

HOW TO

OVERCOME

SPIRITUAL DRYNESS

UNDERSTANDING AND KEEPING THE STEPS
THAT LEAD TO SPIRITUAL FRESHNESS

CONTENTS

1. DEDICATION
2. FORWARD
3. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
4. INTRODUCTION
- 5.

CHAPTER 1

6. **SYSTEMS OF SPIRITUAL DRYNESS**
 - (a) LACK OF DESIRE FOR FELLOWSHIP
 - (b) COMING LATE TO SERVICES
 - (c) DIMINISHING IN PRAYER AND STUDY LIFE

CHAPTER 2

7. **SOME CAUSES OF SPIRITUAL DRYNESS**
 - (a) SIN
 - (b) TRIALS AND TEMPTATION
 - (c) EVIL COMMUNICATION
 - (d) SUBMISSION TO FLESHLY DESIRES
 - (e) NEGLECTING GOD'S VOICE AND STUDY LIFE
 - (f) FAMILY PROBLEMS
 - (g) DEMONS

CHAPTER 3

8. **THE DANGERS OF SPIRITUAL DRYNESS**
 - (a) THE DANGER OF DESTRUCTING GOD'S DESTRUCTION

- (b) THE DANGER OF MISSING THE KINGDOM
- (c) THE DANGER OF CONFUSION AND STRIFE IN GOD'S SERVICE
- (d) THE DANGER OF SPIRITUAL DEADNESS
- (e) THE DANGER OF SPIRITUAL CARELESSNESS
- (f) THE DANGER OF SPIRITUAL AND PHYSICAL UNFRUITFULNESS
- (g) THE DANGER OF HYPOCRISY

CHAPTER 4

9. 7 STEPS TO OVERCOME SPIRITUAL DRYNESS

- (a) REPENTANCE
- (b) FELLOWSHIP
- (c) BROKENNESS
- (d) THE WORD
- (e) COMMITMENT
- (f) FAITH
- (g) PRAYER AND FASTING

CHAPTER 5

10. MAINTAINING SPIRITUAL FRESHNESS

INTRODUCTION

It is obvious that every Christian and minister of God has one time or the other gone through spiritual dryness. May be presently as you pick up this book, you are going through spiritual dryness. It is not strange in life to have such a thing in the physical or spiritual.

When there is spiritual dryness in our life God wants us at that time to come closer to Him for refreshment, and for renewing of strength for our Christian race.

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled”. Matt.5:6

Our Lord here was saying that any one who hungers and thirsts for righteousness shall be filled. It means to seek for God more and more. Seeking to be closer and have real communion with Him. It is only a man that is hungry and thirsts that can look for food and water. But here it is spiritual and when a person seeks for God for spiritual blessings it does not end up there, the Lord rains both spiritual, material and financial blessings. We are in the last days when the devil is trying to remove our eyes from our blessed Lord and Master and turn them to the world.

“This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, without natural affection, truce-breakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, Traitors, heady, high-minded, lovers of

pleasures more than God; Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away”.
2 Tim.3:1-5.

Every Christian knows when he or she is in tune with God. When the communion begin to have problem, the Christian himself is the first person to know our dealing with God is not fleshly act but that of the spirit. When we are in tune, there is joy, happiness and we seek to stay in His presence from time to time. We seek to know Him more and more.

The above scripture is a true picture of a dried Christian. One of the things written above brings another. When one sin enters into the life of a Christian and he plays about it, it will lead to another one. No Christian can wake up one morning and have all these things written in 2 Tim. 3:1-5, it is impossible. They come in one after another and finally the conscience of the person will be seared with a hot iron by the devil whom he has allowed to bring in those things without refusal.

Every Christian that wants to maintain a normal Christian living watches over his life daily. The enemy creeps in to our life as a thief in the night, when we neglect to watch as Christ says “WATCH AND PRAY”.

In other to run away from Spiritual dryness one must be alert in the Spirit. Living a daily prayer life and having personal Bible studies. The Holy Spirit refreshes us as we come to Him and connects us with our Father every minute of the day.

Nevertheless when any symptom of spiritual dryness is found in ones life, e.g. like lack of desire for the things of God

and fellowship with brethren, these has to be a cry out unto God like David the Psalmist.

“As the hart pants after the water brooks, so pants my soul after you, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God: when shall I come and appear before God? My tears have been my meat day and night, while they continually say to me, Where is your God?” Psalms 42:1-3

The psalmist cried out when he found his soul drying up spiritually, he needed God’s intervention. He needed a watering from above. The Spiritual heavenly rain that comes from the city of God. The only antidote for spiritual dryness when it comes in, is to desire God as never before. Step out of former glories and spiritual achievements and looking forward to things of challenges, that motivates into active seeking the face of God either through fasting and prayer or other spiritual exercises that leads to breakthrough in the spirit.

CHAPTER 1

SYMPTOMS OF SPIRITUAL DRYNESS

There is always a sign before anything begins. Things does not just happen, they have a beginning. In the case of spiritual dryness in the life of a Christian or a minister of God, it is either the Christian stops it when it is still very small or he leaves it until it will swallow up the whole life and finally produce questionable characters. Symptoms means signs of beginning, so when dryness begins it is an experience every Christian must know. The following are some of the symptoms of spiritual dryness.

LACK OF DESIRE FOR FELLOWSHIP

When your desire for fellowship with the brethren begins to die away, there is something wrong. Not only in the church you belong, but also when Christian gathering begins to bother you, the enemy is making an evil plan for your faith. This lack of desire make Christians to begin to hid themselves from other believers from other Christian denominations, but they know that their faith or love towards God has diminished.

At this time, even when such one comes up to the church he does not get things any longer from the message. Instead, he judges the message and begin to ask many why this and that. The enemy begins to blind his mind of godly spiritual reasoning and begin to show up many faults in the pastor, among brethren and many other things that can excuse him from coming. When such thing is found out, it is good to minister to such fellow on personal basis and constantly. If possible the pastor himself will exercise his

pastoral spiritual expertise to bring back such person in love with much private prayers,

“Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, you which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering yourself, lest you also be tempted. Bear you one another’s burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. For if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself”. Gal. 6:1-3

WHEN THE BIBLE BECOMES DRY

As the word of God increases life every day to any one who reads it, it is possible for some one to read it without getting anything. You can read verses, chapters or books of the bible and yet it seems as if it is no more the word of God. When it is so, it is spiritual dryness that is coming in. When the promises of God seem to be taken away from their place and nothing seem to bring hope and the thought goes far to another thing, it shows there is need for a fresh touch of God, or for the scales in our eyes and minds to disappear.

LATE COMING TO SERVICES

Someone may come late to service or Christian gathering because of unavoidable circumstance, though it is not advisable no matter how one justifies himself. A Christian who is lively in the spirit, when he come late to church meeting or other Christian activities he must be touch. without being touched, it shows spiritual dryness. First, when we give appointment to God, we have to keep it, but when one does

not take lateness as anything, it means that he is gradually drifting down to the flesh. God is not the one to wait for us till we come to a service. We have come to serve and worship him, we have to come early as to wait for his presence. In the worldly circle, the people wait for Governors or Presidents if they have to visit a particular area. We must emulate good from others.

DIMINISHING IN PRAYER AND STUDY LIFE

It is a custom for a Christian to have constant prayer time with God. A time choosing to commune with our heavenly Father, to maintain a constant relationship with Him. And when we do not have desire to read, study and meditate on the word of God, and when the prayer and study life of a Christian begin to go down, it shows that dryness is coming. Such moments in the life of a Christian is very dangerous. Prayer ignites our life into the supernatural and directs our day.

SOME OTHER SYMPTOMS OF SPIRITUAL DRYNESS

- (a) Loving sleep much or sleeping when it is time for spiritual things
- (b) Lust of the flesh and that of the eyes and pride of life, when they begin to creep in.
- (c) Spending much time to talk with friends instead of engaging in spiritual matters.
- (d) Evil desires and thoughts e.g. Jealousy, envy, Immorality, hatred etc.
- (e) Loving much to stay with opposite sex and discussing all the time, especially filthy things and in late hours.
- (f) In-submission and disobedience to leadership.

- (g) When elders, deacons and church workers wants to rule their leader or Pastor.
- (h) When messages do not touch your heart again.
- (i) When your conscience do no more warn you as it does before when you are going to do something wrong.
- (j) Going back to those things that were rejected by the conviction of the Holy Spirit.
- (k) If gossip, lying, hypocrisy, flattery, exaggeration, and tale-bearing are beginning to be a lifestyle.

Prevention is better than cure. It is better to spot out the plans of the enemy and crush it like an egg, than to wait until it grows tap-root and a strong hold. It is better to fight an offensive battle than a defensive one. When someone is really in constant communion with his Maker and the Holy Spirit controls his life he can easily dictate when evil is coming in. The devil is very subtle, he attacks people in their mind and make them meditate on evil things. He does not come like a giant, he creeps in like being good and sympathetic but ends up destroying the person. When he tells you to do a thing, he does not show you the danger in it, he only shows you what you will gain thereby trapping the person in his subtlety. We cannot gain anything from the devil.

“Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creation: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. 2 Cor.5:17

When we become new creatures, we are God’s temple and the Spirit of God lives in us at that time. It is the Holy Spirit that convinces us of Christ as the Saviour of the world. He

tells us when evil is coming because the Holy Spirit indwells in our life. Nothing can happen to a Christian who is inhabited by the Holy Spirit unawares. The devil likes to remind people the old things they have done in order to intimidate and hold them captive, but the Spirit in us gives us the boldness to overcome.

“For God has not given us the spirit of fear, but of power, and love, and of a sound mind”.

2 Timothy 1:7

“Know you not that you are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? if any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple you are”.

1 Cor.3:16-17

When we are led by the spirit we are God’s children and the spirit bears constant witness of our sonship. The Holy Spirit does not want a part of our hearts, he needs our total being. He want to control us completely and when such is done, we know it ourselves. We have such confidence and boldness that we are the children of God.

“For as many as are led by the spirit of God, they are the sons of God. The Spirit itself bears witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God”.

Romans 8:14,16

Our true nature as children of God is holiness. The assurance we have as sons keeps us from whiling away our life in sin and unholiness. If God’s Spirit leads your life, you are free

from spiritual accident and ship wreck. You need no person’s confirmation to know if you belong to Christ or not.

A lot of God’s children have lost their blessing because they do not know their right in Christ, nor how to maintain the new life they have receive from Him. When we leave the devil’s kingdom to that of Christ, he still fights to bring us back. He can use anything or any person to bring us back. His suggestions are always unholy. He has nothing that can help God’s creatures.

The only way someone can maintain this true holiness is to be sober, the owner dictates or people around. The same is of our righteousness, when it is spotted we know it or people around see it through character, way of talking, movement etc. but the only medicine that can drive away this spot is taking heed to God’s word.

“Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed thereto according to your word. Your word have I hid in my heart, that I may not sin against you”.

Psalms 119:9,11

“Yea, so have I strived to preach the gospel, not where Christ was named: less I should build upon another man’s foundation:”

Rom.15:20

“Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walks about, seeking whom he may devour: Whom resist steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the

world. But the God of all grace, who has called us to His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that you have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you”.

1 Peter 5:8-10

One morning I woke up from sleep and wanted to pray but the desire was not there and I could not even read my Bible. I wondered what was wrong because we slept well in the night, I then called my family we started binding the powers of darkness and loosing the presence of God, after some time the anointing of the Holy Spirit came into the parlour and we prayed as never before.

We used the word of God and fought against the Kingdom of the devil, we later found out that there were some demons that came to invade our home. If we did not wage war against the enemy that morning, we would have started having spiritual dryness. First I wanted to pray but the desire was not there and the word of God almost meant nothing to me, but I stood and called out my family and we fought then the Holy Spirit came in to help us. We had victory because we decided to pray, if not, the enemy would have had his way.

Many have entered into trouble because of things like this one that happened to us. They did not know the devil was working, they kept quiet until the enemy the devil accomplished his will. Matt.26:28-41

The devil lost the battle when Christ overcome the temptation he posed against him. Christ crucifixion brought Satan's

destruction at the cross, but he uses lies and deceit to trap people into his captivity.

“And you being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, has He quicker together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses; Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to His cross; And having spoiled principalities and powers, He made a show of them openly, triumphing over them in it.

Col. 2:13-15

“Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, He also Himself likewise took part of the same; that through death He might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage”.

Heb.2:14-15

We don't have to sleep like the disciples and enter into the hands of this impostor. He has deceived a lot of people and even holding their blessings in ransom. It all started very little and enlarged after. He has been destroyed, he has no more power over you. Stand as a soldier of Christ denying all his ways of keeping people down. We are free in Christ, more than conquerors.

CHAPTER 2

SOME CAUSES OF SPIRITUAL DRYNESS

There cannot be spiritual dryness without a cause, and there cannot be a cause without acceptance. We only receive what we accept in our life whether good or bad. Though the devil may want to force something to our life sometimes, if we refuse firmly he goes away with his baggage.

The only thing that can stop spiritual freshness or the flow of the spirit in the life of a believer is when he chooses to go his way. Though at the beginning of every falling away, the Holy Spirit warns the Christian of it, if he refuses the warning and continue then dryness will come in.

“He, that being often reprov'd hardens his neck, shall suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy”.
Proverbs 29:1

When warning continues and the believer refuses to heed to the voice of God he continues from sin to sin as we can see in 2 Tim 3:1-5. We are going to see some things that causes spiritual dryness if disobedience is allowed to continue. God does not force people to serve Him, be sure that when you refuse your Maker and his love for you, the devil comes in to manipulate your life till finally he takes you to his hell fire.

“Behold, the Lord's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save, neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear. But your iniquity have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear. For your hand are defiled with blood, and your

fingers with iniquity, your lips have spoken lies, your tongue has murdered perverseness.

Isaiah 59:1-3

“For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornicators, murderers, thefts, convetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, and evil eyes, blasphemy, pride, foolishness. All these evil things come from within, and defile the man.

Mark 7:21-23

Where I serve the Lord in a missionary work. People telephone easily because it is not costly to phone in public phones. They use it to distribute gossip and lies telling easily, you will be surprise that a second thing spread as quickly as cancer. Every Christian knows that sin blocks communion with God.

The things that we give our time must glorify God. We cannot continue in the glory of God when sin comes in the life of a Christian. It was sin that made Christ to come and die and as we are no more faithful to Him, He hide His face from us and will refuse completely to do anything because we have chosen to go our own way. Since sin defiles, A Christian then must be careful because one of the things that can bring no answers to prayers and bring ruin to our future is sin. Simple Christian do not care what is happening around them or in their lives. They call sin a way of life, but no sinner will go unpunished, Joel 1:2-7

I have Christians who were once blessed all round brought to nothing completely because they abused the grace

of God. God is not mocked, what you sow, you reap the same. Sometimes we think we have so much established our life that we can now play with fire. Nothing can make you come out of Satan's grip if you keep on doing things that are forbidden by God. Sometimes when a minister get a little anointing or gifts of the spirit he looks down on his senior minister or even his general overseer. It is death that is coming at that time, when the anger of God comes no stone is left on the foundation. No level of your relationship with God that will make Him overlook sin in your life, God treats sin as his word has said.

Here is a total destruction because sin was allowed to have total dominion in Zion. It is true that God is merciful but he has a standard for living. When God's way of life is defiled by reason of unrighteousness it brings disaster in our personal life. Then our spiritual life will be very dried and the Holy Spirit will be grieved and he will leave our life if we refuse to repent. The knowledge of the scripture can make man cover his sins but the eyes of God sees beyond the clothes we wear and goes deeper into our mind and spirit. He know all things concerning us and since he made us before any thing happens he knows.

“How is the gold become dim! How is the most fine gold changed! The stones of the sanctuary are poured out in the top of every street. The precious sons of Zion, comparable to fine gold, how are they esteemed as earthen pitchers, the work of the hands of the potter. Lam. 4:1-2

It is so clear that when a Christian sins and continue in it that the glory of God departs and the contrary will be the case.

Here the Lord refers to gold as the Christians, the Zionites and the glittering of it as their glory. He is asking how is the children of Zion became dim now. The same is applicable to Christians when they leave the way of the Lord to their own way, no doubt the light will quench and darkness will take over. Sin reduces a Christian to nothing. It begins first with the spiritual and later it will touch the physical and material. Until one recognizes and come back again he will end up in trouble. Sin is a reproach, it is only righteousness that exalts. Any where sin is covered, prosperity cannot come there. What men call prosperity is the material, but God sees more than that. Our prosperity begins with our soul. He wants us to be with Him in heaven finally, 3 John 2

“Righteousness exalteth a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people. Proverbs 14:34

“He that covereth his sins shall not prosper, but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy. Proverbs 28:13

A sinner can never have the peace of God. It is Christ that gives peace. He is the prince of peace. He offers peace that the world cannot give, so no sinner can have the real peace. What ever a sinner calls peace is fake, sin brings separation between us and God.

One girl was living in immorality after much warning, she denies every allegation but God disgraced her in the church by revealing everything about her, the name of her boy

friend, when and where she has gone for her evil act even the numbers of the house and the type of dress she went with, she broke in tears asking for forgiveness.

She thought God is blind and her evils cannot be revealed one day. Such thing can happen to that which you are doing. God sees more than you. He made your eyes and ears. He knows everything about you, all the steps you make are nothing hidden from Him.

“Woe to her that is filthy and polluted, to the oppressing city. Zech.3:1

when a Christian puts on the garment of sin and he begins to wander away from the presence of God, a man or woman of God can help to take it away and restore such one. An old spirit filled Christian can even restore such a person when he gives his accord. The devil does not allow us to know that we are going the wrong way when we begin to sin, but there is always a warning from above

“Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness considering thyself, lest you also be tempted. Galatians 6:1

Joshua the high priest in Ezech.3:2-4, was found with a filthy garment which is the garment of sin, when a minister of God or a Christian is now clothed with the garment of sin, he is open to other fleshly, demonic and worldly attacks.

Sin weakens spiritually and sometimes physically. The high priest who is recorded as church leader or pastor was standing before the angel of the Lord helpless, he could do

nothing because of sin. He was having the property of the devil and he cannot rebuke a person he owes. Satan took advantage of that to stand at his right hand to resist him. The right hand signifies strength and power. The devil seized the right hand of the high priest. He withstood his authority and power. He could do absolutely nothing because his source of power is now feeble and weak.

No wonder, many ministers of God and Christians today can do nothing when they are covered by sin. He that covers his shall not prosper as the Bible says. The devil has weakened a lot of Christians even ministers of God, because some have been taken over by sin of lying, adultery, love of money, hatred, jealousy and envy and even some of the sins that some members fear to do.

Sure when sin is found in a Christian or ministers life, the devil has legal right to resist him. He struggles to have anointing which can never flow again. He struggles practically for everything in life, even if the material side is available he can not be free again in the presence of God as his minister and servant. Even if Jesus is standing near to us and we refuse to confess our sins as children or ministers, he can do nothing for us.

““Behold, the Lord’s hand is not shortened, that it cannot save, neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear. But your iniquity have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.

Isaiah 59:1-2

You will either decide to remove the sin and the barrier is taken away and God’s face shines on you again or you will

continue in suffering. Many even prefer suffering in their sin than giving their life totally. Many backsliding Christians turn to proper agents of the devils persecuting Christians but when they come back they become valuable instruments of God.

“And the Lord said unto Satan, the Lord rebuke thee, oh Satan, even the Lord that has chosen Jerusalem rebuke you, is not this a brand plucked out of the fire? Now Joshua was clothed with filthy garments, and stood before the angel. And he answered and spoke to those that stood before him saying, take away the filthy garments from him. And to him He said, Behold, I have caused your iniquity to pass from you, and I will clothe you with change of raiment”.
Zech.3:2-4

It is evident that when a Christian or man of God is now clothed completely with the garment of unrighteousness, he needs divine intervention to be free or else he will go from sin to sin until he is finally destroyed. God will send people to talk to him, warn him and to bring him back again, but if he insists it leads to a dead end in life.

The Lord rebuke Satan because he has decided to swift the high priest as wheat. Many ministers of God are at this verge of this life and others are completely carried away by the things of the world. Whatsoever is the case, whosoever that is fallen must have to come back to his master and saviour for restoration. Satan was rebuked and the Lord ordered the people around to remove the filthy garment from him, so that his iniquity will be taken away.

When a Christian or a minister begin to go astray he knows it, except if he refuses to adhere to God's voice. Many ministers today are divorcing their wives and some are living in adultery while staying with their wives. It is a shame that the dog has gone back to it's vomit. One minister said my members told me my wife do not fit me again. Money has come in and the woman has suffered for it then another woman comes in to eat that money, the man is not free, he is accursed. Whether your wife fits you or not, when you are married you are no more free, except the flesh has taken for sin to come in.

One pastor said I married my wife when I was an unbeliever so I don't need her again, though his wife has been born again, he said the Bible says old things are passed away. He does not know neither does he understands the Bible. His fleshly desires and lust has drawn him away to another demonic and seductive woman. I see men of this caliber like ignorant and sin bound people.

“But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth death. Do not err, my beloved brethren. James 1:14-16

Members and Christian workers need to be praying every time for their ministers. Sometimes the devil may come to scatter the church and he will push the minister into grievous mistake or sin, and the devil stands there to resist him by using people around to bring confusion. At that time the man may take a wrong decision or may create greater problems through his attitude. Then the man of God will be spiritually dry, and the church too will die spiritually. When the

church prayed for Apostle Peter, the angel of the Lord took him out of the prison. A minister of God can be in a spiritual prison, but the prayer of the church constantly will deliver and keep on delivering him from the plans of Satan. A minister of God said his wife is not educated enough to carry out the ministry God has given him. This is the devil coming.

Sin causes a great blockage. The high priest and the people around could do nothing again, and if they do, it will not glorify God. He has to take away the filthy garment in order to give a perfect service unto God. God said, take away the filthy garment from him. When it was taken away, he said unto the high priest I have caused your iniquity to pass from you and I will clothe you with changed garment. Can God give astraying ministers new anointing? No. He needs repentance first. He cannot speak to him except to inform him to come out from his evil way. Righteousness attracts the attention of God in every area of life. Imagine a man of God divorcing the wife and picking another woman because of education. That ministry does not belong to God again. The flesh has taken over and you can now see all kinds of evil in that ministry. You can send your wife to secondary school, no matter her age.

“And I said, let them set a fair mitre upon his head. So they set a fair mitre upon his head, and clothed him with garments. And the angel of the Lord stood by and the angel of the Lord protested to Joshua, saying, thus says the Lord of hosts; if you will walk in My ways, and if you will keep My charge, then you shall also judge My house, and shall also keep My courts, and I

will give you places to walk among theses that stand by”.
Zech.3:5-8

When the garment of sin is changed to that of righteousness, God will give a new crown of authority. He reinforces His power and authority in his servant's life. He makes the supporters of his servant to be strong and firm. He prepares for a greater task ahead. He gives a new vision and commission. He strengthens and continue to encourage. Holiness becomes a path way to follow. The love of God will then be more and his grace greater .

As it is today many have missed it and went their own way, working with the garment of sin and growing from reproach to reproach. We can't do anything as Christians or ministers if sin has taken upper hands in our life.

Some agreed with brothers for partnership in business, they started but when the money came in, one of them seized the money. The devil has deceived him, he left the church. He needed money more than eternal life.

TRIALS AND TEMPTATION

“Therefore being satisfied by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: By whom also we have access by faith into this grace where in we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also; know that tribulation works patience; And patience, experience; and experience, hope: And hope makes not ashamed; because the love of God is shed

abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us,. Romans 5:1-5

“Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all comfort; who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God. For as the sufferings of Christ bound in us, so our consolation also abounds by Christ”.

2 Cor. 1:3-5.

We glorify in tribulations and it works out great things for us, the scripture says: when we are comforted by God, it becomes an experience we use to help others in life. The devil always make Christians think evil when problems come in their life. When problems are not seen as a part of our training in life it causes spiritual dryness. Then we think that God hates us and that he does not care about our case. The devil uses that opportunity to weaken our prayer and personal bible study that helps us rely more on the promises of God.

When constant prayer and bible study life is neglected because of problems, it creates more problem than ever. Our fellowship with God and brethren is cut off. Sometimes in a time like this, brethren decide to stay in their homes when asked why they did not come to fellowship the devil gives them a quick excuse to offer. Spiritual dryness comes in when we look at problems as the end of our life. A believer then thinks that God is no more around, but it is not true. When we are in trouble that is even when God comes closer

to us than ever. The end of every problem brings promotion in the life of a believer.

“The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord: and He delights in his way. Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down: for the Lord upholds him with His hand. I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread”.

Psalms 37:23-25

“Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the Lord delivers him out of them all. He keeps all his bones: not one of them is broken”.

Psalms 34:19-20

No matter how the problem may be, God has promised deliverance. A man can fall in the midst of problems, but the Lord will not allow him to be utterly cast down. God orders the steps of his children. He knows everything about their life. Even when our prayers is not yet answered, we must keep on trusting and believing God. For many, this is a time of spiritual dryness, they abandon and begin to work contrary to their faith and belief.

EVIL COMMUNICATION

“Be not deceived; evil communications corrupt good manners.

1 Cor.15:33

when you move always with a negative person, be sure your faith will die. As Iron sharpens Iron so a man sharpen the countenance of his brother. A person who lives contrary

to the word of God cannot be a blessing to your life. Evil communication corrupts good life and manner.

SUBMISSION TO FRESHLY DESIRE

Matt. 26:36-46.

When the flesh refuses the spirit from doing the will of God, the Spirit of God is grieved and the spiritual life decreases and if it continues, then spiritual accident will come. The disciples could not watch with Jesus though Jesus requested for that. They could not prepare for the dangerous time coming ahead. Peter thought it was a physical warfare. He trusted in sword. Oh how miserable we will continue to be if we keep on neglecting the voice of God and trusting in the flesh. Curse be the man who made flesh his amour says the scripture. Flesh will only lead us to denying our master both secretly and publicly. If the disciples were separated some would have watched with Jesus but since their leader Apostle Peter was sleeping, they were all carried away by his life and character.

“For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the Lord, He has also rejected you from being king. And Saul said unto Samuel, I have sinned: for I have transgressed the commandment of the Lord, and thy words: because I feared the people, and obeyed their voice. 1 Sam.15:23-24

when Saul rejected the voice of God, he was reduced to nothing and the kingdom was taken from him. Sure many of us have entered into serious problems in one time or the

other because we have not listened to the voice and direction of the spirit instead we listened to our friends, wives, husbands, parents etc. Missing or disobeying God direction can bring poverty, blockage and sometimes death in the life of a believer or even minister of God. You can struggle all the days of your life without getting anything because of missing God's direction and voice. We do not succeed by strength, power or might but the spirit of God. The prevailing force of a child of God is the Holy-Ghost. By strength shall no man prevail. Saphira and Ananias died, but we do not know who deceived each other. They consented through evil communication, though husband and wife they died.

“He will keep the feet of his saints, and the wicket shall be silent in darkness, for by strength shall no man prevail. 1 Sam 2:9

A man that neglects the voice of God can never have proper consecration and devotion. He will only find time for friends and pleasure of life. Self is a problem when it comes to obeying the voice of God. Some people even disobey despite much warning in their heart and feelings that shows they are on the wrong way. Infact some harden their hearts like Balaam because of wrong profit or gain. Disobedience will bring formalities in the things of God and even in the family thereby creating problems and quarrelling. The Holy Spirit stays where he control, when you remove Him out of your program, he is gentle, he will leave you. Sometimes the Holy Spirit needs a new song in the church or choir to turn down his glory, healing, miracles and blessings but when he is denied such right, the alter and the church continue to be dry. You can't maintain a good spiritual

dedication. Sometimes it may be opposite sex that influence your life, shun that evil and stop the relationship. Spiritual dryness is caused when we stay with people who cannot encourage our faith. You may be timid to say no sometimes, but it is better to stop any communication that destroys your relationship with God.

My son, if sinners entice thee, consent thou not, Prov.1:10.

Any person that is serious with God can never sell his faith for anything. When there is enticement, the real Christian refuses and stops relationship. Learn to say no always to evil and yes to righteousness. Joseph knew what it means to say no to sin that comes from evil relationship. He emphatically said no to Potipher's wife. He preferred God than the devils promotion. Joseph decided to keep Gods promise for him than what the sin bound woman will give to him. He preferred to suffer and achieve Gods plan for him than to sell his birth right like Esua.

“Less there be any fornicator, or profane person, as Esau, who for one morsel of meat sold his birthright. For you know how that afterward, when he would have inherited the blessing, he was rejected: for he found no place of repentance, though he sought it carefully with tears”. Hebrews 12:16-17.

When your desires begin to dishonor God, you are a profane person at that time you can sell your birth right. You may sell it without getting it back again because of evil communication. No one may sell it without getting it back

again because of evil communication. No one has ever prepared if communication with people that does not help his faith continues, many a time the Holy Spirit speaks to us in divers ways to stop certain relationship, if we persist and continue, sure we are not stronger than the Lord we are going to dry spiritually . Any desire that is greater than the service of God is idolatry.

NEGLECTING GOD'S VOICE AND DIRECTION

When the voice that directs a Christian is neglected, the person falls into the pit. You can never lead and guide your life as a Christian. When God tell you to pray or fast at a given time he has a purpose or reason for that. When Jesus told Peter to pray so as not to enter into temptation, he said it three times but Peter loved sleep than prayer at that time, at the end he denied his master and at another time he abandoned the work.

FAMILY PROBLEMS

And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the Beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all Things he might have the preeminence. For it pleased The father that in him should all fullness dwell; Col.

“Wives submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as it is fit in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives, and be not bitter against them.

Col.3:18-19.

Lack of understanding brings problems in marriage. The in-submission of a wife and lack of love from the husband breaks harmony in the home and that brings spiritual dryness. Sometimes it is during early pregnancy or getting to the time of delivery. The woman is filled with discomfort and to pray may be serious problem and that could be bringing problem to the home. We have to dwell with women according to the knowledge of God, they are said to be weaker vessels. They need a continuous love and care. We must love our wives. Wisdom must be applied here, the woman wants to pray but love is disturbed by the pregnancy. She needs to be exhorted, to be helped and to be prayed for. Though lack of prayer at that time bring spiritual dryness, that is the reason why people who always have one year, one child cannot really maintain a good standard Christian living. The woman is face with a child breast feeding and the other one in the womb and the husband is charged again to shoot in the next one. At that time some women turn to lion and they must be understood and treated like people that need much love. Our home is God's gift from above, we must keep it to the glory of His name. We need peace. Men must have self control if their home must maintain spiritual freshness.

“Likewise, ye wives, be in subjection to your own husbands; that, if any one obey not the word, they also may without the 1 Peter 3:1-2, 1 Peter 3:5-9

“He that is slow to wrath is of great understanding: but he that is hasty of spirit exalted folly. Proverbs 14:29.

A lot of people have lost their home because of carelessness. People divorce and cause wounds to themselves and the devil uses them as a play ground.

Quarrelling is a very wrong thing. A Christian man or woman that lives in quarreling can never grow spiritually, he or she will spend time speaking empty words. Lack of family care from men or proper putting things in order has brought a lot of problems to many homes. Anger, wrath, Malice and many other things the devil brings to the home bring spiritual dryness. The devil is a home divider, he does it by planting ignorance.

When a Christian family is no more what the use to be spiritually they will now dry. When prayer, fellowship, personal bible study become now by force, there is something wrong, cry out for help. When you start sleeping constantly as you begin to pray, there is spiritual dryness. Sometimes it may be as you pick your Bible to read, you see a serious and deep sleep come, look for a solution. This can also happen immediately you sit down to hear the word of God in the church after praises and worship. When things like this happen you need help, spiritual dryness is approaching very fast. Families that refuse to pray together have no proper plan for a good future. When we have no time to stay and pray together the devil uses that time to plant evil. Spiritual dryness can also come into the home when women are left alone to care for the children.

“And in the synagogue there was a man, which had a spirit of an unclean devil, and cried out with a loud voice, saying, let us alone; what have we to do with you, you Jesus of Nazareth? Are you come to destroy us? I know you who

you are; the Holy One of God. And Jesus rebuked him, saying, Hold your peace, and come out of him. and when the devil had thrown him in the midst, he came out of him, and hurt him not. and they were all amazed, and spoke among themselves, saying What a word is this! For with authority and power He commands the unclean spirits, and they come out".
Luke 4:33-36

"When the unclean spirit is gone out of man, he walks through dry places, seeking rest; and finding none, he says, I will return to my house where I came out. And when he comes, he finds it swept and garnished. Then goes he, and takes to him seven other spirits more wicked than himself; and they enter in, and dwell there: and the last state of that man is worse than the first".
Luke 11:24-26

Demons are agents of Satan to accomplish his purpose against God and all mankind. They fight against man, his social and academic life, his family, his material things and finance so as to bring an end to his future.

In repentance, man is made free from sin. His dead conscience is given life. His reasoning is restored spiritually and if he has anything that demand intervention the Lord cares for that, but many have made contacts with the devil before the repented and thereby inhabited by demons.

When one have demons in his life, his Christian life become so weak. He will first be spiritually dry. He can never serve God effectively. The mind is influenced badly. He does

things and regrets badly, yet he goes back to them because he is under control. Nevertheless when he is completely set free, his life changes. Some people went to native doctors for rituals and sacrifices, they were incised and their blood came out and they imparted some black demon prepared inside their body which made them have blood covenant with demons.

It is well known that demons are spirits, disembodies spirits that seek where and who to inhabit. When they live in a house you feel bad in that house. When it is a man you see his character bad, sometimes he does not care what he does to his life or to people around him. He needs deliverance and total free from the grips and captivity of Satan.

But after the person concerned is delivered he is expected to live a holy life. The demons that left that person is not happy they have gone out of the person. They seek a way in by all means if that Christian live a weak life. When any demon that left someone comes in again into that person, the demon does not come alone. They look for wicked and more dangerous demons to come in. They try and work hard to quench the spiritual life of that person. The person becomes worst than before. He will be completely dry. He may not desire to see Christian around him again. Anything that has to do with Christ may be an abomination to the person. Really he may still come back if he is properly, carefully and prayerfully followed up. He needs to be shown love and concerned with much compassion. Remember what we are saying, demons can make one to be spiritually dry. When you find out there is one in you, go in for deliverance, meet a minister with a good testimony or even a fellow strong Christian who knows about deliverance and be free. If it

continues after all things done, try again seasoned men and women of God you will be free.

CHAPTER 3

THE DANGER OF SPIRITUAL DRYNESS

It is very dangerous to live a long time in spiritual dryness. Many have lost their faith in Christ as a result of negligence over their spiritual life. When a man's spiritual life begin to deteriorate there is need for alarm. Salvation is automatic from Christ when we decide to commit our life to Him, but to keep our salvation is our business. We have to decide whether to maintain our spiritual life or not. When you say no to evil, your life becomes a place for the Holy Spirit.

THE DANGER OF GOD'S DESTRUCTION

1 Cor.10:1-12

When spiritual dryness is over looked, it leads to total backsliding. Many who could not continue in the days of Moses were destroyed. Sometimes we think we are so strong that we can play with sin when it begins to creep in. God is ready at any given time to help us out when we call on Him. Any man who continues in sin despite God's warning, shall surely be destroyed.

“But brother goes to law with brother, and that before the unbelievers. Now therefore there is utterly a fault among you, because you go to law one with another. Why do you not rather take wrong? Why do you not rather suffer yourselves to be defrauded? Nay, you do wrong, and defraud, and that your brethren. Know you not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God”. 1 Cor. 6:6-10

Paul was warning the Corinthian church for their unchristian character which he says those who do such will not inherit the kingdom of God. Spiritual dryness leads to all kinds of sin. Confusion is one of the results of spiritual dryness. When the way of righteousness is missed the next thing is to keep growing in sin.

THE DANGER OF CONFUSION AND STRIFE IN GOD'S SERVICE

“Who is a wise man and endued with knowledge among you? let him show out of a good conversation his works with meekness of wisdom. But if you have bitter envying and strife in your hearts, glory not and lie not against the truth. This wisdom descends not from above, but is earthly, sensual, devilish.

For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and evil work. James 3:13-16

God is not unjust, He rewards people according to what they have done. When one persist in inconsistent Christian life, sure he can abandon his faith. He will be filled with human wisdom which can be bringing strife, hatred, envy and quarrelling for leadership in the church. The presence of God disappears from a place that flesh rules. Sometimes people die physically because the hedge built by God has been removed.

When God is telling us to approach closer daily it is for the good of the Christian. The more a Christian withdraw from Christ he will develop spiritual deaf ears and eyes. The conscience will no more be judging him of anything, by then we can say his conscience is seared.

THE DANGER OF SPIRITUAL DEADNESS

And unto the angel of the church in sardis write; These things saith he that hath the seven spirits of God, and seven stars; I know thou works, that thou hast a name that thou livest, and at dead. Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die; for I have not found thou works perfect before God. Remember therefore how thou hast received and heard, and hold, fast, and repent. If therefore thou shall not watch, I will come on thee as a thief, and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee. Thou hast a few names even in sardis which have not defiled their garments; and they walk with me in white;

for they are worthy. He that overcommeth, the same shall be clothed with white garment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, before his angels. Rev. 3:1-5

“I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot; I would thou cold or hot. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth. because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked. Rev. 3:15-17

A lot of Christians do not believe that a believer's name can be blotted out from the book of life when he falls away. God remind us to go back when we find our life going the wrong way. God remind us to go back when we find our life going the wrong way. If we refuse to strengthen up our spiritual life continually, we will be found unfaithful. One of the most dangerous life is to believe that one is still in faith while he is away from faith for a long time. Except if a person decides to live in hypocrisy, when things begin to go wrong in the spirit, the Holy Spirit alerts us and warns us of that.

Material prosperity does not prove a sign of living holy, though material things can come because a person has changed and decided to follow the Lord but it is far from sign of being a good and spiritual Christian. Sin puffs up and destroys a long built up image Spiritual dryness blocks a lot of things in a Christian. It can affect ones business, family and future.

God has always warned us to be watchful because he knows the enemy is always planning evil for us.

THE DANGER OF SPIRITUAL CARELESSNESS

***“Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same affliction are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.
1 Peter 5:8-9***

when we watch over our life it is difficult to have spiritual dryness even in the midst of high tension problems. The devil seek to devour us but our God is greater than his plans. When we resist him in the Name of Jesus, he flees.

THE DANGER OF SPIRITUAL AND PHYSICAL UNFRUITFULNESS

***“He spoke also this parable; a certain man had a fig tree planted in his vine yard; and he came and fruit thereon, and found none. Then said he to the dresser of his vineyard, Behold, these three years I come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and find none: cut it down; why cumber it the ground? And he answering said to him, Lord, let it alone this year also, till I shall dig about it, and dung it: And if it bear fruit, well: and if not, then after that you shall cut it down”.
Luke 13:6-9.***

Sin causes unfruitful spiritual life. The reason why we are saved is not to go to heaven now but to be fruitful in the works of righteousness. God expects fruits from us. When he looks at us and nothing is coming, he do not keep on wasting his time. If the dresser of the fig tree did not intervene, the owner has already demanded that it should be cut down. We are God’s vine. The vine dresser requested for one more year. Many Christian are dried spiritual because, they do not bear fruits. First bearing is through evangelism, supporting missionaries both by prayer and finance, being a part of God’s work in the church. There are many other ways that a Christian can be righteously fruitful in the work of God. Isaiah.5:1-7

God has a standard. You can only live under God’s instructions or you die. The sin of unfruitfulness is a great one in the sight of God. spiritual dryness disorganizes the real life of Christian.

When a Christian is no more praying as before and is only rejoicing in the past glory that is a backsliding state. At that time the spiritual eyes become blind. God is always unhappy when we do not produce what we suppose. He has a plan for every one and we have to follow His plan for us by His will. As we obey and follow Him he works more in our life.

WORKING ACCORDING TO KNOWLEDGE

***“I am the true vine and My Father is the husbandman. Every branch that bears not fruit He takes away: and every branch that bears fruit, He purges it, that it may bring forth fruit.
John 15:1-2***

2 Peter 1:3-12.

The way of life is always available and we mandated to follow God step by step. When you are not topping in your spiritual life you are dropping. Any day you stop communion with Him, you have missed a particular thing in your life. When a Christian begin to drop spiritually he may likely get back into the thing he rejected before. Sure when anything begin to contest the place of God in your life, it is very dangerous. It shows you are getting into spiritual dryness soon. A little leaven leavens the whole lump. The devil is very subtle, he knows the things that can destroy your zeal and faith towards God. He keeps on fighting every day to make us disobey God. When we are fruitful it destroys his kingdom and those in his net and captivity are liberated. He walks to and fro looking for the strong Christians and ministers of God to stop them and warts their plan and strength for God.

When a Christian loves, it affects the devil, his works are diminished and destroyed. His ultimate purpose for Christians and Ministers that are hot is hatred and envy in their hearts towards others. That gives him a great open door to attack and disorganize the work of God.

HATERS ARE MURDERERS

“Not as Cain, was of that wicked one, and slew his brother. And wherefore slew he him? because his own works were evil, and his brother’s righteous. Marvel not, my brethren, if the world hate you. we know that we have passed from death to life, because we love the brethren. He that loves not his brother abides in death. Whosoever hates his brother is a

murderer: and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him”. **1 John 3:12-15.**

Cain hated his brother and killed him. Such thing makes the devil happy. A hater is a murderer. No one can live in hatred and maintain spiritual freshness, instead many person will be dry with all kinds of suggestions and decisions from eaten. When the place of God is sold to beggarly elements of this world then we continue to die spiritually.

When one is spiritually dry he pursues shadow instead of reality, you know it by his actions and way of speech. A spiritually dried Christian is not careful to main holiness. He that allows sin to have dominion like Cain cannot be fruitful in the work of righteousness.

THE DANGER OF HYPOCRISY

2 Peter 2:12-22.

We must not sleep spiritually but awake and alert, fervent in the spirit serving the Lord with all our heart. When sin is already given a place in life, no matter what kind, it destroys. No captive can deliver a captive. When one is free from the wiles of the devil, he can now plan and have strength to deliver others, so this liberty is needed when any thing contrary is find out.Rev.20:10-15

The devil has lost the taste of life. His joy in God’s kingdom was cut off when he disobeyed. He has no other plan to look for people to victimize them into his kingdom of darkness and finally put them in a place of eternal torment. That place is not meant for you. Make sure you do not go there.

DISAPPOINTING THE PLANS OF THE DEVIL

Rev.2:1-8.

You can disappoint the devil no matter how long you have gone in your plans with him. He does not have any good plan for any one. Break your relationship with him and decide a new life and become great.

The devil has a goal and purpose for affecting the lives of Christians and Ministers of God. His final aim is to take people to hell. He keeps people away from their creator and makes them have all kinds of lives, characters and religions. Hell is for him and his fallen angels and he wants everyone to be there by cutting their relationship with God. He makes people satisfied in their sinful attitude, blinding their eyes and minds daily from seeing and reasoning. Today many ministers have gone completely astray. No more under the control of the Holy Spirit. Churches that once experienced the power of God are now filled with beauty contest and formalities. Oh! What a dangerous state of life to be found in. There is hope if we return again to Him.

God is jealous, he is looking for our first love that we have missed. He is faithful and able to save at any time we call on Him. Nothing is too hard if we trust, obey and follow Him at his command and will. Let us get back from where we have fallen, and the blessed Lord and Saviour will have mercy on us and blessed us again. We need the rain from His Kingdom. Lord we need you more than ever, come and refresh us.

CHAPTER 4

SEVEN STEPS TO OVERCOME SPIRITUAL DRYNESS

There is always a way out from anything the devil does to destroy the people of God. God is merciful and his loving kindness endures for ever. He is ever mindful of his people. He recognize the weakness of man and he makes his faithfulness to abide forever upon his children. When we call on Him in humility and repentance, he answers without hesitation. It is time to wake from our spiritual sleep and slumber. God requires an urgent change. It is either now or destruction.

“There has no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that you are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that you may be able to bear it”.

1 Cor.10:13

Nothing can defy the power of our God. Our Lord has passed through all the problems in this world before he went to heaven, he tested all kind of temptations and trials even death in order to set man free from bondage. There is no temptation that is not common to man. God has ways of escaping any kind of temptation or trial that comes the way of a child of God. There is no self justification where the spirit of God exist. He knows the number of the hairs on your head. He says come back and inherit your blessings. He loves us.

To overcome spiritual dryness, we have seven steps here which are repentance, fellowship, brokenness, personal bible study, commitment, faith, confession and prayer and

fasting. We are going to treat them one after another and their steps in order to help any one who may in one time or the other have such problem.

The greatest thing I have seen in the life of a man looking for change is desire. When you have the desire for revival, you cry out like David, he will answer. God accords our desires if they are according to his children to desires good things from Him. The greatest desire is that of being in constant communion with Him and desiring to come when we go away from Him.

“Will You have revive us again: that your people may rejoice in You? Show us your mercy, O Lord, and grant us your salvation. I will hear what God the Lord will speak: for He will speak peace to His people, and to His saints: but let them not turn again to folly. Psalms 85:6-8

God is ready to receive us if only we will not return again to our old ways of living. When one is spiritually dry and refused to cry out for help from God his life is finished. He will go from worse to worst spiritually.

When there is a desire in the heart of a man, God comes in for a change. Many know that they are not spiritually sound but it does not give them any concern. They go from spiritual bruises to serious wounds yet they continue on their way. Can we say that such a person hates his soul or his eyes are blind? When there is no soundness from the sole of the foot to the head is that a thing to overlook? No. This is ignorance and total spiritual blockage.

When we desire a thing we must go to the place we can find that thing. When one is dried spiritually and needs

revival, he must begin to hate those things that has taken him out of the way. He must take decision to stop doing such things: the devil is happy when we are straying. He helps us to keep on standing on our sinful and destructive right. There can not be any solution to spiritual dryness until one takes the first step which is desire for God which calls for repentance.

“As the hart pants after the water brooks, so pants my soul after You, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God: when shall I come and appear before God? My tears have been my meat day and night, while they continually say to me, Where is your God? Psalms 42:1-3

If one is already closed up in sin, it takes another stronger person to restores him. BRETREN, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restores such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted. Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ. Gal.6:1-2

The shame of falling away can make someone not to come back again. Such a person needs some compassionate Christians or pastors around for restoration. Some will dare not approach to help their fellow fallen Christian. Instead they mock and say I know he will fall. Then I say you know he will fall why not stop the man from falling before the fall. Spiritual dryness has closed a lot of hearts. No more feeling or brotherly love for brethren. The devil has taught us another gospel, every one to his tent oh! Christians. Can we survive with such character? No one wants to help the other. Beloved, this is the last days and the devil only wants us to come back to him. Let's come back in our mind and spirit and

reason with God or the case will lead to a total destruction. The only solution is repentance and coming back in humility.

STEP 1 REPENDANCE

“Therefore also now, saith the Lord, turn ye even to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning: And rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the Lord for He gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repenteth him of the devil. Who knoweth if he will return and repent, and leave a blessing behind him; even a meat offering and a drink offering unto the Lord your God? Joel 2:12-14

When a Christian is over taken in a fault, he is expected to call on the Lord immediately for repentance and continue his Christian race, this is not the repentance we are talking about, this repentance refers particularly to those who are now living in past glory. Those that does not have new testimonies in their lips. I can even say those that have left their first love and have gone worldly completely and those that have denied the faith.

It is a custom for an Israelite to tear his clothes when he is found guilty in a thing. He does so to show remorse and sign of repentance. This time God asked them to turn to Him completely with all their heart. This could be called the true repentance or holiness. It is true that a man can pretend to be

touched in a matter and tomorrow he continue in the same. Paul asked the Corinthians to produce a real remorse and repentance.

TEARS WITH TRUE REPENTANCE BRINGS LIFE

“For though I made you sorry with a letter, I do not repent, though I did repent: for I perceive that the same epistle has made you sorry, though it were but for a season. Now I rejoice, not that you were made sorry, but that you sorrowed to repentance: for you were made sorry after a godly manner, that you might receive damage by us in nothing. for godly sorrow works repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world works death. For behold this selsame thing, that you sorrowed after a godly sort, what carefulness it wrought in you, yea, what clearing of yourselves, yea, what indignation, yea, what fear, yea, what vehement desire, yea, what zeal, yea, what revenge! In all things you have approved yourselves to be clear in this matter.

2 cor. 7 :8-11

The desire of Apostle Paul for the Corinthian church was the same God was telling the Israelites. He ordered them to come afflicting themselves with fasting, weeping and mourning because they went astray. To read their heart and not the formality of tearing garments. This demands real brokenness and crying out for mercy. When God’s anger is upon his children because they have missed his way they

must be concerned and look for a way to come back. God's blessing is withheld when there is no real repentance. worldly sorrow works death because the sinner repeats the same thing at will.

The church is filled with prayerless people. The anointing is now mechanical in the church. If someone falls during prayer that is all. Miracles of repentance from sin are hardly seen. No more evangelism. People fight, envy and speak evil of one another. The Holy Spirit is grieved. The church is dried, who is the church? The worshippers, individuals are spiritually dry, hating and planning evil against one another, but God is calling for humility and repentance. He calls for heart to be broken and people to change their character.

THE NEARER WE GO TO HIM THE BETTER.

“You adulterer and adulteresses, know you not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? Whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is enemy of God. Do you think that the scripture said in vain, the spirit that dwells in lusts to envy? But He gives more grace. Wherefore he says, God resists the proud but gives grace to the humble. Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. draw near to God, and He will draw near to you. cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double minded. Be afflicted, and mourn, and weep: let your laughter be turned to mourning, and your

joy to heaviness. Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He shall lift you up”.

James 4:4-10

When we are far from God we are close to Satan, and when we are far from His word we are closed to the world. Any person that makes the world his friend is an enemy of God. When God ask a Christian or a minister to come close to Him that means that such one is far from Him. Repentance calls for nearness. God is ready to come close and bless His people in general and individual if we repent. I want to pick some words from the above scriptural verses 8 and 9.

- Draw nigh to God
- He will draw nigh to you
- Cleanse your hearts, you sinners
- Purify your hearts, you double minded
- Be afflicted
- Mourn
- Weep
- Let your laughter be turned to mourning
- And your joy to heaviness.

No one can do this except he goes to God for brokenness. Tears have completely disappeared from the eyes of Christians. I mean bearing other people's burden of sins and backsliding. We are no more touched when we do bad. Can we say it is now "ICHABOD" which means the glory has departed. James was writing to believers as we are today. Christians that are scatter abroad, twelve tribes of Israel. Could it be that he read the book of Joel and was touched and saw the same life in the people of the church? Oh! What miserable Christians we are, that claims right when

we have sinned, instead of crying for forgiveness we begin to justify ourselves. It is a shame in the body of Christ. Brethren it is a shame to us if we keep on living in our own way. Repentance is calling for us now not tomorrow. When you slander and gossip your fellow Christian or minister of God is it not abomination before the Lord?

Sure we are now under the manipulation of the devil. We have to resist him so as to flee from us. We must be free from his bondage of captivity. We must pursue Holiness and purity of heart as a vision that must be fulfilled. We must today draw near to God for Him to change and cleanse us. Can we be spiritually dry and ask for God's blessings, is it not contradiction? Beloved if God asked us to cleanse our hands it means they are dirty. Probably filled with the blood of people we have murdered through hatred. Sure your hands are dirty through the secret sins you now commit.

HANDS WITH BLOOD MUST BE WASHED

“For your hands are defiled with blood, and your fingers with iniquity; your lips have spoken lies, your tongue has murdered perverseness”.

Isaiah 59:3

Look at your hands very well, you must see the reason why God demands for cleansing. While you are away from God you can never see your dirty hands very well. May be you can now steel as a Christian or even tell lies, but one thing is sure, God has no more confidence in you. You cry every day yet your prayers are not answered but you remain in your sins. His face is no more in your favour. He is against you for your evil. He says my son come back and I will bless

you. My hands and face are for your salvation and deliverance but now your sins has stop them from working for you.

BECOMING GOD'S DESIRE IS THE BEST

“Now will I sing to My wellbeloved a song of My beloved touching His vineyard. My wellbeloved has a vineyard in a very fruitful hill. And He fenced it, and gathered out the stones thereof, and planted it with the choicest vine, and built a tower in the midst of it, and also made a winepress therein: and He looked that it should bring forth grapes, and it brought forth wild grapes.
Isaiah 5:1-2.

When God expects good things from us and we continue the work of the flesh, He is not happy. He needs repentance.

He says, purify your hearts. You may gain the whole world but if you loose your heart or soul, you are the greatest looser on earth. You must decide to change today. Your double mindedness can never do you any good. No matter what you gain in your sins, look down on them. Esteem the riches of Christ more than the pleasure of sin for a season. Listen, to be afflicted means to be broken down, touched deeply or cry out for help from above. Our laughter and joy in sin will only bring spiritual dryness, reproach and destruction to us. Can we say we do not know ourselves, except we be reprobates.

***“Examine yourselves, whether you be in faith; prove your own selves. Know you not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except you be reprobates
2 Cor.13:5***

***“Blow the trumpet in Zion, sanctify a fast, call a solemn assembly: Gather the people, sanctify the congregation, assemble the elders, gather the children, and those that suck the breasts; let the bridegroom go forth of his chamber, and the bride out of her closet. Let the priests, the ministers of the Lord, weep between the porch and the altar, and let them say, spare thy people, O lord, and give not thine heritage to reproach, that the heathen should rule over them: wherefore should they say among the people, where is their God?
Joel 2:15-17***

The reproach of the children of Israel reached such that the heathen were asking where is their God, He alerted the Israelites to blow the trumpet for a gathering of repentance.

The altar is now completely dry. No more seekers of salvation at the altar of God. People come to church and go back the same as far as they can give offering and tithe and donate for the project of the church. Permit me to ask this question, do we call where you pastor a church or a social club. When the glory of God depart from a church people live the way they want. Yet, now God is calling for repentance. He has borne with us for a long time.

FRUITFULNESS PACIFIES GOD’S ANGER

““He spoke also this parable; a certain man had a fig tree planted in his vine yard; and he came and fruit thereon, and found none. Then said he to the dresser of his vineyard, Behold, these three years I come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and find none: cut it down; why cumber it the ground? And he answering said to him, Lord, let it alone this year also, till I shall dig about it, and dung it: And if it bear fruit, well: and if not, then after that you shall cut it down”.

Luke 13:6-9.

He may cut us down if we refuse to repent this time. Every one of us must come down from our mountain of proud of education, family background, social – status, financial strength etc. if you refuse to come down and repent, that mountain that sustain you in that evil be made a plain. Whether a member, church worker and ministers in all their status, it is time to repent. Lets seize from waywardness and come back or it will be disaster in our life.

“Sow to yourselves in righteousness, reap in mercy; break up your fallow ground: for it is time to seek the Lord, till He come and rain righteousness upon you. you have plowed wickedness, you have reaped iniquity; you have eaten the fruit of lies: because you did trust in your way, in the multitude of your mighty men.

Therefore shall a tumult arise among your people, and all your fortresses shall be spoiled, as shal'man spoiled Betharbel in the day of battle: the mother was dashed in pieces upon her children". Hosea 10:12-14

What can we say that God did not know. He is wiser than us. He said that we are the sheep of his pastures and must come back with tears and weeping. God cannot raise us in our iniquity. He cannot use us in our harden hearts. He demands a continuous calling on Him until he rains righteousness on us. Your repentance may require going to people you have offended, those you can see. Wisely ask for forgiveness. It may be your father or mother, brother or sister in the same assembly. You may have eaten the money you use for business together or must have refuse to comply with your agreement in terms of business. God says broke that well that is between you and that person. That is the beginning of repentance and revival. God is ready to hear us if we are ready to obey Him.

The Lord asked the ministers to weep at the altar. I know it is not easy for many to do. Any way it is because of no compassion or burden for the problem of the people. On the other hand members live in rebellion and disobedience whereby breaking the hearts of their ministers. Can't we just bend down in humility and say, father forgive us. From a sincere heart and not in hypocrisy. No repentance, no blessings. The heaven is closed from given spiritual rain of blessings. The tongue we speak now lacks power and the fruit of the spirit is hardly seen manifest in the life of people. Yet we clap our hands and say we are going to heaven. May

be that kind of heaven is in this world, because any worldly character will drop you in this world of sin.

BE WASHED, BE CLEAN, LET HIM IN

Rev. 3:15-20.

When the Lord begin to knock behind the door, the people living inside without Christ must be living miserably, wretchedly, poorly, blindly, and nakedly. Christ made us and if He is not in us we are the most miserable people. Until we show our identity we can not understand Christ's identity. He wants to take our person and give us His person. He died giving Himself for our self. Can we look down on the blood that redeemed us and live very well in life. Come back my son says the Lord of host. No matter how far you may think you have gone in sin after repentance. God says he wants to water you again. He wants to receive you in the kingdom of his dear Son and finally to see you in heaven. Cut all your strongholds and fortress of shame and return like a prodigal son, and he will receive you.

"Hear, O heavens, and give ear, O earth: for the Lord has spoken, I have nourished and brought up children, and they have rebelled against Me. The ox know its owner, and the ass its master's crib: but Israel does not know, My people do not consider. Ah sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity, a seed of evildoers, children that are corrupters: they have forsaken the Lord, they have provoked the Holy One of Israel to anger, they are gone away backward. Why should you be stricken any more? You will revolt more and more: the whole head is sick and the whole heart faint. From the sole of the foot even to the head there is no soundness in it; but wounds, and

bruises, and putrefying sores: they have not been closed, neither bound up, neither mollified with ointment”.

Isaiah 1:2-6

“Wash you, make you clean; put away the evil of your doings from before My eyes; cease to evil; Learn to do well; seek judgement, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow. Come now, and let us reason together, says the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool. If you be willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land: But if you refuse and rebel, you shall be devoured with the sword: for the mouth of the Lord has spoken it”.

Isaiah 1:16-20

If God wants to destroy us he will not be calling for us to come close to Him. He has compassion for us. His faithfulness is good to all generation and we are partakers of it. If animals obey and we do not obey, then they are better than us in obedience. Yet God says come now let us reason together.

He never said it to the animals that has been obeying Him. Instead he pleads with us to come back to Him because we are created in his likeness and image. He is the Lord of all.

Your steps to this repentance is just to recognize where you have fallen and cry out for help. If it requires meeting a more matured Christian or pastors do it and be prayed for. You will never remain the same as you obey. For those that have not known Jesus, before, just ask Him to forgive you by your own words and invite Him into your heart to be your Lord and Saviour. From then you are saved and needs a Bible teaching assembly where you have to maintain your life.

DESIRE THE PURE WORD FOR PURE LIFE.

“Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speaking. As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that you may grow thereby: if so be you have tested that the Lord is gracious.

1 Peter 2:1-3

We must come out of wickedness and return back to our Maker. Desiring the word of God is more than, just carrying the Bible up and down, we must read, understand and apply it to our lives. Revival is awaiting us as we humbly obey and remember where we have fallen and come back to Him. Babies cry when they desire milk, they needed it to live and grow in stature, but we depart from the solid food need which is the sincere and pure word of God. Nothing can properly maintain our destroyed life like God breath, his word.

“Come to Me, all you that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you, and learn of Me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and you shall find rest to your souls. For my yoke is easy, and My burden is light”.

Matt. 11:28-30

Jesus can never promise rest if He has no rest to give us. When we are captured in the devils net, we have no rest,

no peace and he uses all manner of ways to afflict us more especially when we are spiritually dry. God says today come to me for revival and repentance.

STEP 2 FELLOWSHIP

“The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy ghost, be with you all”. **2 Cor. 13:14**

Fellowship is a word that many neglect so easily because they do not understand what it means to them. Fellowship means communion, relating together or agreeing in one thing in harmony and oneness. Many know about the love of God that gave them the grace that save them but they do not have personal relationship or fellowship with the Holy Spirit. They know the Father who sent the Son into the world to save them and they are saved that is all. Jesus said I will abide with you forever. He will show you all things from me. You can't know someone very well until you have personal relationship or constant fellowship with that person. Many Christians are spiritually dry because they have not known the Holy Spirit. They don't have personal relationship with Him. Neglecting the Holy Spirit will only bring dryness and mechanical spiritual life in our Christian experience.

BUILDING A TIGHT FELLOWSHIP BRINGS GLORY

Heb.10:15-25

Fellowship with one another is more than many people coming together just to sing and pray or to hear the word of God. Fellowship will be useless if the Holy Spirit is not in

control of what is happening in the church. when The Holy Spirit is not in control of the message it is dry and people derive nothing from it. People will complain because it is just a compilation of many verses of the scripture gathered from concordance and words from Bible Dictionary. Any message that is not properly watered with Holy Ghost prayer can do no good to the hearers. Instead of it to bring solution it will add more grief to the hearers and their problems increases. You will see some sighing and others doing one thing or the other and many will just be waiting for the message to be over let them go. When the message is filled with the Holy Spirits inspiration and anointing no one wants to go. Many hours in such fellowship look like few minutes spent. People cry out for more when it is sweet, that is the same with the spiritual hunger.

People are happy to sing and pray when the presence of the Holy Spirit is around. The fellowship that liberates from spiritual dryness is more than just singing and praying the same thing every time. No life and no inspiration comes when people do the same thing every day. It is monotonous.

LIFELESS FELLOWSHIP BRINGS DEATH.

One day I was passing across one of the branches of our church, I heard the congregation singing, it was like death. Every thing was so dried and life was very far from that fellowship. No real communion with the Holy Spirit. I took note of it. Another time I just decided to go around the same area, when I wanted to leave the area, the church was already singing again the same kind of lifeless song, I just went in and stop them. I told them there is no life in what they were doing. I took the microphone lead in praise and worship, though at the beginning it was a bit hard for the people to

follow up because they are used to dryness, but after a while they began to enjoy the fellowship until the presence of God came down. That day the fellowship was so great and sweet and after the service no one wanted to go. Everyone stayed back discussing about the awesome presence of God. They felt like staying more there because it was not monotonous like before, it was joyful and full of ecstasy. You could see the glory of God on the faces of people. Burdens were rolled away, and spiritual dryness disappeared. New praise and worship songs can make a man look like Psalm 1:3.

New songs were sang and the Holy Spirit was given time to move in the congregation. Such fellowship is what disappears spiritually dryness. It is very good to fellowship together with the brethren but when it is filled with formality and dryness the fellowship begins to diminish. People are no more interested because it is the same thing every day.

When there is proper fellowship, the Holy Spirit reveals the hearts of men. People tremble at the presence of God. There is fear of God. Faith is strengthened and purity of heart is desired. True fellowship provokes spiritual desires for growth and members are provoked to loved one another.

The greatest thing one can do to come out of spiritual dryness is to be addicted to God through fellowship after repentance. Such fellowship that bring close communion with the Holy Spirit, brings other blessings.

THE HEART OF FLESH FOR HEART OF STONE

Ezekiel 36:23-30

When we fellowship with brethren in the presence of the Holy Spirit, our life is renewed daily. There is more desire to serve the Lord with all our hearts. We can only be restored and properly changed when we turn away from evil

accumulated during our spiritual dryness. When we open up to the Holy Spirit during fellowship, our hearts will continually receive cleansing and fellowship become more sweet and tight. It is only then that God will do a lot of work in our heart.

“Draw near to God, and He will draw near to you. cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double minded.

James 4:8

When the Lord rules our lives as we draw near to Him, he takes away our stony heart and gives us the heart of the fellowship. Total cleansing takes place. You can love without dissimulation. Real fellowship with brethren takes away fear because there will be perfect love. But when there is no real fellowship and communion with the Holy Spirit, people will be fearing one another. It will be hard for people to deny sin whole heartedly. Trusting God for providence is hard when we do not relate well with the Holy Spirit. Christian service is seen as a force instead of joy and happiness, there will be murmuring. Stony heart can never receive anything from the Lord. People that have never experienced the reality of God usually say we have done what you are doing today and find no importance in it. There is no need of wasting time listening to someone speaking nonsense. Beloved, if you are still experiencing spiritual dryness even while in the church, it is because you do not have right relationship with the Holy Spirit. You may say, I am speaking in tongues, I am filled, that is just the beginning. I was like that until my heart received a real touch from God. He removed from me the stony heart of excessive anger and evil thought and filled me with his glory. Fellowship includes following the Lord at his command no matter what he says do. Acts 2:41-47

No one that has experienced real fellowship with God and men that likes leaving that environment. The Apostles had this kind of real fellowship with the primitive Christians. When the Lord rules the hearts of men they are ready to do anything you instructs them. some people who are open to the spirit of God do not wait to be told what to do, the spirit communicates to them and they do. It is only the Holy Spirit that can knit the hearts of men together as they worship the Lord with clean and true heart. You will see people loving and living in accord, sharing things in common. Hatred quite the home for love. Infact there will be total change and even people will know and see the change in the life of the individual. Selfishness is the real sign of spiritual dryness. When the Holy Spirit is given place in the service of people, He teaches us deeper truth that leads to Christian growth and character.

THE LOVE THAT KNOTS TOGETHER

“Charity suffers long, and is kind; charity envies not; charity vaunts not itself, is not puffed up, does not behave itself unseemly, seek not her own, is not easily provoked, thinks no evil; Rejoices not in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; Bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things”
1 Cor. 13:4-7

It is only real fellowship with brethren in the presence of the Holy Spirit that can bring this kind of love. When the material things and spirit gifts take the place of love, there is no real fellowship. You can give without loving, but you can't love without giving . when the right spirit of fellowship reigns

among people there is affection. No one wants to offend the other. When there is offence it is settled well and peace continues. That is real fellowship and Christianity. That is the true fellowship and communion. When the fellowship is done in the flesh, people drag for position in the church, even when they know they will not be faithful in that place. There is suspicion, bitterness of heart. Provoking and destroying one another. Seeking vain glory becomes the order of the day. Jesus says that they may be one. He was talking of fellowship. That place is talking to us. He wants one to be one. To relate and fellowship as brethren of the same family.

MINISTERING GRACE EDIFIES

“Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace to the hearers. And grieve not the Holy Spirit of God, whereby you are sealed to the day of redemption. Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamor, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: And be you kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake has forgiven you”
Eph. 4:29-32

One thing I have experienced as a Christian and even as a minister is this; when the true fellowship with brethren is broken, the devil wants to take place. You can't stay alone, you are mandated by God to relate. Many people cannot see

something good in another person they will always gossip and lack forgiveness too. The right spirit of true fellowship has no time for tribalism and nationality as many do. Some people walking in the flesh still believe that there are some second class citizens and that they cannot fellowship with them. Others call some people our castes and they despise them even in the body of Christ. It is wrong and that is not Christianity. Christians must learn to accommodate all through fellowship. This will help those that are spiritually dry to be refreshed. The only way to maintain freshness is constant communion with brethren in the presence of the Holy Spirit.

STEP 3

BROKENNESS

“And rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the Lord your God: for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repenteth him of that evil.

Joel 2:13

BUILDING A NEW IMAGE IS GOD’S DESIRE

To rend one's heart means to tear it. When a person's heart is blocked, he cannot understand so well what God wants him to do. He will be experiencing spiritual dryness. Show me a Christian who does not have a broken heart, and I will show you a spiritually dried Christian. A spiritually dried Christian can easily compromise. He is ruled by his flesh, but brokenness brings tears and compassion in the life of a

believer. A deeper knowledge with God rends the heart, it softens the heart daily. A broken heart can only be understood in a most simple way by calling it a soft heart. The closer we go to God the more we see our weakness and the need to do God's will in our life. Our spiritual dryness will only quit and disappear as darkness runs away when light comes, if we understand the need to stand firm with when our flesh speaks.

When God sees our heart soft and open, He pours His spiritual blessings in our life which bring the material and financial blessings also. It is only when we have a broken heart that we can have proper fellowship with our Father, then the Holy Spirit comes down to work in our life, family and whatsoever we are doing in life.

TOTAL SURRENDER BRINGS TOTAL BLESSING

“Come, and let us return to the Lord: for He has torn, and He will heal us; He has smitten, and He will bind us up. After two days will He revive us: in the third day He will raise us up, and we shall live in His sight. Then shall we know, if we follow on to know the Lord: His going forth is prepared as the morning; and He shall come to us as the rain, as the latter and former rain to the earth”.

Hosea 6:1-3

The desire of our heavenly Father for each of us is that we remain in His presence every day. His spiritual rain does not cease in our life if we abide continually in Him. Total surrender brings God's revival. Humility is far from a spiritually dried Christian, but when the heart is watered by the Holy Spirit the true light shines and all kinds of blessings come

down. The miracle that come as we surrender fully cannot be counted, but the devil hinders us from this every day.

THE PEACE OF CHRIST SETTLES THE HEART

“Peace I leave with you, My peace I give you: not as the world gives, give I unto you. let not your heart troubled, neither let it be afraid.

John 14:27

The world have no peace to offer. Christ is the only one that has promised the real peace. This peace can only come if we are sincere.

You can't have the real peace of Christ if your heart is not overtaken by the Holy Spirit. When we give access to the Holy Spirit into our heart through softening our heart then God's own peace will reign in our heart. Peace is real when we are under the Holy Spirit's control as our heart of stone is taken away for the heart of flesh to remain.

The blessings of a broken heart is much. It brings the real love. When we refuse the peace of God, we reject His blessings. The angel of God can never operate free where God's peace is rejected.

DIVINE LOVE SETS FREE

“As the Father has love Me, so have I loved you: continue you in My love. If you keep My commandments, you shall abide in His love. These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and that your joy might be full. This is My commandment, That you love

one another, as I have loved you. greater love has no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. You are My friends, if you do whatsoever I command you”. ***John 15:9-14***

Until a man is completely broken in the spirit, he cannot obey the Lord in reality. Love is not a mechanical act, it comes from our inner man. Carnal men can never know the gape love until they are broken.

Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, long suffering, forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye. And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness. And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.

Col. 3:12-15

Brokenness uproots the sin of hatred. When someone is broken he experience compassion. He can do anything for anyone for the sake of Christ. He can spend and lavish his life for others. There cannot be total obedience to God's love without brokenness. When you have a broken and contrite spirit, you can forgive any kind of offence.

NOTHING CHANGES THE PLACE OF LOVE

I Cor. 13:1-7

The real Christian life is concluded in loving God and our neighbor no matter the situation or problem. Gods standard of love that bears, believes, hopes and endures all things can only work supreme when our heart is broken by the Holy Spirit. When self is dethroned for Christ to reign, when then our life can be complete in Him. Nothing can take the place of brokenness in the life of a Christian or a minister of God. It is only a Christian with a soft heart that can easily get things down from above. He does not allow problems to overwhelm him but rather trust the Lord for break-through.

“Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus”.
Phil.4:6-7

Brokenness makes a Christian a daily winner. It is easy for the spirit of God to saturate and invade the environment where a soft hearted Christian does God’s work. You can’t be compassionate if the heart is not softened. When the heart is broken by the spirit of God, then signs and wonders come down easily.

DIVINE OWNERSHIP MUST BE ACKNOWLEDGED

“What? Know you not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which you have of God, and you are not your own? For you are bought with a price, so therefore glorifies God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God’s”.
1 Cor.6:19-20

DIVINE OWNERSHIP MUST BE ACKNOWLEDGED

Brokenness brings a man to the knowledge of Christ divine ownership over his life. When a man is still working in the flesh, he may experience the saving power of Christ but will not understand the Lordship of Christ over his life. You can be saved and yet walk in the flesh. When one is broken in heart, he surrenders all to Christ who spent his heavenly life for an earthly sinful man like him. When we understand Christ ownership over our life through brokenness, dedication and love, we do not look at anything as our own. We see all things as God’s property and can be used to His own Glory at any time.

STEP 4

THE WORD

“But He knows the way that I take: when He has tried me, I shall come forth as gold. My foot has held His steps, His way have I kept, and not declined. Neither have I gone back from the commandment of His lips; I have esteemed the words of His mouth more than my necessary food”.
Job 23:10-12

We were made by the word of God, He said let us make man in our image. It is by this same word of God that we can make our life better in every area.

When you esteem the word you are esteeming Christ, He is the word of God that came in the flesh. The natural food will perish with the body but the spiritual food keeps the spirit which will meet with God one day. Man lives by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of the Lord. When spiritual dryness begins in the life of a believer, he need to go closer to the word to know exactly the remedy.

PURITY COMES BY THE WORD

“Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed thereto according to your word. Your word have I hid in my heart, that I might not sin against you”. Psalms 119:9,11.

The word transforms the entire life of a man. It brings purity and prevents a man from living in sin. It delivers from all kinds of demonic attacks and plans.

***“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.
Col.3:16***

But shun profane and vain babbling: for they will increase to more ungodliness. And their word will sat as doth a canker: of whom is Hymenaeus and Philetus 2 Tim.3:16-17

The only man that ignores fear is the person that love knowledge. If one is a hater of knowledge his spiritual life is in

shambles. God’s word is the highest thing that can change our spiritual dryness to a watered garden.

When the word of God reign in our heart, we blossom like rose. Our fragrance brings forth a well smelling odour for our only Master and Saviour. The knowledge we acquire daily of Him rejoice the heart and bring us closer to Him.

IGNORANCE A GIANT KILLER

“My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge, because they have rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that you shall be no priest to me: seeing you hast forgotten the law of your God, I will also forget your children. Hos. 4:6.

If lack of knowledge destroys, then we need the knowledge of the Holy one as to maintain a standard for Him. To make Him happy, we must grow from glory to glory knowing Him more and more. Lack of the knowledge of who we serve destroys the plan of God for us. As we grow in His knowledge through the word His life is transferred more and more into our spirit.

HAVE WISDOM, IT IS MORE THAN MONEY

“My son, let not them depart from your eyes: keep sound wisdom and discretion: So shall they be life to your soul, and grace to your neck. Then shall you walk in your way safely, and your foot shall not stumble. When you lie down, you shall not be afraid: yea, you shall lie down, and your sleep shall be sweet . be not afraid of sudden fear, neither of the desolation of the wicked, when it comes. For the Lord shall be

your confidence, and shall keep your foot from being taken. Prov.3:21-26.

“Get wisdom, get understanding: forget it not; neither decline from the words of my mouth. Forsake her not, and she shall preserve you: love her, and she shall keep you. wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all your getting get understanding. Exalt her, and she shall promote you: she shall bring you to honor, when you do embrace her. She shall give to your head an ornament of grace: a crown of glory shall she deliver to you. Prov.4:5-9

The knowledge of the Lord leads us into wisdom to do all things that concerns Him. Wisdom is more than money or great riches of the world. When we lack his word, then we are far from his truth that leads to the path way of life. Can we be crowned with God’s wisdom if we don’t know his word? We can’t even know it until we give time to study it. Not just one day but until it become a part of us by meditating on it daily. The word has to saturate our life completely to know his will for us.

BE WORD CONDITIONED CHRISTIAN

“This book of the law shall not depart out of your mouth; but you shall meditate therein day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then

you shall make your way prosperous, and then you shall have good success”. Joshua 1:8

All we need to know in order to walk with Him is found in His word. As we come close without withdrawal He will fill us with His wisdom. You can’t grow more than your word study life. When your life is condition by the word, then the rain of God’s wisdom become your daily pills for a good healthy spiritual life. Any man that has no time for the word has missed his eternal future. He is not in the plan of God. He cannot maintain a good relationship with God and men. It is only the way we maintain the word in our life that bring good success. When the word is put into practice, we become sharper than two edged sword in our spiritual actions. Our life becomes very dangerous to the devil and his plans. The word makes you too hot to handle.

STEP 5

COMMITMENT

“Cast not away therefore your confidence, which has great recompense of reward. For you have need of patience, that, after you have done the will of God, you might receive the promise. For yet a little while, and he that shall come will come, and will not tarry. Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man drawback my soul shall have no pleasure in him. but we are not of them that believe to the saving of the soul.

Hebrews 10:35-39.

If we cannot be committed to Christ, any other thing we commit ourselves to is a sinking ground. If we follow Christ without wavering then all we have in mind can be achieved. His will is the best thing for our life. If Christ is in our life, we can't make any other plan beside Him. To overcome spiritual dryness we must completely rely on His grace and ability.

Going back after we have tested Christ divine glory simply means going to hell by choice. Nothing can do us more better than addicting our life to His will and work.

STEP 6

FAITH

“For I know that my redeemer lives and He shall stand at the latter day upon the earth: And though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God: Whom I shall see for myself, and mine eyes shall behold and not another: though my reins be consumed within me.
Job 19:25-27

Confession of faith is one of the greatest thing a believer needs in life. The things our eyes see are temporal. They have immediate end. They can take us far as our faith can carry us to. Our ears hear a lot of things and they make

us to dry spiritually, but the future of a succeeding Christian depends on his belief and confession. You must say what you believe to the hearing of others. They may mock you or laugh at you but it does not stop the power of God moving as you confess his word in faith.

DOUBT AND UNBELIEF KILLS FAITH

But without faith is impossible to please Him; for he that comes to God must believe that he is, and he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him”.
Heb. 11:6

You can't do anything that will turn heaven to you if you are a stranger to faith. When your life is filled with fear you confess doubt and unbelief, then your future will be uncertain filled with darkness. No one can maintain a good Christian life without a good confession of faith. You can't grow spiritually as you desire when your mouth destroys what your heart believes. Of course what is in your heart is a what your mouth will speak. Therefore if the mouth must confess faith, the heart must be channeled to its proper position.

STEP 7

PRAYER AND FASTING

“And He spoke a parable to them to this end, that men ought always to faint; saying, there was in a city a judge,

which feared not God, neither regarded man: And there was a widow in that city; and she came to him, saying, Avenge me of mine adversary. And he would not for a while: but afterward he said within himself, though I fear not God, nor regard man. Yet because this widow troubles me, I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me". Luke 18:1-5

"And this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask any thing according to His will, He hears us: And if we know that He hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of Him".

1 John 5:14-15.

A lot of people have experienced spiritual dryness as they go through hardship in life. The affliction that comes our way cannot be compared with the glory of our reward that come after every temptation.

"So He said to them, This kind can come out by nothing but prayer and fasting". Mark 9:29

When we are faced with a particular problem, it makes us believe that we are almost going through the end of the word. Perseverance in prayer brings answer and good results which sets us ablaze with the fire of the Holy Ghost thereby disappearing all sorts of the finger of the enemy.

I regard fasting as the last weapon against spiritual dryness. I know other avenue can bring desired results; but if it becomes very tough, fasting can then come in. Actually when prayers are answered after fasting that removes a lot of fear and doubts. Our confidence in Christ makes us call on Him, but it is good to wait until we see the miracle clearly.

CHAPTER 5

MAINTAINING SPIRITUAL FRESHNESS

Maintaining Spiritual freshness depends on how a Christian esteems his Lord and Saviour. We are engaged in a daily battle with the unseen forces of darkness. Our victory depends on how we understand what Christ has done for us at the cross and how we make use of the word of God. We can loose the battle if we walk in the flesh and neglect Christ who has given His life to redeem us. Time wasted in talking unfruitful things does not come back again. Since the days are evil we must redeem the time to make sure we achieve God's purpose and goal in our life.

"The wilderness and the solidarity place shall be glad for them; and the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose. It shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice even with joy and singing: the glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the excellency of Carmel and Sharon, they shall see the glory of the Lord, and the excellency of our God". Isaiah 35:1-2

When a Christian with a desert life begin to rejoice and blossom like the rose, it means there is divine visitation. No spiritual dried Christian can see any freshness except he turns to the Lord for a change. When a dry ground experience a rain fall, all the seeds that were dried will begin to germinate

and grow if the rain seize not. The same is the case with a Christian that has been going through dryness Spiritually if he recognize where the failure started and decides to make the wrong right, a new communion with God begin and even a stronger fellowship.

Spiritual freshness can only be maintained as we live beyond just an ordinary normal Christian life. According to the seven steps to overcome spiritual dryness, personal studying of God's word, commitment, constant confession of faith and fasting and prayer. All these gathered, together will bring constant victory over the flesh and the devil.

TAKING A STAND AGAINST THE ENEMY

***“But you, beloved, building up yourselves, on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost
JUDE 1:20***

EPH. 6:10-18

We pray to maintain our relationship with God, not only just to receive things from God or fight against the devil but to make sure we relate daily with our God. Though weapons for spiritual warfare are outlined in the Bible but after we have done all things, the most important thing is our daily contact with God. As we pray in the Holy Spirit, our life is refreshed and we become watered by Him. The prayer life gives us a stand against the wiles of the devil and helps us to stand firm in the Lord.

The actual thing we need most is to watch our life daily to see whether we are still in line with what God says in His word. It is God's desire that we love one another if we must be refresh daily. A hater is a destroyer of life and non of such will enter the kingdom of Heaven. God is waiting for those who are ready to scare the devil and his demon away from the body.

PERFECT LOVE IS CHRIST'S IDENTITY.

“We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love the brethren. He that loves not his brother abides in death. Whosoever hates his brother is a murderer: and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him”. I JOHN 3:14-15

“Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another. No man has seen God at any time. If we love one another, God dwells in us, and His love is perfected in us”. I Jn.4:11-12

No real Christian or Christian minister will want to live without knowing the purpose of living. Life without the real love of Christ is nothing but a waste of time to be called Christian. We must practice what we say. Outsiders must know that we loved one another.

TAKE HEED TO THYSELF

“Till I come, give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine. neglect not the gift that is in you which was given you by prophesy,

with the laying on of the hands of the presbytery”.
1 TIM. 4:13-16

Paul exhorts Timothy to give attention to reading and be careful for his personal and of his hearers too. We can give life when we do not have it. The man of God was careful to instruct Timothy concerning refreshing his life so as to flow life to his people. Self spiritual refreshment save us from spiritual problems and saves our hearers too.

There is nothing like a man watching over his life. We owe ourselves going to the kingdom of God. This is a debt that must be paid and a task that must be done.

When we take heed to the doctrine of God, His glory shines upon us. God’s teaching transforms and changes the hearer.

The devil’s desire for us is to be spiritually dry. He knows when we are revived and refreshed that it brings a break down to his kingdom. Apostle Paul has gone through trouble and sufferings several times and he experience to offer on how people can maintain their personal life and that of others.

THE TRUE CHRISTIAN CHARACTER

It is dangerous to begin in the spirit and end up in the flesh. The only thing the devil desire for us is a total shame in the sight of God in the last day. Many talk of signs and wonders which I believe and have seen in my ministrations as I travel to many nations, but a lot see this wonders yet their life does not agree with what they say. Where is the fruit of the spirit which deals with the character of man? Can we say that

miracles are better than holiness today ? without holiness no eye shall see the Lord .

We can’t say we are maintaining our life when purity is far from our dwelling . The last days preaching denies a lot of things that leads to the kingdom. Preachers mature people spiritual standard by the car you ride and the building you are living , or the cathedral you have built . They are good if they are gotten in a proper and holy way . A lot of people despise other men because their day of elevation has not yet come. One thing is sure, when the appointed time for any man comes, the devil can not stop it. We can not miss the time of spiritual examination . We can’t jump up ,and even when we have gone across one, the other one still comes . The material and financial are secondary to maintaining spiritual freshness. The greatest thing is our relationship. How long we spent time with God and we actually remain in His love and obedience.

I had compassion for one young minister one day as I heard his master speak in such a way that I felt it is discouraging and very annoying. The young man approached his master by saying Sir, I don’t have transport to go back after this conference, the man just said if you don’t have it, you can treck back, that is your business. He has the money and I know it, but he could not give it out. I just felt for the young man, I believe he questioned him when this suffering will be over. Such a young man can die spiritually, but there is still a way of escape. This young pastor may think the world has ended that day. The devil may promised us of God faithfulness. With this he can be refreshed and I believe as he trust the Lord, he cannot remain there. The Lord comforts us as we come close to Him, no matter the degree of the heart of trouble around us.

“There has no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that you are able; but will the temptation also make a way to escape, that you may be able to bear it”.

1 Cor. 10:13

“Let your conversation be with covetousness; and be content with such things as you have: for He has said, I will never leave you, nor forsake you. so that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do to me”.

Heb. 13:5-6

God has always have a way of putting laughter into our mouth. Our closeness to other serious Christians can help us escape the plans of the enemy. God says he will never leave us nor forsake us. He has many avenues of sharpening us as we come close to Him more and more. Praying together with faithful Christians can uplift ones spiritual life. It is good to know what we need at a particular time, whether worship or praise song and making a time to listen to other men's cassettes or video in other to help us become sharp again.

We can separate to pray or just have personal meditation in the word, you can watch Christian video messages one after the other, at the end you are challenged and motivated again. Our discussion with serious Christians can disappear our fears and lack of faith. You can maintain a life of freshness if you really stand for the Lord.