

# Faith News



July/August 2014

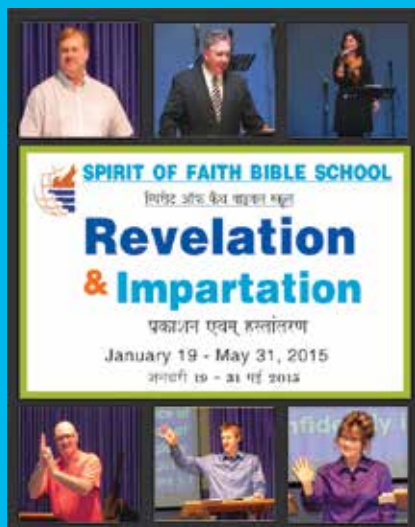
Spirit of Faith Church

A photograph of a woman with long, wavy brown hair, wearing a white top. She is looking upwards and to the right, holding a rosary in her hands. The background is a soft, out-of-focus light color.

*You Are*  
**God's Gift**

# 2014 MINISTERS CONFERENCE October 15 - 19

Call : 08131081421 to register.  
Last date September 30<sup>th</sup>.



**2015 Bible  
School  
brochures  
are out!!  
Call or text  
your ad-  
dress and  
we can mail  
it to you.**



**Get your Free  
copy of Faith  
News at your  
door step by  
sending your  
proper mailing  
address.**

**CONTACT US AT : +91 8131081421  
Or Email us : church@spirit-faith.org**



## SPIRIT OF FAITH CHURCH

### *Service Timings*

**Sunday** Worship & the Word 10:00 am  
Covenant Kids 10:00 am  
Nagamese Service 2:30 pm  
Prayer & Praise 5:30 pm\*

**Wednesday** Pastor's Bible Study 5:30 pm

**Friday** Dream Team 5:30 pm

**Saturday** Hour of Power  
(Prayer Meeting) 7:30 am  
Radical Generation 4:30 pm  
\*as announced

*Faith News* is a bi-monthly publication of Spirit of Faith Church, Kuda 'B' Village Dimapur - 797112 : Nagaland  
Tel : (03862) 231 588  
Email: church@spirit-faith.org  
In association with John Roughton Ministries  
Spirit of Faith International USA  
[www.spirit-faith.org](http://www.spirit-faith.org)

<b>Executive Publisher</b>	: John Roughton
<b>Contributing Writers</b>	: Zhepitoli Roughton & David Murry
<b>Design &amp; Layout</b>	: Sentirenba Lemtur & Imnawabang Lkr
<b>Printed at</b>	: 14forty, Printers & Design, Dimapur

*This magazine is provided free of cost without any subscription rate and may not be sold or used for fund raising. Some of the views expressed in this magazine do not necessarily reflect the views of this ministry.*

# Our IDENTIFICATION with Christ



Pastor John Roughton

**Philemon 6** (Amplified Bible)  
**[And I pray] that the participation in and sharing of your faith may produce and promote full recognition and appreciation and understanding and precise knowledge of every good [thing] that is ours in [our identification with] Christ Jesus [and unto His glory].**

We need to read the Bible in the light of our redemption. If we only read the Old Testament we'll never fully understand what Christ has accomplished for us in His death and resurrection. It is in the epistles, the letters written to the church, that we get the full revelation of redemption.

We need to know what Christ has purchased for us by His blood. **Philemon 6** says we need to know every good thing that belongs to us in **our identification** with Christ. Our identification with Christ is the very heart of the gospel.

What is identification? It is something identifies you, that tells others who you are. There are some places you cannot enter unless you can identify yourself. Before you can enter the polling booth to vote, you have to prove who you are by showing a photo ID.

The New Testament tells us that we have a new identification in Christ. We are not the same person we used to be. **2 Corinthians 5:17** says, **If anyone is in Christ he is a new creation.** Other translations say, **an altogether new person.** When we were received Christ we were not repaired, we were remade! You are a new man in

Christ with a new identity.

It is important to know who you are. If you don't know who you are in the natural, you could get into trouble. On the first day of school the teacher will ask your child his name. What if he answered, "I don't know"? She might ask his father's name. What if he replied, "I don't know"? "Where do you live?" she asks. "I don't know," he says. They might send your child to a psychiatrist!

Spiritually, we need to know who we are. In fact, who you are spiritually is more important than who you are naturally because your spirit is eternal. Your spirit is the real you. If you don't know who you are spiritually you can get into trouble. The devil will take advantage of you.

The New Testament tells us who we are, not in the eyes of man, but in the sight of God. We have a new identity in Christ. God doesn't see us as a forgiven sinner, because that's not who we are. He sees us as a new creation in Christ.

You are identified with Christ. The word **identify** also means to be connected to, associated with. We are in Christ. We are connected to Him, in union with Him. Identify also means treat as identical, to consider as the same. Because you are connected to Christ God treats you the same way as His Son.

On the cross Jesus became identical with us. He became exactly like we were. He took upon Him-

self our spiritual condition. **2 Corinthians 5:21** says He became sin for us. God laid on Him our transgressions. He was cursed and condemned, separated from the Father. He became sick with our sickness and poor with our poverty.

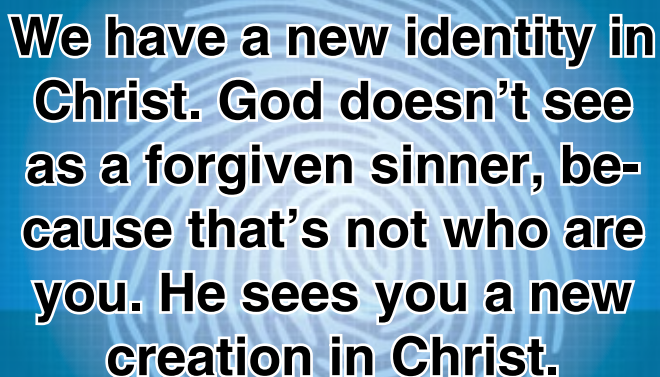
He became one with us in His death so that we could become one with Him in His resurrection. He identified with our sin so now we are identified with His righteousness. In Christ we are now blessed and welcomed in God's presence. We are healed by His stripes. We are rich in Him.

**Ephesians 2:5** (Amplified)

**He made us alive together in fellowship and in union with Christ; [He gave us the very life of Christ Himself, the same new life with which He quickened Him**

Because Jesus is our substitute, everything that happened to Him in His death and resurrection has been credited to our account. Jesus didn't die for Himself, He died for us. He wasn't raised up for Himself either; He was raised for us, to give us new life.

God made us alive together with Christ. Whatever happened to Jesus when He was raised from the dead is what exactly happened to us when we got saved. When we were born again God breathed into our spirits the same new life with which He quickened Christ.



**We have a new identity in Christ. God doesn't see as a forgiven sinner, because that's not who are you. He sees you a new creation in Christ.**

**Colossians 1:18** says Jesus is the **beginning, the first born from the dead.** This verse is talk-

ing about spiritual death, being separated from the Father. I know it sounds strange to our ears, but Jesus Christ was the first person in history to be born again (see **Acts 13:33**).

We could say that Jesus is the *prototype*.

Many years ago I worked in a factory. I helped the engineer make new parts for machines. The engineer was highly trained and very skilled at his profession. He carefully designed the new part and then personally made it by hand. He then tested the part thoroughly to make sure that it wouldn't fail. When he was completely satisfied with the results, he said to me, "This is new part is the prototype." He made one piece by hand. But the factory produced thousands of copies based on the original. Each new part would be identical to the prototype.

Our heavenly Father is very wise and highly skilled. He is a professional. He carefully planned our redemption, even before the earth as created. He personally inserted Christ into the human race, born of a virgin by the power of the Holy Spirit. He allowed Christ to be tested and tempted by man and the devil. And Jesus passed every test.

The Father then allowed Jesus to die for the sins of the world and suffer in hell. But on the third day, God raised Him up and said, "He is the prototype." Every man who receives Christ is recreated exactly like He was. Jesus is the pattern. Everything that happened to Him in His death and resurrection happened to us when we got born again.

One translation of **Ephesians 2:5** says, **we were twinned with Him.** We have a twin brother in heaven. Spiritually, He looks exactly like us.

The wife of a pastor I know was having a baby. She delivered a son. But then the nurse saw some movement and said, "Wait a minute! There's another one in there!" She had twins. Out came his identical twin brother.

When Jesus was raised from the dead the devil's worst fears came true. Jesus came out of the grave, victorious over death and hell. But then suddenly the devil said, "Wait a minute! There's another one in there!" Jesus is the first born from the dead. If there's a first born, somewhere there's a second born, and a third born, and a fourth born, etc.

The Father put every good thing He had into Christ, and when you accepted Jesus as Lord, the Father put you in Him. Someone might ask, "But if Christ is in heaven, how can I be in Him?" I'll answer your question with a question, "If Christ is in heaven, how can He be in you?" The answer is by the Holy Spirit. You are in Him just as much as He is in you.



**Every good thing  
that is in Christ  
is now in you!**

You are connected to Him and the Father treats you the same. Every good thing that is in Christ is now in you! We need a **full recognition and appreciation, and understanding and precise knowledge** of every good thing that is in us, in Christ. We need to see who we are in the light of the Word. If you can't "see" this, you need more light!

### **Colossians 1:13**

**He had delivered us from the dominion of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of His beloved Son.**

Satan's kingdom is the dominion of darkness. The devil's devices only operate in the dark; they don't work in the light. When the light of the gos-

pel shines on Satan's lies, they are exposed and his works are rendered inoperative. That's why the enemy tries to keep you from going to church and reading your Bible.

The key to living in victory over sin, sickness, and Satan is to see yourself identified with Christ.

Another translation of **Philemon 6** says that **the faith we share in common may become effective by the acknowledging of every good thing which is in you in Christ.**

We need more than knowledge, we need to **acknowledge**. We need to confess who we are. Our identical blessing with Christ is activated by our identical confession. In fact, the Greek word for **confession** means, "to say the same thing." We need to say the same thing about our lives that God says.

Don't identify what you have done in the past. Identify with what Christ has done for you. Don't identify with your sin. Identify with Christ's righteousness. Don't identify with your failure. Identify with Christ's victory. Don't identify with your weakness. Identify with Christ's strength. Don't identify with your sickness. Identify with Christ's healing. Don't identify with your poverty. Identify with Christ's prosperity.

As you begin to acknowledge who you are in Christ, your identical confession will change your situation. What is on the inside will become activated and will work on the outside!

The enemy wants you to doubt your identity. When he tempted Jesus in the wilderness he said, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to be made bread." He was questioning Jesus' identity. The devil was saying, "If you're really who you say you are, prove it." Jesus answered by quoting the Scripture. When the devil questions your identity, answer with the Word. The Bible is your ID card. There are over 100 verses in the New Testament that use the phrase **in Christ**. These verses tell us our identity in Christ. Continually confess, "This is who I am. Every good thing that is in Christ is in me also!"

# अदृश्य को देखना, दृश्य परिवर्तित करना

पास्टर जॉन के द्वारा

**इब्रानियों 11:1** अब विश्वास आशा की हुई वस्तुओं का निश्चय, और अनदेखी वस्तुओं का प्रमाण है।

परमेश्वर विश्वास के नियम पर काम करता है। इसलिए यह अति आवश्यक है कि हम जान लें विश्वास क्या है। यदि आप यह नहीं जानते कि विश्वास क्या है, तो आप यह भी नहीं समझ पाएंगे कि परमेश्वर आपके जीवन में कैसे काम करता है। मसीह जीवन एक विश्वास से भरा जीवन होता है। यह विश्वास से शुरू होता है और विश्वास से ही चलता जाता है। रोमियों 1:17 कहता है कि धर्मी जन विश्वास से जीवित रहेगा। स्वर्ग से आपको जो कुछ भी चाहिए उस सब में आपको विश्वास की ज़रूरत पड़ेगी। तथा बिना विश्वास के परमेश्वर को प्रसन्न करना अनहोना है। (इब्रानियों 11:6) हमें यह जनना बहुत आवश्यक है कि विश्वास क्या है। परन्तु जिसे आप 'विश्वास' कहते हैं और जिसे परमेश्वर 'विश्वास' कहता है ये बिलकुल दो अलग अलग चीज़ें हो सकती हैं। इब्रानियों 11:1 हमें बताता है कि विश्वास आखिर है, तो क्या है। यह विश्वास की बाइबल की परिभाषा है। इस बात को नोट करें कि विश्वास आशा नहीं है। इब्रानियों 11:1 नहीं कहता है, "अब विश्वास आशा है"। बहुत से लोग एक चमत्कार या उनकी समस्याओं के उत्तर की आशा कर रहे हैं। दूसरे शब्दों में वे किसी बात के लिए इच्छा तो करते हैं परन्तु उन्हें यह यकीन नहीं होता कि वैसा

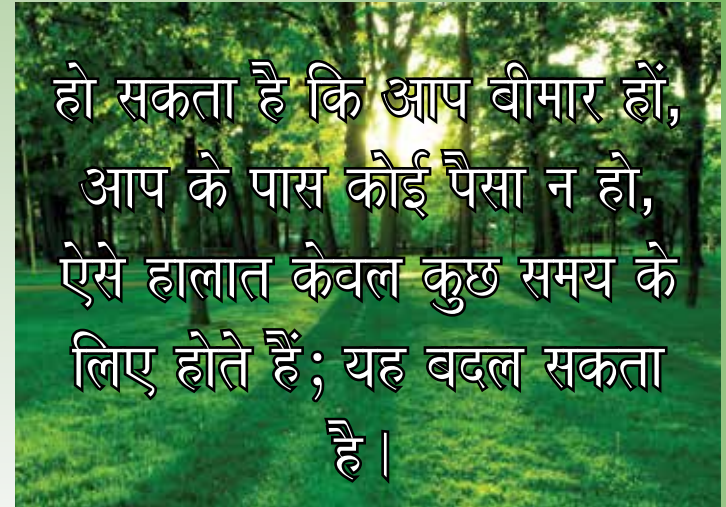
होगा या नहीं। और मुझे अवसोस (खेद) के साथ कहना पड़ रहा है, यह नहीं होगा; क्योंकि यह केवल आशा है विश्वास नहीं। बाइबल में कहीं पर भी यीशु ने किसी भी बीमार आदमी से यह नहीं कहा, "तुम्हारी आशा ने तुम्हें चंगा किया"। एक बार भी यीशु ने ऐसा नहीं कहा, "तुम्हारी आशा के अनुसार तुम्हारे जीवन में हो जाएगा। आशा होना अच्छा है, लेकिन यह काफी (पर्याप्त) नहीं है। परमेश्वर विश्वास की मांग करता है। विश्वास आशा नहीं है। विश्वास आशा की गई वस्तुओं का निश्चय है।

बिना विश्वास के इस बात की कोई गारंटी नहीं है कि जिन चीज़ों की आप आशा करते हैं वे आप को मिल जाएंगी।

अगर आपके अंदर विश्वास है, तो आपको पक्का भरोसा है कि आप ने जिस भी बात के लिए आशा की है, वह ज़रूर पूरी हाने वाली है। इब्रानियों 11:1 का एक दूसरा अनुवाद कहता है, "हम जिन आषिषों की आशा करते हैं उसकी गारंटी केवल विश्वास ही दे सकता है।" लेकिन

विना विश्वास के इस बात की कोई गारंटी नहीं कि जिस चीज़ की आप आशा करते हैं वह आप को मिल जाएगी। परमेश्वर लोगों की ज़रूरतों के हिसाब से काम नहीं करता है। यदि परमेश्वर लोगों की आवश्यकताओं के अनुसार काम करता तो इस संसार में लोगों की सारी ज़रूरतें अपने आप ही पूरी हो जातीं। वह विश्वास के नियम के अनुसार ही काम करता है। वह विश्वास का प्रतिउत्तर (जवाब) देता है। विश्वास के बदले में किसी दूसरी चीज़ को नहीं रखा जा सकता है। कड़ी मेहनत, लंबी प्रार्थना और उपवास आदि आपके जीवन में विश्वास की जगह नहीं ले सकते हैं। सिर्फ़ (केवल) विश्वास ही उन आपिशों की गारंटी दे सकता है जिनकी हम आशा करते हैं। विश्वास परमेश्वर से भीख मांगना नहीं है कि वह आपके लिए कुछ करे। यह पूरे साहस के साथ परमेश्वर से मांगना है जो पहले से ही आपका है। असली विश्वास परमेश्वर को आपके किसी काम को करने के लिए मनवाना नहीं है; यह उसे पकड़ लेना है जो परमेश्वर ने पहले से ही आपके लिए किया हुआ है या उपलब्ध करवा रखा है। इसका मतलब है कि यदि आपके पास विश्वास है, यह आपका है। यहून्ना 6:47 में यीशु ने कहा, जो विश्वास करता है उसके पास अनंत जीवन है। जिस समय एक मनुष्य सुर्स माचार में विश्वास करता है, वह यीशु को अपना उद्धारकर्ता स्वीकार कर लेता है, उसको अनंत जीवन मिल जाता है। विश्वास का यही नियम हर एक क्षेत्र में काम करता है। रोमियों 10:17 कहता है; सो विश्वास सुनने से और सुनना मसीह के वचन से होता है। परमेश्वर में विश्वास को आप साधारण शब्दों में कह सकते हैं “परमेश्वर के वचन में भरोसा करना”। वचन के ज्ञान के बिना आपके भीतर सच में विश्वास नहीं हो सकता है। यह परमेश्वर का वचन ही है जो आपके अंदर विश्वास पैदा करता है। यदि हमें विश्वास से जीवन जीना है तो इसका अर्थ है कि हमें वचन के अनुसार जीवन जीना चाहिए। रोमियों 4:19 और वह जो एक सौ वर्ष का था, अपने मरे

हुए से शरीर और सारा के गर्भ की मरी हुई की सी दशा जानकर भी विश्वास से निर्बल न हुआ। कुछ लोग विश्वास में कमज़ोर हैं। वे परमेश्वर की प्रतिज्ञाओं में विश्वास करते हैं, परंतु वे परिस्थितियों (हालात) को देखते रहते हैं।



अब्राहम विश्वास में मज़बूत था क्योंकि उसने अपने हालातों पर ध्यान नहीं दिया। वह उन बातों की ओर देख रहा था जो आँखों से दिखाई नहीं देती हैं। उसने इस हकीकत से इन्कार नहीं किया कि वह बूढ़ा हो गया था या उसकी पत्नी बांझ थी, परंतु वह परमेश्वर के वचन की सच्चाई पर ध्यान लगाकर रखे हुए था। आपके जीवन की हकीकत असली है, परंतु सत्य (सच्चाई) तथ्यों को बदल सकता है! जो दिखाई देता है वह बदल सकता है। हकीकत तो यह है कि हो सकता है आप अच्छा मर्ह सूस नहीं कर रहे हैं। परंतु सच्चाई यह है कि यीशु ने क्रूस पर आपकी चंगाई को खरीद लिया है। हकीकत यह हो सकती है कि आपके पास नौकरी नहीं है। परंतु सच्चाई यह है परमेश्वर ने प्रतिज्ञा की है कि वह हमारी सारी ज़रूरतों को पूरा करेगा। अब्राहम ने अपने हालातों के बारे में नहीं सोचा, उसने वचन के बारे में सोचा। जैसे जैसे वह अदृश्य संसार में देख रहा था, इसने दृश्य (दिखाई देने वाला) संसार बदल दिया, और सारा को एक बेटा पैदा हुआ। विश्वास अदृश्य के द्वारा जीवन जीना है, दृश्य को बदलना है।



*Dear Graduates,*

We are excited to inform you that this is your page. And through this we would like to encourage you as well as update you on any upcoming meetings. Also, if you have a testimony, pictures or have any report that you would like to share, write to us at [school@spirit-faith.org](mailto:school@spirit-faith.org) and we'll put it up on this page. We always love to hear from you even if it may not be a good report; just call us so that we can agree in prayer, assist or help you in any way.

Continue in the Word and keep stirring the gift of God that is in you.

*We love you, stand with you in prayer.*

*- Zibu Ezung*



Call Bro.  
Sumit Singh  
(08794325733)

Bible School  
Representative

### **Solomon 1:6**

**My mother's sons were angry with me; they made me keeper of the vineyards, but my own vineyard I have not kept!**

It is important for ministers of the gospel to keep themselves spiritual fit. Some pastors are so busy taking care of their congregation that they don't take care of themselves. They keep their brothers' vineyards, but their own vineyard is unkept.

Our public ministry will never be more effective than our personal walk. We need to spend as much time kneeling in the prayer closet as we do standing behind the pulpit. If we don't stay full of the Word we will likely become dry and discouraged. Some pastors only read the Bible while preparing for a sermon. But from empty hearts come only powerless sermons. Before you feed the flock, feed your own spirit on the Word.

Before we minister to others we need the Holy Spirit to minister to us. Unless we are continually refreshed in spirit, the pressures of ministry can cause us to become joyless and hardhearted. I'm sure you want your church to grow. But no one is interested in hearing a frustrated preacher. (People have enough problems of their own, they don't need to hear about yours!) Get alone with God, shut the door on unnecessary distractions, and press into His presence until you get the victory. Then come out of that secret place with a voice of triumph.

Many pastors become dry and burned out because they are constantly ministering to others, but no one ever ministers to them. That's one reason why I encourage all our Spirit of Faith Bible School graduates to attend the special meetings we have throughout the year. You need to have someone speak into your life. You need to be in a place where your hopes can be reignited.

And when you're going through a trial, don't be ashamed to let us know. Don't allow pride to keep you from asking for help. Rather than hoping we hear about it throughout the grape vine, it would be better for you yourself to call us and say, "I need some help." We will uphold you in prayer and stand with you in faith.

Don't neglect your family. Some pastors' children won't even visit a church today because when they were growing up their parents had time for everyone in the church, but no time for them. They felt neglected and discarded and so they harbor a grudge against God to this day. What's the value of winning the world for Christ if I lose my own family? Take one day off each week, take a break from ministry, and spend time with your family. Do fun things together, enjoy each other's company. Don't put the needs of the church ahead of your own children.

Don't allow money pressure and people problems to weigh down your heart. Learn to cast all your cares upon the Lord. **Philippians 4:6 says, Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God.** Anything you're tempted to worry about is something you should pray about. Roll the care of your burden over on the Lord. He can work on annoying people. He can bring the money in. Allow the peace that passes understanding to guard your heart.

When we lose our joy, then ministry becomes just a job, something we do to earn our salary. If we don't guard our hearts, we can lose our passion for the things of God and our vision for the future will fade. But God didn't call us to be heartless hirelings. He has a plan for our lives and He will furnish the grace and power to fulfill it. Now is the time for what has been lost to be restored! Draw near to God's presence, drink deeply of His Spirit. Be nourished in the words of life and fellowship with others who have like-precious faith. And God will turn your situation around.

*Spirit of Faith Bible School*

# What about SEXUAL PURITY?

**I**n today's world, sexual purity is not such a popular thing and even considered old fashion. We are bombarded with free sex in so many different ways daily – TV, newspapers, advertisement billboards, movies, magazines, the internet, etc. Many, including Christians have become desensitized and just 'go with the flow'. It's common to hear people say, 'everybody's doing it and that's the way things are today'. Maybe that's the way things are in the world but we must remember that while we are in the world we are not of the world! The scripture tells us clearly in **Rom 12:2 Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think.** God doesn't want us to think like the world thinks and live our lives like them. He wants us to think like He thinks through His word and live a life that reflects



His holiness and His goodness even in the area of our sexuality.

**1Th 4:3-5 It is God's will that you should be sanctified: that you should avoid sexual immorality; that each of you should learn to control his own body in a way that is holy and honorable, not in passionate lust like the heathen, who do not know God;**

So what does God think about sex?

First, you must understand that sex is good and it is not evil or dirty. God created it and He called it 'good'. It existed before there was any sin in the world (Gen 1.31). It was not created by Satan, Hollywood, HBO, pop stars, rock stars or the internet. It was created by the Holy God of Heaven. However, God designed sex for the sacred union of marriage and reserves it for that union only. **Heb 13:4 Honor marriage, and guard the sacredness of sexual intimacy between wife and husband. God draws a firm line against casual and illicit sex. (Msg Bible).** It is the means by which children are conceived and born (which is very close to the heart of God) and a means by which intimacy is expressed and cultivated between husband and wife.

Like all good gifts from God, sex can be misused and perverted. For example, water is a gift from God, without which we cannot survive. But floods and tidal waves are water out of control and the effects are devastating. Fire is another gift of God that produces warmth and heat that allows us to cook. But a forest fire or a house on fire or a person engulfed in flames is a fire out of control and that is frightening and horrible. Water and fire are good things, but when they occur outside their God given boundaries, become bad and even devastating. In the same way, inside of marriage, sex has a great power for good. Outside of marriage, sex has a great power for bad- it becomes ugly and can devastate lives. People who practice sex outside of marriage run the risk of contracting sexually transmitted diseases, HIV, unwanted pregnancies, etc and can live the rest of their lives in regrets. Many have to deal with shame and guilt too. Going outside of God's boundaries simply isn't worth it. Obeying God always pays rich dividends!

To be continued in our next issue.

To draw young people to Him and to each other  
To Glorify and make Him known  
And to touch our world with His love.

RGEX

GENERATION

Radical

RGEX

# You Are God's Gift



Pastor Zhepitoli Roughton

**2 Timothy 1:5 ...when I call to remembrance the genuine faith that is in you, which dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am persuaded is in you also.**

The greatest gift that we can pass down as a legacy and inheritance to our children and grand children is, genuine faith; a faith that is going to last forever. Fake things never last. We don't want to have fake faith and pretend to be a holy church goer; it won't last. So leave a blessed legacy for your children and grand children.

Mothers are like a thermostat at home. When they are happy, the husband is happy, the children are happy, the maid is happy and the pets are happy. But when they are grumpy the atmosphere is just not good. Therefore, mothers must maintain the spiritual atmosphere at home. How can we maintain a spiritual atmosphere at home? It's by speaking the Word of God. Speak life and not death.

**Proverbs 18:21** says, **"Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit."**

**Proverbs 16:24 Pleasant words are like a honeycomb; sweetness to the soul and health to the bones.**

When we speak the Word of God it brings healing even to our bones. The Word of God is true so speak your blessings every day. Speak out loud because your children are watching and hearing what you say, and will imitate what you say the rest of their lives. I have heard many mothers do just the opposite and instead of blessing, they even curse their children. Whatever we sow, we reap.

**Proverbs 13:2 A man shall eat well by the fruit of his mouth, but the soul of the unfaithful feeds on violence.**

What kind of fruit do you want to eat; good or bad? If you want to eat good food, speak the Word of God. There are some born again, spirit filled mothers who never gossip or nag, but they speak filthy language.

**Ephesians 4:29-30 Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edifica-**

**tion, that it may impart grace to the hearers. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.**

When you speak dirty language, you are grieving the Holy Spirit. Many ladies, like to talk and nag. But there is a time for everything; a time to keep silent and a time to speak. The problem is that we don't know when to do either.

Let me advice you what to do. When you don't know what to say, it's better to shut up and pray. In the Bible, we see a beautiful illustration of this situation in Queen Esther. She faced this moment of life and death. But instead of screaming and shouting, she fasted and prayed and so she approached her husband. So ladies, before you shout at your husband or children, it would be best for you to get on your knees and pray. Prayer always works. Mothers, you are God's gift to your children and husband. So, how do we treat God's gift? By taking care of her and doing what the Word tells us to do. Husbands, if you nourish and cherish you wife, she will bloom (**Ephesians 5:29**).

Mothers and wives are the same, because in **Gen2:24**, it says that **a man shall leave his mother and father and be joined to his wife and they shall be one flesh**. So husbands you are not in your mother's house anymore. You're joined with your wife and you're one flesh with her, and now she's the mother of the house. On the other hand wives, you must submit to your husband as you submit to the Lord. (**Ephesians 5:22**)

If you can submit to the Lord then you can also submit to your husband. However, husband is the head of the house (**v5.23**). So let the wife see that she respects her husband because God placed the husband as the head over the family; whether he deserves it or not, whether he rises up to take it or not, mothers allow your husband to be the head of your house, and you can be the heart of the house.

Mothers have authority over your children, but not over your husband. But we have authority and power over the enemy (**Luke 10:19**) and we can do damage to the enemy when we pray and submit. Wives should pray scriptural

prayers over their husbands, too.

A wife's prayer for her husband has a far greater effect on him than anyone else's; not even his own mother's prayers. That's because he leaves his mother and father and becomes one with his wife. Talking to God about your husband is an act of love and a sacrifice on your part. Some wives may say, how can I pray for him when he's rude, cruel, mean, unkind, selfish and unfaithful? But you know one thing; the love of God is shed abroad in our heart. You have the fruit of the Holy Spirit in you, which is love joy, peace, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, long suffering and self control. Jesus said to pray for your enemies; so how much more should we pray for our husbands?

When we pray for him our hearts become soft toward God and toward our husband; and we see there is hope and faith that God will restore all that has been destroyed from our marriage (**Joel 2:25**). God will restore your homes, your marriages, your children. We can trust Him to take away the pain, hurt, shame and humiliation, hopelessness, hardness, and bitterness, if we allow Him to take it. It's easy to give up, but I want to encourage you to stand up and fight in prayer for your husband and children.

Don't give up; as long as we stand on the Word there is hope. Tap into the supernatural power of the Holy Spirit to protect and fight for your home. Likewise, husbands also have to pray for your wives and children. When the families are strong; the church is strong. Temptation is everywhere, not only for men but for women, too.

Temptation begins with lust. One of the main reasons for lust is eye contact. (**Matt. 18:9, Prov. 27:20**). Impurities begin in the eye; not in your heart. In **Gen. 39:7**, Potiphar's wife cast longing eyes on Joseph and then she lusted. David's sin of adultery began when he wandered out and saw Bathsheeba taking a bath. Instead of leaving the place, he kept looking and looking and it turned into lust and then he committed adultery (**2 Samuel 11:2**).

In **Job 31:1**, Job said, **"I have made a covenant with my eyes; why then should I look upon a young woman?"** That's a good scripture for every man to memorize. The reason Joseph didn't fall when temptation came was, because lust was not in his heart. It wasn't there because he didn't allow it into his eyes.

**"Don't look"**, should be the motto for all of us. Don't look at pornography, don't look at inappropriate websites. These days, pornography is killing our young people, and also married husbands. That's why we are having problems in our marriages. But you can change with the help of God. **1 John 2:16** says, there is lust of the flesh, lust of the eyes and the pride of life. Lust is the most selfish sin that exists. Lust doesn't care whether your spouse or kids get hurt. **Matthew 6:22, 23** – The lamp of the body is the eye. If therefore your eye is good your whole body will be full of light. But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of

darkness.

A man who struggles with lust is often afraid to come clean with his wife. If you struggle in this area, run to your wife. The more you keep it hidden, the more power you give to Satan.

Let me get back to mothers and wives. I don't know everything about your dealings at home. You may be dealing with a rebellious son or daughter or with your husband's problem. I do not know what's behind your smile or beyond your closed door, but God your Heavenly father knows all and He can help you with the problem you're facing. As a mother and a wife I can relate to your pain, hurts and frustration.

Prayer and praise is powerful, too. God's presence comes and dwells in our heart when we worship Him. God dwells in the presence of His people. Praying in the Spirit and true worship throws the kingdom of darkness in to confusion. So if there is a kingdom of darkness over your home; over your children or husband, pray in the spirit and worship with a true heart. And the miracles of healing will take place in your heart, in your emotions, in your marriage and in your homes. The Israelites won many battles just by praise and worship.

When some people get offended, they stop coming to church. But I tell you this, when you get into trouble or get offended, run to the church. In **1 Samuel 1**, we read of a woman named Hannah. Her rival gave her a miserable life and provoked her. Her heart was in grief, rejection, humiliation and shame. But instead of getting mad at God, she went to the temple and poured out her heart to him. She humbled herself to God and prayed. She even faced humiliation when the priest suspected her of being drunk.

But instead of getting offended at Him, she humbled herself and poured out her heart to Him. As a result of her humility, she was rewarded with a baby and many more children, later on. She was blessed because she didn't get offended with her pastor.

So today if there is anyone like Hannah going through a miserable life, full of humiliation and rejection; surrender all your burdens to God and pour out your heart to him. You need God and also, the help of the Holy Spirit. Surrender yourself like Hannah. Hannah did that, and got seven more children. You cannot fight this battle alone; you need the Holy Spirit. When Hannah called upon the name of the Lord in the day of grief, God answered her prayer and she glorified Him.

Mothers and wives are a gift so they should be treated well. I want to say to the fathers and husbands, your wife longs for and needs your affection. So give it to her. Give it all to her and your homes will be greatly blessed with love, joy, peace and prosperity, for the presence of God will fill your home when you obey Him.

# SOW A SEED

*Your generosity  
enables us to minister the gospel  
around this nation. Your gift  
makes a difference!*



Make cheques payable in favour of  
**“Spirit of Faith Church”**

**You may also send an M.O to Spirit of Faith Church,  
P.O. Box 9, Dimapur - 797112, Nagaland (India)  
Please use attached envelope in page 10**