

Need Prayer? Call us at 530-620-2717

Dear Partners,

February 2018



"God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him." 1 John 4:16 NKJV

"...but only faith activated and energized and expressed and working through love." Gal 5:6 AMP

Faith is the hand that takes the things we need from God. Everything we need can be obtained by faith. This includes salvation, healing, the fullness of the Spirit, the gifts and the fruit of the Spirit, etc. We can have victory over the world, the flesh, the devil, and all the powers of darkness by faith in Jesus name!

And if we are going to strengthen our faith, we must make its foundation strong. **And the foundation of faith is love.** God is love. The Word says faith works by **love**. But if we're not walking in love, our faith won't work (Gal. 5:6). If we were to do a "check up" on ourselves, we would often find certain areas where we are not really walking and operating in love. These areas are keeping our **faith** from operating at full capacity. Faith and love are intricately woven together.

In 1 Thessalonians 3:10-12 Paul is talking to these believers about something lacking in their faith:

"[And we] continue to pray especially *and* with most intense earnestness night and day that we may see you face to face and **mend and make good whatever may be imperfect and lacking in your faith.**And may the Lord make you to **increase and excel and overflow in love for one another and for all people,** just as we also do for you." (AMP)

The New Living Translation says it like this; we are "asking God to let us see you again **to fill the gaps in your faith.**" What were the gaps in the Thessalonians' faith? Around the time of Paul's writings to the Thessalonians, there is said to have been a group of people that wrote letters to them pretending to be Paul. This deception made the Thessalonians pretty upset. They felt cheated and as a result their faith was imperfect and lacking (1 Thess. 3:10). Paul encouraged them that they should not be shaken or discouraged by the troubles they were going through. He urged them remain strong in their faith in Christ and to love one another (1 Thess. 4:9-10). We know from the first chapter of 2 Thessalonians that while they waited for Paul's letter, something started changing on the inside and they quickly bounced back from their disappointment caused by the misleading letters they had received. As a result, **their faith began to grow and so did their LOVE for one another!**

"We can't help but thank God for you, because your faith is flourishing and your love for one another is growing." 2 Thess. 1:3b

Love and faith go hand in hand. They parallel each other in every sense. The Thessalonians were lacking in love and therefore it caused them to dwell more on the tribulations they were going through at the time. This caused gaps in their faith. Regardless of what is going on in our life, if we've been deceived, mistreated or lied to, we cannot let it affect our love. Love does not work through feelings or through the mind but only through the heart. Love is something you do, not something you always feel. So how can we show love and be love when we don't feel like it? **The only way is through the Holy Spirit and the Word of God.** According to 1 Peter 1:22, the Holy Spirit is the One who purifies our hearts so we can allow the love of God to flow through us to others.

"For God's love has been poured in our hearts through the Holy Spirit Who has been given to us (Rom. 5:5)." The Holy Spirit is the also the One that helps us understand the Word. There are people who have read the Bible from cover to cover tens and hundreds of times but have not had the eyes of their understanding enlightened to know the love of God (Eph. 3:17). As we here at JMM have started doing, we encourage you to declare **Ephesians 1:17-20 & Ephesians 3:14-21** every morning personalizing it as you read. By doing this you are asking the Holy Spirit to open the eyes of your understanding and strengthen your inner man so that you can be rooted and grounded in love! Remember, faith works by love!

The Holy Spirit helps us understand the Word but faith comes by hearing the Word, ***"So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God (Rom. 10:17)."***

The Christian walk boils down to this: **walk in love**. If we concentrate on walking in love, then all the other things Jesus asks us to do will come naturally. Love motivates us to pray, obey, be kind, give, forgive, and repent. *Love should be the theme of our lives and it should be lived out every single day.*

To help guide you in your *love walk* we encourage you to read 1 Corinthians 13:4-8 every day and insert your name where it says love. For example: John endures long and is patient and kind...etc.

We are also very excited here at JMM because we are continually receiving phone calls, emails and other forms of communication daily from new people all over the world who find our programs online or on television. People are starving for God's divine intervention in their life like never before. We receive many praise reports of how God is healing, delivering and setting people free through this Ministry.

We believe 2018 is a year of new beginnings! We pray the Lord to bless each one of you as we continue to spread the Gospel all over the world. We're so thankful to go on this journey in 2018 with you and depopulate hell and populate heaven!

In Christ,

John & Alexandra