



THE EVIDENCE IS IN
VOLUME II
By Roger Taylor

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FORWARD

BY CAROL BANDI

The Evidence is in Volume II picks up where Roger's first set of Evidences ended, but at a more accelerated and concentrated pace – kind of like going from kindergarten to college freshman in one giant leap. This read will require our utmost attention, concentration, honesty, and earnest desire for the Truth in order to glean the precious gems presented to Roger through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, perhaps taken in small increments in order to better assimilate the vast amounts of imparted wisdom, and to prevent spiritual indigestion. This is not a one-time read. Successful impartation of this material demands a slow, thorough and repeated study of its contents, as well as candid and honest application to our lives in order to reap the benefits and rewards promised therein to children of the Most High God – a tall order, but with priceless results!

INTRODUCTION

BY ROGER TAYLOR

This is Volume II of THE EVIDENCE IS IN and it is meant to cause us to reason together. After writing Volume I, I realized that Holy Spirit was not finished with all He wanted to convey to us regarding the subject of evidence on many issues. Here we will carry on looking at various subjects from His perspective for our good and His glory. Again I am not looking for agreement from everyone as much as I am hoping for consideration of many issues. Onward Christian Soldiers!

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THE EVIDENCE IS IN – Volume II

1. THE EVIDENCE IS IN: Love with conditions is not love at all.

Because love hunger is so rampant in society today true, honest, giving love struggles to find a home. What is becoming more wide spread is self-love. This wounded warrior enters a relationship usually with unspoken expectations, requirements, and even demands for the other person in the relationship to live up to. There are usually adverse attitudes and reactions waiting in the darkness to be released when those expectations, requirements and demands are not met. Since they are usually unspoken, this typically comes as a big surprise! This is a big test as to the quality of love that has been professed in the relationship. It is the hidden things in a relationship that birth our crisis moments!

When love, honor and respect are not the number one priorities for any relationship what direction do they have? Years ago John Sandford made a statement that Gerri and I have never forgotten. In talking about the marriage relationship and its usual struggles, he said, “God puts us together with someone with whom we are designed to grind.” In other words, we bring out some of the hidden things in each other that must be changed! As the problem areas surface we have a target for resolution. If both parties acknowledge the problem and both parties work at healing and change they usually win; however, if one or both parties rebel and refuse to acknowledge they have a problem, improvement is unlikely in the relationship. This usually results in further deterioration.

Self-centeredness says, “I love you if...! You fill in the blank. It’s not too difficult to imagine, is it? I love you if you do what I expect, if you do what I want, when I want it, and the way I want it! I love you if you don’t ever embarrass me!

I love you if you keep the house clean, wash my clothes, don’t make me mad, and satisfy me sexually. This list of possibilities is endless, isn’t it?

The reality is that wounded people have a tendency to be self-centered; and wounded people usually wound other people, usually and more predominately the people closest to them. The ones they should love the most are usually the ones they hurt the most!

When conditions are applied to what is supposed to be a love relationship, the reality is that love is not the issue. It’s all about control! It’s all about me! You perform to make me happy

and we will be ok! Conditional love is getting my needs met at your expense. This one sided, pathetic excuse for a love relationship is tragic. Gerri and I have seen it repeatedly in our years of ministry to married couples. Have you married people noticed that feelings of love for your spouse can quickly evaporate in the trial of a heated argument? So our feelings of love can be fickle. If emotion or feeling is the basis for our love relationship we have a very weak foundation to build on. Also, as multitudes have discovered since the sexual revolution began in the sixties, sex is not a good foundation for a marriage relationship either. The pleasure of love making can disappear quickly in a hostile environment.

What about determination and commitment to each other? What about a determination to meet each other's needs? What about a commitment to my spouse's happiness? What about giving each other permission to discuss areas of weakness in the relationship? What about working hard to support and strengthen each other's areas of weakness? What about reaching out for Godly counsel when there is an impasse? This is usually the point where one spouse is fed up with excuses and repeated failure with issues and wants outside help, but the other spouse refuses. The bottom line here is that every human being needs healing and correction. Like it or not! Believe it or not! If you are breathing you need healing and correction if you are to grow into the powerful, loving human being God designed you to be. His love for you is usually the missing element in relationship struggles. God's love for you is the ultimate, solid foundation upon which to build love relationships. This is not just my opinion; it's His design for humanity! So participate or suffer the lack!

Many couples celebrate longevity in their marriage, but what about quality? How many couples reach that 25 or 50 year anniversary and are unhappy, disappointed, or complacent because they have given up hope for improvement? So tragic that we miss God's best that is readily available to each of us. Remember this truth: you can't give what you don't have, but you do give what you do have.

If you would like more information regarding the marriage relationship, I recommend you read our eBook, [*The Heart of Marriage*](#). Actually all of our eBooks contain information that can help you and your spouse improve your love relationship.



2. THE EVIDENCE IS IN: Victimization diminishes a person's potential and quality in life.

Have you ever stopped to think about how many different ways a person can be victimized? I'm especially thinking about wounding events. Contrary to popular belief, which is secular, wounding or victimization doesn't just go away. The ignorant and simple minded will say things like, "time will heal it, just get over it, buck up, be strong, put it behind you; it's time to forget it and get on with your life, or think about something else." REALLY!

One of the negative impacts of victimization that is common in most of these situations is fear. In some cases it goes beyond fear to terror and has a more devastating impact on the person's life. At any rate, it is mind boggling how fear and/or terror can negatively impact how a person lives life. When fear is active it can, and usually does, negatively influence a person's decision making ability about anything and everything. People who are victims and fearful usually have internal walls up. Those walls were erected for self-protection. Keep the bad things out! The sad part for these people is that their walls also keep the good things out. True love and caring cannot make their potential, positive impact on a person's heart, mind and spirit unless and until those walls come down. For most victims their walls are their security blanket, so the greater influence that fear has, the more difficult it is for the victim to trust God, or anyone else, and be willing to pull down the walls they depend on.

Other contents of a victim's stronghold box can include such items as anger, resentment, bitterness, unforgiveness, vows and judgments, lies to live by and other adverse determinations of heart; and, lest we forget, there is the reality of demonic activity. Do you know the two things that empower our demons the most? First is continued sin; and the second, they are usually hidden and unidentified! They work under cover, so to speak. Adding fuel to the fire is the lie that a Christian cannot have a demon! That lie protects the demons that are at work in us! Although this is just a partial list, is it any wonder that victims might struggle in life and with relationships? Victimization is wide spread!

Keep in mind that we can be victimized by individuals, groups, animals, and events. We can even feel victimized by God! A victim's quality of life will always suffer unless they go to God and get healing. Our woundedness is not just emotional, it is also spiritual; thus God must get involved if there is to be true success. Worldly counseling with behavior modification can be helpful for some, but it cannot get to root causes and bring God's healing touch!

Also keep in mind that deception can produce victims. For example, consider that the world, the flesh and the devil can deceive us into believing lies and distortions about life, happiness, God, and each other. Without God we become a victim of our society. We chase substitutes looking for happiness, security, love, and satisfaction. They may provide temporary relief at times, but humanity's drive for fulfillment in life will never be satisfied by anything other than God Himself because that is part of His creation. He designed us to need Him. Nothing else will satisfy!

Are you a victim? Do you know a victim? Please don't remain a victim! Newness of life awaits you in Father's arms. Be bold. Be strong. Be determined and reach out to Him! His love belongs to you no matter who you are or where you are or what you've done or haven't done. He is love and forgiveness personified!



3. THE EVIDENCE IS IN: Change is not change until it is change.

Although this may be confusing to some, the reality is that change is not change until there is actual change. In other words, promising to change or committing to change is just words until there is action and change begins to manifest. Change in habits, change in attitudes, change in priorities are necessary for most of us throughout our lifetime. Just think of the different stages in life that require us to change. How about the transition from childhood to teenage years? We better change, right? How about teenage years to the responsibilities of adulthood? We better change again! How about the marriage relationship? Does that require change? You bet it does, no matter who you are! Yearning for happiness while learning to live together is a true challenge. Learning to love, honor and respect your spouse before self requires change of self, and it sometimes has a dramatic learning curve! Sometimes our tense moments mimic our childhood when we argued over our toys! De ja vu!

When a person needs to change and promises to and commits to change but ultimately does not change, it usually increases the relationship problems. It also prompts many questions like, is this just self-centeredness or stubbornness or rebellion or what? Could fear be an

issue? Fear of change is common. Could it be fearing loss of control? Yes, it could! Could it be fear of being dominated and controlled by others? Yes, it could! Could it just be lack of character and lack of concern for others? Yes, it could! However, it could also be evidence of strongholds, as in woundedness, active sin, demonic activity, negative determinations of heart, as in vows and judgments, etc., etc. This is where prayer ministry can be very helpful in exposing root causes that hinder the change we want or need to make.

Through our years of ministry we have repeatedly found Christian husbands who send their wives for prayer ministry with the attitude of 'fix my wife and everything will be ok! I don't need ministry. She's the problem!' Usually they are partially correct. The wife does need ministry for her strongholds, just as all of us do. What this self-centered, prideful and pitiful excuse for a loving husband doesn't see and doesn't want to see is his own need for healing and correction!

Now think about another major life experience we can have that requires dramatic change: being born again into the family of God! In my opinion, there is no other experience in human life that requires more change. The transition from natural living experience to supernatural living experience is far beyond our natural expectation. Interacting with Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and moving into Kingdom living require change beyond our imagination.

In the natural realm, when a person refuses to change it usually has negative consequences such as loss of relationships, loss of job or career, or even prison time. When we come into the Kingdom of God and refuse to change, the negative consequences are even more profound! Our self-centeredness, our stubbornness and rebellion to change can cost us our ability to enter our rightful place as a Child of the Most High God. That place is the personal, intimate, loving, conversational relationship Father desires to have with each of His kids. Lastly, our rebellion to change can result in loss of achieving our purpose and destiny in God.

Change must be a part of everyone's life. There may be pauses in our process as we adjust to the latest change, but if and when we begin to feel we have arrived we are in trouble! If we become satisfied with where we are we cheat ourselves and our world out of all that Father wants us to be. Remember, supernatural has no limits! God created. God provided. God called and God is waiting for His children to embrace their supernatural calling. This requires dramatic change from all of us from now until Jesus comes! Are you in?



4. THE EVIDENCE IS IN: One flesh unions are problematic.

As you read the title, what is your first response? Could it be a question like, what is a one flesh union? That would be natural since this is a subject that is not widely discussed or taught, yet should be for the health of the Body of Christ. Let's begin with scripture:

Genesis 2:24: "Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and shall become united and cleave to his wife, and they shall become one flesh." Then Jesus said in Matthew 19:4-5 "He replied, have you never read that He who made them from the beginning made them male and female and said 'for this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and shall be united firmly (joined inseparably) to his wife and the two shall become one flesh.' " Now in Ephesians 5:22-33 Paul is talking about wives and husbands and gives instructions to each. In verse 31 Paul repeats Genesis 2:24 as written out above.

OK, now the subject is marriage, and a man and woman marry and they establish a one flesh union. So what! Is this not obviously a physical and emotional event that has a spiritual result? The consequence of our marriage and consummation through intercourse is we become one flesh! In other words, we are bound together in the Spirit realm. Once again, so what? Well, if you live together until death do you part, no problem. Death breaks the spiritual bond. But what about divorce? Does that have any effect on the one flesh union? Think about it. You deal with divorce in the worldly and natural realm. Do you really think that has any effect on the spiritual realm? In other words, a piece of paper that says you are divorced does nothing to break the one flesh union you have established. Because it is a spiritual matter, you must deal with it as a spiritual thing. If you had a Christian wedding you brought God into the picture and made your promises and commitments to each other before Him and to Him! In other words, to deal with the spiritual aspect of your one flesh union, you will have to bring God into the picture again and deal with Him about your divorce and your responsibility in it. Once you have made things right with Him and He approves of your decision you can renounce and reject your one flesh union and ask Father to release you to move on with His plan for your life.

Another major reason one flesh unions can be problematic for us is that one flesh unions are not just a result of the marriage relationship! In I Corinthians 6:16, Paul says, "*Or do you not*

know and realize that when a man joins himself to a prostitute he becomes one body with her? The two, it is written shall become one flesh.” Is this a shocker for you? Since morality has fallen off a cliff and society, for the most part, accepts fornication (sex outside of marriage) and adultery is common place, how many illegal one flesh unions are there? This is one of those areas of bondage that is usually hidden. What increases the bondage here is sin. If we are bound in sin to other people besides our spouse do you think it might cause us spiritual problems? Obviously love and commitment are not an issue with a prostitute or a fling; but the one flesh union is still established, which means we remain connected to those people, like it or not, until we go to God and deal with each of them. If any of this applies to you, you have a quality decision to make. Do you want to remain joined spiritually to people other than your spouse? Or, if you are single do you want to remain joined to anyone outside of a Godly relationship?

This is an example of a time in life when our relationship with Father, Son and Holy Spirit (or lack of) becomes so important. We can develop that relationship so we can go to them and talk about anything and everything: confess our sin, celebrate our success, repent and ask for forgiveness, ask for Wisdom and Truth, express our praise, worship and thanksgiving for the privilege of our relationship, ask for our healing and deliverance and freedom from all bondage, and finally, celebrate being a child of the Most High God.



5. THE EVIDENCE IS IN: Fear Can Be A Major Stumbling Block in Relationships.

Fear is one of many adverse emotions that can and do cause problems in relationships. Now it should be obvious that I am not talking about natural or momentary fear. No, I am thinking more of a stronghold of fear in a person's life. How many different ways can a stronghold of fear manifest itself? How many different ways can fear be instilled in a person? Answering these two questions with Holy Spirit help would take a very long time and result in a very large book! I'm not up for that, so let me touch on a few things.

A stronghold of fear is a variable, personal thing. One person can seem to have minor interference in their ability to make logical decisions, reason, and do life on a daily basis. On

the other end of the spectrum you may have a recluse who can't function at all in public or interact with other people. The rest of us are usually in between these two examples with varying degrees of struggle to deal with. Regardless of where we are, the reality is to the degree that fear has influence in our life we will struggle with life's requirements, especially in close relationships. We must learn to see fear as a negative task master and realize that our Father has provided for our freedom! Satan loves to enhance our fear in order to dominate, manipulate, control, deter and frustrate our efforts to be successful children of God. This is where we must enlist Holy Spirit to strengthen us and lead us to the root causes of our fear so all necessary healing and deliverance can take place!

Most people who live with a stronghold of fear don't know what it's like to live without the influence of fear and all its tentacles. What kind of new life experience is waiting on the other side for me? For some people that question itself can prompt a reaction of fear. The unknown can sometimes produce a foreboding strong enough to deter a person's desire to be free of their fear- the comfort zone syndrome! Even though fear is negative, painful, and frustrating, I know what to expect, but what will my life be like without it? That is fear talking! Fear says 'you can't make it without me! You won't know what to do! You can't trust anyone!' On and on go the possibilities. The solution: get someone to help you and cast that lying sucker out in Jesus' name! If you are a born again child of the Most High God, fear has no rightful place in you! Your victory is assured. Your new life awaits you. Father's love is more powerful than any fear, and Satan has already been defeated!

When can a stronghold of fear begin in a person's life? The truth is, any time after conception. A fearful, traumatic event experienced by the mother during pregnancy can instill fear in the unborn child! I'll tell you how I know. All my life I have had a terrible, extreme fear of snakes. I have personally never had a bad encounter with a snake in my memory. After the Holy Spirit taught us about our need for inner healing I asked Him about my unreasonable fear of snakes. His answer was surprising. He told me that my mother had a terrible encounter with a snake when she was pregnant with me. Wow! So anytime in life a stronghold of fear can begin. Any traumatic event can open the door for that spirit of fear to come in and take up residence, bringing Satan's lies, deceptions, manipulation and even control to interfere with a person living life in love, peace and happiness.

In close relationships what we have inside of us eventually comes out. All the good, the bad and the ugly eventually reveal themselves! This is especially true in the marriage relationship. Just consider that a stronghold of fear usually produces other negative emotions and

reactions. Fear can eventually result in the person becoming angry, bitter, judgmental and critical and have need to be in control of their world for safety's sake. Do you see any potential relationship problems coming here?

Some fearful people get fed up with fear and get mad! When they do their mad usually gets on other people and obviously strains relationships. Once again, this can happen in degrees- everything from a determination of heart not to be fearful, to uncontrolled anger, to rage, and so on. So some people fight fear by being aggressive. If the truth be known, the engine that drives most bullies is a stronghold of fear.

Let me touch on another aspect or point of view regarding fear. Have you ever heard the term "victim spirit?" This refers to people who have been repeatedly victimized, and they walk and do life as a victim. Although victims can manifest their woundedness in many different ways, there is a spiritual aspect I want to touch on here; that is the spiritual dynamic that takes place between a person with a victim spirit and a person with a predator spirit. You can have a group of people together and one of these people has a victim spirit. Then, if a predator walks in, his victim spirit radar alarm goes off and he will eventually be drawn to that victim spirit. One of the reasons for this is the predator feels safe and maybe superior with a victim. Victims don't usually fight back, resist or get in your face. So the predator can charm, lie, twist, spin and do whatever to get in control of the victim and stay in control of the relationship. Think about kids in school. Who do the bullies (predators) pick on? Yep, victims- those who are somehow different, who seem vulnerable or challenged in some way. The bullies feel empowered when they put others down and cause them to cower down and even submit. Is there anything spiritual going on here? Bullies must work to cover up their own weakness and insecurities, and they need victims to help accomplish that!

Now back to the marriage relationship. It is amazing how many times through the years we have encountered the predator/victim scenario at work in the marriage relationship. Although the male is usually the self-centered bully/predator and the wife the victim, we have seen it the other way also. In either case the bottom line is this: both predators and victims are wounded people who need healing, forgiveness and unconditional love. New life is available to both in Father, Jesus and Holy Spirit. Every provision has been made and is waiting for all who will come. Many marriages need new life found in freedom from fear. Those who suffer in fear do not know the joy waiting when fear is broken and is replaced with peace, rest and unconditional love. This is Heaven on earth waiting to be experienced by any

and all who are determined to be free. Why continue to have less than Father has for you and remain in fear? Love is waiting!



6. THE EVIDENCE IS IN: We Can Pray.

Have you ever had a one way relationship with someone? By one way I mean you made the contacts, you sent cards, you invited for lunch but there was no return effort from the other party. Could you or would you really call this a relationship? It certainly could not be called a healthy relationship. Well, sadly this describes many people's prayer life. It is a one way relationship with God, and just as in human relationships, it is unhealthy! Unless both parties participate in mutual friendship, good fruit is hard to find.

Now what is prayer? If it is not conversation, what is it? If you are doing all the talking and little or no listening, what is your purpose? What do you hope to gain? Love is not exchanged in one way relationships. Love strengthens and empowers its participants. Does hearing yourself pray bring transformation to your heart, your mind and your spirit? I think not! The power of transformation comes when God responds in conversation to answer your prayer requests.

Now once again, what is prayer? Is your prayer time all about you, your wants and your needs? What about praise and worship? Is that not prayer? Shouldn't that be part of our conversation with God? What about His heart's desires regarding you? Are you not interested in what He wants for your life? Do you not want to know how much He loves you? I can tell you from my own experience that it's life-changing to hear it directly from Him. Also, would you not like to know where you are missing it in your walk with Him? Receiving loving correction and truth in private conversation with Him is an unbelievably wonderful experience!

If you don't listen when you pray, are you trying to hide? Are you hoping to avoid relationship so you won't be exposed? Do you not realize that God already knows everything there is to know about each of us? Nothing is hidden from Him! No sin, no attitude and no secrets at all are unknown to Him. So get over it and relax. He welcomes every one of us just as we are, warts and all, into a personal, intimate, loving relationship with Himself. This has

the potential to bring Heaven to earth and completely transform our human existence. He's for you – not against you, so drop all pretense and jump in with both feet! Bring your A-game! He is able, willing and available to all those who will diligently seek Him. Meeting and getting to know Father, Son and Holy Spirit is the ultimate experience that life has to offer! All worldly experience combined pales in comparison to Heavenly experience. Heaven is our humanity's rightful inheritance but, sadly, few find it.

Now think about what we call the Lord's Prayer. The disciples asked Jesus to teach them to pray, right? These were all Jewish men. Religion was a major part of Jewish life. Why didn't they know how to pray? Their religion was domineering, controlling and abusive. Only the elect had knowledge and supposed contact with God. Jesus blew their religion out of the water of life because He modeled love and relationship with His Father. This brand new concept that they might be able to talk to Heavenly Father themselves was out there off the charts of their history. Thus, Jesus, teach us to pray! Because they had never been there before, Jesus gave them an introductory prayer example. This is a beginning for the newbies. They should progress in relationship with Father. They should grow closer and closer, more personal, more intimate until they also can call Him Abba (Daddy). I am in no way demeaning the Lord's Prayer. It should be precious to every born again child of God because we have all been newbies, but please don't get stuck there! Please don't let Father remain out there in Heaven with you here on earth! That perception or indication of distance or separation hinders the possibility of a close, intimate relationship being established. Father wants to love on us up close and personal, and we are privileged to have that opportunity because of the Blood of Jesus! He made our Heavenly inheritance possible. The price has been paid! All we have to do is believe and receive. Ultimately Father should be as close as your breath!

While writing this a memory came up that I would like to share in closing. About thirty-five years ago, Gerri and our son and I were invited to a friend's home for Thanksgiving dinner. Our friend's mother and step-father were there. We sat down at the table to eat and our friend asked me to bless the meal. I felt like her step-father, being the elder gentleman at the table, should have that privilege, so I asked him if he would like to bless the meal. He was immediately uncomfortable and expressed his regrets saying he couldn't bless the meal because he didn't have his prayer book with him! Wow! Now I was embarrassed for him and I was embarrassed myself for asking him, and for not realizing why our friend asked me to pray and not him. I was also hurting for him because his religion was obvious and his lack of relationship with God was glaring. The fact that he couldn't pray and talk to God himself without reading a prayer that someone else wrote that was appropriate for the circumstance he was in is heart breaking.

Remember, for all of us that are born again into the family of God, we can pray, converse and interact in a healthy two-way relationship with Father, Son and Holy Spirit. This is Father's provision and His intention. Don't let religion, performance, sin or any other excuse steal your privilege and opportunity to enjoy Heaven here on earth. We can pray!



7. THE EVIDENCE IS IN: Heaven is present upon the earth.

I could have also said, evil is present upon the earth, but either way both statements are true. That's why there is warfare in our midst! The battle between Heaven and hell is ongoing. Satan has already tried to defeat Heaven once, but he lost badly. He got his prideful panties in a wad and got pitched out of Heaven. Since then he spends his time causing as much trouble as possible here on earth. Sadly he has many humans cooperating with him to bring as much confusion and destruction as they possibly can. He works diligently in the church to stymie the truth and power of Heaven from being demonstrated and propagated in society.

Father has chosen to bless two nations on earth above all others. Those would be Israel and the USA. Although Israel is at war every day, Father sides with His chosen people. Israel's enemies are outside pressing in. In anger, they threaten and attack, swearing Israel's destruction, but Father says, "not so fast!" The USA is a different story. We have enemies around the world, of course, and if they ever got together against us, there would be trouble big time! Would Father intervene for us as He does for Israel?

The fact that Father has blessed Israel and the USA is evidence that Heaven is present on the earth. However, the USA is self-destructing. Just as satan lied and deceived Eve in the Garden of Eden and thus successfully destroyed Adam and Eve's personal relationship with Father, he is also being successful at destroying America's privileged position of grace as one of Father's chosen nations.

The longer our people hear the lying, cheating, stealing, spinning, twisting deceptions from satan and his godless cohorts the more accustomed they get to it, and in each generation the more acceptable the lies become. This goes on and on until satan's lies become truth to many, and a majority of us reject God and Heaven. We step into that pit of self-destruction with satan as our master, thinking and believing the lie that we are free to do whatever we want. Does this mean satan has won? Not a chance! Many will be lost because they chose to follow

him and reject God, but all satan has power to do is deceive. Satan's power comes in the form of lies, deception and hate. God's power comes in the form of love and truth! Which would common sense choose to follow? It would seem that the choice between Heaven and hell should be enough to sway a majority of people to choose good over evil, wouldn't you think so?

Through the years I have thought a lot about Noah and the people of his day. Obviously Father got fed up with the debauchery of humanity! While the people were doing their thing without God, Father was talking to Noah. Here is Heaven and hell at work on the earth at the same time, just like today in the USA. The people didn't know God was talking to Noah. When Noah started building the ark, they denied God and mocked Noah and carried on in their Godless living. For over 100 years this went on until Noah finished the ark. He followed Father's instructions about the animals, and after everyone was in the ark, Father shut the door and it began to rain. When did the people begin to panic? When did their mockery, their pride and arrogance begin to fail them?

Now do you think satan felt like he was winning over humanity and defeating Father because everyone followed him instead of Father? After all, Father only had Noah and his family. The odds were in satan's favor weren't they? Not a chance! This should be evidence enough that a little bit of Heaven on earth is enough to destroy all of satan's works, no matter the odds. Heaven wins every time!

No matter how right you think you are about life, about God, about satan, about Heaven, about hell or anything else, if you have any brains at all you will make Father and Heaven your priority today. Pursue! Pursue! Pursue! Humble yourself and pursue because Father is going to get fed up once again and you don't want to be like the people of Noah's day, do you? Choose now to be like Noah and live in Father's grace and provision. His ark this time is His love and grace. While destruction may surround us, we will be safe and prepared to rescue multitudes who cry out in repentance for Father's salvation. Satan defeated once again. Heaven ultimately wins every time!



8. THE EVIDENCE IS IN: Right is wrong and wrong is right.

Do you remember the Scripture that says “Woe to those who call evil good and good evil?” Well, it’s here! Almost daily the news media spreads the reality that what was once considered right is now wrong, and what was once considered wrong is now right. The table is upside down and confusion is our norm. It’s like there is a mesmerizing spirit that has descended on our society as a result of our corporate rejection of God, and that spirit is deceiving us into accepting evil as good.

In our eBook, *Prayer Ministry*, there is a chapter titled “The Lies We Live By.” In that chapter we try to share the reality that when we truly believe something it carries the power of truth, even if it’s a lie. That power of truth energizes our emotions, our thinking process, and our actions, sometimes leading us down the wrong path of life in opposition to God’s reality and truth. This is obviously a dangerous path for a person and/or a society to be on. Opposition to God always has the same outcome: pain, suffering and loss!

All it takes for evil to prosper for is good people to do nothing. A recent survey indicates that a large percentage of Evangelical Christians do not vote! As Americans we have both the privilege and the responsibility to vote to protect our nation’s founding freedoms from those who are Godless and actively trying to destroy our Godly foundation, which is unique in our world. As Christians we have a duty to vote and support Godliness, and take a stand against evil and wickedness. There is no excuse to stand aside and give evil an open path to succeed. When God is for us, who can stand against us? When God is against us, who can stand? For those of us who have abdicated our responsibility to vote against evil and those who would destroy us, I say, “It is enough!” Religious excuses are no longer good enough to excuse your dereliction of duty as a Child of the Most High God. It is past time to repent and change our ways. Get up! Get energized and determined to stand for Godliness! Take a bold stand against evil and wickedness.

Today evil is loud and boisterous, insulting, aggressive and even violent, demanding its way! Those who act this way are Godless bullies. So what are we Christians to do? Retreat, hide, and keep silent? Absolutely not! Even though born again Christians are a minority today in America today (26% by survey) we are a majority because all of Heaven is our support group. The Kingdom of God is not deterred or intimidated by the boldness and fury of wickedness on display in our nation today! Satan and his minions are not now nor have they ever been a match or threat to Heaven and Father’s Kingdom. Even when it looks like evil is winning, God is not moved. He is secure in His assurance of His ultimate victory over all evil!

It is our duty and responsibility to God to stand firm for righteousness, holiness, goodness, and most of all love; not aloof and separate, for that gives evil access and freedom to prosper; not

in pride and arrogance, because that is sin and compromises our access to Heavenly assets. God has given us a voice to declare His majesty! One way we all can do that is to vote and vote righteously! Holy Spirit will help if you ask Him.

Interesting Scriptures: Deut. 8:18-20, Isaiah 5:20-25, Jeremiah 4:22, Luke 6:45-49, Romans 12:9-21



9. THE EVIDENCE IS IN: Cowardice can be an expensive way out of a bad situation.

If anger and physical and/or emotional abuse are used in raising a child, the shame, fear, and intimidation that take root in the child can be costly negatives in their future. Here are a couple of perspectives:

On one hand cowardice can become an automatic default in the child's personality. This attracts bullies. That reality leads to more victimization. Internally this person can withdraw and build walls of self-protection. They attempt to hide to avoid exposure and more pain of rejection. It usually doesn't work. Socially our reputation spreads and we all know how cruel people can be toward those who are in any way different. These victims generally have few friends and find little joy and happiness in life. Thus, they can constantly struggle with discouragement, hopelessness and depression. This is a very expensive way to live life. The loss in quality of life is immeasurable! These victims can also, in their desperation for love, acceptance and affection, fall victim to drugs, alcohol and sex. The negative consequence can be very costly to their future. Also realize that a person who has internally withdrawn will have difficulty connecting to other people. This can be a great hindrance to their future career, and thus they can struggle financially as well as socially all their lives.

Another perspective on this victimized child can be that as they become older they can be so angry because of the lack of love, affection and acceptance that they begin to act out socially. Their raging love hunger can get ugly, and as a result they mistreat others as they were mistreated. This only brings more rejection and usually more isolation which can then produce more anger and even violence! It should be obvious how this person's personality could adversely impact their future. Remember, this angry person began as a victim!

I realize these are two extreme examples of social difficulty but they are very real. They are also very costly in quality and quantity of life and its potential. These two examples of love hunger manifesting in a person's life should hopefully strengthen and encourage us to want to help people like this find the love, acceptance and healing that they desperately need. That means we must first look in the mirror and ask Holy Spirit what we need to prepare us to help others in such pain. Are you brave enough, or does cowardice lurk at your door?

Now, can we take this discussion on cowardice to another level? Let's try politics, ok? Do we see any evidence of cowardice in politicians? Do we ever see politicians fail to do the right thing out of fear of public opinion? If they did the right thing, they might be rejected at the next election and lose face and status, both socially and financially. Can you see a politician's love hunger come out when they get angry, critical, condemning and demeaning of other people? How many decisions are made out of fear of what others will think, say or do that might have a negative impact on us? Is there any cost here?

When we consider that our world leaders are only real people, regardless of their position and their responsibilities, we should realize they are vulnerable to love hunger and all its negative consequences. The problem here is that their actions and decisions affect multitudes of people. Their failure to do the right thing can be very costly to society at large, right? Consider this. American leadership boldly ended our war with Japan in 1945 by dropping two nuclear bombs on Japan itself. That aggressive action brought Japan to its knees instantly! How many American lives were saved by that bold action? So we demonstrated that we had this new ability to stop aggressors in their tracks, right? Wrong! I believe the Korean War broke out in 1950. Correct me if I am wrong. Because of our alliance with South Korea we came to their defense, but this time we didn't have to sacrifice our military personnel. We didn't have to send them to be slaughtered, we just had to tell North Korea, "stop it or you will suffer the same consequence as Japan did." Did we do that and spare our military thousands of dead and wounded? Did we spare American families the tragedies of war? Did we spare America the financial cost? Did we spare America the loss of reputation because we couldn't defeat North Korea? Coming from such a powerful victory over Japan, why did we not use the most powerful weapon on the planet to put a stop to the carnage? Is this reality the evidence of cowardice in face of world opinion? It seems it was easier to slaughter thousands of our own people than face up to potential negative public opinion. We could have bombed North Korea into submission. We didn't. They are still a thorn in our side today because of our weakness!

In Viet Nam in the 1960's we repeated the same cowardly process. We victimized America and American families on the altar of public opinion once again. This time we lost over 58,000

of our personnel, and for what? We lost the war! Cowardice won the day at our expense! We could have once again stopped the aggressor in their tracks by taking out their major cities and bringing them quickly to their knees. We had the ability without the backbone, and once again cowardice reaped a great harvest at our expense.

So no matter whether we talk about an individual, a business, a city, a state, or a nation, cowardice can be very costly to our future! What do you think?

Now consider this subject in the spirit realm. As born again Christians we are at war! We have an enemy! In fact, I believe we can say we have multiple enemies! Satan is obvious but what about our flesh, the world and religion? These are all enemies of our ability to become the victorious child of God we are destined to be. Blindness, ignorance and fear [cowardice] are all stumbling blocks to victory. Why does the Word of God say that we have been given power and authority over all the works of the enemy if we don't need it? Denying we have enemies and denying we are at war only leads to loss and destruction of our potential in God. The bullies will not stop their attempt to intimidate, beat down and destroy our faith. Is denial rooted in fear [cowardice]? Can we defeat our enemies without wisdom, knowledge, understanding, faith and the supernatural power that Father has provided us? I think not! While a few front line warriors for God's Kingdom are out there in the heat of the battle, while healing the sick, casting out demons and tearing down demonic strongholds and, yes, even raising the dead, many of our troops are huddled in false security with their doctrinal denials. The price we pay for cowardice is the loss of the war and defeat of our purpose in God. Yes, I know Satan and his pals were defeated in Heaven and cast out. He is a defeated foe there, but on earth he is determined to do everything he can to defeat Father's plans and desires and defeat Father's kids. Just think, beginning with Adam and Eve, the bully, the deceiver was at work and still is and will be until Jesus comes back! Just think how he has infiltrated society, our law makers at every level, our education system at every level, our judges and courts and yes, even what we call the church. Lie, cheat, steal, corruption, perversion, distortion, murder, drugs, sex, murder of our unborn, divorce, family unit destruction, violence, deep division between liberal and conservative, the rise and acceptance of anti-American groups in our nation, an all-out assault on our borders...need I say more? Can you see our enemy's hand at work here?

In spite of all these negatives, the reality is Father will ultimately win! His plans will ultimately succeed! The only question is, 'what about us, Father's kids?' Will we be part the victorious team or will we be found guilty of cowardice in the face of our enemies? Remember this: faith and love are the powerful, Heavenly weapons that are at our disposal to enable each of us to bring defeat to our enemy's door! Onward Christian Soldiers!



10. THE EVIDENCE IS IN: It is extremely unwise to make God your enemy!

Since back in the '70's when Gerri and I had miraculous encounters with Jesus and got saved, we couldn't contain our joy and excitement. We tried to share our new life at every opportunity. With each miraculous encounter with God, we felt the same way. We couldn't wait to share the Heavenly experiences with anyone who would listen! Every revelation contained new life and we wanted everyone else to enjoy it with us. In 2001 when we first learned about Father's love and the privilege we have as His kids to enter a personal loving relationship with Him, we couldn't contain the joy of that revelation! When we finally met Father in 2004 the joy and excitement increased exponentially. It exploded out of us! Looking back I realized we turned some people off with our exuberance in each of these stages of our growing relationship with Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Even though in many cases we were met with doubt, unbelief, excuses, rejection and even anger, we are undeterred! We cannot and will not deny or water down the powerful, life-changing encounters we have experienced with Father, Son and Holy Spirit. As a result, the focus of our life and ministry is the reality that God is love.

So as God's kids we can look for and expect that His love, grace, affection, provision, instruction, direction and relationship are all part of our inheritance, now in this life! But we must also know and be prepared for the reality that His love for us requires that He correct and discipline us. For some of us who were mistreated by parents, this truth might be a red flag and hinder a desire for an intimate relationship with God. If so, you probably need healing of your woundedness so you can bury the red flag. If and when your experience comes with correction from Father, you will be wonderfully blessed with His style and demeanor, and come away having repented and received forgiveness from Him and be full of joy and fresh determination to serve with all you are and all you have. This is a Heavenly experience and life-changing!

What has all this to do with making God my enemy? Well, there must be the realization that Father is perfectly balanced. By that I mean that there is the loving, positive side of His nature, and there is the negative, destructive side of His nature. Humanity gets to choose which side we want to experience. Gerri used to tell our kids, 'as your Mom, I have two hands...one to love you with and one to spank you with. You choose which one you want!'

So we must decide: do we want to fight God or go with God. Do we want God's favor and blessing, or do we want God's judgment and punishment. The choice should be obvious, but for too many people ignorance and sin blind us to truth and reality.

Now if we are born again Jesus has already taken our judgment and punishment upon Himself, so there is no threat hanging over us! Discipline and correction, yes, of course. We all need it, don't we? So my concern here is for those people who are not born again; those individuals, those groups, those nations that deny God and oppose Him; those who join satan and war against God. The idolaters, the violent, the perverse, and the destructive all set themselves up against the Creator of the universe! Is this proof that they are already brain dead? From Genesis to Revelation we can see God's righteous fight against sin. In other words, He is sin's enemy! We can see His judgment against individuals, groups, nations and the world [the flood]! We can see from the beginning in the Garden to the end in Revelation God's ability to be the Almighty, Righteous Judge against sin and evil. If you take note, He always wins! Evil always loses! It's guaranteed! So any person, any group, any nation that sets themselves up against God and His ways invites the judgment of God, and unless they repent they should expect the justice of God to descend in powerful and sometimes destructive ways! So wisdom says, 'make God your friend!' Pursue Him, honor Him, praise Him, serve Him, live for Him and not yourself, and, most of all, enjoy Him! He is life itself and treasure beyond words. If you have Him and His love you have power to rescue others who are trapped in the enemy's camp: those who unknowingly face the judgement of God. Religion won't save them, but love will. Father's mighty army is us! We are armed to the teeth with His love and compassion! Our assignment – rescue as many as we can! Amen.



11. THE EVIDENCE IS IN: It's really stupid to ignore warnings.

Do you remember warnings from your parents? How about from your teachers, preachers or bosses? Is there any time in life or any walk in life that doesn't have warnings? Are there warnings at work? Are there warnings at play? Are there social warnings? How about financial warnings? How about food warnings? How about warnings from law enforcement? Are there governmental warnings? Everywhere we turn in life there are warnings.

What's the purpose of warnings? Aren't they usually to keep us from getting hurt or suffering loss? We are told how to clean our clothes so we don't ruin them; how to keep our food so it doesn't spoil and make us sick. Everything has a warning label. How about traffic signs? If you are doing 65 MPH can you afford to ignore a sign that says 'Curve Ahead – 25 MPH'? Well, not smart to ignore, right? Parents give warnings so their kids don't get hurt or even killed, not to mention the fact that when kids get hurt parents suffer also. Many warnings are given to try and avoid law suits, aren't they?

Now let me mention two groups of people who are in danger in everyday living. The first are people without common sense. They may see the warnings, but it doesn't register as important, or they ignore it, or they forget it, or whatever. Then there is the rebellious group. They don't want to be told what to do by anyone! They will make their own decisions. They know best about everything! These two groups of people are a danger to themselves and to others. We usually don't know who they are until it's too late!

Now you knew I would get to spiritual things, right? Well, for Christians this is the most important, anyway. But wait, that's not right either. Warnings from God are for humanity as a whole, aren't they? The consequence of ignoring or rebelling against His warnings can have dire, even eternal results. Then there is the reality that God is love, so His warnings come from a pure heart of love. He wants to protect our eternal future, yet He gives us the privilege of ignoring or rejecting His warnings and best intentions for us. However, He also allows us to experience the consequences of our choices! So how much suffering do we have in our lives because we do not know of His warnings or because we choose to ignore His warnings?

In how many ways can God bring His warnings to mankind? Can He speak His warnings personally to you? Absolutely yes! Although too many of His kids don't have a conversational relationship with Him, He can speak through someone else to us. He can speak a prophetic word of warning, a word of wisdom, or a word of knowledge that contains a warning. Of course, if we don't believe in the gifts of the Holy Spirit we cut ourselves off from these potential sources of life and love from God! Now, what about what He has said in His written Word? In the Bible when He says "thou shalt not" it should be pretty clear that's a warning, but what about the recorded history starting with Adam and Eve? Is their story not a warning? What about Noah's story? How many people perished in the flood because they chose to ignore God's warnings? Perhaps Sodom and Gomorrah should get people's attention, but it doesn't seem to matter to today's world! What about David and Bathsheba, and Solomon and his many wives and the warnings he ignored? Both examples had disastrous consequences. Did prophets of old bring repeated warnings from God to Israel's

kings? Yes they did; and there are examples of kings who listened and were blessed, and kings who ignored the warnings and suffered tremendously for their rebellion! Are there any warnings in the New Testament? Obviously, yes: from Matthew to Revelation, through Jesus and all the other authors, by testimony, and instruction from God, warnings to give us wisdom and insight to prepare us to live a successful, Godly life to help us avoid the pitfalls that satan and human life can present before us and cause us to stumble and suffer.

In general, God's warnings to avoid sin are no different than Mom telling us not to touch that hot stove because it will burn us! Both are born out of love. However, God's warnings, if ignored or rebelled against, can have eternal consequences. Now remember 1Samuel 15:23 where it says that rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft and stubbornness is as idolatry? Rebellion and idolatry are satan's territory and he is attracted to those who practice his nature! When we are rebellious and/or stubborn [which is self-idolatry] we invite satan in to severely complicate our life and circumstances.

No matter how you cut it, stack it, or consider it, it is really stupid to ignore warnings in life, especially those that are born out of love and concern for our well-being. Do we need to repent and reconsider? Probably the sooner the better.



12. THE EVIDENCE IS IN: Live for God and not yourself.

Is this one of those Biblical have-to's that many Christians reject? Is this one of those "yeah, right" moments that reveal our self-centeredness that is rooted in our love hunger? It's amazing how many of us are ruled by love hunger and don't know we even have the malady! Besides, why would you want to give up control of your life and let someone else that you barely know make life decisions for you? That goes against our natural life and the way most people live; besides, I want to be happy! That is to say, if I live for God I will be poor and unhappy.

The solution to this dilemma is moving from a 'have to' mentality to a 'want to' experience. Head knowledge about God can leave us in the Have to Hotel; and a 'have to' kind of life usually produces resentment, which can lead to discouragement, which can lead to depression and eventually to rebellion! Let's not try to live by the 'have to's', OK? Let's avoid performance for God until we get to know Him on a personal basis. That's when our

service for God will be fueled by deep love and affection mutually shared. This is when 'want to' comes straight from the heart; and as our love hunger is defeated Father's love is the power source that carries us into the supernatural realm where we all belong! As Pastor Bill Johnson says, "If you are born again, it is illegal to remain a natural human being." Sadly for many of us, we reject the supernatural world we are born again into! The multitudes of lies, deceptions, excuses and objections used in the Body of Christ to relieve us from all obligation to live the supernatural life that God ordained for all His kids is an abomination born of flesh!

Our victories truly come when love empowers us to die to self and live for God! This is the life we were created for. It's supernatural! Natural human life is the substandard existence born from sin! Don't you see it? Natural living is a life of poverty compared to living supernaturally in and with God! Isn't it sad for a people to work hard and strive to prosper and get ahead and succeed to eventually retire and then face God and find that they lived a very substandard life! They missed the Heaven on earth that was available! What a loss!

Jesus and those who came after Him modeled what human life could and should be like. Jesus also said that we should do even greater things than He did because He was going to His Father. So...there is our potential straight out of the mouth of our Lord and Savior! Do we dare believe Him or do we reject Him? Bottom line is this: a life of love and service is Heavenly compared to a life of duty and performance. Let's decide we are going to live naturally supernatural! What do you say?

Scriptures to consider:

Matthew 10:38; Matthew 16:24-26; Matthew 19:16-22; Luke 9:23-26; Luke 14:33; Romans 6:19; Romans 12:1-2; Romans 14:7-9; I Corinthians 7:17; II Corinthians 5:15; Ephesians 2:10; Ephesians Ch 4; Ephesians 5:10, 15; Colossians 1:10-12; Colossians 2:6-7; Colossians 2:20; Colossians 3:1-3; I Peter 2:16; I Peter 4:1-2; I John 2:3-6



13: THE EVIDENCE IS IN: When God says no.

While we were living in South Carolina our pastor asked Gerri and I to fill in for him on a Sunday morning. The night before, the Lord gave me two skits to do for the service. First of

all, I don't do skits. I had never done anything like that. Gerri is the drama queen. However, I pushed through my fear and it turned out great!

Now, let me share the skit having to do with God saying 'no'. I played a 14 year old boy. I asked a friend in the service to play my Dad in the skit. My instruction to him was no matter what I said, his answer was to be 'no' and then ad lib. Here is the skit...

Dad comes home from work. The moment he gets in the door I jump him with "Dad! Dad! I really need your help!"

"OK, son. What's up?"

"On the way home from school today I passed the car dealer on the corner, and guess what? "

"What?"

"There's a brand new, bright red Ferrari right out front! I looked it over real good, Dad, and it's awesome! Dad, you know I have a new girlfriend and, Dad, I just gotta have that car! I mean, Dad, don't you see, my girl would never look at another guy if I had that car to take her out in! Please Dad. It's only \$350,000! Please, Dad!"

"Son, it's obvious you are really excited about this car and your girl, but Son, you are only 14 years old. You can't drive yet and you know we don't have that kind of money! So I'm sorry, Son, but the answer is a whopping 'no'!!"

So, was this Dad mean and unloving by telling Son 'no' to his request, or was Dad using common sense and wisdom by telling his Son 'no'? In reality, Dad had no option but to say 'no' to Son's request. From the adult perspective, Son's request was absurd. From Son's perspective, his request and its justification were not only reasonable, but essential to his life and happiness!

Now back to real life! Dad is God and Son is you. When you pray do you ask God for a Ferrari? Probably not. Seriously, though, have you ever asked Him for something you thought was very reasonable or necessary and He said, 'no'? If so, how did you feel? What was your response: simple disappointment or a tantrum? In saying 'no' was God protecting you from potential pain and suffering, or was He punishing you, or was He trying to stop you from interfering with His plans for your life, or was He trying to stop you from interfering with His plans for someone else's life? The bottom line is this: He sees the end from the beginning and He always has the right answer even if we don't like it! His plans for us are rooted in love and care! If we will follow His directions we will accomplish the purpose and destiny He has planned for us. The route He uses to get us there may be difficult for our flesh and worldliness, and not make

much sense to our natural mind, but He will not lead us astray! Faith and obedience are essential for success!

Now as I mentioned earlier, sometimes God says 'no' when we ask for ourselves. We all know that and it should be expected that He could say 'no' in some situations, but when it comes to our prayer and desire to help others, is the situation any different? No, because He has a plan for each one of us. When we hear of a need from family, friends, church family, neighbors, etc. do we just jump in and try to meet the need or do we ask God what we should do? For goodness sake, if someone is bleeding, you don't have to ask God's permission to help! Of course, if you pass out at the sight of blood, wisdom might be required! Seriously, in some situations God is allowing a time of difficulty and struggle in a person's life in order to ultimately bless and strengthen them. If we jump in and rescue them from the situation they will just have to go around the mountain again to hopefully accomplish God's purpose.

Have you ever heard the phrase 'what's in the well comes up in the bucket?' Think about that in regard to stressful and difficult times. When you are out of sorts with life, what comes up in your bucket? If we have unhealed or unresolved issues they usually surface during stressful and difficult times! At first this may seem negative, but it can be very positive! If they surface they can be identified and taken to God for healing; the captive can get free and life dramatically changes! So you see that our desire to free people from difficult situations is loving, caring, and honorable, but if God is in the process we could ultimately interfere with the blessing He wants to bring to that person's life. Can you see if they are not bleeding, it might be good to ask God before you decide to jump in and help resolve the issue? He might say 'no'.

Testimony: Very early on in our ministry here in Colorado we had a couple who had become good friends. They were older than we, and in their retirement. The wife was diagnosed with stomach cancer and was not doing well. One morning in our prayer time the Lord spoke to me and said we should go and pray for her. We got excited because we assumed she would be healed! We called their home and asked her husband if we could come and pray for her. Naturally, he said 'yes'. So off we went anticipating a wondrous time of prayer and miracles. When we arrived she was lying on the living room couch. Gerri and I got down on our knees on the floor next to her and told her what the Lord said, and we asked if we could lay our hands on her and pray. She said 'yes'. We did that and I began to pray when the Lord said very clearly, "Don't pray for her healing. This is a root of bitterness!" Wow! What a shock! I knew immediately that the sin had to be confronted. I told her what the Lord had said and she immediately started to cry. I asked where the unforgiveness and bitterness were directed and she said, "My mother and my sister." I told her, "you know that unless you forgive and repent

for your bitterness there will be no healing.” She said, “I will NOT forgive them EVER!” In sorrow we left and shortly thereafter she died, still full of unforgiveness and bitterness.

God said ‘no’ to our desire to pray for her healing even though that’s what we thought He sent us there for. All the time, He wanted to heal her of more than the cancer! He wanted to heal her of what caused the cancer in the first place! For her and her husband, and for Gerri and me, our focus was the cancer. God saw what was hidden that was the root cause of the cancer. So had she been willing, I believe she would have experienced healing of her obvious woundedness and her cancer! What an opportunity for new life missed. This was God’s love for her in action. She rejected the opportunity and lost her life! The Word says if we will not forgive others their sin against us, we will not be forgiven! The Word also says bitterness is like a cancer that seeps down into the bones!

So keep this in mind...when God says ‘no,’ He usually has a better ‘yes’ in mind!



14. THE EVIDENCE IS IN: Our flesh and the devil are potent enemies.

Our flesh and the devil combined are potent enemies to our calling, our purpose, and destiny in God. Have you noticed that satan can work directly against us, or he can work through other people against us? Sometimes the battle seems so endless and then so hopeless, you want to just give up! Gerri and I know this place well! Been there, done that and every time got the tee shirt! As we have matured through the years, God has been faithful to increase revelations about who we are as His kids. He has given all of us the authority over all the works of satan; and, at the same time He has revealed to us what to do about our flesh. The revelation about love hunger and its endless, negative consequences has been totally life changing, not only for us but for many others that we have shared the revelation with. Wounded flesh stinks and makes a mess wherever it goes! Have you noticed?

In His never ending, all-encompassing wisdom Father has made every necessary provision for our flesh to be made completely whole, and for satan to be defeated at every turn! Why then do we struggle so much with both flesh and the devil? Please don’t be offended, but I believe ignorance wins the blue ribbon here: ignorance about Father’s love for us, ignorance about healing provision for our love hunger and woundedness, ignorance about self-inflicted

bondage, ignorance about womb issues that need to be healed, ignorance about the negative consequences of sin, willful disobedience to Father's warnings about our actions and attitudes that can be destructive to us, ignorance about some people's need for deliverance from demonic spirits, ignorance about the negative power of unforgiveness, ignorance about the physically and spiritually destructive power of bitterness, ignorance about the destructive power of jealousy, ignorance about the destructive power of gossip and back-biting, ignorance about the self-destructive power of pride and arrogance, ignorance about the reality that our sin gives power to satan to use against us, ignorance that if we harbor anger and resentment against God for any reason we cut ourselves off from the one source in life that holds all the answers for our many dilemmas! This is a short list of things that can produce strongholds in our lives. These strongholds work against us in our ability to become the supernatural child of God we are destined to be!

So if you find yourself here, resolution begins with repentance and humbling yourself before Jesus or Father, seeking forgiveness. You will be required to deal with any and all unforgiveness, bitterness, and anger against anyone, including God, before your release will come and you can move into your healing process. Revelation will be required here. Head knowledge alone will not get you where you need to go. For example, *knowing* a truth is not the same as *living* a truth. *Applying* head knowledge is when fruit begins to happen and lives are changed. Father never designed us to be successful and live in victory by knowing Him. Our success and victory in life will only come out of relationship with Him! He's available all the time. Are you?



15. THE EVIDENCE IS IN: Love has 'want-to' power.

Have you ever wanted to avoid some 'have to's' in order to enjoy some 'want to's' in life? Well, haven't we all? Have you ever made a list of your 'have to's' and compared it to a list of your 'want to's'? Which one is longer? Obviously, the 'have to' list is longer. Right? Is there some creative way to shorten our 'have to' list so we can partake in more 'want to's'? Honestly, I've never made a list either way. I wonder if I should. Well, visual usually helps me with decisions so maybe if I made a list of 'have to's' I might at least prioritize it! I might even eliminate some things that aren't really 'have to's'. Wow! I might even find some time and space I didn't realize I could have, and I could move that to my 'want to' list! I do know this: if

I could remove one thing from my 'have to' list, it would be cutting my toenails! Praise You, Father, that toenails don't grow as fast as finger nails! We once heard Mark Lowery say he had reached the age where he had to decide if he wanted to cut his toenails or breathe. That's me!

Now consider: can our 'have to' list breed resentment? You bet it can! By survey most Americans don't like the job they have! So if you have to report to a job you don't like, could you eventually become resentful? Would resentment influence missing more days of work? Could you lose diligence in your job performance? If quality and quantity of work produced declines because of our less-than-energetic performance, what does it cost our boss? What does it cost society as a whole? Now consider attitude. If our 'have to' list gets heavier, all the negative consequences can show in our personality. The heavier our burdens, the more difficult it becomes to be positive, co-operative, social, kind, loving and giving. Our 'have to's' require determination on our part to keep going!

Now, so far in this discussion have you been thinking of external issues? That would be natural, but have you ever considered that the burden of our 'have to's' can be heavier because of internal issues that are unresolved? If a person was abandoned, adopted or abused sexually, physically or emotionally, or suffered loss and they have never had any healing for their woundedness, those strongholds still exist and they are a negative influence in life that makes daily struggles more difficult. The sad part is most wounded people don't even realize they are wounded and, therefore, don't know that healing and deliverance are available to all of God's kids!

What about relationships? Do you have any relationships that you consider 'have to's'? If so, how do they impact your quality of life? Do you feel like your life would be better if you could eliminate all 'have to' relationships? Why is that? What do you feel is missing in 'have to' relationships? Could it be mutual love, honor and respect? A natural human response to these relationships would be avoidance and, if possible, elimination altogether. However, be careful here. Don't sin in the process of eliminating relationships! I know from personal experience the painful, negative consequence of closing my heart to people I didn't like! Father told me my attitude and actions were a sin against love, so I knew I had to repent and change my ways, which I did. However, my sin resulted in an irregular heartbeat. For nine years Gerri and I have suffered the consequence of my sin. The day and night struggles have been very difficult to deal with! Today, I am much improved. Frequency and intensity have been dramatically reduced and I believe the issue will soon be completely gone. Thank You, Jesus! I share this personal example because I didn't realize that my way of dealing with what

I considered bad relationships was sin! I don't want you to make the same mistake and suffer painful consequences, as we have!

Now, where do our 'want to's come in? What attracts us to 'want to' situations? I guess it would be obvious that avoidance of 'have to's would be rated highly, but stop and think what is the attractive power of 'want to's for you? Could it be peace and rest; how about fun and enjoyment; what about good company? I believe the ultimate quest and power of 'want to's involve love, honor, respect, affection and acceptance. These power attributes are our ultimate weapons that calm and ultimately defeat the savage beast of love hunger! Love is God's ultimate stimulant for life itself! Love is the ultimate fuel to fire our engine that brings the ultimate performance to body, soul and spirit! Love brings the ultimate 'want to' power to the table! When 'want to' power is increased 'have to' power is diminished accordingly! In other words, freedom from the drudgery of 'have to's' brings huge relief and release to our life experience! The freedom and power to love and be loved brings Heaven to earth! In our experience, entering into Father's love and relationship with Him has brought dramatic change to our list of 'have to's' and our list of 'want to's'.

So-last question: Do you feel you have to serve or perform for Father's love? If your answer is yes, you are on a dead-end road! Performance leads nowhere but to burn out and disappointment! Do you see this is a 'have to' situation usually promoted by religion? Father's love offered and given is based on His nature, not our performance. The blood of Jesus is our passport and guarantee to Father's presence and our acceptance. I sincerely hope you will dump your 'have to's' for God and replace them with an honest quest for a personal, intimate and conversational relationship with Him! You won't believe the transformation that will take place in you as your 'have to's' fade in light of your 'want to's'. Father's love is life's ultimate, transformational power and belongs to you if you 'want to'!



16. THE EVIDENCE IS IN: Some of us are trapped.

Have you ever been or felt trapped? What emotions did it produce? Perhaps it was fear, panic, anger, frustration, disorientation, hopelessness, or in extreme cases, suicidal thoughts. Some of these incidents are wounding events and will require healing to be able to put them behind you. Pushing these negative emotions down inside and trying to ignore them only

guarantees that the pain and adverse emotions related to the event live on only to resurface at another time, usually in another difficult event or situation, compounding the struggle with the current event. When will we ever get it through our heads that wounding doesn't go away, it only hides to surface another day? This is why God made provision for our healing. He prepared for this human reality and made the way for us; so why are so many trapped in their woundedness?

Now take some time and think about how many different ways a person can be trapped in life. Can a person be trapped in their own mind? Of course they can! They can be trapped by the lies they live by. They can be trapped by their own unbelief or misbelief. They can be trapped by tradition. They can be trapped by religion. They can be trapped by demonic activity. Can they be trapped financially? Of course they can! Can they be trapped socially? Of course they can? Can they be trapped by sin? Of course they can! Aren't all forms of addiction a trap? Isn't slavery a trap, no matter what form it takes or how you get involved? Can we be trapped emotionally? Of course we can! Now you continue the list.

Please ask the Holy Spirit to reveal any area where you might be trapped in some way. You might be surprised! If anything is revealed, pursue God for your freedom, for He has certainly made provision for you. Your freedom should be your first priority; then, your personal testimony of your experience will be a powerful tool to use to help others. Speaking of others, stop and think how many people are around you every day who may be trapped in some way and do not have a clue what to do about it. Maybe they are hopeless and depressed, angry and/or fearful with no answers or direction. Your testimony or even someone else's testimony can be a powerful loving gift for anyone who feels, or is, trapped in any way! Father loves them and has made provision for them if they are receptive. Keep in mind that active sin can be a powerful deterrent to a person's healing and freedom! If they are unwilling to repent and stop the sin, they probably will make little progress in their pursuit of freedom.

Being trapped is a challenging subject because it has so many different possible faces and circumstances. However, the Holy Spirit is a Master at untangling our messes and leading us from darkness into God's light. He is trustworthy! We can help each other...truly we can. Feeling sorry for someone who is trapped does nothing to help them out of their situation. Instead ask Holy Spirit if you are to help. If yes, ask for direction and revelation and then be obedient. Remember, you are not responsible for their success or failure. You are responsible only to be obedient to deliver the gifts the Holy Spirit provides. What they do with them is up to them, not you!

Remember this truth. It is unnecessary for any of us to remain trapped in life! Our God is a God of miracles! Is anything too hard for Him?



17. THE EVIDENCE IS IN: Painful consequences do not always alter our course.

Painful consequences in life as a result of our poor choices, dumb choices and sinful choices should give us a heads up that we need to stop and smell the roses, or pause and reconsider what we are doing and maybe where we are going! But we don't always do what we should, do we? We don't always recognize that we might be responsible for the pain we are suffering. Besides, we could be the type of person who tries to avoid responsibility at all costs; therefore we step aside and let that arrow of blame fly right past us, hopefully landing in someone else's back pocket! Then again, we could be the kind of person who takes false responsibility and blame for every painful event that comes their way! Of course, there is somewhere out there the healthy, balanced person that honestly evaluates each painful event and lets the responsibility fall where it belongs, and they are good with that!

Painful events in life should be expected, shouldn't they? Aren't they a part of the mystery we call life? Do we typically discuss their possibility and do what we can to prepare ourselves for their arrival? Is this a subject we discuss with our children to help them mature and embrace the realities of living? It's difficult to teach our children things that we haven't learned ourselves, isn't it?

This whole subject of pain and painful events and painful consequences is one to be avoided for most of us because we usually don't have answers. It's often in this atmosphere without answers that the blame game is born! Our human reasoning can go wild, thirsting for someone or something to blame for our pain and difficult circumstances. It is in this reality that we face the real possibility of defeat! If the responsibility for our painful circumstances falls correctly at our feet and we refuse to acknowledge that responsibility, we typically will not change course and thereby condemn ourselves to repeat the action that caused the painful consequences in the first place! Also, avoiding responsibility usually involves some of Satan's character traits like lying, cheating, spinning and/or twisting truth, deception, denial,

the blame game, including gossip and backbiting, and more. Satan loves to get involved in these situations because they are his specialty – his nature! So, we can quickly get out of control and make matters much worse with Satan's help.

Are you brave enough to ask the Holy Spirit to reveal issues in your life that bear fruit in the form of the painful consequences? If so, will you then be determined enough to humble yourself before God and seek resolution for your unresolved issues, knowing and believing that Jesus came to set the captives free?!

Now consider that we can suffer painful consequences because of our own poor choices in life, and we can also suffer painful consequences because of someone else's poor choices in life. Take, for example, people who choose to drive drunk. We can also suffer painful consequences because of nature's violence! Then we can also suffer painful consequences because we choose to live righteously. Scripture says if we choose to live righteously we shall be persecuted. That persecution comes from the ungodly and the enemy working through them. This equals painful consequences for righteous choices! Also, consider that death is a part of living, but death typically has a negative and painful reputation! Death is inevitable and should be expected, but we seldom handle it well. Today death is a reality any time from the womb to the very elderly; and for most of us death equals loss and pain, especially when dealing with friends and family. This is typically true when there is not hope for the future after this life is over. This is when love hunger can have painful and devastating consequences to a person's future! So, a life empowered by love is much better equipped to deal with life's painful events. A life empowered by love is more able to repent and change course when necessary. A life empowered by love is quicker to forgive others' sin against them. Then lastly, a life empowered by love is better able to walk through life's painful circumstances and events arm in arm and heart to heart with a loving God that has become their hope, their strength and their peace for eternity!



18. THE EVIDENCE IS IN: The positive outweighs the negative.

If you are breathing, you have dealt with, are dealing with, and will deal with life's struggles, difficulties, irritations and demands. They are unavoidable no matter who you are, where you are or your status in life. Then when the negative consequence and burden of sin are added, we compound the pressure of daily living! If you add financial problems, relationship problems and possibly health problems it is easy to see how a person could descend to a place where darkness overwhelms our light, where the negative dominates the positive, where hope turns to hopelessness and where we lose sight of the reality that we are a child of the Most High God! Jesus said, 'we are the light of the world.' We are to invade the darkness of the world with our light! Our light comes from Him! Our power to invade and overcome darkness comes from Him! His love, His truth, His grace, His power, His wisdom, His compassion and understanding flowing into and then through us can change our world!

Last night, unable to sleep once again, I had a wakeup call from the Holy Spirit. He revealed that I have been descending into a dark place! With my daily struggles with insomnia, irregular heartbeat, other physical issues, our temporary housing situation that has turned out not to be so temporary, long-term unfulfilled promises from Father and other issues, my thoughts were becoming more and more negative. My daily life experience was becoming more and more negative. Darkness was more and more prevalent! Since I have struggled many times through the years with discouragement and depression, I should have been more aware of my predicament. Thanks to the Holy Spirit jerking my chain and waking me up to the reality of what was happening, I am BACK! I'm up for the fight once again! I choose Father's truth about who I am and what I am! I choose hope and faith in Him! He is strong when I am weak! He is steadfast when I waver! He is forgiving when I fail! He loves me unconditionally when I'm unlovable. He gives me reason to hope and believe when I can't find one! The positive aspects of happiness, joy and merriment far outweigh the negative realities of daily living. But to get there I have to choose between darkness and light, good and evil thinking, and positive and negative priorities. Do I choose to live by what I think at the moment or do I choose to live by what Father says? Let me give you one example. I feel like Father is absent from me right now, but He has told me repeatedly that He is as close as my breath! I have to choose now which reality I am going to live by- my feelings or Father's spoken truth. No one can make that decision for me, I have to do it! It's my responsibility and it's my opportunity to choose righteously and win the battle over darkness! When we choose righteously our flesh and the devil must submit to God's authority!

Listen, you know as well as I do that there will always be challenges and struggles in life. What we have to decide is from what position we want to face those challenges and struggles: from

a position of weakness or strength, full of faith or faithless, full of hope or hopeless, wounded or healed, happy or sad, empowered by God's love or defeated by our flesh and the devil.

When God created us He made every provision we would ever need to live a victorious life in and through Him! We have messed up and erected barriers between us and Father's provision for us! This is part of the negative consequences of sin! However, Father continues to make provision for our recovery to that place of victorious living He designed for each of us! So why not take advantage of that and start now?

If you are struggling as I was and you are in a dark place, make a quality decision, in spite of your circumstances, to stand up and say 'NO'! Declare it with the power and authority that Father has placed in you! I don't care how you weak you may feel, how discouraged, how hopeless or depressed you feel, the Spirit of our living God in you is greater than all the darkness that life can throw at you; but you are the key to your success. Every time you declare God's truth over your feelings and your circumstances, chains fall off, darkness is diminished and the positive aspects of who you are as a child of the Most High God are empowered.

Have you noticed that as we sink into the darkness of negative circumstances, it seems that God has gone on vacation just when you need Him most? That deception usually makes the negative experience heavier! It is lies and deception like this that can allow our darkness to adversely affect our personal relationship with God; and it seems we grow distant from each other! This can be tragic because it can lead to more darkness and negative living. The truth is He doesn't move! His love is not conditional like ours usually is! He promised to never leave or forsake us! He is always ever-present! He is always faithful even when we are not! The truth is, the reality is, God and I are a powerful and superior majority over all the flesh, over the devil and over all the world can throw at me...so I choose God! I choose faith in Him! I choose righteousness and holiness! I choose love, not hate! I choose honesty and integrity! I choose giving and not taking! I choose the positive and not the negative! I choose light over darkness! I choose the Spirit over the flesh! I choose the supernatural over the natural! I choose God's ways over my ways! I choose God's time over my time! I choose God's plan for me instead of my plan for me! I choose God's truth and faithfulness over doubt and unbelief! I choose to be victorious instead of being defeated! I choose obedience instead of rebellion! I choose life instead of death! I choose grace over judgment! I choose all that God is and reject all that God is not!

Now, the truth and reality of life is sometimes we need help to break out of our darkness! Father created us to need each other and therefore to help each other! Father said it is not good that Adam was alone in the garden, so He made him a helpmate. Father knew Adam needed this helpmate just as He knows we need helpmates, so He has provided help for each of us. Just consider the possibilities. Let's see, there are Father, Son and Holy Spirit. There are angels on assignment to each of us. There are family and friends, ministers and ministries, neighbors and co-workers and strangers! Yes, even strangers! Anywhere, anytime Father can bring a total stranger into your life with answers for your issues!

Do you need or want a better, more intimate relationship with Father, Son and Holy Spirit? If so, perhaps you should start by taking out some garbage! You know where some of it is, so make the Godly choice and get rid of it! Do it now! Some areas you will need help with. Others may see some of what you don't see. These helpmates will add strength and courage for your healing journey. Progressively, as your relationship with God deepens and barriers are removed, He will reveal more issues that hinder the accomplishment of your purpose and destiny. This is typically a long term process so every day you delay leaves you outside and looking in on all the possibilities in life that Father has planned for you! Bottom line is this: all His positives far outweigh and overpower any and all negatives that the world, the flesh and the devil can throw at us! In life as we know it there is only one superpower, and His name is Father.



19. THE EVIDENCE IS IN: My belief leads to my experience.

I would like to give you a visual chart to go along with what I am about to share with you. I hope it will be helpful. Draw a circle. At 12 o'clock write '**Belief**'. At 3 o'clock write '**Expectation**'. At 6 o'clock write '**Behavior**' and lastly at 9 o'clock write '**Experience**'. OK, got it? This is how the chart works: Our beliefs lead us to develop expectations based on those beliefs. Our beliefs and our expectations prompt certain behavior. That behavior leads to experience that usually aligns with our belief in the first place, thereby strengthening the original belief.

Now that we have made the circle, do you get it? Have you already plugged in a belief and followed through? If so, what was your outcome? Do you see that this process in life works

no matter what belief you start with? Whether our belief is a truth or a lie, it doesn't matter. The process is the same. In fact, sometimes what we believe to be true is actually false, but in our mind it carries the power of truth. Therefore, until there is revelation to expose the lie or falsehood we will continue to expect, behave and experience life according to our belief!

Now, let me share a testimony and let's plug it into the chart. Prior to 2001 I had a relationship with Jesus and the Holy Spirit, not as intimate and conversational as it should have been, but it was all I knew. I had zero relationship with Father because I believed lies about Him, and as a result of those lies I was afraid of Him! I believed He was 'out there' in Heaven somewhere and very distant. I believed He was an angry God and carried a big stick! I believed that if I didn't keep Jesus between myself and Father I would be a crispy critter because He saw my sin, failures and weaknesses! Can you tell I didn't feel like an honored child of the Most High God? So with these false beliefs about our Heavenly Father, let's plug them into our chart. Based on my false beliefs about Father, what would you say my expectations would be? How about punishment, for a start? How about 'He doesn't like me?' Now add your thoughts. OK, based on my false belief and expectation about Father, what do you think my behavior would be? If you say, 'avoid Him, keep your distance,' you would be right! So if that is my behavior, what then is my experience? You are right. No relationship! No positive interaction to challenge my false beliefs about Him. Therefore, the negative beliefs are strengthened and empowered, keeping the self-imposed wall up between us, firmly in place! Therefore my tremendous loss!

Now, let's do this again with testimony. In the Fall of 2001 Gerri and I first heard the message of Father's love and the truth about His nature and character. When I heard that He is love and He loves me unconditionally as His son, and that He is available to all His kids for a personal, intimate, conversational relationship I was blown out of the water! I had been studying and teaching and preaching the Word of God for 25 years. How could I have missed this truth? How could I have been so far off base about Him? My God! Look what I have missed! It wasn't until January 2004 that I actually met Father for the first time, but WOW, what an overwhelming, life-changing experience it was and continues to be today! Now, take this new life experience and plug it into our chart. What is my belief? Father is love and He loves me unconditionally as His son. The blood of Jesus washes me clean and gives me access to Father's presence, even His lap! So based on this belief, what would my expectation be? Maybe we can develop a close, personal relationship. He's not distant. He is loving and kind and accepting. He will correct me with love, not anger! You add to the list of possibilities! Now based on my new belief and expectation, what do you think my behavior will be? Scripture says if we pursue Him, He will pursue us! So my behavior dramatically changed!

Because of my personal encounter with His overwhelming love, pursuit became my life. My behavior was directed totally to a deeper relationship with my Heavenly Father! Now, what was my experience? You are right if you said a deeper relationship with Father. In fact, it was only weeks into my pursuit that Father became Daddy to me! I know some of you may be offended by that, believing that is degrading to Him, but that's how He addresses Himself to me when we have time together, so He is evidently not slighted by my affectionate title.

Look at the dramatic difference between my two testimonies! Consider, if you will, the before and after quality of life for me. Moving from the lie and deception of a distant and angry God to an up close, intimate, loving relationship is a polar opposite transformation. In fact, over the last several years Father has repeatedly told me "Son, I am as close as your breath!" What a Heavenly gift of expressed love!

Now think about what you believe, what you expect, how you behave and what is your experience that follows? In this process if you find negatives consider it a gift of love from Father! Also consider it an opportunity and an invitation for transformation from a negative to positive life experience. You can see by my testimony how wrong I was about Father. Is it possible you are wrong about God and other things in life? Just consider some examples:

- You believe God doesn't speak to His people except through the Bible.
- You believe miracles have passed away.
- You believe the gifts of the Holy Spirit don't operate anymore.
- You believe there is no speaking in tongues today.
- You believe only a select few, special people get close to God.
- You believe only a select few are called to ministry.
- You believe you don't need healing and deliverance.
- You believe you are OK just as you are.

These examples of lies and deceptions are just a few to consider. You can add to the list or make your own if you desire, then plug them into the chart. Consider the monumental loss to the world when Christians are neutered by lies and deceptions about God and themselves! Be aware that the Holy Spirit can draw your attention to any step on the chart and bring revelation to set you free! He might show you behavior that reveals expectations and leads to beliefs. So go for it! Humble yourself before God, repent when necessary [that means change your ways] and change your beliefs as you see truth. New life is waiting in the wings just for you! Do you believe it?



20. THE EVIDENCE IS IN: The Holy Spirit Knows.

Do you have any secrets-personal secrets, family secrets, business secrets? If so, you only *think* they are secrets! The Holy Spirit knows! Does that truth somehow diminish your confidence that your secrets are safe? Certainly there is nothing to worry about. God wouldn't reveal my secrets! Oh, really? You might want to rethink that one!

Father loves us enough to do whatever is necessary to rescue us from ourselves! Even if that means public exposure, embarrassment, shame and loss! If we will not voluntarily move away from sin, He is quite capable of using all manner of encouragement to get us to do the right thing, confess our sin, receive forgiveness and choose to live righteously as we serve Him. We are in the driver's seat. We determine our pathway in life. Choosing righteously always prompts Father's blessing. Choosing wrongly always has negative consequence. Secrets represent darkness. Darkness attracts satan and his evil works, compounding our difficulty! Our secrets, those things we keep in the dark, can adversely affect our health, our mental stability, our attitude, our decision making and relationships. Our secrets can turn out to be a heavy weight to carry, and for some an oppressive burden. This is no life for sons and daughters of the Most High God!

The Word of God says, 'We are a royal priesthood.' Don't you think it's time we each make a personal determination to rise to that place of privilege and dwell in the awesome love of God? The mystery is what life will be like when we are free of secrets, darkness, the demonic and the burdens are lifted. When we no longer have need to hide or be guarded and defensive, we become a new person! We feel differently, we see life differently, we see people differently, we think differently, and we act differently, because we are new and different! Our destiny in God awaits each of us. What will we decide?



21. THE EVIDENCE IS IN: Treason is rebellion on steroids!

I never thought I'd live to see the day that treason became acceptable in the USA! Sadly, that day has arrived and we as a nation have lost our identity! American citizens are no longer required to support and defend the Constitution of the United States of America. Those who openly reject our established way of life, our democratic republic and capitalism in particular are allowed to run for and hold public office. They even run for President. It is obvious that these socialists, Marxists, communists, Nazis, and other perverse, destructive characters are becoming more and more popular in our nation since they are being mainstreamed and elected to public office.

When treason becomes acceptable, self-destruction is inevitable. God established America on a solid, Godly foundation and He protected, blessed and prospered us to become the most powerful and most wealthy nation on the planet! Our thanks to Him? Treason! We now publically stand against everything Godly, everything holy, everything righteous, and we accept and promote the opposite! Father sacrificed His Son to make it possible for mankind to return to and establish relationship with Him. Our thanks to Him? Treason! Man established religion as a substitute for a relationship with God. Father birthed Israel in the world to be His chosen people. Their thanks to Him? They turned to idols and the world! That's treason! When they refused to repent for their sin and come back to God, He brought destruction on them! It seems man has fought God in every generation and has never learned the futility of all their efforts! It seems that the farther down this perverse path we get, the more deaf, dumb and blind we become and, therefore, we are unable to recover our common sense and avoid the sure destruction that is just ahead.

Treason is a strong word! Treason is a big sin! Treason deserves severe punishment! The USA may no longer punish treason, but we will suffer the consequences because Father has not changed and He does punish treason! Woe to you America! Woe to you!

Just remember this: God is love and His heart and His ears are always open to prayers of true repentance, no matter the sin! He is always faithful, even when we aren't!



22. THE EVIDENCE IS IN: God is Complicated.

What are your immediate thoughts as you consider this title? Do you agree or disagree with this statement that God is complicated? Do you realize that the answer itself can be complicated? The details for consideration are endless. Our lifetime is not enough to successfully explore God! Knowledge is good but experience is a much better teacher. Relationship empowers our learning curve! Experiential love degrades and in some cases wipes away disappointment and offence!

In our many years of ministry we have seldom come across a person who in some way, at some time has not been offended with God! It seems He just can't get it right for us. He is always doing something the wrong way or at the wrong time and then there are those times when He seems to do nothing, in spite of our need, our tears, and our prayer and fasting. Our attempts at manipulation don't seem to move Him in the right direction. We suffer often for His lack of concern about our situation. Obviously I'm being facetious here. Have you ever asked why? Have you ever screamed why? Most of us have and most of us usually return to our senses, repent, ask for forgiveness and embrace our rightful place as a child of the Most High God. At some point we remember that He is all knowing and ever present and definitely always knows what is best in every situation. We should know that we cannot compete with that level of perfection, yet we seem to think we have grounds to judge God because He did or didn't do what we thought was the obvious thing to do in a given situation. With our very limited vision and very limited knowledge and very limited ability we at times somehow slip out of reality and exalt our opinions above God's righteous choices! There can be only one end to this blatant stupidity! Our comeuppance is inevitable! This is when humility on our part can produce wonderful fruit and empower restoration of our relationship!

The statement that God is complicated is only true from our perspective. In reality, He is not the problem, we are! Just consider that when we are at odds with God we are usually in the flesh! That is our weakest time, so that is when we are usually most out of control. Our best and most opportune times with God are in the Spirit, and as children of God, that is where we belong because that is where He is! How much do we know about the Spirit realm? Do we even want to know about the Spirit realm? Because the Spirit realm can be perceived as weird and spooky and because some relate the Spirit realm to satan and his demons, we reject the thought of going there ourselves! This is a tragedy for born again people because Jesus died to give us the privilege to enter God's Spirit realm. This is where our new life in God will blossom and carry us to Heavenly places. Sadly, many reject this supernatural opportunity for fear of losing control of their lives, as if to believe that God is destructive and can't be trusted. Besides, we have our own desires, plans and decisions affecting our future and we don't know

what God might want from us. I'm comfortable right where I am and I don't need to explore the unknown, thank you very much! So fear and doubt once again deter and/or defeat many of us. We must acknowledge that the Spirit realm is both good and bad, right? There is the good part of Father, Son and Holy Spirit and Heavenly Hosts, and the bad side of satan and his demons. We know that Biblical testimony reveals satan's interaction with humanity, and it is a reality. Many of us have experienced that first hand! What we seem to sometimes forget is that satan is a defeated foe and by the blood of Jesus we have been given power and authority over all his dirty works. However, that power is in the Spirit realm, so if we refuse to go there we shackle ourselves into becoming one more unnecessary victim of satan's lies, deception and destruction.

As children of the Most High God our rightful place is in the Heavens, in the supernatural, in the arms of God, loved and empowered by our personal, intimate relationship with Him! We are designed to be overcomers! We are designed to be supernatural. That is what sets us apart from the world of people who are not born again. They do not have the opportunities, the privilege, the grace and Godly power available to them that we have! It is unacceptable for us to live life beneath that privilege! We cannot represent our God by our flesh! There we can only misrepresent Him!

One of our great challenges in developing our relationship with God is learning to be at peace with our differences and learning to be at peace with the mysteries that exist. Bottom line here is that we must come to the place where we believe and have confidence that God is for us, not against us! He loves us unconditionally and that in itself is hard for some of us to understand. After all, we continue to miss the mark of our high calling, don't we? Aren't we glad that He isn't limited to our standards for love and acceptance?

Another area that exposes our complicated relationship with God is when we compare our opinion of what love is and what love is not with God's love. We somehow expect God to love like we love. Do we honestly think He would stoop that far to make us feel better? Obviously believing in God's love is a start. Our born again experience is a gift of God's love, a demonstration of His love! Getting to know Jesus is a gift of love experience, but it is the beginning not the end! Jesus Himself encouraged and instructed us to know His Father. Why did He do that? He knew that intimacy with Father must be our destination if we are to have the ultimate love experience available to mankind. It was His (Jesus) love relationship with Father that empowered Him to suffer and die for all of us! What would we do and what would we be if we lived with that kind of powerful love? What would happen to our low self-esteem, our self-hatred, our shame, our fear, our anger, our addictions, our self-centeredness, our pride and arrogance and our dominate flesh when and if we were bathed in the supernatural

experience of Father's love? I can tell you from my own experience that the negatives in us fade in His presence! The deeper our relationship goes, the more powerful our love becomes and the more we change! This is when we really transition from a life of flesh to a life in the Spirit!

I don't believe that in this life we will ever know all we want to know, but I do believe that in this life we can know all we need to know in order to fulfill our purpose and destiny in God. He will see to it when He is our first choice!

So, is God complicated? Yes, to those who live in the flesh, but the more we transition into the life of the Spirit the less complicated He becomes. Intimacy brings revelation of things previously hidden! Intimacy increases privilege in the relationship. Intimacy releases a power of love and affection never before known, and the more we get, the more we want! Our transition can be endless if we will pursue Him, love Him and commit to Him! Those on the outside looking in may begin to say that we are complicated! What a compliment!



23. THE EVIDENCE IS IN: Marriage Rooted In...

Here is my opening statement: Marriage rooted in love always wins. Marriage rooted in anything else is a crap shoot!

What can marriage be rooted in other than love? Well, how about lust, maybe loneliness, or convenience or duty/obligation, or how about position, reputation, and/or finances? Can you think of others, like self-centeredness? Now with the reality that love is a complicated subject for many people and opinions vary as to an accurate definition, we have a dilemma, don't we? Sadly, many of us live in a fantasy world regarding love. In other words, what we call love really isn't love at all, but a substitute born out of our needs. In our search for happiness and a fulfilled life what do we generally pursue? Is it not love, acceptance, and affection? The reality is we pursue what we don't have; therefore our pursuit of love, acceptance and affection is evidence that our love need is unmet. We identify this as love hunger, and love hunger is a driving force within every human being! Why? Because God designed us to thrive on good food, good water and His love! Anything less leaves us with a diminished life experience!

Now some of us may feel like we have been loved by parents, extended family, spouse, children and friends and therefore we don't have a love hunger problem. I beg to differ! Your love experience may be better than most, but you've not arrived at your full experience with love until you are immersed in Father's love! He created and designed us to need Him if we are to reach our love potential! Our love is flesh unless we are connected to Him. His love is supernatural, miraculous and Heavenly, far above what we could ask or think! Therefore, it is beyond definition or description. He must be experienced! Belief is not enough! Believing God loves you is a start, but just barely a start. We must go beyond belief to experience! Knowing *about* God is not the same as *knowing* God! Knowing about God bears little fruit of relationship. Getting to know God personally opens a supernatural, Heavenly, life-changing experience.

Are you thinking, 'Roger, you are off subject, aren't you?' This subject is about marriage, isn't it? Well, the subject is marriage. It's about two people coming together with their love hunger intact and their own individual beliefs, traditions, priorities, goals, woundedness, fears, lusts and so on, and they are trying to do life with all its complications. The divorce rate is evidence that for most of us marriage is a disappointment and not what we expected. Our needs are not being met. Most people stress the importance of finding the right mate. Few focus on *becoming* the right mate to be found! Instead of looking out there somewhere to find the right person for you, I suggest you look in the mirror first and have someone help you discover your faults, shortcomings, sin, woundedness, fears, vows and judgments, lies you live by and other strongholds and bondage, and clean up your own mess! Most of us probably don't realize we are a mess and need Jesus' help to clean us up before we marry, and expect our spouse to put up with our baggage and vice versa.

So two people come together with baggage, with strongholds, with love hunger and expect to be loving and happy, creating a future together; except after the marriage vows our unresolved issues begin to surface. Life challenges our weaknesses and we struggle with our emotions, our attitudes, our priorities as conflict takes place. This is where our foundation is revealed. A weak foundation will eventually crumble and there will be loss. The opposite is true when our foundation is Father's love. The storms of life will still rattle us and challenge us, but His love provides us the supernatural ability to survive and prosper! Love wins!

Life's journey is not easy, so we need all the help we can get. The One Who made us has all the answers for all of our struggles. Intimacy with Him is required if we are to experience life to its fullest potential. He created the marriage relationship and He designed it to flourish when immersed in His love. Anything short of that is a roll of the dice! All of our fleshly efforts combined cannot compete with the power of His miraculous love! He is available. Are you?



24. THE EVIDENCE IS IN: A self-centered heart is a wicked heart.

This title may seem harsh so let me try to soften it a bit by also saying that a self-centered heart is also usually a wounded heart. Self-centeredness is usually birthed out of need; so to carry that thought further, self-centeredness is usually evidence of love hunger. That's right, humanity's great nemesis-love hunger: our enemy that is usually unidentified, therefore undefeated in most people's lives, and therefore lives on to manipulate another day!

A self-centered person usually spends their lives exalting self and demeaning others. They use other people for their own benefit. It is usually not difficult to see pride and arrogance as fruit and evidence of love hunger. It is usually difficult to have a meaningful love relationship with a self-centered person. They are usually 'taking from' and struggle to give to someone else unless there is payback that they value. Then this person will give to get back. Others around them usually feel used and abused, manipulated and disappointed, not to mention hurt and angry.

Now we know that before wedding vows are spoken we put our best foot forward. We work at wooing our mate to marry. But what happens after the vows are made and we settle into married life? Too many times, the energy, the motivation needed to continue putting our best foot forward drains away; and in our more relaxed state of mind (if there is one) our love hunger surfaces. Ouch!! What terrible surprises some new spouses get when the ugly that was hidden begins to surface! OMG!!

The pain of love hunger is the power behind self-centeredness, so if self-centeredness is to be broken and conquered there must be discovery of sin and woundedness and those issues resolved. At the same time, the ultimate revelation and experience for each person must be Father's love for them. Personal experience is essential here. Personal relationship is required. No substitutes will do.

So if and when we see a self-centered person, instead of just being critical and judgmental perhaps we should consider what is hidden in that person's life. Since self-centeredness is usually the fruit of love hunger, we might gain some compassion and understanding into what

motivates people to be self-centered. Healing is available to all by the blood of Jesus, and love beyond measure is available from Father to all who will come. What a deal!



25. THE EVIDENCE IS IN: God is at work.

My original title for this piece was to be “He Gave Them a Spirit of Confusion”, but as I sat down to write, the current title popped up, so let’s consider the possibility that God is at work.

Yes, I know, God is always at work! Where is He at work? How do we recognize His work? Do we always recognize His work as positive? Can His work manifest in what seems negative? If it seems negative to us, can He have a positive purpose for His actions? Does He not always have a positive purpose for His actions? Well, because He is good and because He is love we must surmise that His actions are steps taken to reveal His nature and bring blessing whenever and wherever He gets involved with humanity. Our awesome God can bring kindness, goodness, healing and prosperity, but if and when necessary He can also bring correction, discipline, punishment and destruction if we force Him to. Our Bible is full of evidence to support my statement.

The original title came to me in the middle of the night and I believe it is being played out in America as this is being written. I believe Father has given America a spirit of confusion, or you might call it a mesmerizing spirit, or a spirit of stupor (stupid!). It is being demonstrated daily in the news. Many of our leaders and prominent people are saying and promoting things that are completely irrational. They support a perverse and Godless agenda and seem to have no problem lying, cheating and deceiving to further their causes. Common sense is a thing of the past and self-destruction is the inevitable consequence. I encourage you to read Isaiah Chapter 19 and substitute America for Egypt. I believe this to be a current picture of what is taking place between God and America today. Notice especially verses 11-14, where the leaders are foolish! God intervenes even more in vs. 14 and brings a spirit of confusion on Egypt (America). The destruction that comes is self-inflicted and it is the consequence of rebellion to God. Now notice vs. 18-25. Some people in Egypt worshipped God, and in response God brought blessing out of the destruction and restored them. So you see, we the people must decide to worship God or not. Right now we stand in opposition to Him! In spite of His warnings, we continue down a Godless path. It will cost us dearly unless we repent and

turn from our wicked ways! Religion will not save us! Only true repentance and humbling ourselves before Him will bring release from His judgment!

Since we have lost the value of common sense, goodness, righteousness and Godliness as a nation, we stand in a precarious position concerning our future. Are we to become like Sodom and Gomorrah and share their fate, or will we choose to be like Nineveh and repent, turning back to God causing Him to relent and stay His judgment?

Since born again children of God are about 25% of our population it could seem hopeless and our destruction assured. However, I am of the mind that we, His children, and God are a majority in spite of the numbers and in spite of the Godless flesh and in spite of all satan's efforts. When God is for us and with us, we cannot lose! Therefore, as His children we cannot remain passive. We are responsible to be aggressive in our pursuit of Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We are responsible to live our lives for Him, not for ourselves. We are responsible to be an active part of the supernatural life Father has prepared for all of His kids. We serve Him best by moving deeper into His Holy Spirit and bringing the miraculous aspects of Heaven to bear on humanity and its failures without God!

Today God is coming against our blatant sin. He is responding to our consistent rejection of Him and His ways. How much negative pressure will it take to break us and bring us to repentance? What do you think?

P.S. You should notice that those of us who serve Him are not affected by the spirit of confusion He is bringing on our nation. We are free to hear Him and serve Him and be in our right mind while doing so. Onward Christian Soldiers!!

Also note the following: Isaiah 45:7, Psalm 146:9b, Amos 3:6-7, II Thessalonians 2:11, and look in your concordance for the word 'evil.' Look at all the scripture references related to God creating and using evil when necessary! Be forewarned!



26. THE EVIDENCE IS IN: Love hunger thrives on lack of affection.

If we could ever see that love hunger is our mortal enemy, that revelation just might empower us to fight back! Discovery is paramount to victory! If you don't know you have a problem you

won't work to fix it! Of course our next dilemma is how to fix it! We might try any number of fixes hoping to feel better about ourselves and about our life. If we get any relief it is usually temporary and disappointing because we never get to the root causes.

Sadly some of our attempts at fixes lead to addictions, and our quality of life goes downhill, and we usually bring negative consequences to close relationships. By our wrong choices we compound our struggles and make our pathway to healing for our love hunger more difficult. However, keep this in mind: is there anything too hard for God? Also keep this in mind: behavior modification techniques can be helpful for some, but this still does not deal with root causes that empower our struggles.

Now consider this statement: affection is like cocaine to a love hungry person! I speak from personal experience! Throughout my adult life whenever a woman, any woman, showed me affection I was hooked to that woman! My deep woundedness and love hunger empowered my stronghold of lust, and sexual fantasies would torment me day and night. I was always on the hunt for relief, for satisfaction and for peace. There was none to be found on the path I was taking. I was in the flesh! It was all I knew!

Then along came Jesus and my pathway to new life began! When Jesus came into my heart I experienced love beyond anything I had known before! I didn't know it at the time, but my love hunger was being challenged big time! The fruit of my love hunger consisted of things like fear, shame, lust, self-hatred, anger and rage, to name a few, and these characteristics proved to be formidable adversaries to my new-found love relationship with Jesus. In other words, the war had begun: my old nature empowered by love hunger vs. my new nature empowered by Jesus' love for me. Since Jesus' love and affection for me was intimately demonstrated, my old habit of being drawn to and trapped by affection actually became a benefit! I was committed to and hooked on Jesus! Through the years Jesus and Holy Spirit brought revelation and experience that dealt specifically with each of the fruits of my love hunger. Eventually each one was defeated and replaced with more Godly characteristics. Freedom is glorious!

My love hunger was no longer being fed by lack of affection, but gradually being defeated by Jesus' unconditional love and acceptance for me! It is still difficult for me to grasp how Jesus could love me knowing what kind of person I was when He saved me!

In this new life process, I thought I had found and experienced the ultimate human love experience-that being Jesus as Savior and Lord of my life! I was wrong once again! I didn't think or realize that when I prayed and talked to Jesus, I imagined Him being out there in Heaven somewhere, in other words, distant. So how could I feel so close to Him yet imagine

Him being far off? Then a prayer minister made this statement to Gerri and me. 'Jesus is the way, but Father is the destination!' (See John 14:6, John 17:3, Hebrews 10:19, and Ephesians 2:18.)

This is when I learned that the ultimate defeat of my love hunger by the ultimate satisfaction of my love hunger would come as I entered into a personal, intimate, conversational relationship with Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Finally meeting Father on a personal, intimate basis brought the love experience that delivered a death blow to my love hunger! Now when I pray I don't imagine God being out there somewhere and distant, because Father has said to me many times that He's as close as my breath! This is a life experience that cannot be adequately described. It must be personally experienced! The transition from God being distant to God being up close and personal has been overwhelming, yet I know there is more to come! Care to join me?

We believe God created mankind to meet Him in order to live the kind of complete life He planned for us. Therefore, we believe that no matter how much love we have experienced in our life, our love tank cannot be filled without Father's love. When His love is missing, we are missing out on the complete love experience He desires for each of us! Why would anyone reject the loving kindness and goodness of our Father that is offered to each human being, and live our life less than our potential in His love? To think that we don't need Father's love is the ultimate deception, very self-defeating and costly. On the other hand, making relationship with Him our ultimate pursuit will bring life-changing reward far greater than we might expect. You'll never be sorry for your commitment, investment and sacrifice, for your reward will far outweigh the cost!



27. THE EVIDENCE IS IN: The many faces of love hunger.

How do we identify love hunger? What is the evidence that love hunger is present? What do you think? What personality traits, what conduct, what attitudes would be evidence to you that love hunger is present and active in a person's life? You might think about it this way: what does love hunger want and what does love hunger give? How does love hunger express itself in the presence of others?

Now as you consider my questions, don't just think 'out there' about other people, although that can be important, but also look in the mirror, recognizing the probability that you also are a victim of this very common malady! But don't panic, OK? Don't develop a critical attitude toward the significant people in your life that didn't love you to life with Father's love. They couldn't give you what they didn't have, just as you can't give to your loved ones what you don't have! All of us who have children have given to them what we had at the moment, haven't we? Whether good, bad or indifferent, we give what is in us.

Obviously, love hunger varies in intensity based on a person's life experience. Therefore, we can have manifestations that vary from what seem minor with little outward, adverse effect to major demonstrations of violence and hatred toward others! You can also look at it this way: one extreme evidence might be a very introverted, fearful and isolated person who never bothers anyone, to a very extroverted, violent murderer and rapist type who does not value human life. Then there are all the rest of us in between at varying degrees of manifestation!

In general terms, love hunger is usually manifested in sinful, unrighteous and ungodly ways, so the deeper we go into relationship with God the more visible our love hunger manifestations become. This is good news! It means more opportunity to correct mistakes, get healed and delivered and become more like Jesus! Our quality of life can improve dramatically if we make the right choices.

What evidence presents itself that would indicate the possible presence of love hunger? How about:

- Fear, shame, shyness, introverted and insecure
- Lust, addiction, fornication and adultery
- Performance orientation
- Compulsive habits like eating, alcohol, drugs, spending and gambling
- Multiple marriages
- Anger, rage and emotional and physical violence
- A wandering spirit – people always on the move, changing jobs, changing locations, looking, looking, looking, but never satisfied.
- People who feel they were born in the wrong generation
- People who need extreme attention to stand out from the crowd by using excessive makeup, hair coloring, piercing, or tattoos. These can be evidence of rebellion, however rebellion is typically rooted in love hunger.
- People who resent the parents God gave them
- People who resent their physical appearance

- People who don't know God
- People who seem to be happy, content and peaceful but are not born again
- People who are resentful and bitter
- People with low self-esteem and self-hatred
- Self-centered people
- Those who give sex hoping to get love in return
- People who pursue God through religion
- People who pursue false gods through false religion.

Why the pursuit? Isn't the purpose to fill the void within? What is missing that needs satisfaction? I propose that it is God's love that is missing, and we strive for that satisfaction in many different ways!

Humanity around us provides a clinic for learning to recognize love hunger at work! Watch for negative action and listen for negative comments, then ask Holy Spirit for revelation to increase your learning curve. I'm sure you have experienced the gossip mill and the backbiting crowd. How about the proud and arrogant who look down and talk down to others in a critical 'I'm better than you' attitude? How about the foul-mouthed and downright hateful personalities? Then we can see the violent and abusive group who lack all respect for others! What do all these have in common? Yes, you guessed it! Love hunger exposed again! But wait! Don't overlook pastors, elders, deacons, Sunday school teachers, bankers, lawyers, school teachers, plumbers, carpenters, police, firefighters, doctors, nurses...OK, OK... enough! I'm sure you get it! Every time you see another human being you are probably looking at a person who has some issue with love hunger. I don't care how pleasant, how nice, how helpful, how co-operative they are. Behind the scenes, hidden in the weeds of life, love hunger is lurking unrecognized and therefore unresolved. Our love hunger is a powerful force continually manipulating our thinking and our emotions! It cannot be tamed. It must be healed, and Father's love is the ultimate healer.

You can help the world's love hunger problem by looking in the mirror at yourself and starting your healing process. As you progress in your own healing, you will have wonderful, Heavenly gifts to give away to others as the Holy Spirit provides the opportunities. Your ultimate healing of love hunger will come as you grow in your own experience of Father's love! Hopefully, you will then lead many others into their own Heavenly love experience!

These are just some thoughts about one of our great adversaries to a peaceful and loving society. Father, help us!



28. THE EVIDENCE IS IN: The many faces of healing.

If I say to you let's talk about healing, what comes to your mind? What does healing look like to you? Do you think of the Biblical account of Jesus' miraculous ministry when the blind see, the deaf hear, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and demons are cast out? That's a good place to start because that should be our goal! Jesus was and is our example for ministry! In fact, He said we should do what He did and even greater things than He did because He went to be with Father. So, that is our assignment and our destiny if we will accept it.

Now in Jesus' ministry we see His demonstration of miraculous healing; that being when He prayed something happened immediately! I think we would all like to see that manifested on a regular basis, wouldn't we? In spite of the nay sayers, Jesus' example of miraculous ministry is taking place today wherever faith is present. However, for most of us, if we see healing, it is not the instant type, but progressive in nature. After prayer, and perhaps repeated prayer, it may take days, weeks, months or even years for a healing to fully manifest in a person's life. Usually God is dealing with other issues in the person's life at the same time. I call this a healing. It takes time and varies from person to person and situation to situation. A healing may not be as dramatic as a miracle, but the end result is the same. The person is healed!

A couple of examples come to mind that may seem to some as being apart from the subject of healing; however, I see them as wonderful examples of healing ministry. First, think about the woman at the well that Jesus spoke to when, according to tradition, He should never have spoken to her or been in her presence. So against all odds, Jesus had a word of knowledge about her. Do you find it strange that Holy Spirit didn't honor man's tradition of right and wrong in this situation, but instead reached out to her through Jesus to bring healing to her life? When Jesus told her she had five husbands and the man she was living with wasn't her husband, she was blown away! In spite of her sin she was given an opportunity to choose God, and she did! I call this a healing -a spiritual and emotional healing. It changed her life, didn't it? Not only her

life, but she was so excited about her encounter with Jesus she went and told her friends and neighbors what happened and she brought them to see Jesus. As a result of their encounter with Jesus, many of them became believers also. So because Jesus and Holy Spirit chose to ignore Jewish tradition of shunning this group of people but, instead, reached out and touched them with love and acceptance, their lives were changed! I call that healing, do you?

Now another example: Consider the Gadarene demonic. You know the story, I'm sure. He was an outcast from society. He ran naked through the countryside and was not in his right mind! Then Jesus came! The man ran up to Jesus and bowed down, and the demons in him spoke to Jesus. Jesus cast the demons out of the man and he returned to his right mind and got dressed. He wanted to go with and follow after Jesus, but Jesus told him no, but to go and tell other people what God had done for him (go give his testimony), so they would have an opportunity to believe! Here is a wonderful and powerful example of the ministry of deliverance and the dramatic change brought to this man's life! Is this not also a wonderful example of healing? I think so.

Now think once again about the people that Jesus healed who had physical problems: the blind, the crippled, the lepers and many others. Do you really think they only had a physical problem? Is it not possible or even probable that they had emotional and spiritual problems as well? In Matthew 9 Jesus healed a man that was paralyzed *and* forgave the sin that caused the problem in the first place! The man had a physical problem that was caused by sin, so the root of his problem was spiritual. He is a cripple, so how do you think he was doing emotionally? When Jesus healed the man he also forgave the man's sin! Do you think his emotions improved? This was a miracle and wonderful healing that I believe encompassed body, soul and spirit! Shouldn't we also consider all three dimensions when we think about healing?

Wounding events in our lives is another area ripe for healing ministry. Some people think you just put the bad stuff that happens in life behind you and move on; everything will be OK! That is a destructive lie to live by! Wounding builds strongholds. Strongholds invite demonic activity! Wounding is like an infection and it spreads, affecting other parts of our lives. Wounding adversely affects our thinking, our emotions, and can affect our physical health. We can develop unwise and ungodly mindsets and heart attitudes. We can make vows and judgments and be bound up in bitterness and unforgiveness! We can believe lies about ourselves, life, God, and other

people because of our woundedness. Is this the life Father desires for us? If we have these issues in our lives, can you honestly think that we are in our right mind?

So for me, every time Holy Spirit helps us see a lie we are living by and we repent for believing it, then renounce and reject it, replacing it with God's truth, that is a healing! That lie is not an island. It infects the way we think and the way we feel and probably hurts us spiritually! So then we must ask these very necessary questions: why was the lie there? where did it come from? was it born out of a wounding event? Even a lie can build a stronghold that hinders our ability to truly live life as Father has intended. Every time we discover anti-God, anti-truth, anti-relationship, anti-life issues and we repent and pray for forgiveness, our healing begins. Our healing journey may take more time than we like and may require very difficult choices, but the new life that awaits us is over the top compared to the old life! Every time we make righteous choices, we invite Holy Spirit's involvement and Heaven's blessing, not to mention our own personal transformation.

Every time a stronghold is broken in us, it frees us to become more God-centered than self-centered. I call that healing! The freedom to be all that Father created us to be is nothing to be sneezed at. It is a quality of life beyond the norm! Our healing empowers our spiritual life and diminishes the power of our flesh! When our demons are gone, our wounds are healed, our lies are replaced with truth, our vows and judgments are repented of and broken, and when our determinations of heart are aligned with Heaven instead of hell, we will look in the mirror and wonder who this new person is. This new life is a love gift from Father. He has provided for our healing in body, soul and spirit! Are you taking advantage of your privilege, and pursuing God and your new life? If not, why not?



29. THE EVIDENCE IS IN: Preconceived notions.

This title came to me in the middle of the night months ago. It has been on my list waiting, because I didn't get it! There was nothing attached to it as has been with other titles. I asked Holy Spirit, what does it mean? What am I supposed to see here?

Today as I asked Holy Spirit once again about this title, I think I am beginning to see, with His help, how preconceived notions can affect our lives. I don't believe I do harm to the subject by saying that preconceived notions could be called preconceived beliefs, preconceived ideas, preconceived expectations, or maybe preconceived understandings about anything. So how are they formed? It seems obvious to me that they are formed by our life experience. We are taught many things purposely or inadvertently by doing life. Consider this: good life experience can produce a preconceived notion that life will always be good, but what happens when life produces its ugly side? The opposite is also true. A person who grows up with the ugly side of life could develop the preconceived notion that life will always be ugly! I realize these opposites are extremes and most of us are in between, however preconceived notions or beliefs can help or hinder us for life, and therefore become very important issues to our future!

Therefore, in our growing up experience we can develop preconceived notions about ourselves as a person, about parents, family, society, work, education, God, and more. How about love, sex, commitment, purpose and destiny? You can continue the possibilities. Now we probably think that our notions (beliefs) are true and correct, but then there is God and His truth. The clash between the two can bring challenges to life that we are not expecting!

Now consider that, because of life experience, a person can grow up and be prideful and arrogant with a haughty spirit, self-exalted and looking down on others as less than self. On the other hand, a person can grow up full of fear, shame and self-hatred, feeling less than others and live an intimidated life. Once again, a person can grow up a victim and eventually get angry and fed up with being a victim and flip, becoming a bully. They become what they hated! Now instead of being a victim of intimidation they use intimidation as empowerment to get their way and feel better about themselves. Bottom line is this: unless our preconceived notions line up with God and His truth, we lose! If as a child we grow up in abuse, our life experience teaches us the emotions, beliefs and attitudes that correspond to the abuse we suffer. This is our truth based on our experience, but how does it line up with God's truth? Abuse usually results in negative strongholds in a person's life. That bondage is a major deterrent to living a

successful Christian life and fulfilling our purpose and destiny in God. The strongholds developed from abuse are usually made up of anger, fear, shame, insecurity, low self-esteem and even self-hatred. Does this describe the attributes of a successful child of God to you?

Now on the other hand, consider a person who grows up loved by both parents who support, encourage, teach and adequately supply his or her needs in life. This person is basically happy and secure with hope for the future. This is a wonderful picture of life we wish everyone could have, yet not many do. Can you see any possible negative in the preconceived notions this blessed person might develop? The one that jumps out at me is that if this loved and secure person believes that their life experience is the best that is available, then that deception becomes self-defeating! Even if they become born again, their false belief that they have experienced love to its fullest potential can hinder them from pursuing and experiencing the ultimate love experience available to all humanity in getting to know Father on a personal basis.

I'm sure you realize that we all have false or negative preconceived notions. Every time we discover one and repent, renounce it and replace it with God's truth, we get healed. Bondage is broken and we are freer than ever to develop Godly attitudes, beliefs and actions as a child of the Most High God! Here is a good place to start. How do you see yourself today? Are you just a normal, everyday Christian doing what you can to get along with no great expectations about becoming anything better, or do you dare see yourself as Father sees you? To Him, you are a child of the Most High God! You are His if you are born again, and you are called, appointed and anointed to function in this world as His supernatural child! In His eyes, you are set apart from the world because, in your born again experience, you have been released from the boundaries of the flesh and have entered the supernatural realm of the Spirit! It is your privilege and your responsibility to live and be the supernatural child of God that He has destined you to be! Some of you may be intimidated to declare yourself a son or daughter of the Most High God! Sorry! It's too late! You already are because He says so! Some of you may feel that declaring yourself a child of the Most High God would be prideful or arrogant. Well, fear is of the devil and pride and arrogance are his attributes. Do you really want to go there? Now get this: declaring and believing that you are a child of the Most High God is the pathway to developing into that supernatural child of God you are supposed to be! If you are born again, it is illegal and a slap in Jesus' face to believe you are just a normal human being! By the blood of Jesus you have transitioned into the supernatural

realm of the Kingdom of Almighty God! How dare we consider ourselves just normal human beings! Well, only those elite and specially called people do the ministry stuff!

Now there is a preconceived notion that is born out of the pits of hell. Get this: you are the elite and you are specially called to represent God as Jesus did! Do you realize that your born again experience was a gift of love from Father God? Do you realize that this gift of love was never intended to stop with you? Do you realize that your salvation was the first healing you received from God? Every healing we receive is a gift of love from God to us, and it is His intention that it flow out through us to others. Our healing experience becomes our testimony and our testimony develops our ministry and our ministry should be available as a gift of love to change lives for God!

Our preconceived notions can seem to be positive or negative, but in either case, they can be a hindrance to our fulfilling our purpose and destiny in God! This subject is worth your consideration and prayer. Dare to get the Holy Spirit involved and risk bringing transformation to your life and your experience with God! Best wishes!



30. THE EVIDENCE IS IN: Ignorance always has an opinion.

Have you ever given your opinion about something and later discovered you were dead wrong? Well, haven't we all shared that embarrassment? We were obviously ignorant about the subject, but nonetheless, had an opinion and made the mistake of sharing it with someone else. Hopefully we learned from the experience! It is obviously best to learn the facts and truth about something before developing an opinion. It is also wise to confirm that the facts we are learning are truly the facts and not just someone else's opinion!

Truth is sometimes harder to come by than an opinion, but truth is more valuable and, therefore, worth the effort. That effort involves digging for the truth while at the same time keeping the mouth shut to hold back ignorance that wants to express its opinion!

It is astounding to me how we as a people can repeatedly fall for outright lies and deceptions spoken by those who have a voice who continually twist and spin facts and

truth. How many different ways can we express our ignorance about life, God, people, purpose and destiny, relationships, sex, love, prosperity, truth, abortion, and much more and seem to get away with it? In truth, we don't. Nothing escapes God. No one escapes God's righteous judgment. All of our lies, deception, spin and twist have no impact on Him. We are each known to Him for who we truly are, with nothing hidden and everything revealed to Him Who judges us in truth and righteousness.

There is no need to be ignorant about it. God says our sin will surely find us out, so you can count on it. It is a done deal. All of our excuses are wasted breath. Wake up and make necessary corrections before it is too late! You can have God's love or His judgment. You must choose for yourself!

Now how many ways can you think of where ignorance is expressing its opinion publically today? All we have to do is follow the news. Ignorance is on display continually and those who publically spout their ignorance do so with a straight face, thus drawing others into the charade. Then it spreads like wild fire over social media and the ignorance becomes truth. Wow! What an example and testimony of how corrupt and pathetic humanity can get when you dare set yourself in opposition to God! When the blessed reject the source of their blessing, self-destruction is in control. Don't you know satan loves it? The only way to go merrily along in self-destruction is to do so in ignorance, in deception as a fool. Fools ignore warnings and obvious dangers and continually choose darkness over light. Fools reject God and His love in favor of sin. Fools deny any negative consequence to their ungodly choices and refuse to hear any evidence that might threaten their position.

Ignorance is on the rampage in our nation and many are falling for the lies and deceptions! Common sense seems to be in short supply! The flesh, the world and the devil seem to be riding high right now in the process of destroying what God has blessed and built in this nation! Ignorance is a fool's justification; however, the negative consequence will be bitter in the end, the suffering intolerable. So sad when all the time such powerful, enduring love is available to all!

It would be awesome if all Father's kids would dive deeply into His truth and pray earnestly for wisdom and be steadfast in righteousness before this onslaught of Godless debauchery! We can be and should be a steadfast testimony to the powerful love of

God for His creation. Religion will not get it done, folks. People do not want or need more rules. On the other hand, a personal, intimate, love relationship with Father, Son and Holy Spirit is powerful to bring new life and transformation in the process. Therein lies the hope for our future as a person and as a nation! What do you think?



31. THE EVIDENCE IS IN: Core values are essential to survival.

Before receiving this title, I don't believe I ever stopped to consider my core values, especially not in those terms. I guess before I met Jesus in 1976 I didn't have any core values except, maybe, self-centeredness! Since I met Jesus, my core values have dramatically changed, becoming progressively more God-centered than self-centered. Thank You, Lord!

Today those core values are my foundation for living. My purpose is to be an obedient son of the Most High God, determined to please Him as I strive to choose righteousness and Godliness above all else. My core values are rooted in Heaven and they are my strength against my flesh, the world and evil. My core values are now supernatural because they are rooted in my personal, intimate love relationship with Father, Son and Holy Spirit. I rejoice in that foundation and consider it a privilege to be part of Father's family!

Is it possible that a person's core values could be a problem or even a deterrent to living a successful Christian life? I would say a resounding 'yes' to that question. What do you think? If some of my core values are rooted in evil and I will not repent and renounce and reject them, don't you think that would be a problem? For some, family traditions are very strong. Well that's fine if they are Godly traditions, but what if they are not? What if a family tradition is a religious tradition? Once again, not all religious traditions are Godly traditions! How many of us vote a certain way because of family tradition? How many of us attend a certain church or denomination because of family tradition? How many people belong to secret societies because of family tradition? How many of us ever question and/or evaluate our traditions in light of God's word or God Himself?

Our core values become our strength for life whether they are good or evil. They are our foundation for living and being! If our foundation is weak or faulty, trouble lies ahead! If our core values are flesh, worldliness, wickedness and sin, then self-destruction is just ahead! Is it not then obvious that we should ask God's help and earnestly evaluate our core values and, with determination and God's help, make whatever changes are necessary to secure our future in Him?

As I write this, the core values of our nation are being systematically destroyed. Wickedness, evil and depravity are growing as core values here. God, and everything He stands for, is anathema to the Godless crew that is becoming more and more popular with the American people! Socialism is now the rising star for many. Twisted liars, cheats and thieves are influencing the minds of many of our people, trying to convince us that capitalism has failed and now socialism is our salvation. How brain dead do you have to be to believe that garbage? God and capitalism produced the most powerful and most prosperous nation on our planet, and these intellectually challenged declare that a failure! The only way a person can agree with this blatant stupidity is if you have lost the God-given ability to think, to reason and correctly evaluate anything. That is evidence to me that because of our national sin, our rejection of God and our demonic priorities, God has released upon us a spirit of confusion. That is why we are becoming more and more irrational.

The war has begun. In fact, I believe it began in earnest in 1973 with Roe vs. Wade, and we have gone downhill from there. The continuous demands that God be rejected and that perversion, debauchery and depravity be received and protected as normal and publically accepted have succeeded in sinking us into the Sodom and Gomorrah category! These demonic fools are convincing people that government is their savior, and will provide for them and meet their needs for free! The people cheer, oblivious to truth and reality, ready to give up their freedoms to a corrupt and phony benevolent government that will quickly become their task master. Rich people are evil people and they have no right to keep the money they have earned. Their money must be confiscated and given to you, our normal people, and the crowd cheers!

Do you see any evidence of confusion and/or delusion going on in America? If yes, are you concerned or unconcerned? What can you do about it? Maybe this is someone else's responsibility and not yours. Well, to begin with I believe that if you are born

again, you are not subject to the spirit of confusion at work here, unless you willingly participate in the Godless activities that are ever present. If you choose righteously and pursue relationship with God as your first priority, your foundation, your core values will strengthen to withstand the onslaught of confusion, evil and wickedness that surround us. I also believe Father will equip us to save as many as we can from the destruction that is just ahead.

It is essential in my mind that we must each become the loving, powerful, supernatural children of God that He wants us to be. He is available to make that happen, so the question is, are you available and willing to become more like Jesus? We cannot overcome evil and wickedness by sitting on the sidelines watching life happen. We have the honor and the privilege and the responsibility to represent God well in face of the onslaught of darkness that seeks to destroy us all. Jesus said, "I have overcome the world!" That includes darkness, evil, wickedness and satan himself, but we belong to Jesus. He has equipped us to defeat our enemies if we will fight. This is especially true if we will fight with the weapons of God's choice! He has told me that His weapon of choice, His most powerful weapon, His most successful weapon is His love! In addition, consider the gifts of the Holy Spirit as weapons of warfare. Consider God's truth as a weapon. How about healing and deliverance as a weapon? How about honesty and integrity as weapons? I know we probably never considered these Godly assets as weapons; however, it seems to me that this is an opportune time for Father's kids to be bold and stand up and be counted as representing our Holy God and His love for all people! Our own core values will be major contributors to making this happen. What do you think?



32. THE EVIDENCE IS IN: No man is an island.

To the degree we are self-centered, we become an island unto ourselves. If we prosper, we prosper at the expense of others. A self-centered person is usually a taker, not a giver. If and when they do give, it usually has a hook on it, meaning they expect, they hope for, they need something in return. They hope the incoming will ease the pain of their love hunger, although they usually have not identified love hunger as their

problem. The internal, unspoken reality is they look at other people with a “what can you do for me attitude?” This is the opposite of what our attitude should be if we are a child of the Most High God! We should be empowered by the question “what can I do for you today?” This is the heart of a giver with no hook. If we are embedded in the reality of God’s supernatural love for us we have an abundance to give away! The power of that love experience can bring healing to the deepest parts of our wounding and love hunger deprivation.

Everyone is looking for love! We usually look in the wrong places, hoping in vain for relief, not realizing that we all need healing so love can get in. Love must be able to get in before we can give it away! Love of self does not help meet other people’s needs. The reality is we all give away what we have today. Sadly for most of us, the quality of love we have to give falls far short of our potential in Father’s love! This is because we need healing, we need correction, we need support and encouragement, we need friendship and close personal relationships. Most of all we need Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Being God-centered opens us up to other people like never before. Instead of using people for our gain, we can truly bless them for their gain and we both win!

We can only give what we have, so do you think it might be important to ask yourself the question “what do I have to give?” This is where we usually need help from others because truth and discovery can be hard to find on our island. Father, Son and Holy Spirit should be our first destination if we are willing to embrace a personal, healing journey. They know exactly who and what we need and when to help us in our breakthroughs! New life is available to us if we are willing to leave our island and become an intimate part of God’s family. Welcome home!



33. THE EVIDENCE IS IN: Honest evaluation.

To be true to ourselves and who we are to be in God we each desperately need an honest evaluation of our life experience. Father, who am I? How do You see me? How do I see myself? What are my goals in life? What is my destination and how do I get

there? What needs to change and how do I change it? What are my weaknesses and what are my strengths? Father do I have sin in my life? If so, please show me what it is and help me change it! Are there any toxic relationships in my life that must be removed?

The fruit of a committed, personal relationship with Father, Son and Holy Spirit will be an unbelievable, gradual transformation in your life experience from 'less than' as a child of God to 'more than' a normal human being. When healing takes place and love needs are met we truly begin to experience our new life in Jesus! We truly begin to understand what it means to be a new creature in Christ! The old man with his strongholds becomes a new person, usually beyond his expectation and/or imagination!

Hopefully some of the things I have written in these two books of evidence have stirred issues in your life that need resolution. This is a good thing and a wonderful opportunity to further your transformation as a child of the Most High God. Holy Spirit is our Helper and our Guide to lead us in the pathways of healing that we each need. Hopefully we will each have the courage and determination to set our feet on that pathway, searching out our purpose and destiny in God!

May His love and blessings embrace and overwhelm you as you turn your whole heart to Him. He is good all the time as He loves you just as you are! Onward Christian Soldiers!



