St. Matthew, Jesus says,

"I tell you solemnly once again, *if two of you on earth agree* to ask anything at all, it will be granted to you by My Father in Heaven. For where two or three meet in My Name, I shall be there with them." (Matthew 18: 19-20) (JB)

This is the **DIVINE LAW OF AGREEMENT.**



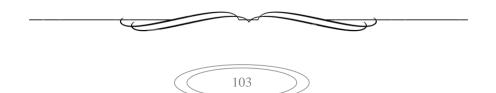
In the Letter to the Romans, the Holy Spirit takes the law another step.

"If you believe in your heart that Jesus is Lord and you confess with your lips (speaking out loud), that God has raised Jesus from the dead, then you will experience the saving power of God." (Romans 10: 9-13)(JB)

Something happens when we speak what we believe out loud that does not happen when we just believe in our hearts, praying silently. Something happens that is different when we speak out loud and when we agree together out loud. The Church teaches us this in practice. Many times during the Mass the Priest says a prayer out loud and the people all answer, "Amen". That is the law of agreement in effect. The Church lives this Divine Law. Pentecostals do too as they say "Amen" during the preaching.

I would like us to get a bit more Catholic and a bit more Pentecostal and do this in our intercessions. If someone prays something or says something that the Lord has given them in prayer, everyone can say, "Amen. I agree in the Name of Jesus." Agree out loud! Stand in the Law of God and watch Him work. Alleluia!

This is the **DIVINE LAW OF AGREEMENT OUT LOUD.**



We find another very powerful Divine Law 2 Corinthians.

"The Son of God, Jesus Christ, who was proclaimed to you by us, that is, by me and by Silvanus and Timothy, was never Yes and No; His Nature is all Yes. For in Him is found the Yes to all God's promises and therefore it is 'through Him' that we answer 'Amen' to give praise to God."

(2 Corinthians 1: 19 - 20)(JB)

Because Jesus said Yes first, now we can say Yes and receive everything that God has promised. The Yes of Jesus is a very powerful prayer in intercession. One of the reasons this prayer is so important is that the reason Jesus died is because every man was going his own way doing his own thing, rebelling. (Isaiah 53:6)(JB) That was "NO TO GOD." Jesus was always "YES TO GOD." His obedience even unto death on a cross broke the "NO TO GOD", the spirit of rebellion in the whole human race. And His "YES" even reversed the "NO" and all the consequences of the "NO" and replaced it with an "ETERNAL YES".

When we come in intercession, this is a powerful Law for us to agree with, to pray the "Yes of Jesus" with Jesus Himself on behalf of other people. For those of you that are married in the Sacrament of Marriage, I already mentioned that when one person prays, God hears both you and your spouse praying at the same time. So now if you also agree with Jesus and pray the Yes of Jesus to God for your spouse, God not only hears your spouse talking too, but He also sees every NO TO GOD reversed and replaced with the Eternal YES of the Son of God. The consequences of "no" and the curse is broken. The spiritual atmosphere is totally changed and Heaven opens up over the both of you in the marriage with an abundant River of Grace and Blessing straight from the Throne of God. Alleluia! So say lots of prayers of "YES TO GOD" with Jesus! Praise God!

For those consecrated with a vow of obedience, the vow of obedience releases the Grace of the YES OF JESUS to the whole Body of Christ. Every time a consecrated person says Yes and does God's Will, every time they obey God and His representatives, the Grace of that consecrated YES goes out to the whole Body of Christ. And the Promises of God are released as a River of Grace and Blessing to everyone. Alleluia! Isn't that

wonderful! If we could see what is happening in the spiritual world, I think we would be amazed. Glory to Jesus!

So that is the **DIVINE LAW OF THE YES OF JESUS.**



Another Divine Law is in Romans. The Lord says,

"Overcome evil with good." (Romans 12:21)(JB)

This is a very Catholic way of doing things. How many times do we go to confession and Father says "you have this vice in your life. Practice the opposite virtue a little more." What he means is: Overcome evil by doing good.

How does that work? St. John tells us what happens. When the Light comes into the world, what happens to the darkness? It is gone! We didn't do anything. The Light came and the darkness went! (cf. John 1) (JB) This is what happens with all the Gifts of God. The Power and the Life and the Light of God is in every Gift that He gives us as well as in every Divine Law. So when we pray His Gifts, we are releasing His Light into the darkness and the darkness has to flee.

For example, let's say we are praying for someone who has fear. What is the Gift that God gives to overcome fear? Can you remember a Bible Verse about this? The First Letter of St. John tells us that:

"Perfect Love casts out fear." (1 John 4: 18) (JB) And where does that Perfect Love come from? "The Love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given us." (Rom 5: 5) (JB)

God's Gift of Divine Love. We can pray this in intercession. As we declare this Bible Verse, the Divine Law goes into effect and this verse becomes a Divine Weapon of Light. I already mentioned what I have seen as we decree or declare God's Word in intercession - how He sends forth the Host of Heaven to action that Word acting as Weapon of Light to bring in God's Light to dispel darkness.

We need to sharpen up our Biblical Tools. Find out from the Bible what are the verses with the Laws and Promises of God that deal with all the issues we are praying about. God has some Law and Promise in the Holy Bible for everything a human being can experience. God has Gifts from Heaven to overcome everything evil: like, greed, anger, corruption, fear. etc. You name it and God has an answer. And God's answers from His Word are filled with God's Mighty Power to do what they say.

I hope we can sharpen our swords. Maybe we can make a list of needs and God's answers from the Bible. Then we will be ready in intercession to use one of God's arrows as the Holy Spirit leads. When God gives us His Laws and Promises in prayer, we will see His fruits in our intercession. Many of us have already seen miracles happen even on a national level in different countries from the intercession according to God's Divine Laws in this way. Praise You, Lord! Thank You, Jesus!

This is the *DIVINE LAW OF OVERCOMING*.



We find another very important Law in several places in the Holy Bible.

Don't delude yourself into thinking God can be cheated: where a man sows, there he reaps: if he sows in the field of self-indulgence he will get a harvest of corruption out of it; if he sows in the field of the Spirit he will get from it a harvest of eternal life." (Gal 6: 7–8; cf. Luke 6: 38) (JB)

What we plant is what we are going to harvest. What we sow is what we are going to reap. Therefore in intercession what we say is what we are going to get back. Wow! That is a big one to think about, especially for intercessors.

So many go to God and just tell Him all the problems. What happens? What are we going to get back? Problems.

This point is very important for intercessors to learn. When we go to God, we are not to pray the problems. Pray the answers of God! Pray the promises of God! Go to the Lord and ask Him,

"Lord, this is what I see. What do You see? "This is what I want. What do You want?"

I think we ought to make another bumper sticker to say:

PRAY THE PROMISES OF GOD, NOT THE PROBLEMS!

We can pray God's Promises from Heaven into the earth in every situation. Then we will see the Answers of Heaven on the earth because we are following the Divine Law of the Lord: "What you plant is what you are going to get." Alleluia!

We really need to help each other as intercessors to think and speak and pray in this way. In every culture and country I, people are so negative in their speaking. All they do is talk about problems. Jesus said "Out of the heart, the mouth speaks." What does that say to us about these people? Jesus said He wants us to make our home in Him. (John 15:4) Where are they making their home? Listen to what they say. That is their home. God does not want us living in problems. He wants us living in Jesus.

Intercessors especially need to understand this, because intercessors are extra sensitive to the burdens God has and the burdens of His People. So when somebody tells us a problem, we carry it. We keep thinking about it. We keep remembering what they said. It doesn't go away until we pray. And we have to pray it through or it just does not leave us. Only after praying it through do we find peace of mind.

If someone has a problem and they go to tell the problem to somebody else, now two people have have the problem. But if they go to Jesus and Jesus can give them an answer. Then they can pray the answer, and God will deal with the problem. We all need to repent of our negative speaking, even if it is true. Ask the Holy Spirit to help us speak what Jesus would say, "Words of Spirit and Life." (John 6:63) (JB) Amen? Alleluia!

Remember THE DIVINE LAW OF SOWING AND REAPING,



In the Old Testament, we find another Divine Law God gave to Israel: *Divine Law of Jubilee*. God gave many Promises in the Holy Bible associated with keeping the *Law of Jubilee*. They are mainly found in Leviticus 25 and 27. Jesus is the living fulfillment of these promises. He IS the Jubilee of God. (cf. Isaiah 61:1-2 and Like 4: 18-19)

We have been using this *Divine Law of Jubilee* a lot in intercession. Since the big 2000 Jubilee celebrating the Birth of the Lord Jesus Christ, so many Jubilee celebrations have come to our attention from all over the world. By intercession, we can work with the Holy Spirit to administer the Jubilee Blessings of God in every Jubilee case. So we have organized the nine Promises of Jubilee in the Holy Bible into a nine day Jubilee Novena for intercession. FBB intercessors have already prayed these blessings into the Jubilees of people and of the Church in many nations.

Here is a list of the main Jubilee Promises from the Novena:

- 1. Total Forgiveness of Debts
- 2. Justice and Freedom from Oppression
- 3. Liberation and Deliverance and Freedom from Oppression
- 4. A Time of Protection, Safety, and Peace
- 5. Restoration of What You Have Lost
- 6. Prosperity, Abundant Provision of God, Economic Shake Up
- 7. Eternal Joy and Life, Blessings, Super Abundance, Fruitfulness
- 8. Receive Back God-Given Inheritance (Place and Possessions (Return To Roots)
- 9. Jesus Is Jubilee of God (Luke 4: 16-21)(JB)

This is the **DIVINE LAW OF JUBILEE**.



There are many more Divine Laws in the Holy Bible. These are just a few. Come, Holy Spirit, lead us into all the truth and reveal more of the Divine Laws available to us from Heaven. Teach us how to pray in accord with these Divine Laws step by step. So we can work better with You instead of against You in intercession. Come, Holy Spirit.



2. DIVINE STRATEGIES

Besides following Divine Law, God also follows **DIVINE STRATEGIES**.

In the Holy Bible, every single story is a Strategy of the Holy Spirit. In our intercession prayer, God can give us these Divine Strategies as a way to pray today. Then we ask Him to translate them from Bible times to our current situation of intercession. The Holy Bible is our manual, our war manual. People often come up to me and say "Sister, can you tell me how to pray on this situation?' They want a one, two, three method. We all like formulas. However, I have to say "I am sorry. I don't know how to pray. But I know Who to go to." If we go to the Holy Spirit, God can give us a Divine Strategy, a prayer plan, of how to pray. Then we will have specific one, two, three steps to follow. Divine Strategy comes from Holy Spirit.



DAVID AND GOLIATH STRATEGY

For example, how many of you are praying for a Goliath situation? Maybe as you pray, God may remind you about the Bible Story of David and Goliath. Then you need to go back and read it. And you can say "God, how do I understand this? What are You saying to me? Please help me translate this story into a prayer strategy I can use now in my life. How do I pray with it now?" Those are the two questions: what does it mean? And how do I pray it?

Perhaps, as we go through the story, we see the steps that David took to come into the victory over Goliath. This was God's Divine Strategy for David. God can show us how to apply the steps as this strategy of prayer for our situation. We can ask: How does this Bible story translate into intercession? How do we pray today in our situation what David did, "I come to you in the Name of the Lord of Hosts." What are the five stones, Lord? What do they mean for us? How do we pray to throw the one stone and be effective by intercession? As we ask questions like these, the Holy Spirit will lead us. Then, God can translate His Divine Strategy into NOW intercession and lead us into victory over our Goliaths.



REVELATION 13 STRATEGY

One time I saw God work powerfully in a Divine Strategy by a special kind of praise that puts God first. I was in India. Up in the north of the country some sisters had been killed. When the sisters were killed, the newspapers were filled with lies about them, destroying their good name and their reputation. Back then in 1991 the papers were full of slander. All of the religious decided to meet to pray about this and to seek the Lord. They didn't know how to deal with it.

One of the sisters called me and said, "Sister, since you are here for intercession, would you please come up here and pray with us? We are having a day of prayer for all the religious."

The Lord said I should go there. So we went on the train to the north for the meeting. On the train on the way up to the north, I was asking the Lord, "Lord, what are we going to do? How can we help them? How are we supposed to pray?" The Lord gave me a Bible verse from Revelation.

"They overcame the accuser of the brethren by the Blood of the Lamb and the word of their testimony." (Revelation 13: 10-11) (JB)

This was a Divine Strategy from the Holy Spirit. However, I didn't know what to do with the Bible verse. I didn't know how to pray. So, I kept asking Him, "How are we supposed to do this? How do we pray to "overcome the accuser by the Blood of the Lamb and the word of their testimony"?

When I arrived, the sisters showed me how the whole day was organized into a program and I had 30 minutes. I thought, "Praise God! What am I going to do with 30 minutes?" I had no idea except that Bible verse. That was it! So we went through that day with all kinds and ways of praying. The Lord showed different ones from in the different communities different things to do; like re-living the situation and forgiving everybody and praying prayers of reparation.

Then it was my turn. I said to them, "This is what the Lord showed me. He will help us now to pray this Bible verse." This is called walking on the

water. I didn't know what I was going to say next. The Lord gave it to me one word at a time, one message at a time. The Holy Spirit was leading one step at a time.

I read them the Bible verse. Then the Lord said, "Do this". We prayed something about the Mercy of God through the Blood of Jesus, and prayed to apply the Blood of Jesus. Then I said, "Now let us ask the Lord how to "overcome the accuser of the brethren by the word of our testimony. What is the word of our testimony?" The Lord said to me, "It's the vows. Your testimony is the vows. Ask everybody in this room to renew their vows to the Lord in their hearts. That is your testimony; and that testimony will stand against all accusations."

So I said, "Everyone be quiet now. I want each of you in your heart to make your testimony in the Heavenlies before God and renew your vows to the Lord." In silence, all these religious men and women renewed their vows to God. What happened was amazing! This was a most powerful, consecrated praise of God. Religious consecration by the vows means that everything a religious does is an act of worship to God and intercession for His People. As they all renewed their vows - in this consecrated testimony of praise and worship - the most amazing thing happened. The Sovereign Power of God came and filled the entire room. We could not even move. When I arrived there, all these people were filled with fear about who would be killed next. Now all that fear left. There was just the Awesome Presence of this Hard, Rock-solid, Sovereign, I-will-not-bemoved, Almighty God Who filled the room and everyone in it. He drove out the fear with His Mighty Presence and Divine Love; and confirmed and strengthened each one in Himself. The Lord transformed all the people and the whole place. It was the most amazing experience that came with such a simple prayer that the Lord gave us. The religious men and women actually put God first by their renewal of consecrated vows. That is what praise is: to put God in the first place. And He came. And His mighty Power was released spiritually into the whole Church in that nation. The Hierarchy of the Church became very bold to publicly speak out to overcome and silence the accuser of the brethren with the Truth, calling the government to Justice. Glory to Jesus! Alleluia!



JEREMIAH STRATEGY

The call of Jeremiah is a powerful strategy of spiritual work that God often asks us to do in intercession.

"Do not say, 'I am a child.' Go now to those to whom I send you and say whatever I command you. Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to protect you – it is Yahweh who speaks!" Then Yahweh put out his hand and touched my mouth and said to me: "There! I am putting my words into your mouth. Look, today I am setting you over nations and over kingdoms, to tear up and to knock down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant." (Jeremiah 1: 7 - 10) (JB)

The seven-fold prophetic mission God gave Jeremiah can be for us what we often call a strategy of prophetic intercession. As with every Holy Spirit Strategy from the Holy Bible, we have to ask the Lord how to translate that Word into intercession for specific situations. He can lead us in how to pray and how to execute this Word of God and this Will of God into our situations.



JERICHO PRAYER STRATEGY

We already talked about the Jericho Prayer as intercession by a prophetic prayer action in a procession. We use often the *Jericho procession prayer* this way to intercede for protection. However, the whole story of Joshua at Jericho actually reveals a Divine Strategy of the Holy Spirit. (Joshua 1- 6)

In part of that strategy, Joshua and Israel marched around Jericho for seven days. Then at the blast of trumpets and the great shout for the Lord by all Israel, the walls of Jericho collapsed and the city was taken for God. (cf. Joshua 6) When we pray the seven processions of the Jericho strategy, our work is a spiritual work. We do not pray for physical walls to fall where we pray, but for spiritual walls of evil that block people from Jesus to come down. And we also pray for God's protection.

In all of our lives, we are continually surrounded and bombarded by a spiritual atmosphere of the world and the flesh and the devil. As a result, it is often difficult for people to be and do good. By the Jericho prayer, we spiritually cut off this evil atmosphere from our people or places. At the same time, we pray to replace the evil with a new spiritual atmosphere filled with the Presence of Jesus and all of His Love, Graces, Mercy, and Blessings. We set our people and places apart unto God, so He can then work very directly in their lives. We surround them with His Divine Shield, thus building a kind of spiritual wall of protection and a spiritual container in which to catch God's Glory. We pray to open the window to Heaven above them, their lives and their places so the Lord can come.

I experienced this powerfully when I was in India. One time, when I was there, some of us went to an apartment for intercession. As we began, we could not pray or sing or even say praise the Lord. It was really hard. So I asked the Lord, "What is happening here?" He said, "It's the spiritual atmosphere. There is so much worship to false gods going on in India and it has created a spiritual atmosphere against Jesus Christ. That is why it is hard to praise." I asked Him, "What are we supposed to do?" He said," Do the Jericho Prayer and cut it off the negative atmosphere." So we did the Jericho Prayer around that room. Then we began to praise God with great freedom and joy. And the Glory of God filled the whole place. Amazing freedom and victory from that small prayer! Glory to God!

When we pray the Jericho, we usually pray with at least two people so they can agree in prayer. We also spiritually place all our people and intentions into the middle of the place where we will pray (God can work long distance and touch anyone even though they are not here with us.) We usually only do the seven processions. We may walk or drive around a place seven times, praying a different way each time:

- 1. Sing and speak praising the Name of Jesus
- 2. Call upon the Holy Spirit
- 3. Pray the Blood of Jesus to surround all
- 4. Pray with Our Blessed Mother (Hail Mary)
- 5. Sing in Tongues call forth all Hosts of Heaven to come
- 6. Speak in Tongues (Sprinkle Blessed Salt around; Do prayer action with hands to cut bondages; Speak new creation and resurrection ("Come forth in the Name of Jesus

to be all God wants you to be."); Bind enemy in Name of Jesus; we ask a Priest with us to pray Pope Leo XIII Prayer.)

7. Give Glory to God

Earlier I shared about the Detroit Mission of Intercession in the context of talking about God's Vision. One of the main prayers we prayed was the Jericho procession around the whole city. And the Lord brought Peace in a marvelous miraculous way! Glory to God!



<u>ISAIAH 40 STRATEGY</u>

Another prayer strategy is in *Isaiah 40*.

"A voice cries, 'Prepare in the desert a way for Yahweh. Make a straight highway for our God across the wastelands. Let every valley be filled in, every mountain and hill be levelled, every cliff become a plateau, every escarpment a plain (rough way smooth); then the Glory of Yahweh will be revealed and all humanity will see it together, for the Mouth of Yahweh has spoken'." (Isaiah 40: 1-5) (JB)

God has spoken so much these past years of His Desire to pour out and manifest a new wave of His Glory. Isaiah 40 speaks of this vision, "the revelation of the Glory of Yahweh", as fruit or result of a Divine Strategy. These are four steps of specific intercession in God's strategy:

- 1. Let every valley be filled in,
- 2. every mountain and hill be levelled,
- 3. every cliff become a plateau,
- 4. every escarpment a plain (rough way smooth).

As we prepared to do this Isaiah 40 Mission in one city, the Lord showed us the meaning of each step. For example, "mountains" in the Bible refer to positions of authority and influence. Currently, there is an ecumenical prayer initiative in the USA called the "Seven Mountains of Cultural

Influence Prayer Mandate." The mandate prays for "seven sectors of society that influence the way everyone thinks and behaves". [6] They are the "mountains" of

- 1) Education (and Science); 2) Religion; 3) Family; 4) Business;
 - 5) Government/Military; 6) Arts/Entertainment; 7) Media.

As we prayed the Isaiah strategy to prepare for the Glory of God to come, we drew from the Wisdom of the Holy Spirit given in this Mandate for the "Mountains of Influence" to be laid low. There were various Bible verses about each "mountain" revealing God's Plan for those areas of influence. Using those Bible verses, we were able to pray deeply in intercession about these "mountains of influence" and bring them down low under the Lordship of Jesus Christ. By this prayer we could facilitate the establishment of the Kingdom of God in that place.

For the other Divine Strategy points we studied the Holy Bible to understand how God sees each point mentioned in Isaiah 40 and how to pray. Anyone can use this Divine Strategy in intercession. We encourage you to go through each point of the Divine Strategy. Seek the Lord on what it can mean now and how to pray. Then the Holy Spirit can lead us in intercession to prepare the way for the revelation of God's Glory. Alleluia!



CONCERTS OF PRAYER

In Jonah 3 and 2 Kings 20, we see an interesting Divine Strategy of prayer that has being used by groups in many countries over the past 20 years. That Divine Strategy is a "concert of prayer".

In Jonah, the pagan King of Nineveh responded to the Prophet Jonah's warning from God and called the entire city into prayer and fasting and repentance - even the animals. They were on their faces before God in a *concert of prayer*. As a result, Lord relented of the disaster He planned as judgement for their sins and spared the city.

^[6] https://www.gotquestions.org/seven-mountain-mandate.html

In 2 Kings 20, King Jehoshaphat of Jerusalem was faced with an attack from many enemies. He urgently called all the people of Judah together to pray and fast and seek the Lord in the Temple. It was a very serious *concert of prayer*. As the King cried out to God in desperate intercession, the Lord answered through His prophet,

"Do not be afraid. The battle is the Lord's". (2 Chronicles 20: 15) (JB)

Then, the Lord gave them a Divine Strategy as a battle plan - of Praise and Worship warfare. As Israel obeyed God, marching into battle in praise and worship, the Lord sent the Hosts of Heaven ahead to fight the enemy who destroyed each other. And so the Lord answered the united prayer of His People and won the battle Himself before Israel even arrived. Alleluia!

Many Catholic and Ecumenical *Concerts of Prayer* have been going on in America for repentance and revival for some years now. Some of them are: Call2Fall; Promise Keepers 40 days of prayer and fasting; Right to Life 40 days of prayer and fasting; Transformations; 24/7 Houses of Prayer; All Night Vigils, Rosary Rallies.

Two Bible Verses inspire these prayer initiatives:

"Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity- for there the LORD commands the blessing, even Life for evermore." (Psalm 133: 1 and 4)(KJV)

"If My People, who are called by My Name, humble themselves, and pray and seek My Face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from Heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land." (2 Chronicles 7: 14) (NRSVCE)

The main power and effectiveness of the *concerts of prayer* comes from the Divine Law of Agreement in Unity among the Brethren. This releases God's Best Blessing of Eternal Life! By obeying God's covenant promises in 2 Chronicles, we see fruits of a new spiritual awakening and turning around toward the Lord Jesus happening in the USA. Glory to God!



IV. SUMMARY

THE HOLY SPIRIT - THE INTERCESSOR!

THE HOLY SPIRIT - Who IS God!

THE HOLY SPIRIT – Whose main work is to reveal Jesus!

THE HOLY SPIRIT - The Advocate, living in our hearts!

THE HOLY SPIRIT - The One who knows how to pray according to the Will of God! Alleluia!

In this book, we have reflected a little about the Holy Spirit as THE INTERCESSOR. We have especially followed 1 Corinthians 12: 1-7 to see more deeply how He prays and how He works. He has given us so many wonderful Gifts and Ways of Working, like Divine Laws and Divine Strategies, in the Holy Bible. We desperately need God, the Holy Spirit, and all His Divine Equipment and Ways of Working to deal with the multitude of situations facing our families, Church, and nations.

The Holy Spirit is GOD! We are so privileged to be able to with Him in intercession, to work with God in what God Himself is doing right now! Alleluia!

As we join Him in prayer, there are two ways we need to think:

First: We really do NOT know how to pray. (Romans 8:27) However, we do NOT HAVE TO KNOW how to pray. We just have to know Who to go to. We can go to the Holy Spirit, the One Who knows how to pray, Who is living in our hearts! We can ask Him how to pray.

Second: As we try to work with the Holy Spirit in intercession, we need to learn how to live and think and work in God's Creative Mode. God is not defensive or aggressive. He is Creative - always ready to do something new! He is always ready for a new resurrection miracle, so He can bring heaven into earth. From our side, it will be in-service training all the time. The closer we come to God, the Holy Spirit, and the more we work with Him, the more He will give us new experiences of Jesus, and new revelations and understandings of the Holy Bible. We never know what the Lord might do. He's creative all the time! We can trust Him for the best! I learned to pray by praying! It is really a great adventure and privilege to work with the Holy Spirit in intercession.

God the Holy Spirit has given us so many amazing Gifts and wonderful Ways of Working! Are you overwhelmed by all we have talked about? What are we supposed to do with all of this information in intercession? How can we think about all this? Maybe we can think of intercession and all we learned about the Holy Spirit by this little story:

Think of a doctor going into surgery. On one side, here is the patient. And on the other side, the doctor has all his methods and tools laid out. The doctor has to discern the case. He has to decide which tools and which methods and which strategies he will follow to help this patient.

This is a parable for us in intercession. In intercession we are invited to work with Doctor Jesus to help His People. The people we are praying for are "the patient". In 1 Corinthians 12: 1-7, we saw how the Holy Spirit has given us so many Divine Gifts and revealed to us many different Ways that God works. These Gifts are the Divine Tools and the Methods of God are His Divine Laws and the Strategies. We can use all of these in intercession. As we work with Doctor Jesus, we can choose from all of these to help our people by intercession. We need to ask the Holy Spirit to help us discern: what Divine Tools should we use and what Divine Methods or Ways should we follow in intercession TODAY. He knows how to pray. Then we can work closely with Doctor Jesus and really help "our patients" - those we are praying for intercession. The Holy Spirit will come to "help us to pray according to the Will of God." (Romans 8: 27)(NRSVCE)



In March of 2017, I heard the beautiful story of 12 year old Josiah Cullen, a young autistic boy, who has been taken to Heaven often and taught by Jesus. [7] One day he shared with his mom an amazing revelation about the Most Holy Trinity that the Lord taught him in Heaven:

"In the Trinity the Father the Manager, the Son is the Lover of Operations, Holy Spirit is the Worker. So it's the three in one getting things done. He is Papa, He is Healer, He is Helper."

^[7] https://sidroth.org/television/tv-archives/tahni-cullen/

"The world was created by only three functions that went like this: Father thought it, Son loved it, Holy Spirit carried out the plan. That is how the Trinity works, Mom. So man must voice, Father what do you think? Jesus, what do you love? Holy Spirit, what should we do about it? That's our mission."

These are great words for us in intercession. And especially and practically we can work with the Holy Spirit, Who is the Worker, the Helper, the One Who carries out the Plan of God, the One Who knows how to pray! This is the God we as intercessors are invited to work with - This God, in the Most Holy Trinity.

I hope you will carry these words in your heart as intercessors in the context of this Book about the Holy Spirit. What a privilege we have to work and pray with the Holy Spirit; God Who reveals Jesus; The One Who carries out the Plan of God; The Helper; The Advocate; The One who know how to pray, Who is living in our hearts!

"WITH GOD ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE!" (Matthew 19:26) (NRSVCE)

COME HOLY SPIRIT!

May "the God of Hope give you peace and joy in believing so that you may abound in Hope *by the Power of the Holy Spirit.*" (Romans 15:13) (NKJV)

And bring great Glory to God on earth as it is in heaven! Amen! Alleluia!



Let us give all Glory to God. Our Father... Hail Mary...

All Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now,
and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. ALLELUIA!!!

APPENDIX A:

NAMES OF

THE HOLY SPIRIT

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NAMES OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Another Helper, Advocate, Comforter, Paraclete: Jesus' Favorite Name for Holy Spirit (John 14:16 and 26)

Anointing (1 John 2:20)
Breath of Almighty (Job 33:4)
Breath of God (Job 27:3)
Breath of Life (Ezekiel 37: 9-14;
Revelations 11:11)
Breath of LORD (Isaiah 40:7)
Breath:(Psalm 18:15;John 20:22)

Deposit, Pledge, Down payment of our inheritance (2 Corinthians 1:22)
Dew (Hosea 14:5)
Doorkeeper (John 10:3; cf. Acts 16:14)
Dove (Mark 1:10; Matthew 3:16)
Enduement (clothing) of Power from on High (Luke 24:49)
Eternal Spirit (Hebrews 9:14)
Everlasting (Isaiah 63:12)
Excellent Spirit (Daniel 5:12)

Finger of God (Matthew 12:28; Luke 11:20) Fire (Acts 2:3) Floods on the Dry Ground (Isaiah 44:3) Fountain of Water (John 4:14) Free Spirit (Psalms 51:12) Fullness of God (Ephesians 3:19) Gatekeeper (John 10:3, RST) Generous Spirit (Psalm 51:12) Gift of God(John 4:10;Acts 8:20)
Gift of Holy Spirit (Acts 2:38)
Glory of the Lord (2 Corinthians 3:18)
God (Acts 5:3,4)
Good Spirit (Nehemiah 9:20;
Psalms 143:10)
Guarantee of Our Inheritance (Ephesians 1:14; cf. 2 Corinthians 5:5)

Hand of God (2 Chronicles 30:12)
Hand of the Lord GOD (Job 12:9;
Isaiah 41:20; Ezekiel 8:1)
His Seal (John 6:27; 2 Timothy
2:19)
His Seed (1 John 3:9)
His Spirit (Numbers 11:29)
His Spirit Who Dwells in You
(Romans 8:11)
His Voice (Psalm 18:13; 95:7;
Hebrews 3:7)

Holy One (Job 6:10;Isaiah 10:17) Holy Spirit of God: (Psalms 51:11; Isaiah 63:10; Luke 11:13; Luke 3:16; Ephesians 1:13; 4:30)

Holy Spirit of Promise: (Ephesians 1:13)
Holy Spirit Sent from Heaven (1
Peter 1:12)
Holy Spirit Who Dwells in Us (1
Corinthians 6:19; 2 Timothy 1:14)
Intercessor (Romans 8: 26-27)
Joy (Romans 14: 17)

Kingdom of God (Romans 14: 17) Living Waters (Isaiah 44:3; John 7:38) Lord (2Corinthians 3:17; 1Thessalonians 3:5) Love(Romans 5:5; 2 Timothy 1:7) Mighty Voice (Psalm 68:33) Mighty Wind (John 3:8) My Blessing (Isaiah 44:3) My Witness (Job 16:19; cf. Hebrews 10:15) New Spirit (Ezekiel 11:19) New Wine (Ephesians 5:18) Oil of Gladness (Psalm 45:7; Hebrews 1:9; Acts 10:38)

One Spirit (1 Corinthians 12:13; Ephesians 2:18; 4:4) Peace (Romans 14: 17) Power of the Highest (Luke 1:35) Promise of My Father (Luke 24:49; Acts 2:33 and 39; Acts 1:4)

Rain – early rain – latter rain (Joel 2:23; James 5:7)
Righteousness (Romans 14: 17)
Rivers of Living Water (John 7:38-39)
Rod of His Mouth (Isaiah 11:4)
Same Spirit (1 Corinthians 12:4, 8-9, 11)
Same Spirit of Faith (2
Corinthians 4:13)
Seal of the Living God (Ephesians 1:13; Revelations 7:2; Revelations 9:4)

Seven Eyes (Zechariah 3:9; 4:10; Revelations 5:6)

Seven Horns (Revelations 5:6)
Seven Lamps of Fire Burning
Before Throne (Revelations 4:5)
Seven Spirits of God Sent Out
into All the Earth (Revelations
3:1; 4:5; Revelations 5:6)
Showers that Water the Earth
(Psalm 72:6)
Sound from Heaven, as of a
Rushing Mighty Wind (Acts 2:2)
Spirit (Numbers 27:18; Matthew
4:1; John 3:6; 1 Timothy 4:1)
(Romans 2:29)

Spirit of a Sound Mind (2 Timothy 1:7)
Spirit of Adoption (Romans 8:15)
Spirit of Burning (Isaiah 4:4)
Spirit of Christ (Romans 8:9; 1 Peter 1:11)

Spirit of Elijah (2 Kings 2:15; Luke 1:17) Spirit of Father (Matthew 10:20) Spirit of Glory (1 Peter 4:14) Spirit of God (Genesis 1:2; 1 Corinthians 2:11 and 6:11; Job 33:4) (Romans 8:9)

Spirit of Grace and Supplication (Zechariah 12:10)
Spirit of Him Who Raised Jesus from the dead (Romans 8:11)
Spirit of His Son (Galatians 4:6)
Spirit of Holiness (Romans 1:4)
Spirit of Jesus Christ (Acts 16:7;
Phil. 1:19)
Spirit of Judgment (Isaiah 4:4 and 28:6)

Spirit of Life (Romans 8:2; Revelation 11:11) Spirit of Love (2 Timothy 1:7) Spirit of Messiah: (Romans 8:9) Spirit of Power (2 Timothy 1:7) Spirit of Prophecy (Revelation 19:10) Spirit of Revelation (Ephesians 1:17) Spirit of Sealing (Ephesians 1: 13) Spirit of The Holy God (Daniel 4:8,9,18; 5:11)

Spirit of the Living Creatures
(Ezekiel 1:21)
Spirit of the Living God: (2
Corinthians 3:3)
Spirit of the Prophets
(1Corinthians 14:32)
Spirit of the Son (Galatians 4:6)

Spirit of Truth (John 14:17;15:26) Spirit of Unity (Ephesians 4:3-4) Spirit of Yeshua, The Messiah (Philippians 1:19) (Acts 16:7) Spirit of Your Father (Matt. 10:20) Spirit Who Is from God (1 Corinthians 2:12) Spirit Whom He Has Given Us (1 John 3:24) Steadfast Spirit (Psalm 51:10)

Voice of the Almighty (Ezekiel 1:24)
Voice of the LORD (Psalm 29:3-5,7-9)
Voice of Your Thunder (Psalm 77:18)

Voice uttered (spoken) (Romans 8:26)

Willing, Free Spirit (Psalm 51:12)



SEVEN SPIRITS OF GOD IN JESUS MESSIAH

"And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon Him, the Spirit of Wisdom and Understanding, the Spirit of Counsel and Might, the Spirit of Knowledge and of the Fear of the LORD;

Spirit of Wisdom (Exod. 28:3; Deut. 34:9; Isaiah 11:2; Ephesians 1:17)

Spirit of Understanding (Isaiah 11:2)

Spirit of Counsel (Isaiah 11:2)

Spirit of Knowledge (Isaiah 11:2)

Spirit of Might (strength, fortitude) (Isaiah 11:2)

Spirit of the Fear of the Lord (piety) (Isaiah 11:2)

Spirit of the Sovereign Lord God (Judg. 3:10; Isaiah 11:2; 61:1; Luke 4:18; Acts 5:9)



H.S. IS A PERSON:

He is part of the triune nature of God, but the Holy Spirit also has an individual personality.

H.S. HAS A MIND:

He that searches the hearts knows what is the Mind of the Spirit. (Romans 8:27)

the Spirit searches all things, yea, the deep things of God.

(I Corinthians 2:10)

H.S. HAS A WILL:

But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as He will. (I Corinthians 12:11)

H.S. IS OMNIPRESENT:

He is present everywhere: Whither shall I go from thy Spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence? (Psalms 139:7)

H.S. IS OMNISCIENT:

He knows all things: "But God hath revealed them unto us by His Spirit; for the Spirit searches all things, yea the deep things of God. For what man knows the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knows no man, but the Spirit of God.

(I Corinthians 2:10-11)

H.S. IS OMNIPOTENT:

The Holy Spirit is all powerful: "God hath spoken once; twice have I heard this; that power belongs unto God." (Ps. 62:11) "But ye shall receive power after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you.". (Acts 1:8)

H.S. IS ETERNAL:

He is everlasting. He had no beginning and will have no ending: "How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?" (Hebrews 9:14)

WORK OF ADVOCATE

"Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Advocate will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send Him unto you. And when He is come, He will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:

Of *sin*, because they do not believe not in Me;

Of *righteousness*, because I go to my Father, and you see me no more:

Of *judgment*, because the prince of this world is judged."
(John 16: 7-9) (JB)

APPENDIX B:

BIBLE OUTLINE

FOR THIS STUDY

BIBLE OUTLINE

I. INTRODUCTION

New Intercession: Hebrews 11: 1-3; Hebrews 11: 27

Jesus: Romans 8:34

Holy Spirit: Romans 8.26-27

II. THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE BIBLE

First Time: Genesis 1.1-3; Acts 17:28 Last Time: Revelations 22:17 and 20

In the Gospels: John 14:17

Another "Advocate": John 14: 15

Agree with God: Matthew 18: 19-20; Genesis 18:14

Holy Spirit does two things:

First: transforming us to look like Jesus: Malachi 3:3: 1 John 3:2; Romans 8: 14-17: John 17: 21; 1 Corinthians 13: 4 – 8

Second: to do what Jesus would do: John 14: 12

III. HOW DOES HOLY SPIRIT PRAY AND WORK?

Summary: Our Father -- Matthew 6: 9 - 13; and Luke 11: 1-4:

John 5: 19 and 12:49; Romans 8:15

1 CORINTHIANS 12: 1 - 7

A. JESUS IS LORD

1 Corinthians 12: 1- 3

"GO TO JESUS FIRST"!

THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IS TO REVEAL JESUS.

Lord's Ranch; Community of the Children of God's Delight: FBB

God reveals Himself in different ways: God of David; John 5:39-40 *B. GOD'S PURPOSE:* 1 Corinthians 12: 7

God Alone is Good Mark 10:18 and Luke 18:19, God's big plan: Ephesians 1: 9-10; 1 Corinthians 15:28

EVERYONE HAS A PART



DETROIT MISSION
GOD'S VISION FOR A FAMILY: John 14:6; Matthew 19:26
GOD'S VISION FOR INDIA: Ephesians 2:10



WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT SUMMARY

Holy Spirit mainly does two things in our lives to reveal Jesus. *First:* transform us to look like Jesus: 1 John 3: 2; John 17: 21 *Second:* empower to do what Jesus did: John 14: 16

C. HOLY SPIRIT GIFTS AND MINISTRIES 1 Corinthians 12: 4 - 6

1. FIRST GIFT – PRAISE AND WORSHIP
1 Corinthians 12: 4; Acts chapter 2:11
Luke 1: 42; Luke 1: 46 – 55

COVENANT OF PRAISE AND WORSHIP

2. PRAISE AND WORSHIP

"PRAISE ME UNTIL THE SPIRIT OF WORSHIP FALLS.
THEN WORSHIP ME UNTIL THE GLORY FALLS.
THEN STAND IN THE GLORY."

COVENANT OF PRAISE What is praise?

Psalm 22; Isaiah 60:18; Isaiah 61:3; Psalm 148:14; Jeremiah 17: 1

PSALM 81 -- John 12:3 -- Promises:

- 1. Relieve your burdens: Psalm 81:7 8
- 2. God speaks to us: Psalm 81: 8
- 3. Prove god's faithfulness: Psalm 81: 8
- 4. No foreign gods: Psalm 81:10
- 5. Defeat your enemies: Psalm 81: 13 15
- 6. I would feed you: Psalm 81:16

Psalm 100

PRAISE IN INTERCESSION

Family; Community: Psalm 8: 2; Psalm 22: 4; Ephesians 2:14

3. MORE GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT - 1 Corinthians 12: 4

CHARISMATIC GIFTS

1 Corinthians 12: 8-11; Psalm 81:10; OPEN TO HOLY SPIRIT

THE WORD OF GOD

Prophetic and written --cf. Jeremiah 1:4; Ezekiel 18:1 Jesus -- cf. John 1:1; Luke 8:11; Philippians 2:16; Hebrews 4:12; Hebrews, 1: 1-2 Rhema word

THE HOLY BIBLE

WORD OF GOD IN INTERCESSION

John 14: 26

Jeremiah 1:12: cf. Isaiah 55: 10-11

Ephesians 6: 17

BIBLE AND CHURCH ARE GIFTS OF GOD

God is not defensive or aggressive. He is creative.

Hebrews 4: 12

Word of God in intercession: Decree -- John 11: 43

THE MANTLE OF JESUS: Luke 4: 16-19, 21

Priest: Blessings; Prophet: Prophetic Intercession;

King: Decrees -- Job 22:28

Blessings - Weapon of Light: Numbers 6: 23 - 27;

1 Peter 3: 9

THE SACRAMENTS: 1 Corinthians 7: 14

SACRAMENTALS

CREATION: Joshua 10; Israel -- Job 38: 22 – 23

FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT: Galatians 5: 22-23

First: character of an intercessor -- James 5: 16-18

Blessed Mother

Second: in intercession

Philippians 4:4: Psalm 149

Peace, Be Still." (Mark 4:39)

Jesus Peace: Micah 5:5; Ephesians 2:13-21

PRAYERS.

Bible Prayers

The Prayers of The Church

Inspired Prayers

Litanies And Novenas : Matthew 13: 52

The Rosary

Blessing

HUMAN EXPERIENCE

TRAVAILING PRAYER: Galatians 4: 19; John 5:19

Jesus: John 11; Isaiah 53: 10-12

PROPHETIC PRAYER ACTIONS: Joshua 1:3; Joshua 8:18

PROPHETIC ACTIONS: Romans 6: 11-14; Joshua 6: 2-5

BANNERS: Isaiah 59:19; John 12:32; Isaiah 13: 2-3

FASTING: Matthew 17,: 21; Daniel; Jonah

HOSTS OF HEAVEN: Hebrews 12:22

HOSTS OF HEAVEN IN INTERCESSION:

Raphael - Tobit 12: 12 +15

1 Peter 5: 6 -9; 2 Chronicles 20:15

REVELATION IS NOT INTERCESSION.

COUNTERFEIT GIFTS: Palm 23; Jesus IS Peace -- Micah 5: 5

D. WAYS THE HOLY SPIRIT WORKS

1 Corinthians 12: 6; Jeremiah 6: 16

1. DIVINE LAW

Matthew 18: 19-2 --- AGREEMENT

Romans 10: 9-13 -- AGREEMENT OUT LOUD

2 Corinthians 1: 19 – 20 -- *YES OF JESUS*

Romans 12:21; 1John 4:18;Romans 5: 5- OVERCOMING

Galatians 6:7-8; cf. Luke 6: 38- SOWING AND REAPING

LAW OF JUBILEE

2. DIVINE STRATEGIES

DAVID AND GOLIATH; REVELATION 13; 10-11;

JEREMIAH STRATEGY Jeremiah 1: 7 – 10

(prophetic intercession)

JERICHO PRAYER STRATEGY: Joshua 1 – 6

ISAIAH 40 STRATEGY: Isaiah 40: 1-5

(Seven Mountains Mandate)

CONCERTS OF PRAYER: Jonah 3; 2 Kings 20

Psalm 133: 1 and 4; 2 Chronicles 7: 14

IV. SUMMARY

Romans 15:13

Matthew 19:26

APPENDIX C:

INTERCESSOR'S

PRAYER OF FORGIVENESS

APPENDIX C:

INTERCESSOR'S PRAYER OF FORGIVENESS

(TO RELEASE OTHERS TO JESUS)

As the Holy Spirit leads, after a time of praise and worship, we pray with Jesus our Lord:

For those who have hurt us, for those who are not doing or have not done what we think they should have done, for those who are not doing what God wants: "Father forgive them, they do not know what they are doing." For those who are in sin: "Father, do not hold their sins against them." And I choose to forgive them and release them in the name of Jesus.

Father, forgive me for anything I said or thought or felt or did to others that could keep them in bondage, especially repeating the negative things even if they were true. I ask for the Mind and the Heart of Jesus Christ. Lord Jesus, help us to see one another as You do. Help us to speak about one another as you do. Holy Spirit, show us how to pray for one another. Amen.

After praying this prayer, we lift the person or persons up to Jesus and place them in His Sacred Heart. Then we sing praising the Lord, calling on the Name of Jesus, and praying in the Holy Spirit until the Holy Spirit brings to our mind how to think and pray for them, or until the burden we feel for them lifts from our hearts and we experience God's Peace and Love toward them. We end with praise and thanksgiving to God for all He has done in our time of intercession.

+ + + + + + +

Nihil Obstat: Father Pelin D'Souza, Censor

Imprimatur: His Eminence Maurice Michael Cardinal Otunga

Given at His Eminence's Residence Archdiocese of Nairobi, Kenya, East Africa

25th November 1994, Feast of St. Catherine, Martyr

APPENDIX D:

INTERCESSOR'S

MIRACLE PRAYER

APPENDIX D:

INTERCESSOR'S MIRACLE PRAYER

(To Renew Our Commitment Of Love To Jesus)

"The Love of God has been poured forth in our hearts by the Holy Spirit; and this is God's Gift to us." (Romans 5:5)

"Come, Holy Spirit, Come."

We sing and pray for a time to welcome and invite the Holy Spirit to come and fill us even more with God's Divine Love and all of His Gifts right now.

As the Holy Spirit is filling our hearts even more with God's Divine Love right now, we do not want to keep this Love just for ourselves. But we give it back first of all to Our Father in Heaven. Our Almighty Father has loved us with all of His Heart and we see this especially in the Lord Jesus Christ. Let us renew our commitment of love to Our Father in Heaven together. And then renew our love to the Lord Jesus.

Let us pray:

"Dear Father in Heaven, thank you for loving me with all of Your Heart, especially through our Lord Jesus Christ. I love you with all of my heart too. And I also love you in reparation for all those who do not love you today."

We sing and pray a while, loving Our Father in Heaven ourselves. Then, as we love Our Father for others, especially in reparation for those who do not love God, we lift them up in our hands to the Father. "Abba Father, how I love you."

Now we want to renew our commitment of love to Jesus together.

Let us pray:

"Lord Jesus, thank you for loving me with all of Your Heart and all of Your Life. Thank you for even shedding Your Precious Blood and dying on the cross for me. Thank you for forgiving all of my sins through your Holy Cross.

"Lord Jesus, come more deeply into my heart right now. Fill me more with your Divine Love, with Your Divine Life. Please forgive me all my sins. I ask you to forgive me especially for all the times I was "God's little helper". Forgive me when I did not come to You first and ask You first what You wanted me to do, even when I pray. I DO want to follow You, Lord Jesus. Heal me, Lord. Fill me more with your Holy Spirit and Your Divine Love. Live out Your Life in Me.

"Come, Holy Spirit. Fill me more with Your Divine Love. Make Jesus the Lord of my whole life. I surrender my whole life to You. I give you my way of thinking I give you my way of doing things. I give you my way of praying. I renounce all the ways of the world. I renounce all sin. I renounce Satan and all his evil ways and all his evil spirits.

"I choose You, Lord Jesus. I choose Your Ways. Come, Holy Spirit. Fill me more with Your Divine Love. Make Jesus the Lord of my whole life and the Lord of my prayer. Release in me all of Your Gifts. Help me to love other people as Jesus does. Teach me how to pray. Help me to follow Jesus. Help me to be faithful to Jesus, so I can live in God's Family forever. Amen."

We can now take some time to sing and pray a love song to Jesus. As we pray, remember how Jesus came to Thomas after the resurrection. He said, "Look Thomas. Here are the wounds in My Hands and Feet and Side. Put your finger there. Doubt no longer, but only believe. This same Jesus is here with us right now. As we pray, close your eyes and look at Jesus as Thomas did. And maybe somehow you can reach up and put your finger into the wounds of Jesus today. Let His Precious Blood wash through you with all His Love and Mercy and Healing and Miracles. Then let us lift up our people to Jesus. Place them in His Sacred Heart so His precious Blood can wash through them, too, with all His Grace and Miracles.

Let us sing and pray, "Precious Jesus, how I love You." Amen.

APPRENDIX E:

PRAYERS TO

THE HOLY SPIRIT

FBB MORNING PRAYER

+In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit! Amen.

Holy Almighty God, I choose to open the door of the first love to You today in my life.

I choose to love You, Lord My God, with all of my heart, all of my soul, all of my mind, and all of my strength. Father – God, I ask for Your Grace for this day.



Repeat each verse in each line of these prayers several times:

Thank You, Jesus!
Thank You, Holy Spirit!
Thank You, Father - God!
Praise You, Jesus!
Praise You, Holy Spirit!
Praise You, Father - God!
We worship You, Jesus!
We Worship You, Holy Spirit!
We worship You, Father-God!
Glory Lord Jesus!
Glory Holy Spirit!
Glory Almighty Father-God!
Amen.



FBB Prayer to Holy Spirit

+In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit! Amen.

Come, Holy Spirit, baptize me in the Fire of Your Divine Love. Set me on fire with love for Jesus. Give me the desire, the ability, and the power to do what is pleasing to God. We believe and receive the Fire of your Divine Love. We choose to do what is pleasing to You.

Come, Holy Spirit from the four winds, and breathe on us, Breath of God, that we might live. Come and establish Jesus Christ as Lord of our lives and Lord of our living. Come and establish the Kingdom of God in us and through us to others - a Kingdom of Righteous, Joy, and Peace in the Holy Spirit. Establish Jesus Christ as Lord in His Sovereign Resurrection Power and Authority and Victory - the Power of His Indestructible Life. We surrender to the Wind of Your Spirit. We choose to live and give Your Kingdom and Your Holy Will. We accept Jesus as Lord of our lives and of our living. Come, Lord Jesus, be our Lord.

Come, Holy Spirit, anoint us with Power from on High, a double portion of Your Resurrection Anointing, the Anointing of the Father and the Son. Manifest Your Anointing with signs and wonders and mighty resurrection miracles for the Glory of Your Name. Anoint us with the Oil of Gladness, that we might worship You in Spirit and in truth. We believe and receive Your double Anointing. We receive the Oil of Gladness. We choose to worship You in Spirit and in Truth.

Come, Holy Spirit, release the Mantle of Jesus to us and every unclaimed mantle You have saved up for us in heavenly places. Help us know what it means. Help us receive it and live and serve in it for the Glory of Your Name. We believe and receive the Mantle of Jesus. And we choose to live and serve in it for the Glory of Your Holy Name.

Come, Holy Spirit, release Your Seven Spirits anew into our lives: the Spirit of the Lord; the Spirit of Wisdom and Understanding; the Spirit of Counsel and Fortitude - might; the Spirit of Piety and Fear - reverence for the Lord. WE believe and receive You, Holy Spirit. You are welcome in this place.

Come, Holy Spirit, release your River from the Throne, the River of the Father and the Son. Release

every good thing from Heaven into earth in us, rising up as a fountain unto Eternal Life. Come. Holy Spirit. We belong to You. We choose to step into and immerse in and live in Your River the River of Your Favor and Mercy, Abundance and Blessing. Almighty Father, we believe and receive every Good Thing You have prepared for us ahead of time. Release anew the scroll of our destiny. We believe and receive the scroll of our destiny. Let it be done to us according to Your Word.

We bless Israel, Lord. And we claim all the **Promises** of Abraham and the Jubilee Promises to Israel. We believe and receive all the Promises of Abraham and all the Jubilee Promises of Israel. Especially we believe and receive the Jubilee Promises that whatever is lost be restored now, in the Name of Jesus. And that we will be able to into the destiny enter inheritance that God has saved up for us, in the Name of Jesus.

Come Holy Spirit, rain down, rain down Your Glory. Immerse us all in the heavy weight, the Cloud of Your Shekinah Glory - Glory in the eyes of all who see us. Glory in the ears of all who hear us. Glory in the mouths of all who speak of us. Glory in the minds

and hearts, memories, and imaginations of all who think of us and remember us. Glory in everything we see, and everything we hear, and everything we speak, and everything we remember.

Open our spiritual eyes, Lord Jesus, that we might see You; that we might see Your Face; that we might see You in Your Glory. We want to know You more deeply, Lord Jesus. Lift us up into heavenly places to walk with You in Your Glory. And bring us into one with You in Your Glory - that we might give all Glory to You. We choose to step in and be immersed in Your Glory. We seek You with all of our hearts. And we choose to give You all the Glory for all You have done, and that You are doing and all that You will do.

Manifest Your Glory, Lord, with signs and wonders and mighty Glory Miracles from Heaven into earth: creative miracles, financial miracles, the Sovereign Glory Miracles of God Our Father, the Jubilee Miracles of Jesus. Lord, we believe and receive all Your Glory and all these Glory Miracles in the Name of Jesus. "Let it be done to us according to Your Will." "Not my will but Your Will be done."

Come, Holy Spirit, You are welcome in this place.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be world without end. Amen. +



Holy Spirit- Seat of Wisdom by Saint John Paul II

Holy Spirit and Seat of Wisdom help us in the great endeavor that we are carrying out to meet on a more and more mature way our brothers and sisters in the faith.

Through all the means of knowledge, of mutual respect, of love, may we be able to rediscover gradually the Divine Plan.

Teach us constantly the ways that lead to unity. Help us all to proclaim Christ and reveal the Power of God and the Wisdom of God hidden in His Cross.

How greatly I desire to entrust to You all the difficult problems of the societies, systems, and states problems that cannot be solved with hatred, war, and selfdestruction, but only by peace, justice, and respect for the rights of people and nations. Amen.



INVOKING HOLY SPIRIT

<u>Pentecost Sunday Sequence:</u> Veni, Sancte Spiritus

Come, O Holy Spirit, come! From the clear celestial home Thy pure beaming radiance give.

Come, Thou Father of the poor, Come, with treasures which endure Come, Thou Light of all that live!

Thou, of all consolers best, Thou, the soul's delightful Guest, Thou, refreshing peace bestow.

Thou in toil art comfort sweet; Pleasant coolness in the heat; Solace in the midst of woe.

O most blessed Light divine, Let Thy radiance in us shine, And our inmost being fill.

If Thou take thy grace away, Nothing pure in us will stay, All our good is turned to ill.

Heal our wounds, our strength renew, On our dryness pour Thy dew, Wash the stains of guilt away.

Bend the stubborn heart and will, Melt the frozen, warm the chill, Guide the steps that go astray. Thou, on us who evermore, Thee confess and Thee adore, With thy sevenfold gift descend.

Give us virtue's rich increase, Saving grace to die in peace, Give us joys that never end. Amen. Alleluia.



<u>VENI CREATOR SPIRITUS</u> (Traditional Song)

Come, Holy Ghost, Creator blest! And in our souls take up Thy rest; Come with Thy grace and Heavenly aid, To fill the hearts which Thou hast made.

Great Paraclete! To Thee we cry, O highest gift of God most high! O font of life! O fire of love! And sweet anointing from above.

Thou in Thy sevenfold gifts art known, The finger of God's hand we own; The promise of the Father, Thou! Who dost the tongue with power endow.

Kindle our senses from above, And make our hearts overflow with love; With patience firm and virtue high The weakness of our flesh supply. Far from us drive the foe we dread, And grant us Thy true peace instead; So shall we not, with Thee for guide,

Turn from the path of life aside.

Oh, may Thy grace on us bestow The Father and the Son to know, And Thee, through endless times confessed,

Of both, the eternal Spirit blest.

All glory while the ages run
Be to the Father and the Son
Who rose from death; the same to
Thee,

O Holy Ghost, eternally. Amen.



Prayer at Vatican Council II by Saint John XXIII

Divine Spirit, renew your wonders in this our age as in a New Pentecost,

and grant that your Church, praying perseveringly and insistently with one heart and mind

together with Mary, the Mother of Jesus,

and guided by Blessed Peter, may increase the reign of the Divine Savior,

the reign of truth and justice, the reign of love and peace. Amen.



Daily Prayer to Holy Spirit

by Saint John Paul II

Holy Spirit, I ask of You the gift of wisdom for a better understanding of You and of Your divine perfection.

I ask of You the gift of intellect for a better understanding of the essence of the mysteries of the Holy Faith.

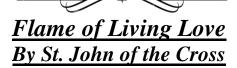
Give me the gift of knowledge so that I may know how to orient my life in accordance with the principles of faith.

Give me the gift of counsel so that in all things I can seek counsel from You and can always find it in You.

Give me the gift of strength so that no fear or earthly motivations can take me away from You.

Give me the gift of piety, so that I can always serve Your Majesty with filial love.

Give me the gift of the fear of God so that no fear or earthly motivations can take me away from You. Amen.



- 1. O living flame of love that tenderly wounds my soul in its deepest center! Since now you are not oppressive, now consummate! if it be your will: tear through the veil of this sweet encounter!
- 2. O sweet cautery,
 O delightful wound!
 O gentle hand! O delicate touch
 that tastes of eternal life
 and pays every debt!
 In killing you changed death
 to life.
- 3. O lamps of fire! in whose splendors the deep caverns of feeling, once obscure and blind, now give forth, so rarely, so exquisitely, both warmth and light to their Beloved.
- 4. How gently and lovingly you wake in my heart, where in secret you dwell alone; and in your sweet breathing, filled with good and glory, how tenderly you swell my heart with love.



Come, Holy Spirit (Traditional Prayer)

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of Your Faithful and enkindle in them the fire of Your Love.

V. Send forth Your Spirit and they shall be created.

R. And You shall renew the face of the earth.

Let us pray. O God, Who by the Light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant us in the same Spirit to be truly wise and ever to rejoice in His consolation. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

