

The Power is in the Mind

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† Eternal Walk
≡ MINISTRY

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Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us. (Ephesians 3:20) The power in our minds comes from God through the Holy Spirit, but our mind has to be prepared to receive and to use His power. God has a divine plan for each Christian and He enables us to fulfill his plan by molding our minds to the mind of Christ, so we can live in His power.

Renewing the Mind

Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will. (Romans 12:2) God renews our minds by changing our thoughts and since our thoughts are spiritual they can be controlled by the Holy Spirit. Our thinking changes from the ways of the world to the ways of God. Dr. Caroline Leaf says in her book, *Switch on Your Brain*, “As we

think, we change the physical nature of our brain. As we consciously direct our thinking, we can wipe out toxic patterns of thinking and replace them with healthy thoughts.” God renews our minds and changes our emotions, enabling us to control our thoughts and experience his love and power in us.

God’s Love in Our Hearts

Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. (1 John 4:7) God’s love in our hearts frees us from our own limited power to the unlimited power of God. Love increases in our hearts as we reflect the Lord’s love to people, telling them about Christ. The more we know someone, spending time with them as we minister to them, the more our love increases. For our love to increase, it requires personal relationships with people, just as Jesus spent time with his apostles and ate with tax collectors and prostitutes. *Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever*

does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. (1 John 4:20)

We serve the Lord and He fills our hearts with His love. We cannot minister to the world in the Lord's power without a heart of love, because it is a heart of love that motivates us to remain in the Lord. *I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.* (John 15:5) This verse tells us that we must remain in the Lord to bear much fruit. Christ places thoughts and scriptures into our minds through the Spirit as we minister to others. Many preachers and Bible teachers have been led by the Spirit when preaching and teaching. I have personally experienced Christ's thoughts when I teach a class or preach. The key is to ask for the Lord's guidance before and during our ministry. The more we depend on the Lord and the more we ask for his guidance, the more we will experience his power working in us.

Ask, Seek, and Knock

Our minds are renewing, our hearts are filling with the Lord's love, and we ask for the Lord's guidance. *Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.* (Matthew 7:7) If we want to be guided by the Lord, if we want to live in his power, then it is important to ask, because when we ask it shows our dependence on the Lord and our faith. Every Christian can experience Christ acting in their life, if they ask with a heart of dependence. If we don't depend on the Lord, then how does the Lord see our faith?

Faith in Our Hearts

We have faith that the Lord will work his power in us, for our good and for his glory. With a strong faith we live with the Lord's power, love, and wisdom, especially when we minister to a lost world. Ministering to the world changes our hearts so that we depend on the Lord, and as we depend on him, his power is shown through us. *The LORD is my strength and my shield; in him my heart trusts, and I am*

helped; my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to him. (Psalm 28:7)

We can develop faith without doubt by depending on the Lord as we minister. We ask the Lord for scriptures and for his words to bring to people, and the more we ask and seek his guidance the more He will provide. I have found when ministering the Lord always helps, and he has led me to depend on his help. After we minister for many months and years we become dependent and confident in the Lord's help and guidance, and this confidence will carry over into other events in our lives. Doubt comes when we expect God to fulfill our prayers our way. When our faith fully trusts the Lord and His ways, doubt goes away.

The Lord's Power Works in Us

The Lord's power works in us when we are ministering. He brings scriptures and words to us along with a loving, caring heart. The Lord will give us scriptures that people need to hear, because God knows their hearts. *For God is*

not unjust so as to forget your work and the love which you have shown toward His name, in having ministered and in still ministering to the saints. (Hebrews 6:10) God is pleased when we minister to the saints and to lost souls with a heart of love; therefore the Lord is pleased to work his power in us. He gives us everything we need when ministering, especially if we ask for his divine guidance. The power to open people's hearts to hear about Christ is the ultimate victory.

The power of God is revealed from our hearts because we live out of our hearts. *Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it.* (Proverbs 4:23) Everything flows from our hearts including the Lord's power, which comes from a heart of love. If God's power remains only in our minds, we will have doubt. *But when you ask, you must believe and not doubt, because the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind.* (James 1:6) If God's power flows from our hearts then we are dependent on the Lord and we live by faith.

We are God's servants and God is our master, we pray for his power in our service to him. We use the Lord's power according to his divine will and we stop leaning on our limited understanding. *Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.* (Proverbs 3:5-6) If we lean on our own understanding our paths will not be straight, but if we trust the Lord to guide us in his power, He will make our paths straight.

The Mind of Christ

Through our life God is molding our minds to the mind of Christ, and the more our minds become the mind of Christ, the more we can control our thoughts and control our emotions. Controlling our thoughts and emotions through the power of Christ is a gift from God. *It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.* (Galatians 5:1)

Controlling our thoughts and emotions is one of the most powerful gifts from God and it sets us free from the world.

Thoughts and Emotions

We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ. (2 Corinthians 10:5)

Demolish every thought from Satan because he wants to destroy the power of God in us. He wants to remind us of our sinful past so he can destroy our life with the Lord, and destroy our eternal life. *Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4:6-7)*

Whenever we have a negative thought or emotion, we must immediately capture it and call on the Lord; don't wait to fight Satan because if we wait, he wins. Instead, we capture every thought and emotion from Satan and call

on the Lord with a thankful heart, and he gives us peace.

God gives us his power to control our thoughts and emotions, and we live in his divine power. Take time and think deeply what it means to be able to control your thoughts and emotions through the power of God. We cannot control our thoughts and emotions perfectly because Satan is always trying to control us through the world; but we become spiritual warriors and we fight for our freedom in Christ through the power of Christ. We are not perfect, but we do have the power of God to overcome when Satan tempts us.

It's a Life-long Process

Learning to live in the Lord's power is an ever-increasing process that continues to our last breath; then we go home and experience perfect power. The longer we serve the Lord, the more love and faith we have in hearts; the longer we know the Lord, the more we experience his power working in us. This is the beauty of

walking with the Lord; every phase of life with the Lord gets better over time. *But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen.* (2 Peter 3:18) All through life we develop an increasing heart of love and faith that brings us closer to the Lord, and the closer we are to the Lord the more Christ-like we become. And the more Christ-like we become the more we experience the Lord's love and power, and life to the full.

Taste and see that the LORD is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in him. (Psalm 34:8) Once the Lord fills our hearts with his love, we are driven to be with him both in this life and in Heaven. This is the good addiction that we were created to have, and it replaces all other worldly addictions.

Conclusion

Depend on the Lord and his power; and remember to ask in prayer for his power. We can live with the Lord's power in us only if we

remember not to rely on our power. *Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but not with God; all things are possible with God."* (Mark 10:27) The Lord gives us his power to work in us so He will be pleased in our service to him. The apostle Paul said, *"It is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me."* (Galatians 2:20) He is saying he doesn't depend on his own power but prays for the Lord's love and power to work in him. That's the reason God put the Spirit in us, so we will be connected to Christ and live with his power. It is Christ in us who gives us divine power and guides us to use that power for him.

We have the Lord's power to minister to the world, to overcome sinful habits, to control our thoughts and to take control of our emotions. We will never be able to achieve this in our own power. *If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.* (John 15:7) Always remember to seek the Lord's power, because we live in the Lord's power for our good and for his glory!

**We never let Satan have victory over us
because we have the power of God within us!**

**You, dear children, are from God and have
overcome them, because the one who is in
you is greater than the one who is in the
world. (1 John 4:4)**



Eternal Walk **MINISTRY**

**Bringing God's love and truth to
help people on their eternal walk
to heaven**

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