



Faith News

The bi-monthly teaching magazine of Spirit of Faith Church

Nov / Dec 2017

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Prayer for *Salvation*



If you do not know the Lord Jesus as your Savior and Lord, pray the following prayer in faith, and God will give you eternal life.

Heavenly Father, I come to You in the Name of Jesus. Your Word says, “Whosoever shall call on the Name of the Lord shall be saved” (Acts 2:21). Come into my heart Jesus and be Lord over my life. According to Romans 10:9-10: “That if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.” I confess that Jesus is Lord, and I believe in my heart that God raised Him from the dead.

If you have just prayed this prayer, please write and let us know of your decision. We have a free mini-book, titled, The New Birth that we would like to send you to help you begin your new life in Jesus!

SERVICE TIMINGS

Sunday

Worship & the Word	10:30 am
Covenant Kids	10:30 am
Nagamese Service	02:30 pm
Prayer & Praise	05:30 pm*

Wednesday

Pastor's Bible Study	05:30 pm
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Saturday

RGenX (Radical Generation)	04:30 pm
Surge (Singles)	06:00 pm*

*as announced

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God's Word is Medicine



By Pastor John Roughton

Proverbs 4:20-22

My son, be attentive to my words; incline your ear to my sayings. Let them not depart from your sight; keep them within your heart; for they are life to those who find them and healing to all their flesh.

(ERV) says, **These words are the secret of life and health to all who discover them.** Do you want to have a good life and enjoy good health? The secret is found in the discovery of God's Word.

The Hebrew word translated **life** in **v.22** actually means, strong and fresh. God's Word will renew and refresh you, it will invigorate you. The Word is a tonic for your spirit.

The Hebrew word for **healing** in this verse literally means, remedy or medicine. God's Word has curative powers, it can make you well. If the Word of God is medicine for your whole body then healing must be God's will. There is no verse in the Bible that says God's Word will make you sick. Nowhere does God say, "My Word is like a virus," or "My Word is a cancer." But **Proverbs 4:22**, and others like it, tells us the Word can heal you. The Word of God is the will of God. Therefore healing, not sickness, is God's will.

But that also means you will not be refreshed in spirit or healed in body simply because you are Christian. The church is full of sick and tired Christians. They're saved and on their way to heaven, and many of them get there a lot sooner than they planned, because they're sick!

Notice, **for they are life to those who find them.** There is healing in the Word but you won't be healed automatically. If that was true, there would be no sick people in the world today. His words are life and healing to those who find them. You have to dig into the Bible to mine out it's rich treasures. Having a Bible on your coffee table or under your arm on the way to church doesn't heal anybody. You'll have to read it and study it.

(CEV) **knowing these teachings will bring true life and health for you.**

Knowing the Word better has something to do with living better. The "life-problem" is usually a knowledge problem. If you are constantly in poor health there is something that you don't know, or at least you don't know it the way you need to know it.

Healing is not only God's will for us, it has been provided for us in Christ through the cross. We should not accept sickness as a matter of fact. God's plan for us is to walk in healing and in health. And if we are not healed, that should grab our attention and cause us to take stock of the situation. I'm not condemning anyone who is sick, but I'm trying to wake you from your slumber. You don't have to live with sickness anymore!

Proverbs 4:22 says God's Word is medicine. And **v.20** and **v.21** is the prescription, it tells us how to take the medicine. In the natural, it's not enough to go to the pharmacy and buy medicine, you have to take it! And you have to take it the way the doctor has prescribed. You can't be impatient and swallow all the pills at once. Likewise, you have to take God's Word the way you are instructed to.

My son, be attentive to my words. The first thing God asks for is your undivided attention. If the devil can distract you, he can defeat you. Turn off the television, put down your cell phone, at least for the time being. Shut the door, get alone with the Bible. Focus on what God is saying.

Incline your ears to my sayings. In Hebrew it literally means, to bend or stretch the ear. Some people readily bend their ears toward every rumor. When someone whispers, "Did you hear about so and so?" They lean forward with eyes wide open. But if you quote the Scriptures to the same people their eyes glaze over as they mutter, "I know, I know." If you would hear the gospel with the same interest that you hear the gossip, you'd probably already be healed.

Some people hear but they don't really listen. You have to make a conscious decision to listen carefully to God's Word. There is a direct connection between hearing and healing. Some people don't want to hear anything but when the service is over they want you to pray for their healing.

Luke 5:15

... and great crowds gathered to hear him and to be healed of their infirmities.

The crowds in Jesus' day did not come only to get healed. They also came to hear what he had to say. And notice the hearing comes before the healing.

Not only will the Word of God remove sickness, it will also prevent sickness. If you will continually take God's medicine you can avoid getting sick in the first place.

Psalm 107:20

He sent out his word and healed them, and delivered them from their destruction.

(Message Bible) **He spoke the word that healed you.**

Think on it, ponder it.
As you meditate,
you will medicate.

When God wants to heal someone he opens his mouth and speaks. The healing power of God is released by his words.

The Roman centurion in **Matthew 8:8** said to Jesus, **Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof, but only say the word, and my servant will be healed.** Some church members get offended if no one visited them when they were sick. Yet this man said, "I don't need a personal visit, even from Jesus, I just need the Word." Friend, you need more than human sympathy, you need divine intervention. Which would you prefer? Flowers, cards and horlicks, or the power of God? Some people don't really want healing, they want attention. Our attitude should be like this Roman centurion, "You don't have to come to my house, just speak the Word and I will be healed!"

God's Word is medicine. Many Christians say, "I can't go to church today because I am sick." But no one says, "I can't go to the hospital today because I am sick." They believe the doctors and the medicine in the clinic can make them well. They don't believe there's healing in God's house. Jesus marveled at the faith of that Roman centurion back then. He probably marvels at the unbelief of most Christians today.

Proverbs 4:21

Let them not escape from your sight; keep them within your heart.

Rarely if ever, does one dose of medicine cure the sick. Likewise, healing from heaven comes when we continually feed on the Word. Think on it, ponder it. As you meditate, you will medicate.

It's amazing how knowledgeable many sick Christians are. Many of them can quote the healing promises of the Bible. They know that healing is God's will and that it's part of our redemption in Christ. Yet they're still sick.

I knew a pastor in America who suffered with cancer. Just a few days before he died he declared from the pulpit, "By his stripes, I was healed." So why did he die?

keep them within your heart. No one was ever healed by head knowledge. Just as seed only germinates when planted in fertile soil, so also the Word only produces when it is planted in our spirits.

The key to walking in divine health is to stay strong spiritually.

It's good to memorize and quote the Scriptures, but often folks are speaking out of their heads, not from their hearts.

The children of Israel had to collect manna every day while in the wilderness. What was left over bred worms and stank. Many Christians are living on stale manna.

They're living on old memories. You don't necessarily need a new Word every day, but you do need a fresh Word!

Proverbs 4:23

Keep your heart with all vigilance, for from it flow the springs of life.

Your spirit is the fountain of life, so protect it carefully. If you won't allow bad things to get in your heart, you won't have to worry about bad things flowing out of it.

If you want to have good health and a good life, don't leave your heart unguarded.

In other words, not only should you receive the Word, you should reject things contrary to the Word. Don't watch movies that inject fear and lust into your heart. Don't read books that generate doubts and rob you of faith in God. Don't engage in conversations that mock or ridicule the power of God.

Many times doctors will instruct their patients to alter their diet while undergoing treatment. A diabetic may have to avoid sugary foods in addition to taking medicine. Likewise, in addition to taking God's medicine, make sure you don't allow wrong attitudes to linger in your spirit. You can feed on the Word day and night, but unforgiveness will kill you. Don't allow sin to rob you of healing and weaken your faith.

Proverbs 14:30

A tranquil heart gives life to the flesh, but envy makes the bones rot.

The Hebrew word translated **tranquil** in this verse is the same word for **healing** in **Proverbs 4:22**. When your heart is well your body will be well.

Proverbs 17:22

A joyful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones.

Again, the condition of your heart has something to do with the condition of your health. God's Word doesn't directly affect your physical body. It impacts your spirit. The Word heals your inward man and that in turn heals the outward man.

Proverbs 18:14 (Amplified Bible)

The strong spirit of a man sustains him in bodily pain or trouble, but a weak and broken spirit who can raise up or bear?

The key to walking in divine health is to stay strong spiritually. Since the day I understood that healing is God's will, the only time I've been sick is when I disobeyed God or allowed myself to grow weary spiritually. It's when we neglect Bible reading or fail to practice it, that we are most susceptible to sickness.

God's Word is medicine!

तीन सच्चाइयाँ

III

2 कुरिंथियों 5:14-16 क्योंकि मसीह का प्रेम हमें विवश कर देता है; इसलिए कि हम यह सामझते हैं कि जब एक सब के लिए मरा तो सब मर गए।

15 और वह इस निमित्त मरा सब के लिए मरा कि जो जीवित हैं, वे आगे को अपने लिए न जीएँ, परंतु उसके लिए जो उनके लिए मरा और फिर जी उठा।

16 अतः अब से हम किसी को शरीर के अनुसार न समझेंगे। यद्यपि हमने मसीह को भी शरीर के अनुसार जाना था, तौभी अब से उसको ऐसा नहीं जानेंगे।

मैं आप को तीन महत्वपूर्ण सच्चाइयाँ बताना चाहता हूँ जिन्हें आपको हमेशा अपने मन में रखना चाहिए। विजेता होकर मसीह का जीवन जीने के लिए यह आवश्यक है कि आपको इन तीन सच्चाइयों को हमेशा अपने सोच में रखना होगा।

मैं मसीह के साथ मर गया।

अधिकतर लोग इस बात को जानते हैं कि यीशु क्रूस पर मरा। हर एक सच्चा मसीह आदमी इस बात को भी जानता है कि वह वहाँ पर हमारे पापों के लिए मरा था। लेकिन यहाँ पर जो सबसे बड़ी बात है, वह यह है कि वह आधिकारिक तौर से आपके बादले में मरा, उसकी मृत्यु आपकी मृत्यु है। परमेश्वर के मन में आप मसीह के साथ मर चुके

हैं। गलातियों **2: 20** में पौलुस कहता है, मैं मसीह के साथ क्रूस पर चढ़ाया गया हूँ, अब मैं जीवित न रहा, पर मसीह मुझमें जीवित है।

संसार क्रूस की बात को समझ नहीं पाता है। वे जानते हैं कि यीशु उनके लिए मर गया, लेकिन वे सोचते हैं कि इस बात से उनके जीवन में क्या फर्क पड़ता है। जो बात उनकी समझ में नहीं आती, वह यह है कि क्रूस केवल मसीह यीशु के मरने की ही जगह नहीं है, अपितु क्रूस वह जगह है जहाँ पर मैं मसीह के साथ मर गया, क्योंकि उसने मेरी जगह को ले लिया है।

एक विजेता मसीही आदमी स्वयं को संसार के लिए मरा हुआ समझता है। संसार के लिए मरा हुआ का मतलब है, कि हम सांसारिक अभिलाषाओं से प्रभावित नहीं होते हैं और हम परमेश्वर की नज़र में दीन व नम्र होकर जीवन जीते हैं। कुछ ऐसे मसीह लोग भी हैं जो फटे-पुराने कपड़े पहनते हैं, लेकिन वे घमंड और नराज़गी से भरे रहते हैं।

क्रूस केवल मानव के इतिहास की कहानी ही नहीं, बल्कि यह मेरी व्यक्तिगत गवाही है।

रोमियों **6: 11** कहता है, ऐसे ही तुम भी अपने आप को पाप के लिए तो मरा, किंतु परमेश्वर के लिए मसीह यीशु में जीवित समझो। यह आवश्यक है कि आप अपने आप को पाप के लिए मरा हुआ समझें क्योंकि आप मसीह के साथ मर चुके हो।

मैं मसीह के लिए जीवन जीता हूँ।

वह मेरे लिए मरा ताकि मैं उसके लिए जी सकूँ। अधिकतर लोग, यहाँ तक कि चर्च में भी, केवल अपने लिए ही जी रहे हैं। वे अपना सारा जीवन अपने सपनों की खोज में और उन्हें पूरा करने में तथा अपनी ही इच्छाओं को पूरा करने में बिता देते हैं। ज्यादातर लोग सोचते हैं कि उनके जीवन का मकसद सिर्फ खुद को ही खुश करना है।

लेकिन मसीह जीवन केवल अपने बारे में ही सोचने वाला जीवन नहीं है। क्योंकि मसीह मेरे लिए मरा अब मैं उसके लिए जीता हूँ। सब लोगों को पूरे समय की सेवकाई में ही होना होगा, ऐसा नहीं है। प्रभु की सेवा करना जीवन जीने का एक ढंग है। प्रभु के लिए जीने का मतलब है- अपने खुद के ढंग व इच्छाओं के लिए मर जाना। हर दिन जो भी छोटे-छोटे निर्णय आप करते हैं, वे सब प्रभु को ध्यान में रखकर करने चाहिए।

2 कुरिंथियों 5: 10

क्योंकि अवश्य है कि हम सब का हाल मसीह के न्याय के आसन के सामने खुल जाए, कि हर एक व्यक्ति अपने-अपने भले बुरे कामों का बदला जो उसने देह के द्वारा किए हों पाए।

परमेश्वर की सेवा करना कोई कैरियर का चुनावा नहीं है; यह उसकी इच्छा को पूरा करते हुए जीवन जीना है।

एक दिन जब आप मसीह यीशु के सामने खड़े होंगे। "वे आपसे यह नहीं पूछेंगे, क्या धरती पर तुमने मज़े किए या नहीं?" क्या तुम्हारे सारे सपने पूरे हुए या नहीं? नहीं, वे पूछेंगे, क्या तुमने तुम्हारे जीवन के लिए उन योजनाओं को पूरा किया जो मैंने तुम्हारे लिए बनाई थीं? यह जीवन बहुत छोटा है। यीशु के लिए जीवन जीओ, यही सबसे अधिक महत्वपूर्ण है।

यहाँ पर तीसरी सच्चाई है जिसे आपको हमेशा याद रखना चाहिए:

मैं सब लोगों को यीशु मसीह की नज़रों से देखता हूँ।

अब आप 2 कुरिंथियों 5: 16 को देखें, अतः अब से हम किसी को भी शरीर के अनुसार न समझेंगे।

यहाँ यूनानी भाषा में अनुवाद किए गए शब्द 'समझना' का मतलब है, देखना। इसका मतलब है- समझना, किसी की कीमत जानना, तारीफ़ करना। अगर हम लोगों को शरीर के अनुसार नहीं देखते तो कैसे देखते हैं? आत्मा के अनुसार।

मनुष्य की आत्मा ही असली मनुष्य है। कोई आदमी शरीर में कैसा दिखता है, मैं इस बात से किसी भी इंसान की हैसियत नहीं देखता हूँ। मैं किसी इंसान के शरीर के बाहरी रंग में दिलचस्पी नहीं रखता हूँ। मैं उसके भीतरी मनुष्य की दशा को समझता हूँ, क्योंकि वह ही असली मनुष्य है। वह शरीर में किस जाति, देश या कबीले का है, यह देखकर मैं उन्हें नहीं जानता हूँ।

जब भी आप किसी नए आदमी से पहली बार मिलते हैं, आपके दिमाग में यह सवाल नहीं होना चाहिए, यह कहां का रहने वाला है? वह किस जाति का है? लेकिन इसके बजाए, यह प्रभु को जानता है या नहीं? मैं अब

से किसी भी आदमी को शरीर के अनुसार नहीं जानता हूँ, क्योंकि परमेश्वर किसी भी व्यक्ति को शरीर के अनुसार नहीं जानता है।

1 कुरिंथियों 2: 15

आत्मिक जन सब कुछ जाँचता है, परंतु वह आप किसी से जाँचा नहीं जाता।

कुछ लोग बेकार की वस्तुओं को अधिक महत्त्व देते हैं। कुछ मसीह लोग गलत लोगों का सम्मान करते हैं, क्योंकि वे लोगों को उस नज़र से नहीं देखते जिस नज़र से परमेश्वर देखता है। मैं दूसरों को मसीह में होकर देखता हूँ। जो व्यक्ति नया -जनम पाया हुआ है, वह मेरा भाई है चाहे वह किसी भी दूसरी जाति या जगह से ही क्यों न आया हो।

आपका मसीह में होना, आप शरीर में कौन हैं इससे ज्यादा महत्त्वपूर्ण है। मुझे आपकी जाति या कबीले के बारे में जानकर कोई अधिक खुशी नहीं होती है। मुझे खुशी तब होती है जब मैं आपके अंदर से मसीह का जीवन और स्वभाव प्रकट होते हुए देखता हूँ।

मैं मसीह यीशु के साथ मर गया हूँ। अब मैं उसके लिए जीता हूँ। मैं दूसरों को मसीह की नज़रों से देखता हूँ। परमेश्वर चाहता है कि आप इस तरह का जीवन जीएँ।

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RADICAL RGENX GENERATION

is dedicated to impact young people with the love of Jesus, disciple them in the Word, help them to stand victoriously in life and influence the people around them!
We worship with high-energy music!

LIVING LIKE A SUPERHERO

2 CORINTHIANS 5:17

SO THAT IF ANYONE IS IN CHRIST, THAT ONE IS A NEW CREATURE; OLD THINGS HAVE PASSED AWAY; BEHOLD, ALL THINGS HAVE BECOME NEW.

Who was your superhero while growing up? Superman who could fly? Spider man who could climb walls? These were men who looked just like anybody else but then were transformed into an entirely different person. With this different identity came the power or ability to do superhuman things others couldn't do.

Do you know we have been made a superhero by Jesus? When you accept Jesus as your Savior, your old identity dies and you are made brand new. With this identity change comes power and ability to do supernatural things like lay hands on the sick and see them recover, speak with new tongues and lead people to become new creatures through Jesus.

When you become a Christian, you don't just join a club. You become a brand new creature - a superhero! God's Spirit comes to live in you and gives you power and authority to be a hero to the people around you.

Live today looking for opportunities to help people, like a superhero. Extend your help, give a smile, pray a prayer, and be friendly to the person who speaks badly about you. Keep your joy when your classmates gossip about you. You have the ability to live this life, because God Himself lives in you!

Say It: I am in Christ and am a new creature. The Holy Spirit lives in me. I look for opportunities to be a superhero to my world today in small ways and in big ways.



Sow a Seed

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