

SCHOOL OF EVANGELISM

Preparing Harvesters in the Kingdom of God.
Teaching them how to work with the Holy Spirit.

INTRODUCTION

The following pages in this manual are to inform the reader of the topics that we believe are essential to understand how to be effective in representing Jesus to those outside the family of God.

What are we aiming to do?

Preparing Harvesters in the Kingdom of God
and teaching them how to work with the Holy Spirit.

Some Evangelism courses are unsatisfactory, simply because the focus is on history instead of actual experience. The information in this course, when received in the heart, will immediately equip students with power to bring in a harvest of souls for the Kingdom. The course is comprised of three questions, some with many facets, and the questions are: - **“WHO?”**, **“WHY?”**, and **“HOW?”**

The **“WHO?”** question deals with **who you are** and **who they are**. This page deals with your strengths and some shortcomings of the lost.

The **“WHY?”** question is an overview of the **Great Commission** and compares the Church view with God's view.

The **“HOW?”** question covers the **following topics**: -

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The information on each subject will be **limited to one page each time** that will make it easy to read and remember, and for reference purposes.

This work is our response to the articles in Paul Locke's course, and the purpose of printing each article is to encourage the reader to seek revelation from the Holy Spirit and to stimulate the excitement of this new way to evangelise; to find out how easy it is to move in the anointing, to be clothed with the power from on high, and to be the hands and feet of Jesus. Over the last 10 years we have practised these biblically based principles and this is a very satisfying and effective ministry for all those who feel called to reaching the lost, especially outside the church.

WHO AM I and WHO ARE THEY?

Confidence in who we are, in Christ, is a very important tool for an evangelist to draw on in order to persuade others to follow.

I am chosen to be in Christ before the foundation of the world (Ephesians 1:4)

- therefore I am created unique and for God's purpose – He has a life plan for me.

I am chosen to be holy and blameless in His sight (Ephesians 1:4)

- therefore in Christ I am a new creation: the old has gone, the new has come! (2 Corinthians 5:17)

I confessed with my mouth "Jesus is Lord" and believed in my heart that God raised Him from the dead, so I am saved (Romans 10:9) (saved from sin and sickness)

- therefore there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus because, through Christ Jesus, the law of the Spirit of life has set me free from the law of sin and death. (Romans 8:1&2)

In Christ I am marked with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, who guarantees my inheritance as a child of God (Ephesians 1:13)

- therefore God is faithful who has begun a good work in me will carry it on to completion (from one degree of glory to another (2 Corinthians 3:18) until the day of Christ Jesus. (Philippians 1:6) The good work is to believe in the one He has sent. (John 6:29)

I am born again by the Spirit of God (John 3:3-8)

- therefore God reveals what has been prepared for me and what God has freely given me; I am able to discern spiritual things. (1 Corinthians 2:9-15)

I have an anointing (the splendour and glory of God as my garment) **from the Holy One and I know the truth.** (1 John 2:20&21) Jesus is the way, the truth and the life (John 14:6)

- therefore, because I know Jesus intimately, I can represent Him in this world (2 Corinthians 5:20)

As a new creation, I am a speaking Spirit, in God's image, to speak out what God puts into our hearts, to enforce the victory Jesus won on the Cross, into our daily lives

- therefore I am confident that my prayer as a righteous son or daughter (in right standing with Heavenly Father) is powerful and effective (James 5:16). Everything that Jesus did in the power of the Holy Spirit, I can do too.

Because I am born of God (born from above by the Holy Spirit) I do not continue to sin (1 John 3:9)

- therefore I am no longer a sinner because I am saved by His grace. If I make a mistake I can repent quickly and claim God's promise to be cleansed from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:9)

I go in the authority of Jesus (Matthew 28:18) **to fulfil His commission, knowing He is with me**

- therefore I can do all things through Christ (Philippians 4:13) and I can do the "greater" things that Jesus desired us to do (John 14:12) and bring glory to my Heavenly Father.

AND WHO ARE THE ONES THAT NEED TO BE EVANGELISED?

They can only have confidence in themselves – **they** must become their own god and are subject to the devil all the time – without hope.

They don't know God has a plan for them and **they** don't know that God longs for them to be in His family.

They don't know that more than 2000 years ago Jesus died for their sins and rose from the grave so that they could have eternal life by trusting in Him.

They also don't know that they can be filled with the HOLY Spirit and power to live a wonderful life in God's presence now and forever.

They don't know that the HOLY Spirit drives out all the bad habits and bad thoughts and cleanses us.

Our response to God's question, "Who will go and tell them?" will be, "LORD, **send me!!**"

WHY EVANGELISM?

We present a radical concept of evangelism. Yes, the great commission is to go and make Disciples – baptising them (immersing, overwhelming) in the Name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. (Matthew 28:19)

Three baptisms in one and/or one in three?

What is the Father's viewpoint?

Genesis 1:28 makes this plain.

Humankind is created in God's image – His ultimate desire (planted in the human psyche too) is to have children like Himself, to be His family. He said it was VERY good! HE is Spirit, but these, His own children were born to **RULE** in the place He had prepared for them – the earth, or more specifically at this time, Eden. (Psalm 115:16 and Psalm 8:6)

His children were equipped with the blessing of God – filled with HIS nature, LOVE, JOY, PEACE, PATIENCE, KINDNESS, GOODNESS, FAITHFULNESS, GENTLENESS, SELF-CONTROL.

He told them to be fruitful and multiply, not only numerically but also to **spread these qualities** all over the earth – to fill the earth. He also instructed them to subdue the earth. Increase means growth, and animals and especially plants with seeds grow fast, so herding and gardening were essential to “control” the growth.

This, then, is the Father's original plan.

What is the Son's viewpoint?

John 14:10-14 makes it plain that He expected His followers would not only continue His work on earth but INCREASE it. In the great commission Jesus says that all authority has been given to Him. We go in His Name, by His authority.

In His prayer, (John 17:1-26), He makes it plain that He has taught everything that needed to be taught for His followers to be able to carry on His work.

1. They need to KNOW the Father and Jesus CHRIST (the Anointed One and His anointing)
2. They need to be ONE with Father and Son (intimately and personally associated with)
3. They need to TRUST in Father and Son and be filled with JOY, clothed in GLORY, walk together in LOVE and UNITY.

From the first, when He sent out “labourers”, He instructed them to preach repentance, and that the Kingdom of God is near.

What is the Holy Spirit's viewpoint?

1. He convicts of sin...because people do not believe in Jesus (John 16:8). This refusal of the leading of the Holy Spirit in this matter is the ultimate SIN which puts us out of reach of our heavenly home. Jesus says “men love darkness rather than light”. – (John 3:19)

2. He convicts of righteousness...Jesus arose from the grave – He has conquered sin and death and made a way into the presence of God.

3. He convicts of judgment...the devil is exposed and condemned. The only power he now has is what those still in darkness allow him. Jesus disarmed the powers and (satanic) authorities, triumphed over them by the cross. (Colossians 2:13-15)

Evangelism or harvesting is therefore not getting people into churches because we are called to GO into all the world. That is too small a vision. All the world means that everyone should hear the gospel. We need to get hold of God's perspective and seek it with all our hearts.

EVANGELISM IS TO EMPOWER AND MOTIVATE PEOPLE FROM ANY BACKGROUND, ANY PAST, TO A **FUTURE** OF KINGDOM LIVING.

HOW TO EVANGELISE

(a) UNITY

The Bible tells us that five can pursue a hundred and one hundred can pursue ten thousand. (Leviticus 26:8) When two or more are gathered in the name of Jesus He is in the midst. (Matthew 18:20) This indicates that working in a team is better than alone. The Bible also says, (Psalm 133:1) “How good and pleasant it is when brothers live together in unity...for there the LORD bestows His blessing.” Therefore there is need for the group to have unity of purpose. We have found that this can be achieved by each one submitting themselves afresh to the Holy Spirit, in repentance, turning away from personal agendas, and then praying to bless each other.

Because of the attitudes of some Pastors who do not appreciate evangelists, or feel threatened by the anointing on them, a lot of people with this calling from God have experienced a great deal of rejection and non-acceptance in the church. Perhaps this lack of understanding has frightened many prospective evangelists from pursuing what God has called them to do. Many people comment on how “brave” we are, so the average Christian must feel some intimidation, and it is true that outside the church there are some who can be aggressive. Within the Body of Christ, though, this non-acceptance need not change the heart of the evangelist towards the “church” because God looks at the heart. (1 Samuel 16:7)

We believe how we have learnt to handle this “offence” is excellent training for the evangelist, and would go so far as to say, is essential in God’s sight for developing boldness and total reliance on the Holy Spirit. It also causes a potential evangelist to long for unity of purpose and acceptance in spite of differences. The previous persecution actually works TOWARDS God’s purposes, because, no matter what, God’s love and acceptance is all that counts.

The Apostle Paul has written some important words about unity. “If you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from His love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then ...be like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose. Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves...your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus.” (Philippians 2:1-5)

Every person we meet has the same longing for acceptance and belonging. **UNITY** is a tangible power to enable people to perceive and receive God’s blessing. We believe that people **SENSE** this unity of accepting each other, including and loving our differences, so unity is not just a good idea but a **POWERFUL** tool. Apostle Paul’s advice (Philippians 2:1-4) is invaluable – in humility consider others better than yourselves. In other words, allow that the other person has a valid belief and has a right to his/her opinion!

It is also good to encourage one another and be sensitive. When working in a group some meet the “easy” ones and some need to spend time so we are always conscious that it is “team” ministry and the harvest is shared by all. Therefore no one is “greater” than another, a mistake the apostles made when Jesus commissioned them. (Luke 9:1)

YES! Unity is VITAL to ministry!

(b) WORKPLACE

This seems to be any **God-appointed** place.

The book of Acts gives many insights into what a God-appointed place is.

1. In Acts 10, this was a place where the minister did NOT want to go and needed special revelation – Cornelius' house.

2. In Acts 13 God had given a revelation, a desire, to go to a place and the believers prayed together and agreed in the Holy Spirit, confident that God would go with them.

This is our testimony of our country trips, and God always confirms that our step of faith was His will and His place.

3. In Acts 24, 26 and 27 the Apostle Paul seemed to be in the wrong place, and things seemed to go wrong, but because of the unity in the Spirit, God brought about His good purposes.

4. In Acts 3 the Apostles were just going about their ordinary business and had opportunity for a supernatural event to happen.

This is our testimony when someone approaches us who has a need for healing. We offer to pray, and if they accept God always backs us up, sometimes with an instant miracle, which makes asking that person to receive the Holy Spirit easy, or by beginning a healing, just to bless them.

5. In Acts 8, for a reason only God knows at that moment, Philip is asked by the Holy Spirit to go to an appointed place, has to identify the encounter by the Holy Spirit, do the ministry and then gets translated supernaturally to another place.

These examples show that the leading of the Holy Spirit is essential for every encounter, every place which is to be the "workplace" for evangelism.

The principles of preparation we follow are to pray in unity and to anoint the area we have chosen to "set" angels and by faith **dedicate the area for God's presence**. These are practical guidelines for preparing a Holy Place – without holiness no one will see the Lord – not only the minister but the place as well. It seems to us though that as Light is in us, where we walk should bring light, and spread the fragrance of Christ, (2 Corinthians 2:16) but we need to speak that light into our "workplace", in every possible way on every occasion.

We would like to comment that the most difficult "workplace" for evangelism is **IN** the church.

There are many unsaved and demonised people who destroy unity and have controlling spirits. Some church leaders do not want the Holy Spirit to have control during the meeting time, do not seem to care about the welfare of the "sheep", and seem to think that the people are there to work – cleaning, rosters, choir, musos, etc, and their duty is to fund maintenance and salaries. This attitude cultivates a "work" mentality which warps the truth of the finished work of Jesus, and actually fosters a "work for my salvation" ethos which is the greatest insult possible to Jesus, and a very dangerous and disillusioning distortion of the gospel.

In the exceptional circumstances when the Holy Spirit does have control, it is too hard for the unsaved to go inside, because the demons in them manifest in the presence of God. It seems to us that the ideal place to meet Jesus is outside the church, in the situation as outlined under the above study topic.

We have ministered the prayer to some who have tried "church" and did not feel comfortable (because of the spirit ruling their lives), but after having prayed with us they have told us that they felt comfortable for the first time in a church, being now free to fellowship with those who have the Holy Spirit within them, because they have invited the Holy Spirit to come to them.

(c) FIT AND PROPER (to perform the calling of God as evangelist)

It is so wonderful to be God's child, in God's image and to be filled with God's Spirit. There is such a longing to be "a good boy or girl" and to please the Heavenly Father. The Apostle Paul calls the obedient followers of the Lord Jesus Christ SAINTS -- holy and sanctified ones. God has clothed us with "power from on high". This becomes "visible" to those who are seekers after God but not yet in the Kingdom. This is how God makes His appeal through us. Words without Presence are empty because the message and preaching are not to be with persuasive words but by demonstration of the Spirit's power, so that faith is not reliant on man's wisdom but on God's power. (1 Corinthians 2:4&5)

We have a choice to achieve this noble goal – our way or God's way.

Jesus said we must be born again (from above). (John 3:7) There is actually no way of pleasing God if we have not chosen to be in His family. He loves us because HE IS LOVE but we cannot communicate with Him, and know His will, unless we take this first step of submitting our will to be in His will. Only the Holy Spirit knows the mind of God, so therefore we cannot even begin to know the mind of God without receiving the Spirit of God. (1 Corinthians 2:11)

We believe a fit and proper person must know and commit to these facts. This is God's perfect plan. The Old Testament way was to obey God by keeping the rules. This was not God's choice, but the way His chosen people preferred to relate to Him (Exodus 20:19ff). Of course God knew they couldn't keep the rules without His help, but they deceived themselves – were blinded by the god of this world. (2 Corinthians 4:4)

Jesus says to enter the Kingdom of God as a little child (Matthew 18:1-5). A child admits a need to learn and desires to be guided. Children believe and trust their guide and are humble. God does not like stubbornness and to think we have it all together is to exhibit pride. We believe a fit and proper person is always teachable and has a wide-eyed desire to learn. The Holy Spirit continually pours out revelation, because God is so creative and keeps well ahead of changing values in society, always ready to show us new strategies for winning the lost. This was why Jesus came as the Good Shepherd – to seek out that one lost lamb. (Luke 15:1-7)

To be the most effective follower of Jesus, no matter what God wants us to do, for the greatest satisfaction and commendation of the Father, it is good to be a fit and proper person, to love the Lord with all our heart, all our soul (mind, will and emotions), and all our strength.

Paul's instruction to Timothy was "to do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth." (2 Timothy 2:15) He also instructs Timothy to "watch your life and doctrine closely. Persevere in them, because if you do, you will save both yourself and your hearers." (1 Timothy 4:16)

The Spirit-filled person knows he/she has a whole toolkit, generously given by the Holy Spirit for use, (1 Corinthians 12:4-11) to use as the Spirit leads. We practise using these gifts until we are fully experienced. This desire to use all the gifts actually honours the Giver. Discernment, for example, is very valuable so that we do not waste time and get into argument with some who are the devil's messengers who want to distract us or get us into argument. Words of knowledge and prophecy amaze people outside the church and convince them that God knows them already. Fit and proper people want to understand God's heart for the lost.

(d) MAKE DISCIPLES

An evangelist is not concerned with getting people into church but introducing them to Jesus. When they have met the One we love they will really want to learn more and will very likely ask where they can do so.

Donald McGavran has written a book "Understanding Church Growth". On page 123 he speaks about anti-growth that is caused by misunderstanding the principle of discipleship. To simplify he defines D1, D2 and D3, as first contact up to perfecting by the church. The evangelist operates with D1 and D2 where a new contact is introduced to Jesus and ministered the baptism of the Holy Spirit so that they will be hungry for more. Instead of the spirit of the world they now have the Holy Spirit to speak into their hearts their next step towards growth in Christ Jesus. These two steps can be likened to catching and cleaning fish.

We love Donald McGavran's division of levels of making disciples because it makes it so simple.

1. Meet Jesus and experience His blessing – the role of the evangelist in the POWER of the Holy Spirit.
2. Ask Him into your heart – put your life in His hands – the role of the evangelist in the POWER of the Holy Spirit
3. Be endued with the power from on high, so that the mind is opened to the Spiritual things of God – the role of the evangelist in the POWER of the Holy Spirit.
4. Taste the purity and cleansing power, the goodness and love of God – the quick work of the Holy Spirit.
5. Get hungry for more of God – the work of the Holy Spirit.
6. Seek God with all our heart by finding a church, reading the Bible, and learning to talk to God in a personal (as different from a "religious") way – the work of the Holy Spirit.
7. Be taught and encouraged by the Word of God – the role of the Pastor/Teacher.
8. Grow stronger in the Word, understand and receive God's promises personally as God speaking to us. Be convicted of sin, righteousness and judgment – the work of the Holy Spirit.
9. Serve others and find your own place in God's plan – the work of the Holy Spirit and the faithful teaching and guidance of the Pastor/Teacher.

In our estimation the Evangelist has the best and most exciting job of all. We have the opportunity to turn the hearts of the "wicked" (Ezekiel 33:11) towards God, their Saviour. We have the privilege to serve Him in His heart's desire that people may know Him, come into relationship with Him. We also have opportunity to speak God's peace to them.

(e) TERRITORIAL SPIRITS

The concept of territorial spirits is a very interesting one, especially as we read the Prophets. Ezekiel speaks God's judgment against certain areas and countries for characteristics which are contrary to God's own desires and plans for that place, eg, Ezekiel 25,26, and in many of the Minor Prophets also, – eg, Hosea 5, Amos 1, Obadiah, and Micah 1. The significance of these Scriptures has not been taught much, perhaps because it is an uncomfortable subject or even because most of the body of Christ are too focussed on themselves to be equipped for real Spiritual warfare.

God placed Adam and Eve to RULE in Eden, but they surrendered their authority to Satan. Satan has been using the same tricks ever since to get rights to rule in the earth. God has placed people in countries and areas today, to RULE as a delegated authority under Him for the welfare of that place. However people are still making the same mistake as their forefather, Adam. They are doing things their own way, not realising that it is actually the way of their *de facto* father, the devil. What is worse, even children of the Heavenly Father don't know their rights to RULE their own area.

Of course Satan is quite pleased about this. He sends demons into these areas to rule on his behalf as they get opportunity. They prowl the area, waiting for ignorant people to open their mouths and invite or "prophecy" destructive things which are contrary to God's plans. These demons need a body to operate through. Those who are not Holy Spirit-filled are totally vulnerable to be puppets/agents of the evil one. Once these ugly things begin to happen more demons are sent to reinforce, until an area becomes known by those characteristics. Demons like to be promoted, just like humans do. They like to have "charge" in an area so that the place becomes known by their name. We call these "territorial spirits" and they have a satanically inspired right to RULE. Those who are being used by the devil often have no idea because the devil has blinded them. This is why Jesus said on the Cross "Father forgive them for they don't know what they are doing".

This is a terrible state of affairs for God because He gets the blame. We believe that Spiritual warfare is therefore taking back the territory that the devil has claimed in any place. The head territorial spirit's power needs to be broken by those with greater authority, ie, the born again and Spirit filled family of God. Because God has delegated His authority to His family, and authorised us to act on His behalf in the power of the Holy Spirit, we act on whatever strategy God gives us. It is not to beg God to act but to operate in faith that God will back our actions.

Because of the non-understanding of God's plans and desires, foolish people not only do the devil's will in ignorance but set up "high places", or places of authority which entrench these demons, virtually authorising these demons to be "kings" of this area. This causes a stronghold, which must be pulled down in the greater authority of Jesus, so that people can be freed from the influence of this evil spirit. This is not a physical act but a Spiritual and faith act by anointing with oil, which God decreed to be used to make things holy. God set this precedent in Exodus 30:29. This becomes, to Satan, a symbol of our Spiritual authority and he must bow. This is a very important part of Spiritual warfare and the Body of Christ needs to take hold of it. Our experience is that God backs this work and revelation all the time.

(f) ANOINTING

We have an anointing from the Holy One. (1 John 2:20) This is the presence of God in us. When we anoint people or places with oil, by faith, according to God's word (Exodus 30:29) we are intending them to become "most holy, and whatever touches them will be holy". This is an act of consecration and God honours our faith. When this anointing of God is experienced fresh we feel the presence with joy, love and holiness because God wants us to know Him. To be clothed with power from on high is indeed the most satisfying and glorious experience – the restoration and fulfilment of God's original plan for mankind which was lost when Adam and Eve disobeyed God in the Garden of Eden. They were clothed with the glory of God but sin left them naked and ashamed. God, in His mercy, clothed them with animal skins. This was very symbolic – the Lamb of God would eventually shed His blood to remove the curse from us by becoming the curse in our place. (Galatians 3:13) He became sin so that we might become the righteousness of God. (2 Corinthians 5:21)

This passage of Scripture also tells us that we are His ambassadors – God making His appeal (to the unsaved) through us. This appeal is not a mental or verbal debate, but is this splendour, this glory, this Presence of God which was on Adam and Eve before the Fall. He is with us, in us and on us. Isaiah 10:27 describes it as "fat" (NIV) or oil, and this anointing is what breaks yokes (the unsaved connected to the devil) and removes burdens (relieves people from trying to bear their own sins and follies). This enables them supernaturally, in the Glory and Presence, to be forgiven and cleansed. This can be ministered with or without the oil, but with the anointed person's touch (usually the hand, as a purposeful act of blessing).

This is all the work of the Holy Spirit, who uses "surrendered" earthen vessels to bring those who are in the power of the evil one to be released and brought into the family of God. When born-again Christians function in this anointing they are fulfilling God's original plan to multiply and fill the earth (with "family" members, reborn in the likeness of the Father and representing His nature and His characteristics).

When we choose to be clothed with this anointing, God is quick to speak into our hearts that "Well done". This is our experience and that is why we repent as soon as the Holy Spirit convicts us of a mistake in thought, word or action.

This is more than saying the sinner's prayer for the first time. This is the refilling of the Holy Spirit, whom God gives freely to those who ask. The church originally used to say a prayer of repentance every week, but it became a ritual and the purpose and meaning was lost. When it is a means of coming into the throne room to receive fresh glory and power – to look to Him and be radiant (Psalm 34:5) – receiving by faith – God answers our prayer with what we have asked for. Yes, to be clothed with the power from high is the most satisfying and glorious experience.

Many believers have never had the experience because they have believed with their minds only. Some have been taught that we are not to expect emotion, but we ask, "What love relationship has no feelings and emotion?" God's love is poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit and this should flow in with a sense similar to sexual climax. This is the experience that an evangelist who is anointed can transfer to the recipient of the blessing. It can be so overwhelming that people fall down under the weight of glory.

(g) BORN AGAIN

When Jesus said, “**You must be born again**” (John 3:3) He was not talking about something automatic otherwise the teaching would simply be to believe. Born Again is a vital condition that seems to be generally misunderstood in the Church. Being born again is just that – a life-changing experience. We have become a new creation – the old has gone, the new has come! (2 Corinthians 5:17) We **were** dead in our transgressions and sins (Ephesians 2:1) but now we **are made alive** with Christ. (Ephesians 2:5) It is significant what happened to the disciples at Ephesus when Paul asked them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?” (Acts 19:2) The Samaritans who believed and were baptised (in water) (Acts 8:12-17) had not received the Holy Spirit until Peter and John placed their hands upon them.

It is essential to understand the difference between the baptism of repentance (washing from sin) and the baptism of the Holy Spirit and Fire (empowerment and holiness – a fit vessel for the Lord’s power). John the Baptist said, “I baptise with water for repentance...He (Jesus) will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.” (Matthew 3:11) Jesus was baptised in water “to fulfil all righteousness”. (Matthew 3:15) Although He had no sin He demonstrated the way. Although He was full of the Holy Spirit, after He prayed He received an infilling of the Holy Spirit as confirmation from the Heavenly Father by a sign and wonder (of the voice from Heaven).

Samuel prophesied to Saul that when the Holy Spirit came upon him in power he would be changed into different person (1 Samuel 10:6). This act was a “type” or “shadow” of the real experience after Jesus came as Emanuel, God with us, and then sent the Holy Spirit to us. It is He who reveals the truth to us, and convicts us of sin, righteousness and judgment, and abides with us and in us forever.

It is very good to believe what God says, but if we do not commit ourselves to His promises and commands, it is really as if we do not trust Him. Jesus told the disciples to stay in the city until they were “clothed with power from on high”. (Luke 24:49) These had received the Holy Spirit by promise when Jesus breathed on them but they required an anointing of power to do His work. It must be the same for all His followers. Although we have gone through the baptism of repentance and are washed clean from sin, it is very dangerous to stay in this state without being filled with the love and power of God which changes us from one degree of glory to another. This washed but not filled state leaves us open and vulnerable to demonic attack and we are at risk of falling into sin again. This is the greatest cause of new believers falling away or being discouraged and thinking that Christianity does not work. If we are truly in God’s family by being born again by the Spirit of God, He disciplines and trains us as a true Father to His own children and He protects us from the evil one.

Being born again therefore is relinquishing the old ways and habits and being “submerged” in the Holy Spirit’s love and power, especially by the laying on of hands, because this power is transferable, according to the Bible. If Jesus is not Lord of all He is not Lord at all. Once we allow Jesus to have all of us, to be overwhelmed by His Holy Spirit, we indeed become a different person. Instead of theory and mental knowledge it becomes experience and intimate relationship. This is our testimony. What a wonderful God we serve, who provides the power to do His work!

(h) FORGIVENESS

The unforgivable sins are blaspheming the Holy Spirit (speaking against the Holy Spirit) (Matthew 12:32) and not forgiving others (Matthew 6:15).

Unforgiveness is a very destructive practice, and will render a believer totally ineffective.

Jesus preached forgiveness because it is absolutely essential for our spiritual, mental and emotional health and well-being.

The Accuser's policy and signature is to kill, steal and destroy and he is always involved in unforgiveness. First, he works on us, shaming us for our mistakes and short-comings so that we can't forgive ourselves. This unforgiveness cripples us with shame and blame which our psyche is not designed to cope with so we do one of two things –

- a) we justify ourselves and make excuses
- b) we blame others for our own transgressions.

We believe that many people have suicided because of this tactic of the devil.

Second, the devil wants us to get offended by other people's actions and short-comings so that we can't forgive them, and relationships and friendships are broken.

Jesus' answer is 1 John 1:9 – if we confess our sins, God is faithful and just (*Jesus has already paid for the sin on the Cross*) and will forgive our sins and cleanse (or purify) us from all unrighteousness. In other words, we offload our own mistakes, or the mistakes other people have made in their dealings with us, at the Cross. This is not a "religious" thing to do – this is a miracle of God. God actually purifies us as He promises and the pain is removed. Jesus does not want us to let the Accuser ruin our lives in either of these ways because He wants us to walk in, be bathed in, the Father's love.

Causing people to sin also offends our Holy God. "If anyone causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better...to be drowned in the sea." (Matthew 18:6&7) This means that apologising for our sin to someone else is also important for the welfare of both parties. That is why Jesus said. "If your brother sins against you go and show him his fault." (Matthew 18:15) However many will not respond as we would hope, with sincere apology to restore the broken trust. But let us resolve to honour our loved Saviour by always being humble enough to consider the welfare of others.

A Bible verse that helped us understand about forgiveness is John 20:23. Forgiving is releasing sins to God so that He deals with the consequences, whereas not forgiving is retaining them and therefore being responsible for the consequences ourselves, even if it were not our sin in the first place. This is obviously a very stupid thing to do, so Jesus' command is both fair and practical good sense. For our Spiritual and even physical health He is helping us to avoid contamination by the sins of others.

Jesus paid a high price so that we can approach the throne of grace with confidence and receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need (Hebrews 4:16). The heart of Love (Heavenly Father) longs to embrace us as His precious children, to pour His love and understanding out to us. Forgiveness from God is a cleansing from all defilement and a covering of His glory and Presence which He freely gives. To be continuously being filled with this love is what casts out fear. (1 John 4:18)

Walking in forgiveness is walking in the Love of God – our right and inheritance as a child of God. We have experienced this and, with God's help, will not give place to the devil.

(i) IMPARTATION

This is a very important principle which has not been taught, which has caused many who call themselves Christian to either strive or give up. We meet many in the streets in our ministry, who even hate the church because there is no outworking of God's power in their lives. Because God empowered those in the Upper Room sovereignly on the day of Pentecost, Christian ministers have "presumed" that assent (mental belief) to the Gospel confers the power. The Bible, however, teaches differently. God, in His word, (Ephesians 3:20) encourages us to be bold in our faith, to enlarge the place of our tent, (Isaiah 54:2) that He will fulfil every good purpose and every act prompted by our faith." (2 Thessalonians 1:11) When we know, not only Who lives within our hearts but that He desires us to use this power we become bold to avail ourselves of His promises for the sake of His Kingdom.

Transfer of spirits is established in the Old Testament (Leviticus 16:21) passing sins, through laying on of hands, onto a "Scapegoat". Jesus said, "But if I drive out demons by the Spirit of God, then the Kingdom of God has come among you." (Matthew 12:28) Jesus considered sickness, sin and any evil thing as related. (eg, Mark 1:41 and Mark 2:1-12)

Jesus is the Baptiser and gives the miracle from "on high" (John 3:3) but Matthew states that Jesus' baptism is the Holy Spirit and Fire (Matthew 3:11). Jesus has chosen us to continue His work on the earth – to be His hands and feet (eg, Mark 16:18). We are to minister His power and He will honour this (back us up) because of our faith and obedience to His word, just as He did the 72 he sent out in His name. (Luke 10: 1-24)

The Apostles practised this power ministry and Simon (the sorcerer) witnessed the power, the effect of which was enough for him to want to buy it (Acts 8:18). Another reference is in Acts 19 when the Holy Spirit came on those who had not experienced the Holy Spirit before Paul laid his hands on them, and immediately there was a powerful effect. Because of either "conservative" or false teaching Christians have not stepped up to this faith level and have some fear. There is also a difficulty in our litigious society that precludes any "touch". But taking the hand of another person, while in the heart believing that what we are doing is "laying on of hands" is the most practical way to achieve the desire of our heart to impart the Holy Spirit to those who will receive.

The main requirement for people to receive the Holy Spirit by impartation, which short-circuits a long waiting period, is a willingness to repent – confess with their mouth aloud, and for the person ministering the baptism to be a clean vessel, so that we are a "good channel" for the Holy Spirit's power. We meet many church people who will not repent because they have prayed "the sinner's prayer" many years ago. This reluctance to come into God's presence in unity is an indication of the luke-warmness which the Laodicean church had. But a willingness to seek the impartation of the Holy Spirit is an open declaration to Jesus of a desire for His presence and power in our lives, which He loves. The desire to share what we have received with others indicates to Him that we want to do His work as a clean vessel, to bring honour to Him, demonstrate His love and power to others and bless them, and to show ourselves trustworthy. As in the Parable of the Talents, He gives us a double portion.

This ministry, then, is not just for special leaders but for anyone who is willing to be born again and share what God has given them, and they will taste the Lord's "Well done".

(j) PRAYER

When we first became Christian, and entered into our personal relationship with Jesus, we just wanted to talk to God, but the church started to teach us the “theology” of prayer. It seemed to us to be a ritual – set prayers, written by someone a long time ago in careful, perfectly phrased English. Other prayers which were not written down were intoned in a sort of sing-song voice. It was very confusing. We read many books on prayer in an effort to understand but the more we studied, the less we understood. As we look back, this is terrible, because we allowed a religious spirit – “christianism” or “churchianity” (a belief and practice of the traditions handed down through the ages) – to enter, in our zeal for knowledge about doing the right thing. Even today in some churches we have seen these things. Prayer is personal conversation with a personal God so it is not learnt from books but from practice in relationship with Him.

When we are born from above the Holy Spirit is our Guide and Counsellor, and speaks to our hearts from within. Like everything else in the Kingdom of God (the Family of God), when we listen to the voice of the Holy Spirit and obey in simple trust we grow in our prayer life too. God is as proud of our conversations with Him as any parent with their children. We say we learn to talk but strictly we talk to learn to talk. He loves to hear us honour His Son so we pray in the name of Jesus.

The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective, so growth in this area of our lives is important. (James 5:16) When we are in right standing with God we are able to approach God’s throne confidently, and find help (strength, guidance, blessing, etc,) in our time of need. (Hebrews 4:16) When we are cleansed from sin’s taint we know God hears and answers prayer. The Bible does say that if we cherish sin in our hearts God does not listen. (Psalm 66:18) This means that, because of His word, God holds back from answering prayer because we value our sinful ways more than God’s way, but, with a soft heart towards God, we can easily repent.

The Holy Spirit is willing to give us a personal prayer language to communicate with God, especially if we want to pray about things that we don’t want the devil to know about. The enemy likes to put evil thoughts into our minds in the hope that we will speak them out, but we can talk to God about this in our special language so the devil doesn’t know what we are saying. The supplication is in our mind but the words are provided by the Holy Spirit. Prayer is very powerful in a group who are in unity. “If two of you on earth agree about anything you ask for, it will be done for you by My Father in Heaven. When two or three come together in My name, there I am with them.” (Matthew 18:19&20)

Another aspect of prayer is quoting God’s word and/or will in any situation as the ultimate authority. When we command sickness to go, or clouds to drop their water, we use God’s word and God’s promises as our authority and God backs us up, because He exalts His word above all things. (Psalm 138:2)

Praying is a wonderful privilege – as if He and you or I are face to face, and then we represent Him and speak for Him on this earth.

(k) HARVESTERS

When Noah came through the flood God made a promise – seedtime and harvest...will never cease. (Genesis 8:22)

God sent His only Son – the promised “seed” of the woman (Genesis 3:15) – so that none should perish but have eternal life. God always keeps His word so He had to sow a seed too.

When Isaiah was cleansed, he heard the eternal question – “Who will go for us?”, (Isaiah 6:8) and he answered “Here am I, send me”. He wrote down the most beautiful prophecies about the fruit of that promised “seed”, eg, Isaiah 53.

An angel appeared to Mary. Was she willing to be the woman prophesied so long ago?

She answered “May it be to me as you have said” (Luke 1:38) and she accepted God’s seed into her body. Jesus said “It is finished”. The sin of the world was paid for, reconciliation and restoration of fellowship with God was accomplished. Now all that was left was to go into the world and make disciples because the seed had come to full ripeness.

The apostles began the work by the commission of Jesus, (Matthew 28:19) but many have been born into the world since then, and Jesus foreshadowed that the workers are few, even though the harvest is plentiful. (Luke 10:2).

We always wanted to be in that 72 – to bring in the harvest, but we did not know a good strategy because the church did not seem to know a good one either. The “GO” mentality was replaced by the “come to the glorious building” mentality more than 1000 years ago. The only Christians who still practise “GO” are some groups who do not even call themselves Christian, such as Jehovah’s Witnesses and Mormons.

Bringing in the harvest is not issuing an invitation (via a tract), or bringing to a church meeting. It is introducing people into the Kingdom (Family) of God. We are not in the family of God unless we are born into it by the Spirit of God – born again. This is belief, confession, acceptance and cleansing from sin and being given a new heart, one that is soft to God. The harvester has the responsibility of leading the prospective baby in Christ to repent and open his/her heart to Jesus who sends His Holy Spirit to do the supernatural “death to life” transformation. We could describe this as catching and cleaning the fish. The laying on of hands in this is the transference of power so that the new believer is not only emptied of the old flesh life but filled with the new power to live the new way. Only after this has taken place is the new believer ready to take their place in the church meeting, free from demons that would otherwise plague them and prevent them from learning the ways of God. We have had very interesting testimonies from those who had tried church but not been comfortable (because of the spirit/s within them), but after asking the Holy Spirit into their hearts found the presence of God in the church perfectly comfortable. Inviting those who are in the power of the devil (by default, as there are only two spiritual kingdoms) into a holy place is not good for those who are weak in faith who are there, or for the guest who is trying not to manifest.

It is a tremendous privilege to be a harvester. This cannot be done by man’s power, only by God’s power, because it is a transfer from spiritual death to spiritual life. It is done by God’s Spirit into the human spirit to make it alive to righteousness. The KJV calls it “quickening”. God, however, chooses to use human agents as His mouthpiece and their touch to transfer His power. “How can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can they preach unless they are sent?” (Romans 10:14&15)

When the established church wakes up to these facts, they will no longer ask people to come to church, but ask them to come to Jesus in the power of the Holy Spirit.

OUR RESPONSE...Here am I, send me.

(I) MIRACLES

Miracles are defined in the dictionary as extraordinary events attributed to some supernatural agency, but in Greek, Hebrew or Aramaic texts the words translated also as wonders, signs, mighty acts and powers refer to the activity of the Living God, in nature and history. Whether these acts are the ordinary pattern of natural events or out of the ordinary (extraordinary) is not distinguished, because it really comes down to our worldview. We know from the Bible that “nothing is impossible with God”, so the degree of “extraordinary” is in direct relation to our mind-set.

Nevertheless, there are 3 emphases of God’s activity – distinctive, mighty or powerful and meaningful or significant. The Bible records many miracles which, although in our worldview were any or all of these, yet obviously to Jesus were quite simple. He knew His authority and God’s heart, and had the faith of God by the Holy Spirit. Each miracle recorded by those who wrote the gospels were significant for various reasons. Matthew was trying to convey the Kingship of Jesus, Mark the work ethic as Jesus continually enforced the Father’s love and compassion to a broken world, Luke, being a doctor who did not have medical answers for what he saw, recorded especially medical miracles, and John was purposed in telling the different signs and wonders that Jesus wanted His followers to learn to copy, in the power of the Holy Spirit that Jesus would send to all who believe and receive.

There is nowadays a much lower consciousness of God’s sustaining power over the natural world, eg, rainfall. God is constantly good and generous and faithful to accomplish His own plans, the primary one being to train His sons and daughters to rule in His creation. Because of inherited sin, the first great miracle is to be re-born by the Holy Spirit, so that we can learn to have God’s mind, being transformed by the renewal of our minds to God’s way of thinking. (Romans 12:1&2 and 8:5)

Jesus demonstrated continually how we should be reclaiming our right and authority to rule over the created world. He said we only need faith as small as a mustard seed, and nothing will be impossible **for you**. (Matthew 17:20)

“Have the faith of God... and move a mountain into the sea”. (Mark 11:22-24)

“Have faith and cast out evil spirits”. (Mark 9:19-23)

“Have faith and feed 5000”. (Mark 6:37)

“Why haven’t you faith (to speak to the waves to be still)?” (Mark 4:35-40)

Then Jesus commissioned His followers to do even greater works than He did. (John 14:12)

The working of miracles is also a gift of the Holy Spirit. (1 Corinthians 12:10)

So God does distinctive, mighty and significant acts in the context of His relationship with His family, as we speak out and intercede for His blessing on others, to strengthen and reconcile others to Himself (for His glory). God’s acts are always for blessing – a miracle is always for blessing; setting free from the ravages of the evil one and our own foolishness and God wants us to be His agents on the earth.

Absolutely NOTHING is impossible for God and therefore for God’s Holy Spirit in us. We must rise up in faith, have the mind of God and call the blessings down into our situation. The book of Acts is full of the mighty acts of the believers who took God at His word. Hebrews 12 reminds us of many who did from the beginning of the Bible right down to the time it was written, well after the day of Pentecost and challenges us to do the same.

(m) ATTITUDE

Because of Jesus' teaching in the beatitudes about our attitude to God and others, to be blessed and to be a blessing, (Matthew 5:3-10) there is some confusion about how this teaching balances with another saying of Jesus. "The Kingdom of God has been forcefully advancing and forceful men lay hold of it." (Matthew 11:12) Verse 14 says that if you are willing to accept it... John (the Baptist) is the Elijah who was to come. The first teaches on poor in spirit, mourners, meek, mercy, pure in heart, peacemakers and being persecuted because of righteousness. The second statement is the desired quality against God's enemy and ours, Satan and his minions.

What was John's ministry? "Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for Him." (Matthew 3:3). He made some very strong statements to those who opposed this move of God, so that people could actually come into the Kingdom. Perhaps we could call him the first pre-evangelist. One of the evangelist's responsibilities then is to rebuke anyone who would prevent, through any word or action of theirs, a person becoming a Christian. We meet many people in groups, but there can be one in that whole group who is influential enough to "stumble" the one who is soft to the wooing of the Holy Spirit. Though Jesus was so meek He rose up against the money-changers because they were causing others to "stumble". (John 2:14-16) "Be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power". (Ephesians 6:10)

The Bible tells us how we need to act in these circumstances. We have previously discussed preparing ourselves and our workplace but if we do not understand this form of spiritual warfare (such as Elijah did with the prophets of Baal (1 Kings 17:21-40)) a lot of people are going to miss out on their heavenly appointment.

So there is a big difference between a mighty warrior, who tears down strongholds, and a follower of Jesus who accepts those whose faith is weak without passing judgment on disputable matters. (Romans 14:1) Jeremiah was commissioned "Now I have put my words in your mouth. See, today I appoint you over nations and kingdoms to uproot and tear down, to destroy and overthrow, to build and to plant". (Jeremiah 1:10) There is obviously a twofold thrust to preaching the gospel.

This calls for discernment. From the Bible it is plain that we must test the spirits. (1 John 4:1-3) If they are of the Antichrist – effectively reacting to and opposing the anointing in which we walk – we have a responsibility to come against these and to bind them in Jesus' Name. This passage goes on to encourage us that greater is He who is in us than the one who is in the world, who speak from the world's viewpoint. (1 John 2:16) These are opposed to the gospel – indeed the gospel is foolishness to them and they speak and act on Satan's behalf. People are blinded to the truth but the Son can set them free by His Presence and the anointing.

So we love and bless the children of God, and those that want to be, but any spirit that comes against the knowledge of God, we must take our authority and calling seriously and put a stop to that power decisively, and "bind" it. This must be the attitude of the effective evangelist. We are mighty warriors, speaking spirits, representing God faithfully on this earth.

(n) TONGUE OF AN EVANGELIST

The evangelist is able to persuade people to receive Jesus because of the unique anointing. Nevertheless, practice makes perfect, so the more we speak the gospel to people, the more we develop our skill which has been given to us by our gracious God.

Genesis 1:27 states that man was made in God's own image with the ability to speak things into being – a "speaking spirit". This is why Adam named the animals. (Genesis 2:19)

Proverbs 18:21 states that the tongue has the power over life and death, and those who love it (embrace this principle) will eat the fruit.

There are two important biblical principles for the evangelist. The keys of the Kingdom are in the power of the tongue, "For I have given you the keys of the Kingdom; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in Heaven and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in Heaven." There is a twofold thrust. (Matthew 16:19)

Romans 10:13-15 state that no one can call on the name of the Lord unless they hear the message. This word "hear" is the same word as the Bible uses when God hears, (eg, 1 John 5:14& 15). Hearing is followed by action. Hebrews 4:12 reminds us that the word of God is living and active... God also promises that when His word is sent forth it will not return empty but accomplish what He desires, (Isaiah 55:11) and His desire is that all people be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth. (1 Timothy 2:4) A well-prepared evangelist needs to know as many of God's promises as possible.

We believe that those who are called to be evangelists are as convinced as Apostle Paul when he writes, (Romans 1:16) "I am not ashamed of the gospel because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes". This is our testimony and God does not have favourites. If He has done it for us we are convinced that, with the power of God's love in us and in our words, He will do it in every divine encounter that He gives us. This is the power of "loosing".

The other aspect of the use of our tongue in evangelism is "binding" the evil one. As the Bible warns us, there are many messengers of Satan (some unwitting, but they still make a difference to the power of the anointing). They try to stop the flow of the ministry. They might mock a friend who stops in response to the presence and power of God or they might stop the work by engaging us in fruitless conversation and wanting to argue when they have no intention of agreeing with us in prayer. Satan has at least two strategies in this tactic – one, to prevent us from reaching more fertile ground, and two, to make us disobey the injunction in the Bible not to engage in argument and thus sully our anointing, so as to be rendered ineffective. This calls for alertness and discernment. We either bid the person a pleasant "goodbye" or bind the spirit of Antichrist (anti- anointing). Sometimes we also need to bind spirits of fear, unbelief and other negative things which we discern would prevent the Divine appointment from praying.

We find that most people who meet us for their divine appointment only need to hear the briefest outline of what Jesus did for us on the cross 2000 years ago and are most happy to pray, because it is the power of the gospel **in** us and the glory of God **on** us that woos them. Apostle Paul writes of his evangelism (1 Corinthians 2:4)... "demonstrations of the Spirit's power so that your faith might not rest on men's wisdom but on God's power".

Many times in the past we have used our tongues in the ungodly way, but when we use our tongues to tell others about Jesus' love for them and His desire for them to be in His family it is the most fulfilling thing we have ever done.

(o) ANGELS IN MINISTRY

There are many references in the Bible to angels, who are a “heavenly army” or host and are ordered in ranks, the chief of which are archangels, also called “princes”, eg, Daniel 10:13. There are seraphim who attend God’s throne (Isaiah 6:1&2) and there are others that Hebrews 1:14 calls “ministering spirits sent to serve those who will inherit salvation”. Many are assigned to territories and others to people as guardian angels. They are usually invisible but can become visible, appearing as a man or as a bright light such as came to Saul on the Damascus road. (Acts 9:4-7) When these angels appear (especially the Angel of the Lord), they come as an extension of the Divine personality and are recognized and addressed as LORD. The theological term is “Theophany” or “Christophany”.

One personal experience is when I (Elaine) was walking home in the dark, alone, and a man was following me. I was aware of the danger, but I spoke out to the man to stop following me and he said “sorry”, and went away. I believe he saw the angels who were guarding me, even though I could not see them myself. Another was when we had a young man in our home who wanted to get away from his past, but we had to ask him to leave. He had a violent past and rose to strike one of us but, to his surprise (and ours), was suddenly thrown onto the floor. Again we saw no angel but there is no other explanation. These have been valuable testimonies for young people about God’s agents of protection.

When Satan was cast out of Heaven he took one third of God’s angels with him, to do his own bidding. These became demonic powers and are called “kings” in Daniel 11 and Ezekiel 28. They will eventually perish but meanwhile work by assignment into territories and people who are presently in the “world”, as God’s angels do, but with evil intent, to kill, steal and destroy. There is therefore, a spiritual war all the time as the good angels await the instructions of the saints, through prayer and words of command. Meanwhile Satan is commanding his hosts to destroy God’s Kingdom so he can exalt himself above the throne of God. (Isaiah 14:13-16)

When a person becomes a born-again Christian and is empowered by the Holy Spirit, it is a responsibility we take to give our angels instructions to help us in our “war” against the powers of darkness. The Bible says “our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms”. (Ephesians 6:12) Jesus defeated the devil through the Cross (Colossians 2:14&15) so that we can walk in His authority to regain as much ground from our enemy as He can, through us. We must be quick to repent of our mistakes to keep ourselves safe from the evil one who is quick to attack if our hedge of protection is broken, which sin will do. “The hosts of God encamp around those who reverence Him”, (Psalm 34:7) but God will take away the hedge that protects a vineyard that is producing bad fruit. (Isaiah 5:5)

This “Christ in us, the hope of glory” (Colossians 1:27) is the mystery that these demonic powers (rulers of this age), (1 Corinthians 2:8) longed to know. They would not have crucified Christ Jesus, the Lord of glory. They did not know that this was the way God would restore His highest creation – man – to his position of rule again. The Bible tells us that “greater is He who is in us than he who is in the world”, (1 John 4:4) but we need to know and avail ourselves of our God-given allies. Winning souls for the Kingdom is gaining ground over the enemy who comes to kill steal and destroy. (John 10:10)

(p) PREACHING

Preaching is to proclaim or expound (the Gospel), evangelise, propagate (multiply, transmit, reproduce, sow seeds). In most churches a sermon is teaching or moralising. Teaching is a process whereby the teacher moves a person from ignorance of a matter to mental understanding. This is necessary and good but it is not preaching. Instruction can also be physical education.

Preaching is proclaiming to the spirit of a person. We are created as “speaking spirits” and God’s instructions from the beginning were to multiply / proliferate / reproduce – all synonyms for propagate. The words we speak are to create the visions and dreams that God has placed in our hearts so that they become a reality. The message of the gospel is not just facts but motivating people towards a life change. As evangelists we are proclaiming words of life into our “workplace”, to be transmitted by the Holy Spirit into any good ground (heart) that is there through the ears of the hearer. God promises that His word will not return empty but will achieve the purpose for which it was sent. (Isaiah 55:11) “How can they hear without a preacher?” (Romans 10:14) The words we speak (either straight from the Bible or pre-digested by the preacher) are seed that takes root in the hearer’s heart (spirit). “Faith comes by hearing the word”. (Romans 10:17) There is always a prophetic element in preaching because only God’s word has power to transform. The word of God has intrinsic power. “The word of God is near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart.” (Romans 10:8&9) Just speaking out the word of God affects the heart. That is why we ask people to read the prayer, so that they can preach to themselves and believe.

We have a responsibility to preach Good News – Jesus loves, Jesus heals, Jesus saves – to persuade people to taste and see that the Lord is good. (Psalm 34:8) It is important to teach repentance but this word has been taught as penitence, which has given people a wrong concept. Repentance is changing one’s mind and one’s direction and accepting the Good News instead of the world’s view, which is negative (an enemy) to God. Even the dictionaries reinforce this wrong meaning. The Latin expression is “MORES SUOS MUTARE” (mores = manners, character, disposition; suos = your; mutare = change). Religion has distorted this true meaning to its present connotation. So many good church people are deceived into thinking that we only have to repent once in a lifetime. This is a lie because every day we get caught into thinking the world’s way and need to reposition ourselves afresh – to change our manner, character or disposition. If we do not we are in great danger of becoming complacent, (Zephaniah 1:12 describes it as wine dregs), and self-righteous.

Preaching needs to keep us challenged all the time about the goodness of God and His love for all people, our need to repent, come into intimate relationship with God by being filled regularly with His Holy Spirit, to be empowered by this baptism to live God’s way, wholly pleasing and blameless before Him. (Romans 10:8&9 and Acts 2:38)

The Apostle, Paul, encourages us to remember that our competence comes from God. He has made us competent as ministers of a new Covenant – not of the letter (of the law) but of the Spirit; for the letter kills but the Spirit gives life. (2 Corinthians 3:5&6)

(q) PROPHECY

The office of Prophet is a particular call but the gift is available for all believers who are baptised in the Holy Spirit because it has been spoken out in Joel and realised in Acts 2:17. Prophecy is speaking out God's word whether received audibly, by the senses or by reading the Bible. God says (Amos 3:7) He does nothing without revealing His plan to His servants the prophets.

This gift is an important tool for the evangelist...the testimony of Jesus is the Spirit of prophecy, (Revelation 19:10) and He says "the Son can do nothing by Himself, He can only do what He sees the Father doing, because whatever the Father does, the Son also does". (John 5:19) He also says, "I seek not to please myself but Him who sent Me". (John 5:28) His testimony is the follow-through of His belief – a real-life experience.

Our course began with who we are. Jesus knew who He was (and is). He knew why He came into this world and what the Father required of Him. He testifies, (John 17:4) "I have brought you glory on earth by completing the work you gave Me to do".

"I gave them the words you gave Me". (John 17:8)

"I pray for them that they may be one as we are one." (John 17:11)

"I pray for them that they may have the full measure of joy within them." (John 17:13)

"I have sent them into the world." (John 17:18)

"I have given them the glory (the anointing) that you gave Me – I in them." (John 17:22)

He has therefore spoken each one of these declarations into our lives if we will receive them. We are, in Christ, a new creation, His ambassadors – God making His appeal through us.

(2 Corinthians 5:17&20). Every word we speak, in the name of Jesus has His power and authority.

The prophet therefore speaks and acts on behalf of the Master, in Christ Jesus and by the power of the Holy Spirit. That is why He warned, "By your words you will be acquitted, and by your words you will be condemned. (Matthew 12:37) This gift He has given us should be regarded as very precious.

Jesus said "I tell you the truth, a time is coming and now is when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God and those who hear will live". (John 5:25) Jesus is referring back to Ezekiel's prophecy to the valley of dry bones. Out in the streets are those who are dead in their transgressions and sins, waiting for the Word, so that they can look to the Cross and live. (Exodus 21:8) The Spirit of prophecy, the testimony of Jesus, speaks life into them, but it is important that they turn and look. They need to see Jesus in us, our unity, and His glory. They must taste and see that the Lord is good. (Psalm 34:8) This is true evangelism. We speak for them to repent (turn) and taste (see) Jesus for who He is by the impartation of the Holy Spirit.

Jesus said that the knowledge of the secrets of the Kingdom is given by revelation to those who are open, who will hear. (Matthew 13:11)

This is why we pray for Divine Appointments and introduce them into the Kingdom of God's dear Son. We are appointed to be His hands and feet and to be a speaking spirit, using the sword of the Spirit, the two-edged sword that penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. (Hebrews 4:12)

(r) EMPIRE BUILDING.

The evangelist's one desire is to introduce people to Jesus and pray for them to be filled with the Holy Spirit. We trust God's promises completely that "He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus". (Philippians 1:6) We do not recommend a church unless asked because the Holy Spirit is able to put the hunger into the heart of the newly Spirit-filled believer to choose a suitable and convenient fellowship. God has a team ready (see 1 Corinthians 3:6-8) – one plants, another waters, but God made the seed grow. So each time the seed of the gospel is planted in fresh ground – the life of a new believer – God will have "waterers" (teachers, disciplers) ready so that the seed can grow in the new believer.

The difficulty many church leaders have is their greed for seed, because the size of the church, numerically and financially is the common measure used as the sign of success, but this is the worldly way to build the church and a denial of what Jesus said. (Matthew 16:18) "Upon this rock (Jesus Himself) I will build **My** church". Gamaliel warned the Jewish leaders about Theudas and Judas who had got followers for their own cause and had failed (Acts 5:38 & 39) because their cause was not ordained by God. This is a helpful warning for any leader who builds a group around themselves, even in God's name.

There are warning signs of "empire building" such as nepotism and favouritism. These promote jealousy and rivalry for the ambitious, but laziness – a let-them-do-it attitude – or a sense of inadequacy and spiritual inferiority for the meek or timid.

Another sign is an established culture of "hedging in" the members of their church so that they are not free. They teach the doctrines and traditions of their denomination as the "only" truth which leads to defensiveness and bigotry on the part of members. Most of these are not born again by the Spirit of God to become sons and daughters of Heavenly Father, but have loyalty to their church above loyalty to Jesus. They often accuse anyone who puts Jesus' commands above theirs as a rebel and certainly as "wrong".

These leaders do however have the God-implemented desire to increase, just as the Pharisees did, (Matthew 23:15) but because of their established culture of "hedging" they forget about building Jesus' Kingdom and get caught into building their own. It seems good to have many people, much money, many workers even, a hive of activities and programmes, but...

unless we are building Jesus' Kingdom,

unless people are being changed from one degree of glory to another into the likeness of Jesus,

unless people are being equipped for the work of ministry,

unless people are being built up until they reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining the whole measure of the fullness of Christ (the Anointed One) and walk in the power of His anointing (Ephesians 4:13),

... these people will be infants, tossed back and forth, blown here and there, remaining carnal and worldly believers...in the church but not in Jesus' family.

This is the sin of "empire building" and the Holy Spirit cannot sanction such worldliness. The safe way to build the church is to seek first His Kingdom and His righteousness. (Matthew 6:33)

Kingdom building is best done outside the walls of your church where the lost are in abundance and need to hear the message of salvation.

(s) SEED

“As long as earth endures...seedtime and harvest...will never cease. (Genesis 8:22) Even God had to sow a seed, His only Son, Jesus, the seed of the woman. (Genesis 3:15) This was God’s seed which Mary accepted to become her own. This is why we ask Jesus into our hearts in the same way as Mary did.

Understanding the value of a seed is very important for the evangelist. The law of sowing and reaping is God’s immutable law. What kind of seed we sow is what kind of harvest we receive. Matthew 13:24-30 shows good seed provides a desirable harvest (wheat) but bad seed, which is actually sown by the devil, produces weeds.

Wrong seed (or bad seed) can be a feel-good message that does not convict a person of the need of a Saviour. This type of message (sowing) can also encourage people to join a church group but never actually tell them about joining the family of God by being born-again by the Holy Spirit. These people become weeds, growing with the wheat but having wrong motives and worldly natures. They are not empowered to live to the honour and glory of Jesus so they have a very bad effect on the field of wheat. (Matthew 13:19-22) Because they will not develop in a healthy way they will also be a drain on resources, demanding attention but contributing nothing of value to the church.

God supplies seed to the sower. (2 Corinthians 9:10) Whoever sows sparingly will reap sparingly and whoever sows generously will reap generously. (2 Corinthians 9:6) This truth applies to money, time or any action motivated by the Holy Spirit.

Good seed is God’s word which when sent forth will achieve what He desires. (Isaiah 55:11) Jesus said “GO into all the world and preach the good news”. (Mark 16:15) If He told us to go, He meant that the ground to be sown is outside the church. The successful evangelist not only understands the value of a seed, but what must be done with it – find the lost that are the good soil. Jesus said that the fields are ready for harvest so we must pray for workers. (Matthew 19:37) Because the workers (harvesters) are few, we work hard to gather even where we did not sow – we want 30, 60 and even 100-fold return. (Mark 4:20) Although the harvest belongs to the Master He apportions it to whomever He chooses. We apply our faith in God’s promises to water the seed, knowing God will complete the work He has already begun. (Philippians 1:6)

There is an amazing prophecy (Amos 9:13) about the days that are coming – which we believe could be these days we are now in. “The reaper will be overtaken by the ploughman and the planter by the one treading the grapes.” This is what is happening – people are so hungry for the Holy Spirit that they receive Jesus into their hearts before they know the gospel. People are being baptised in the Holy Spirit before they have been planted in a church.

This is why we harvest, impart the Holy Spirit and then sow those newly empowered back into the field by encouraging them to share the prayer with their friends and loved ones. Indeed these are very exciting days for sowing and reaping the precious seed of God’s word.

(t) DISCERNMENT

Discernment is a gift of the Holy Spirit, where one can know things about the surroundings that are not visible in the natural way. People who are involved in occult practices know by witchcraft, which is from the devil. Since the devil can only “copy” the things of God and twist this knowledge for his own use, this gift is important for the evangelist who is meeting people who are in the power of Satan, even by default. This gift gives us the ability to sense but also to see manifestations Spirit to spirit, as these opposing spirits jar and often cause the evil spirit to be aggressive towards us, completely without cause.

It is important for the evangelist to learn to distinguish between the satanic messenger and the seeker. A mistake caused the whole team and many would-be followers of Jesus Christ many problems on a particular evening of evangelism. A younger member of the team did not discern an “angel of light” (2 Corinthians 11:14&15) and engaged in lengthy conversation with him. The Leader asked a member of the team to deal with the situation who did not achieve the desired result. This is when we need to ask the Lord as to why.

There are two distinct “emotions” that one feels – a) compassion and love for the lost
b) righteous anger and indignation.

When one comes from a “church” background, niceness or nice-ism is the order of the day, but the truth is that we cannot fight Satan with nice-ism (belief in being nice) or he will win, because he plays dirty. The Bible warns us to avoid godless chatter, because those who indulge in it will become more and more ungodly. (2 Timothy 2:16) The anointing will quickly dissipate and no one in the team will get results. The whole workplace will need re-anointing.

When people are open to us – meeting the love of Jesus, the compassion of Jesus flowing from us – they are able to respond appropriately and receive the love of Jesus, opening their hearts to Him willingly. The person who wants to debate and argue is representative of the “angel of light” – seems to be a genuine seeker but in actual fact is sent by Satan (willingly or unwillingly – Satan is not nice!) to steal, kill and destroy the work that God is doing in that “workplace”. Although this particular person was identified as an “angel of light” quite easily, the team member did not recognise (as Paul did with Elymas in Acts 13:10) that the righteous anger felt was God’s cue to immediately “rebuke” and then “bind” the spirits of antichrist in this man, perhaps even setting him free to be a believer too.

We repent to God when we “miss His leading”, and try to learn from other people’s mistakes. God is a very patient teacher and when we repent He will sort it out for us. Most born again Christians are quick to discern but it takes resolve to learn what to do with a problem person.

This ministry has the God-given responsibility to equip the saints, so as Jesus says, “those who have an ear, let them hear”. It is easy to write the correct answers, but God will show us through the practical experience whether we are theorising or really practising the principles in the course. We have to meet the situations to practise the principles.

(u) DIVINE APPOINTMENTS

A Divine appointment is where God brings you and the other person together at a place and point of time...moved by the Spirit. (eg, Luke 2:27) God makes these because He has read the heart or heard the cry of one who seeks Him. "How can they hear without someone preaching to them?" (Romans 10:14)

The book of Acts is full of Divine appointments, eg, Saul and Ananias, (Acts 9:6 & 11-12) but our favourite examples are in Acts 2 & 3. The Apostles had only just been empowered by the Holy Spirit, (Acts 2:4) and as they spilled out onto the streets God had arranged a multilingual crowd, ready to witness the miracle of hearing their own language from men who spoke Galilean dialect. This Divine encounter resulted in about 3000 people hearing the gospel, repenting and being baptised.

The second story, in Acts 3, tells how Peter and John were just going about their business – going to the Temple at the time of prayer. The crippled man had been placed there every day to beg, but this day was different. A Divine encounter was about to take place. The man asked for money as usual, but Peter told him to "Look at us". There must have been something "awesome", the Presence of God on Peter and John. Paul describes it (2 Corinthians 2:15) as the aroma of Christ (the Anointed One and His anointing).

In Divine appointments we find this "anointing", the Presence of the Holy Spirit, is what "arrests" people. They cannot help stopping and "looking". This is always the mark of the Divine appointment, but we never know for sure until we ask the person. It is, however, important to treat every meeting as a Divine appointment. We do not therefore fear rejection because if they say "no" we know it was not that person's time. There is also another aspect to their refusal. The evangelist's challenge could be this person's only opportunity. God wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. (1 Timothy 2:4) We believe that everyone needs to be invited to receive Him at least once. Then they will never be able to say to God that He was not fair because God will remind that person that He did give them their opportunity, but that they refused. Sometimes when these people have been rude, we pray together our prayer to "wash the mud off before it stains us".

God always knows the "need" of people and we listen to the Holy Spirit for words of knowledge and wisdom. In Acts 3 the need was obvious and Peter and John spoke straight into this, expecting God to act in power, backing them up because He promised in Mark 16:18 & 20. If it is a Divine appointment we expect to act as agent and ambassador for Him. If the Holy Spirit shows us a specific need we can minister to that, but everyone needs Jesus to come into their hearts and everyone needs the empowering of the Holy Spirit, so there are many opportunities for "Divine appointments". YES answers make us all the keener to approach people and ask God for more Divine appointments so that the Lord may add daily to those who are being saved. (Acts 2:47)

There is a book published on www.munumin.org which expands this subject.

(v) EXCLUSIVE

Exclusiveness in reality is prejudice practised by such people as religious sects, racial purists, freemasons and the like who are under the curse of the Mosaic Law. The Apostle Paul quotes Isaiah 52:11; (2 Corinthians 6:17) "Come out and be separate", but if those who say they are Christians misunderstand what Paul means here and become "exclusive" it proves they are not born-again by the Holy Spirit but living under the law, trying to earn their salvation by keeping God's rules. These people always hope they will be good enough to be accepted into Heaven but never have assurance, and justify themselves and argue at the preaching of the gospel of INCLUSIVENESS. This can be defined as: "...with your blood you purchased men for God from every tribe and language and people and nation. You have made them to be a Kingdom and priests to serve our God, and they will reign on earth". (Revelation 5:9&10)

So what does Paul mean?

Isaiah 52:11 is God speaking to His beloved "family" at that time – the Jewish people, who had gone so far into idolatry that they needed to know what obedience to the true God actually was. The Mosaic Law was written down so they had a reference point, but this chapter in Isaiah is a real turning point.

"AWAKE, clothe yourself, shake off your dust, free yourself". (Isaiah 52:1&2)

"You will be redeemed". (Isaiah 52:3)

"There is good news, proclaiming peace and salvation". (Isaiah 52:7)

The Bible goes straight on to talk about how to recognize the Redeemer and what He will do for mankind. (Isaiah 53) So Paul quotes the words above and then goes straight on to say the results of leaving the Mosaic Law behind and becoming a son or daughter of the Father. (2 Corinthians 6:18)

The main reason for our approach as Evangelists is the words of Paul (2 Corinthians 3:6)... "He has made us competent as ministers of a NEW COVENANT, not of the letter (or law, which kills) but of the Spirit (which gives life). The wonderful news is that when Jesus became the curse for us willingly (Deuteronomy 21:23 & Galatians 3:13) though He was sinless, the Mosaic Law was fulfilled. Being separate is in the context..."unto holiness" – born-again by the Holy Spirit into the family of God. Family members love each other. (1 John 4:21) "By this all men will know you are my disciples if you love one another." (John 13:35) There is NO room for exclusiveness and secrecy. According to Peter (2 Peter 1:5-9) our knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ comes as a progression. If we do not learn brotherly kindness we will not learn the kind of love that God expects us to have.

Satan's interpretation of being "exclusive" is divisive and twisted and any group who does this, even hiding behind the walls of a "church", is entrapped in the letter of the law.

There is, however a "narrow way". Everyone has to go through Jesus – "no one comes to the Father except through Me". (John 14:6) We come to Jesus in repentance **of** going our own way and trying to obey the Law, which is impossible, and was meant to be, so that people would seek God's answer. God has highly exalted Jesus. He is our answer. This is the only "exclusiveness", but actually it is INCLUSIVENESS –

- Belonging in God's family
- Becoming more like Him by the power of His Holy Spirit
- Inviting and welcoming more who are outside God's Covenant of grace into the family, especially by the witness of our changed lives.

Outside the family of God we are under the curse of the Law.

Inside the family all the blessings of God are available to us. (Deuteronomy 28:1-12)

Let's be INCLUSIVE!

(w) SELLING

This concept is one of the most practical lessons of training in evangelism. If we like selling and realise how appropriate the principles are for the evangelist, it really spurs us on.

1. The **“product”** – Everyone needs Jesus in their lives.

“I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full”. (John 10:10)

“...apart from me you can do nothing” (of any lasting importance). (John 15:5)

When you have complete confidence in the “product” it is easy to sell. Here is our challenge.

“I am not ashamed of the gospel because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes.” (Romans 1:16)

2. The **“buyer”** – When people recognize a need in their lives they become seekers for the “product” that will fill that need – a prospective “buyer”.

“The Son of Man came to seek and save what was lost.” (Luke 19:10)

This is where Divine Appointments come in. (qv)

3. The **“seller”** – The evangelist knows his/her “product” (the gospel) well, (2 Timothy 2:15) has an intimate knowledge of the “Master” of the company, (2 Timothy 1:12) His principles and purposes, and relies on “leads” supplied by Him. He/she has been called to serve these “customers” and therefore expects to be successful.

Our mission is Romans 10:14-15 and Romans 10:17.

4. The **“sale”** – The most important part is “closure” – the clinching of the deal. Just handing out tracts – an “advertising board” for the Company has its strengths but it not as fulfilling as closing a sale, which is so satisfying. We as evangelists should A.B.C. – Always Begin Closing. God will give us what we believe for because He has brought us the “buyer”.

The “salesman” is a minister of the New Covenant. (2 Corinthians 2:12 - 3:6). We approach the “customer”, believing that this is a Divine appointment. The anointing (Presence of the Holy Spirit) on us will engage/disengage the person. (2 Corinthians 2:16) We then assume that if the person is engaged a “sale” is likely. There is often an atmosphere around buyer and seller like a magnetic bubble. Most people know enough about the gospel to not need information about the “product”, so the barest outline is needed to remind them. When the “customer” sees that Jesus can meet their need, they are very happy to “buy”. We should not oversell (talk too much), but keep the momentum going. There is time afterwards for other conversation to reassure the person of the “product” they have just “bought”. The people we have ministered to over the years have almost always thanked us afterwards because they have just received life in the Spirit.

Our attitude is a better selling point than the “brand”. People often ask which “brand” (church or denomination) we are but we usually say we just love Jesus. We want our “product” to meet their need – as revealed by the Holy Spirit or by asking a simple question. We know that Jesus is the answer to everything.

Our “contract” is very simple – “Say this prayer and receive”. Religious people are suspicious of the simplicity, but God is faithful and promises to back us up, because He is the Master of the Company and “wills that all people should receive His “product” – be born again, filled with the Holy Spirit and receive eternal life”. He backs up His product too. (Philippians 1:6)

(x) X FACTOR

The **X** factor is being filled again and again, continually with the Holy Spirit, demonstrating the need to live by His power and in His anointing (the Bible calls this “in Christ”). This makes Christ in us (the hope of glory) visible to people because there is a radiance, a fragrance of God’s goodness and love on us which is attractive. It is this anointing which draws people to Him and breaks yokes and removes burdens.

There is a difference between those who are sealed by the Spirit, the guarantee of their salvation (Ephesians 1:13&14) but stop there, whereas Paul goes on to pray they would receive Wisdom, Revelation and Power. This sealing is not being born from above, which Jesus says is a “must”, so that we become a new creation, the old (sinful nature) has gone, the new (soft and humble heart towards God) has come. (2 Corinthians 5:17) This seal is a guarantee that God has **begun** HIS work, but He needs our active cooperation, not passivity which comes from false teaching in the church hundreds of years ago (ie, Calvinism). God will never force us to do His will because this is not a love relationship, whereas active obedience and agreement with God demonstrates our love for Him. God’s wisdom, revelation and power are given gradually as we seek Him.

It is possible to work in miracles, signs and wonders but not have intimacy with God because God does not take back the Spiritual gifts once He has given them to a believer. Jesus warned us. “Not everyone who says to me, LORD, LORD, will enter the Kingdom of Heaven, but only he/she who does the will of My Father.” (Matthew 7:21) This indicates that these miracle workers are not actually saved at all. The “seed of the word” has fallen on other than good ground.

No one who is born of God will continue to sin, because God’s seed remains in him. He cannot go on sinning because he has been born of God. This is how we know we are children of God. (1 John 3:9&10) When we make a mistake or react to someone else’s mistake the Holy Spirit immediately convicts us and we repent. If people do not want to repent they are not born again. They are unsaved and cannot enter the Kingdom of God until they open their hearts to God’s wooing Spirit. However there are many ignorant believers who will recognize their lack and immediately desire to be clothed with power from on high. This repentance and receiving of that power from on high immediately brings the presence of God into our hearts.

“**Repentance** is how to return to God and should be a regular part of our prayer life.” This brings in the X factor, the glory of God and the radiance we need to attract others to the Kingdom.

(y) HIDE AND SEEK

We played this game as children and then with our own children. The great delight in this game is when you find, both for the seeker and also for the one searched for. Children have always loved this game. "You will seek Me and find me when you seek Me with all your heart. I will be found by you." (Jeremiah 29:13&14) It seems God likes this game too.

The study of Song of Songs, a picture and recorded conversation of the intimate relationship Jesus desires with us, His Beloved, is helpful to understanding the love relationship Jesus wants with us. This hide-and-seek demonstrates the longing for intimacy, both from the Lover, Jesus, and the Beloved.

Jesus talks about the rejoicing that occurred when the lost sheep was found – that the angels rejoice in heaven over one sinner who repents. Jesus, the Shepherd, seeks for the lost sheep all the time. The Bible says Jesus lives in Heaven to intercede for us, the Holy Spirit intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express, and the eyes of the Lord range throughout the earth to strengthen those who are committed to Him. When we GO to find the lost we are doing what is in the heart of Jesus. Our hearts are full of His love and when we find a lost sheep and "rescue" it, it is as grateful as that lost sheep in the story. (Luke 15:1-7) The ones who are called to bring in the harvest of the lost have the greatest privilege, because the lost sheep is so precious to God.

David writes "My soul pants for you, O God. My soul thirsts for the living God." (Psalm 42:1&2) It is too wonderful that Jesus desires intimacy with us as much or more than we desire intimacy with Him. God IS Love, and when we are filled with His Holy Spirit He pours His love into our hearts. The more we seek this intimacy in prayer and His Word, the more the love flows in so that our "cup runs over", to flow out to those we meet as "Divine Appointments".

This should be our great desire in Evangelism.

If Jesus loved us so much as to lay down His life for us, if God loved the world so much that He allowed His precious Son to die such a painful and humiliating death, if the Holy Spirit desires to change us from one degree of glory to another, and pour out His gifts through us so that we can effectively demonstrate the love of God, then as it is written –

"I WILL seek the Lord with all my heart and I WILL be found by Him."

PREPARING HARVESTERS in the Kingdom of GOD and TEACHING THEM how to work with the HOLY SPIRIT

MANUAL SUMMARY

We began by stating three questions that need to be answered –

1. WHO (are we, the evangelists) and WHO (are they, the lost)?
2. WHY (evangelism)?
3. HOW?

WHO? (qv) The manual states that, as Jesus Himself said (John 3:3) – We are born again by the Holy Spirit. We are filled and continuously being filled by the Holy Spirit so that we are a new creation (2 Corinthians 5:17), empowered and anointed. We dedicate ourselves to His calling, confident that He is with us. They, the lost, are captive to the curse of a sinful nature from birth, after Adam's nature which disconnects them from God. Jesus called them "Children of the Devil" and they are subject to him, so that, until saved by receiving the sacrifice that Jesus made for their redemption, they are destined for hell, just as Satan is.

(WHY) EVANGELISM? (qv) is simply the "Great Commission" – Go into all the world and preach the gospel (Matthew 28:19 and Mark 16:15). Acts 1:8 demonstrates ever increasing circles of influence; neighbourhood to the ends of the earth. The church evangelises those who come through their doors, but Jesus, in the story of the wedding banquet (Luke 14 and Matthew 22) commands the servants to go out to the streets to bring in the guests to fill His house. We invite as many as we can because we do not know who is in God's harvest. (Matthew 13:10) We speak to them by the power of the Holy Spirit, not with wise and persuasive words but with demonstration of the Spirit's power. (1 Corinthians 2:4)

The manual then goes on to the relevant topics to teach **HOW** to work with the power of the Holy Spirit in and through us individually and as a team – essentially how such confrontational evangelism works and how powerful and effective it is as a tool for the end-time harvest. Jesus is coming soon and friendship evangelism has been too slow. There are many weak believers and unsaved people, even in churches. There are also many people who are resisting the Holy Spirit, or who do not know that Jesus sent Him to complete His own work. (John 16:14)

For street evangelism we need to choose a **WORKPLACE** (qv), whether we are working alone or as a team. This should be a specific area which is prayed over and anointed to be "most holy". This anointing can be marred when Satan sends his workers into the area, but we restore God's presence by re-anointing. We pray together the cleansing and empowering prayer before we begin and after we are attacked or side-tracked to increase this "Presence" (the anointing). This dedication of a workplace can be done anywhere, pulling down strongholds so that others can be successful in harvesting.

UNITY (qv) is vital for any team working in the power of the Holy Spirit. Psalm 133:1 says that unity commands a blessing from the Lord. The book advises to pray the prayer of repentance and minister the Holy Spirit to each other by laying on of hands. This act freshly baptises (overwhelms) and empowers with the Holy Spirit before beginning the work. This encourages and builds one another up, so that the final harvest is the result of the efforts of all, no matter how many or how few each worker in the team has led to the Lord.

An evangelist needs to be a **FIT AND PROPER** (qv) worker, approved by God. (2 Timothy 2:15) The manual defines who is a saint. We are born again and clothed with power from on high. (John 3:3 and Luke 24:49) We are the Temple of the Holy Spirit. This is not just "sealed" (Ephesians 1:13) but empowered. (Ephesians 1:19) This is very important. God would not expose those who are vulnerable to "picking up demons like fleas". We cannot impart the Holy Spirit if we have not been filled.

Making **DISCIPLES** (qv) is taught as through different levels, where catching and cleaning of the “fish” are actually the first and second levels of making a disciple who then goes to a church to be pastored and “perfected” (third level of discipleship). Catching is introducing them to Jesus, so that they ask Him into their hearts and cleaning is baptising them in the Holy Spirit. The excitement and joy of the new believer is attractive for more “fish”.

TERRITORIAL SPIRITS (qv) are demonic strongholds which have taken over a place because the people in an area who have the God-given authority to rule have allowed evil spirits to take over, by speaking or acting in ungodly ways. This is illustrated by God’s instructions concerning the Promised Land, where God told the Israelites to rid the land of His enemies lest their ways influenced God’s own people. Kings were instructed to pull down high places and were judged by God as wicked if they did not. High places were where other gods were worshipped. (eg, 2 Kings 18:4) Christians, as Christ’s ambassadors, are authorised to take back territory through the power of Jesus. Evil spirits should be bound in the name of Jesus and despatched to the bottomless pit, and the high place anointed with oil to make it holy. The Bible says that spiritual warfare is not against flesh and blood but against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. (Ephesians 6:12)

THE ANOINTING (qv) is the presence of God, and to anoint with oil is to make places or people holy. (Exodus 30:29) It symbolises calling on the promises of God and is essential to working in the power of the Holy Spirit. The anointing is the glory of God on us and in a place and is transferred by laying on of hands. (Acts 6:6 & 8:18) People sense this awesome presence, which warms their hearts and draws them to Jesus – this is the power of God for salvation and breaks yokes and removes burdens. (Isaiah 10:27)

Jesus said “You must be **BORN AGAIN**”. (John 3:3) (qv) This is a life-changing experience. John’s baptism is with water for repentance but Jesus’ baptism is with the Holy Spirit and fire. (Matthew 3:11) Jesus was baptised with water to fulfil all righteousness. When He prayed, then He received the Holy Spirit. (Luke 3:21&22) Ephesians 1:13 tells us we are sealed with the Holy Spirit – the promise or deposit. In Ephesians 1:17 Paul is praying that the believers may receive what they have not yet received – the Spirit of wisdom and revelation so that they may know (be intimate with) Him better. There is Holy Spirit transformation when we are born again. We know our Lord personally, knowing His voice, hearing Him and obeying Him because He is so real to us. (John 10:27)

FORGIVENESS (qv) is one of the important ways of obeying Jesus. This is not a heavy command but essential for us to be in fellowship with God. He is unable to forgive us if we will not forgive. (Mark 11:26) To be an effective minister of the gospel we must be in fellowship with God otherwise we have NO power and move back into darkness. (1 John 2:9) 1 John 1:9 tells us to seek God’s forgiveness by confessing our sin so that He can cleanse us of all unrighteousness. It is also a powerful thing to forgive others their sins so that they are forgiven (in Heaven). (John 20:23) The manual also mentions the unforgivable sin, blasphemy of the Holy Spirit.

The **IMPARTATION** (qv) of the Holy Spirit is important, especially in street evangelism. There is power and visible effect (such as Simon saw (Acts 8:18)) and God chose to use the laying on of hands to impart the Holy Spirit in Acts 19. Mark 16:18 speaks of the power of this and it was obviously the practice in the early church because in Mark 16:20, “the Lord worked with them and confirmed His word by the signs that accompanied it.”

“The **PRAYER** (qv) of a righteous man is powerful and effective”. (James 5:16) Born again Christians love communicating with their Lord, learning to feel His heart and bringing His will into the earth as it is in Heaven. What we bind on earth will be bound in Heaven and what we loose on earth will be loosed in Heaven. (Matthew 18:18) God hears our prayer in the name of Jesus – for “where 2 or 3 come together in My name I am there in the midst”. (Matthew 18:20) The Holy

Spirit gives us the words to pray, (Romans 8:26) whether it is our prayer language (tongues) or in our own language. We should pray for healing, the lost, rulers and nations or even our enemies (Jesus tells us to bless them); we can pray for prosperity and health (3 John 2) and we should exercise the authority Jesus has delegated to us to speak His will into being.

The **HARVESTER** (qv) is defined as a fisher of men – he/she catches the fish and cleans them while they are fresh (as defined under the topic DISCIPLES); baptising them in the Holy Spirit is so that no demon can return and reinhabit the “clean and swept house”. (Luke 11:24-26) If the fish are not “cleaned” but go to a church to be “perfected” (taught) they can taint the whole congregation. Harvesters also sow the seed back into the harvest rather than spend time trying to follow up, because, as Jesus demonstrated, people are perfected better in small groups but a harvester catches large hauls. (Matthew 9:37, Luke 5:7 & John 21:6)

MIRACLES (qv) are supernatural events which, because they defy explanation by logic, grow our faith. The greatest miracle is being born again to be a new creation in Christ (2 Corinthians 5:17) but Jesus makes believers ambassadors to represent Him. Acts 10:38 states Jesus’ ministry so we must expect to do these things too. (Also John 14:12) The seventy-two (Luke 10:1&2) were amazed that in Jesus’ authority they could do His ministry. Mark 11:22 encourages us to have the faith of God. (God’s faith through our mustard seed sized faith). (Matthew 17:20.)

In the BEATITUDES Jesus tells believers how to think and behave to be blessed and to be a blessing. “Do good to all people”. (Galatians 6:10) The manual, however, talks about **ATTITUDES** (qv), where the evangelist must exert power and authority against the evil forces and anything that exalts itself against the knowledge of God. (2 Corinthians 10:5) Jesus says “bless those who curse you” but also curses a fig tree for not bearing fruit. (Matthew 21:19) The Apostle Paul spoke against Elymas because he prevented the Proconsul from faith. (Acts 13:11) Jesus rebuked the money changers in the Temple because they exploited those who came to worship. (Matthew 21:13)

The **TONGUE of the EVANGELIST** (qv) persuades people. He/she is not ashamed of the Gospel because it is the power of God for salvation. (Romans 1:16) The Holy Spirit uses the conviction in His speech. The tongue has the power over life and death (Proverbs 18:21) and the keys of Heaven are in this power – “what you bind on earth will be bound on earth and what you bind in Heaven will be bound in Heaven”. (Matthew 18:19) Personal testimony contributes to break the power of the devil – “they overcame him (Satan) by the blood of the Lamb and the word of their testimony (and death to self). (Revelation 12:11) Speaking God’s word always has power – it ...always achieves its purpose. (Hebrews 4:13 and Isaiah 55:11)

ANGELS (qv) are ministering spirits sent to serve those who will inherit salvation (Hebrews 1:4) – mostly invisible but can be seen if needed. The Angel of the Lord comes as an extension of the Divine personality and is addressed as LORD. As born again Christians we instruct them in our times of need. Fallen angels are demon spirits and they try to find a human body or a territory to which to belong. These are who we must war against. (Ephesians 6:12)

PREACHING (qv) is proclaiming to the spirit of a person. We are created “speaking spirits” to tell the Good News. Preaching the Gospel has the power to change hearts to righteousness – the gospel is the power of God unto salvation (Romans 1:16) and faith in the Gospel comes by hearing. (Romans 10:17) This should be the aim of the preacher, because it is the Holy Spirit who convicts of sin, righteousness and judgment (John 16:8), therefore our message and preaching is not wise and persuasive words but demonstrations of the Spirit’s power. (1 Corinthians 2:4)

PROPHECY (qv) is speaking out God’s word and is a gift of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 12:7) and any believer who is baptised in the Holy Spirit can use this gift. An evangelist should apply the prophetic principle of “speaking to the dry bones” (Ezekiel 37:1-14) so that the Holy Spirit can give life to the dead. Prophecy confirms and encourages another person and evangelists are able to

speaking God's promises into the lives of new converts, so that they experience God's blessings and know that God has reached out to them. God does nothing without revealing it first to His prophets who then speak it into being. (Amos 3:7) Blessings must be spoken into lives.

EMPIRE BUILDING (qv) is church growth that is merely numbers – bottoms on seats or names on a church roll. Success is measured by this, but this makes a worldly church. Other signs include nepotism and favouritism which breeds jealousy, striving, factions and rivalry. Kingdom building is the only safe way to build the church. (Matthew 6:33) This is best done outside the walls of a church where the lost are in abundance and need to hear the message that the church has for them.

The **SEED** (qv) of the word is being sown all over the world, and there should be resulting harvest. Successful evangelists understand the value of seed and what to do to produce 30, 60 and 100 times in good soil. (Mark 4:20) A feel-good seed which does not convict a person of their need of a Saviour will not bring good results. We need to find the lost that are good soil and they are outside the church. Jesus has said that the fields are ready for harvest (John 4:35) and that the harvest is plentiful and the workers are few. (Matthew 9:37) We harvest for the Master and the harvest belongs to Him. He will apportion it to whomever He chooses.

DISCERNMENT (qv) is Holy Spirit revelation about situations that others do not know. It is one of the gifts in 1 Corinthians 12:10 and a powerful tool in spiritual warfare. The manual refutes the idea that individuals only get one or two gifts. Evangelists need to rely on the whole toolkit. The gift of God is the Holy Spirit and anyone who is baptised in the Holy Spirit has this gift available in time of need. As evangelists we need to know who is good soil and a genuine seeker, and who is an "angel of light" (2 Corinthians 11:15) who will waste our time, trying to get into arguments (Titus 3:9-11) and rob us of the anointing. We need this gift to recognize demonic presence as the Apostle Paul saw in Elymas (Acts 13:10) and rebuke this so the person can be silenced or freed if they will.

DIVINE APPOINTMENTS (qv) are when God brings you and another person together at a place and point of time "moved by the Holy Spirit". (eg, Acts 8:27) This happens because God has heard the heart-cry of the person who seeks Him. The evangelist treats every meeting as a Divine appointment because it pleases God and we might be entertaining angels. (Genesis 18:2) In fieldwork experience it happens often and is a blessing and encouragement to each party in the appointment, as God meets our mutual requests.

Being **EXCLUSIVE** (qv) is really prejudice, and is practised by such people as religious sects, racial purists and legalists who judge any who don't keep their rules (the book mentions the Mosaic Law in particular). This promotes pride, greed and hate. The Kingdom of God is open to all, by personal choice, by receiving Jesus. "With your blood you purchased man for God from every tribe, language, people and nation. You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God...". (Revelation 5:9&10) People choose to move from Law to Grace through the New Covenant. Everyone must go through Jesus. "I am the gate" (John 10:9 & John 14:6) but the evangelist does not discriminate and offers the Good News to all.

The skills of **SELLING** (qv) are very helpful in harvesting souls for the Kingdom of God. Our "product" (the abundant life in the Kingdom – John 10:10) is the best product in the world. It is free, and easy to receive. The buyer has already an inbuilt need for the product because, as it has been said "everyone has a spiritual vacuum that only God can fill". The Holy Spirit moves where He will, convicting men of the need of a Saviour, so the "leads", the Divine appointments, are set up already for the "seller" – the evangelist, who has confidence of success. The sale (closure) is most important. The salesman is a minister of the New Covenant (2 Corinthians 2:12 – 3:6) and the anointing engages the "buyer". An important aspect is not to oversell, because too much talking rarely results in a positive decision to "buy".

There is an **X-FACTOR** (qv) which is the difference between a smug, self-satisfied “believer” and a radiant born-again Christian who is full of God’s love and power.

The manual finishes with the challenge about our relationship; just how real and active is the love between God and me; a life-long give-and-take, likened to **HIDE and SEEK** (qv).

This is a brief summary of the course, which has some very radical ideas compared with what the churches teach. However, when we do the fieldwork and see with our own eyes the powerful effect of these revelations – how people are wonderfully blessed, healed and set free, how people who would not go to a church in the normal course of events, meet Jesus out in the streets, receive Him and experience life changes so that they want to follow Him, it is the most exciting thing to participate in. In the individual pages are many stories and examples to encourage. On the web-site, www.munumin.org, are books for further perusal, which demonstrate how these revelations came to fruition from this course.

This is not an exhaustive course because God is always opening His heart to reveal more truth from His word. Though, we, the presenters of the course, have practised the principles for ten years, there is always more to learn. We hope and pray therefore that the reader/student will seek God with all their heart for wisdom (the principal thing) and courage to begin to practise and seek for those Divine Appointments.

E and J McLachlan

This is the leaflet we use in the street ministry and as our prayer for unity before we begin.

BLESS EACH OTHER IN LOVE

For a fresh baptism in the Holy Spirit, pray

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1. **I repent of my sin**
 2. **Jesus died for me**
 3. **He was crucified**
 4. **He arose from the dead**
 5. **Holy Spirit come on me**
-

Take hand of other person saying, "**Receive the Holy Spirit in Jesus' name.**"

Transfer Effect By faith through the prayer God has cleansed us and the Holy Spirit is now given and received by the holding of hands.

Mighty Warriors You are now recharged, empowered to do great things in Jesus' name. As you minister the Holy Spirit to others you grow; whoever prayed with you has sown you as **seed** for a hundredfold harvest.