

~Theme of the Book: Communication~

The title of this book is *Returning to Eden: True Unity and Willing Communication*. The theme throughout the book has been the power of the Holy Spirit in our life, and feel, timing, and balance with our horse, and how they can help us attain perfection or “Return to Eden.” Through being transformed into Jesus’ image we are able to return to the “House of Pleasure,” experience God on earth, and better communicate with our animals. I have shown you how the Lord has revealed Himself to me through the Spirit, but I am not saying that this is how He will reveal Himself to you. I think the Lord speaks to us in different ways, and this is determined by how we learn the best. I learn the best through pictures and analogies and this is the primary way that He speaks to me. However, some people learn through concepts and others learn through words.

I have commented how the Lord has spoken to me throughout this book. However, it hasn’t been a booming voice like we picture God speaking to Moses. Nonetheless, I know it has been from the Lord and I would like to explain how I have heard it. This is the best way I can explain it. It is similar to when you are thinking hard trying to remember something, like someone’s name, or an answer on a test. When you quit thinking about it, and relax, it suddenly pops into your head. This is what I experience with the Lord. I will ask Him a question, or ask Him to reveal Himself to me, and then I will wait patiently. All of the sudden something will pop into my head, whether a word or a whole sentence. I know it is from God because it will answer my question and will speak to my heart. The more time we spend in His presence the easier it is to hear His voice.

However, we need to make sure that Satan does not try to lead us astray. Scripture tells us to test the spirits. If we are not sure something came from the Lord, all we have to do is ask the Spirit, “Did Jesus come in the flesh?” **“Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world. This is how you can recognize the Spirit of God: Every spirit that acknowledges that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, but every spirit that does not acknowledge Jesus is not from God” (1 John 4:1-3).** If the spirit was from God, it will confess that He did. If it does not, the spirit wasn’t of God and will vanish. Do not get caught up in rebuking Satan, but love on the Lord. When we start rebuking Satan, our focus goes from God, to the evil spirits that we are trying to fight. Do not give Satan the pleasure of having our focus on him. Love on the Lord, and let God take care of the evil one.

The Lord has also given me pictures, or visions. With these, I did not go into a heavenly realm and leave my body (yet, I wait with eager expectation). The Lord just gave me a picture and then elaborated on it.

Once you are in His presence, just ask Him to reveal Himself to you and then try to picture Jesus. The first time I did this, I saw Jesus standing with His hand out, as if to say, “I am waiting.” I then asked the Lord to speak to me and He said, “Path of Righteousness.” I had never experienced anything like it before and I knew in my heart it had come from Him.

The next time I saw Him, I envisioned Him being crucified. I saw Him being beaten by the guards. I saw them put a crown of thorns on, which ripped through His flesh as they smashed it

down on His head. I then saw Him receiving the lashes, how the whip was thrown, and how the straps with glass and bone stuck into His flesh taking pieces of our Lord with it, as it was drawn back. I saw how He was beaten and torn apart to the point of not even being recognizable, and then how He was forced to carry His own cross up the hill, with people spitting and cursing at Him. When He had made it to the top, they laid Him on the cross, and drove spikes into His hands and feet. Then they hoisted Him into the air.

I saw all of this and I began to cry. I was sad at first, but my feelings then turned to anger. I thought if I was there, I would defend him. I would fight to the death. I then saw God off the cross and He walked over to me. I fell to the ground and felt as worthless as I ever had before. God helped me to my feet and He showed me His hands. He then said, "***I did this for you.***"

The next day He gave me a scripture. "**It is impossible for those who have once been enlightened, who have tasted the heavenly gift, who have shared in the Holy Spirit, who have tasted the goodness of the word of God and the powers of the coming age, if they fall away, to be brought back to repentance, because to their loss they are crucifying the Son of God all over again and subjecting him to public disgrace**" (Hebrews 6:4-6).

I have been told since I was very young, that Jesus died to take away my sins and I have always been grateful for that. But, it wasn't real until I saw it with my own eyes, as He revealed it to me in Spirit. When He showed me how I was crucifying Him all over again, by turning to sin once He had washed me, then I fully understood what all He had done for me. That was real!! That was God!! That is what this whole book is about. God's Spirit changes lives, not man's words.

I would like to further explain how to get into the Spirit of God. To hear from the Lord, we must first prepare ourselves to be able to receive Him. If we come to the Lord being full of sin, it is hard to come into His presence. When we are in sin, we are in the land of Nod, the place that Cain was sent after he sinned. To return to Eden and enter back into His presence, we must first wash ourselves of all sin. To eat at the Lord's Supper, we must first prepare ourselves to dine with Him.

We wouldn't walk into the Lord's house and sit down for dinner after rolling around in a pig pen. No, we would wash ourselves and look our very best. The blood that Jesus shed for our sins will wash us of all our inequities and we can enter once again into Eden, and dine with Him. Once we have done this, we must forget about the world, and focus on Him.

A good way to turn our focus to Him is to start thanking Him for everything He has given us. Listening to worship music and singing along or even agreeing with the words is also a great way to get into the presence of God. I also like to think about what the Lord has revealed to me in the past, and think about how good it felt to be in His presence. I then remember what His presence specifically feels like, and I ask Him to shower me with His love again that I may be changed from the inside out.

Once we have asked the Lord to wash us of our sins, He tells us He no longer remembers them. They are as far from us as the east is to the west, "**As far as the east is from the west, so**

far has he removed our transgressions from us” (Psalm 103:12). If we have been meditating and praying to the Lord since we have asked Him to wash our sins, then we have likely not sinned and we are still perfect before God’s eyes.

If however, we have sinned after we were just forgiven, we then ask for forgiveness and for Him to wash us again. Once we are perfect in God’s eyes, we are then ready for God to speak to us. The Lord will sometimes reveal Himself to us without us even asking, but Scripture says we are to come boldly to the throne, **“Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need” (Hebrews 4:16 KJV).** **“If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!” (Luke 11:13).**

I ask the Lord to reveal Himself to me. I pray that He will come to me and show me His glory. For we are transformed to the image of Christ, from glory to glory, **“But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord” (2 Corinthians 3:18 KJV).** Sometimes He gives me visions with concepts, sometimes words, and sometimes He has a scripture pop into my head.

Sometimes when He shows me a vision, I will ask Him to verify it with Scripture and He will give me an exact verse to learn from. Then, sometimes He just reveals Himself so we can become closer and He does not give me a scripture. We cannot put God inside a box and say what He is going to do with us in His Spirit because, **“No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him” (1 Corinthians 2:9).**

Also, what He is doing with you may be different from where He is at with someone else. The main thing is that we are seeking after Jesus Christ and want to know Him and be close to Him, and what we receive lines up with Scripture. We should be waiting with eager expectations for Christ to reveal Himself, **“The creation waits in eager expectation for the sons of God to be revealed” (Romans 8:19).** He promises He will quench our thirst and never send us away hungry, **“Then Jesus declared, ‘I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty’” (John 6:35).**

Scripture says that they will know us by our fruit, **“Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves. By their fruit you will recognize them” (Matthew 7:15-16).** If our lives reflect God and we are helping others to come to know God, this is the fruit that we produce. However, if we are not being changed from glory to glory, the Lord is not growing in us. Then this effort to save the world comes more from our efforts than from God speaking through us. God says He will give us the words to speak, **“The LORD said to him, ‘Who gave man his mouth? Who makes him deaf or mute? Who gives him sight or makes him blind? Is it not I, the LORD? Now go; I will help you speak and will teach you what to say’” (Exodus 4:11-12).**

It is the Spirit that speaks through us. If we do not spend time in the Spirit, then how do we expect to grow and have Him speak through us? If it is not the Spirit speaking through us when we are trying to lead others to Christ, often we drive them away instead of drawing them in.

I do not seek after the Holy Spirit and God revealing Himself to me because it gives me a high, although it does. I seek after the Spirit because it is in this place that we are transformed into His image. Alcohol and drugs are Satan's substitute for what God has in store for us in His Holy Spirit. People seek after drugs and alcohol because it makes them feel good, it helps them forget about this bitter world, and they have a great time while experiencing the high.

However, Satan is out to destroy us and once we have given our bodies over to these substitutes, we become numb to the still small voice in our hearts, which comes from the Lord, **“and after the fire a still small voice. And it was so, when Elijah heard it” (1 Kings 19:13).**

It is then, that we do things we thought we would never do. It is then that we ask our friends, “I did what last night?” and “Wow, I was out of it.” That's right, you were out of it and it was Satan working through you. I am not saying it is wrong to drink, but the more you do drink past your tolerance, the more you begin numbing yourself to the will of God. We should also make sure that if we drink in moderation, we are not causing others to stumble, **“but it is wrong for a man to eat anything that causes someone else to stumble. It is better not to eat meat or drink wine or to do anything else that will cause your brother to fall” (Romans 14:20-21).**

Alcohol and drugs benefit only the flesh, but the new wine fills the Spirit living inside you, **“And no man putteth new wine into old bottles; else the new wine will burst the bottles, and be spilled, and the bottles shall perish. But new wine must be put into new bottles; and both are preserved” (Luke 5:38).** The more you drink of the new wine, the further you leave your fleshly body, and you will begin doing the will of the Father. Paul talks about being beside himself, **“For whether we be beside ourselves, it is to God: or whether we be sober, it is for your cause” (2 Corinthians 5:13)** and doing things where he didn't know if he was in his body, or outside his body. **“I knew a man in Christ above fourteen years ago, (whether in the body, I cannot tell; or whether out of the body, I cannot tell: God knoweth;) such an one caught up to the third heaven. And I knew such a man, (whether in the body, or out of the body, I cannot tell: God knoweth;) How that he was caught up into paradise, and heard unspeakable words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter” (2 Corinthians 12:2-4).** If we tasted what Paul had tasted, I am sure it would be hard to return to this world. He had the most pure addiction possible: hooked on God.

Satan tries to imitate God's glory with his drugs and hallucinogens. They too are addictive and keep people hooked on this world and the high they receive in the flesh. Seek after God and drink the wine that fills your Spirit. I have been drunk on the Holy Spirit and I am here to tell you, Satan's high is a poor substitute. God's high is pure and holy, and the aftermath is joy and happiness. Satan's high is a bad headache, hugging the porcelain goddess, and feeling ashamed of what you did, but can't remember.

I hope while reading this book the Lord is able to speak through me and you have gained something. I hope that you have learned how to go to the man on the dock who gives out the boats freely, and you now have the desire to row out to our Father in heaven. Everything else in this life is meaningless. We have 80 years on this earth if we are lucky, and then eternity in either heaven or hell. Eternity is a long time. I hope that you are certain where you will be going when this life ends.

If you know that you are going to heaven, you need to remember that we are going to be accountable for what we have done in our life, **“We shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ” (Romans 14:10)**. If you were ever intimidated by your earthly father, and did not want to disappoint him, I guarantee, you do not want to disappoint your heavenly Father, and He will be very intimidating. Do not be conformed to the ways of the world, but be transformed into the image of Christ, by the waters that flow from the throne of God.