

FINDING  
*Treasures*  
WITHIN  
*Us*



“For surely there is a latter end [a future and a reward], and your hope and expectation shall not be cut off.” Proverbs 23:18

We all have many expectations, all of which are important to us. But sometimes we are like people coming to fetch water from the ocean with a teaspoon. Because of what we have been unconsciously conditioned to accept, we tend to place our hopes and expectations on external things that will eventually come to an end. Meanwhile the Lord would have us place our expectations on the things that will have significant impact on our lives both in time and eternity. Once we receive the gift of the Holy Spirit, we immediately have access to all we need to live a successful life by God’s standards. However, if we don’t know what we have we won’t know what to place a demand on.

This series we’re exploring six treasures that Holy Spirit makes available to us which are key to us living a life filled with the fullness of God. We are trusting that the Holy Spirit will reveal to us how much we carry and how we can find all of who God designed us to be in Him.



## Day 1

### Seeing The Unseen

'So we don't look at the troubles we can see now; rather, we fix our gaze on things that cannot be seen. For the things we see now will soon be gone, but the things we cannot see will last forever.' 2 Corinthians 4:18

In life we have two worlds that coexist which are the seen and unseen realms. We're very familiar with the seen realm because this is where we function on a daily basis. We're generally less conscious of the unseen realm for the simple reason that our natural eyes can't see it. As a result we tend to ignore it to our disadvantage as it's the unseen that controls the seen.

'So I advise you to buy gold from me—gold that has been purified by fire. Then you will be rich. Also buy white garments from me so you will not be shamed by your nakedness, and ointment for your eyes so you will be able to see.' Revelation 3:18

Everything we can see with our natural eyes has an expiry date and will come to an end sooner or later. The things we can't see however last forever. Knowing this gives us reason to pause and reflect on how much attention we give to the unseen realm and how to understand what's going on there. Especially as it's in this realm that God functions and the enemy wages war against us. Anything we see in the natural is the end result of what has already occurred in the spiritual. This is why seeing the unseen is a treasure we should cherish because it helps us know what is going on within and around us, what is happening now or going to happen and how to respond.

"And Elisha prayed, and said, "Lord, I pray, open his eyes that he may see." Then the Lord opened the eyes of the young man, and he saw. And behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha." 2 Kings 6:17

When the king sent a great army to seize him, Elisha was very calm because he had eyes that could see. Meanwhile his servant was panicking because he couldn't see. This tells us that the way we respond to situations is dependent on what we see. If all we see are our natural circumstances we will continue to react in fear. But once our eyes can see the unseen, then we can respond in faith knowing that there are always many more on our side than against us.

**Prayer:** Lord open my eyes in the spirit so that I may see.



## Day 2

### Hearing By The Spirit

'The Sovereign Lord has given me a well-instructed tongue, to know the word that sustains the weary. He wakens me morning by morning, wakens my ear to listen like one being instructed.' Isaiah 50:4

Imagine what life would be like if every move we made daily was based on instructions received directly from God. This is how God desires that we live, not going through trial and error or our own intelligence alone.

'Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, "This is the way; walk in it." ' Isaiah 30:21

The Bible tells us God speaks to us in many ways but if our spiritual ears aren't open we won't hear Him. Very few of us may hear the audible voice of God, but that doesn't mean He's not speaking to our hearts. The primary way God speaks to us is through His word and when our ears are open we don't just see the text but connect to the Spirit in the word and can then hear what God is saying to us. This means we must always have an expectation to hear from God as we read our Bible.

'For God speaks again and again, though people do not recognize it. He speaks in dreams, in visions of the night, when deep sleep falls on people as they lie in their beds. He whispers in their ears and terrifies them with warnings.' Job 33:14-16

God also speaks through dreams, but this requires us to still go back to Him to confirm that the dream came from Him because dreams come from many sources (Ecc 5:3) and also to confirm the accurate interpretation of the dream. God instructs us through a 'knowing' when we just seem to know within us what to do. He may speak through people, but anything from a third party must always align with God's word. Hearing God is anchored on us having an active and consistent prayer and Bible study life as well as a heart free from offense and anything else in our life that may grieve the Holy Spirit and block our channel of communication with Him

**Prayer:** Lord open my ears to hear You, help me recognize Your voice and learn to listen for Your instructions daily. Reveal anything in my life that may block my ears and help me repent so I hear and understand clearly what You are saying



## Day 3

### A Heart God Can Trust

'But the Lord said to Samuel, "Don't judge by his appearance or height, for I have rejected him. The Lord doesn't see things the way you see them. People judge by outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart." ' 1 Samuel 16:7

God judges by very different set of metrics than we do. We tend to assess people based on what we see them do, while God assesses based on the heart's disposition. If the heart behind an action isn't right with God, it's not acceptable to Him. While Samuel was moved to select Eliab based on his appearance, God had weighed Eliab and rejected him based on his heart disposition. Which means it's possible there are things we are being disqualified from in God's estimate because of our hearts.

'The human heart is the most deceitful of all things, and desperately wicked. Who really knows how bad it is? But I, the Lord search all hearts and examine secret motives..." Jeremiah 17:9-10

"I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them." Ezekiel 36:26-27

Because we are all born with the nature of sin, our natural hearts (desires, ambitions, expectations, etc) are constantly at war with God and He must perform spiritual surgery to give us a heart that can align with Him. During the surgery He removes our hard heart and gives us one that can come into alignment with Him. But the responsibility for the success of the surgery doesn't rest with God alone, our active participation is also needed. The same way someone who had physical surgery must be mindful of what they eat and their environment to avoid infections, we also must maintain constant post-surgery care, conscious of what we allow into our ear/eye gates and the type of environments we permit around us. Everything around us is designed to harden our hearts, but this way we can have hearts that God can trust to give assignments, knowing we will be open to yielding to Him.

**Prayer:** Lord remove my hard heart and give me a heart that's attuned to seeking You and obeying and honouring Your instructions



## Day 4

### Becoming Brand New

“This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!” 2 Corinthians 5:17

One of the most significant treasures we have in Christ is a completely transformed life. It's only through the power of the Holy Spirit at work in us that we can become brand new people not just in our spirits, but in our way of reasoning and functioning.

“I pray that from his glorious, unlimited resources he will empower you with inner strength through his Spirit.” Ephesians 3:16

Anyone who's ever tried to break a habit can confirm how difficult it can be, especially when the habit is deeply ingrained. When we try to change on our own we depend on willpower which doesn't work on a consistent basis. What the Holy Spirit does for us is to help us change using His strength not ours. Through His strength we receive supernatural ability to become who God created us to be and this often requires a mindset change. It's the transformative power of the Holy Spirit that turned fearful Gideon to a bold leader, illiterate Peter to an orator, murdering Saul to the apostle Paul writing most of the New Testament. There's no limit to what He can do if we'll cooperate with Him.

“And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.” Romans 12:2

The struggle comes from the reality that we are unconsciously conditioned daily by what we see, hear and interact with which shapes our desires and outlook. The Holy Spirit goes to the root of who we are and starts uprooting the things that are contrary to His agenda for our lives. As we cooperate with Him our minds are renewed which leads to a change in outlook. Our appetites are also changed so that we stop desiring the things that He's working on removing from our lives. This is a lifelong process that continues until we look like Jesus not just in demonstration of power but in character.

**Prayer:** Lord help me submit to Your transformation process, give me strength to hold on to You as You take me on the journey of becoming all You've created me to be



## Day 5

### Freedom From Bondage

“So if the Son sets you free, you are truly free.” John 8:36

A fundamental truth the devil wants to keep from us is that God lives in us through the Holy Spirit. This means that nothing should have the power to keep us bound. The enemy preys on ignorance and weaponises it to bring torment and oppression in various forms because he doesn't want us to know that his activities in the life of a spirit filled believer are illegal and neither does he want us to know our rights in Christ.

“how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.” Acts 10:38

“But on Mount Zion there shall be deliverance, And there shall be holiness; The house of Jacob shall possess their possessions.” Obadiah 1:17

The same Holy Spirit at work in Jesus during His earthly ministry is the same one at work in us. This means that we have the potential to live exactly as Jesus did, free from any form of bondage or oppression.

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, for he has anointed me to bring Good News to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim that captives will be released, that the blind will see, that the oppressed will be set free,” Luke 4:18

“But you belong to God, my dear children. You have already won a victory over those people, because the Spirit who lives in you is greater than the spirit who lives in the world.” 1 John 4:4

Bondage comes in many different forms such as addiction, cycles of stagnation, etc. but we shouldn't accept anything Jesus already paid the price to deliver us from operating in our lives. Rather we should ask the Holy Spirit for insight into what's causing such to happen and what to do. For some freedom from bondage is instant while for others it's a process. Regardless of the manner, we have the confidence that since Jesus paid the price for our freedom, He ended the enemy's ability to hold us hostage in any way.

**Prayer:** Lord thank You for setting me free from every form of bondage. Give me a revelation of what Jesus did for me on the cross and what I have access to through the Holy Spirit.



## Day 6

### Living Full of Power

“But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you...” Acts 1:8

Jesus left us with two very important things: authority and power. Through His price on the cross we received authority over the activities of the kingdom of darkness and through the Holy Spirit we received power. Power to walk in victory and to live in a way that pleases God. The power we receive isn't a one off and we can access a fresh infusion daily.

“And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit...” Acts 2:4

“Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them...” Acts 4:8

On the day of Pentecost all the believers received a personal experience of being filled with the Holy Spirit. We see that after this the Bible kept referring to the believers being filled with the Holy Spirit, which tells us that it's possible for the Holy Spirit to be present in our lives, but not functioning in the fullness of His power. For us to be full means that there's a process of filling, and the extent to which we submit to that process determines the extent of how full we become.

“...I tell you the truth, the Son can do nothing by himself...only what he sees the Father doing...” John 5:19

“For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for many.” Matt 20:28

The same Holy Spirit that Jesus had is resident in us, so any difference we're seeing in our lives from how Jesus lived must be from our side. There are four things Jesus did to stay filled with the Holy Spirit that we can learn from. Jesus yielded totally to the authority of the Spirit. He didn't compromise His prayer life and time spent communing with His Father (Mk 1:35). He understood that for power to be replenished it must be discharged so He lived a selfless life. So even though He had all power, it was never used selfishly. He never focused on Himself but ensured God always got the glory (Jn 5:19). He lived sacrificially until the end free from bitterness or any kind of offence so there was never anything blocking the free flow of power through Him (Jn 14:30)

**Prayer:** Lord let my life be constantly infused with Your power in every area



## Day 7

### Demonstrating Results

“We now have this light shining in our hearts, but we ourselves are like fragile clay jars containing this great treasure. This makes it clear that our great power is from God, not from ourselves.” 2 Corinthians 4:7

Fragile as we are, the Lord has chosen to give us His Spirit so we know that the results we bear as believers aren't a result of our strength but the power of the Holy Spirit at work in us. This treasure manifests in and through us in many ways so that as we are transformed, we also transform the people, systems and structures in our environments.

“And the disciples went everywhere and preached, and the Lord worked through them, confirming what they said by many miraculous signs.” Mark 16:20

“For all creation is waiting eagerly for that future day when God will reveal who his children really are.” Romans 8:19

When the Holy Spirit is given full reign of our lives there will be tangible results. Not just in what we're doing but who we're becoming. Through His strength the Holy Spirit helps us point people back to Jesus in the wisdom we operate in, the love, faithfulness and holiness we demonstrate, the capacity we utilise and the expertise we display as our lives showcase His glory.

“And we have received God's Spirit (not the world's spirit), so we can know the wonderful things God has freely given us.” 1 Corinthians 2:12

Without the Holy Spirit our lives would just be a series of activities consisting of man made routines, but not really connecting with the Father. Through the Holy Spirit we can access the very mind of God and all He has planned for us from before the foundation of the earth was laid.

**Prayer:** Lord help me begin to understand the treasure I have in the Holy Spirit. Help me cherish, honour and yield to You so that every aspect of my life demonstrates Your presence and power



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